

# Lawyer, Airline Pilots Buy Rich Bottom Land

Three Braniff fliers and a Big D attorney have acquired what Realtor E. H. Davis calls "the most fertile and productive alluvial land in Dallas and Kaufman Counties." It is the 1,352-acre East Fork bottomland farm of the Hawthorne family. "In round figures," said Davis, who negotiated the sale, "you can say it sold for half a million dollars." Davis said the buying syndicate is composed of Dallas attorney Clarence Bentley and three Braniff fliers—Orville Rogers, Jack Morton and Glenn P. Shoop. The sellers are Raymond, Reagan and Harry Hawthorne of Seagoville; their sister, Mrs. Florence H. Stewart of Dallas, and Raymond Roy Hawthorne of Houston, a son of Raymond Hawthorne. The four older Hawthornes are children of the late R. C. (Bob) Hawthorne who began assembling the big tract on Molloy Bridge Road a mile and a half north of Seagoville in 1914.

Described by Dallas County agriculturists as "the best land in the country" and as the "finest alluvial blackland on the East Fork of the Trinity River," the bottom land has been planted mostly to alfalfa and maize the last five years. What are the new owners going to do with it? Said Realtor Davis: "They are going to continue the same program and they will upgrade the land and the crops." . . .

**SUBURBIA:** The Duncanville City Council will hold a public hearing Monday on the request of Lt. Col. J. E. Davis, U.S. Air Force, retired, for Local Retail and Apartment zoning on South Main . . . At Farmers Branch, the Beck Companies are building a 112-unit \$860,000 apartment complex . . . At Forney, Steve Darden and J. E. Hamblen are spearheading the reorganization of the chamber of commerce. Hamblen is a rancher and Big D businessman and Darden is president of the Forney-based Carpet Foam Co. . . . Oldest resident of the Robinson Rest Home at Lancaster is Mrs. Maggie Pemberton. She will observe her 94th birthday Jan. 17 . . . The De Soto City Council appropriated \$330 for the purchase of a new City Hall flag pole . . . The Richardson City Council granted the Richardson YMCA permission to sell Christmas trees at Custer Road and Twilight Trail . . . The Grand

Prairie Daily News will be host Tuesday at a 7 a.m. breakfast honoring W. O. Stevens Jr. and W. G. Kirk, new owners of the First National Bank of Grand Prairie . . . Guest speaker at the annual Lancaster High School football banquet was Buddy Dial of the Dallas Cowboys . . . New president of the Lancaster Alumni Association is Bill Ferguson. He succeeds Jackie Bordner . . . The Irving Community Hospital observed its third anniversary with an announcement by administrator Al Scheidt that "during this period, the hospital admitted 21,130 patients, including 3,829 babies" . . . At Garland, Ricky Alberts shot himself in the right leg while practicing "quick draws" in the Wynn Joyce bottoms. He was taken to the Garland Medical Center . . . **WALTER S. ROBINSON.**