

TRIP TO THE COAST

The Editor and wife spent July 4th at Port Lavaca, among soldiers and at Palacios among Baptists. That part of the State has not received as much rain as Lee County did and crops are advanced. Grass is fine, cattle prices are high, so farmers and ranchmen are doing well as long as present prices prevail.

We were guests in the L. J. Foester home, the parents of Mrs. Barry Lee Bishop of Dallas. Mr. Foester and his sister, Mrs. Whitsel still maintain their partnership ranch handed down by their father who was among the first settlers at Indianola, one of the oldest ports of Texas but was totally destroyed by two gulf storms, one in the '70's and another in the '80's. Mrs. Foester's father was a Baptist minister who accumulated many acres which were handed down to his children. Oil has also helped out that section considerably. The government has put in a large refrigeration plant where fish and oysters, mostly shrimp, are frozen and shipped to all parts of the world.

Many soldiers are in training at Victoria near Port Lavaca and at Camp Hulen near Palacios. Most of the trainees are in aviation which requires higher college requirements than some of the other requirements. There are Harvard graduates and from other universities buckling down to privates in the ranks. They visit frequently with the citizens who gladly have them in their homes, much to the delight of the soldiers.

We were driven by Mrs. Barry Lee Bishop accompanied by her mother the 29 miles along the bay shore and across a 4-mile causeway, along the Hug-The-Coast highway to the Baptist State Encampment grounds at Palacios where a large acreage with a pavilion seating over 1,000 persons, cabins and other conveniences are owned and hold an encampment every July. Visitors cars are not admitted but when the gatekeeper learned there was a crippled man who desired admission, he swung the gate open and directed Mrs. Barry Lee Bishop to drive across the lawn up to the pavilion. This gesture, most courteous, was highly appreciated by the editor.

We were too late to hear Dr. Trull's series of addresses but heard Dr. Q. Leavell, one of the six or more Leavell brothers in high Baptist leadership. His address was patriotism coupled with the downfall of nations by sin. He began with Egypt and traced the downfall of nations successively undermined by sin 'til the present day. Singing was grand. One duet as fine as grand opera singers ever sang at 1000 of dollars per concert. We ran into the Giddings crowd who invited us to spend the night with them but our plans were to return to the Foester ranch.

It was the most delightful trip, culminating a visit of the grandson with us in Giddings and leaving him with