

From the archives of Liberal's hometown newspaper since 1886.

Researched and compiled by Amira Coleman, L&T Reporter



**1963**

## **Police: Liberal youth 'quite benign'**

Halloween can be a concern for law enforcement some years, but in 1963, the young people of Liberal's behavior was exemplary and the law enforcement personnel acknowledged that behavior with thanks, as did the general population of Liberal.

The night captain's report read as such on Nov. 1, 1963: "Congratulations to the kids of Liberal! Never had one call of vandalism. Was by far the best conducted group since I've been here." The report continued to say that "the only mischief detected in the downtown area involved three tires found in the street and a couple of bags of lime. Also, a few kids were spotted spraying cars with shaving cream, but the night seemed quite benign in comparison with other Halloweens in the past years.

Some very understanding police officers helped out a perpetrator of a hit-and-run. 19-year-old Virginia Fulkerson hit a car in front of Doll Motor Co. and drove on, but she explained "that she wasn't properly dressed and went home to change clothes before putting in an official

appearance.” Police officers found her, and she admitted to hitting the car, and was fined \$15 on the careless driving charge.

A 23-year-old Texan was electrocuted in Liberal, and three fellow co-workers, also Texan, were hospitalized. A crane loading pipe came into contact with some overhead power lines at a pipe yard on Western Ave. Lance J. Wolf, of Perryton was the 23-year-old who died from the electrocution. J. W. Bullard, 54, Spearman, Texas, was the crane operator, and was hospitalized for treatment of shock. Douglas Wayne, 23, Perryton, was treated for burns to his left leg and right hand, and Norman Coxwell, 20, suffered from burns to his left hand, arm, and foot. The four-man crew was working for Broadie Construction Co., out of Amarillo.

A highway accident killed 25 cows inside a semi-truck after it overturned two miles west of Meade on U.S. Hwy. 54. The driver, David L. Lusk, 25, of Dodge City was held in the Meade hospital for observation, but was not seriously injured. The cattle were being hauled from range near Clayton, N.M. to the Harvey Way feedlot near Fowler. A hole was cut in the trailer of the semi to release the remaining cows, who caused two more minor wrecks by “milling about” on the highway. The accident happened at about midnight, and a deputy was reported to have stood by the scene until daylight.

The Liberal branch of the American Association of University Women alongside of the Tucker Theatre sponsored a series of winter movies for young children and junior high aged children. The money from ticket sales will contribute to the scholarship program of the local AAUW. Some of the movies being shown were “Boy and the Laughing Dog,” with Walter Brennan, “Five Pennies,” with Danny Kaye, “Yellowstone Kelly,” starring Clint Walker, and “Winning Team,” with Doris Day and Ronald Reagan. Show tickets were 35 cents apiece, and \$1 for a season ticket. Adults could only purchase tickets if they were accompanied by a child, and members of the organization would be monitoring the theater during all show times.