

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIV.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JULY 23, 1903.

NO. 22.

TWO EDITORS DO 'EM UP.

How They Thwarted the Anti Prohibitions Who Had Injunctions Issued.

Eugene Moore, who publishes a live weekly in Stephenville, was in to see us last Monday. The county voted in local option several weeks ago in Erath County, and since then the antis have been moving earth and hades to find a Judge somewhere in the State to issue them an injunction. Last Saturday they found one away over at Laredo. One of the parties upon whom the writ had to be served is Eugene Moore, the publisher of the paper. Thursday of this week is the last day the writ can be served. So he made it convenient to be absent from Stephenville until after his paper goes to press. In that event the law will be complied with and the injunction will be non est.—Christian Advocate.

† †

Editor George T. Godwin of the Navasota Tablet arrived in the city yesterday evening. On a later train came Sheriff J. Cross Baker of Grimes county. Mr. Baker was looking for Mr. Godwin, but he did not succeed in learning at which of the hotels he was stopping. Sheriff Baker had in his possession a writ issued by Judge Clark of San Antonio, restraining Mr. Godwin from publishing the order of the Grimes county commissioners' court, declaring the result of the recent local option election held in that county. It seems that Mr. Godwin, who had already published the order in two issues, decided the office could rock along without him for a time. Hence his absence from home. Lured to the bay by the reports that fishing is very fine, and further desiring to get away from the grind during the hottest portion of the good old summer time, Mr. Godwin expects to be absent from Navasota for some time.

In the meantime it is expected the Tablet containing the proscribed court order will continue appearing with its accustomed regularity until the order has been published the required four times. Then Sheriff Baker will probably find Mr. Godwin. He may find him sooner. The latter remarked to a friend last night that he was long on railroad transportation and might be absent an indefinite time.—Houston Chronicle.

Baird Briefs.

Baird, Tex., July 20, 1903.

Baird now has a saloon owned by a woman. The license was transferred to her this morning by W. E. Beech, deceased, who was the former owner of the business.

An Abilene negro preacher tried to get the court house here to preach in, but failed. Our negro population is increasing right along now, quite a number having moved here from Abilene since local option went into effect in Taylor county. A negro was strapped down and given a whipping at the hands of enraged whites one night last week, and he rode out of town on the blind baggage.

†

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

A NEW ENTERPRISE.

Farmers and Merchants Gin Company Organized—Its Officers and Directors.

About 100 farmers and business men, who had pledged their support to the move for a new gin, met at K. of P. Hall Monday evening. It was a representative body of men, and from the jump there was "something doing." A call was made to all who wished to take stock in the enterprise, and before one could say "Jack Robinson" three times the stock was all pledged. The stockholders then went into organization under the name of The Farmers and Merchants Gin Co.

Capital stock was placed at \$6,000, fully paid in, with 120 shares of \$50 each.

The following Board of Directors was then elected: W. A. Cozart, H. W. Derstine, J. C. Calvert, Geo. S. Berry, W. L. Diltz, G. B. Brown and Merkel Mercantile Co. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

J. C. Calvert, President.

Geo. S. Berry, Sec. and Treas.

G. B. Brown, Vice President and General Manager.

Messrs. Berry and Brown left Monday night for Dallas to buy the material for the company.

The Corporation is a strong one, with sufficient money at its back to secure the success of the venture, and the people are to be congratulated upon the unity with which they gave it their endorsement and pledges of support.

The Mail tips its hat to the promoters of the enterprise. Merkel has long needed better ginning facilities. Let the farmers of the Merkel Country stand by the project and its success is assured from the start.

The Bar Retrograding.

A scoundrel has been sentenced to hang at Greenville for infanticide, but the case will be appealed, which means that after it has been whipsawed through the courts a few times, the hellhound will be liberated. The history of the case is this: One Lax seduced his two step-daughters, aged eleven and thirteen years, respectively. A child was born to the thirteen year old girl and Lax murdered the child. For this murder he has been given the death penalty. But now come his attorneys (who for no other reason than that Lax has money to pay them) and appeal the case. This is a disgrace to those lawyers. How a self-respecting advocate can defend such a villain, in the face of evidence, passes our comprehension. It is nothing strange that the assertion is sometimes made that the bar is retrograding.—Sulphur Springs Gazette.

Also, it appears that one of the leading law firms in Greenville picked up a worthless negro and fought his case through the courts with the avowed purpose of thwarting the will of the people and to further fasten upon them a scourge that not only destroys and debases the body, but that destroys both soul and body. "The bar retrograding?" Well, let it go at that, this is our mailable edition.—Cumby Rustler.

CARD PARTIES IN THE HOME.

A Gambler Explains Why They Are Worse Than the Saloon Gambling Hells.

"I have been in the saloon business with a gambling room attached, for the last four years, and claim to know something about what I am now going to tell you. I do not believe the gambling den is nearly so dangerous, nor does it do anything like the same harm, as a social card party in the home.

"I give as my reasons: In the gambling rooms the windows are closed tight and the curtains are pulled down; everything is conducted secretly for fear of detection, and none but gamblers, as a rule, enter there, while in the parlor all have access to the game; children are permitted to watch it, young people are invited to partake in it. It is made attractive and alluring by giving prizes, serving refreshments and adding high social enjoyments.

"For my part I never could see the difference between playing for a piece of silver molded in the shape of money, and silver molded in the shape of a cup or thimble. The principle is the same, and whenever property changes hands over the luck of cards, no matter how small is the value of the prize, I believe it is gambling.

"Perhaps you have never thought of it, but where do the gamblers come from? They are not taught in the gambling dens. A "greener" unless he is a fool, never enters a gambling hell, because he knows he will be fleeced out of everything he possesses in less than fifteen minutes. He has learned somewhere else before he sets his foot inside of such a place. When he has played in the parlor, in the social game of the home, and has become proficient enough to win prizes among his friends, the next step with him is to seek out the gambling room, for he has learned, and now counts upon his proficiency to hold his own.

"The saloon men and gamblers chuckle and smile when they read in the papers of the parlor games given by the ladies, for they know that after a while those same young men will become the patrons of their business. I say, then the parlor game is the college where gamblers are made and educated." In the name of God, men, stop this business in your homes, burn up your deck and wash your hands.—Religious Telescope.

About Poles.

From Austin to San Antonio is eighty-four miles, and along the line of railway are over two thousand five hundred telegraph poles. From Texarkana to El Paso, a distance of eight hundred and sixty seven miles, are twenty-six thousand poles. They are set one hundred and seventy six feet apart, or 30 to the mile. As there are considerably more than two hundred thousand miles of steam railway in the United States, increasing in mileage every year, and many roads have double lines of poles to accommodate the great number of wires required to transact the telegraph business of the country, there are eight million poles in use on railway lines.

BUGGIES!

BUGGIES

WEST has 'em:

Buggies that RIDE EASY,
Buggies that LOOK WELL,
Buggies that LAST WELL,
Buggies that STAND HARD USAGE,
Buggies that PLEASE the PURCHASER,
Buggies that are UP-TO-DATE,
Buggies at a REASONABLE PRICE.
A full car just received. Come get one.

G. F. WEST.

When to this is added the poles used by trolley lines, and by telegraph and telephone companies, which use nearly as many as the railway companies, we find an aggregate of fifteen million poles in use. If these should be replaced at once it would require two hundred and fifty thousand flat cars to transport them; eight thousand locomotives would be necessary to haul the trains, which, if continuous, would reach one thousand seven hundred and fifty miles.

If the poles were placed end to end they would reach more than three times around the earth at the equator.

A large majority of the poles in use are of white cedar, which grows in the swamps of northern Michigan, Wisconsin and in Canada. Some are of Oregon pine, a smaller number are of red cedar, while a limited number are sawed from Washington cedar.

Difference in First Monday Crowds.

The Hillsboro Mirror says: "Yesterday was first Monday and there was a large first Monday

crowd, in town. It was a sober and orderly crowd, too. A gentleman remarked to the Mirror reporter: "It was the most good-natured, sober and well behaved crowd I ever saw to its size. I didn't hear any cursing and didn't see any carousing, as we sometimes saw when our first Monday's came, when we had open saloons. It shows a difference and a big difference. The fellows who had money to spend, instead of going in the saloons and spending it, spent it with our merchants for flour, bacon, hardware, harness, saddles, dry goods and other necessities of life. They went home feeling good towards each other and with approving consciences." This was one of many remarks the reporter heard and it shows the good effects of local option and our officers are enforcing it. That is the condition today. A year hence the effects will be even still more marked and the evidences of prosperity will have multiplied in proportion as the money that is ordinarily spent for whiskey is converted into useful and prolific purposes."

MONEY!

is saved by

BUYING THE BEST



We sell the Farrand Organs, Mason & Hamlin, and others. Also a fine line of Pianos, nice line of Violins, Guitars, Mandolins; strings of all kinds.

Basham, Shepherd & Co.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office..... 57
Residence..... 11

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above numbers.

You Will Never Be Sorry.

Christian Standard.
For promptness in keeping your promise.
For being patient with cranky neighbors.
For giving an unfortunate fellow a lift.
For sympathizing with the oppressed.
For being square in business deals.
For being generous with an enemy.
For bridling a slanderous tongue.
For the influence of high motives.
For being as courteous as a duke.
For asking pardon when in error.
For stopping your ears to gossip.
For standing by your principles.
For being loyal to the preacher.
For discounting the tale bearer.
For harboring clean thoughts.
For hearing before judging.
For living a white life.

Profanity is a senseless, useless habit, and no man who stops to think a moment can conclude that it adds the least to his standing among those whose good opinion he would desire. "Are you paid anything for swearing?" Eli Perkins once asked a commercial traveler. "No, I do it for nothing." "Well," said the lecturer, "you work cheap. You lay aside your character as a gentleman, inflict pain upon your friends, break a commandment, and lose your own soul—and for nothing? You do certainly work cheap."

Now in Force.

The vital statistic law is now in full force and effect. It requires that physicians report the birth of every child, together with sex, nationality, etc., and the death of every person to the county clerk within ten days, blanks being provided for the purpose. A fine of five dollars is imposed for failure to comply with the law.

New Price Current

Honesty—None in the market.
Patriotism—First quality, no demand. Principally bought up on speculation at par.
Prudence—All held by old stockholders.
Modesty—None but damaged parcels in the market.
Vice—Large quantities; sales easy.
Pride—Market glutted.
Politeness—Very cheap, but owners indifferent about sale.
Wit—None on hand.
Scandal—The article altogether engrossed by hawkers and peddlers.
Religion—Generally adulterated; sales nominal.
Love—None offered, except in exchange for real estate.
Coquetry—Small offerings in consequence of the difficulty in managing the sales.
Talent—A scarce article; cash demanded.
Sincerity—Out of season.—From an old magazine, The Casket, published in 1835.

Read It Both Ways.

The London Express prints this poem with a double reading. Read it as it seems and women are highly flattered, but read alternate lines (one and three, two and four of each verse), and the sentiment is very much the reverse—
Happy a man may pass his life.
If he's directed by a wife.
If free from matrimonial chains.
He's sure to suffer for his pains.
No tongue is able to unfold
The virtues in women you behold;
The falsehoods that in woman dwell
Are almost imperceptible.
In woman's heart you'll see appear
Truth, darling of a heart sincere
Hypocrisy, deceit and pride,
In women never can abide.
Destruction take the men, I say
Who no regard to women pay;
Who make the women their delight,
Keep always reason in their sight.
Man is a paradox—he stands upright and lies, he is mortal—he lives and dies; he is immortal—he dies and lives. He is a hard case with a soft head; he wears thin clothes in summer and is warm, warm clothes in winter and is cold. He grumbles at the rain and prays against drouths; he fears wind storms and yet he himself is a blow hard.—Clarks-ville Times.

S. A. Chenault made a business trip to Hico last week, returning Monday.

Some Definitions.

Atheist—A person who worships nothing but himself.
Bore—A person who talks more than you do.
Cynic—A person with the disagreeable habit of seeing and telling the truth.
Diplomat—A person who is very popular because he praises the person he is with and condemns that person's enemy.
Embezzler—A person who steals enough to get away.
Fool—A person who will not take your advice.
Genius—A person who is great enough to be himself.
Heathen—A person who does not believe in the same God you do.
Idiot—A person who tells you the tenth about yourself.
Juror—One of twelve persons who helps to make a farce of justice—and succeeds.
Kleptomanic—A thief whose relatives are rich enough to keep him out of jail.
Lawyer—A person who makes the law even worse than it is.
Mormon—An American Turk.

MANY persons keep their money in this bank that they may have it within ready reach when needed for daily use; some keep it here awaiting opportunity for investment, and others to avoid the risk and annoyance of loaning.

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas,

BROOKS COLD TIRE SETTER.

Tires Set Quicker and Better and Will Run Longer Without Loosening than is Possible When Set the Old Way.

Compresses the metal cold; no burnt or charred felloe surface to wear away, but a hard wood surface instead; no steam and water soaked felloes to shrink away and loosen the tire; no burnt paint to replace. It gives just the amount of dish required; no overdishing; no guess work about it. We guarantee our work and refund the money if not satisfactory. Give us a call and see the machine in operation.

COMPTON & SON,

Merkel, Texas.

Neighbor—One who borrows from you.

Optimist—A person who believes the world is growing better, because he knows it can't get any worse.

Politician—A wise man turned fool; an honest man turned dishonest; or a knave turning the pockets of the other two.

Quibbler—A very disagreeable person who picks flaws in your arguments.

Reformer—A person who tries to make others be good.

Socialist—A person who wants you to divide your wealth with him.

Tomboy—A girl who has some life about her. She is hated by the women because she is liked by the men.

Usher—A person who is employed by the church to keep strangers from entering the members' pews.

Vixen—A woman who has cut out her rival.

Wag—A person who wags his tongue so constantly that he says something good once in a while by accident.

Hylophonist—A person who inflicts a great deal of unnecessary torture upon his friends.

Yankee—A person who talks through his nose and beats you in a horse trade.

Zealot—A person who believes in his God as much as other people do in theirs.—Swiped.

SALE DAY AT MERKEL.

Fourth Saturday in Each Month is Trade and Sale Day.—Do Not Fail to Come.

Bring in your marketable horses, mules, and such property that generally changes hands on such days. Stuff will be sold at auction, and cash buyers will be on hand to take you up on all reasonable cash propositions.

Don't fail to attend. Ample accommodations can always be had at Story's Wagon Yard.

To-day and Thirty Years Ago.

Within the last thirty years—a generation—a hundred and one little household necessities that mama used to make are now on the counters of the department stores for sale at prices that stagger humanity.

When the dear old lady of 1873 wanted a wash rag she would make it by hemming a square foot of the old man's discarded undershirt. She can buy a wash rag now for three cents.

When she wanted a floor rag she would rip open a flour bag or a burlap sack. She can buy a floor rag now for seven cents.

When she wanted something to shine the silver with she would take an old stocking, an old sock

or the sleeve of a worn-out woolen garment, or possibly the leg end of the old man's drawers. To-day she can buy a polishing cloth of some patented material as good as chamois skin for five cents.

Mama used to make iron holders out of quilting—any old piece left over or worn out. Now she can buy all she wants made of asbestos for five cents each.

Dust rags or cloth? Why, bless you, what did she do with the old night shirts, petticoats and chemises? They are for sale now at ten cents.

She used to cover the ironing board with a ripped bed sheet, but to-day she buys a cover in the store for a quarter.

Dish rags were made of anything lying around—an old towel, a shirt, coat lining, pillow case or sleeve. In the department store to-day, five cents.

Pot rag? A piece of tattered table cloth was none too good. To-day in the stores, five cents.

For polishing the stove she used a rag dipped in the blacking; now she buys a sheepskin glove, with the wool outside, for twenty cents.

She would make window shades out of bolts of linen and take them down once every six months to wash them. Now she buys shades that never can be washed and never will be.—Selected.

Tennis Tournament.

Merkel Tennis Club held a tournament at their court Saturday evening complimentary to T. G. Wilkins of Abilene and Ed Green of Weatherford. Each set consisted of only five games, the scores of which have been lost. The singles were won by Ed Green and the dougles by Will Leeman and Green.

It was a very interesting game and the scores were very close. Tennis is one of the best games for exercise of all the games of amusement.

Deputy Sheriff Lon Cunningham was here a part of last week securing witnesses for the Pettis murder trial at Eastland. He served 72 subpoenas in two days.

About \$4,000 worth of furniture was recently purchased in Chicago for the epileptic colony buildings at Abilene.



I have had occasion to use your Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine and am pleased to say that I never used anything for stock that gave half as good satisfaction. I heartily recommend it to all owners of stock.
J. B. BELSHER, St. Louis, Mo.

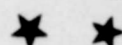
Sick stock or poultry should not eat cheap stock food any more than sick persons should expect to be cared by food. When your stock and poultry are sick give them medicine. Don't stuff them with worthless stock foods. Unload the bowels and stir up the torpid liver and the animal will be cured, if it be possible to cure it. Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine unloads the bowels and stirs up the torpid liver. It cures every malady of stock if taken in time. Secure a 25-cent can of Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine and it will pay for itself ten times over. Horses work better. Cows give more milk. Hogs gain flesh. And hens lay more eggs. It solves the problem of making as much blood, flesh and energy as possible out of the smallest amount of food consumed. Buy a can from your dealer.

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Notary supplies of all kinds. Anything in the printing line.

Ed J. Leeman,
Merkel, Texas.

The Value of Error.

Great is the power of truth! But error also is not without its value, and the world would go more heavily on its way were all the misconceptions and false beliefs to be banished from it by a single edict.

Who would be the first to tell the plain girl that she has neither charm nor beauty, and will never be desired? The knowledge would be likely enough to paralyze her effort to be good and amiable and useful, and the mere stolid endurance that she might call to her aid is a poor substitute for the more genial virtues.

The ambitious girl dreams of earning money for a college course. Who would take the heart out of her effort by telling her that she had ambition without ability, and that she is better fitted for general housework than for teaching Latin? It may perhaps be that the very desire for achievement leaves its beneficent mark on human character.

Who would tell the self-sacrificing mother that her son is not worth her trouble? Who would tell the faithful teacher that the student repays her devotion by careless ridicule? Who would tell the minister that his parish is ready to reward his years of service by rank ingratitude?

In short, who would go about this workaday world destroying those illusions which irradiate life with a glory not the less lovely because it is unreal? Like sunsets and rainbows the gorgeous colors may themselves be fleeting and unreal, but as reflections of things that are real they bring for the moment cheer and courage, and these are well worth the keeping.—Youth's Companion.

Picnic at Stith.

The Mail printed circulars announcing a picnic at Stith for tomorrow, the 24th inst. There will be public speaking, four base ball games and other amusements, and all are invited to attend with well filled baskets.

The Trent picnic is being pulled off today, with an immense crowd in attendance, which is orderly, and all seem to be having a good time.

We now have a Turning Lathe and can turn out anything in woodwork; also have installed a feed mill and can grind your corn, etc., at reasonable prices. See us when in need of anything in our line.

Parker & Willingham.

CLEARANCE SALE CONTINUED.

Our 30 day Clearance Sale was such a marked success we have decided to continue the sale and will make very low prices on all Summer Goods.

33½ per cent discount on all Serge and Alpaca Suits.

Straw Hats at Actual Cost.

25 per cent off all ladies' Skirts and Waists.

10 per cent reduction on men's, ladies' and children's Slippers.

We still have a fine assortment of

Lawns and Dimities at Low Prices. We have also cut the prices on all Laces and embroideries.

Big bargains in Lace Curtains and White Quilts.

Extra values in men's Negligee Shirts, all styles.

It is our aim to keep our stock as complete as possible at all times, and give the trade the best of service. If you are not satisfied with your grocer, give us a trial. We will do our best to please you.



We Have It
for Less

We Have It
for Less

One Avery Cultivator left: will sell at a bargain.

Prairie Dog Election.

There is some talk of asking the commissioners to order an election to determine whether or not the prairie dog shall be exterminated in accordance with the new law. For the benefit of the people we give below a synopsis of the law as passed by the last legislature: Only qualified voters and freeholders in the county will be allowed to vote.

If a majority of the votes cast are for the extermination of the dogs, a proclamation declaring the result shall be posted by the county judge and 12 months after posting such proclamation it shall be unlawful for any land owner or lessee of land in said county to allow any prairie dogs to run at large on such land.

Any land owner, or lessee owning land in said county who shall wilfully fail or refuse to kill the prairie dogs inhabiting his land shall be liable for damages to the owners of contiguous land who have complied with the law, and the measure of damages are hereby fixed at \$2.50 per month for each and every month that permits the prairie dogs running on his lands to run at large. Any land owner owning adjoining lands, who has in good faith complied with the law and removes the dogs from his lands should his lands be invaded by prairie dogs from the adjoining land, he can bring a suit for damages against such land owner, the amount of damages being hereby fixed at \$2.50 per month, and such suits are to be filed in the courts having competent jurisdiction, provided further, that any party desiring to bring suit must notify the party from whom he claims damages, in writing, ninety days prior to the filing of said suit, and no damages shall accrue until after the expiration of said ninety days. Provided, however, that in all cases where lands infested with prairie dogs owned by non residents and such land or lands are being used by some other person or enclosed under the fence of

another who is paying the owner thereof no compensation for the use thereof, then in all cases the duty herein imposed as to the extermination of such prairie dogs shall devolve upon the person so using such land or lands or having the same enclosed under his fence.

Etiquette in Mexico.

Ladies do not attend funerals. Children kiss the hands of their parents.

The hostess is served first at a Mexican table.

The bridegroom purchases the bride's trousseau.

Female friends kiss on both cheeks when greeting or taking leave.

Gentlemen speak first when passing lady acquaintances on the streets.

The sofa is the seat of honor, and a guest waits to be invited to occupy it.

Men and women in the same social circle call each other by their first names.

When a Mexican speaks to you of his home he refers to it "as your house."

When you move into a new location it is your duty to make the first neighborhood calls.

When friends pass each other on the street without stopping they say adios (good-by).

Cards are sent out to friends upon the anniversary of their saint's day and New Years Day.

Even the younger children of the family are dressed in mourning upon the death of a relative.

Young ladies never receive calls from young men and are not escorted to entertainments by them.

Daily inquiry is made for a sick friend, and cards are left or the name written in a book with the porter.

Dinner calls are not customary, but upon rising from the table the guest thanks his host for the entertainment.

Mexican gentlemen remove their hats as scrupulously upon entering a business office as in a

private residence.

After a dance the gentleman returns his partner to her seat beside her parents or chaperon, and at once leaves her side.—Ex.

Names and Their Meanings.

Susan is Hebrew, a Lily. Guy is French, the Leader.

Job is Hebrew, the Mouner. Rachel is Hebrew, the Lamb.

Clara is Latin, the Bright One. Minnie is diminutive of Margaret.

Ernest is Greek, the Serious One. Ruth is Hebrew, and means Beauty.

Agatha is a Greek name, the Good One.

Edith and Editha are Saxon, Happiness.

Leonard, the German name, is Lionlike.

Lucy is the feminine of the Latin Lucius.

Oliver is of Roman origin, an Olive Tree.

Esther is a Hebrew word, meaning Secret.

Deborah is Hebrew descent, signifying a Bee.

Edward, a Saxon name, means Happy Keeper.

Alma is Latin, the Kindly. Margaret is Greek, a Pearl.

Paul is Latin, the Small One. Hugh is Dutch, the Lofty Man.

Adeline is German, the Princess.

Gilbert is Saxon, Bright as Gold.

Martin is Latin, the Martial One.

Sophia is Greek, and means Wisdom. Florence is Latin, the Blooming One.

Rosamond is Saxon, the Rose of Peace. Isaac, a Hebrew name, means Laughter.

Lionel, the Latin name, is a Little Lion. Douglas is Gaelic, signifying Dark Gray.

the Danes.

Theodosia, the Greek name, means Given by God.

Under a law passed by the late Legislature, Nolan county is required to pay 50 cents upon each cayote, wolf, wildcat or catamount killed within its borders, and five dollars for each Mexican Lion, tiger or panther. The scalps of the animals killed must be presented to the commissioners court accompanied by an affidavit stating when and where they were killed.—Reporter.

Ed Green left yesterday for Weatherford, after spending a couple of weeks with the home folks.

League Program.

Subject—Jos. H. Neesima. Mat. 4:2-3.

Leader—Will Hamilton. Lesson, Introduction—Leader. Reference.

Family and early training—Arthur Rose.

Aspirations—Miss Annie King. American life—Irving Stallings.

In Japan—Miss Clara Brown-ing.

Characteristics—Miss Eva Williams.

Miss McClendon of Abilene, who visited Mrs. Hairfield, returned home yesterday.

Advertising is the secret of success in every business.

W. W. WHEELER,
Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tor-
nado Insurance Agent,
Notary Public.
Takes Acknowledgements, Draws up Deeds, etc.
Office in First National Bank.

J. M. PATE
THE BARBER,
NORTH FRONT STREET.

M. J. PATE,
Tonsorial Artist and
Cranium Manipulator
First class barber work guar-
anteed. Give me a trial.

DR. J. W. LITTLE,
Resident Dentist.
EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN
FERRIER BUILDING.

LEEMAN & KING,
Physicians & Surgeons
Diseases of Women and Children a Specialty.
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Watches, Clocks, Jew-
elry, Etc.
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J. J. MILLER,
Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public,
Land and Collecting Agent.
Will practice in all the courts of Texas. All
business entrusted to my care will receive
prompt attention. Will pay taxes for non-resi-
dents, also pay interest on lands for all who may
trust their business with me; will make proof
of final settlement on homestead and school land
property. I solicit your patronage. 6-1pd

HELPFUL Some newspapers print
READING matter to fill up space.
Much of this is harmful
reading. It is the aim of the SEMI-
WEEKLY NEWS to give helpful reading.
Thousands will testify to its helpfulness
to them. Ask your neighbor.
has helped many. It
is not the theory of
THE FARMERS' DEPARTMENT... farming written by
college professors
and others up North on conditions that
don't fit Texas. It is the actual experi-
ence of farmers here at home who have
turned over the soil.
If you are not taking THE
SPECIAL MERKEL MAIL you should be.
OFFER. It is helpful to the best in-
terests of your town and
county. For \$1.75, cash in advance,
we will mail you The Merkel Mail and the
Galveston or the Dallas Semi-Weekly
News for 12 months. The News stops
when your time is out.

Nothing has ever equalled it.
Nothing can ever surpass it.
Dr. King's
New Discovery
For CONSUMPTION Price
COUGHS and 50c & \$1.00
OLDS
A Perfect Cure: For All Throat and
Lung Troubles.
Money back if it fails. Trial Bottles free.

Merkel Lodge No. 710,
A. F. & A. M., meets
Saturday night on or
before the full moon in
each month.
C. E. Evans, W. M.
R. B. Ustick, Sec.

Best Passenger Service
...IN...
TEXAS
THE
TEXAS AND PACIFIC
RAILWAY
"No Trouble to Answer Questions."
DINING CARS
BETWEEN
FORT WORTH and SAINT LOUIS
E. P. TURNER, GEN. PASS. AGT.
DALLAS, TEXAS.

The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:

One year \$1.00
Six months50
Three months25
Invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES

per month
One inch space \$.50
Two inch space 1.00
Quarter column (4 1-2 inches) 2.50
Half column (9 inches) 4.00
One column (18 inches) 7.50
Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.
Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the nom de plume under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

A VITAL QUESTION.

Time and time again The Mail has called attention to the glaring need of some protection against fire, but in every instance it has been met with an emphatic "no," even from those who would derive the greatest benefit from such protection. We have stated that the saving in insurance for two years would more than pay for the equipment, and even this business proposition has been turned down.

That protection against fire is needed, all will admit; but only a small per cent of the business element are in favor of raising funds by taxation, and fewer still are willing to go down in their pockets and contribute to a fund for such a purpose, however necessary it may be for public weal.

During the last two years property to the value of over \$65,000 has been destroyed by fire, secured by insurance covering less than two-thirds of the losses. This leaves a net loss to the town of fully \$25,000. Four per cent of this amount would purchase a portable chemical engine of sufficient capacity to control a fire in any building in the town, and the expense of maintaining the equipment would be insignificant. Or a large tank could be erected in the business portion, to be fed from wells by a gasoline engine, and an equipment of hose and ladders provided, that would afford ample protection for the present, and the cost would not exceed \$1,000.

Where is the business policy of longer delaying this matter? As a business proposition, can we afford to carry the risk?

Hundreds of promising youths in Texas are growing up in idleness and ignorance who ought to be climbing the ladder of fame by leaps and bounds. What we need is the German system of compulsory education; for the boy who is allowed to have his own way in the matter of securing an education will be exceedingly short on knowledge by the time he reaches manhood's estate. Let's educate our boys if the plows must stop and the chores go a-begging.

A man has been arrested at Abilene on the charge of breaking the lock to a cold storage box and extricating whiskey therefrom. Whiskey is the worst thing a man could steal. But, evidently, there is no whiskey sold in Abilene, which belies the oft-repeated statement to the contrary.

A murderess, said to be the ninth woman to be hanged in the history of the United States, paid the penalty for her crime at South McAlester, I. T. last week.

THE SENATORIAL SITUATION.

Representative W. J. Bryan of Abilene, who will be a candidate for State Senator, in a recent interview threw out a tub of slop to the cattle barons by declaring that the quarantine question would not be an issue in the next canvass. He practically abandoned the quarantine bill which he introduced at the last session of the Legislature, and its passage in the House was due to the vigorous efforts of Brelsford, Crawford and other members who stood for the people while Mr. Bryan was hedging and apologizing for the measure of which he was the reputed author. The quarantine question will be issue enough to salt down all candidates of the Bryan calibre that bob up in this part of the State.—Breckinridge Democrat.

The Democrat evidently sees trouble ahead for Senator Sebastian and is trying to hedge off other candidates. Misrepresentation of facts, however, will do its man more harm than good. As a matter of fact, Mr. Bryan has not announced for the Senate, although his friends have repeatedly urged him to do so. It is a matter of record that he was earnest and consistent in his advocacy of the quarantine bill which bore his name, and he was zealous in working for its passage right up to the adjournment of the Legislature. Sebastian's record could be more successfully assailed than the record of Mr. Bryan.

Mr. Grogan of Sweetwater, who opposed the gentleman from Breckinridge at the last election, will probably be in the race, and he is fully able to give him a run for his money. At least, we can expect another red hot campaign.

The Clarksville Times reports the case of a Lamar county wife who is advocating polygamy. She says that she is able to board and clothe her husband, but needs the assistance of half a dozen other women in order to be able to purchase for him all the liquor that he can consume.—Bonham Favorite.

In this country hogs are principally raised on slop. However, there are none of the Lamar county species in this neck of the woods, and as an experiment we would recommend the use of a funnel.

Probation matters.

Harrison county, of which Marshall is the county seat, gave a majority of 800 against local option last week. This is the second county in Texas to go wet during the past two years. The very large negro vote probably aided in the miscarriage of justice.

Hunt county gave a majority of about 1,600 in Saturday's election for local option. Greenville, which went wet last year by over 700 votes, gave a pro majority of 258. The total pro majority last year was 147, against 1,600 this time.

Editor Irvin, of the Franklin (Robertson Co.) Central Texan, has completed the fourth publi-

cation of the election result despite an injunction, and the law goes into effect July 24. Mr. Irvin is a brother of Rev. Irvin of Big Springs, and formerly run a paper at Anson.

Hamilton and Parker counties, now dry, will vote on the question next month.

Kauffman, Bell, Cooke and Henderson counties will soon be in line.

The election in Falls county went in favor of the antis by about 300 votes.

Williamson county, outside of Taylor, gave a decisive victory for local option, but this box changed the result, the vote at Taylor being 187 to 882 in favor of the antis. This gave the county to the antis by probably 100 majority, though it will take an official count to decide it.

John V. Cunningham of Taylor County says the Abilene county is "it." Some of the boys say that the V in his name stands for vinegar, but he doesn't wear an expression of acidity—not here at least. It may mean vanilla.—"Sheriff Stories" in Dallas News.

Simmons College, Abilene, Texas.

Is an endowed educational Christian Institution.

The twelfth annual session will begin on Monday, September the fourteenth, 1903, and close on Thursday, June the Sixteenth, 1904. The departments are Academy (four years), College (four years) Music-any instrument (two to six years), Painting and Drawing (two to four years), Oratory (two years), Commercial Science, and Military Tactics (two years). Yale, Berlin,

Just Returned

From the eastern markets with
a good big stock of

NEW - GOODS

We can make you a Saddle or set of Harness to order. You tell us what you want and we will make it. Yours for Business,

TRY
M E.
R. L. HUDSON.

No Ticks! No Black Leg! No Fever!

But strong, healthy cattle and horses made by **BASS' MEDICATED STOCK SALT**. Cattle fatten faster, grow faster and free from ticks if free access to the Medicated Salt is had. Not an experiment, but a tried success. Price, \$2.50 per 100 lb. sack; 1000 lbs. for \$22.50.

J. T. WARREN, Merkel, Tex.

Univ. of Chicago, and ten other colleges and universities are represented in the Faculty.

The standard of scholarship in the several departments is that of the best institutions in the United States.

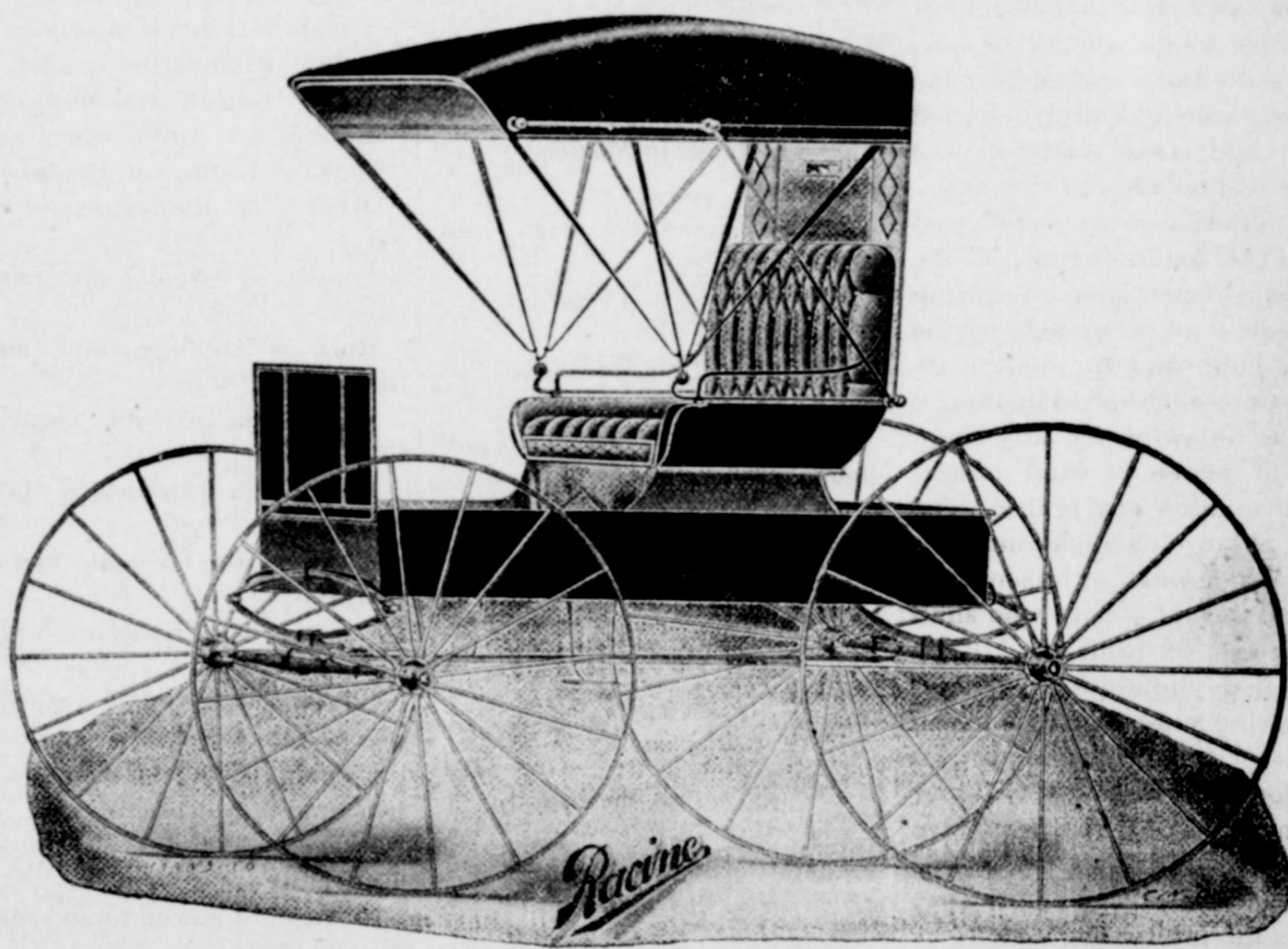
All expenses for the session (exclusive of the fine Arts-music, painting, and oratory) amount to two hundred and fifth dollars. Each course in the fine arts costs fifty dollars for the session. The session is divided

into three terms and fees for each Term are payable at the beginning of the Term.

Simmons College doubled its enrollment and had no case of serious illness on its campus last session.

The College has seven brick buildings and fourteen instructors.

For catalogue or other information write to
Oscar H. Cooper, LL. D.,
President.



Comfortable, Pleasant Riding!

Is enjoyed most perfectly and delightfully
by those using the famous

"RACINE" BUGGIES.

Acknowledged to be the most durable vehicles ever sold in West Texas. Always look well. Always run well. **BEST FOR THE MONEY IN THE WORLD!** Be sure to get a "RACINE" vehicle. Made by the largest manufacturers of high-grade vehicles in the world. Guaranteed by them.

ED. S. Hughes & Co.,

Distributors for West Texas. : : Abilene, Texas.

Repulsive Features.

Blackheads, pimples, greasy faces and muddy complexions, which are so common among women, especially girls at a certain age, destroying beauty, disfiguring and making repulsive, features which would otherwise appear attractive and refined, indicates that the liver is out of order. An occasional dose of Herbine will cleanse the bowels, regulate the liver and also establish a clear, healthy complexion. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Junior League Program.

Song.
Prayer.
Roll call.
Scripture lesson by leader.
Song.
Practical application—Maggie Corrigan.
Select reading—Toby Paylor.
Song.
Word picture—E. J. Little.
Bible drill.
League benediction.
Sunday, July 26th.

G. W. Cox accosted a reporter on the streets Monday and deposited a cartwheel in the empty cavity for decency's sake called a pocket. Oh, for a thousand subscribers who are always subscribing.

Stamford Country.

From the News.
The meeting in the Methodist church closed Sunday night. There were 30 conversions and 28 accessions to the Methodist church. Others have joined the Baptist church.

We met J. L. Clark, of Fisher county, in town this week. He was exhibiting a basket of very large onions. He planted 1 1-2 bushels of sets and says he has gathered 3,000 pounds of onions. This beats cotton.

D. W. Stephens was in town Tuesday from his ranch in Fisher county. Dan says he has corn already made that will average 40 bushels per acre and has 125 acres of as fine cotton as he ever saw anywhere. He is mixing farming with stock raising and is coming to the front in both lines. Dan came out to Fisher county in 1879.

It is getting too dry to be comfortable for the farmers, and of course this makes us all uncomfortable. While the prospects for a splendid cotton crop has never been better at this season of the year, the dry weather has about blasted all hopes for corn. A rain, however, will make plenty of sorghum and other corn substitutes, and altogether, the year may yet be one of the most prosperous, from an agricultural standpoint, we have experienced. Don't get blue too quick.—Sweetwater Reporter.

Rev. H. A. Boaz, president of Polytechnic College, Fort Worth, is here in the interests of that institution.

Bargain Counter!

We have placed on a certain counter in our store a few items to be sold under value. The goods are new and are all right every way. We found we were overstocked and preferred taking our loss now rather than at the end of the season. We mention a few RARE BARGAINS NOW ON THE COUNTER: ∴ ∴

Men's Canvas Shoes, were 1.50, now	\$1.19
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 3s to 5s, were 1.50, now	1.04
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 13s to 2s, were 1.25, now	.93
Boys' Canvas Shoes, 8s to 12s, were 1.00, now	.82
Ladies' Patent Leather Slippers, 2.00 kind	1.48
A few pair men's 1.00 Gloves at	.88
Ladies' Fancy Hose, 20c kind	.13
Ladies' Fancy Hose, 10c kind	.07
35c matting now 25c. 30c kind at 22c. 25c kind at 18c	
One lot of about 50 Wash Skirts—Crash, Covert and Duck—were 1.50, now	1.18

J. T. Warren.

Cholera Infantum.

This has been regarded as one of the most dangerous and fatal diseases to which infants are subject. It can be cured, however, when properly treated. All that is necessary is to give Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and castor oil, as directed with each bottle, and a cure is certain. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

P. C. White, a Texas & Pacific brakeman, had a foot crushed by a train while switching at Colorado Wednesday of last week. The toes had to be amputated.

Mr. Max Miller has accepted a position with R. L. Hudson. Mr. Miller is an experienced workman and can make or mend anything out of leather. Mr. Hudson is to be congratulated upon securing his services.

Read that "Racine" buggy advertisement in this paper.

Mrs. Harry Tom King of Abilene and Miss Hale of Anson visited their sister, Mrs. Pittard, Sunday.

Don't fail to read Warren's Bargain Counter ad.

A letter from Chas. Heizer, who recently moved to Stratford, Texas, and took charge of the Burton-Lingo Co. yard at that place, states that he is very well pleased with his location. Stratford is in Sherman county in the extreme northwest part of the state, and for a town only two years old is making rapid strides forward. The Rock Island from El Paso passes through the town, and the country is fast being developed. Mr. and Mrs. Heizer's friends send greetings and wish for them a reasonable prosperity.

R. L. Hudson and Max Miller made a run down to Dallas Sunday, returning Tuesday.

Misses Miller and McCutcheon, who had been visiting Mrs. W. H. Dickson, left Monday for their homes in Dallas.

Cures Sciatica.

Rev. W. L. Riley, L. L. D., Cuba, New York, writes: "After fifteen days of excruciating pain from sciatic rheumatism, under various treatments, I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, the first application giving my first relief, and the second, entire relief. I can give it unqualified recommendation." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Burroughs & Mann's.

Buy a summer lap spread off Warren's Bargain Counter.

T. J. Parton, who returned from the Panhandle last week, says he was favorably impressed with the country, but that land is out of all reason, considering the distance from the railroad, churches and schools and the lack of society. All desirable tracts of land are almost as high as they are here. Mr. Parton has great faith in this country, and the only drawback is that he hasn't room for expansion.

W. B. Mann and Otho Williams, with their families, are spending the week on Jid Ned fishing.

T. J. Coggin came in Sunday from his Panhandle ranch.

Y. H. Berry and son, Mack, have returned from Tennessee, where they went with a shipment of horses.

For Sale or Trade—A good set of blacksmith tools, cheap.

Arthur Rose.

D. C. Hutcheson has built a large ware room at the rear of his store.

D. C. Hutcheson and wife spent Sunday at Elmdale.

Joe Pee, wife and babe, came up from Callahan and spent last week here with relatives. Both formerly lived here and have many friends who were glad to see them.

E. Barnes left Saturday night for Paris, Tenn., his old home, to spend a few weeks visiting relatives.

Working Night and Day.

The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Dr. King's New Life Pills. These pills change weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, brain-fag into mental power. They're wonderful in building up the health. Only 25c per box. Sold by Rust & Pittard.

Burroughs & Mann have more than 1,000 new writing tablets. They can please you in anything you want.

J. T. Warren has placed on sale a nice line of saddles from \$16.50 to \$35.

To The Public.

Those who have second-hand goods for sale take them to J. C. Watkins.

Don't send your orders for calendars out of town, but give them to the Mail. We have the prettiest line ever shown in the town and guarantee the prices to be as low as any foreign concern can possibly make.

To Ice Consumers.

Orders for ice should be given not later than 10 o'clock for morning deliveries and by 5 o'clock for evening deliveries. This will enable us to make deliveries promptly and satisfactorily. Please bear this in mind.

J. W. & L. M. Watkins.

J. B. Ferrier and family returned Monday from Galveston, where they spent a very pleasant week's visit. Mr. Ferrier says it is very dry all along the route, although crops are looking well, and things are looming up. This promises a bumper crop year.

Prof. C. E. Evans left Sunday night for Austin to enter upon his duties as one of the summer normal examiners, and will be absent several weeks. His family accompanied him.

T. G. Wilkins of Abilene, manager of the Southwestern telephone exchange, spent Saturday here with his friend, Ed Green.

The Perfect Liver Medicine.

Mrs. M. A. Jolley, Noble, O. T., writes: "I have used Herbine for a number of years, and can cheerfully recommend it as the most perfect liver medicine, and the greatest blood purifier. It is a medicine of positive merit, and fully accomplishes all that is claimed for it." Malaria cannot find a lodgment in the system while the liver is in perfect order, for one of its functions is to prevent the absorption of fever-producing poisons. Herbine is a most efficient liver regulator. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Our new line of 1903 box stationery is a very satisfactory proposition. Inspect it before buying.

Burroughs & Mann.

Just to see what happens, try Chase & Sanborn's Teas and Coffees, when you are tired.

J. T. Warren.

Our fall line of stationery is here. In quality and prices it can't be beat.

Burroughs & Mann.

No prizes go with our high grade coffees and teas—nothing but cream, sugar and satisfaction.

J. T. Warren.

Tell your neighbor about The Mail and ask him to subscribe.

Shooting at Bremond.

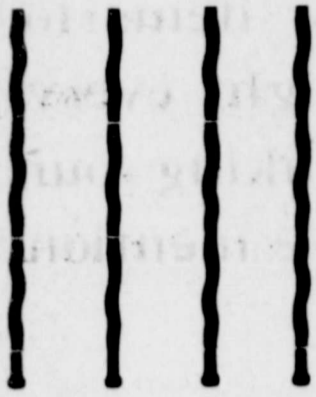
J. H. Campbell received a telegram from Bremond announcing the death of his brother, Wallie Campbell, who was shot by some party or parties. Mr. Campbell formerly lived here and the announcement of his death will be received with genuine regret.

J. H. was at Anson when the telegram was received and no further particulars can be learned.

Mrs. C. H. Williams left Monday for Sedalia, Ky., to spend about three months with relatives and friends in the old home. The Mail will visit her while there.

AT COST

All trimmed hats at ACTUAL COST! No fake, but a fact. Come and see . . .



Mrs. HOOPLE,

If you want a cut of your building, either residence or business house, in The Mail, bring around a picture and \$2.50 in money.

It is easier for a man to go to heaven on a full stomach than on an empty one. Now is the time to advertise.

Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain un-called for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not called for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Aug. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Arants, Miss Jimmie
Bradley, Mrs. Sarah
Cavett, W. T.
Davidson, Mrs. Maud
English, Bob
Griffin, W. A.
Hays, Rev. L. A.
Martin, Chas.
Martin, W. S.
Miranda, Vincent
Marin, Francisco
Patterson, John
Reed, Jim
Thompson, Chas.

Will Buy It Back.

You assume no risk when you buy Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Burroughs & Mann will refund your money if you are not satisfied after using it. It is everywhere admitted to be the most successful remedy in use for bowel complaints and the only one that never fails. It is pleasant, safe and reliable.

If you have a buggy that needs painting take it to J. C. Watkins. He has a nice room in the rear of his store fitted up for that purpose. He also buys or sells on commission anything you may have to dispose of.

Mrs. Anderson of Abilene is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Geo. S. Berry.

W. W. Wheeler was whipped through the first rank of the K. of P. order Friday night. The goat is now in training for the second contest.

Mrs. H. C. Burroughs left last Saturday for Eastland, having received a message that her father was dangerously ill.

The Boss Worm Medicine.

H. P. Kumpe, Druggist, Leighton, Ala., writes: "One of my customers had a child, which was sick, and threw up all food, could retain nothing on its stomach. He bought one bottle of White's Cream Vermifuge, and it brought up 119 worms from the child. It's the boss worm medicine in the world." White's Cream Vermifuge is also the children's tonic. It improves their digestion and assimilation of food, strengthens their nervous system and restores them to their health, vigor and elasticity of spirits natural to childhood. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

A Millionaire Boy.

"He's a millionaire, that boy is."

The boy whom I was walking with looked across the way at the lad of whom my words were spoken. There was certainly nothing about the latter to suggest his wealth.

"You don't say so! It can't really be so; he looks almost shabby."

"No matter for that. I live in the same block, and I know. But I did not say that he was worth a million of money."

"Oh!"

The boy who was listening looked rather disappointed. Still, he was anxious to know what the other one might have anyhow, so he asked, "What, then?"

"He is what is called a millionaire of cheerfulness." He is merry and bright the whole day long, not alone when all is sweetness and light, but when it isn't. He has such pluck and spirit, and such unflinching good-nature, that he must have a million to draw upon though he pays no taxes on his capital. You never see him scowling or hear him whining. So he scatters his fortune all about, and is a blessing to the neighborhood. I wish there were more millionaires of cheerfulness. There might be, if everybody gathered up all the sunshine to be had, and gave it out as royally as Rob, who goes whistling yonder."

Rob's neighbor went on, leaving Dick to wonder whether he were rich as Rob, and if not, why not?—Sunday-school Advocate.

Going Out at Night.

Austin Tribune.

A young man 24 years of age committed suicide in Forest park, St. Louis, and one of his last acts was to address a letter to the boys who might perchance read the account of his untimely death, in which he said: "Left school when I was 15; had an excellent mother and father, who loved me. I secured a position in a bank; began to go out at nights, and there is the foundation, the starting point of all my blasted hopes." "Going out at nights" has been the starting point on the highway to eternal ruin. The writer could name scores of young men, some of whom filled suicide graves, some were killed, some went to the state prison, and all started in their career downward by "going out at night." How many young men have made the same mistake in life? Alas! only the final judgment can disclose. Those who "go out at night," away from the kindly influence of home, and into the gilded palaces of sin, breathe in the poisonous fumes of death, and only the intervention of a merciful Providence can save them from the consequences thereof. Most of the tragedies of life are traceable to the mistakes of early youth. If the miserable suicide

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
T. A. JOHNSON, ASST. CASHIER.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

—OF—

MERKEL, TEXAS

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$65,000
Shareholders Responsibilities over \$1,000,000

We are always in a position to take care of our friends and customers. We want your business and will treat you right and make it to your interest.

GEO. S. BERRY, Cash.

at Forest park shall, by his disclosures, save just one boy from a similar fate to his own, his effort and his prayer will not have been in vain.

It is estimated that the hail storm on the 26th of June destroyed growing cotton sufficient to have produced 1000 bales of cotton. This is a heavy loss to the farmers, and also Gorman's cotton receipts this fall.—Gorman Progress.

Night Was Her Terror.

"I would cough nearly all night long," writes Mrs. Chas. Applegate, of Alexandria, Ind., "and could hardly get any sleep. I had consumption so bad that if I walked a block I would cough frightfully and spit blood, but, when all other medicines failed, three \$1.00 bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery wholly cured me and I gained 58 pounds." It's absolutely guaranteed to cure Coughs, Colds, LaGrippe, Bronchitis and all Throat and Lung Troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's drug store.

The Eucharmed Word.

There is a subtle charm, a sweet seductiveness in the magical word "sometime" that has the power to soothe and comfort the human heart when all else fails. It admits of such unlimited scope of possibilities and imagination. When half fainting beneath our load of grief and unrealized longings; when the cloud of despair looms threateningly on the horizon of life's sunless sky; when the sunshine turns to gloom, and white lips are sighing, "what's the use?" dear hope whispers softly, "don't give up." "Sometime" you may know your soul's desire, but not just yet awhile. A dim prospect, perhaps, but one that has kept many a heart from breaking, giving the strength to breast the wave of misfortune. No matter how heavy the burden, or how weary our feet, we trudge on the rockstrewn way of life's long hill, waiting, longing and hoping that "sometime" we would find what we would have. This life is spent, and our hopes die with us; perhaps to be resurrected in a "fairer clime than this." As for life, each day the strength is given us for just that day and the morrow—ah well, the morrow may not be ours.—X

Mrs. M. K. Woodrum visited her brother, J. A. Boyce, at Abilene this week.

Luther Newberry of Trent favored The Mail with a couple of wheels on sub., Saturday Luther is a good boy and very prompt with his obligations—a virtue that will redound to his lasting good.

Brutally Tortured.

A case came to light that for persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Golobick of Colusa, Calif., writes. "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from Rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known. I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for Liver and Kidney troubles and general debility. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

Old Babylon Laws.

An interesting story relating to a legal code that is said to be nearly 1,000 years older than Moses, is related by the Federal Reporter. According to the Reporter, this code has been unearthed in Susa, the ancient capital of Ahasuerus. It is in the form of a column of stone some five feet high and sets forth in three hundred paragraphs certain of three rules of law governing Babylon 2300 B. C. Among other things, in this code it is provided that: If a man knock out the eye of a freeman his own shall be forfeited. If he break one of the members of a man his own member shall be removed. But this rule applied only in the case of freemen. If the suffering party were a slave a payment of money could make good or wrong. The same was true of a freedman. On the other hand, if an inferior struck a superior he was punished with fifty lashes and if he was a slave the ear was cut off. The lex talionis was carried so far that if a surgeon was unsuccessful in performing an operation he was not entitled to any pay. If the patient died under the hand of the surgeon the latter lost his hands, in case the patient was a freeman. If a slave died under his hand he must buy another. In case a builder made a failure of a structure he was also punished with death. Whether imprisonment was one method of punishing wrongdoers does not appear, but evidently if at all applied it was of comparatively small importance. Money fines were, however, very common and were proportionate to the wrong done. He who falsely claimed that another was indebted to him must pay one-third of a mina. Theft of an animal was punishable by a fine of thirty times its value. Hammurabi was much concerned for the safety of his highways. A robber who attacked a person on the public road was killed, or if he could not be found then the community in which the crime had taken place was fined a mina

in case the life of a human being had been lost.

The little son of Dabney Harvey of Abilene was quite seriously scalded Saturday, but at last accounts was doing nicely. The accident happened by the little fellow pulling the waste cork out of a washing machine which had been filled with boiling water. The Reporter states that one arm and leg were badly scalded.

The meeting at Center Point is attracting large crowds, quite a number going out from here.

Will Archer and Mrs. Ethel Hamilton were married at Abilene Tuesday.

Considerable interest is manifested in the meeting at the Tabernacle conducted by Revs. Copeland and Lockhart. The preaching is good, and the sermons will benefit all who hear them.

The little child of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Davis, who live on the Boyce old place, east of town, died yesterday evening and will be buried today. The little one had been an invalid since birth, but the frail bark stranded all too soon. The Mail tenders its sympathy to the bereaved family.

T. B. Garoutte brought The Mail a sample of plums this morning which lays all other specimens we have seen in the shade. They are a cross between a Japanese and Gonzales and ripen about the 20th of August. The trees are small, but are literally loaded with fruit. Mr. Garoutte thinks they are the greatest freeze resisting plums he has yet discovered, and he certainly ought to be proud of the showing so far.

The first bale of cotton of the season was sold in New York Tuesday for 26½c per pound. It was raised in Zapata county, this state.

The illustrated lectures of Prof. Rose, as given at the D. M. Inter-

face, one white foot, a dim brand. \$5 reward to person bringing in horses.

Joe L. Harris,
Merkel, Texas.

Disease takes no summer vacation.

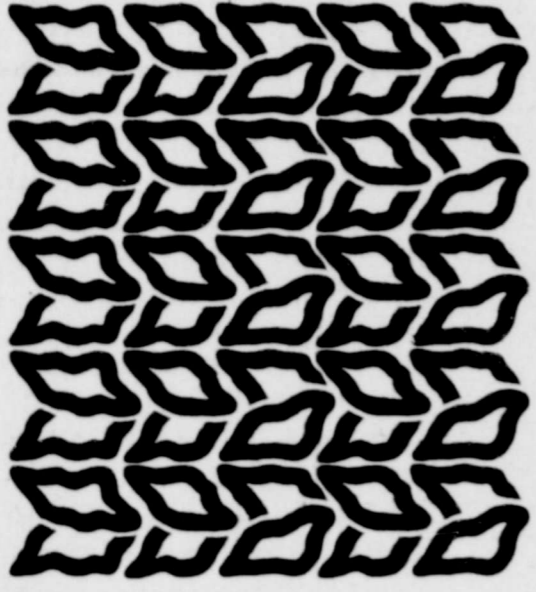
If you need flesh and strength use

Scott's Emulsion

summer as in winter.

Send for free sample.
SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists,
409-415 Pearl Street, New York.
50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

KEEP KOOL IF YOU KAN!



- Boys white duck and linen blouse wash suits, worth 75c, at only **50c**

- Mens 1.50 shirts at only **1.00**

- Mens 75c shirts at only **50c**

- All ladies 75, 85 and 1.00 belts at only **50c**

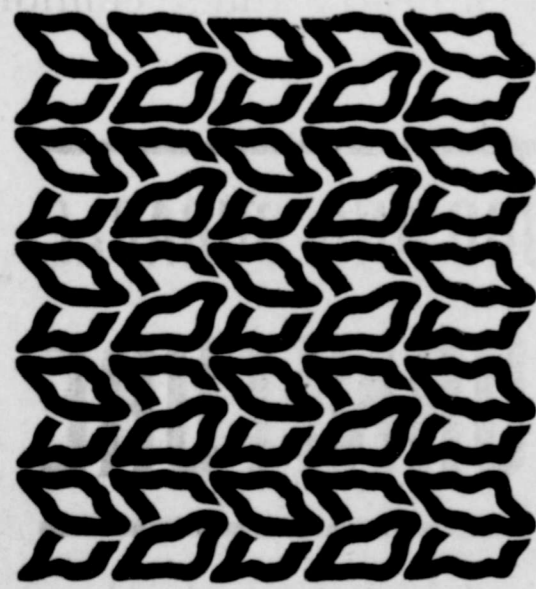
- All ladies 35, and 50c belts at only **25c**

- All of our mens suits, worth 7.50, your choice for only **5.00**

- Choice of our mens \$10 suits at only **7.50**

- Choice of our mens 12.50 and 13.50 suits at only **9.75**

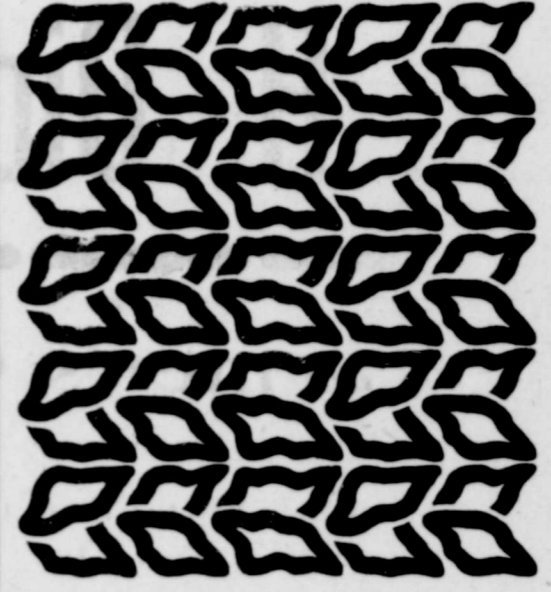
- Mens 3.50 pants at only **2.95**
- Mens 3.00 pants at only **2.50**
- Mens 2.50 pants at onlp **2.00**



WE CAN HELP YOU KEEP COOL. We've got that kind of goods, and the prices are smashed to pieces. It won't cost you much to wear thin Goods during the remainder of the Summer. You could not make a better investment, for the prices and goods are certainly attractive. :-:



All our ladies and childrens hats at just **ONE HALF PRICE**



- All 7½ and 8½c Lawns at only **5c**

- All 12½, 15 and 17½c summer dress goods at only **10c**

- All 20, 25 and 30c summer dress goods at only **17½c**

- All 65 and 75c ladies' summer corsets at only **50c**

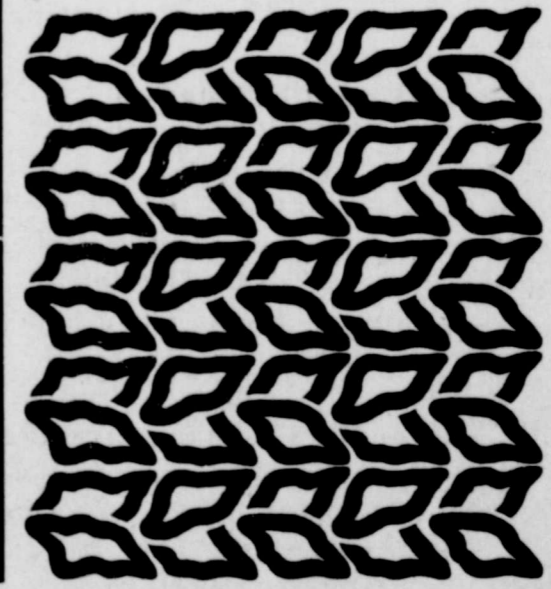
- Ladies 15c vests at only **10c**

- Ladies 5c vests at only **2½c**

- Ladies wash skirts, linen and blue, worth 1.50 and 1.75, choice **1.10**

- Misses and childrens lace hose, worth 25 at only **17½c**

- All boys nice knee pants, worth 75c, at only **50c**



Watson & Bacon.

Vehicles!

I have the best line of Buggies and Wagons on the market. The prices speak for themselves. Come and see

W. H. Dickson

The Farmer's Column.

Interesting Items Pertaining to the Farm and Farm Life, From Our Exchanges.

The advantages of plenty of water about the farm and home are inestimable. Not only should the water be plentiful, but it should be easy of access, and so convenient that both man and beast will avoid becoming thirsty. The sensation of thirst is nature's way of giving notice that the machinery of the system is going wrong, and is the same principle that causes a journal box on artificial machinery to squeak or run hot when there is imperfect or insufficient lubrication. The good engineer never waits until this condition arises before applying the lubricant, and it cannot be otherwise than deleterious to good health of the animal machine if any of its wants are neglected until the warning signal is sounded.

The Texas and Pacific railway has inaugurated a livestock express service for the purpose of sending shipments from West Texas to market with more facility. It will be run so as to unload at the Fort Worth stockyards every Monday morning.

Contrary to the expectations of many who have been influenced by previous reports which have been circulated through the state regarding the total area planted to cotton in Texas, The Dallas News, after a careful investigation, finds a decrease in acreage in the State percentage of 8.54. This result was obtained after a careful and painstaking review of reports from 427 correspondents, covering 145 counties of the State, the reports being of an average date of July 5.

To keep butter in the summer season, pack it in well soaked tubs or firkins, put a little damp salt in the bottom and place it in a cool, dry cellar on a bench of wood about 18 inches from the cellar bottom, and the same from the wall. Stone or earthenware does not keep butter well, as the moisture from the surrounding atmosphere, in warm weather, condenses on such vessels and sours the butter. Put no salt between the layers. Fill to within half an inch of the top, place a clean wet cloth over butter, and pack the edges with a knife, and then

spread thinly wet salt over the top of cloth. The above mode of packing and keeping butter will be useful to many, and cause a smile of delight to the buyes.—Epitomist.

Female Agriculturists.

In the primitive age, women tilled the soil and earned the bread of the family, while the men went forth with spear and bow to kill or catch a supply of meat and fish.

With the advance of civilization, men became the tiller of the soil and woman was taught to devote her attention to raising chickens and children and doing the housework.

The wheel is again turning, and woman is coming to the front as a farmer and manager of agricultural affairs, whether conducted on special lines or general ones.

Mrs. Virginia C. Meredith, professor of home economics in the Minnesota School of agriculture, is a practical farmer, and makes good money out of her farming operations every year.

Miss Gertrude Norris of Hastings, Minn., a cultivated and highly educated woman, is making a brilliant success as a farmer.

Miss Rose Cleveland, sister of the ex-president, owns 350 acres of land on the Maine coast and raises prize vegetables, small fruit and poultry. She keeps an average of about 800 chickens, a fine herd of cows, and manages the whole business in person.

It was a woman who started mushroom culture in Connecticut and now who caters exclusively to the smart set of New York in that edible. She does the work except the heavy spading, and markets her own products.

Miss Mira L. Dock is chief lecturer on tree preservation for the American Park and outdoor art Association. She has made a success of arboriculture, which is one of the most difficult branches of agriculture.

Five Young Women from Minneapolis filed on government land last fall, went out together, built their own cabins, made a good clearing about them, and cut three miles of road through the timber to connect it with the nearest highway. All this with-

out any man help, and they were never sick a day and had a jolly time all winter.

Miss Edith Parsons, of Hendricks County, Ind., went to an agricultural school a few months to get away from the farm. When she returned she had become inspired with the love of the dairy business, and took charge of her father's old five-cow establishment which is now producing, under her management, eighty pounds of butter a week. She gets from one to two cents a pound more for it than the best creamery product. Her experience has been given in a recent address which has been widely published, and is calculated to give inspiration to many others.

And so one might fill the entire columns of this paper in giving illustrations of the coming farm-woman; but it would be too discouraging to the poor men, who already find themselves about crowded off from the face of the earth by the "ministering angels."

Very Remarkable Cure of Diarrhoea.

"About six years ago for the first time in my life I had a sudden and severe attack of diarrhoea," says Mrs. Alice Miller, of Morgan, Texas. "I got temporary relief, but it came back again and again, and for six long years I have suffered more misery and agony than I can tell. It was worse than death. My husband spent hundreds of dollars for physicians' prescriptions and treatment without avail. Finally we moved to Bosque county, our present home, and one day I happened to see an advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with a testimonial of a man who had been cured by it. The case was so similar to my own that I concluded to try the Remedy. The result was wonderful. I could hardly realize that I was well again, or believe it could be so after having suffered so long, but that one bottle of medicine, costing but a few cents, cured me." For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

The visit of Dr. Lorenz to Dallas has its sorrowful and pathetic side. When it became known the famous surgeon would give an exhibition of his skill, fathers and mothers all over the state prepared to bring their children under the healing of his skillful fingers. He could remain only a few days and could only treat a very few of the hundreds who would have gladly availed themselves of his ministrations. Some among those treated were beyond the reach of human help. It is an illustration of how eagerly suffering humanity gathers about one who holds out the hope of relief, and shows, too, how fruitless is the hope in a majority of cases. The same anxious wish to be made whole still manifests itself, as when the "Great Physician" walked among the Judean multitudes, laying his hand upon the sick and afflicted, and curing them by his divine power.—Terrell Transcript.

No Pity Shown.

"For years fate was after me continuously," writes F. A. Gullledge, Verbena, Ala. "I had a terrible case of Piles causing 24 tumors. When all failed Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me." Equally good for Burns and all aches and pains. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

Past and Present.

Nowadays when a young hopeful is taken by the collar and

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

....Wind Mills, Pumps and Water Supply Goods....

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment of pumps, piping from 1/4 to 2 in., plain and galvanized; brass cylinders and working barrels from 2 to 4 in. We buy in car lots and can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.

WORMS! WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE!

For 20 Years Has Led all Worm Remedies. Most in Quantity. — Best in Quality. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS. Prepared by JAMES F. BALLARD, St. Louis.

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN,

Merkel, Tex.

gently shaken by a school-teacher his fond parents first have nervous prostrations and then rush off and have the pedagogue arrested. Yet men who are scarcely middle aged can remember when the boy who came home from school howling that he had been whipped was very likely to be taken to the cellar for a repetition of the dose on general principles—it being argued that if he was licked at school he deserved it and probably did not get licked enough. Probably all this was very wrong, but we can not forget that there was not one juvenile "tough" in those days to a score in this era of moral suasion. The switch seemed to have the desired effect.—Paris News.

Your Mother.

Meridian Tribune.

Don't say unkind things about your mother, for when you were naked she clothed you, when you were hungry she fed you, when you were thirsty she gave you drink, when you came as a stranger she gave you the best in the house; she washed you when you were dirty, she combed you when you were lousy, petted you when you were meaner than purlsey, got up in the night and gave you

paragoric, screened you when you did evil and prayed for you when the devil was ashamed of you. Say sweet things about your mother or keep quiet. Next to Christ is "mother," be she old, blind and decrepit. To you she ought to be an angel, whether in this or the world to come.

A good story is told in New York of a young girl who was asked how she and her steady were getting along. She said: "Oh, he's all right, except that he is always talking shop when he comes to see me. He's a street car conductor, you know, and he keeps saying "sit up closer, please!"—Ex.

Some Thinks of the Squires.

Feller's a fool to worry over spilt milk. Jest kick the blamed cow and go to milkin' agin.

A keeful study o' pigs'll add a great deal to one's understandin' of human natur. And of pig natur' too.

What red-bugs is to the flesh, life's little cares and worries is to the spirit. A little kerosene ile of philosophy is the only remedy.—H. R. Greer in Pittsburg Gazette.

The Mail gives all the news.

The Man WHO TOILS

Deserves and certainly should appreciate a pretty and a comfortable home.

GOOD AND DURABLE FURNITURE

is our hobby and it's one that has won friends and customers for us.

INDUCEMENTS

To newly married couples to buy th eir outfits here.

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