

## SUNDAY MORNING REFLECTIONS

What Preacher of the Various Denominations Are Talking About.

**The Churches Coming Together.**  
From Leslie's Weekly.

Nothing so gratifying and so promising for the future has occurred in the realm of church life and work during the present year as the various movements set on foot for a reunion among the separated branches of several denominations and also for a degree of unity and co-operation among the churches generally, irrespective of denominational lines. More and more the feeling is growing among earnest and thoughtful churchmen of all sects and creeds that the churches are wasting valuable means and energies by keeping up so many divisions among themselves; and that while organic unity among all denominations in Christendom must be regarded as impracticable even if it were desirable, there is no good reason why, for example, the Baptists should be split up among themselves into thirteen distinct and separate bodies, the Methodists into seventeen, or the Presbyterians into twelve, and it is evident enough that until something is done to bring the scattered members of these denominational families together it is useless to expect that the greater and more serious divisions between the churches will be bridged over.

### Triumph of the Cross.

By the crucifixion of Christ, men thought that they had forever stamped out His teachings; but, outlined upon the cross against a dark background of a world of sin, the personality of Him who was slain was only the more profoundly impressed upon humanity. Therein exists the triumph of the cross.

### The Golden Rule in Many Lands.

The true rule in business is to guard and do by the thing of others as they do by their own.—Hindoo.

He sought for others the good he desired for himself. Let him pass on.—Egyptian.

One should seek for others the happiness one desires for one's self.—Buddhist.

What you would not wish done to yourself do not do unto others.—Chinese.

All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do even so them.—Christian.

Let none of you treat his brother in a way he himself would dislike to be treated.—Mohammedan.

Do not that to a neighbor which you would take ill from him.—Grecian.

The law imprinted on the hearts of all men is to love the members of society as themselves.—Roman.

Do as you would be done by.—Persian.

Whatever you do not wish your neighbor to do to you, do not unto him. This is the whole law! the rest is a mere exposition of it.—Jewish.

# Merkel Is Bidding For Your Cotton

## DICKSON IS BIDDING FOR YOUR TRADE

Onward and Upward in my efforts to please the trade--this is my motto, and the many friends won for this store show how well I have succeeded.

### LANSING WAGONS OWASSO BUGGIES

In this department I can certainly interest all. They are acknowledged leaders, and having handled them many years I can recommend them as the BEST. Get others' prices then come to me. It will be money in your pockets.

I sell the famous Yellow Kid Disc Plow.

I handle the time tried Bement Farm Implements:

Plows, Cultivators, Disc Plows, Harrows, etc.

They are the best, and you can well afford to come many miles to purchase such implements. They pay in the long run.

My prices are always right, and goods the best. Come and see.

### BRIDGE and BEACH STOVES and RANGES

They are decidedly the best. Find a man who is using a Bridge & Beach and you will find one who has a satisfactory article.

I have everything usually carried in an up-to-date hardware store, and sell honest goods at honest prices.

A full line of Single and Double Harness.

# W. H. DICKSON FOR HARDWARE

## Collars! Bridles!

We don't keep them.  
We sell them at prices that keep them moving. All kinds. Cheap ones 75c; better ones \$1.25 to \$1.75. Good, none better, at \$2 to \$2.50. Bridles! Oh, just any old price.

R. L. Hudson.

### Spiritual Cowards.

One of the misfortunes of the church is that it is afflicted with a host of spiritual cowards whose timidity is deservedly condemned, they are in the gospel ship and their cry for help is one of distrust rather than of faith. They lack the childlike confidence, which believes always with unwavering faith.

### Missing the Mark.

We are too dependent upon worldly methods and measures. We miss the mark of high calling; we ignore the pleadings of Christ. Jesus set the precedent how we might gain the divine treasures. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added."

### Modern Jacobs.

There are Jacobs today. Not long ago a Boston millionaire took into partnership a young man who had just concluded a shrewd deal. The partnership lasted for three years. At the beginning the Boston man had \$3,000,000, and at the end of the three years the shrewd young man had the \$3,000,000.

### Nothing by Accident.

Success seldom comes by accident. The life of great men is a record of conquest, not of happy chance. Thomas Edison got his start by saving the life of a little boy at the risk of his own. The grateful father taught the rescuer telegraphy and gave him his start. When Edison was just beginning his career as a telegraph operator he was in Mem-

phis, Tenn., and happened to be out of a job. He received a telegram from Louisville, Ky., telling him to come at once to that city, and promising him employment. He had no money, but he had a pair of legs which he was not afraid to venture on, and though the distance was nearly four hundred miles, he turned up in Louisville on time.

Difficulties vanish before the boy or the man that determines to win success in spite of them.

After Edison had become famous, someone asked him if any of his discoveries were accident. "No," replied the great man, "I never did anything by accident. When I have fully decided that a thing is worth doing, I go about it and make a trial until it comes."—Young People's Weekly.

### A Strange Case.

Colorado Clipper.

James H. Gardner died Sunday evening about 1 o'clock of psoriasis, a very rare and painful skin disease, at the residence of his brother, W. H. Gardner in East Colorado and was laid to rest a few hours later in Odd Fellows cemetery.

Mr. Gardner contracted the disease early in May while engaged in assisting to move a house. It first appeared as a sore or a small blister on his under lip, and he doctored the trouble and thought it was nothing serious. Soon after this he experienced a peculiar itching sensation over his entire body, and believed he had contracted the itch. He took a few doses of sulphur and applied other remedies for itch, but soon concluded that was not the trouble that was affecting him. Blisters began to appear

on his chest and arms about the size of a silver half dollar, and these continued to extend over his body until he was a mass of blisters. As these blisters disappeared the man was literally denuded of skin, and those who visited him during his illness say he was one of the most terrible sights they ever beheld.

He could not bear any clothing upon his person, and could not sit or lie down except with excruciating pain. When placed on a cot with oil cloth under him, great pieces of cuticle would adhere to the oil cloth, and the sufferings ascribed to Job must have almost seemed pleasures in comparison with the agonies endured by this man.

In China when they find a prisoner guilty the executioner im-

mediately cuts off his head, or the jailer takes him in hand. There are no "exceptions" or appeals to a higher court. An editor's head fell in the basket the other day. The iron hand of law over there usually holds an axe or a prison key ready for business. China is either a long way behind civilization, or else has to deal with conditions which do not confront other countries. Certainly human life is held very cheaply in the old empire.

The Brownwood Bulletin says: A Brownwood man who had imbibed too much beer, Saturday woke up next morning and said: "I am a fool!" Which seemed to indicate he had waked up a sadder Bueweiser man.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

# 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.

## A Picture.

One of God's pictures hangs in the west. It is a magnificent sun set. It's colors are crimson and purple, touched with golden and orange. To the left are darker clouds tipped with a creamy white. To the north is a calm stretch of pale yellow, fading to a misty tint till it reaches piles of darker clouds. To the south the clouds are more somber, but beautiful beyond description. Some are like molten silver with a background of darker hue. Over all this is a glow left by the last rays of the sun, long since dropped behind the western hills.

I sit here and gaze on this picture of infinite beauty and listen to the sacred tones of music as it swells out on the evening air like a prayer. My very soul is lifted up by its solemn sweetness. There are the deep organ like tones, full and grand, rich with harmony; then the upper pearly tones, clear and sweet, angelic and voice like, it seems to float from the angels in answer to the cry of a weary heart. I listen while the daylight fades. Somber and solemn night comes on, the grazing herd grows indistinct, the murmur of voices comes pleasantly from afar. How happy they are! One star shines like a jewel, and indeed it seems to "pin back the curtains of night."—Selected.

## MERKEL'S FIRST BALE.

Was Brought in Monday and Sold for 11.75.

D. O. Huddleston, who lives southeast of town, was the lucky man to carry off the first of three premiums offered by the business men of Merkel for the first bale of cotton ginned and sold here. The bale was brought in Tuesday and was ginned by the oil mill gin free of charge. It weighed 450 pounds and was bought by the Star Store people, the price paid being \$11.75 per hundred.

Following is the affidavit subscribed to by Mr. Huddleston:

"I certify that the bale of cotton ginned today for me was all raised by me and was all raised on my farm and from my crop; and said bale weighs 450 pounds. I also received from the committee the premium of fifty (\$50) dollars.

"D. O. Huddleston."

Counting the ginning and value of seed, the bale brought Mr. Huddleston \$110.55, as follows:

Premium	\$50.00
Proceeds of sale	52.75
Value of seed	5.00
Ginning and wrapping	2.80

In addition to this, Mr. Huddleston is entitled to The Mail one year and his subscription figures are shoved forward accordingly.

## THE SECOND BALE.

W. R. Tisdell, who lives near Trent, brought in the second bale of the season yesterday and walked off with the second premium of \$30. The bale sold for 11 9-16c and the total proceeds, including seed and free ginning, amounted to \$96.08. Mr. Tisdell is also entitled to The Mail for

one year and his name has been entered on our books.

Mr. Tisdell signed an affidavit to the effect that the bale was gathered from his crop, that it was all gathered from this year's crop and that no other party had any interest in it.

A phone message from Hodges last night stated that the third bale would probably be brought in today.

County Attorney T. A. Bledsoe was here on business Tuesday. Tom has been vigilantly looking after local option violators in Abilene, and has been very successful in his prosecutions. One of the cold storage plants has already closed up and the other is on the eve of closing, and from present appearances there will be very little trouble along this line in the future. He is to be commended for the able manner in which he has discharged his duties.

## What He Gets.

Karnes County News.

An exchange says a man who marries for love gets a wife; who marries for position, gets a lady; who marries for money, gets a mistress. If you get sick the wife will nurse you, the lady will visit you, the mistress will inquire about your health. If you die the wife will weep for you, the lady will lament, and your mistress will wear mourning. This is life in reality.

## Effect of Local Option

In regard to the effect of the local option law in Fannin County, Sheriff Youree makes the following statement:

"Last year during the Confederate reunion in Bonham, with the licensed saloon, there were forty-three arrests for drunkenness. This year, with prohibition in effect, there was not a single arrest for this offense."

A fine girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Wallace the 21st inst. The Mail extends congratulations.

Mrs. J. L. Mann has been quite sick the past week, but is improving.

Prof. W. H. Buxton, who has been teaching in the Keene Industrial Academy of Johnson County, has accepted the position of first assistant in the Merkel public school. Prof. Buxton is a man of high attainments and recognized scholarship, and the Merkel school is lucky in securing his services. He will arrive with his family in a few days. In advance of his arrival The Mail tenders him a royal welcome.

J. W. Daniel has the pleasure of entertaining his mother who came in from Mansfield yesterday.

## Simply Invites



This bank invites the patronage of those who think they must have a change or division of account.

Please remember that it simply invites, and never presses its claim upon any person having existing relations elsewhere.



**Warnick's Bank,**  
Merkel, Texas.

# \$100 IN PREMIUMS!

## For Three First Bales 1903-4 Cotton Sold and Ginned In Merkel.

The business men of Merkel have subscribed \$100 in cash as premiums for the three first bales of cotton sold and ginned in Merkel, divided as follows: \$50 for the first bale, \$30 for the second, and \$20 for the third. In addition to this, the Merkel gins will gin and wrap the premium bales free of charge. We have three gins with a daily capacity of 200 bales. Note the following conditions.

## CONDITIONS:

- (1) Each of the three bales must be ginned and sold in Merkel, but may be brought in from this or adjoining counties.
- (2) Each of the three bales must be gathered from an individual crop. No premium will be given to two or more parties who "splice" together to make a bale.
- (3) The first bale sold on the streets of Merkel after being ginned by a Merkel gin will be entitled to first premium of \$50, and in like manner the next two bales.
- (4) Each bale must weigh at least 450 pounds; bales under this weight can not compete for either of the premiums.

The business men are actuated in this move solely by a debt of gratitude they owe the farmers of the Merkel Country. It is their intention to make this the very best cotton market in all this country, and with that purpose in view they invite the support and cooperation of the farmers of this and adjoining counties.

## BRING YOUR COTTON to MERKEL.

L. L. Hyer arrived Friday from the Philippines on a visit to his mother, Mrs. J. A. Counts. He has been absent several years, and the meeting between mother and son was a very happy one. Mr. Hyer is in the government postal service, having worked his way up from a private in the ranks.

If you receive a copy of this paper, consider it an invitation to subscribe and hand in your subscription.

For Sale—One high grade carriage. Will take a good note. Call at First National Bank.

Pure Neatsfoot harness oil—the best—at Hudson's.

**Don't Become Discouraged,** But use Simmon's Liver Purifier (tin box.) Many imitations of the original, so be careful and see that it's "purifier" and manufactured by the A. C. Simmons Jr. Medicine Co.

The Mail gives all the news.

## First Bale Premiums.

Following are the subscriptions for the first bale premiums:

J P Sharp & Co.	\$5.00
Dennis Bros. and Ustick.	4.00
Maxwell & Sons	1.00
Rust & Pittard	2.00
Chenault & Hand	1.00
R. L. Hudson	3.50
J W Woodard	1.00
Hill & Provine	1.00
Burton-Lingo Co.	7.50
G F West	7.50
J C Hamm	5.00
Browning & Co.	3.00
J H Warnick	15.00
J T Warren	10.00
Merkel Mail 3 yearly subs.	
D C Hutcheson	2.00
Watson & Bacon	5.00
Merkel Merc. Co.	10.00
Burroughs & Mann	2.00
Basham, Shepherd & Co.	1.00
W H Dickson	5.00
J H Hughes & Co.	1.00
First National Bank	20.00
Elliott & Miller	2.00
Racket Store	1.00
I N Williamson	.50
T B Story	1.00
C E Davis	1.00
J W Little	1.00

## A SURPRISE...

Is in store for all who store their money in our store. This is not a stor(y), but a continued offering of good values. We are not much on the talk, but when it comes to doing things, we are right there with the goods every time.

We would appreciate your drug trade, and think enough of it to ask you for it. Our stock is FRESH.

## GOOD GOODS RIGHT PRICES

Drop in and see us when in Merkel. We sell everything usually carried in first class drug stores.

## Burroughs & Mann.

## A Full House!

We have just unloaded a full car of Furniture, direct from the factory. It contained

**IRON BEDS, ROCKERS, TABLES, SIDEBOARDS, ETC., ETC.**

This gives us one of the largest and best stocks of Furniture in this country, and the very low prices we are making ought to move it out. Drop in and let us show you.

**W. P. Browning & Co.**

A full line of carpets.

J. S. Cordill left Monday evening with his household goods for Big Springs. His family followed on the morning train Tuesday. They have a host of friends in Roscoe who see them leave with genuine regret.—Herald.

Miss Dora Collings had the misfortune to sprain her right ankle last week which proved to be quite serious. She has suffered great pain and inconvenience from it.—Pecos News.

J. P. Sharp arrived from the eastern markets yesterday. He was accompanied by his family who had been visiting at Stephenville.

Attorney F. A. Arnold and Mr. Lively, a jeweler, of Anson, were in Merkel yesterday. Mr. Lively may locate here. Both gentlemen called on The Mail.

Don't forget to transfer your children to Merkel school before Sept. 1. After that date no transfers can be made.

## Dry Goods! Dry Goods! Groceries! Groceries!

We don't say we have the best goods in town or the cheapest, but we think we have as good goods and as cheap as any.

Our customers know for the past few years we have been in business in Merkel we have tried to be honest and do the right thing for ourselves and them.

Thanking them for past favors, we will continue to treat them right in the future. Come and see us.

Dennis Bros.

## A Pure Gospel.

When our preachers learn that they cannot deliver sermons gotten up especially for the rich and serve God at the same time, it is then that they will reach out and awaken the souls and minds of the nation and put a new song upon our lips and lift the common people to a higher plane of life.

But just so long as our preachers cater to those paying the most money, just that long will the arrogance of wealth and the contamination of fashionable society yield an influence over the morals of this country that will pull down the hopes of mothers and the ambitions of fathers and destroy the prospects of sons and blacken the characters of our daughters. Fashionable preachers and fashionable sermons are responsible for a great deal of evil influence upon the minds of rich people. Yours for a plain simple gospel.—R. T. Short, in Putnam Paragon.

**Merkel Pays Better Prices for Cotton Than Any Market, and The Star Store Booms the Price to the very Top Notch**



We sell the best shoe on earth; try a pair and be convinced. None better than "Our Family" line for men, women and children.

**CLOTHING! CLOTHING!**

We carry the best selection in Merkel and our prices are always right. Our fall sample book is here. Come in and give us your order for a tailor made suit.

**STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER**



Our fall stock is beginning to arrive, and by Sept. 1, we will have the best selected stock in the west. Be sure to see us when in the market for Groceries; we carry a well selected stock and sell at Low Prices.

And remember we are in the market for your cotton.

<p>You will think we have it for Less</p>	<p><i>Features taken for the We Guarantee International Tailoring Co. Chi International Tailoring</i></p>	<p>You will think we have it for Less</p>
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**The Greatest Blunder of My Life.**

The boys and girls will be interested in a few more of the "Blunders," found in the Crerar Library.

"The greatest blunder of my life was gambling."

"When I left my Church and mother."

"My greatest blunder was when I first learned to smoke."

"When I left school before I was past the fourth grade."

"Did not stick to my trade."

"Was to fool away my time when I was at school."

"Not keeping my position, but grew slack in my work."

"Reading worthless books."

"Thinking that my boss could not do without me."

"Refused a steady position with a good firm."

"Would not harken to the advice of older people."

"Not saving money when I was young."

"Beating some one out of money."

"Did not stick to anything."

"Careless about my religious duties."

"Did not take care of my money."

"The greatest blunder of my life was not accepting Christ, and thereby avoiding many sorrows caused by serving Satan.—American Weekly.

**Wrecks by the Wayside.**

Cumby Rustler.

When we pause to think of these few words it brings a shudder of pain to our hearts. Wrecks by the wayside of life! Strong men who have fallen, wrecked, overcome, maimed and crushed by uncontrollable difficulties and unpassable barriers as the mountainous steps of the pathway of

**Whips! Robes! Blankets!**

They are the kind that give satisfaction, and the best of it is the prices are right. Just try them one time.

**R. L. Hudson.**

life, which they have been compelled to travel regardless of desire or choice—some of those heroes in the struggle, yet falling conquered at the last. Down by the wayside with no strength to rise, but still looking upward, still longing for the goal of their blighted hopes. Perhaps it was strong drink that weighted them down through the years of prosperity only to crush them at the last. Or maybe it was some inherited trait of character over which they had no control making life a burden and the most trivial success hoped for a failure. Down by the wayside, mocked, derided, trod upon and thrust aside by the successful travelers of the high road of prosperity. Who shall say where the greater glory shall rest at the end?

**Feet or Head.**

Denver News.

What constitutes a man's domicile—the location of his head or that of his feet? This interesting query comes up from Sioux county, Nebraska, where a man holds the office of school director and likewise a trusteeship of the district school in a South Dakota county, just across the State line, and when he goes to bed his head is in one State and his feet in the other, so that he is legally a resident of both. He votes at the school election held in both dis-

tricts, and claims that he is entitled to do so and thus far no law has been found that can reach his case.

**Try It.**

(Pittsburg Press.)

Take a little dash of cold water, And a little leaven of prayer. And a little bit of morning gold Dissolved in morning air.

Add to your meal some merriment, And a thought for kith and kin, And then, as your prime ingredient, A plenty of work thrown in.

And spice it all with the essence of love, And a little whiff of play; Let a wise old book and a glance above Complete the well-made day.

AMOS B. WELLS.

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.

**Everything Comes**

To those that wait, even now and then aches and pains, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Neuralgia, and everything that hurts. Hunt's Lightning Oil keeps off everything except old age and death. Try it. 25 and 50cts. Satisfaction or money refunded.

**Hope and Wisdom**

Both are contained in Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. Try them. 25cts. No cure—no pay.

**Don't Groan—Be Pleasant.**

Burnet Bulletin.

Don't groan your way through life. Most people have troubles of their own without having to listen to a recital of yours. Be pleasant, and if you can, jolly. Some of the best preachers we have ever seen were as jolly as clowns and enjoyed life a sight better than their solemn-visaged parishoners, and made other people feel good. We can't have everything made to order and should not worry constantly even if our trousers do bag at the knees. We should comfort ourselves with the thought that we may get a better fit next time.

I have never been able to understand how any decent man can get along without subscribing and reading the daily and weekly papers that are published in his town and county. It cannot be on account of the price, for newspapers are ridiculously cheap. A man certainly cannot keep informed on current topics of vital importance unless he does so. Still in every town and county you will find men who are supposed to be intelligent, who never pay one cent for their local journals. I have noticed that this is the class of people, who, when they get into any trouble, tear their pantaloons off getting to the office to ask the editor to "keep it out of the paper." There never has lived a human being in civilized society who has not at some period of his life needed the help of the newspaper man. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, sooner or later live to acknowledge the power of the press.—K Lamity's Harpoon.

**Doing, Not Dreaming.**

Stonewall Jackson was admired for his military genius and Christian character.

On one occasion he found a bridge over the Shenandoah River destroyed, and it was necessary that he should cross the river the very next morning. He sent for his bridge-builder, saying: "Miles turn the men all on at the earliest moment to build a bridge." The next morning Miles reported at Jackson's tent, and Jackson asked him: "Have you got the plan?" His engineer was to have drawn a plan and hand it over immediately. "Oh," said Miles, "the bridge is finished, but I don't know whether the picture is or not." The old man believed in doing things, and not dreaming about them. He was a man after Jackson's heart. Such men are after God's heart—not men who have mere sentiment and willingness, but men who have something to do, and do it—practical men, men of action.—Exchange.

**September 1st.**

Is the limit to our cheap work. All who want a dozen of the best \$4 photos for only \$1 had better come at once to the Photo Car. Clarence Osburn.

**To the Ladies of Merkel and Surrounding Country.**

We have moved to the Woodard building, just across the street from First Nat. Bank, and have fitted up a toilet room for the accommodation of the ladies who come to Merkel to trade.

Will leave for market Sept. 8. Will have a nice line of street hats on display Sept. 21.

Come and see us; make yourselves at home, and get our prices on all millinery goods. Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

**W. W. WHEELER,**  
Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tornado 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 guaranteed. 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. Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store.

**R. B. USTICK**  
DEALER IN  
**Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Etc.**  
**Repairing a Specialty**

**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-residents, 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 READING** Some newspapers print 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.

**THE FARMERS' DEPARTMENT** has helped many. It is not the theory of farming written by college professors and others up North on conditions that don't fit Texas. It is the actual experience 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 interests 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 50c & \$1.00  
CROUPS and COLDS

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**

"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 months..... .50  
Three months..... .25  
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 name of the place 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.

## MERKEL AS A MARKET.

The fall season will soon be here, and the farmers will want to market their products and buy their fall and winter supplies where they can do the best. They can do no better than to come to Merkel. Our merchants will be prepared to buy their cotton at top prices, and to sell them goods at the lowest prices consistent with good, honest merchandise.

Our merchants have been in business here a long time, and are the farmers' friends. They appreciate your patronage, and this year, as in the past, they intend to make this the best cotton market in all this country. Already a purse has been raised and the first three bales to be ginned and sold here will earn \$100 in premiums.

Bring your cotton to Merkel, do your trading here, and you will have no reason to regret it.

Baby kissing time will soon be here.

First bales are bobbing up over the State at a lively gait.

Jupiter Pluvius is manifesting a great displeasure towards this country.

It is said that only 19 out of the 750 newspapers published in Kansas carry whiskey advertisements.

Long-winded sermons and short salaries go hand in hand. A man is generally paid for what he does.

The first bale of cotton to be marketed in Merkel will walk off with \$100 in clean, cool cash. This is not to be grinned at.

Rooseveltism has stooped to spoliation and boodling and its rottenness can be smelt from ocean to ocean. It is tainted with African perfumery.

Trying to do business without advertising, says an exchange, is like winking at a pretty girl in the dark; you may know what you are doing yourself, but no one else does.

Hard years are said to breed candidates. If so, there will be a multiplicity of office seekers next year, for they have two or three hard years to reply upon for campaign thunder.

Don't mention names when talking in public about persons; you never know but what a near friend or relative of those you may be chattering about may be overhearing the conversation.

Merkel has lost none of her reputation as a cotton market and trade center. Hundreds of farmers in this country are "set" on this town, and it will take

something stronger than wind to move 'em.

Taylor County officers are hot after local option violators, several having already felt the effects of the law. The people are behind the officers, and the edict has gone forth that the guilty must suffer. Let the law be enforced at any cost.

Roosevelt's negro policy has wedged itself into the campaign for governor in Mississippi. If the people of that grand old state permit themselves to be dictated to by a lot of negro henchmen they should be scratched from the galaxy of Southern states.

The Federal Government has \$15,000,000 available for irrigation purposes. What a vast amount of good this money could do in the west. One hundred thousand dollars expended for irrigation plants in Taylor County would increase the prosperity of the county ten fold. We could raise anything that any other part of the world could raise, and raise it easier and cheaper.

If crop reports to the daily papers are to be relied upon, that bumper crop of cotton which we have heralded to the world is all a myth. In many places the worms and weevils have literally mowed down the cotton. These reports show that the crop is being devastated in almost every section of the State. Only the extreme west has escaped so far. That boasted five million bale crop, it seems, will be cut half in two.

Instead of whining about a newspaper "playing favorites" in printing the news, if the growlers would tender the news to the papers and see it refused before they make their tale of woe, there might be no talé to tell. The fellow who puts a paper in possession of news he would like to see printed seldom has any complaint that the news is not printed, says the Austin Statesman, which is respectfully referred to some of The Mail's critics. Think of this before casting slurs at the paper.

The least that can be said of the Georgian, who last week publicly declared the lynch spirit as the bulwark of safety of Southern women, is that he is a loyal Southerner and holds the virtue of Southern womanhood above all the sycophantic vapors and slobberings of loose virtured, and light headed, negro sympathizers of the effete north and east. The old time Southern chivalry is still on deck and bids defiance to the world. Southern women will be protected if it takes the stretching of all the hemp in Christendom.

When merchants sit down and expect trade to come their way unsolicited they are doomed to be disappointed. It takes hustling and lots of it these days to win trade. One merchant who hustles for and pulls trade to a town is worth more to a town than a dozen of the seat warming kind. More, the hustling man brings trade to the store of the other fellow, and his enterprise reflects credit on all. There is a vast trade territory open to this market. It is peopled with a thrifty class and their patronage is worth striving for. Let our merchants hold out every inducement for trade. Hustle, bustle, rustle, tustle after it, and do it now.

## Diversification and Organization.

There has been shipped from this place this month 50 carloads of water melons, which on an average brought from \$85 to \$150 per car. How is this for diversification? All those farmers who take an interest in the produce business have a good, fat bank account and are independent.—Alvord Budget.

Farmers of the Merkel Country should profit by the experiences of farmers of other sections. The fact that melons come on the market here after the crop has practically been exhausted further east opens up a good northern market for this crop. But in handling shipments of produce it is necessary to form organizations and combine for mutual good. Five or six or a dozen farmers could lump their crops and ship out car after car of fruits, vegetables and farm products of various kinds. It is no trouble to find a purchaser. The markets of the north and east are willing and anxious to consume all the Texas products that come their way. If shipping such products is a paying industry in East Texas, why not in this country? It only takes a little extra industry on the part of our farmers to pave the way to independence, and the sooner they get out of the old ruts the better.

Let diversification and organization be the watchword of the farmers next year.

## For You to Read.

For three weeks we have been sending out sample copies of the paper to those who are not now subscribers. If during the time you have received a copy, please take it as a special invitation for you to subscribe. We need your support, and it is your duty to take your home paper. We are unable to send out a solicitor, and take this means of soliciting your patronage and good will.

If you think The Mail is worth the price \$(1.00 per year) hand in your subscription. Also look up our clubbing rates with other papers.

## Merkel Wants Your Cotton.

We have no scalpers or people making a living by buying your cotton under its value. Our buyers are all merchants and directly interested in bringing all the cotton to our town possible. Therefore, we assure the highest market prices at all times.

Our weigher is accommodating and never discriminates between the buyer and the seller.

Our ginners are old and tried men, with their machinery in good condition.

Bring your cotton to Merkel.

## Prohibition Matters.

Comanche County will vote on prohibition Sept. 12.

The Hunt County election will be contested, but the law goes into effect at the prescribed time. The contestants are saloon men and raise the plea that the enforcement of the law will deprive them of a lucrative business and entail a heavy loss should they be forced to close their doors.

The Kaufman County election will be ordered for Sept. 19.

Both sides are putting up hot fights in Brown and Runnels counties, and the results will be close.

## Reported Change of Schedule.

It is reported that a new time card is being prepared by the Texas & Pacific railway which will result in the day train due here at 5:54 p. m. being changed into the through train to El Paso,

## Saddles! Saddles! Saddles!

Come and see them.

The largest stock ever shown in Merkel. Prices ranging from \$15 to \$50. If we do not have what you want give us your order and will make it as you wish. We have the best leather and a man that knows how to cut it.

R. L. Hudson.

arriving in that city in the morning to connect with the Southern Pacific service to the west. This will probably necessitate a change in the east bound service, but what the change will be is not known.—Sweetwater Review.

There are comparatively few people in this part of the county who do not read The Mail, but we want to fill in the gaps this fall and place the paper in every home. There are but few better country papers, and the people should be proud of it. Our friends can assist very materially in increasing the circulation of the paper by showing their neighbors a copy and asking them to subscribe. A subscriber can be secured in this way with very little trouble. The merchants will futher their own interests by speaking a good word for it. Let all assist in making the home paper prosperous, for it will rebound to the good of the town.

## Cured Paralysis.

W. S. Baily, P. O. True, Texas, writes: "My wife had been suffering five years with paralysis in her arm, when I was persuaded to use Ballard's Snow Liniment, which cured her alright. I have also used it for old sores, frost bites, and skin eruptions. It does the work." 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottle at Burroughs & Mann's.

## Begin Digging Bait.

Victoria Advocate.

If you're feeling sort o' restless and you don't know what it is, if your energy is failing and you can't tend to biz; if your blood seems kind o' sluggish, you have got it sure as fate, and you'd better quit a workin' and begin to digging bait. If you find yourself a feelin' that you'd like to pick a fight, if you're not a sleepin' and you hardly eat a bite; if

your head just keeps a throbbing at a mile a minute rate, you have got it—quit your working and begin a digging bait.

## Education.

The experienced man who had an education in his youth will cheerfully testify to the value of that high privilege; and the experienced man who by force of circumstances was denied early educational privileges will not fail to advise his young friend to grasp the opportunity for college training. Both classes of men appreciate the value of an education, the one because he knows what it has done for him and the other because he knows that men who are denied the privilege of an early education are required to face serious embarrassments and obstacles.—Commoner.

## Elections Galore.

Jones county has three elections booked for this fall and the purpose of all these elections is for the betterment of the county at large. The election on exterminating the prairie dog, if carried, will be worth thousands of dollars to the valuation of the land in the county. The election to incorporate Anson for public school purposes, if carried, will be of unestimated value to the educational interest of the town and surrounding country, and the election on the jail bonds proposition, if carried, will release the county of the enormous amount of money paid out from time to time to defray the expense of keeping its prisoners in the jails of other counties.—Western News.

Merkel is offering \$100 for the first three bales of cotton marketed in that city. That's the way to bring the people to a town—have some get up about you.—Cisco Round-up.

# RACINE VEHICLES

For 9 Years the Best Vehicles in the West

Durable, Stylish and unexcelled in all the world for

Genuine Comfort!

Used by thousands of people in West Texas, and endorsed by every user. Remember that RACINE vehicles are the BEST FOR THE MONEY ON THE MARKET.

Let us show you through our repository, or write us for 1903 RACINE catalog.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

Distributors, Abilene, Texas.

**The Death Penalty.**

A little thing sometimes results in death. Thus a mere scratch, insignificant cuts or puny boils have paid the death penalty. It is wise to have Bucklen's Arnica Salve ever handy. It's the best Salve on earth and will prevent fatality, when Burns, Sores, Ulcers and Piles threaten. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's Drug Store.

**G. W. Boyce's**

New Grain House three doors west Watkins' Meat Market.

**A Good Game of Ball.**

Sweetwater's aggregation of ball tossers were done up in good shape by the home nine Saturday by a score of 9 to 3.

The game was snappy from start to finish and errors were few and far between. For five innings the visitors drew goose eggs in one, two, three order, but in the sixth succeeded in running in two men through as many errors on the part of the home team. A wild throw over second in the eighth netted their third and last run.

There was "something doing" with the home team from the jump. Seven scores through heavy batting in the first two innings gave them a lead which the visitors could not overcome. They were held down to two more scores in the remaining seven innings.

The Sweetwater boys are nice, quiet fellows, and there was no wrangling over the game. The feature of the game was the home run drive to extreme right by Will Leeman. The line up is as follows:

Merkel—		Sweetwater—
C. Compton	c	Morris
W. Leeman	p	Beall
E. Leeman	ss	Pruitt
A. Sheppard	1b	Cooper
B. Hill	2b	Moody
E. Ash	3b	Newman
B. Walden	lf	Bern
D. Craven	cf	Bradford
F. Woodrum	rf	Brannon
The Score—		

R H E

S'twater—0 0 0 0 2 1 0—3 5 5  
Merkel—3 4 0 0 1 0 1 0 0—9 13 3  
Umpire, D. Boring.

Miss Laura Evans, one of our talented young teachers who spent her vacation with her father in Alabama, is again at home much to the delight of her friends.

E. Burroughs spent Sunday and Monday with his mother at Arlington. His mother is in very feeble health.—Italy News-Herald.

Mr. Emory of Bell County, an old friend of C. W. Bacon, came in Tuesday and will look at the country with a view to locating.

Work commenced Tuesday on the Flemming building which was gutted in the fire of last June. The building was insured for something over \$1,600, but a compromise was made for \$1,400. It will be pushed to rapid completion.

Dr. Adkisson's horse took a spin Thursday and scattered fragments of that new buggy to the four winds. Hard luck, Dock, but it takes such things to pattern after our strenuous president.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walden returned Thursday evening from a visit to the latter's parents at Dublin.

Mrs. I. S. Allen and children returned from Stamford Friday. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Parten, who will visit her several days.

**COTTON**  
**One Hundred Dollars**  
**BALE**

**Hamilton-Brown Shoes**

You can't be too careful about selecting shoes. You want the shape right as well as the quality of material and workmanship. Hamilton & Brown are the biggest shoe makers in the world. We will have a complete stock of these shoes in men's women's and children's. A great line of school shoes. You can save money on your shoe bill by making it with us.

**Clothing**

We sell the "Majestic," and will show one of the biggest stocks of ready-to-put-on suits and overcoats at easy-to-pay prices that has ever been shown in Merkel. If you buy a Majestic suit you will be well dressed and get your money's worth.

**Hats**

We carry the THOROUGHbred, STATESMAN and GLOBE in all the latest shapes. These hats have been thoroughly tested, and you buy no experiment in buying them. We have the genuine Stetson also.

Including the \$50 premium, ginning and wrapping, the first bale of 1903-4 cotton ginned and sold in Merkel will probably bring \$100. This is something every farmer within reach of Merkel should know. It seems as if the question of price for this crop of cotton is settled; that is, that the whole crop will bring satisfactory prices.

The next question of great importance to you is to decide where you will make your fall purchases; you could not select a better place than with Warren at Merkel. We handle the best lines to be had, goods that are recognized all over this country as standard. Your purchases will be backed by buyers of 15 years' experience. We will be prepared to supply your wants with such goods as are herein mentioned.

**Jane Hopkins Boys Clothing**

Mothers, if you never tried one of the Mrs. Jane Hopkins make of boys' suits you should try one this fall. They save you money. As every mother knows, it's the sewing that counts, as well as the material, in boys' clothing. We have an elegant line of boys' knee pants to select from. The seams are taped throughout. Don't miss seeing this line, for it will take your eye.

**Skirts and Jackets**

Buy the S. & J. brand. None equal them in fabric, fit and finish for the price. If you buy here you will get the correct style. We have the new things. Can show you quite an assortment of children's jackets, also, and they, too, will please you.

**Groceries**

We give 16 ounces to the pound in this department. Can supply your wants with most anything usually found in a grocery store. We are exclusive agents in Merkel for Peacemaker Flour and Chase & Sanborn's Teas and Coffees.

**J. T. WARREN,**

CORNER STORE = = = = = MERKEL, TEXAS.

**Not Over-Wise.**

There is an old allegorical picture of a girl scared at a grasshopper, but in the act of heedlessly treading on a snake. This is paralleled by the man who spends a large sum of money building a cyclone cellar, but neglects to provide his family with a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as a safeguard against bowel complaints, whose victims outnumber those of the cyclone a hundred to one. This remedy is everywhere recognized as the most prompt and reliable medicine in use for these diseases. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

Pure Wheat and Oat seed for sale at Boyce's.

G. W. Johnson of Dayton, Tenn., and R. T. Greer of Itasca, Texas, old friends and former neighbors of Messrs. Walker and Howard, are here prospecting. Both came with the intention of buying homes. This is Mr. Greer's second visit. They are good people and The Mail should be glad to welcome them as citizens of this country.

Prof. T. C. Weir of this place will teach the Rock Crossing school the coming session. A good selection, and all parties are to be congratulated.

C. W. Bacon arrived Tuesday from the eastern markets.

**Puts an End to it All.**

A grievous wail oft times comes as a result of unbearable pain from over taxed organs. Dizziness, Backache, Liver complaint and Constipation. But thanks to Dr. King's New Life Pills they put an end to it all. They are gentle but thorough. Try them. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard.

**To The Public.**

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

**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.

Mr. Miles Morton of Potosi and Mrs. Mary A. Parker of Brown County, aged 60 and 50 years respectively, were married at Abilene Sunday.

The first Monday in September is Labor Day, a State holiday.

A very successful revival meeting closed at Stith last week. There were about 50 conversions.

R. H. Collins shipped out a couple of cars of cattle Monday night, their destination being New Orleans.

**Physician and Druggists.**

Ford & Sturgeon, a prominent drug firm at Rocky Hill Station, Ky., write: "We are requested by Dr. G. B. Snigley to send for Herbine for the benefit of our customers. We ordered three dozen in December, and we are glad to say, Herbine has given such great satisfaction that we have duplicated this order three times, and today we gave your salesman another order. We beg to say Dr. G. B. Snigley takes pleasure in recommending Herbine." 50c bottle at Burroughs & Mann's.

**Read Here.**

See Ben Nisbett for up-to-date tonsorial work. Hair cutting a specialty. Everything nice and clean. Next to Star Store.

R. R. B. carried on at Boyce's Grain Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Berry visited Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wilson at Caps Sunday.

Iren Webb of Phanton Hill died Monday of Bright's disease.

Miss Ollie Martin has accepted a position with Dennis Bros.

W. P. Thurmond returned Monday from the eastern markets. Mrs. Thurmond, who accompanied him as far as Ash Grove, Mo., will be absent a couple of weeks longer.

**End of Bitter Fight.**

"Two physicians had a long stubborn fight with an abscess on my right lung," writes J. F. Hughes of DuPont, Ga., "and gave me up. Everybody thought my time had come. As a last resort I tried Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. The benefit I received was striking and I was on my feet in a few days. Now I've entirely regained health." It conquers all Coughs, Colds and Throat and Lung troubles. Guaranteed by Rust & Pittard. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

**Pads! Pads! Pads!**

Collar pads, knee pads—pads of all kinds at Hudson's.

LOST—One gold watch charm, small diamond in center, with monogram G. S. B. on one side and Elks head on other side. Return to Geo. S. Berry and receive reward.

G. W. Boyce pays highest prices for all kinds of grain.

Mrs. J. W. Taylor of Midland is the guest of Mrs. Dr. Leeman.

Don Bowie visited his brother in Abilene Sunday.

G. B. Brown spent Sunday with the home folks in Abilene.

Tom Walden returned Sunday from a visit east.

Chas. Compton came down from Eskota Friday.

# The First National Bank

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits . . . . \$65,000.00



Stockholders' Responsibilities over . . . . \$1,000,000.00

Something about an institution that has been worth much to the Merkel Country. Its Hopes and Aims for the future, and its laudable efforts to promote trade for the town. Merkel as a cotton market and trade center and the inducements held out for trade, are truthfully portrayed. Those who run may read. Read between the lines and pass the proposition up to your neighbor for earnest consideration. . . .

## The First National Bank.

One year ago, just after this institution had passed its first mile post, one of its friends wrote about it as follows:

"The First National Bank of Merkel is one of the soundest financial institutions in Northwest Texas. The growth of the bank during its 12 months of existence has been truly marvelous, until now it ranks second to no bank in this country. Its stockholders and directors comprise the financial backbone of the Merkel Country, being all leading business men, stockmen and farmers. This bank has patrons and large depositors within a large territory; it has unlimited credit, is as sound as a silver dollar, and as flourishing as a green bay tree."

What was true of the bank then is doubly true now. We appreciate the confidence and esteem of our friends, and while we take no credit to ourselves, we are nevertheless always found battling for our own interests and the interests of our patrons.

It is our ambition to serve the people faithfully and well. No bank in this country has been more liberal with its patrons, and we have let money out to the people of not only this, but other counties, when their own banks refused them aid. We have made over

### 1,000 LOANS,

aggregating \$250,000, to the farmers of this country this year, which shows how we stay with the people.

We want the people to call this their bank—"our bank." It shall be our most earnest endeavor to merit a continuance of the very liberal patronage which is now coming our way, and it is our intention to double the bank's business during the next few months. To this end we solicit your banking business, whether great or small.

Call on us when in town. Make our bank your stopping place. Write your letters here, and consult us on any point of business with which you are unacquainted. In the future, as in the past, we expect to extend very liberal accommodations to our patrons. So if you are not now doing business with us, give us a trial, and we feel sure our relations will be mutually pleasant and profitable.

**J. T. WARREN, President.**  
**G. F. WEST, Vice-President.**  
**GEO. S. BERRY, Cashier.**  
**T. A. JOHNSON, Asst. Cash.**

## Cotton Market at Merkel

If you have never tried Merkel as a cotton market and trade center, do so this fall, for it will profit you.

A cotton market is just what the merchants see fit to make it. Wherever you see wide-a-wake merchants you will also see a good cotton market. In this particular Merkel is peculiarly blessed, having for years held on to its record as the best cotton market in all this country. It is a familiar saying that "we are paying as much for cotton as Merkel," or "we will duplicate Merkel's prices on goods." Merkel sets the pace and other towns try to follow. If you are from Missouri and have to be "shown," come and investigate.

Merkel merchants offer the farmers of Taylor and adjoining counties a cotton and produce market that can not be excelled, and many other inducements worthy of their careful consideration. No stuffed or false reports are sent out as to what cotton is bringing here.

### \$100 Premiums

With characteristic enterprise, the business men of Merkel have pledged \$100 as premiums for the three first bales of cotton ginned and sold in Merkel, divided as follows: \$50 for first bale, \$30 for second, and \$20 for third. The only conditions are that the cotton must be gathered from an individual crop, that it must be ginned and sold in Merkel, and that the bales must not weigh less than 450 lbs. each. The gins here will gin and wrap the premium bales free of

charge. Now we have three gins here with a daily capacity of 200 bales. The farmers and merchants have recently formed a stock company, capitalized at \$6,000, for the purpose of increasing the ginning facilities of the town, and have put in a four 80-saw gin system. This insures the best possible service in ginning your cotton.

In the past the cotton market here has been the best in all this country, and the record will be maintained. The merchants here do not buy for profit: hence can pay more for cotton than the regular cotton buyer who is dependent upon it for a living. In the face of these facts, don't you think it will pay you to bring your cotton to Merkel?

**Bring your cotton to Merkel and get the highest market price. Buy your fall goods from Merkel merchants and get satisfaction.**



★ ★

# The First National Bank,

Merkel, - - - - Texas.

## Harness! Harness! Harness!

We have them.

If you don't believe it come in and see for yourself. We make them to order. All kinds, styles and prices. Buggy harness from \$7 up. Wagon harness from \$10 up.

R. L. HUDSON.

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

For Sale by BURROUGHS & MANN, Merkel, Tex.

### Watch For a Chill.

However slight at this time of year and in this climate, it is the forerunner of malaria. A disposition to yawn, and an all tired out feeling even comes before the chill. Herbine, by its prompt stimulative action on the liver, drives the malaria germs out of the system, purifies the blood, tones up the system and restores health. 50c at Burroughs & Mann's.

Dock McCullough was convicted in the third case for selling liquor in Abilene yesterday afternoon and given \$50 fine and 30 days in jail. Today he entered a plea of guilty in four cases and fines of \$25 and 20 days in jail was entered against him in each case, one case was dismissed. He has to his credit to date 150 days in jail and fines of \$200 besides costs in each case. The people of Taylor county are going to see to it that the prohibition law is enforced it seems.—Reporter.

A man who lives right and is right has more power in his silence than another by his words. Character is like bells which ring out sweet music, and even when touched accidentally even, resound with sweet music.—Phillip Brooks.

Jim Rowe was arrested Saturday on charge of violating the prohibition law, but the case will not be reached this term of court unless something unforeseen happens to expedite the trials of Doc McCullough.

Two cases each have been filed against Bob and Ed Neeley for violating local option law, through agent here.—News.

John C. Cunningham was arrested Saturday afternoon on a charge of perjury growing out of the Dock McCullough prohibition cases. He waived examination in Justice Cox's court today and was bound over to await the action of the Grand Jury in a bond of \$500.—Reporter.

## CONTINUE

Those who are gaining flesh and strength by regular treatment with

### Scott's Emulsion

should continue the treatment in hot weather; smaller dose and a little cool milk with it will do away with any objection which is attached to fatty products during the heated season.

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

### A New Market.

I have bought the Sheppard meat market and take this method of asking the patronage of the people. There is a great deal in knowing how to cut meat; I understand the business and can please the best epicure. Give me a trial.

4t C. V. Bigham.

### Laugh and the World

Laughs with you, have chills and you chill alone. Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets cures, gives an appetite and strength. Most convenient chill Tonic on earth. Can carry in the vest pocket.

### Assault at Wingate.

Justice Peace, Wyatt, of Wingate, phoned to county Attorney B. B. Stone, Wednesay, stating that a man by the name of Cox, of Lampasas, who was visiting his cousin, Mr. Cox near Wingate, had criminally assaulted Mr. Cox's little seven year old daughter and skipped out for his home in Lampasas. Attorney Stone phoned to the sheriff of Coleman county to look out for Cox and arrest him. Sheriff Goodfellow phoned up yesterday stating that he had the man—arrested him at Glen Cove, headed for home. Cox's wife was with him and, it is reported, will testify against him.—Ballinger Ledger.

### Important to Teachers.

The law regulating examinations for county and State certificates has been changed and the number of examinations for the year has been reduced. The next examination will be held the first Friday and Saturday in September, and there will be no examination after that until the first Friday and Saturday in December.

Teachers should notice the change for the reason that there will be no examinations in October and November as heretofore.

### The Mail and Dallas News \$1.50.

Hereafter the price of The Mail and Dallas News, both for one year, will be only \$1.50, either to new subscribers or renewals. This gives you 156 papers a year at less than 1c a copy.

Take advantage of this offer now.



Miss Ida M. Snyder.

Treasurer of the Brooklyn East End Art Club.

"If women would pay more attention to their health we would have more happy wives, mothers and daughters, and if they would observe results they would find that the doctors' prescriptions do not perform the many cures they are given credit for."

"In consulting with my druggist he advised McElree's Wine of Cardui and Theford's Black-Draught, and so I took it and have every reason to thank him for a new life opened up to me with restored health, and it only took three months to cure me."

Wine of Cardui is a regulator of the menstrual functions and is a most astonishing tonic for women. It cures scanty, suppressed, too frequent, irregular and painful menstruation, falling of the womb, whites and flooding. It is helpful when approaching womanhood, during pregnancy, after childbirth and in change of life. It frequently brings a dear baby to homes that have been barren for years. All druggists have \$1.00 bottles of Wine of Cardui.

**WINE OF CARDUI**

### MERKEL HIGH SCHOOL.

First Session Begins Sept. 14, and Continues 9 Months—Out-look Very Bright.

Merkel High School opens Sept. 14, 1903, and continues nine months. All who wish to transfer their children to Merkel school should do so at once. There is every reason for believing that the next year will be the most successful year in the history of the school. It is the aim of all concerned to give the pupils attending Merkel High School advantages equal to those afforded by the best schools in the State.

You will make no mistake if you enter your children in Merkel High School.

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.

### Dysentery Cured Without the Aid of a Doctor.

"I am just up from a hard spell of the flux" (dysentery) says Mr. T. A. Pinner, a well known merchant of Drummond, Tenn. "I used one small bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and was cured without having a doctor. I consider it the best cholera medicine in the world." There is no need of employing a doctor when this remedy is used, for no doctor can prescribe a better medicine for bowel complaint in any form for either children or adults. It never fails and is pleasant to take. For sale by Burroughs & Mann.

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.

Wagon for sale, cash or fall time.

J. H. Warnick.

## HOUSE COLD TIRE SETTER

### A Machine That Does the Work.

We are just in receipt of one of the House Cold Tire Setters, one of the best machines to be found. It will do the work claimed for other machines, and do it better. Come in and let us show it to you.

Moon & Hargroves.

## DON'T BE Hidebound

The hidebound man is a harder proposition than the hidebound horse. Bass' Salt will cure the horse, the man's trouble is mental. Has a rock in one end of the sack, meal in the other. Aggravated case, you might say. "Dipping is the only way; you can't feed a cow anything that will kill ticks, lice, cure itch, mange, etc." Don't take that man on the jury if you want justice; evidence does not count with him. Bass' Medicated Salt has proven its case. See witnesses for first day; plenty more if needed:

Geo. W. McDaniel, Abilene, Tex. Cooley Brothers, Hodges, Texas.  
Mack Merchant, " " Wm. Horn, " "  
Judge D. G. Hill, " " R. L. Olds, " "  
W. J. Thompson, " " Fred Robinson, Audra, Texas.  
W. A. Farquhar, " " J. P. McCasland, " "  
P. D. Bumpass, " " Walter Porter, Terrell, Texas.  
W. B. Ellis, Tecumseh, Texas. O. T. Maxwell, Cisco, Texas.

Sold by all Grocery and general stores. Freight paid if cash accompanies order. J. T. Warren agent at Merkel.

**BASS BROS. DRUG CO., : Abilene.**

### 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.

### Suicide Prevented.

The startling announcement that a preventive of suicide had been discovered will interest many. A run down system, or despondency invariably precede suicide and something has been found that will prevent that condition which makes suicide likely. At the first thought of self destruction take Electric Bitters. It being a great tonic and nervine will strengthen the nerves and build up the system. It's also a great Stomach, Liver and Kidney regulator. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Rust & Pittard, Druggists.

### Advertised Letters.

Following letters remain uncalled 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.

Beavers, W L  
Buach, G T  
Blackwell, Mrs Lula  
Curry, Katie  
Hall, J C  
Henderson, Mrs Esther  
Hawkins, Tom  
Hawkins, Miss Jessie  
Horton, T G  
Lewis, R W  
Lowe, G M  
Moore, Mrs Binnia  
Owen, L H  
Ray, Mrs N  
Smith, Stephen J  
Sowder, J G  
Stoneham, Curtis  
Turner, L K

### What's the Trouble

with your back, old man? Rheumatism? Too bad, too bad. I advise you to try Hunt's Lightning Oil. It is said to be a wonderful remedy.

ISAAC N. TAYLOR,

—LAWYER AND NOTARY PUBLIC—

Office in First Nat'l Bank.

### Pretty Tough to Scratch.

For a living and relief also. Hunt's Cure will cure you of Itch, Tetter, Ringworm, Itching Piles, Eczema. Guaranteed by all dealers.

# Is Money Any Object to You?

You like to save money, no matter whether you are worth ten dollars or ten thousand. We have inaugurated a scheme that will make money saving easy for all who take advantage of it. The scheme is this: All Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Pants, Shirts, etc., will be sold during August at a HEAVY DISCOUNT!

Come examine the goods, note the prices, and you are sure to buy. These prices are for CASH ONLY.

## J. O. HAMILTON

Best \$3.50 shoe made at \$3.00  
 Best 3.00 shoe made at 2.50  
 Best 1.50 shoe made at 1.25  
 From 25c to \$1.00 per pair  
 off on all slippers.  
 What lawns and waist goods  
 we have will have the profits  
 cut off.  
 Everything else in propor-  
 tion.

### The Farmer's Column.

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

It is difficult for a progressive farmer of the present day to realize how farmers of forty years ago could live when every farm operation was done by hand, or by use of the crudest contrivances. Grain was cut with a cradle, hay with a scythe. Plowing was done with a metal pointed mold board stocked at home, and a tree fork and wooden pegs made the harrow. Grain was trodden out by horses or threshed on rail pens with flails. Then there were no many-toothed cultivators, weeders or disc plows or harrows. Then an acre a day was good work in cultivation or preparation; now we do much better work at the rate of five to ten acres per day. Now one man can do the work that formerly occupied five or more men the same number of hours. The inventive genius of man has been gradually eliminating every form of drudgery from farm life, and is entitled to the everlasting gratitude of every farmer. Every farmer should take every possible advantage of improved implements which enables him to do so much more work in a day and do it so much better.

One thing the Texas farmers seem to be unable to comprehend, and that is the rain and hot sunshine are death to farming utensils and machinery, and a machine left out in the weather will not last much more than one season, when if properly taken care of it would last from ten to twenty. That is one of the heaviest leaks in Texas farming—failure to take care of the farm machinery and give it proper protection.

Good pasture is not only the best feed for milk cows, but also the cheapest. Perennial pasturage affords the cheapest possible feed for cattle of any kind, and during the season when pasturage is at its best no grain ration is needed. At other times a little corn chops and wheat bran mixed will tend to maintain the milk flow.

The Terrell Transcript contends that the Texas farmer who owns his place, even if it is a small one, has the means of an independent living. The diversification idea is working a revolution in Texas

farming, and the farmer is profiting immensely thereby. It should be the ambition of every renter to own at least a few acres of land as soon as possible, for then he can plant a few fruit trees, raise berries for his own use and begin making some improvements of a permanent nature. The home-owner promotes prosperity in any county, and renters everywhere should be encouraged to become home-owners.

Reports concerning the cotton boll weevil are conflicting and consequently not to be relied on, for we really know not what or what not to believe. The weight of testimony, however, is to the effect that the pest is not doing as much business as it was feared he would. This may be because the cotton is late and small, and there is not much work for the weevil to do. All over South Texas there are weevils, perhaps awaiting the development of their favorite host plant. But it is useless to speculate, for we know not what a week may bring forth. Let the fight against the weevil proceed.

It is highly probable that grain of all kinds will reach record breaking prices this year. High authorities in the grain market confidently predict dollar wheat at an early date. The wheat crop is short and the quality good. This will render cornering comparatively easy. However, high prices are certain on the merits of the markets; but the speculator will not get in his work until after the harvesting and marketing the crop, for it is not contemplated that the farmers shall participate in the rise. All other grains are in condition to reach high prices as soon as the farmers market the crops.

A good way of overcoming an evil habit is by engaging in something better. Doing right with all our energies is, for the time being at least, a sure antidote to a temptation to do wrong. An old farmer was inclined to whip his oxen impulsively as he went along the country road. This habit troubled him as well as the oxen. He found that the best way to overcome it was by deliberately singing "Old Hundred;" then he didn't want to break in on a sa-

cred song by lashing his oxen. A jig tune might not have helped him, but a psalm tune did. There was a lesson for some of us, as well as relief for the oxen in that farmer's experience.—Ex.

#### A Worm Killer.

J. A. J. Montgomery, Puxico, Wayne Co., Mo., writes: "I have little twin girls, who have been bothered with worms all their lives. I tried every thing to relieve them which failed until I used White's Cream Vermifuge; the first two doses brought four worms from one of them, the next two doses, twelve, one of them measuring twelve inches; the other child was only relieved of four worms. It is a most excellent medicine." White's Cream Vermifuge is good for children. It not only destroys worms, it helps the child to perfect growth, wards off sickness. 25c at Burroughs & Mann's.

We sometimes hear those who are disposed to belittle the hired man and hired girl because of the position they occupy—we say God bless the boy or girl who is not too proud to earn their own living, nor ashamed to be caught at work. They are made of the kind of material that the most successful men and women of the world are made of—they are those who grow into men and women of business, social and political worth and become philanthropists and great benefactors to human kind. Heaven help (and it will) the boy or girl who is not afraid to work, because they are not afraid to help themselves. They make the best men and women in the land.—Ex.

#### An Indian Wedding.

A modern Indian wedding contains a grotesque combination of civilization and barbarism, as will be seen from the following account of a marriage ceremony which recently occurred in Oklahoma:

"The preacher then told the happy pair that now they were married according to the law and the word of the God, and that hereafter there should be no quarreling or separation. Hearty congratulations and good wishes were showered upon the bride and groom by the guests present, to all of which Buck Bill, the groom, responded with a grunt.

"The bride was 'handsomely attired' in pink silk foulard with pink ribbon sash, blue collar and cuffs, black hat with yellow and lavender trimmings, a green veil and black gloves. The groom wore the conventional black except his coat, which, it being a

warm day, he had left at home. He carried an immense eagle wing."

#### Blind Boys and Girls.

Boys and girls on farms are blind. They cannot see the wonders of Nature because they dread farm life. They can see nothing interesting in farming because they know nothing but its drudgery. The technical side of farming they have never seen, but have felt only the brute forces at work which have ground out the better life of farm people.

Boys and girls are blind to the profits of farming because they have heard so much of the brilliant chances for fortune making to be had in the towns. Blinded by false ideas of great ambitions, blinded by false definitions of education, blinded by the erring judgment of parents and friends, boys and girls shut their eyes to the grandest lives of the grandest men and blindly follow the paths trod by commercial weaklings. After 20 or 30 years sight returns, they come to themselves, they see this life in its true light and begin on the farm a new life,

even in old age, with the hope of ripening a worm-eaten character.

#### Odd Things.

People do odd things at critical moments. In a fire at Marshall, Mo., last week, T. B. Gill, a book dealer, whose store was in danger, rushed outdoors carrying nothing but a box of matches. Being asked what he meant to do with them, he said he rescued them to prevent them from becoming ignited. It turned out that he had 100 boxes more in the store, which, in his excitement, he had forgotten. A few days ago a cyclone struck a farm in Atchison county, Missouri. The family were aroused, and, thoroughly frightened, began grabbing whatever was closest and most worth saving, and rushing down stairs with it. When the excitement partly subsided it was discovered that one good old woman had come down in her night dress carrying in one hand an unlighted kerosene lamp and in the other a cup of water that she had beside her bed.—New York Tribune.

## A CARNIVAL

of high grade goods and lowest prices at this store. Why not supply the many needs for the home and the farm right here and NOW? :: ::



Furniture, Utensils,  
 Studebaker Wagons,  
 John Deere Buggies,  
 Buck's Stoves and Ranges,

HANCOCK DISC PLOWS  
 STANDARD DISC PLOWS  
 HARDWARE and TOOLS

## GEO. L. PAXTON,

ABILENE, TEXAS.