

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 24—NO. 1

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1912

8 PAGES

COUNTY FREE DEBT

Commissioner's Court Wipes Out Last Vestige of Bonded Indebtedness.

\$48,000 PAID IN FIVE YEARS

Few Other Counties in the State Can Show Such Clean Slate as Grand Old Taylor County—Pay-As-You-Go Basis.

Taylor county is now free of any bonded indebtedness, the County Commissioners at their present sitting having paid of the last vestige of indebtedness and started the county out on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, not owing a dollar to anyone.

The last batch of bonds, amounting to \$6,000, was ordered paid at the November term of the Commissioner's court, but \$3,000 of this amount was held by private parties and legal notice had to be given the owners of same before being paid and this \$3,000 was liquidated Thursday of last week by the court.

This indebtedness was on the court house, which was built in 1884, twenty-eight years ago, at a cost of \$80,000, which was in the shape of bonds issued for forty years, but \$30,000 of which was refunded in 1895. The bonds were drawing 8 per cent interest but the refunding of them reduced this to 5 per cent instead of 8 per cent, thus effecting a considerable saving to the county.

This \$30,000 of bonds issued in 1895 has been paid since 1907, also the \$3,000 issued in 1886 and \$15,000 issued in 1895, making a total of \$48,000 retired in the past five years.

The County Commissioners and Judge Bledsoe are justly proud of this showing, and the county is to be congratulated upon it.

Because of this condition the county taxes have been reduced and will probably be reduced further right away.—Abilene Reporter.

Merkelites See White Hope.

Merkel was represented by a large crowd in Abilene Monday night to see the Jones county boy, Cass Tarver, do some fancy boxing with his trainers Charles Cavanaugh and Jimmie McDonald.

Tarver is said to be the best example of physical man seen in this country in some time. He stands six feet six and before he began training weighed 285 pounds. He now pulls the scales down to 251 and at that weight he will with the proper training be able to knock the head off a man like Jack Johnson. Among those present from Merkel were Lester Ellis, Ernest Faucett, Jno Sears, Will Evans, Claud Comegys, John Boden, R. O. Anderson, Doss Sheppard, Fred Biggam, Frank Ferrier, C. C. Franklin, John Daniel, Olly Sharp, Otis Barnett, Homer Jobe, John Banner, Clayton Brown, Alva Sherman, C. K. Russell, Squat Parks and Lake Renfro.

All report the Anson boy to be the one for the job and expect him to give Anson the world's championship within the next year or two.

THE MAIL IS 23 YEARS OLD

This issue, Vol. 24, No. 1, marks the passing of our twenty-third year and the beginning of the twenty-fourth. It was just twenty-three years ago this week when the first copy of the Merkel Mail was published by Mary Jane Cox, from an office located where the store of Jno. B. Bell now stands. The plant consisted then of an old style George Washington hand press and a few hundred dollar's worth of type and material.

The next editor and owner was Hon. J. C. Calvert, deceased, from whom the ownership passed to Ed J. Leeman. It was during Mr. Leeman's operation when the plant was located upstairs over the building now occupied by H. C. Burroughs that the entire outfit was destroyed by fire. Only a few issues were missed and publication was resumed as soon as Editor Leeman could install a new plant. Editor Leeman is now publishing the Duncan Banner, one of the best weekly newspapers which comes to our exchange table.

The first of Jan. 1905, the Mail passed into the hands of Editor J. M. Fryar and H. T. Merritt, our present foreman. Mr. Merritt a few months later sold his interest to Dr. J. A. Adkisson of our city and the plant was operated by this partnership until the fall of 1907 when it was incorporated, Editor Fryar retaining the controlling interest.

This interest was bought the beginning of the next year by the present editor, just four years ago this month and later the stock of the other stockholders except that of Dr. G. L. Miller and Mr. G. E. Comegys, the only remaining original shareholders. The Mail was then very undesirably located, being upstairs over the Thornton building which made it impossible for us to have the proper foundations for our presses. It was at considerable expense that we moved to our present quarters and in spite of the panic and following short crop years the Mail has continued to make progress.

In our four years of operation new material and improvements have been added to the plant to the amount of approximately \$1500 and at the beginning of the present year, our statement covering our operation the past year showed the plant to be out of debt and for the first time since organization with a profit of over \$1,000, thanks to a liberal patronage of our people.

The beginning of the new year and the twenty-fourth for our paper is the most promising in the history of the Merkel Mail and our hope and ambition is for a new and faster press, a type-setting machine and other improvements which will be for the mutual advantage of ourselves and readers and make possible more and better work for our town and country.

The Mail is for Merkel and the Merkel country and its progress is but to keep pace with the community we represent.

WEEK-END SERVICES AT THREE CHURCHES

Desirous of seeing a general and lasting revival of true religion in the town of Merkel and community the pastors of the Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches after laying the matter before their people have received their approval to have week-end revival services, alternating each week with the three churches. Each pastor is to do his own preaching the week the services are held at his church. The pastors and members of all the churches are expected to cooperate in all of the services except the eleven o'clock Sunday morning when all of the churches are to have their regular services.

The services will be Friday night at 7:30 p. m., Saturday at 10:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. and Sunday at 11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The services for this Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be held at the Presbyterian church. The next week they will be held at the Baptist church and the week after at the Methodist church. The services will continue to alternate in this way as long as it shall seem best.

Jones for Sheriff

The Mail is requested this week to announce the candidacy of Felix R. Jones for the office of sheriff of Taylor county. Mr. Jones was formerly a citizen of Merkel and now a resident of Abilene. He would make a good, faithful officer if elected and we ask that you give his claims due consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Rates.

For District Offices.....	\$7.50
For County Offices.....	7.50
For Precinct Offices.....	5.00
For City Offices.....	2.50
Subscription price, per year.....	1.00

ALWAYS CASH IN ADVANCE

TAYLOR COUNTY CANDIDATES

For District Judge 42nd District Dallas Scarborough
For Representative Taylor County J. M. Wagstaff
For Sheriff: S. E. Taylor (of Hamby) T. C. Weir (for re-election) Felix R. Jones
For Treasurer: J. H. Thornton G. B. (Blue) Tittle J. W. Red
For County Attorney: H. Rob. Keeble
For County Clerk: W. J. (Dub) Young
For Tax Collector: D. T. Harkrider (of Ovalo)
For Tax Assessor: W. T. (Tom) St. John (of Abilene) C. B. Manly
For Commissioner Prec. No. 2: J. L. Banner
For Public Weigher, Merkel: H. H. Tittle

JONES COUNTY CANDIDATES

For Tax Collector W. R. Cranston

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Notice the label on your paper and see when it expires. For example, if the figures "11Aug12" appear on the wrapper, your paper will be out the eleventh of August 1912. Watch this and renew before the time is out so as to avoid missing a copy.

MERKEL CITIZEN SELLS HIS RANCH

T. J. Coggin returned this week from an extended visit to points in New and Old Mexico. He was asked regarding the troubles in our sister republic and had the following to say:

There is more ink than blood shed in the revolution; in fact I think all of the trouble has been caused by Bill Bigham and a bunch of newspaper reporters. The trouble is all in his territory and think he must have been distributing some 'mescal' among some of the natives there in Chihuahua. In Sonora, where my ranch is located what few neighbors we have are very quiet and peaceful."

In regard the sale of his ranch property, consisting of 60,000 acres the old timer said: I sold my ranch located about 35 miles south of Douglas at a very satisfactory price and bought a lease on a dandy ranch about 135 miles due south of Douglas. I got between 600 and 700 head of high grade cattle and bought some more which I will receive in April. I have lots of grass and an abundance of water. It is a first-class ranching country and as pretty as I ever saw in my life."

Otti Coggin and Jess Scarborough were left in charge and both are reported as being delighted with the country and the ranch life. It is literally, a land of "milk and honey," as the Merkel citizen said he never saw

BIG FIRE AT HOUSTON

Ten Million Dollar Fire Swept Through That City Wednesday Morning.

250 RESIDENCES ARE BURNED

Burned Area Is Mile Long and as Wide in Some Places—45,000 Bales of Cotton Burned—Many are Homeless

Houston, T-x, Feb. 21.—Fire broke out here at one o'clock this morning causing the destruction of some large industrial plants, at least 250 residences and warehouses that were filled with cotton.

The fire started in a two-story frame structure and being fanned by a terrific gale that was blowing it soon grew to such an extent that it licked up homes so fast that men, women and children were forced to flee for their lives being able to take nothing with them. The fire occurred in a district where the principal residents were daily laborers, dependent upon the mills and compresses that were burned. Hundreds are now out of employment and in destitute condition. The whole city is in confusion.

For the Legislature.

Hon. J. M. Wagstaff of Abilene authorizes announcement of his candidacy for representative from this district. In his opening announcement to the people he states that he aspires to the place, appreciating the importance of matters to come before the next legislature and hoping that his services may be of some good for the people he will represent. He would be a most valuable man at this particular time and we commend his claims for your consideration.

Keeble for County Attorney.

In our announcement column appears the name of H. Rob Keeble, candidate for the office of county attorney of Taylor Co. Mr. Keeble is a young man who won enviable honors in his school and college days and has since made good in the work entrusted to him by the people. He has been justice of peace of the Abilene precinct for a couple of terms and now asks for promotion to the office of county attorney. He will make a good officer and is worthy of your fair consideration.

J. W. Red for Treasurer.

The Mail announces this week the candidacy of J. W. Red for the office of treasurer of Taylor county. He is well and favorably known to all old timers, being one of the early settlers, and we can safely recommend him for honest consideration at your hands before you cast your ballot.

Swell line of Ladies and Misses Oxfords and pumps in patent, vici and gun calf both black and tan. Also black and tan velvets and white canvas received this week. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

as much wild honey. At his new ranch the cowboys told him they had not been without honey in nine years. And there is plenty of game.

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

This Bank contributes a small amount annually to the Guaranty Fund of the State of Texas for the protection of its Non-Interest Bearing Deposits.

If your money is in a Guaranty Fund Bank you need have no fear of panics, for the Guaranty Fund was created for your protection in the event of financial disaster.

The promptness with which deposits are paid in full from the guaranty fund, in event of failure, should appeal to every one.

We offer you absolute safety, courteous treatment and unexcelled facilities for handling your business.

We invite your account. This is the only Guaranty Fund Bank in Merkel.

"IT IS BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY"

J. S. SWANN, President

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

J. C. MOORE, Vice-Pres.

B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cashier

J. T. WARREN, President

T. A. JOHNSON, Cashier



Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

"Good Service to Our Patrons"

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. T. WARREN G. F. WEST C. P. WARREN HENRY JAMES
ED. S. HUGHES J. T. HOWARD T. A. JOHNSON

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Lon Martin was in Abilene this week on business.

J. D. Jones made a business trip to Abilene Wednesday.

T. L. Grimes left for Vernon Wednesday morning where he goes on business.

Judge B. A. Cox of Abilene was here on important matters Tuesday.

W. R. and Fred Bigham made a business trip to Fort Worth Wednesday to return the last of the week.

J. W. Daniel is back from Mexico and says Tom Coggin is right about what caused the new revolution down there.

Judge W. T. Potter, A. C. Boney, L. H. King, E. M. Brown, J. H. Warnick and L. Sparkman were in Abilene on business the first of the week.

Jno. Elliott, J. E. Costephens and M. W. Pickelsimer with their sons, Lloyd Elliott, Alfred Costephens and Lester Pickelsimer, were attending court in Abilene Monday.

J. W. Deekin was in Merkel from route 1 Tuesday, and visited our office. He said it always rained when he brought a load of wood to town. We advised him to bring a load of wood every time we are in need of rain.

L. E. Sanders has returned from Kentucky where he was called to the bedside of his sister who is much improved. Ludie exhibits some Tennessee twist tobacco that is not store bought, but was made a present to him by his brother at Huntingdon, Tenn., where he visited his father and other relatives a few days. Judging from the rate he uses the weed he will have enough for several days yet, the twist being about three feet long.

C. B. Bryant, T. E. Sears and another Mr. Sears of Whitewright were visitors in Merkel this week and guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Sears and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sears. These parties have extensive interests in Merkel and the Merkel country and were well pleased with the conditions of our country and the prospects for the year.

Dr. M. Armstrong has been sick one or two days this week. This is his first illness in a quarter of a century and the first time he had to refuse a call for his professional services for that reason in that length of time. We hope that he will recover at once and have a half century of easy sailing this time.

W. Parteh is expected home this week from points east. He was first called to Thornton to attend the funeral of a brother and later went to market for spring goods.

Fire Monday Night.

Monday night about 11:30 fire broke out in a house owned by A. C. Boney, occupied by Elder W. G. Cypert, located in northwest Merkel. The cause of the fire is not known, seemingly to have caught in some dress goods stored in the dining room closet.

There were no men folks at home at the time and the ladies called for assistance which was promptly rendered by S. J. Roberts who extinguished the fire before it had gained headway or the fire department could reach the scene, they turning out before the last alarm had stopped. Damage to the amount of \$100 to the house and Elder Cypert's library was the extent of the loss.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending Feb. 22, 1912.

Butler, Mrs. G. W.
Hernandez, Feliciano
If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 9, 1912.

H. W. Derstine, p. m.

Miss Frankie Boyd of Clyde is here visiting Mrs. C. A. Fryar.

Mrs. Richard Connel of Hamlin came in Thursday of last week to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Farmer and sister, Mrs. P. C. Jones.

W. C. Hill was in our little city from Golan Saturday and called at the Mail office renewing his subscription to the Mail and Dallas News.

J. S. Swann was out at his ranch and reports that wild rye is up almost enough for grazing now and within a couple of weeks will be fine for his young mules and other stock.

We received report Tuesday of the death of the six-year-old daughter of J. H. Baxter several miles north of Merkel, which occurred Sunday night, caused from congestion. Interment took place at Comper Monday evening at 4 o'clock. The Mail joins in sympathy with the relatives and friends.

Mr. Business Man

An attractive sign is a good advertisement for any business. How about yours? I paint them like you want them at a very reasonable cost. Let me figure with you. : : :

J. W. POWELL
The Painter and Paper Hanger

Did You Ever Have the Side Ache AND THEN WONDER WHY?



ASK your doctor and he will say sew Standard Central Needle way. Come to our store at once and let us show you. No obligation on your part to buy—"just look"

22 YEARS, DAY AND NIGHT, GOOD YET

Dalhart, Texas.—Gentlemen—I bought my Standard Machine twenty-two years ago, and I am a Dressmaker and have run the same machine for that many years, sometimes nights as well as days, and it is a good machine yet. It seems I just can not give it up. I have bought one or two other makes, thinking I would give the old Standard up, but I would not give it now for many of the new ones. I can not give up the Standard. I know from experience it is the best Sewing Machine that is or ever will be manufactured. Yours truly, Mrs. C. F. Rowley.

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

The City Tailoring Co.

Have equipped their shop with new boards and many other necessities for cleaning, dyeing and pressing ladies garments.

Franklin & Renfro, Props

Box Candies at Cost.

Our line of box candies, Lowney's, Hughes' Bike's, Blanke-Wenneker and Brown's, the best made are offered at cost. The entire line is fresh but our stock is too large and must be reduced before summer. Now is the opportunity and we will give you a chance at a free box with every purchase. Elite Confectionery.

O. C. Lomax of Crosbyton was here the first of the week visiting his sister Mrs. E. M. Britain. He left for Fort Worth Wednesday afternoon saying he would likely return to our city.

Mrs. O. F. McMaster accompanied by her mother Mrs. Pickiell of Chicago made a social call to Abilene Saturday returning to Merkel that afternoon.

R. E. Edmison was here Monday enroute to the Clear Fork. He was accompanied from here by C. L. Barker and Jno. Sears.

Our full line of box candies offered at cost. The Elite.

Latimore & Leigh will present Miss Billy Long and Bert Leigh in Harold McGrath's comedy, "The Man on the Box." Prices that are popular to everyone.

Mrs. L. E. Jarmon of Roscoe returned to her home Wednesday afternoon after having spent the week with her father J. R. Hester.

Bob Ayers was in Merkel Saturday, coming in from a trip to north Texas. He was on his way to this home in Abilene.

John Brandon, an old-timer in this country, was in from Putnam last week shaking hands with some of the pioneers.

Jim Bridges and A. C. Lyles both of the Stith community were visitors in the capitol city Monday.

Your car needs washing and polishing and we are prepared to do the work. Merkel Garage.

Buy her a box of candy. The Elite.

ALL THESE MEN HAVE
WORKED FOR THE
SAFETY OF YOUR MONEY
WHEN IT IS IN A
NATIONAL BANK



Copyright 1909, by C. E. Zimmerman Co., No. 2-N

The Southern National Bank

Solicits your business for the New Year
and promises the most liberal service
consistent with our conservative policies

John Sears, President

C. L. Barker, Vice-Pres.

J. E. Faucett, Cashier

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Nothing reserved during this close out sale. Woodroof Bros.

R. C. Young made a business trip to Sweetwater the first of the week.

Just received a half barrel of fat juicy mackerel. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

J. B. Bell has a bad wound on his right hand from the effects of a mule bite.

While trading leave your buggy under the big fire-proof wagon shed at Kent Street Wagon Yard.

J. A. Collins and J. G. Jackson made a business trip to Abilene Tuesday.

Try a sack of that good Peace-maker flour. None better. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Mrs. Thos. Smith is in Trent visiting her daughter Mrs. J. C. Hamner.

Go to the City Barber Shop for first-class work. West & Evans, Proprietors.

Miss Cula Boyd of Abilene is here visiting her brother Austin Boyd.

Mrs. P. Pettit returned Wednesday from Snyder where she has been visiting her sister.

Just received a barrel of fine kraut. Phone your wants to 170. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Miss Myrtle Adams and Mrs. Una Darr returned to their home in Abilene Saturday after a visit with relatives here.

Spot cash for your chickens and eggs. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

Sterling P. Miller who is now in the navy recruiting office at Dallas was here the first of the week visiting his sister Mrs. W. H. Dickson.

White Wyandotte eggs for hatching from prize winners. \$1.50 per 15.

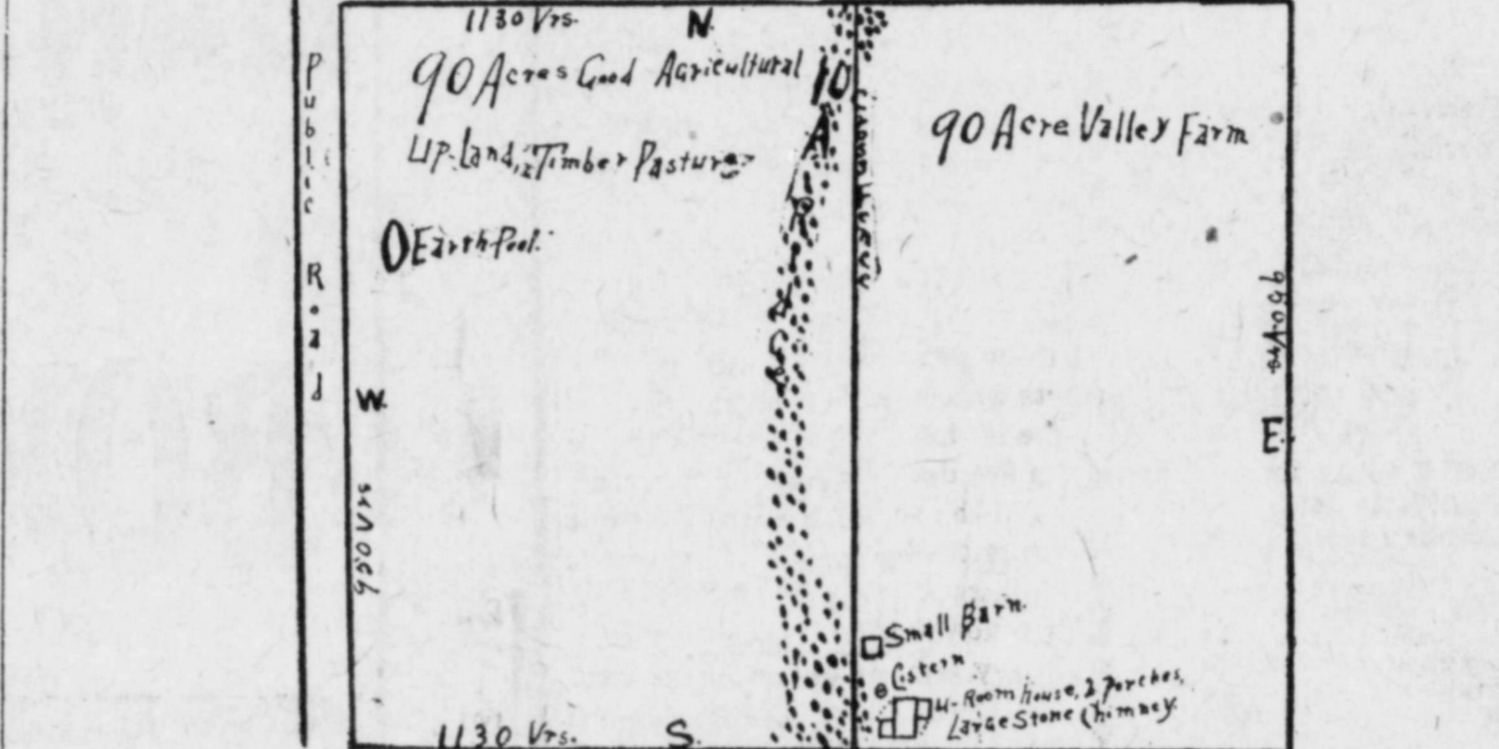
214 H. M. Rose, Merkel

Mrs. J. E. Williams of Big Springs has returned to her home after an extended visit to her father, G. C. Campbell.

J. K. Cauthen has traded his place in the north part of town for property in Abilene and will use the Abilene place for his home.

Phone us your orders for groceries. The very best of goods and prompt service. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

G. H. Adams and Uncle Frank Sears were the first to get the fish fever. They started out north early Monday morning but were seen coming back Tuesday just in front of the spell.



Above Plat Represents One of Jones County's Rich Red Sand, Mesquite Land Farms. Located 3 1/2 Miles North of Trent and 8 Miles North-west From Merkel.

This farm, as you will note from the plat, contains 190 acres of land set out in the plat as follows: 90 acre valley farm, 10 acre ridge, 90 acres good agricultural up-land, timber pasture. Note the improvements, public road, etc. This place is listed with me exclusively for \$4500.00, with one-third to be paid down and the balance in 5 years at 8 per cent annual interest. Now, this place is worth \$30 per acre and at that price would bring the total sum of \$5700, but my price makes it a bargain by the neat sum of \$1200.

To show you what I am going to do with lands listed with me exclusively I am going to place an ad. about this farm in the Dallas Morning News, the Semi-Weekly Dallas Farm News and the Farm and Ranch. This ad. will read like this: "A good 190-acre Jones county farm for sale at a bargain. Lewis H. King, Agent, Merkel, Texas." Then on receipt of the inquiries I will mail them a printed circular bearing this plat above and printed detailed description of this farm. This is my plan. It is a good one, isn't it? It will get results.

LEWIS H. KING, Agent, Merkel, Tex.

J. E. Martin who has been in the tailor business on Kent street in the Kent Street barber shop has moved his tailoring accessories to Elm street where he has opened a combined barber and tailor shop. Mr. Martin is an experienced hand in both trades and we wish him continued success.

Miss Jessie O'Briant, W. L. Harkrider and J. P. C. Hunt are among the Merkel people who are in the east this week for the purpose of getting new goods. Miss O'Briant and Mr. Hunt are in Chicago while Mr. Harkrider is in St. Louis.

James Bright of Trent was a caller at the Mail office Wednesday. Mr. Bright stated he had sold his mercantile business to Sam Howell who recently moved to Trent from Shiloh and now has charge of the business.

Advance shipment of new goods all through the house. Call and see them. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

F. E. Allen, one of our good readers at Eskota and formerly agent of the T. & P. at Merkel was a visitor in our city this week.

One hundred pieces new ging-ham just received. Nice spring patterns. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

CLASSIFIED ADS

GOOD MULES FOR SALE.—Part cash, balance on fall time. Jones & Warnick, Merkel, Texas. 162pd

FOR SALE—Full blood Rhode Island Red eggs. 15 for \$1.00. Mrs. P. B. Causseaux, Merkel, Texas. 164pd

FOR SALE.—Mebane cotton seed that made bale to the acre. Selected out of the first picking. S. F. Haynes, Merkel, Texas. tf

FOR RENT—80 acres of land in Jones county. 65 acres in cultivation, good house, small barn, well of water, close to school. See L. H. King. tf

REPAIR WORK—Automobiles, gasoline engines, motor cycles, bicycles or any machinery. All work at reasonable prices and guaranteed. Merkel Garage. tf

KEROSENE—Order Familylite or Chrystallite oil of your grocer and you get the best. Merkel Garage. tf

FOR RENT—110 acres of good land in Mulberry Canyon, 3-room house and good water. Apply to F. Z. Turner, Nubia, Texas. 127pd

GASOLINE—One auto owner who uses Texas Company oil and gas has traveled 4500 miles and never had a dirty spark plug. It's best and we meet any competition as to prices. Merkel Garage. tf

FOR SALE—A cow with young calf. Anchor Hardware Company.

ZERO TEX—Made by Texas Co., best lubricating oil on market. Merkel Garage. tf

We have now three full cars of Light Crust flour. Flour is advancing every day. We can sell you light Crust Flour now for what you pay for inferior grades. Try a sack. Light Crust Flour is better. Merkel Dry Goods & Groceries Co.

Lee D. Williams is constructing a nice residence at Noodle. Mr. Williams has visited this country several times but comes to the Merkel country this time for good and the improvements that he is now placing on his property makes his home an ideal one.

Stop at the new barber shop located on Elm street in rear of Southern National Bank building. All barber and tailor work guaranteed to be satisfactory. J. E. Martin.

Mrs. H. Turner and Mrs. J. A. Buford returned from a visit to Abilene Sunday afternoon having spent two days with friends.

Two horses for sale. Cash or good note. One at \$135. One at \$35. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

Visitors to Abilene the latter part of last week were G. O. Cozart, Dr. Adkisson, W. A. Hall, G. B. Tittle, J. L. McLean and C. L. Barker.

Dress goods of every description including messalines, voiles, etc. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Post cards 5c per dozen at the Groene Art Store.

W. R. Bigham made a business trip to Abilene Monday.

For good bread use Albatross flour. Bradshaw Grocery Co.

S. E. Adcock made a business trip to Abilene Tuesday.

A free box of candy to be given away. The Elite.

Fred Groene made a business trip to Abilene Saturday.

Men's clothing at half price. Woodroof Bros.

A. P. Boyd has returned to Trent after a two-weeks' visit in our town.

The best is none too good. Buy Albatross. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Miss Berta Blaine of Abilene was a very pleasant visitor in our city last week.

A new line of linen and val-laces arrived this week. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

S. E. Taylor of Hamby was in our midst the past week shaking hands with the voters.

Try a sack of Albatross flour. Best on earth. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

W. S. Dunning of Eskota was here the first of the week looking after business.

Closing out to quit business. Everything in store to be sold at cost and less. Woodroof Bros.

Mrs. Ida Ryan has returned to Sweetwater after spending a week with friends and relatives in Merkel.

Misses Mattie Murphy and Melisa Smith spent Saturday and Sunday in Abilene with friends and relatives.

Phone 170 for your dry goods and grocery wants. They will have prompt delivery. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Miss Dell Hearne has returned to her home in San Antonio after a pleasant visit with Mrs. C. L. Barker.

Mrs. M. E. Norris who has been here visiting her daughter Mrs. W. H. Brown went to Cisco Saturday where she will visit her son J. M. Norris.

When buying white goods ask for Linweave and take nothing but linweave. There is no other just as good. For sale only at Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Spring is showing up in a usual way of home painting. Our good citizen Geo. W. Boyce has given his home a new coat of paint.

CALUMET
BAKING POWDER

SEE how much better it makes the baking
SEE how much more uniform in quality
SEE how pure—how good
SEE how economical—
SEE that you get Calumet

At your Grocer's

Sweetwater Man Killed.

News was received here that Jno. G. Love, a well-to-do farmer of the Sweetwater country, was killed last Thursday afternoon by being dragged to death. There was no eye witness to the accident but when found Mr. Love was terribly mangled, apparently having fallen in front of his sulky plow, the point of which penetrated the brain and was entangled enough to pull the body along. Team trouble was supposed to be the cause of the accident.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularity of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for Texas testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

Noodle Has New School.

There is now under construction at Noodle a new school building. The attendance has increased to such an extent that the building was an absolute necessity to the community. It will be a five-room well equipped school having the best model of seats installed to insure comfort. There are now enrolled in the school near 150 and this number can be easily cared for in the new building.

The Trials of A Traveler.

"I am a traveling salesman," writes E. E. Young, E. Berkshire, Vt., "and was often troubled with constipation and indigestion till I began to use Dr. King's New Life Pills, which I have found an excellent remedy." For all stomach, liver or kidney troubles they are unequalled. Only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

ELECTION TRUSTEE MANAGERS NAMED

The following are the school trustee election managers for the Merkel country who were appointed by the Commissioners court for the ensuing year, the election to be held the first Saturday in April:

- District No. 10—J. E. Costephon, J. C. Tucker and J. R. Brown.
- District No. 13—W. M. Hays, Wm. Teaff and Sam Taylor.
- District No. 26—Tom Tally, L. W. Cox and C. L. McNeece.
- District No. 27—W. L. Campbell, John Toombs and J. R. Quisenberry.
- District No. 28—Will Butman, W. E. Moss and R. A. Ensminger, Nubia.
- District No. 32—H. C. Doan, J. W. Reeves and J. W. Mayfield.
- District No. 35—W. L. Blackburn, M. P. Latimer and Tom Toombs, Nubia.
- District No. 36—B. J. Dyer, Arch Harris and John Simmons.
- District No. 40—H. J. Rogers, S. C. Brown and Mr. Billingsley.
- District No. 50—W. H. Frazier, Pat Redding and C. R. Rowland.

CALOMEL GIVES ONLY TEMPORARY RELIEF

So Powerful It Shocks Liver and Leaves It Weaker Than Before. Dodson's Liver-Tone a Perfect Substitute.

Nearly everybody who has ever tried calomel for constipation or a sluggish liver has found that it gives only a temporary relief. For calomel is such a powerful drug that it shocks and weakens the liver and makes it less able afterward to do its duty as in the first place.

This is one of the reasons why Rust & McCauley's drug store would rather sell Dodson's Liver-Tone to you than calomel. We know that Dodson's Liver-Tone is a pure vegetable tonic that will cure constipation quickly and gently without any danger of bad after-effects. We guarantee to do this with a guarantee that is simple and fair. If you buy a bottle of Dodson's Liver-Tone for yourself or your children, and do not find that it is a perfect substitute for calomel, then come back to the store and get your money back. If you don't get value for your money out of this tonic, it's your right to expect your money back, and we will gladly give it to you.

"The Man on the Box."

It was a large and well-pleased crowd that witnessed the attraction, "The Man on the Box," at the opera house on last Friday night. A clean classy play, replete with humor and staged by a company of clever artists, it was a winner from the start, and there were few minutes during its progress when you did not have a hearty laugh coming.

All members of the company deserve credit, Bert Leigh and Billie Long, in particular, came in for highest honors, while Chas. Henderson and his jolly laugh was a close second.

This is decidedly the best company that visits this city and they can always command a full house on their return engagements.—Big Springs Herald.

"The Man on the Box" will be here Friday night. It comes to Merkel well recommended by the theatre-goers of western towns, and we feel sure it is well worth the price of admission.

Are Ever at War.

There are two things everlastingly at war, joy and piles. But Bucklen's Arnica Salve will banish piles in any form. It soon subdues the itching, irritation, inflammation or swelling. It gives comfort, invites joy. Greatest healer of burns, boils, ulcers, cuts, bruises, eczema, scalds, pimples, skin eruptions. Only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

We will buy your eggs and chickens. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company.

OF LOCAL INTEREST

Some People We Know, and We Will Profit by Hearing About Them.

This is purely a local event. It took place in Merkel. Not in Buffalo or New York. You are asked to investigate it. Asked to believe a citizen's word; to confirm a citizen's statement. Any article that is endorsed at home is more worthy of confidence than one you know nothing about, endorsed by unknown people.

H. W. Derstine, postmaster, Merkel, Texas, says: "I still believe Doan's Kidney Pills are good for kidney trouble although I never have occasion to use them any more. You are at liberty to use my statement as heretofore. Backache bothered me off and on for years and Doan's Kidney Pills procured at Rust & McCauley Drug Co.'s store relieved me. I believe they will cure any case of kidney trouble, if taken as directed."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Meningitis Situation at Nugent.

The three-months-old child of Mr. McMims who lives at Leuders, died Friday night of pneumonia. Mr. and Mrs. McMims lost a child last week from poisoning.

The two cases of meningitis in the Perry family, who live near there are reported as getting along extremely well.

Another case of meningitis is reported at the McMim place. Mr. McMim lives near Albany crossing on the Clear Fork. The child is reported to be doing well.—Reporter.

Indian Killed on Track.

Near Rochelle, Ill an Indian went to sleep on a railroad track and was killed by the fast express. He paid for his carelessness with his life. Often it is that way when people neglect coughs and colds. Don't risk your life when prompt use of Dr. King's New Discovery will cure them and prevent a dangerous throat or lung trouble. "It completely cured me, in a short time, of a terrible cough that followed a severe attack of grip," writes J. R. Watts, Floydada, Tex., "and I regained 15 pounds in weight that I had lost." Quick, safe, reliable and guaranteed. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at H. C. Burroughs.

Died of Scarlet Fever.

The two year old child of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Bo-well who live south of Tye died of scarlet fever Tuesday night. There are no other cases reported at present closer to Merkel than Nugent, there being two cases at that place.

Reason Enthroned.

Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale by all dealers. Samples free.

Meningitis in Taylor County.

Tuesday morning at 4 o'clock Robert Morris who was living in the northeast part of the county died of meningitis. The young man was keeping batch on a farm belonging to Geo. L. Paxton and was found very ill by his companion who quickly summoned medical attention. Dr. C. M. Cash county health officer was called out to attend the case and placed all who were exposed under quarantine.

A heavy cold in the lungs that was expected to cure itself has been the starting point in many cases of disease that ended fatally. The sensible course is to take frequent doses of Ballard's Hore Hound Syrup. It checks the progress of the disorder and assists nature to restore normal conditions. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

OPERA HOUSE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23

LATIMORE-LEIGH CO. PRESENTS

MR. BERT LEIGH

HAROLD McGRATH'S DEE-LIGHTFUL COMEDY

THE MAN ON THE BOX



WITH MISS BILLY LONG

And a selected Cast. You've read of it, now see the play SEATS ON SALE AT THE ELITE

ALL REQUIREMENTS OF GOOD TASTE ARE MET

In this splendid assemblage of High-Grade Woolens for Spring of 1912. The choicest patterns that will be the most popular for the coming season's wear are now being displayed by us in endless array. Come in at once or real soon, look them over and if you appreciate real values you'll let us build to your order and entire satisfaction a Spring Suit from the choicest of the very best **Wool Material and Best Skilled Labor** by request. Orders executed in Merkel. Trimmings to match suits on display. Come to see them.

C. L. Cash The Tailor

J. A. WOODARD
Livery, Feed and Sale Stable
SOUTH SIDE

Solicits a share of your patronage during the New Year and promises courteous treatment. Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

WOODROOF BROS.

GREAT CLOSE-OUT SALE

Continued To Saturday, March 2

9 MORE DAYS TO BUY GOODS AT LESS THAN MANUFACTURERS COST

We will have everything in the store on the bargain counter including all winter and spring goods. You should not let this opportunity pass to save from 40 to 50 per cent on your winter and spring purchases and get new seasonable goods too.

We have just received, and will place on sale our Spring Embroideries which were shipped after we cancelled them. This is absolutely the greatest sacrifice of clean merchandise ever offered the buying public. We wish to sell every dollars worth of goods in our store by March 2nd, and will sell it to you cheaper than any merchant can buy them.

It is too expensive to move goods is the reason we make such ridiculous low prices. You should buy enough to run you through the spring and summer even if you have to borrow the money. This is the last opportunity to get goods at these prices. Come to see us.

Remember this Great Sale Closes March 2

What Remnants of Goods We Have Left Will be Moved to Waxahachie

Below We Give You Just a Few Prices to Show You This is a Genuine Close-Out Sale

Men's Dress Shirts

Bargains in Mens Dress Shirts, values up to \$1.00 going in this close out sale at. **35c**

Men's Fine Dress Clothing

\$10.00 suits in this close out sale	\$5.00
12.50 suits in this close out sale	6.25
15.00 suits in this close out sale	7.25
18.50 suits in this close out sale	9.50
20.00 suits in this close out sale	10.00
22.50 suits in this close out sale	11.25
25.00 suits in this close out sale	12.50
30.00 suits in this close out sale	15.00

Men's Odd Pants

\$1.50 value, close out sale price	95c
2.00 value, close out sale price	\$1.25
2.50 value, close out sale price	1.75
3.00 value, close out sale price	2.25
3.50 value, close out sale price	2.65
4.00 value, close out sale price	2.95
5.00 value, close out sale price	3.45
6.00 value, close out sale price	3.85

Dress Lawns

Spring Dress Lawn in in fancy and plain colors go in this close out sale. You can't afford to miss the opportunity of supplying your wants for spring and summer in lawns.

10c dress lawns, close out price	7c
12 1/2c dress lawns, close out price	8c
15c dress lawns, close out price	9c
18c dress lawns, close out price	10c
20c dress lawns, close out price	12c
25c dress lawns, close out price	15c
30c and 35c dress lawn, close out price	18c

Embroideries

New spring embroideries just received that we will throw in in this great close out sale.

5c and 7 1/2c embroideries, close out sale	3c
8 1/2c and 10c embroideries, close out sale	4 1/2c
12 1/2c and 15c embroideries, close out sale	6 1/2c
18c and 20c embroideries, close out sale	9 1/2c
25c and 30c corset cover embroideries	12 1/2c
These embroideries were just unpacked and are absolutely this spring's goods. All over embroideries and faces at same reduction.	

Mens and Ladies Shoes and Oxfords

Mens and ladies \$1.50 shoes and Oxfords	95c
Mens and ladies 2.00 shoes and Oxfords	\$1.25
Mens and ladies 2.50 shoes and Oxfords	1.75
Mens and ladies 3.00 shoes and Oxfords	2.10
Mens and ladies 3.50 shoes and Oxfords	2.65
Mens and ladies 4.00 shoes and Oxfords	2.85

Boy's Knee Pants

50c and 65c boys knee pants, close out price	38c
75c boys knee pants, close out price	53c
85c boys knee pants, close out price	60c
\$1.00 boys knee pants, close out price	75c
1.25 boys knee pants, close out price	85c
1.50 boys knee pants, close out price	\$1.10

Misses and Children's Shoes and Oxfords

Misses \$1.50 shoes and Oxfords	95c
Misses 1.75 shoes and Oxfords	\$1.20
Misses 2.00 shoes and Oxfords	1.25
Misses 2.25 shoes and Oxfords	1.50
Misses 2.50 shoes and Oxfords	1.65

NINE MORE DAYS LEFT TO YOUR ADVANTAGE

SALE CLOSSES
MARCH 2

WOODROOF BROS.
ONE PRICE - THE LOWEST

9 MORE DAYS
To Do Your Shopping

Dr. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Made from Pure, Grape
Cream of Tartar

Surpasses every other baking
powder in making delicious
healthful food.

Protects the food from alum.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Feb. 19 the missionary society of the M. E. church was held at the parsonage. The regular program not being prepared the president called a business session. The different officers gave in reports of work done in their department. The report of committees showed quite a great deal of interest all being worthy of note especially so the work of Mrs. Adams the official press reporter who illustrated plans of work for the society of interesting and instructive posters. Good attendance with one new member added to the roll Mrs. W. T. Potter. The name of our little missionary baby Miss Billie Burke Mims was added to the cradle roll. The little blue-eyed golden haired being present was like a ray of sunshine in our midst. We hope to have her as a regular attendant. This society is doing a good work under the leadership of our president Mrs. M. Armstrong. We expect to make great advancement in 1912. Hereafter the first Monday will be devoted to business. The second Monday to the "Missionary Voice." The third Monday to the lesson of "The Light of the World." The fourth Monday will be the social meeting. The social meeting this month will be at the residence of Mrs. G. H. Adams on West Elm street Feb. 26.

Saturday evening Mrs. Montgomery Britain entertained a number of the young people in honor of her brother Otti Lomax. Forty-two, checkers and other games were greatly enjoyed. After a pleasant evening spent in the hospitable home chocolate and cake were passed to Misses Johnson, Walters, Paylor, Nisbett, Gunn, Barnett, Burroughs, Sheppard, Ona and Virginia Hamlet, Rister and Sutphen, Messrs. Easterwood, Provine, Walters, Jones, Rufford and Carl Evans, Ottis and Lowe Barnett, Parker Sharp.

An informal dance was given at the Thornton building Thursday evening. A stringed orchestra furnished music for the dancers who were chaperoned by Mesdames Daniel, Brown, Gaither and Dickson. Those present were Misses Thornton, O'Briant, Coggin, Daniel, Sheppard, Harris and Blaine of Abilene, Messrs. Sharp, Faucett, Rust, Guitar, Cranford, Davis of Rochester, N. Y., Hilburn of Abilene, Anderson, Hunt, Walker, Gaither and Brown.

On Friday evening Feb. 16, another of those delightful dances was given by the Merkel young men at the Thornton building. Those present were Misses Daniel, Zora Coggin, O'Briant, Sheppard, Tommie Louise Coggin, Elma Sheppard, Blaine, Thornton, Mesdames Gaither, Brown, Daniel, Dickson, Messrs. Guitar, Rust, Faucett, Cranford, Daniel, Hunt, Brown, Easterwood, Rhone, Davis, Hilburn, Miller and Gaither.

The Twentieth Century Club will meet with Mrs. Ella Hale February 24. Roll call, quotations from play. Lesson, Much Ado About Nothing, Act V. Brief review of play.—Mrs. Geo. L. Porter. Talk, George Washington—Mrs. W. H. Dickson. "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them."

Mrs. G. J. Jones was hostess Tuesday when she served a tempting and delicious dinner, "a real old fashion dinner." Her guests were near neighbors who claim that Mrs. Jones has a perfect knowledge of the culinary arts, that the dinner was fit for a king.

Isenhower Jones.

Monday of last week W. M. Isenhower and Miss Ruth Jones left on the noon train for Abilene where they were happily united in the holy bonds of matrimony, leaving that place for Putnam to make their future home.

The bride is the daughter of our townsman J. D. Jones and has many friends in Merkel and the canyon whose best wishes follow her. The groom is a well known ranchman and stockman of Putnam owning a large ranch just southeast of Putnam and a few farms. The Mail joins their friends of both towns in wishing them a happy wedded life.

For That Terrible Itching.

Eczema, tetter and salt rheu keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all dealers.

B. Y. P. U. Program.

Subject, Japan.
Scripture reading, Isa. 1:1-20.
Leader—Miss Flay Gunn.
Isa. 53:2-10—Miss Clara Saffle.
Isa. 2:7-22—Miss Carroll Rister.
Isa. 26:1-9—Miss Maggie Wheeler.
Talk, the people of Japan—Miss Mattie Murphy.
Song.
Paper, Our Missions in Japan—Ben Merritt.
Special music—Miss Ethel Roberts.
Benediction.

Here is a message of hope and good cheer from Mrs. C. J. Martin, Boone Mill, Va., who is the mother of eighteen children. Mrs. Martin was cured of stomach trouble and constipation by Chamberlain's Tablets after five years of suffering, and now recommends these tablets to the public. Sold by all dealers.

Apron Party.

On Friday evening Feb. 16, Mrs. Stella Douglas entertained the younger crowd of Salt Branch society with a unique apron party. After the young people assembled the boys were given the tedious task of hemming the girls aprons, much to their sorrow for the needles all missed the cloth and buried their points in the boys thumbs. A more laughable time was never spent. The most successful young gentleman was awarded the cake, it falling to N. N. Roe. Games and music were indulged in and at a late hour the cake was cut, the needle falling to Miss Annie Boeing and the ring to Dock Jones.

Those enjoying Mrs. Douglas' hospitality were Misses Daisy and Allie Roe, Annie Boeing, Olive and Selena Teaff, May Douglas, and Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Bell, Messrs. Doc Jones and sons, N. N. Roe, Houston and Austin Robertson, Burlie Taylor, Berry and Robert Isom, Charlie Cricel, Ray and Paul Douglas and Buster Bell.

One Present.

A scald, burn, or severe cut heals slowly if neglected. The family that keeps a bottle of Ballard's Snow Lintment on hand is always prepared for such accidents. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

B. Y. P. U. Lecture.

Rev. Jas. R. Magill, the Field Secretary of the B. Y. P. U. gave a most instructive and profitable lecture the night of the 15th at the Baptist church on the B. Y. P. U. Work. Bro. Magill's home is in Dallas he having been until his recent appointment pastor of Oak Cliff church in that city.

In his lecture he spoke of Sampson's experience and his final downfall because he continued to dally with sin. He had disobeyed God by marrying a Philistine woman. She, of course, wanted to know the secret of his strength. At first he deceived her for several times. On one occasion when she had turned him over to the Philistines, he was imprisoned by them, but he freed himself by carrying off the gates of the city. Because he had escaped the consequences of his sin in this instance, it encouraged him to think he could continue to escape. Finally he told the truth to his wife about his strength lying in his hair, and then she cut his hair and he was then helpless when delivered into the hands of his enemies. So it is in going off into sin. We need to look closely after our young people in the church after they are converted to see that they do not take the first step in sin.

Bro. Magill's mother in teaching him to walk first took him by the hands and held him up to take the first step. Later she put a string in his hand and as she pulled the string he would walk. After a while he was able to walk entirely alone without the string and was finally able to run. Our young converts are but babes in Christ and we need something like the B. Y. P. U. to teach them to take their first steps.

He insisted that we work for an A-1 standard of excellence in our B. Y. P. U. There are at least 100,000 Baptist young people in Texas. These would be a great power if organized and put to work. There are now some 650 B. Y. P. U. organizations in the state. Only a few have the A-1 standard.

In order to reach the A-1 standard four things are necessary in organization and four things in educational work. The four things in organization are:

1. Attendance. An average attendance of at least one-half the enrollment.
 2. Officers. Have at least a president, vice-president, secretary, choister and librarian.
 3. Committees. Have at least membership, devotional and social.
 4. Reports. At least once per quarter from each officer and each committee.
- The four things in educational work are:
1. Bible Readers Course. At least one-half the enrolled membership keeping up the daily Bible readings.
 2. Monthly Missionary Meetings. One missionary meeting per month based upon topic in the B. Y. P. U. quarterly.
 3. Study Course. Each year at least one study course of thirteen weeks.
 4. Developing the Individual. At least once per quarter each active



TIME AND MONEY

The farmer's time is as valuable as that of another business man. All Southwestern telephone users are placed on the same business level. The Southwestern system makes it possible for every farmer to have a telephone. Write our nearest manager.

The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company



Couldn't Walk!

"I used to be troubled with a weakness peculiar to women," writes Mrs. Anna Jones, of Kenny, Ill. "For nearly a year, I could not walk, without holding my sides. I tried several different doctors, but I grew worse. Finally, our druggist advised Cardui for my complaint. I was so thin, my weight was 115. Now, I weigh 163, and I am never sick. I ride horseback as good as ever. I am in fine health at 52 years."

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

We have thousands of such letters, and more are arriving daily. Such earnest testimony from those who have tried it, surely proves the great value of this vegetable, tonic medicine, for women.

Cardui relieves women's sufferings, and builds weak women up to health and strength. If you are a woman, give it a trial. It should help you, for it has helped a million others. It is made from pure, harmless, herb ingredients, which act promptly and surely on the womanly organs. It is a good tonic. Try it! Your druggist sells it.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free. J 58



USE "ALBATROSS" FLOUR
BRADSHAW GROCERY COMPANY

member take part in the open meetings apart from singing.

The recommendation was made that we divide our B. Y. P. U. into four sections with a captain over each to see that all in his section come up with their duties.

A good congregation gave Bro. Magill their rapt attention. The officers and leaders in the B. Y. P. U. were very much encouraged and hope to get our B. Y. P. U. to adopt the A-1 standard and then work up to the requirements. Joseph Jacob, Pastor.

When the bowels become irregular you are uncomfortable and the longer this condition exists the worse you feel. You can get rid of this misery quickly by using Herbine. Take a dose on going to bed and see how fine you feel next day. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Herbert Dennis Operated On.

On last Friday morning, Herbert, the nine year old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis was operated on for appendicitis at an Abilene sanitarium. The operation was successful in every way and Herbert is resting as well as could be expected. Mr. Dennis was in Dallas at the time but wired his consent and came to Abilene on the first train. A letter sent home states they expect an early recovery, and the Mail sincerely hopes the parents will not be disappointed.

A child that has intestinal worms is handicapped in its growth. A few doses of White's Cream Vermifuge destroys and expels worms; the child immediately improves and thrives wonderfully. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

L. A. Freeman has returned to Merkel after a long stay in Oklahoma. Tom his son arrived a few days sooner.

PROFESSIONAL

SEE US
AND YOU WILL SEE BETTER

Eyes tested and fitted
by up-to-date methods

Mrs. E. M. Rust, Optometrist
At Rust & McCauley's.

O. F. McMASTER

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank



EYES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses
Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.

DRS. ADKISSON & MILLER

Dr. W. V. CRANFORD

Office at
Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

TELEPHONES

Office 4-3 Residence 2-7-6

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ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Practice in State and Federal
Courts. Land and Collection
Law a specialty.

OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado
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Notary Public.

Office up stairs in First National bank building

H. C. WILLIAMS G. W. JOHNSON

WILLIAMS & JOHNSON

Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident
Insurance Agents

Respectfully Solicit Your Business
Notary Public in Office

Office over Farmers & Merchants
National Bank
Merkel :: Texas

W. H. LANEY, THE BUTCHER

Fresh meats of all Kinds.

Always pay top prices on
fat cattle and hogs.

Phone 77—Front street, Merkel, Texas

Abilene Steam Laundry

H. M. WARREN, Agent

Baskets shipped Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work called for and delivered promptly or received at the City Barber shop. I will appreciate your patronage.

H. M. WARREN

Phone 48 in City Barber Shop

Why carry gasoline at home, carry the risk and do the work when you can get what you want day or night at the Merkel Garage? Give us a trial.

New Hats and Caps

New Shirts

New Ties

New Underwear

At The Star Store

YOU WANT A Better JOB?

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your services, if you qualify—take the Draughon Training—and show ambition to rise. More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation. Banking, Typewriting, Penmanship, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Letter Writing, Business Law—FREE auxiliary branches. Good POSITIONS GUARANTEED under reasonable conditions.

Bookkeeping. Bookkeepers all over the United States say that Draughon's New System of Bookkeeping saves them from 25 to 50 per cent in work and worry.

Shorthand. Practically all U. S. official court reporters write the System of Shorthand Draughon Colleges teach. Why? Because they know it is the best.

DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE
Dallas, Houston, Austin, Galveston, San Antonio, Abilene, Denison, Amarillo, Texarkana, or El Paso, Texas.

Tuscola Store Burglarized.

Following the burglary of a store at Goldsboro, just over the Taylor county line in Coleman county, last Tuesday night, the store of J. B. Polson at Tuscola was entered some time Thursday night of last week, the thief breaking out a large glass window on the east side of the store and entered the store with but little trouble.

Only fifty cents was secured for all their trouble, that being all the cash left in the drawer from Thursday's sales.

A great effort was made to break into the big Mosler safe, the property of R. H. Reddell. The work on the safe showed that they were not experts at the business. Nitro glycerine, vinegar and other ingredients were used to no effect, after which an ax, chisel, and other tools secured at a nearby blacksmith shop, were tried without results except to damage the safe to the amount of several dollars.—Abilene Reporter.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.
Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

Adjourns Court to Whip Insulter.

A dispute arose in the commissioners' court of Midland last Tuesday, during which Judge J. H. Knowles, made an assertion regarding the court's action at a previous session, and Commissioner Jule Driver arose and exclaimed:

"You are a liar, Judge."

"This court will stand adjourned," Judge Knowles answered, "until I whip the man who has just called me a liar."

Then Knowles gave Driver a severe drubbing. Next he reconvened court and fined himself for fighting. Then he resumed the interrupted court deliberations.—Enterprise.

This is the season of the year when mothers feels very much concerned over the frequent colds contracted by their children, and have abundant reason for it as every cold weakens the lungs, lowers the vitality and paves the way for the more serious diseases that so often follow. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cures, and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.

A. M. Robertson of Abilene was a business caller in the city this week.

Miss Willie Bigham has returned from a short stay in Lampasas where she has been visiting friends.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

L. H. King, C. D. Mims and Dr. J. H. Warnick were among the business visitors at Abilene Tuesday.

Will appreciate a share of your trade. Kent St. Barbers. tf

Mrs. Roach of Lipan, who has been here visiting her brother, J. G. Hale, has returned to her home.

Mrs. J. B. Bell has returned from a visit with her daughter Mrs. J. S. Burkhead in Colorado.

Edd Martin and W. A. Moon made a business trip to Putnam returning Tuesday afternoon.

Jones' Barber Shop for best service. Hot and cold baths. 23t3

Troy Eiland and J. D. Dodd were week-end business callers to Abilene last week.

Gas in the stomach or bowels is a disagreeable symptom of a torpid liver. To get rid of it quickly take Herbine. It is a marvelous liver stimulant and bowel purifier. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

T. & P. TIME TABLE.

EAST BOUND	
Train No. 2, leaves Merkel	10:04 p.m.
Train No. 4 " "	11:38 a.m.
Train No. 6 " "	12:19 a.m.
Train No. 8 " "	9:02 a.m.

WEST BOUND	
Train No. 1, leaves Merkel	4:02 a.m.
Train No. 3 " "	4:48 p.m.
Train No. 5 " "	4:28 a.m.
Train No. 7 " "	4:20 p.m.

Nos. 3 and 5, 4 and 6 stop at Sweetwater, Eskota, Merkel, Abilene, Clyde, Baird, Cisco, Eastland, Mingus, Weatherford and Fort Worth. West of Sweetwater all trains are locals except 3 and 4; they do not stop at Itan.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

Freakish Feat of Lightning.

A very peculiar and unpleasant incident occurred during the rain Monday night at the home of J. M. Doty a few miles east of Anson. Mr. Doty, wife and children were sitting by the fire and a small dog was lying at Mr. Doty's feet with its head almost against him, when a stroke of lightning came in on the phone wire and struck the dog, killing him almost instantly and without harming any one of the family more than giving them a slight shock and scaring Mr. Doty so bad he almost forgot he had a copper mine on his land.—Anson Enterprise.

Do you know that more danger lurks in a common cold than any other of the minor ailments? The safe way is to take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, a thoroughly reliable preparation, and rid yourself of the cold as quickly as possible. This remedy is for sale by all dealers.

Bank Robbed at Seminole.

Last Thursday afternoon two masked men entered the Seminole National Bank of Seminole as mall town north of Midland and at the point of revolvers forced the cashier to hand over \$3500 but overlooked a large amount of money that was lying near. After securing the package the cashier was locked in the vault, giving the robbers time to get out of town on horseback.

We have just received a shipment of automobile accessories and will appreciate your patronage. Merkel Garage tf

Saturday Lunch, 10 Cents.

The Philathea Class will serve lunch Saturday in the old Hogue-Hamilton Company Building. Price 10 cents.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

AWAY GOES PIMPLES

BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA, DANDRUFF AND OTHER SKIN AFFECTIONS

When Zemo and Zemo Soap Are Used.

The Rust & McCauley Drug Store says, "We are so confident that ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP used together will rid the skin or scalp of infant or grown person of PIMPLES, BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA, DANDRUFF, INSECT BITES or any form of itching, irritated, disfiguring skin or scalp trouble, that we do not hesitate to recommend these clean refined remedies to every person who desires quick relief and a cure from any form of aggravated skin or scalp affection. Often-times one bottle and one cake of soap will cure a minor case of skin trouble.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP produce sure and swift results. You will not suffer another day after you commence to use them. You will feel like a new person.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP can be obtained from one leading druggist in every city or town in America and in Merkel by Rust & McCauley Drug Store.

Saturday Lunch, 10 Cents.

The Philathea Class will serve lunch Saturday in the old Hogue-Hamilton Company building. Price 10 cents.

You Want a Better Job?

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your service, if you become qualified and show ambition to rise. Hundreds of bankers tell you in Draughon's literature why you should qualify at Draughon's. For catalogue, address Draughon's Practical Business College, Abilene, Amarillo or El Paso

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

Special Underpricing on Embroideries, Laces & Undermuslins This Week

We are showing all the new and novel styles in Muslin Undergarments and the newest 1912 patterns in Laces and Embroideries—all most reasonably priced.



COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

We received an interesting communication from Union Ridge this week but did not publish it on account of not having the correspondent's name signed. We would appreciate a communication each week from each community in the Merkel territory. All communications must be signed and reach the office not later than Tuesday morning to insure publication. Stationery will be mailed on request.

Trent Items.

Feb. 21—Miss Conner one of the Merkel teachers was visiting her sister Miss Maud Conner Saturday and Sunday.
H. W. Harris who lives west of Trent has been sick with typhoid fever but is improving now.
Sam Howell of Shiloh has moved to Trent.
Mr. and Mrs. O. Dollahite entertained the young people Friday night.
Misses Beuna Beckham and Vada Holton were shopping in Merkel Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McRee visited relatives at Shiloh Sunday.
C. T. Beckham and daughter Miss Geta went to Abilene Tuesday.
Sam Howell has purchased the James Bright stock of goods.
Quite a number of Trent people attended the singing at Shiloh Sunday evening.
Misses Maud Conner and Beulah Smith were shopping in Merkel Saturday.
O. Dollahite received a telegram from Lytle Sunday evening stating his father was dying. He left on No. 2 train Sunday night for Lytle.
Mrs. V. O. Scarborough of Bryan is visiting her son Tom Williams.
J. K. Cauthen and family have moved to Abilene. John.

Blair News.

Feb. 21.—The farmers are very busy preparing their land for the crops and the cold weather is just what they want at this time.
Mr. Adcock of Blair spent Monday in Abilene on business.
Miss Mirtus Moore still keeps the postoffice at Blair.
Bro. Baker of Merkel preached here Sunday. A large crowd was out.
Sorry to learn of Mrs. Wm. Clark being sick. Hope she will soon be up.
Mrs. Adcock's mother spent Sunday in Buffalo Gap.
Miss Velma Clark spent one day last week with her sister Mrs. J. D. Brown.
Mr. Goens and sons of Blair were in Merkel the first of the week.
Arthur and Emma Clark spent Saturday and Sunday with their parents returning to school at Merkel Monday.
W. M. Moore of Comper was in Blair Monday.
Am sorry to learn of Mrs. Spears' children having the whooping cough and chicken pox. Daisy.

White Church Community.

Feb. 19.—There was preaching at White Church Sunday and Sunday night.
Rufus Pannell visited Dinzel Cox Saturday night and Sunday.
Columbus Riggan went to the party at Mr. Sherill's Saturday night.
Tom Bruce visited Millard Pannell last week.
Ruth and Ulala Pannell went to Nubia Monday evening.
Columbus Riggan and Howard Brown took dinner last Sunday with Jack Noel.
Mr. Sherill and family visited Mr. Snow and family Sunday.
Rufus Pannell visited Dolph Coats Friday night.
Mrs. S. V. Boden is visiting Mrs. H. E. Farmer this week.
Mr. Pannell went to Merkel Monday. Millard Pannell and Tom Bruce attended the party at Dolph Coats' Saturday night.
Bob Boden of Westbrook is visiting his sister Mrs. H. E. Farmer. Prodigal Son.

There is no better medicine made for colds than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It acts on nature's plan, relieves the lungs, opens the secretions, aids expectoration, and restores the system to a healthy condition. For sale by all dealers.

Salt Branch News.

Feb. 20.—Bro. Saffle of Merkel filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday.
There was a nice crowd out at singing Sunday afternoon.
Bros. Saffle and Stevens took dinner with W. B. Robertson Sunday.
Misses Dewie Floyd and Osee Teaff were visiting Misses Maggie and Ruth Allen Sunday.
Miss Pearl Stevens of Abilene was the guest of Misses Selena and Olive Teaff Sunday.
Mrs. Risinger was visiting Mrs. Etta Petty Sunday.
S. W. Taylor and family were visiting W. M. Hays and family Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Jobe and son Britian of Merkel were guests of W. B. Beavers and family Sunday.
W. M. Hays and family were visiting W. B. Beavers and family Wednesday afternoon.
Wesley Hardy and family were visiting J. W. Hardy Sunday.
Mr. Woods, S. W. Taylor and wife were guests of W. B. Beavers and wife Saturday.
Miss Ruthie Risinger was the guest of Miss Nina Beavers Sunday.
Robert Allen had the misfortune of losing a work horse Sunday.
Joe McMurray and family were visiting at the home of Oscar Mobley Sunday.

Miss Oma Taylor was visiting Misses Selena and Olive Teaff Sunday.
Misses Ona May and Ruby Lee McMurray were guests of Miss Annie Petty Sunday.
Miss Oma Taylor was visiting Miss Lyda Beavers Monday.

Walter Turner was real sick Saturday night.
Clyde Williams of Mereta came in Thursday night to spend a while with his uncle W. B. Beavers.

Those visiting the school Friday evening were Misses Lillie and Lois Smith, Oma Taylor, Gardie Higgins, Flay Gunn and two friends of Merkel and Lyda Beavers, Messrs. Clyde Williams, Burley Taylor, Sollie Woods, Joe McMurray, Oscar Mobley, Bob Allen, W. B. Beavers, Mesdames Bob Allen, Clint Allen and Douglas.
Mr. Woods and son returned to Loraine Monday after a pleasant visit with his daughter Mrs. S. W. Taylor and family. Blue-Eyed Girl.

Feb. 14.—We have had a nice rain which will help oats greatly.
Sunday school was well attended Sunday morning.

Singing was well attended Sunday evening.
Misses Annie and Gertrude Higgins spent Monday night with Misses Cora and Neva Hays.
Jess Higgins and wife were visiting Ezra Barker and wife Sunday.
Mr. Clark and son Houston were out at W. B. Beavers Sunday looking at his farm.

S. W. Taylor and family were guests of J. W. Teaff and family Sunday.
Grandma Barker was visiting Grandma Allen Saturday evening.
Mrs. Hays was in Merkel Saturday.
Misses Ida Taylor and Lillie Wheat spent Saturday night with Mrs. Bersha Barker.

Charles Higgins and family were visiting Joe Higgins and family Sunday.
Misses Selena and Olive Teaff, Oma and Ida Taylor, Cora and Alma Hays were visiting the Misses Smith Sunday.
Miss Nina Beavers visited Misses Willie and Mollie Hardy.
Will Higgins and family were visiting Clint Allen and family Sunday.
Misses Willie and Mollie Hardy spent Monday night with Misses Lyda and Nina Beavers.
Owen Taylor was visiting Byers Petty Sunday.
Lester Wheat is visiting his sister Mrs. Nona Allen this week.
Misses Neva Hays and Maggie Allen were the guests of Miss Annie Petty Sunday.

W. B. Beavers spent Monday and Tuesday at his farm near Shiloh.
Ollie Stone of De Leon came in on the early train Wednesday and is the guest of Charles Higgins and family. He will work for J. R. Heater this year.
Willis Taylor was the guest of Carl Smith Sunday. Blue-Eyed Girl.

Noodle Dots

Feb. 19.—We are glad to report no sickness in this community except Mrs. Walter Green and she is reported convalescent.

Rev. W. K. Horn of Abilene preached at the Methodist church Sunday night. The attendance was good.

Our new school building will be completed in a week or two.

The crowd at the literary society last Friday night was very large and we invite all that were present to come again and bring their friends.

A number of people attended church at Shiloh Sunday.

The Noodle school is progressing nicely but we are dreading the examinations that are coming next week. We are also afraid they won't be easy. As news is scarce I will ring off.

White Dove.

Flying Men Fall

victims to stomach, liver and kidney troubles just like other people, with like results in loss of appetite, backache, nervousness, headache, and tired, listless, run-down feeling. But there's no need to feel like that as T. D. Peebles, Henry, Tenn., proved. "Six bottles of Electric Bitters," he writes, "did more to give me new strength and good appetite than all other stomach remedies I used." So they help everybody. Its folly to suffer when this great remedy will help you from the first dose. Try it. Only 50 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

"Good goods and low prices" is our motto. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Butman Community.

Feb. 13.—The rain which began Monday afternoon about one o'clock and lasted several hours was a welcome guest of the farmers of our community.

Misses Balma Richburg and Victoria Worlick and Messrs. Bonnie Matthews and Theodore Clark were the guests of Miss Worlick's sister who is teaching school at Shep Saturday and Sunday.

The singing at Mr. White's was enjoyed by a large attendance.

W. F. Butman sold \$60.00 worth of pigs in his regular sales last month and thinks he will sell \$100.00 worth this month.

Calvin Cordill who has been very sick is reported better. Ned.

State of Ohio, City of } ss
Toledo, Lucas county }

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure. Frank J. Cheney.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886. A. W. Gleason, (SEAL) Notary Public.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's family Pills for constipation.

Dora Doings.

Feb. 13.—I thought I would surprise all the good readers of the Merkel Mail with a few lines from our community.
Little Ruby Phillips is right sick this week.

The Elliott boys carried cotton to Merkel Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver who have been visiting their children in this community have returned to their home in Van Zandt county.

Green Jones went to Merkel Thursday.

We are sorry to say that DeWitt Phillips lost his work mule.

Mrs. Brandon is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. Jeff McKee died last Tuesday and was buried Wednesday at Nolan.

D. C. Sanders of Sweetwater spent Tuesday night with his cousin C. F. Sanders.

T. G. Olivet was transacting business in Merkel Friday.

Mr. Dalton carried cotton to Merkel Thursday.

PURE MEBANE COTTON SEED

It pays to raise the best, so plant the best seed. We have only a limited amount on hand, so give us your order at once and be sure of getting the best turn-outs when you go to the gin next fall.

B. C. GAITHER & SONS

Phone 80. Merkel's Reliable Grocers

Same Goods for Less

If you can get the same goods for less money, it is a sensible business policy to do so. Whenever you order goods from a merchant if you will take the time to ask the price, you will often be surprised at the difference. When you can save 10 cents on a sack of flour or 5 cents on a bucket of syrup by taking a little trouble to inform yourself on prices, it is plain what your duty would be. We have but little expense, therefore we are not compelled to get higher prices to make the profits.

100 pounds Blue Ribbon Flour	\$2.90
25 pounds sugar	1.60
10 pounds White Cloud Lard	90c
10 pounds Cottolene	1.25
10 pounds Velve Syrup	65c
10 pounds King Corn Syrup	65c
10 pounds Wild Rose Syrup	40c
10 pounds Royal Sorghum	45c
10 pounds P. & F. or Evangelina	45c
10 pounds White Lily	45c
1 pound Arbuckle Coffee	25c
5 gallons good oil	40c
5 gallons best oil	65c

We don't claim our goods to be better than the other man's goods, for we all buy about the same class and pay the same for them. Nearly all the extra high patent flour is about the same in quality and costs about the same in the market; of course some of it costs you more, but it is because the merchant makes more profit. Call and see us.

Clark & Allen

Charlie Price and wife of Jones county spent Friday night with Mr. and Mrs. Adrain Phillips.

The people of this community made good use of the pretty weather for the last two weeks sowing oats. There will be a large acreage of oats as the people are going to decrease the acreage in cotton.

Mr. Woods who has been on the sick list for several days is reported some better.

The school at Dora is progressing nicely, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers being our teachers.

The people of this community are all smiles after the fine rain which insures a good season.

C. F. Sanders and family spent Sunday with Tom Perry and family. Jack.

We regret very much to learn of the death of the little child of Mr. and Mrs. Geislre's who had recently moved to Merkel. The child was buried in Statens Chapel.

Thos. McCoy made a business trip to Merkel Thursday.

Bro. Sullivan filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday. Mrs. Thos. Price has been called to Oklahoma to attend two of her grand children who are reported very low with meningitis.

We are having some very fine weather now yet the ground is too wet to plow well.

There was singing at Jim Rhodes Sunday night. All that attended report a good time and some fine singing. Lot Hailey started for Callahan county last Monday. Jack.