Caddo Lake reaches for sixty-five miles through northeast Texas into the northwest tip of Louisiana. This “far away and wonderful place” is said to have been formed in 1811, a result of the New Madrid earthquake which produced striking topographical changes over a vast area. An old Indian, who was an eye-witness to Caddo’s violent creation, described it in these words: “—the earth had chills and fever and shook in the night, and our village sank. Then the waters of Cypress Bayou rolled over our home ground, and we fled to the hills.”

Caddo, or The Big Lake, is high in the boyhood memories of Don Brown, who painted the above picture, and who writes of his Tom Sawyer Town, Marshall, Texas, on page 2.

When a school boy takes a lock of golden hair that belongs to the girl sitting near him and pokes it into an ink well, it may not be an act of malice, but of desperate love. That’s the way it was with DON BROWN. The girl became his Becky Thatcher and the town his Tom Sawyer town. Mr. Brown has grown up, has been to Paris as a reporter and artist for the Chicago Tribune, and is now head of the art department of Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana. But he hasn’t forgotten his Becky. For all the details, and his pictures illustrating them, turn to page 2.