

STANDING UP TO BE COUNTED

Nine New Citizens Charged By Atwell To Responsibility

"Part of my naturalization hearings is done with my eyes, and I see you will all make good citizens," Judge William H. Atwell told nine persons whose citizenship was approved in federal court here last week.

The nine new citizens were among a group of 15 persons who petitioned for hearings before Judge Atwell during the week. The six petitions not approved were continued for service until October, most of the petitioners not being thoroughly familiar with the Constitution.

Since Tuesday the 15 petitioners have been undergoing screening processes and questioning before Taylor Chandler, examiner from the San Antonio Office of Immigration and Naturalization. Judge Atwell accepted all persons who were recommended by the examiner Friday as new citizens.

HOLDING FIRM

"At this hour," Judge Atwell said, "when a strong and wholly unworkable theory of government is sought to be introduced into the nations of the world by a small portion of the people of a particular nationality, who deny liberty to their own people and who seek to foment and create revolution in other governments of the world, it is well to stop a moment and discover what there is in the United States of America nothing which would justify or excuse the people of this nation to embrace, sanction or permit such a thought, rule or change to take place here.

"The freedom, the liberty, which is enjoyed by the people of this nation, are so dear to them and so necessary to their happiness that they wrote a Constitution more than a century ago which guaranteed them a continuity and enjoyment of such liberty and freedom.

"No official can tell citizen of this country where or when to worship. Nor can the property of a citizen be taken from him without just compensation."

Judge Atwell, who has held court here since 1923, mentioned that "only yesterday a man stood before this court and argued his right for a just compensation in return for his land which had been condemned for the North Concho Reservoir."



NEW STARS FOR THE FLAG—Radiating happiness after receiving their citizenship here in a hearing before Judge William H. Atwell were 11-year-old Gary Kelton and Miss Nelly Irene Brandenstein. Gary, the son of Elmer Kelton, Standard-Times agriculture editor, was a former Austrian subject. Miss Brandenstein, who operates an interior decorating shop at Brownwood, came to the United States from Germany five years ago. (Photo by Bergsma)

year-old Gary Kelton, the son of the Elmer Kelton, agriculture editor of the Standard-Times. Gary's mother, Mrs. Anna Kelton, formerly of Austria, was naturalized last year by Judge Atwell.

In ceremonies preceding the hearings, Bob McDonald sang

"God Bless America." Mrs. A. W. McMillan accompanied him on the organ. A group of 10 Boy Scouts and nine Girl Scouts repeated the "Allegiance to the Flag." The Daughters of the American Revolution furnished flowers for the court.

WARNING NOTE

"Now that you have been sworn in," Judge Atwell continued, "you realize the flag of this nation is in your charge and keeping — that the stability of this form of government rests on your alertness and fearlessness."

After explaining other rights in the Constitution, the judge said that "Some of our boys fight for them on the battleline. We must stand and be counted whenever and wherever such a stand seems to be necessary. So when a host from another land would change this glory land of independence and freedom and individual initiative, we exclaim in a mighty and unanswerable chorus:

"Thou shalt not trespass here, nor succeed in your nefarious and destroying effort."

Mayor Armistead D. Rust welcomed the new citizens, saying that "the people you see here represent many millions of Americans who wish to congratulate you on receiving your citizenship."

The youngest new citizen was 11-