

The Giddings News

December 22, 1922

**Notice of Contest Filed In
County Treasurer's Race**

Attorneys for George Placke Jr. have given notice of a contest in the count of the votes for the office of County Treasurer in the November election. The present incumbent Hm. Moerbe was declared elected by a majority of eleven votes, but it has developed that there were some votes which were not counted, possibly 40 in number and it is possible that these votes, if counted, will change the returns in that race.

The reason the votes were not counted is according to an interpretation of the law as to what constitutes a valid ballot because several voters were not careful to scratch their ballots exactly as they intended to designate; for instance, in intending to vote a democratic ticket entirely, some persons made marks through the republican, the independent and the blank columns of the ticket but they were not careful to draw the line through each name in those tickets they intended to scratch. As a result there was a candidate's name in the republican column which the pencil did not scratch, and such being the case, there were names of two candidates not scratched for the same office and the vote was not counted for either candidate. Some of the higher courts have held that a voter's intention is what counts, and if such is the law, then possibly there will be a difference in the result. The matter comes up in the spring term of the district court in Giddings.