

CALLING IT A CAREER

D. M. Oldham to Retire As Bankruptcy Official

In a few days a gentle-looking man with white hair will come what wearily pull down the lid of his old fashioned roll-top desk and call it a career.

He is D. M. Oldham, who for the last 10 years has been Dallas federal bankruptcy commissioner and for 21 years before that managed a similar job in Abilene.

"I'm ready to retire," he said Friday, address puckering his lips. "I think that after 33 years of a busy man should be ready to retire."

In those 33 years millions of dollars—belonging to creditors of bankrupt concerns—have been accounted for across the desk. He has handled about 2,500 bankruptcy cases in that time. Many have involved million-dollar firms.

One he recalls in particular is the bankruptcy of the Liberty

Broadcasting System, in which major league baseball settled an anti-trust suit for \$200,000 and major league football came across with a \$100,000 settlement. The man ordered that both suits be filed during the bankruptcy proceedings and got the settlements before expensive trials ensued.

In another, involving the \$300,000 bankruptcy of a motor freight line, he managed to pay back creditors 100 per cent of the line. It was even operated at a profit through Oldham's office while undergoing liquidation.

Oldham, now 73, was born in Dallas at his grandfather's home on the corner of Jackson and Ervay where the former Irwin-Keester Building is located.

His grandfather was Judge Tucker Bartale, who was the third judge in the history of Dallas' 14th District Court.

Oldham had his grade school training here and then the family moved to Abilene where he remained until 1905 when he enrolled in the University of Texas law school. He completed what was ordinarily three years of law training in two years flat, returning to Abilene to hang out his shingle.

He was appointed federal bankruptcy referee in Abilene on July 1, 1919. He assumed the Dallas job on July 1, 1941.

His retirement becomes effective June 30, after which Atty. Elmore Whitehurst will take over.

During Oldham's long career he has held many important positions. He was a vice-president, director and general attorney for the former First State Bank & Trust Company of Abilene, financial commissioner of the city of Abilene for several years, and a director of the Citizens National Bank of Abilene. From 1925 to 1936 he was on the board of directors of the Texas State Bar Association. He also served as the organization's vice-president. Recently the Dallas Bar Association recognized his long services at a luncheon at which Oldham was presented with a scroll and a watch.

Oldham said that he and his wife plan to retire to their country estate just outside Abilene.



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

Russell C. Rogers, left, a workman, explains some of the fine details of extensive improvements planned at the old Parkland Hospital (now Woodlawn) to better care for tuberculosis and the chronically ill aged. Center is Hospital District Administrator Al Scheidt and on right is J. W. Monk, a director of the Dallas Tuberculosis Association.

\$642,000 Slate to Open New Life for Old Hospital

The sprawling, patched old Parkland Hospital buildings that served a growing area's emergency hospital needs from 1914 until 1954 will soon be taking on a new look from a \$642,004 improvement program.

Directors of the Dallas Tuberculosis Association told of the plans this week at a meeting of the association at Woodlawn Hospital—the official new name for the old Parkland. The expenditures the association was advised are principally for 73 patients.

E. C. Ordly Smith, a member of the board of the tax-supported Dallas County Hospital District which administers Woodlawn, the new \$10,000,000-plus Parkland Memorial Hospital on Harry Hines and other facilities, said improvement costs would be paid from regular revenue. No new taxes will be necessary.

Some \$250,000 has already been spent to renovate the kitchen, restrooms and other portions of the plant that somehow took care of a growing metropolis' emergency needs for four decades.

Smith and Hospital District Administrator Al Scheidt said bids would be sought next week for pulling out rotting electrical circuits and plumbing. This will cost an estimated \$38,500.

With that phase finished, workmen can get to work erecting new walls, painting, putting in plumbing fixtures, blinds, asphalt tile and the general renovation of Woodlawn.

The old hospital groaned and creaked under a load for years of 387 beds and 46 bassinets as the city's emergency hospital.

The new Parkland has 538 beds and around 70 bassinets.

Charles E. Watson, president of the association, cheered Smith's announcement that 200 beds would eventually be available at Woodlawn for TB patients.

And Woodlawn, officials added, would have 50 to 60 beds for chronically ill elderly persons now housed at facilities at Hutchins.

DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketchum



"DID SAID THAT GUY WAS IN THE CIVIL WAR. THAT'S BEFORE YOU WAS BORN."

It can be closed when the new be used for psychiatric patients. The remodeling will require about 18 months.



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

D. M. Oldham . . . After 33 years, retirement.

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TO KEEP WATER OUT Air Conditioning Due For Telephone Cables

Dallas telephone cables are going to be air-conditioned to give telephone users more trouble-free service, division manager Marvin Davison of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company said Friday.

Davison said the company will begin putting major telephone cables under air pressure to eliminate 75 to 90 per cent of major trouble cases caused by water seeping into cables and shorting out telephone circuits. This type of trouble has been particularly prevalent during the recent rainy weather in Texas.

The new process calls for pumping dried air into the underground cables, Davison explained. This will serve two purposes—first, air escaping from a crack in the lead cable sheath will decrease the pressure inside the cable and give notice that there is a break that might cause trouble. Second, the escaping air will keep water from entering the break and shorting out the tiny wires inside.

The system will protect telephone wires from moisture even when a punctured cable, a several feet under water, the same way air pressure in an intertube keeps water from entering when a punctured tube is put under water, Davison said.

Meters will measure the volume of air needed to serve each cable, and maintenance men will be able to find trouble in many cases before service is impaired. An increase in the amount of air needed to maintain the required pressure would indicate a break.

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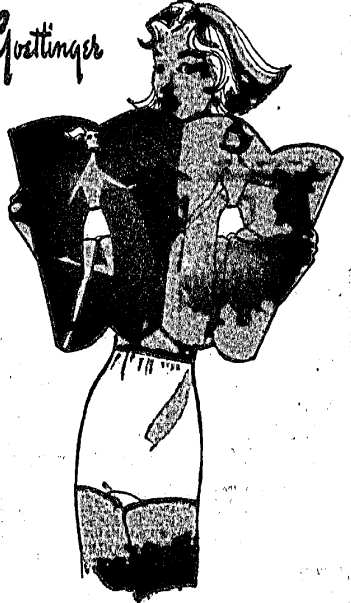
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Lingerie, Titch's third floor



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Summer Furniture, Titch's fifth floor

curls that stay—even when it rains

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Cosmetics, Titch's first floor