

Dime Box Country Fairly Prosperous

On going to Dime Box this week, the editor met the business men and found conditions fairly prosperous. Crops were according to the location; on the prairie they were fine, but in the bottoms and on the sandy lands they were poor. In fact it is the fourth year of bad crops for portions of that section. The Dime Box cotton yard has weighed almost 2,000 bales this season which along with the good prices has helped wonderfully.

A big building program has been going on this Fall in town and over the entire prairie. R. B. Sample manager for the Mutual Lumber Co. of that place said that they have sold more lumber this year than any other year since 1916. A new church building will be completed in a few more days and it will be used as a union place of meeting. The building is of modern design and has a vestibule, a Sunday School room and a spacious auditorium and it will cost about \$2,500 when completed. The people have volunteered the labor and many work there from day to day. Building among the farmers was confined mostly to repairing and making additions, many houses having been rebuilt, covered and painted this year.

In calling on the business men, we found the holiday season on in full blast for the merchants but on account of the severe weather, the trade for that day was not heavy. Many were busy at home slaughtering hogs because the weather was just right and hogs were fat and the people wanted to save corn, by killing now before the holiday season. Considerable plowing had been done and every one was feeling optimistic for 1923. The best news we heard was that Mrs. Albert Karcher is improving and doubtless she will be much better in a short time.

The merchants were well stocked to take care of the needs of those people and it seems that there was but little use for people to send away from home for the goods which they could purchase from their neighbors. The drug stores of J. A. Polansky and Noah Albers had many articles on display and reported good business; F. R. Psencik jeweler and repairer also carried a nice line and was quite busy in his work. The courteous cashier of the First State Bank L. J. Kocurek was at his post and reported the people much helped up over the

prices of farm products and that things will move off with a snap in the new year. Stewart and Stamps firm was presided over by Mrs. Stewart for the day because Mr. Stamps was working on the church building but Mrs. Stewart was equal to the occasion and seemed to be quite a business woman. Joe Kocurek, in ever smiling manner found time to chat with us a few moments and to say it was a good year with him. Frank Mikulin had just opened up a new grocery and confectionary business and was well pleased with his progress while Carl Bridges' garage and service station was full to capacity with cars and facilities for repairing them. Vince Balcar, Jr. was ready as usual to receive the money and all that he could get and when you spent it with him he would smile so acceptably you wished you had more to leave with him. He was busy stocking up for 1923 needs in addition to what he already had. F. J. Zelenka the village blacksmith was living up to the record of his trade with sinewy arms exposed by rolled-up sleeves and bedecked with the black of iron, but he found time to extend his tolling hand to us in greeting and made us feel that the blacksmith is still a part of the busy world, in spite of the charges the past few years. F. Hannee & Co. was in charge by the senior member of the firm Farmer Frank who knows how to raise cotton as well as stir around in business. He said that he hopes for better days for many people who have lost much on account of the excessive rains of the past years. Max Hannee cotton weigher and ice dealer (in summer) said it had been a good year for him while his brothers Hannee Bros. reported a nice season for them having ginned 913 bales to date against somewhat better than 400 for last year. Joe Kubena grower on one side of the prairie had a good year's run and prepares for another good crop. Driving over to Herman Hannee, we found that he has sold his gin but will continue in the mercantile business at Old Dime Box, enlarging the business and continuing his farming interests. Herman Ezel and son have brought the Hm. Hannee gin property and will continue to operate it at the same place.

In all, the Dime Box commercial and industrial enterprises are well prepared to take care of the needs of that section in all lines and they are a set of fine business people who enjoy the high esteem of all who know them.