

The Giddings News

December 8, 1922

Lee County Prospects

The editor took a little spin about Giddings this week and found every body in a good humor. Crops have been fairly good and the good prices of all farm products, except cattle have helped very much. Business has been comparatively good and there is no doubt but that 1923 will come in with zip and pep for business. Calling at the country stores, we found the farmers busy marketing turkeys, eggs, cream, cotton and chickens all of which help to make Lee County one of the best counties in the state for diversification.

Our first stop was at Grassyville where found "Happy Ernst" Lawrence at his post serving his customers and gathering in the shekels. All that Ernst complained about was that when he finishes paying his bills, he has but little left. Gus Groeschel, blacksmith at the same place was busy pounding iron and making his living by the sweat of his brow. We missed Robt. Miertschin, the ginner, because when he hasn't anything to do at home, he goes off and finds work elsewhere. Stopping next at Serbin, the jovial And. Moerbe greeted us in his usual pleasant way and said that down that way the cotton crop was short, but that "our people will come through just the same".

Mr. Moerbe was not at work but had a circle of his friends and customers about him, each amusing the other until the time for Alvin the junior member of the firm should arrive to do the work. Alvin soon arrived from a visit to a dentist for toothache, and of course Alvin knew what to do when he came into the store (he had been so trained in youth) for farmers were there with their products for market. We don't blame Mr. Moerbe for leaving the work for Alvin, because Alvin rather likes it, and the senior member of the firm is always the life of a jolly crowd.

Speeding over a good road to Northrup we found the ever smiling Mat. Tschatschula right on the job, assisted by his son Carl who divides his time between running the motor truck to Giddings every day and listening in over his radio at night. Carl has built his own outfit and reaches as far as Philadelphia and has a fine machine at less than half the cost of a new outfit. Mat had rather do the work as long as there is any to be done, but is always glad to stop and talk to his friends because all the trains do not stop at Northrup and he gets a breathing spell now and then. Farmers were also there selling their produce and they remarked that 1922 was fairly good with them. We missed the ginner Gerhard Zoch, but found the village blacksmith Gus. Malke hard at it, but he has installed much improved machinery with motive power, so as to save himself and let gasoline do the work.

All business men reported a fairly good year this year and everyone is looking forward to 1923 as being one when the people will be more encouraged by the good prices for almost all the farm products this year.