

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 24—NO. 14

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1912

8 PAGES

DEATH OF RICHESON

Steps into Chair Very Calm and is Decided as to his Fate.

LEAVES PRISON CELL SMILING

A Current of 1900 Volts Passes Through the Body and the Minister's Form Surged Forward for the Last Time.

Boston, May 21.—Clarence V. T. Richeson was electrocuted at 12:17 this morning for the murder of Avis Linnell, his sweetheart.

The current was turned on at 12:10.02 and the prisoner was declared dead at 12:17.

The former Baptist clergyman, who confessed to poisoning Avis Linnell of Hyanni, his sweetheart was outwardly calm when he entered the death chamber, and he maintained his composure while the straps and electrodes were being adjusted as he sat in the electric chair.

Richeson walked to the chair erect, eyes straight ahead, until he sat down. Then he closed his eyes and kept them shut until the end.

Seated in the chair, he was asked a series of questions by Rev. Herbert S. Johnson, his spiritual adviser.

"Would you like to confess Christ before these witnesses as your Savior?" asked Mr. Johnson.

"I do confess Christ, as my Savior," came the answer firmly.

"Does Christ give you the strength you need in this hour?"

"Christ gives me the strength I need."

"Have you the strength to meet death?"

"I have. God will take care of my soul and I pray for all."

"Do you here repent of your sin?"

"I do."

"Do you forgive everybody?"

"I forgive everybody."

"Are you willing to die for Jesus's sake?"

"I am willing to die—"

As the word "die" came from the lips of the man in the chair the goldheaded cane of Warden Bridges was tilted slightly upward, there was a crash of a falling lever and Richeson was no more.

The lithe form of the former pastor surged forwards in the great leather thongs, but no sound came from the throat of the victim.

The current was kept on for one minute and eight seconds. The man was dead the instant of the contact, which was made at ten minutes and two seconds after midnight.

After the electric wires were disconnected from the chair the three physicians, Drs. McGrath, McLaughlin and Butler, declared the victim dead.

It is expected the wishes of the dead man will be carried out and that he will be buried beside his mother in the family lot in Virginia. A Brother, Douglas Richeson of Chicago, is in Boston to take charge of the body.

Richeson had no supper, saying he desired none. After eating a little fruit he lighted a cigar and he was sitting on the edge of his cot, apparently enjoying his

smoke, when Deputy Warden Allen entered his cell with the black suit of clothes to be worn during the execution. Richeson nodded calmly to the deputy but said nothing.

Yesterday and during the forenoon today the prisoner lay on his cot, but this afternoon and this evening he sat up most of the time.

ENGLISH MONEY TO MERKEL BOY

An estate in England handed down three times reaches a Merkel boy for his prorata with the nice sum of \$2,245.00. The young man coming into possession of the above amount is Alva Sharman a well-known Merkel boy who has for a number of years made this place his home.

He became the rightful owner of the money in trust at the time of his father's death in the year of 1892 and the amount continued to accumulate interest on the remaining part until the young man should reach the age where he could obtain it. For some time attorneys have been working on the matter for Mr. Sharman but he did not receive the money until Tuesday morning of this week through his lawyers of Anson. A bank draft was sent on one of the local banks for the above amount.

W. T. Sharman father of the Merkel boy was born in America but was born of native English people coming from the mother country and the settlement of Tuesday morning dates back to early years when the grand parents of Alva were natives of Olverston, England.

SACRED HARP SONG SERVICES AT STITH

Stith gave the old people of the country one of the most enjoyable occasions on Sunday that has been tendered to any gathering in some in this country. It was a Sacred Harp song service in which the old time Sacred Harp song books were used as back in the sixties, and as all old singers know contains only four notes in the writing of the songs, so the young people of the country that attended not being conversant with that kind of music were forced to sit back and let the old people entertain them with their well remembered songs. Many of the singers did not use the books as guides but sang from memory the songs used fifty years ago.

At noon a table some 300 feet long was loaded down with good-to-eats and every one enjoyed themselves to the utmost and soon after the feast was over the song service was again taken up and yet the young singers of the country could do very little toward helping with it, so after all, the old people had a day strictly to themselves where no youngster could infringe upon their pleasures for one day. It was an occasion long to be remembered by those who attended.

FIRE BOYS RETURN FROM CONVENTION

The local representatives to the state convention of volunteer firemen returned Sunday morning with the exception of Olly Sharp who was very much set on staying in the capital city. Chief B. C. Gaither and the other delegates are all smiles over the convention and say that it was the best that could have possibly been given for the firemen of the state.

In the contest for the fastest reel race the prize went to Brownwood on a time of 29 seconds with our neighboring city Abilene in fifth place, but as the money did not extend beyond fourth place Abilene was left out of the award. The time of 29 seconds is very fast when a person thinks of the work of running 200 feet laying four sections of hose from the cart and and breaking connection on the third, placing nozzle, making connection at the hydrant and getting water. A record of 26 and a fraction seconds stands for the best but 29 is good.

COMMERCIAL CLUB SECURED AT TRENT

On last Friday night the merchants and business men of Trent organized a commercial club to look after the interests of the town and to do all possible to promote the welfare of that city.

S. W. Browning was elected chairman of the club with Postmaster Terry as secretary. The first thing looked into was the possibility of obtaining a newspaper for the town. All the members are in favor of the enterprise and are willing to back such an undertaking in a profitable way.

The members in attendance at the first meeting showed a progressive spirit and we predict good results from the organization for its purpose is the uplift of the town.

200 pairs Bare Foot Sandals at almost half price. Parton Dry Goods Company.

WHITE HOPE TARVER AT BIG SPRINGS

Monday afternoon Cass Tarver with his manager Dr. Platt of Anson and his trainer Frank Mayo passed through here enroute to Big Springs where Tarver gave an exhibition fight.

Tarver's speed is somewhat increased by constant training at the hands of the noted trainer and is well prepared to take on any newly made white hopes that care to stand up before him in any number of rounds from 10 to 45.

"Camp Springs Special" the flour with quality. Guaranteed to give satisfaction. For sale by Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Miss Mamie Ouzts of Kosse came in from Plainview Wednesday to visit her mother out at Hodges. She was accompanied by her sister Pearl. They will spend some time visiting the family of Mr. Cranston of that place before going home. Miss Ouzts has been connected with the Baptist college schools of Plainview for the past session.

MEXICO LADY HERE VISITING FRIENDS

Mrs. E. J. Rhoades and children of Culiacan, Mexico, refugees from the real scenes of war were visiting Mrs. Will Calvert of Trent this week. Mrs. Rhoades related some experiences at the hands of the Mexican rebels. She has been so near the scenes of battle as to have the Red Flaggers and Federals fighting in her yard and at times they tried to break down the doors to the home where Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades were in hiding and there they spent the greater part of one day. After the battle was over bullets were found in all parts of the house but very fortunately none were directed at the part of the house where the family were seeking shelter in a corner closet.

Mrs. Rhoades accompanied by Mrs. Calvert left for Stephenville Tuesday where they will visit their father. Mrs. Rhoades we understand will at least make Texas her home until the trouble is over but her husband was compelled to remain and look after interests he has in those parts. Mrs. Rhoades was the guest of Mrs. W. Parton of this place Saturday but returned to Trent to make ready for the trip to see her father.

ANTI-SALOON MAN TALKS IN MERKEL

The anti-saloon league was represented here Sunday by A. B. Webb, former president of Granbury college, now state representative of the anti-saloon league. Mr. Webb lectured at the Methodist church Sunday morning and at the Presbyterian church Sunday night, and at each place was given a good hearing. The marked attention paid the speaker showed that his appeal was not a fruitless one.

At the conclusion of the lecture at the Presbyterian church J. T. Howard was chosen as local chairman to take charge of any work that might arise in the future.

Notice to Parents.

In order that the children get the benefit of the public schools they must be enrolled during the month of May. All children that will be over seven and under seventeen on or before the first day of September are entitled to enrollment. Supt. R. L. Krigbaum is appointed to take the census, he is looking for you. If he does not find you see some member of the school board. Yours truly, 1713 Merkel School Board.

The very best cold drinks and cigars at Burroughs Drug Store.

BURGLARS ARE THICK

Southern and Eastern Part of County Flooded With Petty Thieves.

ADJOINING COUNTIES IN PATH

Band Seems to be Working as Far South as Coleman and All Intermediate Points Of Country From Here There.

Monday night city night Watchman King placed under arrest a suspicious character who gave his name as Jess Walker. The local officers were notified Monday afternoon by Sheriff Weir to be on the look out for any suspicious persons that might be seen as a band of burglars were seemingly working toward Merkel during the last few days. Monday night Watchman King saw some one flashing a light in as the windows of J. L. Banner & Son's store and promptly made an arrest, taking the man to the depot and called City Marshal Hall.

When searched the man had nothing on his person but a new knife and denied having a search light. Marshal Hall placed the man in the lock-up and taking a lantern went back over the ground, finding a small pocket search light in front of Behrens-McMillen's Furniture store and near the depot they found a new knife with three blades, all in one end. Next morning the man confessed to having the above articles in his possession but thought it would be better to throw them away when arrested in order that no suspicion would be placed on him. He gave his home as Laredo for a number of years but on being questioned as to the surroundings of the place at the time he claimed to be there he could not remember anything and on being prompted by Marshal Hall who is well acquainted with a former sheriff of Laredo who was in office there at the time Walker lived there, he declared he did not know such a man and was at a loss when questioned as to the first town north of Laredo and very near to it but did not remember such a place as Encinal which was at that time the first town north of Laredo.

He was taken to Abilene for safe-keeping by Sheriff Futch of Coleman who was in this section looking after a man that suited the description of Walker.

At Abilene Monday night the store of the Minter Dry Goods Company was entered and four or five suits of boys clothes, three pairs of trousers for boys, two pairs of shoes boys size, two of the best grips in the house and some other things were taken. From the goods taken it is thought that the thieves were small boys as everything missed was for boys about seventeen years of age. Buffalo Gap was visited Sunday night and the McCormick Drug Store was entered and robbed of some knives, razors and jewelry.

It is now thought that the man arrested here is the one that did the Buffalo Gap work and perhaps one of a gang that is doing the second story work all over this country at the present.

**BE PROTECTED
PUT YOUR MONEY
IN A NATIONAL BANK**



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The Southern National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

CAPITAL STOCK \$50,000

ALL GOOD BUSINESS SOLICITED

John Sears, President

C. L. Barker, Vice-Pres.

J. E. Faucett, Cashier

PROFESSIONAL

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

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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

Insurance Agent

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WILLIAMS & JOHNSON

Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident

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Respectfully Solicit Your Business

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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



Eyes Fitted and Tested by Up-to-Date

Methods.

All Work Guaranteed.

Mrs. E. M. RUST, Optometrist

At Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

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

J. B. FERRIER

BRICK & CEMENT CONTRACTOR

Let me submit you figures for new Cistern, Chimney, Flue, for any brick or cement building. All work guaranteed. Leave word for at the Elite.

Merkel Mail \$1.00 per Year.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Big sale Bare Foot Sandals at Parten Dry Goods Co.

Mrs. J. P. Sutphen visited friends in Abilene Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Guitar visited relatives in Abilene the first of the week.

The Oil Mill will pay you 3 cents each for all good second-hand sacks.

Mrs. J. J. Stallings visited Mrs. G. W. Pickle of Abilene the first of the week.

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

Miss Callie May Frazier of Trent spent Saturday with her sister Mrs. C. V. Frazier of this place.

Come to the barber shop in the rear of Southern National Bank and get a 15c shave for 10c

Misses Annie and Leona Dyas, Messrs. Roy Dozier and A. D. Martin were the guests of Miss Ether Williams Sunday.

Meet me with your buggy chances at the Anchor Hardware Company Saturday.

Mrs. Chas. Fryar has gone to Abilene where she joined her husband who has lately taken a position with the Abilene Daily Reporter.

Sallow complexion is due to a torpid liver. Herbine purifies and strengthens the liver and bowels and restores the rosy bloom of health to the cheek. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Mesdames J. S. Swann and R. A. Ellis and Miss Laura Cary, Will Merritt and Lewis Swann spent Tuesday on Sweetwater creek fishing.

Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Harkins of Roscoe returned home Monday after having spent a few days here in looking over some property lately secured by Mr. Harkins.

For a burn or scald apply Chamberlain's Salve. It will allay the pain almost instantly and quickly heal the injured parts. For sale by all dealers.

John McDonald returned this week from a ranch near Spur where he has been employed for the past four months in helping construct a new ranch house on one of the large ranches of that country.

Be sure and bring your buggy chance to the Anchor Hardware Company Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Johnson, Mrs. E. Boone and Sam T. Howell of Trent were in the city a few moments Tuesday on their way to Abilene on business matters.



IN EMERGENCY

Accident or sickness on the farm.

The rural telephone, connected with a Southwestern exchange, will bring the doctor, perhaps save a life. It is worth while?

Ask the nearest Southwestern manager about the low cost, or write

The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company

DALLAS, TEXAS



To the Voters of Taylor County.

To prevent you from being misled by false rumors I submit the following which is self explanatory. John Vance.

Attorney Generals Dept.

State of Texas.

Austin, March 23, 1912.

Mr. John Vance, Abilene, Tex.

Dear Sir: We are in receipt of a letter requesting this department to write you our opinion as to whether or not a blind man can hold the position of tax assessor if elected. Replying thereto, I beg to state that this department has several times advised that there is nothing in the law of this state which makes a blind person ineligible to hold any office. Yours very truly, C. E. Mead, Asst. Att'y. Gen. (Copy from original.) 3t5pd

Some of those attending the singing at Stith from Merkel were Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bradley, Miss Ruby Jones, George Ferrier and Will Evans in Mr. Evans' car. Others going were Misses Clara Saffle, Bessie Touchstone, Almada Harris, Effie Hutson, Messrs. Ben Merritt, Floyd Dean, C. C. Franklin and Price, Bankhead.

A free chance at a \$1.00.00 buggy with every dollar purchase at the Anchor Hardware Company. Buggy given away Saturday.

In a letter from R. A. Miller of Lindale asking about copies of the Mail that he had missed he also states that the condition of the country down there is fine and that he would begin picking berries Monday and that the crop was good this year. His letter is dated May 18, so we judge he is in the middle of a big blackberry patch right now making ready to help furnish the canneries of that country.

There never was a time when people appreciated the real merits of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy more than now. This is shown by the increase in sales and voluntary testimonials from persons who have been cured by it. If you are your children are troubled with a cough or cold give it a trial and become acquainted with its good qualities. For sale by all dealers.

A message from S. P. Miller from Houston to his sister Mrs. W. H. Dickson tells of his personal loss in the big Houston fire early Sunday morning. Sterling is in charge of the navy recruiting station in Houston and had offices in the Mason building. This building was the second to burn. He narrowly escaped with his life saving nothing but the clothes he could grab as he made his exit.

Buggy given away at the Anchor Hardware Company Saturday. Be sure and bring your tickets.

An account of the entertainment at Mrs. J. W. Jennings will appear in next week's issue. Owing to the lateness of getting the write-up into the office we could not publish it this week.

Unless you are using the American Beauty you are not having the best bread that your money will buy. Phone 465, the cash store. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Bowles, Miss Nina Louise Trott and Mrs. Bowles' father Mr. Rasberry were in a fishing crowd to the Clear Fork last week. They report a good catch.

We will pay the spot cash top of the market price for 100 dozen fryers. Kent St. Grain & Grocery Company.

Mrs. Booth of Hawley has been visiting Mrs. J. T. Warren this week. She was accompanied home by Mrs. Warren Thursday.

Geo. Moore and Judge W. W. Wheeler were business visitors in Abilene Thursday.

No Trespassing Allowed.

Every person caught trespassing on my premises will be prosecuted. Don't forget this means YOU (1713) Vol Martin.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

"Sides" best cream at the Elite. J. L. Banner was in Abilene Wednesday on business.

Ladies Bare Foot Sandals for \$1.00 at Parten Dry Goods Co.

Frank Johnson made a business trip to Abilene Wednesday.

35 cent two minute cylinder records for 21 cent at the Elite.

Chas. Stevens returned from Hamlin Monday night after a short visit.

All 50 cent four minute Columbia cylinder records for 26 cents at the Elite.

Dr. J. H. Warnick, L. H. King and W. T. Potter were business visitors in Abilene Tuesday.

Free buggy at the Anchor Hardware Company Saturday. Bring your chance.

T. E. Paylor came in from Big Springs Wednesday night to visit his parents.

Highest cash market price for chickens and eggs. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

Arthur Browning came in Wednesday morning to visit his parents for a few days.

All two minute Columbia cylinder records for 21 cents while they last at the Elite.

Mrs. John Childers has returned to her home at Trent after a short visit to her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Barnes.

Bring your buggy chances to the Anchor Hardware Company Saturday.

Mrs. J. T. L. Annis went to Abilene Wednesday to attend the Buck-Chandler wedding. She will remain for a few days visiting Judge Tillets family.

Now is the time to get rid of your rheumatism. You can do it by applying Chamberlain's Liniment and massaging the parts freely at each application. For sale by all dealers.

Mr. Hamill, former editor of the San Angelo Record, has sold his interest in that company and will make Abilene his future home. He stopped off here enroute to Abilene.

Mrs. West Edwards and little grand daughter Lucile Edwards left Wednesday morning for Mineral wells for a short stay. After leaving there they will visit in Cleburne and Crandall for a short time then on to Corpus Christi where they will spend the summer.

A PAIR OF WHITE RABBITS can be bought for 50 cents by calling on Will Merritt.

MERKEL

GOOD HOMES, GOOD SCHOOLS,
GOOD CHURCHES, GOOD PEOPLE,
THE CITY TO LIVE IN,
THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY,
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,
GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,
EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,
INVESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN
PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

\$ - Merkel Country - \$
\$ BEST IN THE WEST \$

Bargains for Buyers; Buyers for Bargains

The level table and valley land, Taylor and Jones counties, between Divide and Clear Fork river; deep and rich soil; good water and inexhaustable supply; high altitude, good health, good schools, churches and people, (no niggers nor knockers;) a new country with new opportunities for men with money to invest or good men looking for a home.

GUARANTEE: Upon request I will send plat and description of any piece of property and deposit \$100.00 dollars in a bank to guarantee any proposition to be just as advertised and represented or pay all of your expenses. Honesty is the best policy and my style of doing business. I am not smart or slick enough to sell land any other way. I will give you a fair deal, sell you the best bargain of the kind at the time you buy and save you a lot more than my commission because I know my country, my propositions and my people. I will guarantee the following to be the best bargains in our country at this time.

BIG RANCH FOR SALE: Ten sections (two more leased;) 200 acres in cultivation; ranch house, big barn, corrals, sheds; everlasting wells, springs and creek; convenient to Abilene, Sweetwater, Maryneal and Merkel, An ideal ranch and the price is right. Price, \$7.00 per acre; \$15,000 cash and terms.

SMALL STOCK FARM: 800 acres (960 acres leased at six cents per acre goes with it); 15 miles southwest of Merkel, about 20 miles southwest Sweetwater; 90 acres in field, balance in grass; grass good and plenty of water. Price, \$7,000, \$3,500 cash and terms

SECTION AT SACRIFICE: 640 acres 8 miles northwest Big Springs; all level red sandy land; 80 in field and all tillable; 4-room house and cistern. Owned by bank and offered at genuine bargain. Price, \$15.00 per acre; one-half cash. This will double your money in few years and worth more now.

400 ACRES LEVEL AS FLOOR: Ten miles southeast Merkel, 14 southwest Abilene; 225 in cultivation, every inch tillable; 4-room house and cistern; public road two sides. Worth \$40.00 per acre. Price, \$30.00 per acre; one-half cash and balance terms.

VALLEY FARM: Known as best in Merkel country; never made a failure; 2 miles of Merkel; highly improved; 225 in cultivation; good big house; well, cistern and tank; two orchards; a magnificent country home and first-class farm land; owner wants a ranch and offers for less than its worth first time on market in many years. Price, \$12,800; one-half cash and balance 1 to 10 years.

A REAL BARGAIN: 320 acres; 200 in cultivation; no house but windmill and plenty water; adjoining land held at \$40.00 per acre and not on market. This tract in lawsuit and must be sold. Price, \$8,000; \$4,000 cash and terms.

SMALL FARMS: I have several bonafide bargains in small farms to sell to actual settlers on good and liberal terms with small cash payment. Tell me what you want and I will do the rest.

PROPERTIES FOR EXCHANGE

SECTION, FLOYD COUNTY: This is a good tract of land, less than fifteen acres waste; 200 acres in cultivation; small house and barn; about 16 miles north of Floydada; within two or three miles of good school; owner lives at Merkel and offers at a bargain on good terms or will take some Merkel country land. Price, \$20.00 per acre.

A HOME AND FARM: Non-resident owns desirable residence in Merkel and good little improved farm close to town which he would like to trade for good black land or revenue-bearing property near Fort Worth or Dallas.

The owner of a most desirable little farm close to Merkel, will accept good residence property for equity of \$2,500; party must protect payment of \$1,000 due this fall and assume balance.

One client owns 160 acres second-class land, only partially improved, clear of encumbrance and will pay difference in cash for first-class land in Merkel country. Price, \$20,00 per acre.

I have a big ranch to trade for black land in the central part of the state. Must be worth the money.

A first-class bright new stock of goods, worth 100 cents on the \$1.00 to trade for land and cash.

Selling bargains for all cash is my specialty but if you have a bonafide value-giving trading proposition I will try to match you.

It is no trouble for me to show my country and my automobile is always ready to go. If you are looking for a home or investment come to see me. I will simply show you and then let you do as you please with your money, but listen; Now is the time. Do it now and make money.

Reference: Our banks, merchants, farmers and stockmen.

JOHN G. JACKSON
EXCLUSIVE LAND MAN
Merkel, Texas

P. S.—Am in position to make loans on Merkel country farms at 8 per cent and my charges are reasonable.

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED

J. G. JACKSON, President HOMER EASTERWOOD, Manager
H. T. MERRITT, Foreman

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second Class Mail Matter

Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the management.

TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of The Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires, a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

BOGS VS. THE POOR.

The following clipping from a western paper is both a sermon and an object lesson in one:

Miss Jennie Crocker, heiress to a gentleman who was one of the especially privileged, is to have the toenails of the dogs in her \$150,000 kennel at Hillsborough, Cal., regularly manicured. Their teeth will also be cleaned twice a day. Oh, to be a Crocker dog, safe from worry about the high cost of living.

It is things like this that give one what the French call a "grand disgust" for the over-rich. Love of animals is to be commended, for it speaks a humaneness of disposition, but the nauseating folly of treating animals with the dainty attention that belong to the nursery or to miladi's boudoir is something to condemn unequivocally.

The world is full of suffering; in private homes and in all sorts of public charitable institutions helpless invalids languish in pain and want. Tens of thousands of orphans hold out their little hands to humanity for succor and shelter and the training that means clean living and honest endeavor.

And in the face of this, a young woman builds a \$150,000 kennel for the dogs, and has their paw-nails manicured and their teeth cleaned by salaried servants every day.

And what does she get out of it; what good does it do? Nothing but the gratification of an insane desire for notoriety. With her excess of money she might be alleviating the pain of human beings, and instead she is torturing dogs with attentions to which their needs and natures are aliens.

In the Great Beyond, when this dog fancier stands at the bar to give an account of her earthly stewardship of all that money, no quavering voice of aided old age will plead for her, no rescued childish hands will be outstretched to witness for her goodness and generosity. Instead there will come up a condemning whine from her sumptuous kennels, a whine that will say in effect: "She kept our nails too clean to scratch; she had our meat minced and took away the good bone, and she destroyed our fleas and the pleasure of hunting them by her frequently baths. She denatured us with luxury, and thereby made us miserable. Cast her out into outer darkness."

The inheritance of a vast fortune carries with it a responsibility that few of the idle rich realize. To love your individual dog better than you do your neighbor may be natural; but to pamper your dog and let your neighbor suffer is a sin in the eyes of him who preached the broad doctrine of the brotherhood of man.—Commercial Appeal.

BOB LOVETT AND THE BIG THICKET.

The Rev. I. Z. T. Morris of Fort Worth, who knew Robert Lovett as a boy, when asked for some reminiscences of Mr. Lovett's youthful days replied:

"We all know him down here as Bob Lovett and his father was familiarly and affectionately called 'old man Bill Lovett.' I first saw Bob on

his father's farm in what we called the 'Big Thicket,' a bear-hunting section of San Jacinto county when the lad was thirteen years of age.

"Bob had a pretty hard time getting a start in life but when he attained to high worldly honors and emoluments he retained the same unassuming manner and friendly way of his father. I was in his office in New York one day after he became the executive head of the Harriman lines and I said, "look here Bob, is this your office?" "Yes," he replied, and then added in a low confidential tone, "They call me Col Lovett up here but they don't know anything about Big Thicket."

"I have known Bob Lovett ever since he began his railroad experience making ties for the Houston East and West Texas," said Neal Robinson of Houston. "He was then a lad of about fifteen but he knew how to wield an ax. That man could step out of his Wall street office today and split 100 rails, cut a cord of wood or hew a dozen ties in a day and live on branch water, cornbread and bacon. Bob Lovett in many respects resembles Abraham Lincoln and old Abe had none the best of him in the way of honesty, industry and frugality. In east Texas we feel like we have contributed our share toward civilization by giving the world Robert Scott Lovett."

BEHIND THE TIMES AND FACING BACKWARD.

"Twenty-five years behind the times and facing backward." That is the term applied to a man who just died in Indiana. He was a wealthy man, having made money during the war times but after the war was over his business dropped off somewhat, yet he continued to use the same goods he used when he first went into business, and at that time his store was said to be the largest between Chicago and San Francisco. In the late years he continued to do business at the same old stand but needing no clerks he was the lone occupant of his establishment from seven o'clock in the morning until seven in the evening. His place grew to be a regular curiosity shop where hoop-skirts and such could be seen and secured, but he did no business. He was only keeping that business, if it could be called such, as a place to pass away the time until death, which caught him a few days ago. He was against advertising in any respect and never added a new thing to his stock.

We believe if a man could be "twenty-five years behind the times and facing backward" that old man was one, though his heart was no doubt as good as yours or mine but he was not progressive. Get the progressive spirit and advertise. If you do not do it one way do it another. Just advertise, that's the thing, and if you do the term applied to the old storekeeper cannot be applied to you.

The organization of the Central West Texas Agricultural Association has been effected, with headquarters at Hamlin, to foster and encourage the development of the vast agricultural resources in that section of the state. The membership is composed of the leading business men, commercial organizations and agricultural departments of the Wichita Vally, Texas Central, Orient, Abilene and Southern and the Stamford and Northwestern railways.

The commercial club has adopted a unique way of advertising the resources of Gainesville and has arranged with a noted lecturer to show views of that city and the near vicinity, in the course of his travels throughout the northern states. Four hundred views of that section of the state will be displayed.

The citizens of Abilene have voted to expend \$10,000 for fire department equipment and \$7,000 for the erection of a crematory.

\$6,000

IN CASH AND PRIZES

\$6,000

ABSOLUTELY FREE

MERKEL GIRL IN THE FORT WORTH RECORD PRIZE CONTEST

Votes Given in Exchange for Labels, Coupons, Wrappers or Trade Marks From Certain Manufactured Products Named Below

BUY THESE And Get Votes

Victor Macaroni & Saghetti.
Velva Syrup.
Dr. Price's Algrain Food.
Dr. Price's Wheat Flakes.
Crusto Lard.
Swift's Borax Soap.
Comet Brand Rice.

Six Texas Towns of less than 3,000 Population to Get Five of These Prizes

Merkel is One of These Towns

MISS FLOSSIE CYPERT, the Merkel contestant, is a daughter of Elder W. G. Cypert of Northwest Merkel, and would be pleased to have your help.

Votes given with every article in our store, call for them. One vote with every Cent Purchase
CONTEST OPEN NOW--CLOSES AUG. 7 AT 1 P.M.

BUY THESE And Get Votes

Maxwell House Blend Coffee
Swift's Pride Cleaner.
Red Cross Canned Meats.
Calumet Baking Powders.
Platter's Cigars.
Browns Sodaetts & Crackers
Faultless Starch.

First Prize \$1,000 in Gold, other prizes \$300 and \$200 in Gold

Six handsome Pianos, six beautiful Diamond Rings, a Shetland Pony and Cart to be given to people in Texas.

For further particulars call and see Merkel's Leading Grocers. Best and biggest line of Groceries in town

HELP THE
Merkel Girl Win

HAMBLET & ROGERS

HELP THE
Merkel Girl Win

Flies find their Food in Filth



You will find the poison to kill these flies at the Nickle Store. Also tangle-foot and traps.

And Wipe Their Feet on Your Food



J. M. C KING, Proprietor.

FRESH VEGETABLES

Radishes, Turnips, Turnip Greens, Mustard Lettuce, new Onions, Celery and fruits for the table. We also give the highest market price for all kind of farm produce.

HOWELL PRODUCE CO., Merkel, Texas

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.

Go After Business

in a business way—the advertising way. An ad in this paper offers the maximum service at the minimum cost. It reaches the people of the town and vicinity you want to reach.

Try It—
It Pays

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularity of the kinneys 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.

Felix R. Jones spent Saturday on the streets meeting old friends.

Now Brother Farmers.

Let's don't forget to prepare a good soil mulch and keep it well stirred at least once every ten days, thus conserving the moisture and pushing the growth of the young crops

The first cultivation should be done reasonably deep in order to form a good mulch but afterward shallow cultivation is preferable. Let's leave the harrow off of blowing lands for the present and use the cultivator, possibly we will obtain better results. These disastrous sand storms are unusual for the month of May and as it looks as if we were going to have to deal with them, lets change the method a little by leaving off the harrow and plow as deep as we feel safe in doing with the cultivator, for at least the first cultivation.

F. A. Peel, Special Dem. Agt.

Tomlinson's Letter.

Simmons' Liver Purifier is the most valuable remedy I ever tried for constipation and disordered liver. It does its work thoroughly, but does not gripe like most remedies of its character. I certainly recommend it whenever the opportunity occurs. M. M. Tomlinson, Oswego, Kansas. Price 25 cents.

During the last few months there have been shipped into Merkel to the Anchor Hardware Company some eight cars of buggies and farm implements. The grain crop brought on need of new binders and they have added 25 of the highest grade machines to their stock together with three cars of varied farm implements and three cars of buggies many of which have already been sold. This new increase of business is sufficient in itself to show that once more the wave of prosperity has begun to wave over the Merkel country and a better sign could not be had than those above mentioned.

Barbed wire cuts, ragged wounds, collar and harness galls heal up quickly when Ballard's Snow Liniment is applied. It is both healing and antiseptic. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Robbins returned home Saturday from Caps where they have been spending their honeymoon. They will make Merkel their home.

CRYING FOR HELP

Lots of it in Merkel But Daily Growing Less.

The kidneys cry for help. Not an organ in the whole body so delicately constructed; not one so important to health. The kidneys are the filters of the blood. When they fail the blood becomes foul and poisonous. There can be no health where there is poisonous blood. Backache is one of the first indications of kidney trouble. It is the kidneys' cry for help. Heed it. Doan's Kidney Pills are what is wanted. Are just what overworked kidneys need. They strengthen and invigorate the kidneys; help them to do their work.

Read the proof from a Merkel citizen. E. W. Dennis, N. Main St., Merkel, Texas, says: "We have used Doan's Kidney Pills off and on for some time. They have proven to be excellent for kidney trouble."

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.

After the Fort Worth Boosters had made their appearance here Thursday afternoon and departed several of the Merkel people decided to follow them to Sweetwater where they spent the night, some of the local citizens going up with the Boosters on their special train. Those going on the special were J. E. Faucett, J. P. C. Hunt and Judge W. T. Potter. Those going to Sweetwater on the last train that evening were Misses O'Briant, Coggin, Rister, Thornton, Potter, Mrs. W. T. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Britain, Messrs. Frank Ferrier, Homer Jobe, Roscoe and Parker Sharp, Franklin, Burns, Russell, Tittle, Renfro and Easterwood.

Dizziness, vertigo, (blind staggers), sallow complexion, flatulence are symptoms of a torpid liver. No one can feel well while the liver is inactive. Herbine is a powerful liver stimulant. A dose or two will cause all bilious symptoms to disappear. Try it. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Miss E. Love Hawkins departed for Huntingdon, Tenn., last Friday night to spend the summer with relatives. Miss Hawkins will be missed very much from the affairs of Merkel and we are looking forward to the time of her return.

The Oil Mill will pay you 3 cents each for all good second-hand sacks.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

See us for Red Top Sorghum seed. Whitley, Son & Co.

J. I. Leamon of Trent was in town on business Monday.

Pate & Rose shaving parlor. Barber work a specialty.

Miss Annie T. Daniel was a social caller in Abilene Monday.

Big sale Bare Foot Sandals at Patten Dry Goods Co.

Miss Terry of Trent was in town Monday visiting friends.

Ladies Bare Foot Sandals for \$1.00 at Patten Dry Goods Co.

W. O. Boney left for Morgan Monday to look after business affairs.

The Oil Mill will pay you 3 cents each for all good second-hand sacks.

Sheriff Weir was in town Saturday seeing the voters and on legal business.

200 pairs Bare Foot Sandals at almost half price. Patten Dry Goods Company.

Claud Whitley left Tuesday for Shreveport, La., where he will visit friends for a short time.

We handle Hughes famous candies. All fresh. Burroughs Drug Store.

Mrs. M. B. Hanks of Abilene is the guest of Mrs. Jno. G. Jackson this week.

Try our Camp Springs Special the guaranteed flour. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Steele of Ryan, Okla., are here visiting Mrs. Steele's parents Mr. and Mrs. Browning.

Let us sell you Cream for entertainments and ect. We handle Alta-Vista. None better. Burroughs Drug Store.

Mrs. C. V. Bigham and sister Miss Allyn of Eskota spent Sunday in the latter's home, returning here Monday.

Poor appetite is a sure sign of impaired digestion. A few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets will strengthen your appetite. Thousands have been benefited by taking these Tablets. Sold by all dealers.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

1906-1912.

In 1906 on the sixteenth of May I left fairy land and came here to stay; So come to my party and I'll love you, nix And let you go home promptly at six.

This unique invitation was received by a number of Master Dick's school friends who promptly found their way to his home where they played "Cat and Mouse," "Going to Jerusalem" and other out-door games. On entering the house they found a donkey minus his tail pinned on the wall. Each child was blind folded and given a tail to be pinned on the donkey. After all had tried, it was found that Master Dick Mims had come the nearest while Gordon Mims missed, by far, the furthest of them all.

The dining room was then opened showing fairy land. A red ball was suspended from the chandelier where vines were caught and fell in graceful garlands to the corners of the table in the center of which rested the wonderful birthday cake decorated with its six red and white candles. Fairy place cards marked the places for the following little guests: Alice Bigham, Willie May Clark, Lois Christopher, Elizabeth Gaither, Louise Scott, Madaline Hunt, Elba Cox, Charm Burroughs, Deyo Hunt, Jack Adderson, Carlton Dennis, Dexter Eoff, George Groene, John D. Gaither, Jr., Ed Scott, Gordon Mims and the host. Cream and cake were served. A number of birthday presents were given to Master Dick by his young friends who wish for him many happy returns of the day.

Mrs. Courtney Hunt at home for Miss Ollie Kate Harris Thursday May twenty-third nineteen hundred twelve 3 o'clock Miscellaneous Shower R. S. V. P.

"Coming events cast their shadows before them." This is no exception to the rule for the shower Thursday bells the old, old story that is ever new. When we loan the Harris family to Abilene two years ago we expected she would try to win them over and make them love her best. The occasion at the home of Mrs. Hunt Thursday announced the coming marriage of Miss Harris and Mr. Harry Harris of Abilene early in June.

J. N. Shelton, one of the best known citizens of Merkel celebrated his sixty-first birthday by inviting several of his friends and neighbors to take dinner with him. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McNeese, W. M. Elliott and wife, Grandpa Douglas and son Tom, Mrs. Walter Douglas and children, Rev. and Mrs. Hamilton and Mr. Rasberry. Everybody had a good time, a big dinner and on leaving the hostess presented each guest with a bouquet as a souvenir.

Little Miss Nellie Holloway celebrated her eighth birthday Saturday afternoon. Her guests were her teachers Miss May Vallentine, Misses Grace Diltz, Murtice Saffle, Ruby Teaff, Hazel Harkrider and Girlie Howard. After a delightful afternoon dainty refreshments consisting of cream and cake were served.

Sunday School Social.

Several weeks ago the Presbyterian Sunday school decided to have a contest to increase the enrollment and attendance. R. L. Bland and Ottis Barnett were to lead the sides. The losing side was to entertain the school. The contest is over and proved quite successful and the enrollment is more than doubled. On Friday night the losing side will entertain on the church lawn. A musical program will be rendered and Rev. Harrison of Abilene will give a short lecture on Sunday school. Refreshments will be served. Every member of Sunday school is invited.

When the baby takes too much food the stomach turns; the result is indigestion, sourness and vomiting. Frequently the bowels are involved and there is colic pains and diarrhoea. McGee's Baby Elixir is a grand corrective remedy for the stomach and bowel disorders of babies. It is pure, wholesome and pleasant to take. Price 25c and 50c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Saturday afternoon Misses Mary and Play Gunn were the charming young hostesses to the class meeting. A business meeting was the object of the meeting but the social side was most pleasing to the class members present and their teacher Mrs. W. A. Scott. The class members present were Misses Murtice and Clara Saffle, Ola Sharp, Ruth Merritt, Ina and Maggie Wheeler, Era Brady. Delicious pineapple ice and cake were served.

In the whole field of medicine there is not a healing remedy that will repair damage to the flesh more quickly than Ballard's Snow Liniment. In cuts, wounds, sprains, burns, scalds, and rheumatism, its healing and penetrating power is extraordinary. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

White-Reeves.

After preaching at Blair Sunday morning Rev. A. A. Baker was called to the home of Mr. Reeves who lives near there and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon he officiated at the marriage of Mr. Hurston White and Miss Mattie Reeves. The wedding was attended by close friends and relatives. Each of the contracting parties are well known to the people of the Merkel and Blair country and congratulations are being sent them for a long and happy married life.

Howell-Boone.

Tuesday morning Mr. Sam T. Howell and Mrs. A. Boone accompanied by Mrs. Boone's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Johnson, drove to Merkel from Trent and caught the noon train to Abilene where Mr. Howell and Mrs. Boone were married. They returned here on the evening train spending a few moments and returned to Trent their home.

Mr. Howell is one of the leading merchants of Trent and well known to the Trent and Merkel people. Mrs. Boone is one of the most popular ladies of that country and the Mail extends the most cordial congratulations to the happy couple and trusts that their married life will be one of untold happiness and prosperity.

League Program.

Lesson on home Missions. Leader, Miss Dorothy Lee Potter. Subject, The Heroism of Pure Devotion to Native Land. Scripture lesson, Jer. 40:1-6; Eph. 3:1-10; Mark 5:18-20. Song. Prayer. Song. A call, not to arms but to the uplift of human life.—Dr. McMaster. The call, not to cross seas but to work a reform within the nation's life.—Mrs. Potter. The call, not to defend ourselves from the outside foe but to welcome the stranger within our gates.—Miss Willie Coats. The call of the prophets a call to patriotism.—Mr. Johnson. Special music—Miss Bowler. Miscellaneous. Collection. Benediction.

Actual Facts.

For upwards of fifteen years Hunt's Cure has been sold under a strict guarantee to cure any form of itching skin troubles known. No matter the name—less than one per cent of the purchasers have requested their money back. Why? It simply does the work.

W. M. and A. S. May 27.

Subject, South America. Leader, Mrs. B. W. Moore. Song. Opening prayer, thought, christain privileges. Scripture reading—Leader. Respond to roll call with name and location of our missionaries in South America. Piano solo—Miss Mary Gunn. Paper—Mrs. Barnett. Tract—Mrs. Merritt. Vocal solo—Miss Ova Teaff. Reading—Mrs. W. A. Scott. Duet—Misses Lula Sharp and Ruth Merritt. Read Psalm 1 in concert and close with sentence prayers.

It would surprise you to know of the great good that is being done by Chamberlain's Tablets. Darius Downey, of Newberg Junction, N. B., writes, "My wife has been using Chamberlain's Tablets and finds them very effectual and doing her lots of good." If you have any trouble with your stomach or bowels give them a trial. For sale by all dealers.

Civic Improvement Prizes.

For the best kept premises, entire grounds and alley—1st prize, \$20.00 in gold by the First State Bank and Southern National Bank and one-half dozen pictures by the Groene Studio; 2nd prize, Merkel Light Company \$7.50 in wiring house or \$5.00 in merchandise; Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company \$5.00 in merchandise.

Best kept shade trees—1st prize, J. P. Sharp, \$3.50 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Anchor Hardware Company \$3.50 in merchandise.

Best kept alley by boy under 15—1st prize, West Texas Hardware Company \$5.00 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Hogue-Hamilton Company \$2.50 in merchandise.

Best kept, cleanest and most artistic back yard—1st prize, Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company \$4.00 in merchandise, 2nd prize, Farten Dry Goods Company \$2.50 in Merchandise.

The most artistic vine covered back fence—1st prize, Elite Confectionery \$2.50 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Merkel Oil & Cotton Company \$1.00 cash.

The most artistic arrangement of vines on veranda—1st prize, S. S. Scheidler, Jeweler, \$2.50 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Hamblet & Rogers \$1.00 cash.

For the prettiest and most artistically arranged flower bed by girl under 15 years—1st prize, Banner & Son \$3.00 music roll; 2nd prize, Burton-Lingo Company \$2.00 cash.

Prettiest rose border or bed—1st prize, W. L. Harkrider \$2.50 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Bradshaw Grocery Company \$1.00 cash.

Best kept lawn—1st prize, Rust & McCauley Jewelry \$2.50 in merchandise, Merkel Mail \$2.50 cash; 2nd prize, Star Store \$2.50 in merchandise.

Best general collection of flowers—1st prize, Armstrong Drug Company \$2.50 in merchandise; 2nd prize, Clark & Allen \$1.00 cash.

Best canna bed kept by boy or girl under 12 years—1st prize, Merkel Lumber Co. \$2.50 cash; 2nd prize H. C. Burroughs \$1.00 in merchandise.

Best kept nasturtium bed—1st prize, R. A. McClain Drug Company \$2.00 in merchandise; 2nd prize, W. M. O'Brian \$1.00 cash.

Prettiest chrysanthemum in pot—Rust & McCauley Drug Company \$2.00 cash.

Prettiest geranium in pot—Merkel Telegram \$1.00 cash.

Prettiest fern in pot—G. M. Sharp Feed Store \$1.00 cash.

Prettiest carnation in pot—Whitley Grocery Company sack best flour.

Prettiest pot of ice plant—Merkel Telegram 1 year's subscription.

The merchants have made it possible to offer the above prizes. We desire to have each man, woman and child in Merkel interested in civic improvement to enter for one or more of these prizes. Entries should be made by May 1, 1912. The contest closes Oct. 15, 1912. When you wish to enter for any of the above prizes phone to Mrs. W. H. Dickson. It is the wish of the Twentieth Century Club that a number of entries be made for each prize. Let all join in this laudable work for a cleaner, prettier and healthier Merkel. Just a little work each day will accomplish wonders.

ENTRIES.

The time has been extended from May 1 until June 1 in which entries can be made for the different prizes offered under the auspices of the Twentieth Century club. Reread the list and be sure to make your entries by this date. To insure prompt attention phone 64 when you wish to make entries.

For the best premises, entire grounds and alley, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Emzi Burroughs, Mrs. John Sears, J. T. Tucker, Mrs. J. W. Daniel, Mrs. W. H. Dickson, Taylor Jennings, Ed Scott, Mrs. W. L. Diltz, Mrs. Fred Bigham, Mrs. Geo. L. Hamilton, Mrs. G. A. Rister, Mrs. J. E. Costephens, Conna Adams, Mrs. J. G. Hale.

Prettiest chrysanthemum in pot, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Mrs. W. H. SoRelle, Mrs. R. H. McClain.

Prettiest geranium in pot, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Mrs. Alice Templeton, Mrs. J. W. Daniel, Mrs. W. H. SoRelle, Mrs. R. A. McClain.

Prettiest fern in pot, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Mrs. Alice Templeton, Mrs. R. A. McClain, Mrs. John Boden.

Prettiest carnation in pot, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Mrs. W. H. SoRelle, Mrs. R. A. McClain.

Prettiest pot of ice plant, Mrs. Phillip Pettit.

Best kept lawn, Mrs. J. W. Jennings, Mrs. John Sears, Mrs. G. A. Rister.

Best kept shade trees, Mrs. John Sears, Mrs. J. W. Daniel, Mrs. W. H. Dickson.

Most artistic arrangement of vines on veranda, Mrs. W. A. Scott, Mrs. Alice Templeton, Mrs. Geo. Hamilton.

Best kept nasturtium bed, Mrs. W. A. Scott, Miss Ruth Mims, Mrs. G. L. Hamilton, Katherine Pettit.

Best kept, cleanest and most artistic back yard, Miss Annie T. Daniel, Mrs. Phillip Pettit, Jackie Jennings.

Most artistic vine covered back fence, Miss Annie T. Daniel, Mrs. G. A. Rister, Mrs. W. H. Dickson, Mrs. W. A. Scott, Ina May Adams.

Prettiest rose bed or border, Mrs. J. W. Daniel, Mrs. J. T. Tucker, Miss Mary Jennings, Mrs. John Sears.

Best collection of flowers, Mrs. J. T. Tucker, Mrs. G. A. Rister, Mrs. J. E. Costephens.

For best kept alley, Ed Scott, Emzi Burroughs, Gordon Mims.

Best canna bed, Miss Madaline Hunt, Ina May Adams.

Best kept premises, Conna Adams.

Lame back is usually caused by rheumatism of the muscles of the back for which you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Liniment. For sale by all dealers.

Be Happy!

Happy the girl, or woman, who has never suffered from any of the diseases of womanhood! Or, if she has been a sufferer, happy is she if she has learned of the wonderful benefits of Cardui, the woman's tonic!

Cardui is a gentle, tonic remedy, for women's ailments. It is a natural medicine—safe, harmless, purely vegetable. It has been in successful use for more than 50 years. It has cured thousands. It should do the same for you.

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

Mrs. Mary Neely, of Denver, Tenn., says, "I think there is no tonic on earth, as good as Cardui. I used it with the very best results. I had backache and nearly everything a woman could suffer with, until I took Cardui. Now, I feel better than I have for two years. I shall always recommend Cardui to other suffering women. I can't praise it too highly. As a medicine for weak, tired, worn-out women, Cardui is safe and reliable. Try it, today.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn. for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free. J 56

JOHN R. DANIEL

Livery, Feed and Sale Stable SOUTH SIDE

Automobile Service in Connection

Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

The City Tailoring Co.

Cleaning, pressing, dyeing, altering and mending. All work guaranteed. Absolute satisfaction to all.

Franklin & Renfro, Props

High-Class Tailoring

is always the cheapest. Good service from good Tailors. Try me for the best.

C. L. Cash The Tailor

CITY ORDINANCE.

An Ordinance, Entitled an Ordinance prohibiting the abuse of any fire apparatus belonging to or used by the Fire Department of the city of Merkel, Texas, and prescribing a penalty for the violation thereof.

Sec. 1: BE IT ORDAINED, by the city council of the city of Merkel, Texas, that it shall hereafter be unlawful for any person, acting for himself, for any other person or for any corporation, to ride, drive or propel by the application of steam, gasoline or any other substance of force any vehicle, automobile, hack, buggy, wagon, engine, or car or other movable and moving vehicle of any character, over any fire hose belonging to the city of Merkel, Texas, or used by the members of the Fire Department of said city at any time, and any person violating the provisions of this ordinance, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$100.00.

Sec. 2: The fact that the city of Merkel now has no ordinance protecting the fire fighting apparatus while in action, from the danger of being rendered

useless by thoughtless or careless persons, creates an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the rule requiring Ordinances to be read on three several meetings be suspended and the same is suspended, and that this ordinance take effect and be in full force from and after its final passage, and it is so enacted.

Finally passed May 6, 1912. R. A. McClain, City Secretary. Examined and approved, this May 6, 1912. C. D. Mims, Mayor.

Electric Bitters

Succeed when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified. FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE it is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.

Stupendous Stock-Reducing Sale!

NOW IN FULL SWAY

\$15,000 Stock New Seasonable Goods MUST BE REDUCED ONE - HALF BY JUNE 1ST

The past week's business was unprecedented in the history of our career. The prices we are making did it. From now until June 1 our sales will be even greater than the past week. Why? Because each customer for the past week is a living walking advertisement of our goods and prices and are sending us customers after customers daily. Among the myriad thousands of HIGH-CLASS bargains being sold in this sale are:

\$20.00 ALL-WOOL FINE TWILL MEN'S SUITS IN THIS SALE FOR ONLY \$ 10.00	
\$4.00 Packard Slippers for Men for	\$2.98
50c Embroidery Flouncing for	25c
All 10c Ginghams for	7½c
\$2.00 Dress Pants for Men for	\$1.35
20c and 25c Ribbons, choice for	10c
20 yards yard-wide Brown LL Domestic	\$1.00

These are only a few, there are thousands of others like 'em

Parten Dry Goods Co.

MERKEL'S CASH BARGAIN HOUSE

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
Thos. L. Blanton.
- For Representative Taylor County
J. M. Wagstaff
- For County Judge;
E. M. Overshiner
T. A. Bledsoe
W. H. Sewell
- 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
J. W. Christopher
- For County Attorney:
H. Rob. Keeble
- For County Clerk:
W. J. (Dub) Young
- For Tax Collector:
D. T. Harkrider (of Ovalo)
Baylor Crawford
J. C. Bursleson
E. D. Stephens
- 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
- For County Superintendent
J. S. Smith

JONES COUNTY CANDIDATES

- For Tax Collector
W. R. Cranston
- For Tax Assessor
John Hollis Roberts (of Nugent)

DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY
Will Surely Stop That Cough.

BETTER MEDICINE THAN CALOMEL

Dodson's Liver-Tone, a Safe Vegetable Liquid.
Now Takes the Place of Calomel, the
Powerful Mineral Drug.

Many people know the danger of calomel, yet they take it because they know of nothing better. Other people are not afraid of calomel because they do not understand what a dangerous drug it is. Nobody needs to take dangerous calomel (which is made from mercury) if they live near a store where Dodson's Liver-Tone is sold. Rust & McCauley sells Dodson's Liver-Tone, and guarantees it to be a perfect substitute for calomel. It is a pleasant tasting vegetable tonic that livens up the liver without causing any restriction of habit or diet. It has none of the bad after-effects of calomel and is safe for children as well as grown-ups.

Operation for Appendicitis.

Close upon the operation on Miss Trott for appendicitis Mrs. Tom Coats was taken with the same trouble and was rushed to Abilene for an operation. She was carried down Wednesday and operated on that night. At the time her condition was much the same as often comes with such an operation. Later she seemed improved and was resting well at the Alexander sanitarium.

**KILL THE COUGH
AND CURE THE LUNGS**

**WITH DR. KING'S
NEW DISCOVERY**

**FOR COUGHS
AND ALL THROAT AND LUNG TROUBLES**

PRICE 50¢ & \$1.00
TRIAL BOTTLE FREE

**GUARANTEED SATISFACTORY
OR MONEY REFUNDED.**

Bucklen's Arnica Salve
The Best Salve In The World.

Letter From New Mexico.

We arrived at Tecolote May 2 and for a time we will stay here. The elevation is about 6500 feet. We have had some very cold weather first week in May and since then it has rained nearly every day. This morning snow and hail covered the ground. It looks as if we had moved close to Canada. This part of New Mexico is very interesting and in a few years will be a very good farming country.

At different places along the rail road there are a good many settlers and they are putting in crops. The country seems well adapted for fruit and there are many large trees and many others being set out. Near Three Rivers station the land seems very fertile and is settling up rapidly. A few miles east from Three Rivers is the Mescaleros Indian reservation.

Alamogordo is a beautiful place with parks and streets bordered with shade trees. Here a branch road runs to Cloudercroft and Russia. Cloudercroft is the great summer resort for El Paso. At Alamogordo we get a good view of the White Mountains, 14,269 feet elevation. They are covered with snow for most of the year. At different points we get charming views of these mountain ranges. This is certainly a picturesque route and the scenery is different from any I have seen.

Near Carrizozo we get a good view of the "Mal Pais," a river of lava that has its head in a crater near Carrizozo and extends for sixty miles south. Evidence of this volcanic disturbance extends west to the Rio Grande where it crosses the Santa Fe at Lava Station. About twenty-five

miles northwest of this "Mal Pais" is the celebrated "Gran Quivira" where an immense flow of lava has covered quite a large city and rendered useless a large section of country that at one time had been in a high state of cultivation. That these disturbances were of comparatively recent date and were probably at the same time is evident from the appearance of the country. The remains of irrigating ditches and ruins of destroyed cities, even the stumps and roots of trees that have been burned off can be found.

The country around Tecolote is not settling up very fast on account of water being scarce. The stations and engines of the rail road are supplied with water pumped from the rivers that flow from the White mountains. This pipe line is 150 miles long and water is pumped over two mountain ranges. The cost of this pipe line and pumping plant was \$1,500,000. In a few places it is hard to get water but in a greater part it is easy to get water by wells and in the valleys and around the mountain ranges there is an abundance of water.

Considerable placer mining is being done in the mountains and new "strikes" are being made. With the settling of the country the mining interests will be better looked after and New Mexico may yet be a rich mining state.

At Tecolote is located the large quarries and rock crusher where the E. P. & S. W. prepare ballast for their road. The country is covered in many places with forests of fine timber. Around here it is cedar and pine. All over the state are large forest under government reservations. May 14, '12. J. L. Vaughan,
Richel, N. M.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—A good milch cow. Will sell to right person on fall time. Is fresh now. See Mrs. E. M. Rust, Merkel, Texas.

FOUND—Bunch of keys. Owner can have them by calling at this office and paying for this ad.

HAND WANTED—To work on farm by the month. Sam Butman, Nubia, Texas. tf

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.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

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.

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COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

Inkum Items.

May 20—We had a shower of rain Monday night but the farmers would be glad to have a soaking rain of several hours length on their oats.

W. C. Perry and wife visited their son Joe Perry at Abilene Sunday last and attended mothers' day exercises at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Dalby visited at Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Dudley of Fort Worth came in Wednesday for a month's visit with homefolks.

There was a dance at G. T. Atkins' Thursday nights.

Nubia and Elm Grove base ball nines crossed bats near Elm Grove Saturday evening with the score in favor of Nubia.

It is reported that Messrs. Dalby & Hamilton have traded their ranch to a gentleman named Smith, from Hopkins county.

Mesdames W. O. and E. P. Perry were shopping in Merkel Wednesday.

There was an entertainment at Bob Williams Tuesday night.

Messrs. Hamby and son of Abilene and Bun Kirk of View were prospecting in our section Thursday.

Mr. Cozart of near View made a business trip to Inkum Saturday.

Frank Whisenhunt and wife of Nubia visited the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. Atkins Saturday.

J. W. Hallmark and wife are visiting their son J. M. Hallmark at Guion this week.

Ernest Perry made a business trip to Merkel Wednesday.

J. J. Denton and wife visited J. W. Denton near Mount Pleasant Wednesday. Mrs. Alice Mitchell has been sick the past week but is reported better at present writing.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Mulberry Scribbles.

May 21—Rev. Rister filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

Several people from here attended singing at Stith Sunday.

C. S. Harrison made a business trip to Abilene Saturday.

Hamilton Chancy and little son Jeff went to Tye on business Saturday.

Mrs. Annie Rogers and Mrs. Adiline Britton visited the latter's brother Charley Rogers of Warren Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Chancy spent a few hours at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rogers Sunday.

Miss Maggie Lee Chancy was the guest of Miss Omega Martin Saturday. Miss Nora Harrison spent the day with Miss Ollie Rogers Saturday.

The party at C. S. Harrison's Saturday night was attended by a jolly crowd. All report a nice time.

Miss Frankie Chancy spent Saturday evening with Misses Lena and Clara Daniels.

Singing at D. F. Rogers Sunday night. A nice little crowd out.

Prof. Willie Ford from Abby spent Saturday night with J. D. Daniels enroute to Stith for the singing Sunday.

Rev. Rister took dinner at the home of C. S. Harrison Sunday.

"Nails."

"Nails are a mighty good thing—particularly finger nails—but I don't believe they were intended solely for scratching, though I used mine largely for that purpose for several years. I was sorely afflicted, and had it to do. One application of Hunt's Cure, however, relieved my itch, and less than one box cured me entirely." J. M. Ward, Index, Texas.

Noodle Dolings.

May 20—The farmers are all busy at this writing.

Health is very good.

Quite a number of the Noodle people attended the singing at Stith Sunday. They report an enjoyable time.

Prof. Laney was with us Sunday and we had some good singing. His school at this place which was to begin the 20th was postponed until next Monday night.

There was a singeing at F. S. Wasson's Friday night.

The musical entertainment at the home of Will Reynolds was enjoyed by all present Saturday night.

Miss Lettye Jones was the guests of Miss Della Goode Sunday.

Misses Mabel Goode, Beulah Jones, Helen Thompson, Mary Wasson, Lillie Nichols and Messrs. Ollie Sosebee and Luther Richards were the guests of Miss Allie brother Jesse Glover Sunday.

A good many of the Shiloh and Horn people attended singing here Sunday afternoon.

Roy Meeks and wife visited the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. Cook Sunday.

Miss Lella Herring visited Miss Allie Glover Monday.

Will Thompson and Miss Lella Herring attended church at Horn Sunday night.

Porto Rico's New Wonder.

From far away Porto Rico comes reports of a wonderful new discovery that is believed will vastly benefit the people. Ramon T. Marchan, of Barcelona, writes "Dr. King's New Discovery is doing splendid work here. It cured me about five times of terrible coughs and colds, also my brother of a severe cold in his chest and more than 20 others, who used it on my advice. We hope this great medicine will yet be sold in every drug store in Porto Rico." For throat and lung troubles it has no equal. A trial will convince you of its merit. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

Blair Echoes.

May 21—Rev. Baker filled his regular appointment Sunday morning.

J. T. Reed and daughter Agnes left Friday for their home at Birmingham, Ala.

Quite a number of relatives and friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Reeves Sunday at three o'clock to be present at the marriage of their daughter Mattie to Tom White. We all join in wishing for them a long and happy married life.

Mrs. Aubrey Ray from Coleman was here to attend the wedding of her sister Miss Reeves.

H. W. Watford of Mulberry Canyon was here trading Tuesday.

Miss Susie Powell of Sylvester was here Sunday to attend the White-Reeves wedding.

Only a Fire Hero

but the crowd cheered, as, with burned hands, he held up a small round box. "Fellows!" he shouted, "this Bucklen's Arnica Salve I hold, has everything beat for burns." Right! also for boils, ulcers, sores, pimples, eczema, cuts, sprains, bruises, It subdues inflammation, kills pain. Only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

Compere Items.

May 21—Clarence Foster and mother were visitors in Merkel Saturday.

The attendance at preaching Sunday night was good. A Presbyterian preacher was with us but we did not learn his name.

The health of the community is good at this writing.

Dr. Hendrick of Stith was in our community Monday.

Quite a number of Merkelites passed through Compere last week on their way to the river. They report a good catch.

The stork is good to our community. He left a fine boy at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Childers last week.

A Great Building Falls

when its foundation is undermined, and if the foundation of health—good digestion—is attacked, quick collapse follows. On the first signs of indigestion, Dr. King's New Life Pills should be taken to tone the stomach and regulate liver, kidneys and bowels. Pleasant, easy, safe and only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

Shiloh Clippings.

May 21—We are still having lots of wind and sand but stuff seems to be still growing a little.

Mr. Hail has returned from his western trip and reports the west around Stanton and Odessa very dry.

Miss Pearl Wells has returned from Anson.

The singing at W. L. Boyd's Saturday night was largely attended. Every one had a delightful evening.

Large crowd from Shiloh attended the singing of Prof. Laney at Noodle Sunday.

The B. Y. P. U. meets next Sunday at 3 p.m. Everybody invited.

There will be a cream supper at John Williams Saturday night. Large crowd is expected.

Jim Saffle lately of Trent has moved on the old Ed Martin place.

Atlas Phillips came in home Saturday and Sunday but returned Monday to Bowie where he is repairing a gin.

Biliousness and Constipation.

For years I was troubled with biliousness and constipation, which made life miserable for me. My appetite failed me. I lost my usual force and vitality. Pepsin preparations and cathartics only made matters worse. I do not know where I should have been today had I not tried Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. The tablets relieve the ill feeling at once, strengthen the digestive functions, purify the stomach, liver and blood, helping the system to do its work naturally.—Mrs. Rosa Potts, Birmingham, Ala. These tablets are for sale by all dealers.

Salt Branch News.

May 21—Rev. Saffle of Merkel filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday.

Misses Lula and Annie Higgins and Mr. Ollie Higgins were the guests of Misses Cora and Alma Hays Sunday.

Several from this place attended the all day singing at Stith Sunday.

J. W. Teaff and family took dinner with S. W. Taylor and family Sunday.

Miss Annie Petty was visiting Miss Anna Mae McMurray Sunday.

J. W. Teaff and family, S. W. Taylor and family attended the burial of Mrs. Mary Richie of Tye Sunday.

Jim Ingram and wife of Mt. Pleasant were visiting Arthur Jones Sunday.

W. M. Hays was on the sick list Sunday.

Mrs. Fannie Hays was shopping in Merkel Saturday.

J. W. Teaff and wife were visiting Mr. McCarty and family one day last week.

Letter from Mrs. Goforth.

Mrs. Z. E. Goforth, 2119 Holly street, Kansas City, writes: "After using a sample bottle and two 25-cent bottles of Hunt's Lightning Oil, I am almost well of Catarrh. It stops my headaches. It is the best medicine I ever saw, and I can't just keep house without it." She is right.

Butman Community.

The Everybodys Society met at Butman school house Friday night, being its regular meeting night and the last day of school. A nice program was rendered by the school children and society members. The Canyon band boys furnished lots of good music. About four long hours were taken up entertaining a large audience.

Miss Victoria Warlick left Saturday for Abilene where she will spend a few days with friends and then be on her way to school at Commerce.

The long, hot, windy days with scarcity of rain has caused the small grain crop to be very near a failure while cotton and feed are looking fine.

Sunday school and prayer services were held at Butman school house at the regular hour Sunday.

The singing at Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Anderson's was attended by a large crowd Sunday night.

Flagged Train With Shirt.

Tearing his shirt from his back an Ohio man flagged a train and saved it from a wreck, but H. T. Alston, Raleigh, N. C., once prevented a wreck with Electric Bitters. "I was in a terrible plight when I began to use them," he writes, "my stomach, head, back and kidneys were all badly affected and my liver was in bad condition, but four bottles of Electric Bitters made me feel like a new man." A trial will convince you of their matchless merit for any stomach, liver or kidney trouble. Price 50c at H. C. Burroughs.



"They certainly are dressy"

WE sell them—Wayne Knit Hosiery for ladies and misses—combining quality and durability as well as fit, style and comfort. The finishing touch to your costume that will add an air of refinement and dressy effect—you can get in Wayne Knit Hosiery. Examine them for yourself—note the superior quality of the material—sheerness and workmanship—hygienic fast dye.

Wayne Knit HOSIERY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Try one pair—you'll solve your hosiery problem. We are headquarters for the famous Wayne Knit Pony Stockings for children, and Half Hose for men.



J. P. SHARP

SUMMER TOURIST TICKETS

TO MANY DESTINATIONS IN THE

North, East, Southeast Colorado and California

DINING CARS



THROUGH SERVICE

ON SALE DAILY DURING THE SUMMER

LIBERAL STOPOVERS, LONG LIMITS, CHOICE OF ROUTES

SLEEPERS EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRIC LIGHTS AND FANS

TALK IT OVER WITH OUR AGENTS

A. D. BELL, Asst. Genl. Pass. Agt.

GEO. D. HUNTER, General Passenger Agent

DALLAS, TEXAS

ZEMO FOR DANDRUFF

You Will be Surprised to See How Quickly It Disappears.

No more dirty coats from dandruff heads. Zemo stops dandruff. Apply it any time with tips of fingers. No No smell, no smear. Zemo sinks into the pores, makes the scalp healthy, makes the hair fine and glossy. For any skin affliction, itch, dandruff, eczema, pimples, blotches, try Zemo at our risk. Zemo is prepared by E. W. Rose Medicine Co., St. Louis, Mo., and is sold in Merkel by Rust & McCaully. 4

Real Estate Transfers.

A. A. Winfrey and wife of Dallas to J. H. Mitchell, property in Merkel deeded to grantors by S. R. Mayberry et ux, \$1.00 and transfer of lease of Dallas property.

J. H. Mitchell of Brazoria county to C. R. Finn and J. Fusco lot in town of Merkel formerly belonging to A. A. Winfrey, \$900.

S. H. Phillips and wife to J. K. Canthen lot in College addition to Merkel \$2000.

V. B. Walters to J. P. Hamm, lot 12 and North half lot 11 in block "M" of Boyce's second addition to Merkel, \$1250.

L. D. Gaither and wife to Mrs. Dana Foster half lot 14 and all of lot 15 in block 3 in Miller's addition to Merkel \$130 48.

T. R. Morris to J. D. Southworth 75x100 feet out of N. E. cor. block 12 college addition to Merkel \$2500.

J. K. Cauthen and wife to T. R. Morris 75x100 feet out of North-east cor. Block 12. College heights addition to Merkel \$2000.

A. G. Hamilton of Abilene to S. P. Smith of Commerce, Texas; 6569 acres south of Merkel, 2211 acres south of Trent and 639 acres near Abilene, the consideration being about \$150,000.