



ITALY, TEXAS

1879 • 1979

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CONDITION
AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 29, 1978

ASSETS

Loans	\$3,729,000
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures	38,000
Cash and Due from Banks	596,000
U.S. Bonds	1,219,000
Municipal Bonds	711,000
Other Assets	81,000
TOTAL	\$6,374,000

LIABILITIES

Capital	\$ 200,000
Surplus	200,000
Undivided Profits	148,000
Reserves	200,000
Other Liabilities	146,000
Deposits	5,480,000
TOTAL	\$6,374,000

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

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First State Bank
ITALY, TEXAS

ITALY

1879-1979

Preface

The historical committee of Italy, Texas, composed of Emy Lou Jarrett, Charles and Irene (Potsy) McLaughlin, Robert E. Sparkman, Margaret Smotherman, Fredna Allen, Joan Higdon, Virginia Weaver, Sallyann Davis and Margaret Oliphant acknowledge the assistance given in compiling the history of Italy. This edition is a combined effort on the part of many persons. We, to the best of our knowledge, have used all available means and sources such as personal interviews, tapes, old newspapers, a diary, old writings and history books. These latter include the *History of Ellis County Texas* published by Ellis County Workshop composed of Edna Davis Hawkins, Ruth Stone, Ida M. Brookshire and Lillie Tolleson and from *Memorial History of Ellis County* which was published in 1892, and *The Book of Italy 1879-1918* edited and compiled by Everett Loyd.

We, the Committee, are especially indebted to Robert E. Sparkman for his effort in compiling the first complete draft from the the voluminous material.

Prologue

This is a three part chronicle of the development and maturity of Italy, Texas, from 1879 through a century of existence.

The first part was written by an unknown person, or persons. It is an excellent account of the town that appeared in an 1891 edition of a Chicago newspaper. It was reprinted in the late Russell Bryants' *Italy News Herald* on November 5, 1965. For Mr. Bryants' tastes and interests in preserving the historical article, we are grateful.

Part II overlaps a bit with Part I, is repetitious, but it provides the viewpoints of different people at different stages of the town's development. Part II deals with the town from 1879 to 1918. It was written and edited by Everett Loyd, a kinsman of Andrew Loyd, Italy's first school teacher. Mr. Loyd also wrote and had published a lengthy interesting book on Judge Roy Bean, *Law West of the Pecos* that has won some acceptance.

In studying Parts I and II we find that it deals only with people in the town itself and their contributions.

Part III will be dealing with the period 1918 to 1979. The chroniclers will try and broaden the picture to include the huge reservoir of the rural peoples and the minority groups and their roles in the history of the town.

Who were, and are, the people of Italy? For the most part the white population, or their forefathers, came from Alabama, Tennessee, Arkansas or Mississippi. Our black population as a rule came from Alabama or Mississippi—or—up a migratory route from plantations in the lower reaches of the Brazos. This route began in the region colonized by Stephen F. Austin and wound up through Hempstead, Navasota, Hearne, Calvert, Marlin and Waco as the country was being settled. A few Latin American families have made permanent homes in the community within the last few decades. All of these groups have, and are, making their contributions to our culture and community.

ITALY: Three Towns 1890

Italy is one of the youngest towns in Ellis County, but is not of less importance on that account. It is a thriving, progressive place situated in a rich agricultural country. When referring to Italy though; it should be done in the plural, for there are three Italies.

The Oldtown was where the business was transacted and was back from the railroad. The Newtown was located about the depot; and the Southtown was where the schools and colleges were located.

From the time the Aycock brothers built the first house in 1879, Italy has been steadily growing. The Aycock brothers used the house as a dwelling, grocery store and post office. Robert Aycock was the postmaster. J. V. Clark built the second house in 1880 and opened a store. The first minister in Italy was the Rev. R. Leek, a Baptist, who preached in the Houston Creek Schoolhouse. Revs. Armstrong and L. C. Collier came about the same time.



People moved to Italy because there were excellent schools, colleges and churches. The first school was taught by A. J. Loyd in the old Buttermilk Schoolhouse on Houston Creek. He was succeeded by P. H. Gordon.

In 1879 the Revs. L. C. Collier and Armstrong erected the Italy Institute, but it burned down in 1888. 1888 was also the year Southwestern Normal College was built with H. S. Parsons as Principal. Hope Institute was built and presided over by Professor A. T. Seitz. "Each school has a full corps of able and excellent teachers, who not only teach the young in school, but keep strict watch over the manners and morals of those intrusted to their care. One thing that has

helped build up Italy schools is the temperance of her citizens who have never allowed ardent spirits to be sold in the town."

One would suppose that the people of Italy, being famous for their sobriety and learning, would have a plentiful supply of churches and Sabbath schools; and this is the case. Most of the Christian churches are represented. By 1890 the Baptists had a good church building with a membership of 120 good souls, and an excellent Sunday School whose superintendent was A. J. Loyd.

The Cumberland Presbyterian, erected in 1881, was the second church in Italy. The Rev. A. J. Haynes was its first pastor. This church had grown to 100 members with O. A. Hildebrand as superintendent.

The members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South built their church in 1885, and the Rev. R. Boad was the first pastor. The Methodist Protestant Church used the Cumberland Church for meetings.

In 1879 the Christian Church was built. An evangelist, Rev. R. Borden, was the first to preach there.

Black people also had a church building, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, which also had a good sized congregation.



The *Italy Sun* was a lively and well conducted newspaper. It was published in Oldtown in 1891 with Eugene P. Gordon as editor.

By 1890 there were a goodly number of live and progressive businessmen in Italy with "get up and get" who knew how to make a town. Italy was incorporated in August 1891. The first mayor and aldermen were elected. The mayor, the Hon. E. M. Field, and the aldermen were L. B. Roebuck, J. M. Couch, M. L. Ward, F. A. Winn and J. S. Mayce. B. W. Couch was secretary.

The businesses of the town, when the information was obtained, were as follows: Oldtown contained one cotton gin, two general stores, two drug stores, four groceries, one hardware, two restaurants and confectionaries, one confectionary, a millinery, a meat market, a blacksmith, a wagon shop, a livery stable, a bank, a lawyer, a dentist, two cotton yards, two hotels and five physicians.



Newtown, in 1891, only had the depot but later had a cotton gin, hardware and queenware, tin shop, two hotels and two lumber yards.

Southtown consisted of Hope Institute with Professor A. T. Seitz as president, Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and a few other dwellings.

The enterprising little town, only a few years old, on April 21st, 1882, celebrated San Jacinto day with fine festivities. A gathering of 700 people met at a large arbor erected for the occasion, but due to a current of wind, services were conducted in the church. The Rev. J. H. Douglas opened with a prayer and was followed with timely addresses by John L. Cheek of Ennis and O. E. Dunlap of Waxahachie. Professor L. C. Collier announced that dinner was ready, as there was a bountiful supply of provisions on the ground for everybody. The citizens of Italy and the surrounding country did credit to themselves in the hospitable distribution of food.

Dr. Eugene P. Gordon, editor of the *Italy Sun* in 1891 tells the tale of the lively little city so well. This information comes from an old settler and is entirely reliable.

In 1890 the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad reached Italy. Her quiet citizens, after much waiting and patience, may now take their places in the front ranks of progress with the rest of the world.

The 1920's

On November 11, 1918, World War I ended, formally at 11:00 a.m. The personal bugler of General John J. (Black Jack) Pershing was Hartley Edwards of Italy who blew Taps to signal this memorial occasion in Toule, France. Hartley was one of a large family of striking, handsome people, claiming to have Indian blood. He grew up in an old two-story house across Houston Creek on the north side as you go to the Leonard Moore home. He was a team football player and graduated from the local school. Those who knew him were saddened to learn of his death on November 5, 1978, some 60 years and 4 days later at Denison, Texas. His battered \$6.25 bugle used in World War I is now in the Smithsonian Institute. More about Mr. Edwards later, a person who had enjoyed international exposure.



The 1920's began a year and fifty days after the end of World War I. The "roaring twenties" they were called.

King Cotton ruled the economy. Ellis County was leading the nation in cotton production. It reached and exceeded 150,000 bales a year. Five gins, a cotton oil mill and a Compress were needed and utilized to process these abundant crops. This production was all made by mule and man power. Farms were 40 acres or multiples of 20 acres and few exceeded 200 acres. Each farm contained the farmer's residence and one or more small frame houses for the hired help and their families. For this reason the rural areas were fairly densely populated.

In the early twenties most people rode to town in buggies, surries and wagons. They were joined on the pike and mud roads by the few who had cars.

When the roads were muddy people walked, rode horseback or went in wagons to town unless they lived near an interurban stop where they could ride into town for a dime.

Everybody, who was able came into town on Saturday to visit and to do weekly shopping. It was always 10:30 or 11:00 P.M. before the merchants could close—because foot traffic and shoppers clogged the streets.



Children under twelve would be getting out of a Jack Hoxie or Wm. S. Hart Western feature that also included a Krazy Kat cartoon plus a Larry Semon or Harold Lloyd comedy. These features cost a dime. If you bought a nickel hamburger, a soda and a package of popcorn you had blown a 25 cents weekly allowance.

In 1920 radio made its appearance—a miracle to end miracles. Charlie McLaughlin, Victor Yarbrough, Horace Gilliam, and a man named Jack Harris (not our present one) came up with headphone sets and were able to receive WRR, the first regional station.

About 1923 the first loud speaker radio made its debut. The public was invited to hear it at the old Campbell farm a mile north of town on the Bell Branch Road. This was a large two-story manorial type home—which had large galleries on the first and second stories.

People came from miles around this particular evening in their wagons, buggies and cars and comfortably situated themselves on the front lawn for this memorable event. They were not disappointed as they were rewarded with a musical program from KMOX in St. Louis.

Thus, civilization had moved into a new era.

Radio, in its infancy, did not cover sporting events. Jack Dempsey was the idol of the sportsworld. When he fought his championship bouts, they were telegraphed in to the I&GN Railroad Station.

A round to round description was received and relayed to the local citizenry by the telegrapher on duty, who translated the Morse code message and passed it on. The wonderful part of this was that it was done as a public service.



The I&GN ran from Ft. Worth to Waco and to South Texas. It also went northward from Ft. Worth. Several passenger trains a day came through Italy. Memorable were the very long train loads of cattle which were moved from South Texas. They came through this city on their way to Ft. Worth or the Flint Hills of Kansas for further finishing on grass. The Katy also had several passenger trains daily. Both brought mail, passengers, and freight.

An institution of the time was the Interurban which ran from Waco to Dallas. Service began about 7:00 A. M. each day and cars going in both directions continued running every hour until 11 P. M.

With passenger traffic coming in on the Katy, I&GN and Interurban (this was before buses), many passengers had no way to get to Avalon, Frost, Blooming Grove, Sand Town and other communities. To alleviate his situation, there was a Service Car business to help these people get home. These Service Cars (taxis in metropolitan areas) were individually owned and operated. Mostly Model T's, if the weather was cold, rainy, and otherwise inclement, the isinglass curtains could be put up and passengers provided with laprobes for additional warmth. Local swains would pool their resources and charter a Service Car to go to Blooming Grove, Frost, Milford or somewhere to get in a little courting.



Baseball fans would charter cars to attend games away from home where the local club might be playing. Baseball was truly the national pastime then as it had brought Italy to national attention for the first time, in 1916. The Italy High School team beat Oak Cliff in Dallas for the State Championship. They played the Oklahoma State High School Champion for Bi-State honors.

In the early twenties the streets were dirt or graveled, with the more affluent section of town having the gravel. Then each street had a 'back alley.' The primary purpose was for the local "honey wagon" to make its periodic night time trips to pick up the contents of the 'two-holer'-Chic Sale out-houses with their half moon ventilation windows on the sides. Not too many homes in the town had the luxury of indoor sanitation.

Most families had ice boxes and a local ice plant manufactured and delivered ice in an especially made horse drawn wagon. Later delivery was made rurally by a truck. The advent of electric refrigerators was a blessing to the housewife and a marked improvement in the preservation of food.

The main road through Italy—until about 1933—was the old King's Trail; a meandering road from Dallas to Waco which was graveled in places. Occasional migrants in covered wagons still came through leading a milk cow, perhaps, with a keg of water, a stove, chairs, etc. attached to the sides. The beds were under the wagon sheet (tarp) which was stretched over ox-bow frames. If the weather was warm, the wagon sheets would be rolled upwards a bit to allow a breeze to blow through. Farmers picked up pocket change in muddy weather by using their teams to pull cars out of mud holes.

About every three or four miles in any direction from rural towns was a one or two-room schoolbuilding to accomodate every one within walking distance. This was years before the advent of school

buses and lunch rooms. Center Point, Derrs Chapel, Hamrock, Hamlett Lane, Hardneck, Lofton Branch, Sims Farm, Bell Branch were among the rural schools that have made scholastic contributions to many of the families around.

The pupils brought their own lunches, wrapped in an old newspaper and tied with a string or they might have used a syrup bucket. There were metal lunch pails with a leather handle for the more affluent (store bought). A typical student's lunch would be a sausage or two or some other type of fried pork between biscuit halves. A baked potato with the jacket on was usual fare along with a fried sugar or dried fruit pie. Sugar mixed with butter in a biscuit was also nourishing and easy to make.



Later, tractors and big scale farming heavily depopulated the rural areas. Mechanized harvesting, chemical weed controls, paved and hot-top roads, more and more cars, and rural electricity hastened the end of an era that was hard but picturesque.

Henry Smithwick, now 90 years of age, was an academic part of the rural schools. He began his teaching career in the old Bell Branch School in 1907 and later taught at Derrs Chapel—also known as McCullough and South Italy. He was also Italy band director for a period of time. Mr. Henry has for years given of his time, talent and money to the upkeep of the local cemetery. This is a project dear to his heart and an invaluable contribution to the community. He is still going strong in this endeavor.

Laurels, accolades, and recognitions cannot be passed around without mentioning the contributions of Professor W. H. Stafford, who for so many years was the principal of the Negro community schools. This fine gentleman, teacher and Christian left his image and imprint upon many of his students who have made their mark in the fields of their choice. The present modern school on Harris Street is

named in his honor. Professor Stafford served this community for many years and the town is a better place because of his accomplishments.

Who can ever forget the angelic presence of the Reverend E. C. Cargill? For many years this minister was a friend and loved by all. And Miss Nannie Morris as the first grade teacher helped many a tearfully nervous youngster ease into an academic world.

This treatise, as agreed upon by its chroniclers, is not for the purpose of dealing upon lives and personalities. Understandably over the past sixty years, thousands of good, solid, "salt of the earth" people have been a part of this community at one time or another and have gone forth with a rich heritage as a result of having lived here. Therefore, mentioning one eminent person, fifteen others equally eminent would be slighted. Of necessity, however, exceptions must be made in a few instances because of their historical connection with national and even international attention that Italy has received from time to time. Poetic license, or should it be literary license, is being taken in dealing with people like some previously mentioned whose presences and impact have meant so much to the community for having been a part of it.

In this connection Italy again received national attention from the nation as the home of Art (The Great) Shires. In the late twenties and until the mid thirties, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and others in the baseball world had to share the sports pages of the nation's papers with Art. Sporting a derby hat, spats, cane and the finest of tailor-made clothing, he was conceded to be the best dressed athlete in baseball. He held forth in Boston, Washington, Chicago and other cities as a first baseman. He made many headlines in after hours off the diamond and entered professional boxing. Later, when he slowed down a bit, he got into professional wrestling. All of these years he kept the name of Italy in the national media.



Baseball in the eras of 1910-1935 in this area meant as much as the Cowboys mean to football now. No less than ten players from this community played professional baseball. Unfortunately, perhaps the best player raised here could only engage in sandlot ball because of a segregated society at the time. Abner (Mug) Sims could have starred with any team in organized baseball. No better player emerged here. Sherman Valenine and Templeton (Piggy) Sims could have been big league stars but were denied their due for the same irrational reason.

People then, as now, required diversions and social activities, in addition to sports. Because of travel limitations, these activities were pretty well centered here. A few of the more affluent would sometimes secure a coop of chickens on the back or top of their cars and a caravan of them would head out to Glen Rose, a half day's journey, if flat tires were not too frequent. There they would camp out on the Paluxy River at the west end of town for a week or so, usually in midsummer. Bridge was a pastime for many. The Fortnightly Club, organized 1902, was still serving philanthropically, culturally and otherwise—as it does to this date. There was the Bell Branch Country Club with its nine hole golf course, dining, dancing and other facilities. There are those here now that tripped the light fantastic to the music of Lawrence Welk on two different engagements there. A young man of perhaps twenty-eight at the time, he had a four-piece combo that was excellent even at that early stage of his career. Then nearly every Friday or Saturday night there was a "country" hop in some farm home. Fiddles, mandolins, guitars, and banjos produced truly country music. All of this was in the days of "Prohibition." Refreshments for the hops and dances were supplied in half gallon fruit jars from certain gentry in that business.

Other diversions included the Elk Theatre. The first talking movie hit the country in 1927. Al Jolson in "The Jazz Singer" marked the beginning of another era in that facet of amusement. Each year there would be Tent Shows coming to town for a one or two week stay. Some will recall the Bobby Warren, Harve Holland and Harley Sadler troupes and their presentations. Several performers from these shows graduated into Hollywood prominence. Relating to these times Medicine Shows have been very realistically portrayed in Movie and TV presentations.



The 1930's

If the past decade could be described as "The Roaring Twenties", "The Dismal Thirties" would be descriptive of this decade so tragically affected, economically, by the Wall Street Market Crash. Stock brokers and financiers literally were jumping out of windows and resorting to other means of self destruction.

When cotton reached five and six cents a pound and eggs four or five cents a dozen for many people the matter of survival was paramount. Money was very scarce. In 1934, there was no trouble getting cotton pickers for 40 cents a hundred. Locally there were no food stamps, welfare checks of any kind or bread lines. For the farmers, their chickens, eggs, butter, pork, milk, etc. helped them exist. These same products were sold or bartered to the town merchants and were an important basis of the economy then. This was not beef cattle country at the time and most of the available beef was from Jersey cattle. This beef was grass fed usually and much more suitable for making a bowl of cream gravy than for serving as steak. The advent of the pressure cooker made it more palatable for those who owned one.

President Roosevelt was forced to declare a national bank holiday lasting several weeks in 1932, in attempting to bring order out of fiscal chaos the banks were in. Over the nation banks by the thousands had folded leaving their depositors with no resources. The local bank was one of very few, nation wide, that was solvent. Sometimes to borrow \$10.00, one had to have a co-signer.

The first hot-topped and paved roads made their appearance in the early 1930's. In all of South Ellis County only two or three miles of the Old Kings Highway is still in use in 1979.

Dale Evans of radio, movie and later TV fame emerged to national and international prominence as the epitome of family fare entertainment by her personal exemplary life style as a mother and Christian person. We must not fail to mention she was author of the book *Angel Unaware* which was widely acclaimed. Her marriage to Roy Rogers of movie and singing fame was widely heralded. The two of them still command the love and respect of people throughout the world—and remain active in the entertainment world. Miss Evans was born Francis Octavia Smith, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hillman Smith who spent a good many years of their lives here.

In the mid thirties an informal survey revealed only five salaried workers in the town commanding a salary over \$100.00 per month.

There were four soda fountains in the town then. They were the informal gathering places for the people to pass the time of day. One of them, the Candy Kitchen, was open in the evenings and offered curb service if one would sound his horn.

The 1940's

High school football had been played for many years; however, it emerged in popularity during this era as Italy won its first state championship.

Better roads and transportation phased out the remaining country schools and their students were consolidated into the present system.

In 1936 the State of Texas celebrated its Centennial Anniversary and held an exhibition and celebration lasting several months in the costly State Fair grounds rejuvenated for this purpose.

The *Italy News Herald* of July 7, 1937, listed the following bargains available locally:

Barbecue Sandwich	10c
No. 3 can of pineapple	26c for four
Lettuce	16c per head
Coffee	17c per pound
Sardines	26c for six cans
Macaroni	11c for four 6 oz. pkgs.
Chicken dinner with dessert	35c
Light bulbs	99c for twelve

If one suffered from malaria germs, biliousness or a combination of these great enemies of the south, a local drug store offered a tonic, carrying the producers own personal guarantee, to combat the ravages of these disorders.

In the late 1930's Italy became a tourist mecca. Visitors came from far and wide trying to catch a glimpse of a giant serpent like creature reported to be inhabiting the Mill Creek bottoms south of Italy. Local people thought the repile to be of the same species as the Loch Ness monster. The disappearance of several small children of migratory families, who were picking cotton, was attributed to this creature. Sighting of his tracks reported in the news services indicated the serpent crossed the invisible wall in the same creek bottoms. Many people came to view the invisible wall as well as the serpent. These attractions were featured in the news media from coast to coast—and were updated from time to time in order to meet the demand for news on these oddities.

Also attracting inquiries from as far away as California was the reported colony of long tail rabbits on the hill running up and down Chambers creek in the vicinity of the old Pleas Rollins' and Andy Ward's. A California lady rabbit breeder inquired about getting some breeding stock. As a result, tentative plans were made to exhibit and sell a few of them at the Ft. Worth Fat Stock Show, but they must have been too wary to trap.

The 40's found the world in a state of fear and unrest. Germany and Mussolini's Italy were overrunning Europe country by country. World War I was only twenty-two years behind us at the time, and the nation had a premonition that peace was not for long.

The situation was deteriorating and President Roosevelt called a number of National Guard divisions into federal service. On November 25, 1941, the local National Guard unit was mobilized, along with the rest of the 36th Division, and was sent to Brownwood, Texas for combat training. Seventy-seven men were in the local unit, which was the largest contingent in one group to be mobilized. All the men were from Italy with the exception of about fifteen from surrounding towns.

December 7, 1941, saw the U. S. plunged into World War II by Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and the Phillipines. Few able bodied men escaped military duty.

Italy men were deployed and served in the armed forces in Alaska, Canada, Iceland, England, Scotland, Ireland, Morocco, Algiers, Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Rumania, Wake Island, Burma, China, Japan, the Phillipines, Australia, New Zealand, the Panama Canal, and other places, including naval units in the various seas and oceans. Fatalities were suffered and many decorations earned by the local men.

On September 9, 1943, the first beachhead was established in Europe in World War II, at a cost of many allied and enemy casualties. The unit from this town had the distinction of making this historic invasion. For some eight days the outcome of the invasion was in doubt and in danger of becoming a calamity for the Allied Forces—so much so, in fact, that President Roosevelt addressed the nation by radio and asked for the prayers of the people to be with those at Salerno, Italy, where the invasion occurred.

Soon after war was declared, industry began converting to the manufacture of war materials. Many local people, including some women of the community, went to work in aircraft, ship building and other arsenal work. The women at home kept busy serving and knitting for the Red Cross, and urging people to buy bonds and Defense Stamps. They also planted victory gardens and canned surplus foods.

May 6, 1945, the news came that the war was officially over in Europe. August 4, 1945, the world heard "Japan has surrendered unconditionally." People met in churches, parks, and public buildings to give thanks to God for the end of hostilities.

At the War's end the men coming back were not the same men

that left. They were older, much less naive, wiser in the ways of the world. Many had acquired useful skills that were adaptable to industry, trade, governmental and other occupations. They married, created families, and often settled where better job opportunities awaited.

Many of these men, however, stayed in the community. They took advantage of improved roads and automobiles to commute to jobs in the metropolitan areas only an hour or so away. This pattern continues and has resulted in Italy being a "bedroom city" as much as an agricultural center. In this manner these families take advantage of the virtues of peaceful, serene, small town atmosphere. Now many of our city counter parts are migrating here in larger numbers.

Italy first good neighbor Clean-up Day was May 27, 1947. All stores closed, school closed for the day and the entire town was cleaned. Even the MKT Railroad Station was painted white to correspond with fronts of buildings in town. Governor Beauford Jester and Mr. H. N. Warden, vice president of MKT Railroad attended and ate lunch, on curb from buckets and boxes, prepared by Mrs. Stroud.



The late 1940's marked the advent of television, along with the advent of the automobile, electricity, all weather roads, and the radio. The sociological impact was terrific. Television marked a change in the social and family mores of the nation.

The American Legion and its Ladies Auxiliary, on November 10, 1946, bought the Windham building to be used as its headquarters and as a place for community meetings, banquets and other functions. Few in the community today have not attended a family reunion, dinner, or other function there.

The Italy High School football team, the Gladiators, played a ten game schedule and won their first championship. They went through the season unbeaten, untied, and unscored upon. After only six months under Director Charles L. Tunstall, the band won first in the State Band Concert held in Waco. Prior to this, Italy had had only municipal bands of the "oompah" variety that played up and down the interurban system of North Texas.

Since the school was growing and improving, the Italy High School gymnasium was built in 1948. It was officially opened with Milford and Forrester playing a basketball game.



In the same year the city of Italy bought the waterworks. It was formerly a privately owned enterprise, which for years also manufactured ice for this entire section of the county.

The 1950's

Within five years of the end of War II America was again in War. The Korean War erupted in June, 1950. Numerous local men served in this "limited engagement" until its end in 1953. One of our young men paid with his life in this conflict that ended in a shaky unresolved situation that was to last for only a few years.

In the early 50's what is thought to be the first Negro Mayor and City Council were elected with jurisdiction over the Negro section of the town. Although their actions and recommendations were subject to approval by their white counterparts, this was a giant step in race relationship and a success. John Farrow, a trucker, had the single distinction of filling the post of mayor. Other duly elected Blacks filled the City Council. The inauguration ceremonies were televised, radioed, and given nationwide coverage through the press.

So successful and harmonious was this pioneer effort with all people participating in local government that not one proposal or suggestion submitted by Mayor Farrow and his council was ever vetoed. This arrangement was brought to a conclusion in 1954 by the Federal government's belated action to end segregation.

Ebony Magazine sent a staff of photographers and reporters to cover the event. Five pictures were featured in *Ebony* showing Mayor John Farrow with Mayor Sam Green, the white and the black city councils and the city hall serving the Negro community.



In 1952 the S. M. Dunlap Memorial Library, in operation since 1932, moved into its new \$60,000 home. It still functions under the able services of Mrs. Rubine Ward who is entering her 44th year as

librarian. The library has some 7,000 literary works. The late S. M. Dunlap (1857-1924) was a banker and landowner and a man of vision. His great love for this community was aptly expressed with his gift. Bank stock and real estate holdings assure perpetual operation. This library is only one of two fully endowed libraries in the state.

1953 was the year Randall Corley created a memorial for the soldiers who fought in the War between The States (1861-1864). He commissioned a 622 pound bronze bell to be cast in Holland. Around the top was inscribed "The American Bell" and figures of both Confederate and Union soldiers are shown on the sides.

Mr. Corley built an unusual bell tower. The bell, placed in a room ten feet off the ground, was reached by covered stairs. He also built the mechanism for the bell which revolves instead of swings.

At the time this was built, twelve veterans of the Civil War were alive. As each died, the bell tolled twelve times. Since there are no survivors today, the bell is silent.

In 1956 an Italy Industrial Foundation with 150 stock holders was organized. Their efforts were paid off by the location here of several enterprises, the first of which was the Barger Fabric Finishers. Others to come in were the Joseph Manufacturing Company; McConnell Tool and Machine, Inc.; Dunlee Paper Products; Flint Paint Products; and Jamieson's Manufacturing Company. Several of these firms, or successors, are still here! Many people are employed by them, not only from Italy but also from surrounding communities, thus lending greatly to the economic health of the area.

The 1960's

In 1961 Italy was hit by a tornado that did extensive damage to some parts of town. People who heard it approaching thought at first it might be a fast moving freight train on either the I&GN or the Katy, both of which were in operation at the time. All too quickly, however, lights were out, as it went over and through the town with a deafening noise. Fortunately and miraculously, no one was killed or too seriously injured. National TV coverage of the aftermath went nation wide. Italy again came into the national limelight when the offer of federal aid for rehabilitation and assistance was refused. The American Red Cross set up its headquarters in the Legion building for some days and was a source of assistance to numerous people with home and business repairs.

The same year saw the construction of the present High School building and the Stafford School, named in honor of Professor W. F. Stafford, previously cited for his contributions to the hundreds of students who studied under him. In 1965 our schools were integrated harmoniously and were a pattern for other towns to follow.

Throughout the 1960's agricultural operations continued to get larger thereby displacing more and more of the rural population. Livestock raising was on the increase and corn fields disappeared in favor of maize that was more suited to the climate and had a better financial return. Where there had been many gins handling thousands and thousands of bales of cotton, only one is necessary now.



Due to a healthy economic situation in Italy the First State Bank felt the need for a modern banking facility. In September 1962, an open house was held in the new building with Italy and people from surrounding towns attending.

January 1963, found the United States Post Office operation in a new building adjacent to the bank.

Horse and mule power vanished from the scene as well as hundreds of migratory farm families, who came in to help pick cotton and harvest other crops. Their presence was always a boon to local tradesmen. Whereas the town had had some five doctors in 1920 only one remained in practice. Surprisingly the permanent population during this period remained quite constant.

All of the 1960's were nerve racking for the young who faced the draft when they reached the age of eighteen. There was much dissension over the Vietnam War and parents and children were often divided over their loyalties. Fortunately, Italy was not the scene of violence. The war which began in the 1960's, continued into the 70's before public opinion and the opposition of a tenacious enemy made it futile to continue under the ground rules in existence. Fifty-seven thousand American men and women gave their lives in this conflict; One, David Henderson, was from Italy. The 1967 graduation class erected and dedicated a flag pole and monument on the football field in his memory. He was one of the first black students to enter the previously all-white high school. He was well liked and highly regarded by all who knew him.

Assisting in the dedication ceremonies was Hartley Edwards, the 1917 graduate whom we introduced earlier. Before a standing room only crowd in the local football stadium, Mr. Edwards delivered the most haunting of all funeral dirges-taps-in dedication to David Henderson and the following from this community who also gave their lives in various Wars:

Myrtis Cargill	WWI
Cecil Batte	WWII
John Gallman	WWII
Earnest McBride	WWII
Charlie Walter Windham	WWII
Walter J. Windham	WWII
Gussie Vey Walton	Korean

The 1970's

In April 1971 Dr. A. O. Dykes retired after giving himself day and/or night for forty-four years to the people of Italy and southern reaches of the county. Regardless of the weather, he made himself available to countless hundreds of this area. He was one of the last of a dying breed—a family doctor who would make house calls. Sometimes he got paid in butter, eggs, sausage, or other farm produce—sometimes in money—sometimes not at all. The community gathered and honored him with a retirement party at the local high school. Friends came from far and wide. The news media gave the event good coverage and the recognition that was so long in coming.



To many whose life span covers the two decades, the years following the Vietnam War are reminiscent of the "Roaring Twenties." We are in the midst of the greatest period of prosperity and opportunity this community and nation have ever known. Newspaper ads are appealing for workers. A college education is available to all who wish to pursue it. Television has made the rural area residents as urban as their counterparts in the cities. Conversely, our city counterparts have gained equal insight into rural achievements. This is attested by a burgeoning number of homes being built in this area for the many metropolitan people who wish to become a part of a slower, simpler type of life with which we, in the small towns and countryside, are blessed.

In addition to new homes, improvements have been made in the business district. A modern medical center was built with facilities for surgery patients with three rooms available for recovery. Many buildings have been updated by the addition of modern lighting, new store fronts and awnings and newly decorated interiors adding a fresh look.



The summer of 1978 found the youth of the community as well as adults playing tennis on newly built courts furnished by the school and interested citizens. Tennis lessons were sponsored by the Fort-nightly Club in order that more might participate.

In the fall the high school team thrilled all as they played superb football winning until they reached the semi-finals. During the games and the halftime fans were entertained by the band, under the direction of Mr. C. J. Perkins, and the attractive cheer leaders.

Italy's first known resident to reach the age of 100 was Mr. W. R. Wallace, born October 29, 1878. He was honored at a reception by members of the Park Presbyterian Church with friends and relatives attending. On this occasion, he was awarded a plaque with the inscription "W. R. Wallace one hundred years of dedicated service to church, family, and community." These words very aptly describe a wonderful person whose influence has reached many.

Another first for Italy was the arrival of a lady doctor in March 1979. Dr. Zenaída F. Robles opened the Italy Medical Clinic for patients Monday, March 5. Wishing to welcome Dr. Robles to the community, a reception was given in her honor Sunday, April 1, by civic and fraternal organizations of the town.

With reference to blessings, let us not overlook the following churches available to one and all in the year 1979:

Central Baptist	First Baptist
Church of Christ	First Christian
Church of God in Christ	First United Methodist
Coming of the Christ Full Gospel Holiness	Lacey Chapel Methodist
Epiphany Catholic	Mt. Zion African Methodist
Faith Temple	Park Presbyterian
First Assembly of God	Union Mission Baptist

As this hundred year *History of Italy* nears the conclusion may we observe that time marches on. In 1879 it took three days of hardest travel to reach the State Capital. In 1979 people go to the moon in the same time.

Those of us who have reviewed the history of Italy, hope (if by chance we are not here) that when Italy celebrates its 150th birth-date in 2029, that this chronicle will be removed from the archives for updating and perpetuation.

We leave you a rich heritage. May you profit in reviewing the past and from its experience find encouragement and inspiration for greater efforts and accomplishments

Sponsors:

JOANNA and JERRY RIDLEHUBER
and CHILDREN

JEANETTE and RONALD JANEK
and BOYS

FLORELLE and ELGIN WILSON
ANN ROGERS

C. W. WOLAVER

SID, JANE and SHELLEY REEVES

LEO, LINDA and LANCE LOGAN

GENE, JO ANN, JOHNNY and AMY HIGDON

DONNIE VIRGINIA and LISA WEAVER

BOB, VIVIAN, ANDREA, ALISON, JOEL
and JORDAN HUGHGINS

GWEN, LEE and JASON HARRIS

BEVERLY and DAN BATTE

LISA and DANA

NELTA and LEONARD HASTEN

EDNA EARL and S. H. (DOC) CAUTHEN

MRS. JOE V. WOOD

L. H. and MARGARET SMOTHERMAN

FREDNA and ELMER ALLEN

POTSY and CHARLES McLAUGHLIN

EVIE NELL WARD OWEN and ALVIN OWEN

THE BOOK OF ITALY

ROBERT E. SPARKMAN

SAMMY, JAN, STEPHEN, ALAN WOLAVER

MAURINE GALLMAN

City Secretary

FRANCES WINDHAM

LYNN, DIANE, SCOTT and STEPHEN LAWSON

JIMMY, ANN, JEFF and CHARLES HYLES

SAM and LOIS HELEN REEVES

MARGARET OLIPHANT and RICHARD THOMPSON

BILLIE TOM and PAULA HARRIS

MILDRED McLEAN

JACK and ELAINE HARRIS

LOUISE JOHNSON

LUDIA F. ASTON

ROBERT, CHERYL and CORTNEY OWEN

DAVID, JANICE and MATTHEW MAULDIN

PAT and JOE BRADLEY

GLADYS HOOVER

ODELL and VESTAL THOMPSON KELLEY

JOHN, LINDA, STEPHANIE and SHELLEY GOODMAN

LEE ROY JR., MARCIA and KIP FINLEY

CHARLES, TERRY and TOBY ADAMS

RANDY and ANGELA MUIRHEAD

SYDNA STOVALL MOSLEY

KATHLEEN STOVALL HUDSON

ITALY AUTO SUPPLY

Owner, JACKIE MILLER

ITALY DRY GOODS

In the Continuing Tradition

of Fine Service

To ITALY

and

SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

WANDA and GEORGE SCOTT — Owners

119 E. MAIN ST.

483-6817

THE TOWN OF ITALY

ROBERT E. SPARKMAN
SAMMY, JAN, STEPHEN, ALAN WOLAVER



Home of WILENE and DUEL R. PRICE

Lifetime Residents of

Italy, Texas

One of the Older Homes in Italy

CHARLES, TERRY and TOBY ADAMS

RANDY and ANGELA MURHEAD

SYDNA STOVALL MOSLEY

KATHLEEN STOVALL HUDSON

ITALY AUTO SUPPLY

Owner, JACKIE MILLER

214 East Main

P. O. Drawer 460

Phone (214) 483-6311

ITALY, TEXAS 76651

FARMER'S CO-OP GIN

FEED - SEED - FERTILIZER

VET SUPPLIES

Clark Street

483-6381

Mildred's Poodle Coiffure

GROOMING SUPPLIES

Box 306, Italy, Texas 76651

Phone 483-6972

BILL AND MILDRED GENTRY, Owners

MEHARG OIL and GAS CO.

DISTRIBUTOR OF TEXACO PRODUCTS

J. E. (CORKY) MORGAN — Owner

207 E. MAIN ST.

483-6562

Italy Dairy Inn

MRS. LILLIE SPEER

Highway 77

483-6604

OES No. 1067

Italy, Texas

WORTHY MATRON — DOROTHY ADAMS

WORTHY PATRON — CHARLES ADAMS

ITALY HARDWARE

HARDWARE — SPORTING GOODS

TOYS — HOUSE WARES

Electrical and Plumbing Supplies

Paint-Gifts-School Supplies

116 E. Main

483-6356

Italy Butane Service

TOM AND MARY PORTERFIELD — Owners

207 E. Main

483-6562

Ronnie Hyles Home Supply

COMPLETE BUILDING SERVICE AND SUPPLIES

112 E. Main St. 483-6093

MABLE'S BEAUTY SALON

Complete Professional

Beauty Service

315 S. Ward St.

Italy

CARTER CAFE

ALINE CARTER — Owner

114 E. Main

Italy

ITALY CONVALESCENT CENTER

"WE CARE"

24 Hour Nursing Care

Hospital Convalescents Welcome

Medicare and Medicaid Approved

PEARL COMMONS, Adm.

REEVES' PHARMACY

123 MAIN STREET

483-6271

ITALY, TEXAS

SERVICE — CONVICIENCE — QUALITY



BOB & CONNIE REEVES, Owners — 1975

FORTNIGHTLY CLUB

1902 - 1979

77 Years of Cultural Dedication
to the
Enrichment of the Community

George Couch Insurance Agency

FIRE AND CASUALTY

JOANNA RIDLEHUBER — Manager

First State Bank Building
120 E. Main Street 483-6511

Dr. Ervin Byers

GENERAL DENTISTRY

210 Main St.

483-6738

COMMON'S BARBER SHOP

111 W. Main St.

483-6313

KATHLEEN and W. L. (Mutt) GALLMAN
LINDA and JOHN GALLMAN and KELLY COOPER
CELIA and JOE REEDER III
and JOE REEDER IV

CARTER'S CLEANERS

304 E. Main St.

483-6811

COMPLIMENTS

of

Sheriff Barney Boyd and Wife Mary

SHERIFF OF ELLIS COUNTY

COMPLIMENTS

of

**Commissioner P. L. Rollins Jr.
and Wife Inez Rollins**

PRECINCT 3
ELLIS COUNTY

WOLAVER and SONS FLORIST

TEA KETTLE and SANDWICH SHOP

AGATHA HALL WOLAVER, Owner

101 E. MAIN ST.

483-6363

DOROTHY'S BEAUTY SALON

DOROTHY ADAMS, Owner

111½ E. Main St.

483-6839

ITALY SEWING BASKET

FABRICS AND YARNS

SUSAN DAHL, Owner

ANN WESTBROOK, Seamstress

BUDDY and GERTRUDE

HAMLETT DILWORTH

BOB, DIANE and GREG DILWORTH

S. M. Dunlap Library



A Completely Endowed Institution

Serving the People

of

SOUTH ELLIS COUNTY

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The Book of Italy Italy Fertilizer Co.

FERTILIZER SEED CHEMICALS

Wholesale and Retail

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Office Phone:

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McCONNELL'S

FINE FURNISHINGS

Since 1947

Zack and Elva Jo McConnell, Owners

203 E. Main

483-6581

COMPLIMENTS

OF

Emy Lou Stovall Jarrett
and Weldon (Buck) Jarrett

Linda and Cullen White

The Book of Italy

Being a symposium of a Texas town
with something of its history and
present commercial importance. : :

Edited and Compiled by
Everett Lloyd

First National Bank

CAPITAL \$50,000.00

SURPLUS \$50,000.00

ITALY, TEXAS

S. M. Dunlap, President; K. G. Stroud, Active Vice-President;
J. C. Couch, Vice-President; K. G. Buckley, Cashier;
L. E. Eagan, Asst. Cashier.

Statement of the condition at close of business Nov. 20, 1917.

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts.....	\$338,606.14
U. S. Bonds.....	63,630.00
Banking House, Furniture and Fixtures.....	1.00
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank, Dallas.....	3,000.00
Cash and Exchange.....	223,073.99

TOTAL.....\$628,311.13

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock.....	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus.....	50,000.00
Undivided Profits.....	36,505.64
Circulation.....	50,000.00
Deposits.....	441,805.49

TOTAL.....\$628,311.13

The above statement is correct. K. G. Stroud, Vice-Pres.

"A Store of Family Service"

Established 1910 by J. D. Stovall

"Italy's Only Department Store"

J. D. STOVALL

Everything to Wear for Everybody

Men, Women, Children

**Dry Goods, Ready-to-Wear, Millinery, Shoes
Suits for Men and Boys**

The Center of Italy's Shopping Activities. All the Latest Styles in Women's and Children's Apparel.

A store that has been a factor in the growth and development of Italy, and accredited by many customers with being the most desirable store in Ellis County.

With a thorough understanding of local conditions, modern methods and ample stock we offer to our customers the best possible service, prices and quality, combined with similar style offered by the larger stores of Dallas and Waco.

The Store of Satisfied Customers

J. D. STOVALL

A Comfortable Place for Home People.
Ladies' Rest Room.



J. D. STOVALL
Owner of Italy's large
department store

Established 1910

By J. D. Stovall



Sectional view showing interior of J. D. Stovall's department store. Probably the most elaborate "small-town" store in Texas. The building was built by Mr. Stovall and was specially designed for store purposes. For lighting effects and window displays it is one of the most modern in the state.

J. H. Craig

Jeweler

ITALY, TEXAS

N. C. White & Co.

*Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Hats
and Millinery*

Italy, Texas

Italy---Now and Then.

1879—1918.

Italy is prouder of her citizenship than any other local asset. It has always been a town of excellent schools, churches, civic cohesiveness, similarity of ideas and morals and those other essentials which enter into the making of a "clean town."

One of the boasts of the place, or rather credits to its citizenship is that the town has never had a saloon; and with only one exception no serious crime has ever been committed within the town limits. Considering that Italy is approximately 38 years old this a record unequaled probably by any other Texas town of similar age and population. This is a tribute to the high moral standards of the city and community.

Originally known as "Houston Creek," Italy became a town and assumed a place on the map in 1879, though several pioneer families had located here a few years before that time. With the arrival of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad Italy became a trading center of considerable importance and gradually attracted a bank, all kinds of stores and a newspaper, denominational churches, schools, and an oil mill, and soon ranked as one of the important towns of the county. The land near Italy was valuable and was quickly settled by intelligent farmers and stockraisers, and large transactions in lands and farms were of almost daily occurrence. From \$5.50 an acre this same land has advanced to \$150.00 and \$175.00 an acre, and little of it is offered for sale even at this price.

The Italy of the pioneer days and the Italy of today are in striking contrast. The crude frame store buildings have given away to modern bricks; her famous black muddy roads have been supplanted by paved streets and piked thoroughfares; the "Buttermilk School House," so named because of the scarcity of paint it was whitewashed with buttermilk, has gone the way of all man's first attempts to settle and colonize the wilderness, and is now or will soon be represented by two fine brick school buildings; the automobile has relegated the old plug horse and the gig to oblivion; the dark and poorly lighted streets have made way for the electric lamp posts and electric signs; the Union Church House had to go in order to make room for modern church buildings; the interurban has supplanted the railroad for passenger purposes and made life in a small town a joy. Aside from a few pioneer citizens Italy has little to remind the

visitor of her early days. Rural free delivery mail service has added value and pleasure to country life with the result that comfortable country homes reflect the prosperity and thrift of the people, and other improvements show the increase in property values both in the town and country. And with the material improvements have come civic pride, town loyalty and a higher form of culture and citizenship. The "good old days" seem as we look back over the years to have been more enjoyable than the present time—but they were not. With all the comforts and conveniences of today life is decidedly more interesting and worth living.

Italy is essentially a town of civic cohesiveness and friendliness. This is partly due to the fact that the people and citizenship are largely native born, with similar ideals and tastes. The merchants and bankers of the town today were the clerks, book-keepers and store-boys of a few years ago. Those that remained on their jobs have prospered wonderfully, and are now the leaders in the town's business and social affairs. Whit George, Tom Lusk, J. D. Stovall, Pat Martin, Will Jennings, Joe Goodwin, J. E. Cauthen, Mit Richards, Joe Craig, Kose Stroud, Trav Windham, John and Bert Fuston, Stewart Freeman, T. E. Moore, Jas. Bracken, Arthur Crumley, Ector Wood, Jode Trammel, Walter Bateman, H. and Eugene Martin, and many others are practically "home boys," and if not born in Italy community have spent the greater portion of their lives here. True, some of the first merchants left and some of them have succeeded in a big way—but many of them have failed. The truth of the old saying about letting well alone justifies itself in the case of these Italy boys, now turned men. Without exception they have all been successful.

Of the Italy of today—the New Italy—much may be said and greater things hoped for. It has all the advantages of its city rival, yet retaining its rural atmosphere and simplicity. It is complete in itself and its most prosperous days are yet to come. It is a town with a future.

Newspapers of Italy.

One of Italy's earliest acquisitions was a newspaper. Early in its history the town had three papers at the same time—and later it had two, however the second rival was of short duration.

The first paper was the Italy Sun, established by Eugene Gordon in 1887. Next came the Italy News, established by the present postmaster, Colonel T. S. Hamilton in 1891. Later, or rather in 1893, the Italy Herald was founded by

T. B. Lusk who has weathered the storms of fat and lean years and his paper is the sole survivor of the three. In 1898 the Italy News and the Italy Herald consolidated as the Italy News-Herald and operated successfully by Messrs. Hamilton & Lusk until Colonel Hamilton's retirement a few years ago.

The last advent into the local newspaper field was the Italy Surpriser established by Whitley Reed in 1905, but was discontinued after a brief existence, leaving the News-Herald the only local newspaper, and probably one of the most successful weekly papers in the state.

Some Institution Italy Needs and Would Support.

- A modern Steam Laundry.
- A Public Auditorium and Theatre.
- A Public Library.
- A Modern Hotel and Sanitarium.
- A Cotton Mill and Overall Factory.
- A General Land and Abstract Office.
- One Osteopath Physician.
- One Wholesale Grocery Firm.
- One Flour Mill.
- One Public Park and Playground.
- A New High School.
- A Municipal Abattoir.



Write for Further Information.

Italy does not claim to be built on the original site of the Garden of Eden, but it is located in the greatest cotton producing county in the world, Ellis county having the distinction of having successively produced more than 150,000 bales for many years.

Neither is Italy a one-man nor a one firm town. No one interest dominates it. One man has as much chance to succeed as another; so if you are looking for a location for a store or factory, write to any business man or bank mentioned in this book. If they think you will make a success they will tell you so frankly, because they are all boosters and all honest. Italy has enough desirable business openings without resorting to misrepresentation.

J. W. WHITE

Staple and Fancy
Groceries

Italy, Texas

OLDEST DRY GOODS STORE IN ITALY

J. G. GOODWIN & CO.

Dry Goods and Clothing
Ladies' and Gents' Furnishings

J. G. Goodwin, Manager

ITALY, TEXAS

SMITH-WOOD HARDWARE CO.

HARDWARE AND FURNITURE

Buggies, Wagons, Implements

Italy, Texas

STONE & BROOKS

Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats,
Furnishings, Etc.

Telephone 21

Italy, Texas

J. A. Trammel

G. Doyle Cole

TRAMMEL & COLE

GROCERIES
FLOUR --- COFFEE

Quality and Service combine to make our store the unsurpassed institution of its kind in Italy.

To insure perfect condition of perishable goods and absolute cleanliness we have installed a large "Fort Smith" Refrigerator—the only one in town.

Our customers are responsible for the statement that we have the most desirable store in Italy.

TRAMMEL & COLE

Service—Quality Phone 41 Immediate Delivery

Special Italy Advantages.

A town of churches and excellent school.

Unexcelled cotton, grain and livestock market.

Inexhaustible supply of artesian water.

Two railroads and Dallas-Waco Interurban.

Compress, oil mill and four gins.

Two banks and modern stores.

Volunteer fire department and low tax and insurance rate.

All principal fraternal organizations.

Paved streets and piked roadways in all directions.

No saloons and progressive citizenship.

Ideal climate and low mortality rate.

Ideal conditions and profitable wages for working people.

An up-to-date weekly newspaper.

Market for farm products.

Almost total absence of crime.

Large proportion of population are home owners.

Superior medical talent and sanitarium facilities.

Prompt mail, express and freight service.

Telegraph and cable stations.

Excellent band and free concerts.

Cotton Exchange with complete market reports.

Progressive city administration and officials.

Quick access to Dallas, Ft. Worth, Waco, Austin, Houston, Galveston and all wholesale and distributing centers.

Modern lighting, water and sewer systems.

Electric power supplied by Texas Power & Light Co.

Modern ice factory.

Joe Mankovsky
Dry Goods, Clothing and Shoes
Ladies' and Gents Furnishings

ITALY, TEXAS

JESSE M. PARKER

Real Estate
INSURANCE

ITALY, TEXAS

Dr. W. Marion Jenkins
Dr. F. H. Jenkins
Physicians and Surgeons

ITALY, TEXAS

The Italy Cotton Exchange

Solicits Your Patronage

We have a direct cotton wire with New Orleans and can give you the best of service. Special price to planters \$5.00 per month, payable in advance.

Telephone 226

ITALY, TEXAS

Pat Martin Co.

"The Store Beautiful"

Dry Goods
Ladies' Ready-to-Wear
Clothing

The unrivaled store of its kind in Italy

The variety of our stock
and our liberal policy
and prices combine to
make our establishment
one of the most desirable
in Ellis County.

"First" in Italy.

Robert C. Aycock was the first postmaster and served for 17 years.

The first store was operated by Aycock Brothers.

The first drug store was established by G. W. Hamlett and H. Y. Douglass.

The first dry goods store was owned by J. Van Clark.

The second dry goods store was operated by Couch Bros. & Hamlett.

The first school was known as "The Buttermilk School House," one of the first teachers being A. J. Loyd.

The town proper was established in 1879, C. S. Cridell being the first Mayor.

The first gin was built by Steve Bassinger and Sam Cauthen in 1878.

Dr. A. J. Jennings was the first doctor to locate in Italy. Land at that time was selling for \$5.50 an acre.

Among the first settlers were Elisha Richards, J. M. Hardeman, J. P. Williams, Rev. John Douglas.

The first church was established by the Presbyterians.

Dr. J. C. Colley was the second physician to locate here.

The second school of any importance was the Southwestern Normal College, founded by Professor H. S. Parsons. About the same time Professor Alexander Holt established an excellent school at South Italy.

The name "Italy" was suggested by the Postoffice Department at Washington. Up to this time the little village had been known as "Houston Creek."

The first bank was established by J. Van Clark and S. M. Dunlap.

The first newspaper, the Italy Sun, was established by Eugene Gordon, in 1887.

The first racket store was operated by J. D. Stovall.

The first minister in the city was the Rev. John Douglass.

The first automobile brought to Italy was owned by Commissioner Tom McWhirter.

Cauthen & Richards

Staple and Fancy Groceries
AND FEED STUFF

Free and Prompt Delivery

Telephone No. 111

The New Elk Theatre

Under New Management

We Show Only High Class Pictures
Cater to Women and Children

Lewis Variety Store

We carry in stock practically every article used on the farm or in the home and can save you money on every purchase.

Our store embodies all the desirable features of a Variety Store, combined with the money-saving element of the most successful five and ten cent establishments.

Ours is a store where any of the thousands of useful household articles may be bought for less.

The store is new; the stock new and complete; and we will do our best to serve the people of Italy and community.

Lewis Variety Store

(The only one of its kind in town) ITALY, TEXAS



Colonel T. S. Hamilton
Postmaster, and for many
years the town's foremost
editor.



PAT MARTIN
Progressive Merchant
and town booster

Railroad Timetables for Italy.

M., K. & T.

NORTH BOUND.		SOUTH BOUND.	
No. 6.....	6:29 a. m.	No. 9	10:34 a. m.
No. 10.....	6:36 p. m.	No. 5.....	9:26 p. m.

Nos. 5 and 10 stop for passengers north of Dallas and south of Waco.

I. & G. N.

NORTH BOUND.		SOUTH BOUND.	
No. 14.....	7:09 p. m.	No. 15	8:59 a. m.
No. 16.....	5:42 a. m.	No. 17.....	9:40 p. m.

INTERURBAN TIME TABLE.

NORTH BOUND.		SOUTH BOUND.	
Cars arrive at Italy going north at 7:12, 8:31, 9:12, 10:31 and 11:12 a. m. and 12:31, 1:12, 2:31, 3:12, 4:31, 5:12, 6:31, 7:12, 9:12 and 11:12 p. m.		Cars arrive at Italy going south at 6:59, 8:14, 8:59, 10:14 and 10:59 a. m. and 12:14, 12:59, 2:14, 2:59, 4:14, 4:59, 6:14, 6:59, 8:59 and 10:59 p. m.	

PRECINCT OFFICIALS.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 8—J. B. Cheatham.
 Constable, Precinct No. 8—W. H. Horton.
 County Commissioner, Prec. 3—Tom McWhirter, Italy.

LODGE DIRECTORY.

ODD FELLOWS—Italy Lodge No. 375 I. O. O. F. meets every Friday night. V. A. Nowell, N. G.; J. G. Goodwin, Secretary.

MASONS—Italy Lodge No. 647 A. F. and A. M. meets Thursday night on or before each full moon. M. E. Hall, W. M.; Herman Parker, Secretary.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—Italy Camp No. 181, Woodmen of the World, meets on first Tuesday night in each month. Robt. H. Batte, C. C.; J. M. Richards, Clerk.

REBEKAHS—Italy Rebekah Lodge No. 210 meets the first and third Saturday afternoon at 2:30 at Woodmen Hall. Miss Vicie Murray, N. G.; Miss Jessie Cummings, Secretary.

WOODMEN CIRCLE—Crescent Grove No. 95 meets second and fourth Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at Woodmen Hall. Mrs. Ella Cummings, Guardian; Mrs. Roxie Parker, Clerk.

W. A. CRUMLEY DRUGGIST

"The Free Lance"

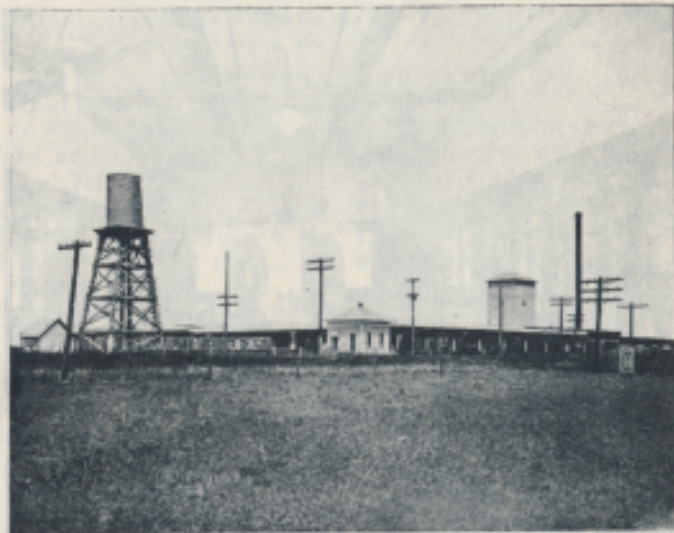


Interior of W. A. Crumley's Drug Store

Superior Service, Sanitary Conditions and Equipment combine to make this establishment all that a Drug Store should be.

On the corner—All Interurban Cars pass the store.
 Make it your headquarters.

R. P. Wofford, President W. K. McCullough, Vice-Pres.
 S. D. Reed, Galveston, Chairman of the Board
 Whit George, Treasurer



The Italy Compress Co.

Bush Wofford, Sec'y and Mgr.

Texas Power & Light Co.

The City of Italy is fortunate in being on one of the main electric power transmission lines of the Texas Power & Light Company, by means of a local transforming station. Continuous 24 hour service is rendered, and in this way the citizens of Italy get as good electric light and power service as any large city in the country.

Besides the large number of lighting customers which the Company has, there are also quite a number of the local industries using electric power, among which are the Italy Oil Mill, which has a total of 83 horse power in motors installed. The Farmers Union Gin Company which has a total of 110 horse power in motors installed. The Italy Gin Company which has a total of 83 horse power in motors installed, and the Italy Seed & Fuel Company which has a total of 15 horse power in motors installed. Several of the gins also use electric motor driven unloading fans, in order to give their customers prompt service.

At the present time the Company is doing quite a lot of work locally in connection with their electric range campaign. This campaign was only started during the first of the year, but, nevertheless, quite a number of families in Italy are now doing their cooking electrically.

The unfailing courtesy of the employees of this Company has won the good will of the people of Italy, who feel that the Texas Power & Light Company is an asset to our town.

P. L. ROLLINS

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

MULES

ITALY, - - - TEXAS



ITALY
COTTON OIL
COMPANY
 OF ITALY, TEXAS
Cotton Seed Products

The First Christian Church.

The First Christian Church of Italy, as a congregation was organized at Italy about the year 1890, having moved its membership from South Italy. While the beginning of this congregation would properly date back about 1873, and held its meetings and services in the old community school house known as "The Buttermilk School House" which was used for school purposes, and also by all the different churches to hold services. And when the South Italy School house was built the Christian Church held its services at South Italy, until moving to Italy proper.

The present church building was built about 1892, and has since been known as the First Christian Church of Italy.

The present pastor is E. D. Hamner, who preaches three Sundays in each month and also Sunday nights.

The church has a good Sunday School which meets every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

J. F. PRICE

Staple and Fancy Groceries



ITALY, TEXAS

"He Profits Most Who Serves Best"

"Give the world the best you have
and the best will come back to you"



INTERIOR JENKINS DRUG COMPANY

This Institution is Organized, Equipped and
Trained for Efficient Business

THE JENKINS DRUG COMPANY

In Business For Your Health

ITALY, TEXAS

Who's Who in Italy---and Why.

The First National Bank, organized in 1891 as a private bank by J. Van Clark and S. M. Dunlap; nationalized in 1901 as the First National Bank with a capital of \$25,000.00, since increased to \$50,000.00, and added surplus of \$50,000.00. Officers—S. M. Dunlap, President; K. G. Stroud, Active V-President; K. G. Buckley, Cashier.

The Farmers State Bank, organized in 1907 by Whit George and T. E. Moore; capital \$25,000.00; surplus \$12,500.00; undivided profits \$24,913.01. Officers—Whit George, President; Sam McCord, Cashier; Jas. Bracken, Asst. Cashier.

J. V. Wood & Bro., lumbermen; pioneer lumber firm of Italy to remain in continuous existence and under same ownership. Yards at Italy, Milford, Maypearl, Itasca, Royce City. Members of firm—J. V. Wood, Milford; P. E. Wood, Italy.

J. D. Stovall, dry goods; finest store in Italy. J. D. Stovall, sole proprietor. Has had many years successful business experience in Italy.

Hosford & Wilson, druggist; owners of City Drug Store, one of the town's oldest and most successful business firms, doing general drug and book business. Members of firm—Guy Hosford and S. P. Wilson. Headquarters for many members of medical fraternity, including Doctors Chas. and F. H. Carlisle, Dr. J. B. J. Gilliam and Dr. L. B. Roebuck.

Dr. R. L. Hall, A. B., M. D., physician and surgeon; born near Jacksonville, Texas, 1867; A. B., degree Summer Hill College, 1889, Superintendent Kaufman Public Schools, 1891-92; graduated Kentucky School of Medicine, Louisville, Ky.; post graduate New Orleans Polyclinic; Washington University, St. Louis; New York Polyclinic, New York; Rush Medical College, Chicago. Specializes in surgery and maintains completely equipped Sanitarium and operating rooms in connection with offices in Interurban building. Member Masons, Woodmen, Odd Fellows, Methodist Church.

N. C. White, dry goods merchant and cotton factor; successor to Levy Bros., pioneer Italy merchants.

The Jenkins Drug Company, while a comparatively new firm in point of actual years business in Italy, has built up an extensive business by careful methods and consideration of the public needs; probably has the largest drug business

of any local firm. Active workers of firm—C. L. Jenkins, General Manager; G. C. Bruner, Prescriptionist; Walter Upchurch, Fountain Manager. Offices, operating rooms and sanitarium of Doctors W. M. and F. H. Jenkins, prominent local surgeons and physicians.

Joe Mankovsky, dry goods merchant and cotton buyer; carries complete line of dry goods, clothing, shoes and ladies' ready-to-wear.

John A. Stockton, owner of Italy Candy Kitchen, manufacturers of candies and confections; only exclusive firm of the kind in Italy and the popular resort of women and children. Located in the P. E. Wood building between Interurban Station and J. D. Stovall's store.

The Farmers Dry Goods Company, one of Italy's newest dry goods establishments carrying a general line. Located in building formerly occupied by Emil Hamlett.

McLaughlin Market, D. W. McLaughlin, Proprietor; only market in Italy and one of the best equipped and most sanitary in the state. Government inspected meats and packing house products handled.

J. H. Craig, Jeweler, Optician and Diamond expert; offices and show rooms in City Drug Store; exclusive dealer Edison Phonographs.

Smith-Wood Hardware Company, dealers in hardware, cutlery, glassware, farm implements and furniture. Members of firm—Roy Wood and Hillman Smith.

J. G. Goodwin & Co., dry goods and clothing; Joe G. Goodwin, General Manager; one of Italy's most successful dry goods firms.

J. W. White, groceryman and produce dealer; successor to A. N. Sherbet.

Pat Martin Company, known as the "neatest store in town"; carries full line of Everything to Wear. A store that attracts business to Italy from many parts of the county.

Dr. Stewart Freeman, soft-petal the "Dr." title and accentuate fire and life insurance—in fact, bear down on this. Long Italy's most unique character; a retired doctor who has graduated into the class of "country gentleman." Office—Farmers State Bank.

Eugene Martin, contractor, builder of Italy's finest bank

and office building—the Farmers State Bank, and his own home—two distinct credits to the town. Builder of nearly all the brick buildings in Italy.

S. T. Hall, groceryman, successor to Radican & Hall; headquarters for farmers. Extensive dealers in farm produce as well as groceries and feed stuffs.

Reid & McCullough, cotton buyers; largest operators in Italy market, handling several thousand bales annually. General offices in Galveston, with branches and direct connections with Liverpool, New Orleans and New York. Local members and representatives of firm—W. K. McCullough and M. L. Huey. A firm well known throughout the country for fair dealing and top prices.

L. V. Reeder, operator and owner of Italy's largest garage and service station; agent for the famous Kelly Springfield tires, automobile parts and accessories.

Italy Cotton Oil Company, manufacturers of cotton seed oil products, meal and hulls—the best friend the farmers have, and the town's biggest industrial asset. Owned and operated largely by home people for the benefit of farmers. W. C. Hobbs, General Manager.

William Cameron & Co., Inc., lumber and paint dealers; largest concern of its kind in the South and probably the greatest home-builders in Texas. Successors to R. C. Mitchell. A firm that Italy is proud of. W. E. Farmer, Local Manager.

Italy Bottling Works, manufacturers of ice cream, bottled goods, soft drinks of all kinds, and exclusive agents for Bevo. An Italy institution that started in a small way and has made a great success. Supplies a dozen towns near Italy with soft drinks and bottled goods. Owned exclusively by home people. Whit George, President; Roy Wimberly, General Manager.

Italy Cotton Exchange, Will M. Wilson, owner and manager; the one institution that has probably done more to make Italy a cotton market of the first-class than any other; market quotations furnished hourly to local buyers and farmers from all the principal markets of the world.

W. D. Bateman, pioneer automobile agent and King of Ford Dealers; has probably sold as many Ford cars as any salesman in Texas, and still unable to fill orders; operates a

modern service station and obeys the Sunday law. Carries in stock a complete line of everything a car owner needs.

W. A. Crumley, "the free lance druggist" believes in giving people what they pay for. Sole owner of store and building and is one of the individual business and professional successes of Italy. Hobbies—cleanliness, accuracy, courtesy. Believes a store should reflect the conscience and personality of the owner.

Lewis Variety Store, an institution combining the Kress, Woolworth, and Duke-Ayres ideas of the five and ten cent store, where anything to be used in the home may be purchased at a saving. The only firm of the kind in Italy and one that will conserve the bankroll. An emporium of useful things.

Trammell & Cole, "the Grocery So Different;" a store in name and fact; one that conforms to city ideas and is all that a grocery store should be; caters to city and country folks alike and always tries to give the BEST for the money. The slogan of this firm is to give the customer the "long end" of the deal.

The Italy Mill, dealers in wood, meal, charcoal, fuel of all kinds. Supplies a distinct need. R. F. Underwood, Proprietor.

Cauthen & Richards, the town's biggest grocery store and probably the largest mercantile establishment; buys in wholesale lots and operates on the same scale. Owned by two native sons who have lived here always—J. M. Richards and J. E. Cauthen, uncle and nephew.

His Honor the Mayor, Jesse M. Parker, real estate, farms, loans, insurance; besides being the head of the city government. For many years principal of the city schools and helped to start many youths on the right track. Advocate of a new school building, a strict adherence to all city ordinances and generally regarded as one of the City Fathers—in all respects one of our best citizens.

Edwards & Janes, grocery merchants and provisioners who have built up a substantial business among all classes. While not attempting to "Hooverize" the local grocery business, they believe that a dollar can be made to give a fine account of itself if properly spent—that is, with Edwards & Janes.

W. W. Taylor, pioneer plumber and "trouble man" for the town, expert wind-mill repairer and "fixer" who has witnessed the blow-up of numerous competitors—believes in

being on the job, and that the public will some day see things his way. Installed the first bathtub in Italy, a distinction in itself.

Italy Compress Company, Bush Wofford, General Manager; an institution Italy badly needed and was a long time in getting and has a hard time keeping on account of fire. Has improved each year to better handle the large volume of cotton concentrated in Italy. An important factor in promoting the cotton business generally.

T. W. Windham, furniture, and the only undertaker in town; utilizes more floor space than any other merchant in town and has a volume of business running into the thousands; operates an electric shoe repair shop in connection.

C. H. Abbott, jeweler and watch repairer and an expert in his line; shop and show rooms at the Jenkins Drug Co. Has fine line of jewelry and gifts in stock at all times.

The Cottage Hotel, R. H. Harris, Proprietor; a \$2.00 American plan hotel conveniently located for the traveling public.

Wolaver & Green, ginners, cotton and seed buyers; oldest gin in Italy—here since the town started. J. T. Wolaver and T. J. Green owners. One of the few institutions to remain in continuous existence since before Italy became a town.

Carlisle Brothers, Doctors F. L. and Chas., two members of the medical profession who have been a part of the town for many years and shared in its success and improvement. In general practice. Offices and library in the First National Bank Building.

The Farmers Union Gin Company, organized, owned and operated by a large number of representative farmers and business men; is a cooperative concern and has been a big success from the start. Jodie E. Whitt is the manager and an authority on the ginning and cotton industry.

Doctors Jenkins & Jenkins, F. H. and W. M., with offices and sanitarium at the Jenkins Drug Company; graduates of Vanderbilt and Grant universities; members of all the medical associations and societies, and leaders in the Ellis County Medical Association, Dr. F. H. Jenkins being president.

Horace Gilliam, transfer and expressman, operating automobile trucks and express wagon; supplied a need on the

part of the business men at the right time and had the foresight to see it. Saves time and money for everybody, including himself.

Hope Martin, tailor, special representative of the International Tailoring Company; operates a de luxe cleaning and pressing parlor in connection with his tailoring department.

The Elk Theatre, a motion picture play-house of the first-class; modern and fire-proof; shows only educational and approved features.

P. L. Rollins, wholesale and retail mule and horse buyer; highest prices paid for superior stock. A good man for the farmers to get acquainted with.

J. A. Carson, cleaning and pressing emporium; French drp-cleaning and dyeing; hats reblocked. Elegant line of fall and winter suit patterns, fit and satisfaction guaranteed.

J. F. Price, groceryman; has the distinction of being the oldest merchant in Italy from the standpoint of continuous years in business. With one exception, has the largest grocery business in Italy. Has prospered because of legitimate and fair methods. Will buy anything that is produced on the farm.

Fuston Brothers, Bert and John, Cotton Factors and exporters, who have come up from the ranks of farmer boys and made a success dealing in cotton; largest individual operators on the local exchange.

Dr. G. A. Stowe, Dentist; graduate of Bethel College, Russellville, Ky., and University of Pennsylvania, class of '07; located in Italy in 1912. Member Masons, and Baptist Church.

Rev. A. E. Findley, pastor Church of Christ; graduate of Gunter College and Nashville Bible College. Address, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Italy Sanitary Bakery, John Enser, Proprietor. Mr. Enser recently moved from Ennis and is an experienced and successful baker. His new establishment in Italy is one of the most modern and sanitary in the county.

J. S. Gardner, the only exclusive produce dealer in Italy and the friend of the farmer. His business is one that the

town has long needed and deserves to succeed. He pays the highest cash price for everything grown on the farm.

Jim W. Johnson, long the town's best known tailor.

A. G. Simpson, who has the distinction of running the smallest store in Italy, but one of the busiest. His place is a fruit and lunch counter where all kinds of hot "eats" are served in a jiffy day or night. He carries a fine stock of fruit, candies and cold drinks as a side-line. His motto is "I feed the people."

H. M. Freeman, expert auto top maker and painter, who is a top-notch in his line. His place and business have grown so rapidly that it looks like a miniature automobile factory. He builds tops to order and can paint and trim any kind of vehicle.

Dr. William Edward Bergman, dentist; born Moscow, Texas, 1888; educated Southwestern College of Dentistry, Chicago; and Texas Dental College, Houston, class of 1909; located in Italy November, 1917; member Masons, Woodmen. Affiliates with Presbyterian Church. Office, Farmers State Bank Building. Office Hours, Anytime.



HOME OF S. M. DUNLAP



Recently completed Banking House of the
Farmers State Bank, Italy, Texas

Italy Candy Kitchen

MANUFACTURER OF

Fine Candy, Pure Ice Cream, Salted Peanuts



Italy Candy Kitchen, in the P. E. Wood Building

Cigars, Cigarettes, Tobaccos, Fruits

J. A. STOCKTON, Prop.
ITALY, TEXAS



Home of Dr. Will Jenkins

J. A. CARSON

Cleaning and Pressing

FRENCH DRY CLEANING—HATS REBLOCKED

ITALY, TEXAS

C. H. ABBOTT

Jeweler---Repairs

All Work Guaranteed

ITALY, TEXAS

HOPE MARTIN

THE TAILOR

Representing
International Tailoring Co.

ITALY, TEXAS

“Italy Home Dairy”

Fresh Milk, Cream, Butter, and Butter Milk delivered
daily to your door. Everything as sanitary
as it is possible to have them.

Henry McKinney, Manager

REEDER GARAGE

Automobile Accessories and Repairs
Blacksmithing and Horseshoeing

DEALERS IN JUNK

ITALY, TEXAS

DR. G. A. STOWE
DENTIST

Office over First National Bank
ITALY, TEXAS

H. GILLIAM
DRAYMAN

Telephone 200 ITALY, TEXAS

A. G. SIMPSON

Lunch and Fruit Stand

Candies, Cold Drinks and Box Lunches served on short notice

Fish, Oysters, Game Italy, Texas

H. M. FREEMAN

Auto Top Maker, Painter and Repair Work

Auto tops and buggy tops built to order,
trimmed and painted.

Satisfaction Guaranteed ITALY, TEXAS

EDWARDS & JANES

DEALERS IN

Staple and Fancy Groceries
Fruits and Vegetables

ITALY, - - - TEXAS

COTTAGE HOTEL

AMERICAN PLAN \$2.00 A DAY

R. H. Harris, Prop. Italy, Texas

Williams Bros. Feed and Grain Store

Only Exclusive Feed and Grain
Establishment in Italy

We can sell you Oats, Corn, Hay, Bran, Seed Oats and
Wheat at lowest prices because we are wholesale buyers.

HEADQUARTERS FOR FARMERS AND STOCKMEN.

Wholesome Amusement and Recreation for the Business Man

Palace Pocket Billiard Hall

C. J. YOUNG, Prop.

Cigars---Candies

Spend a pleasant hour during the business lull or noon hour in a friendly game
which combines the finest physical exercise with mental relaxation.

No Interruptions "A resort for gentlemen" No Loud Talking

R. L. HALL, M. D.

Physician and Surgeon

Office over Interurban Station
Telephone 232

ITALY, TEXAS

ITALY WOOD YARD

R. F. Underwood, Prop.

All Kinds Fuel Wood

WHIT GEORGE

INSURANCE
and NOTARY PUBLIC

Office in Farmers State Bank Italy, Texas

DR. J. B. J. GILLIAM

Physician and Surgeon

Office First National Bank Bldg. ITALY, TEXAS

JIM W. JOHNSON

TAILOR AND CLOTHIER
Dyeing and Pressing

Representing
A. L. Singer Tailoring Co.

ITALY, TEXAS

T. W. WINDHAM

HARDWARE, FURNITURE
IMPLEMENTS

LEATHER GOODS ITALY, TEXAS UNDERTAKERS

EUGENE MARTIN

BRICK CONTRACTOR

ITALY, TEXAS

Tanks and Windmills

Pumps and Piping

W. W. TAYLOR

Tinner and Plumber

Repair Work of All Kinds

ITALY, TEXAS

S. T. HALL

Cash Grocery

Free Delivery Italy, Texas Telephone No. 173

Dr. William Edward Burgman

DENTIST

Office Hours Anytime Farmers State Bank Bldg.

Today--Fruits Vegetables and Produce

Apples, Oranges, Pears, Grapes, Okra, Beans,
Tomatoes, Celery, Potatoes, Cabbage, Onions

FRESH HOME MADE CANDIES

I will buy your Chickens, Turkeys, Eggs at highest market prices and sell you goods at close prices, thus saving both ways

The Produce Man **J. S. GARDNER** In front of the News Herald office

THE ITALY CAFE

EDWARD ZINN, Proprietor

"The Home of Good Things to Eat"

Receive shipments of Fish and Oysters daily from Gulf Coast

Italy Sanitary Bakery

John Enser, Proprietor

Twenty years experience in the bakery business, which is a guarantee that you will always get first class bread, cakes, cookies, etc.

GIVE US A TRIAL ORDER

STEWART FREEMAN

Fire and Life Insurance

Phone 77 Avalon Exchange

Office Farmers State Bank

ITALY, TEXAS

W. D. BATEMAN

AGENT FOR

FORD AUTOMOBILES

Accessories and Parts

Service Station---Oil and Air

ITALY, TEXAS

J. V. Wood, Milford

P. E. Wood, Italy

J. V. WOOD & BRO.

DEALERS IN

Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors, Paints, Oils,
Coal, Brick, Sand, Lime, Cement, Etc.

Yards---Italy, Itasca, Milford,
Maypearl, Royce City

J. P. Jones, President J. S. Griffis, Secy. and Treas.

Farmers Union Gin Co.

J. E. WHITT, Manager

ITALY, . . . TEXAS

Farmers Dry Goods Co.

Wm. Vejans, Manager

Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes

Ladies' and Gents' Ready-to-Wear

ITALY, TEXAS

F. H. Carlisle

C. P. Carlisle

Carlisle Brothers

Physicians and Surgeons

ITALY, TEXAS

Wm. Cameron & Co.

INCORPORATED

Lumber, Shingles, Coal
and Builder's Hardware

ITALY, TEXAS

Interior Office,
ITALY, TEXAS

Cable Address,
"McReid"

Codes,
Shepperson's 78 & 81
Meyer's 37 & 39

Reid & McCullough COTTON

Houston, Texas Galveston, Texas New Orleans, La.
Liverpool, England.

J. T. WOLAVER

T. J. GREEN

Wolaver & Green GINNERS

ITALY, - - TEXAS

THE BOOK OF ITALY

D. W. McLaughlin
BUTCHER

AND DEALER IN
Hogs and Cattle

ITALY, TEXAS

ITALY BOTTLING WORKS

ROY WIMBERLEY, Manager

Manufacturers of

SOFT DRINKS AND ICE CREAM

C. C. Hosford

S. P. Wilson

Hosford & Wilson
CITY DRUG STORE



Pure Drugs and Medicines
Stationery, School Supplies,
Toilet Articles, Etc.

The Rexall Store

ITALY, TEXAS

Kodaks and Films

Charter No. 166

The Farmers

ITALY, TEXAS

Capital \$25,000.00

Surplus \$12,500.00

Undivided Profits \$25,

Organized Feb. 1907

Report of the condition at the close of business
1917, as made to Commissioner of Insurance at

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$ 80,279.86
Advances on Cotton and Cotton Seed.....	325,977.26
Furniture and Fixtures.....	6,500.00
Cash with Banks.....	23,277.59
Cash in Vault.....	26,097.78
TOTAL.....	\$462,132.49

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus	12,500.00
Undivided Profits	24,913.01
Liberty Bond Account.....	3,945.67
Certified Checks Outstanding.....	1,000.00
Due to Banks	55,845.76
Individual Deposits.....	338,928.02
TOTAL.....	\$462,132.49

This Statement is correct.

Whit George, President L. Ward, Vice President
Sam McCord, Cashier Jas. Bracken, Ass't Cashier

DIRECTORS

J. D. Stovall, Merchant; P. E. Wood, Lumberman;
J. W. Rosson, Banker and Farmer; L. Ward, Farmer;
T. W. Park, Retired Merchant; J. T. Wolaver, Ginner
and Farmer; Whit George.