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From

Mineral Well

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PERTINENT EDITORIAL

FOUR-YEAR TERMS.

Two years ago at this time, Texas was recovering her equilibrium after weeks of bitter campaigning. We are doing it again this year. The runoff is yet to come. Every county in Texas in which there is a sizable town is having political ramifications extend into every branch of business.

Texas should have elections only every four years. The majority of the 48 United States have quadrennial elections and they do not seem to suffer from politics any worse than the few which take their politics more seriously and at shorter intervals. It should be so arranged that business institutions can get the echo of one election out of their ears before time for another. It is a sad thing to have to say, but the majority of business houses are as glad to see a two months drouth as they are to be involved in a political campaign of the same length of time.

There is no good reason why Texas should not discard the two-year term. They have made it, except in instances of flagrant disregard for efficiency, a matter of courtesy for the incumbent to run again so that he may have four years in the position. Why not make it four years in the first place?

There are a few exceptions to the rule of one re-election in county offices, but a campaign on an off year is very little less disturbing than one when new candidates are flooding the voters with their claims. There are occasions when the two-year term would seem to have merit on account of being an easier method of getting rid of a wholly undesirable office holder, but if the term had been one of four years and the certainty of impeachment was the reward for dereliction, the result would be about

as beneficial to the public as is the present system and would be much less disturbing to general business conditions.

A four year term should be substituted for the two and the hope for an encore that now exists. A movement to change that would meet with popular approval. By the time we have succeeded in catching our breath after the hysterics of the campaign now entering the secondary stages, so to speak, we will begin to hear the mutterings and rumbling that will presage the one of 1928. If you ask the man on the street who is not a politician, but who is a regular voter, he will tell you without the slightest hesitation that a campaign every two years is twice too many campaigns.—Fort Worth Record-Telegram.