

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 25—NO. 2

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1913

12 PAGES

FORMER MERKEL MAN KILLS SELF

The astounding report was received here Monday night by Walter Clark from his sister Mrs. S. Welch of El Paso stating that her husband had that day killed himself in that city. The message requested the immediate return of Clark Welch her son who had arrived here Saturday to visit his grandfather W. M. Clark.

The report was a complete surprise to the many Merkel friends of Mr. and Mrs. Welch and the news was received with regret, sorrow and sympathy for the unfortunate wife, son and relatives. Mr. Welch formerly lived here having made his home among the Merkel people until some three years ago when he moved to Pecos and shortly afterward removed to El Paso where he and his family have resided since.

Clark Welch and his grandfather left Tuesday morning for El Paso, but at that time did not know whether the funeral services would be held there or in Comanche county, the old home of Mr. Welch.

The following article was clipped from the El Paso Herald of Feb., 25, and gives an account of the death:

Sim Welch, a well driller, shot himself in the head and died instantly in the wood shed in the rear of his home, Monday evening at 6 o'clock. He was 47 years of age and is survived by his wife and a 17 year old son, the latter employed at Merkel. A severe headache, from which he had been suffering for several days, is given as the cause of the deed. Coroner E. B. McClintock declared it a suicide.

Welch had been to the races during the afternoon and returned about 5:30. He started to read the Herald, but complained to his wife that his head was aching and gave her the paper. He then walked out to the rear of the house, getting a pistol on the way. His wife heard a shot and found his body a few minutes later. There was a bullet wound in his head and the pistol lay between his legs where he had evidently dropped it.

For two years Welch had made El Paso his home, coming here from Comanche. He had spent much time in west Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and Old Mexico drilling wells.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been completed.

New Milliner Arrives.

Miss Mary Aston of St. Louis came in the first of last week to take charge of the millinery department for W. D. Woodroof. Miss Aston is an experienced lady in her line of work and comes here well recommended to the people who have engaged her services.

Miss Maybelle Williams and brother Seth Williams of Abilene returned to their home Monday morning after a short visit here with their sister Mrs. Austin Boyd.

MERKEL'S SPRING MARKET

Even before the grass is green and in time for the people of Merkel and the Merkel country to do their spring shopping and make ready their easter toggery and be in harmony with nature, the Merkel merchants are receiving their new goods.

The advertising in this issue, all of which is timely and of interest to every man, woman or child who buys anything to eat, wear or use, tells the story of preparation by our local merchants better than we can tell it in a new story. Our merchants have been to market and have made their purchases earlier and more complete than ever before. We believe that you can buy anything you want and get it at prices better than you can do elsewhere.

The completeness of the new stocks shows the confidence of our local merchants in the prospects and conditions of the year and with the goods in their stores we know that they will meet any legitimate competition anywhere. The secret of the success of the Merkel merchandising is that in our little town the expense of selling goods is reduced to the minimum and in this manner the cost is reduced to the buyers. Anyone with a thimblefull of common sense knows that all of the expense of running a store or business must be added to the cost price plus a fair profit to make the selling price to the purchasers.

The rents and expenses of doing business in Merkel are below those of any town in our section of the state and for this reason our merchants can make and sustain the best market. The same principle works to the benefit of our trade who sell here for all of the profit possible is allowed the seller. None of our merchants employ high salaried buyers to handle their cotton and produce business for them but do the buying themselves and give their farmer friends and customers the benefit of the saving.

One other fact proves our conclusions and that is that our town is surrounded by the best country in this section and our business people command a volume of business sufficiently large to make a small profit and yet in the aggregate make good money. A lot of business at a small profit on each sale is much better than a small business and big profits. Then with a good thrifty business you keep up the quality of new goods as well as quantity of business.

It will pay you to read the advertising of our merchants and buy and sell at Merkel.

GOOD GAME FOOT- BALL SATURDAY

The freshies and seniors vs. the sophomores and juniors of the high school put on a battle royal Saturday afternoon at Highland park.

The game was called at 3:45 and during the last three minutes of play of the first quarter a long run by Shaffer of the seniors gained a touchdown, making the first count of the game, the seniors failed to kick goal. During the next two quarters the time was taken up in the ball going over from one side to the other, so evenly were the teams matched in weight that to an outsider it seemed to be an about an even break. During the last quarter the juniors and sophomores by hard work and some bad center rushes and fake end plays succeeded in getting the ball within one yard of the line on the second down and by assistance of their center rush mainstay carried the ball over for the count. They too, failed to kick goal following the touchdown and the game ended with the score even 5 to 5.

Shaffer perhaps showed the best speed and ability to make gains when yards were badly needed. Moore also showed good work but was unable to carry any of his runs out from the fact that his lines were not able at such times to keep the other boys back and he often lost ground by back running while avoiding interference.

Watch our cigar case for free cigars. Grimes Drug Store.

'13 OUR GOOD READERS '14 The Old and The New

Addition to our mailing list in both new and renewals, are always coming our way despite any conditions that present themselves. The following are the late names added to our list of subscribers.

City: E. O. Baker, Dr. Geo. L. Miller, G. J. Jones, J. B. Ferrer, Asa Sheppard, J. S. Bickley, L. S. Hyre, West Texas Hardware Co., W. P. Duckett and E. W. Strickland.

Routes: Miss Lyda Beavers, G. W. Stanfield, S. H. L. Swafford, Walter Phillips, A. L. Peek, Ford Smith, J. M. Provine, C. F. Curb, W. H. Hathaway, Ray Douglass, J. W. Dowdy, D. F. Rogers and W. J. Ely.

Others: J. C. Hamner, Trent; C. E. Bradley, Santa Anna; Mrs. T. L. Horton, Noodle; E. V. Ellis, Carbon; W. M. Duncan, Frisco; Mrs. Henry Lee Thruston, Maud, Oklahoma; Mrs. Nora Heit, Arlington; W. J. Roberts, Kirkland; Capt. James Butman, Searsport, Me.; W. J. Montgomery, Canton; B. F. Cordell, Ringgold; F. A. Peel, Abilene; Sam Grant, Shamrock; James Baker, Trent; E. C. Beavers, Lillian.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—White and Fawn Indian Runner Duck Eggs. Price per setting \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50. First prize winners at the Merkel and Abilene poultry shows. Write or phone Robert Hicks, Merkel, Texas. tf

HOUSE MOVING—and Hauling. Telephone 1-7-7. S. L. Owens. tf.

22,418 JACK-RABBIT SCALPS PAID FOR

Twenty-two thousand, four hundred and eighteen jack rabbit scalps have been paid for by Taylor county since the bounty law went into effect after the February, 1912, term of commissioners' court. Up to four o'clock Saturday County Clerk Young had issued warrants on the county treasurer for money for rabbit ears to the amount of \$1,782.50. More than thirteen hundred scalps have been received during the past ten days.

After Friday, February 28, the law will be repealed, and during the closing days of the month a grand rush is expected. It is thought that the total may go to twenty-five thousand scalps.

The premium for wolf scalps, which is fifty cents, will remain in effect. Many wolf scalps have been presented during the past twelve months.

Jones, Shackelford and Runnels counties have been seriously considering adopting a rabbit scalp law, and in the event they do, and other counties adjoining this follow suit, Taylor county will again adopt the bounty law. Those who have frequently visited the country say that the decrease in the number of mule-eared rabbits is very noticeable. —Abilene Reporter.

Jno. Boyce, formerly of this place, but lately of Arkansas returned here last week on a visit. Mr. Boyce has been very sick for some time and returned to west Texas with hopes of regaining his health.

TUESDAY IS WORK DAY AT CEMETERY

The Cemetery Association has planned Tuesday as a general work day for improvements to be made in Rose Hill cemetery and every member of the organization is working toward making the day a good one for the cause.

Already there has been some money raised for the improvement of the place and this meeting is called to have the work of digging ditches and laying pipe over the grounds done. All members that go will take basket dinner and will spread it for those who assist in the work. Arrangements will be made to have the stores close for a short time during the day, in order that the business men and clerks can lend a helping hand to the cause. Tools for digging the ditches and laying the pipe will be had and it is planned to finish that part of the work in one day.

Any out-of-town person who is interested in the work of keeping the cemetery in better condition is invited to attend and lend their assistance. If weather conditions will not permit the gathering Tuesday, the work will be done the following Friday.

Debate at Butman School.

On the evening of Saturday, February 23, a very interesting debate was held at the Butman school house. The question, Resolved, that women should have the same suffrage rights in the United States as men, was ably discussed. The affirmative was represented by Sam Butman, Jr. and Owen Jennings while the negative was upheld by Simpson Christopher and Frank Smith. These young men acquitted themselves well and received much well merited praise for the logical and scholarly manner in which they presented their argument.

After a careful consideration the judges gave their decision favoring the negative side of the question. The Merkel representatives returned home wearing the laurels and feeling proud of their victory.

Unidentified Dead Man Buried.

The unidentified man who was found dead west of town by an auto party on last Monday week was buried Friday in Rose Hill cemetery. In reply to an inquiry sent to Corsicans about J. H. Holbert, whose name was written in the inside of the man's coat, it was found that J. H. Holbert is much alive and a lawyer of that city.

R. A. Martin went to Abilene Tuesday to have his arm treated following an operation last Sunday week for an injured wrist bone, the injury having been received several years ago. This is the second operation Mr. Martin has undergone for the injured member and he together with his friends hope that a complete recover is forth coming.


Miss Frances Burroughs was the guest of friends in Abilene Wednesday.

The Farmers State Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

We invite your attention to the growth of this Bank, which has been constant and rapid, thus reflecting the good opinion of the people of Merkel and the Merkel country

ONLY GUARANTY FUND BANK IN MERKEL



THE FARMER'S FIRST AID IN SICKNESS.

WHEN there is sickness or an accident on the farm, haste in calling the doctor is vital. Life may rest on minutes—Don't wait until sickness occurs, and THEN wish you had a telephone. Order it NOW from our nearest manager, or write.

THE SOUTHWESTERN TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CO.

DALLAS, TEXAS

Notice Correspondents

We are very sorry to note that owing to the lack of space it is impossible to publish your news letters this week. We appreciate your letters and hope you will have one for us every week in the year.

Easter eggs and dyes at the Elite.

Remember us on paint and wall paper. Rexall Store.

Cracked wheat for chicken feed at G. M. Sharp.

J. D. Gaither was in Sweetwater Tuesday afternoon looking after business matters.

Picture shows on Friday and Saturday nights at the opera house.

Rev. E. McDonald of Louisiana is here this week visiting his brothers J. H., Emery and John McDonald.

Magazines and periodicals of all kinds at the Elite.

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.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas for the week ending Mar. 1, 1913

Griffith, Elmer
Henderson, Harris
Pierce, Ben
Reed, W. E.
Rowland, Dave

If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 15, 1913.

H. W. Derstine, P.M.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Maxwell of El Paso stopped off here Wednesday morning on their return home from Ennis where they went last week to attend the funeral services of Walter Maxwell who was killed at Van Alstyne (in a railroad accident the first of last week. Mrs. Maxwell will be here for several days but Mr. Maxwell will leave for El Paso Sunday.

For your stock remedies see us. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

Watch our show window for a display of easter eggs and easter candies. The Elite.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Mayor.
W. T. POTTER.

For City Marshal
W. N. HALL (re-election)
S. L. OWENS

State of Ohio, city of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.

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 catarrah that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrah 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 Catarrah Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. Frank J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

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

For your hardware and shelf goods, hides and feed go to Jno. B. Bell & Sons.

Salves Can't Cure Eczema

In regard to skin diseases, medical authorities are now agreed on this: Don't imprison the disease germs in your skin by the use of greasy salves, and thus encourage them to multiply. A true cure of all eczematous diseases can be brought about only by using the healing agents in the form of a liquid.

WASH THE GERMS OUT.
A simple wash: A compound of Oil of Wintergreen, Thymol, and other ingredients as combined in the D.D.D. Prescription. This penetrates to the

disease germs and destroys them, then soothes and heals the skin as nothing else has ever done.

A 50 cent bottle will start the cure and give you instant relief.

We have made fast friends of more than one family by recommending this D.D.D. Prescription to a skin sufferer here and there, and we want you to try it now on our positive pay guarantee. D.D.D. Soap keeps the pores clean; ask us.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

Drug Sundries

Prescription Drugs

Burrough's Drug Store

Notions

Paints and Glass

Nuts, cigars, candies and cold drinks. All fresh at the Elite Confectionery.

G. M. Sharp wants your oat and corn sacks.

WOMEN Read This Slowly

The bargain offer here is unusual—distinctive.

Furniture made to sell at \$20 has been "mercilessly cut to \$9.98" so many times that such events are ordinary.

But this month we have placed before you a few of our better pieces, marked down because they have been in stock all season.

Profit on such furniture is never high, and seldom are pieces like these sold without profit. Our policy requires clearing the floor of goods we have held through one season. You could not distinguish them from new arrivals except by the lowered price.

To women who manage their homes with real economy, this is an opportunity of rare importance.

You had better see MACK for these bargains

**Behrens-McMillen
Furniture Company**

Mrs. W. H. Orr of Putnam returned to her home Tuesday after a visit with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lamar of this place.

Rust and McCauley Drug Co., for your drugs, school supplies, sundries, paints, etc.

STATEMENT

Farmers & Merchants National Bank OF MERKEL

At Call of Comptroller February 4, 1913

| RESOURCES | | LIABILITIES | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Loans | \$109,396.31 | Capital Paid in | \$ 25,000.00 |
| U. S. Bonds & Prems. | 7,450.00 | Surplus & Profits, earned | 30,516.83 |
| Furniture & Fixtures | 3,000.00 | Circulation | 6,250.00 |
| Real Estate | 6,657.25 | Borrowed Money | None |
| 5 percent Redpt. Fund | 312.50 | Deposits | 173,521.34 |
| Cash and Exchange | 108,472.11 | | |
| Total | \$235,288.17 | Total | \$235,288.17 |

Deposits subject to check of over \$173,500.00 shows that most of the people of this community have faith in our way of doing business.

Available cash of over \$108,000.00 shows that we are in position to handle all good business offered us.

A growing surplus fund of over \$30,000.00 shows that we are going forward instead of backward and that we are a growing institution. Sure of our position and confident of the future,

WE INVITE YOUR BUSINESS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, President G. F. West, Vice-Pres. Henry James, Vice-Pres.
Thos. Johnson, Cashier Ben T. Merritt, Asst. Cashier
C. P. Warren, Director Ed. S. Hughes, Director

The Southern National Bank

CONDENSED OFFICIAL STATEMENT
OF
THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK
MERKEL, TEXAS

AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS FEBRUARY 4, 1913

| RESOURCES | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Loans | \$127,995.18 |
| United States Bonds at Par | 12,500.00 |
| Banking House and Fixtures | 14,000.00 |
| Cash and Exchange | 40,628.07 |
| | \$195,123.25 |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Capital Stock | \$ 50,000.00 |
| Surplus and Profits, Earned | 11,751.62 |
| Circulation | 12,500.00 |
| Bills Payable | 20,000.00 |
| Deposits | 100,871.63 |
| | \$195,123.25 |

Cash Reserve 40 per cent, Required by Law 15 per cent

BEGAN BUSINESS JULY 10, 1911

Upon the merits of the above statement we solicit your business, and in return we pledge you every legitimate assistance

JOHN SEARS, President C.L.BARKER, V-Pres J.E.FAUCETT, Cashier

Harness Worth Buying

are the kind you want for both your work stock and your buggy horse. WE KNOW WHAT WE put into our harness and know they are good.



Figure With Us

on what you are going to need and see if we are not right.

J. L. BANNER & SON

GEO. C. CHATWIN

Practical and Expert

TAILOR

Ladies garments a specialty

Suits to Order from \$15.00 up.

Trousers to Order from \$5.00 up.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

THE CITY TAILOR SHOP

Renovating and Alteration work done to your SATISFACTION.

Ladies work a specialty

L. J. RENFRO, Proprietor.

WANTED—Man to contract to grub and clear up land. See Mrs. E. M. Rust, Merkel, Texas.

Free - Absolutely - Free!

MARCH 3RD TO 6TH INCLUSIVELY

To every child under 7 years of age that enters our store accompanied by its mother we will give absolutely free a child's Beautiful Red Chair. Fifty of these chairs to be given away. You are under no obligations to buy. "Mack" has three other ads in this paper, be sure to read them.

Behrens - McMillen Furniture Company

Don't wait and be the last—only 50 to be given away.

The last cigar in the box goes free at Grimes Drug Store.

Saturday is the first. Start the month right by trading with the Cash Grocery.

Plenty of shorts. G. M. Sharp.

James Bright and family of Trent were the guest of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Moore at a Washington birthday dinner Saturday. The entire party leaving for Abilene in the afternoon to supper with friends there.

Would you like a piano? See West Texas Hardware Co.

The goods at the Nickel Store are all new and are cheap. Call and see.

Mebane Cotton Seed.

Pure mebane cotton seed for sale, \$1.00 per bushel. J. S. Barnes.

A good supply of well casings and gutters at Martins Tin Shop.

We give you the best that we can get in any line. The Nyal Store.

Heavy white oats. G. M. Sharp.

W. I. Burton, who has been here for a short while visiting relatives in the Stith country returned to his home at Belton Saturday night.

Stove repair work done at Martins Tin Shop.

Mrs. V. D. Jones and son Collins of Bagwell returned to their home last week after a two weeks visit with Mrs. Jones parents Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Collins.

If they don't treat you right; trade at the Cash Grocery. We will.

For first-class Missouri cream meal call at Hamblet & Rogers.

Let us figure with you for paint and wall paper. The Rexall Store.

Plumbing work guaranteed. See us for your needs. Martins Tin Shop.

Merkel Mail \$1.00 per Year

READ THIS AD

Every country needs a market where they can carry their chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, butter, eggs, hides, beeswax, tinfoil and other market products and get cash for these things. The way to have a market of this kind is to carry your produce to the market man who always pays the top market prices in cash for all the above mentioned things. Come to us and stay with us and we will stay with you. With a cash proposition at all times.

Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

W. P. DUCKETT, Manager Produce Dept.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Piano certificates going fast at the West Texas Hardware Company.

Wesley Edwards, J. S. Bond, D. O. Huddleston and H. Hamu left Monday on a hunting and fishing trip down south.

It will be to your interest to call at the Nickel store when you want nice goods cheap.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. King came in Tuesday morning from Meridian where Mr. King has been for some time looking after business matters.

We are showing a new and snappy line of novelties, including ladies collars, bags, pins, combs and etc, Hogue Hamilton Company.

Mrs. J. Ben Campbell received a message from Honey Grove Monday afternoon telling her that her niece, Willie Mae Atkins was at the point of death. No later report has been received as to whether the child recovered or not.

You will find the best kept line of cigars in town at Grimes Drug Store.

Mrs. B. C. Gaither returned Monday afternoon from a short visit with her daughter Mrs. R. E. Dillard of Tuscola.

The Nickel Store has many useful things that you need, call and see them.

Thos. Coggin and son Dillard returned from Dallas Friday night where they both went to undergo operations. Mr. Coggin was operated on for an injured eye while his son was undergoing an operation for a nose and throat trouble. They returned home feeling that they had been greatly benefited by the trip.

The Rexall Store for anything.

Mrs. A. J. Leighty of Abilene returned to her home Monday after a short visit here with her husband Agent Leighty of the T. & P. company.

Free cigars at Grimes Drug Store. Ask Jim about it.

T. A. Johnson returned Sunday from Dallas, Fort Worth and Cleburne, having attended the State Bankers Convention in the latter city.

When in Merkel don't forget to call at the Nickel Store where everything is cheap.

Miss Rose Norris has returned to Merkel after an extended visit in Capitan and Tucumcarie, N.M., with relatives.

BIG SPRING OPENING AND EASTER SALE

AT

PARTEN DRY GOODS CO.

An Event of Manifold Importance to Every Buyer of Spring Goods

OPENING DATE
March 1

FREE FREE

Sets of Beautifully Tinted Glassware will be given free with purchases of from \$2.50 to \$10.00. \$2.50 purchases for smaller pieces, \$5 for the next size, \$7.50 for the next size and \$10.00 for largest size pieces.

BEAUTIFUL
display of
NEW
Spring Goods



With the View of Supplying Your Every Need for Easter and Making Our Spring Opening Sale the greatest success yet attained in the annals of our mercantile career our purchases have far exceeded those of any previous season, bringing every department to a standard of completeness RARELY ATTAINED EVEN IN MUCH LARGER TOWNS



OPENING DATE
March 1

FREE FREE

A Beautiful 9x12 Art Square will be given away absolutely free Saturday, March 1st at 3.30 and every Saturday thereafter until further notice. A coupon with every \$1.00 purchase.

FREE SOUVENIR

A pretty Drinking Cup will be given free with every purchase of 50c or more, beginning Saturday morning, March 1st. We have only 300 of these, so come early.

Our entire store will be in Galla Attire for this Momentous occasion—a veritable oasis for the lover of style and economy, revealing every new creation in style and fabric and establishing a new low price level that will awe competition and regale the face of every visitor with unavoidable smiles of satisfaction. Aside from this Extraordinary Assortment of the season's most sought for fabrics, garments and accessories we have selected and have on display an assortment of exquisite Premiums and Souvenirs which we will give absolutely FREE during the occasion of this GRAND SPRING OPENING AND EASTER SALE. We do this to further assure the desired success of this event.

LACES AND EMBROIDERIES

seasons we have been headquarters for the finest laces and embroideries and we have not taken a backward step this season, but have advanced to the degree of all previous showings have drifted into oblivion as compared with the showing we now have on display. It will be worth your while to see this elegant display even if you don't buy.

One lot of 10c and 12½c embroideries, this sale 5c
One lot of 15c to 20c embroideries, this sale 10c
One lot of 10c to 15c value laces, this sale 5c
One lot of 40c to 50c embroidery flouncings this sale 25c
One lot of 50c corset cover embroidery, this sale 35c
One lot of 75c to 85c 45 in embroidery flouncings 50c
One lot of 85c to \$1.00 42 in embroidered voiles 65c
One lot of \$1.25 42 inch embroidered voiles 85c
Other enormous values in laces and embroideries will serve to be eye openers to all who see this big showing.

Ladies Muslin Underwear, Childrens Dresses and Boys Wash Suits

We can supply your needs in muslin underwear, gowns, princess slips, corset covers, white petticoats and combination suits at the most reasonable prices. Our line of childrens and misses dresses and boys wash suits are the prettiest ever and can be had at almost the price of the material, and will save you lots of sewing and planing. Let us show you these lines.

OPENING DATE MARCH 1ST

NEW-SPRING DRESS GOODS AND SILKS

More words cannot depict with any degree of accuracy the extensiveness or beauty of this splendid assemblage of dress fabrics comprised as they are of the innumerable weaves, shades, effects and colorings that dame fashion alone is so artistic to conceive and create.

Crepes and crepe effects, plisse, brocaded messaline, whipcord woolsens, soie japonese, satin merquette, deluxe, colored linen and many other new creations are among the most desired new fabrics that will contribute handsomely to the success of this opening style and quality show. Our exceptional buying advantages make it possible for us to offer these goods at prices that will indeed be pleasing to all. These are business stimulators for us and money-savers for you.

10c new spring dress ginghams, opening sale price 8c
12½c new spring dress ginghams, opening sale price 10c
15c fine zephyr dress ginghams, opening sale price 12½c
New plain poplins, 12½c values, opening sale price 10c
New spring percales, 10c values, opening sale price 8c
New Spring percales, 12½c values, opening sale price 10c
New spring suitings, all new shades and a pleasing variety of weaves, absolute 15c values 12½c
Cotton whipcords, imperial chambras, bedford suitings and other spring fabrics of equal value, worth 20c, opening sale price 15c

A beautiful assortment of fabrics for early spring and especially for Easter in silk crepes, new embroidered effect materials, ratine stripes, ratines and many others of the latest designs and materials, values 35c to 40c, opening sale price 25c
Woolen whipcords in all the latest shades, opening sale price 50c
Silk messalines, all the new shades, values that have always sold regularly for \$1 this sale 79c
Brocaded messalines, 36 inches wide, regular \$1.25 value, opening sale price \$1.00
But for lack of space we could enumerate many more exceptionally good values but to properly appreciate this vast variety beautiful materials and the extremely reasonable price at which we are offering them, you had best see them

NOTIONS AND ACCESSORIES

We have sought to install in this department every predominating novelty of this season's creation together with every staple article in demand—making this department one of the most important in our store. Aigrettes, forward combs, bandeaux, new barrettes, lavaliers, new collars, big assortment of new bar pin sets and many other new articles of equal importance to correct dress. For this occasion we make some exceptionally low prices:

Aigrettes, assorted colors, 35c values, this sale 25c
Forward combs, 75c and 35c values, this sale 50c & 25c
Lavaliers, beautiful assortment, 75c values this sale 50c
6 dozen good pearl buttons, opening sale price 25c
7 spools best sewing thread, opening sale price 25c
6 yard bunch stickerie braid, 15c value, this sale 10c
12 skeins colored embroidery cotton, this sale 25c
6 spools best embroidery cotton, this sale 25c
Big box 25c talcum powders, opening sale price 15c
Innumerable other articles of equal value might be enumerated but for lack of space. Come expecting, everything to be right and you will be right.

SEND US YOUR MAIL ORDERS

Now that the Parcel Post is in effect, we will prepay transportation charges on all goods for which orders are sent to us, excepting heavy staple goods. Orders filled same day received. Any goods not satisfactory may be returned at our expense and money will be refunded.

NEW SPRING SHOES AND LOW CUTS

We are prepared to fit every foot. The Selby and Solastic shoes for women. The Packard shoe for men. These celebrated lines never fail to give entire satisfaction. If you have been buying other kinds give us a trial and we will convince you. That we may add more satisfied shoe customers to our already long list we are going to make some exceptionally low and attractive prices on our new spring shoes and Low Cuts. White, black and tan are the leaders.

Ladies white canvas 2-strap pump, \$2 value, price \$1.50
Ladies black velvet, 2-strap pump, a \$2.25 value, price 1.75
Ladies black velvet, 2-strap pump, a \$3.00 value, price 2.45
Ladies white button buck oxfords, a \$3.50 value, price 2.95
Ladies tan button oxfords, a \$3.50 value, opening price 2.95
Ladies black, white and tan button oxfords, \$4 value 3.45

The above numbers are only a few of the great many kinds we have to show at the same prices. Any color and style may be had at above prices except tan in the lower priced.

OUR STAPLES

Our staple department is complete and we are able to offer you some exceptional values in bleached and brown domestic, drills, sheetings, cambrics, plaids and all goods carried in this department.

Best grade calicoes, light and dark, this sale 5c
Good round tulle cotton checks, this sale 5c
Extra good quality bleached muslin, this sale 8c
12½c cambric finish, this sale 10c
10c cheviott shirting, this sale 8c
12½c old hickory shirting, this sale 10c
Best grade 9x4 bleached sheeting, opening price 25c

And many others too numerous to mention in this ad but will take pleasure in showing you. If you want the best see us.

WHITE GOODS

Our line of white goods surpasses any we have previously carried. These astounding prices should be an incentive to the careful and economical buyer to purchase early.

Dimities, extra good 10c value, opening price 8c
India linons, 12½c value, opening price 10c
India linons, 15c values, opening price 12½c
India linons, 20c values, opening price 15c
India linons, 25c values, opening price 20c
15c linen finished suitings, opening price 12½c
25c butchers linen, opening price 20c
36-inch all pure linen, extra special opening price 25c

Voiles, piques, waistings, whipcords, crepes, dimities, ratines and other pretty white goods of equal importance to this seasons wardrobe will be strongly featured. Let us impress upon you the necessity of an early visit.

NEW SPRING CLOTHING FOR MEN

We are determined to make this one of the leading departments in our store. To accomplish this end we have assembled the most attractive line of spring suits and pants in serges and worsteds that we have ever carried and will offer them at prices that none can complain of.

Brown worsted suits, highly tailored, \$15 values \$ 9.95
Blue serge suits, highly tailored, \$15 values 9.95
Blue Serge suits, \$17.50 values, opening sale price 12.50
Mens dress pants in attractive patterns, this sale 1.50
Mens dress pants, well tailored, \$2.50 value, price 1.95
Mens brown worsted pants, \$3 value, special price 2.45
Mens blue serge dress pants, \$4 values, opening price 2.95
Mens blue serge pants, \$5 value, opening price 3.95
Mens whipcord work pants, opening prices 1.35
Mens best grade apron overalls and jumpers 95c

A look will convince you that these are the greatest values ever offered at any time. Let us show you.

MENS FURNISHINGS

In this department will be found the most extraordinary values ever offered at the beginning of any previous season. Ties, shirts, underwear, all new and of the very latest patterns and best makes. These prices should interest you.

Choice of entire lot of new ties, this sale 25c
Mens extra quality balbrigan underwear opening price 25c
Mens 50c elastic seam drawers 45c
Mens \$1.25 Noxall dress shirts, this sale 89c
Mens 50c silk socks, pretty line of colors 35c

These are only a few of the many good things in store for you in this department.



Everybody is Going to the Big Spring Opening and Easter Sale at

Parten

DRY GOODS COMPANY

Where Easter Goods and Spring Styles Abound and Where Prices are Within Range of All
MERKELS EXCLUSIVE CASH STORE

GYPSY HOSIERY



HOSIERY

We carry the best brands of hosiery. The Buster Brown and Gypsy. Our hosiery line is complete; consisting of all grades from the lowest to the best and all the new colors that will be in demand for spring and summer.

Misses and childrens hose, sizes 4 to 10 8c
Ladies black and tan hose, any size 8c
Same as above, ladies and misses, 15c 12½c
Ladies and misses 25c hose, 3 pair for 50c
Buster Brown, guaranteed hosiery 25c
Ladies 50c silk hose, tan, white and black, extra special 35c
Ladies 75c silk hose, all colors 50c

Daily Arrivals of Spring Goods!

And our Store is Absolutely Packed with the very Latest Styles and Positively the Best Values for the Price to be Found in the Eastern Markets.

READY-TO-WEAR FOR LADIES

We have already received our first shipment in this department of Street Dresses and Dress Skirts, styled by the best designers and extremely good values. Do not fail to see them. In the near future we will be able to show some beautiful Shirt waists.

DRESS TRIMMING AND NOVELTIES

We are showing a beautiful line of Laces and Embroideries in the new Bulgarian designs, Shadow works and many other attractive patterns.

Everything that is new and pretty in Bar Pins, Hat Pins, Barrettes and fancy Combs.

OUR DRESS GOODS NEWEST FABRIC

We wish to make special mention of our dress goods, consisting of the very best and newest fabrics. Below is a partial list.

Imp Ratine in new shades and colors. Japanese Crepe, Crepe Plisse, Crepe Chiffon, Kimona Plisse Crepe, English Voile, Ratine Striped Voiles, Brocaded Silk Crepe, Voile Ratine and many more beautiful fabrics.

NEW & STYLISH FOOTWEAR

Our shoe department contains the very best made shoes, and the styles are all new and pretty and we want to make special mention of our ladies' oxfords—the "Lady Jefferson" and Walkovers. They do not only look good but feel good on your foot. J. E. Tilts and Walkovers for men and boys.

We are very anxious to have you visit our store. It is a pleasure for us to show our goods

Most Respectfully

W. L. HARKRIDER



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Savage-Thornton Nuptials.

Roy Savage the son of Mr. and Mrs. J H Savage of 1601 North Water street, and Miss Lulu Thornton of Merkel were quietly married at ten o'clock this morning. The ceremony was solemnized at the home of the groom's brother A D Savage on Chaparral street with Pastor D B South of the First Baptist church as the officiating minister.

The groom is a well known young man of this city. He has been here for several years. He was formerly in the employ of the Jordt-Allen Furniture Company, later with Wolff & Marx of San Antonio and is now connected with the Blossman Grocery Co. Four of his brothers are here and the fifth, Sam G Savage is with the Ragland Mercantile Co., of Kingsville. The family is from Abilene.

The bride is the daughter of a prominent business man of Abilene and has resided in central west Texas all of her life.—Corpus Christi Democrat, February 20, 1913.

Miss Orra Long Entertained.

Miss Orra Long entertained the XXth Century Club at the home of Mrs. W H Dickson's, Saturday afternoon. Twelve members answered to roll call by giving some facts about George Washington. Interesting papers were read by Mesdames W M Jenkins and W A Scott and Miss Maude Martin. Miss Louise Schmid substituted for Mrs. R A Martin, conducted the lesson. Miss Mae White and Mrs. J W Wheatley were elected to membership. Mrs. H C Williams was a much welcomed guest. Miss Long assisted by Mrs. Dickson served fancy cakes and delicious fruit salad to Misses Evalyne Williams, Louise Schmid, Maude Martin, May Valentine, little Ona Faye Rose, Mesdames G H Adams, W M Jenkins, W A Scott, H C Williams, G F West, W Parten and A C Rose.

Birthday Party.

Last Thursday afternoon Mrs. Jim Eoff gave her son Dexter a party in honor of his eighth birthday. Refreshments of punch, candy and cake were served to eighteen guests of Master Dexter. The young folks enjoyed the occasion greatly and wished their host many such happy birthdays.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM Baking Powder

Received the highest award
at Chicago World's Fair

Questions for XXth Century Club.

Is Dr. Cain's a character of comedy or burlesque? Compare him with Evans in his provoking mirth. Describe Evans state of mind at the opening of the first scene in act three. What situation in modern comedy resemble this? How does the Host act as pacificator? What is his reward? Define the state of mind of Slender during the progress of the first scene. How does Mrs. Page add to the jealousy of Ford? What was Page's objection to Fereton as a suitor for Anne? Had Falstaff any trusty followers? How did Robin deceive him? What impression does Sir John make as a lover? Is it possible that a man of his intellect could have been so played upon? Where is the climax of the drama? What does Page say as Falstaff passes him, as the latter is carried out concealed in the buck basket? How does Falstaff later describe the scene? How does Sir Hugh Evans, Dr. Cain's and Mrs. Ford comment on the jealousy of Ford? Why are the practical jokes at Falstaff's expense; continued?

Friday afternoon the football game was witnessed with great enthusiasm, as the losers were to furnish entertainment for the winners. The school had been divided the seniors and sophomores versus the juniors and freshmen. Each side had its loyal boosters, wearing the colors, purple and gold for the former, while the white and crimson was much in evidence for the latter. As the game resulted in a tie the players joined forces and entertained the girls and the teachers at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Sears—that evening. A delightful evening was spent in this pleasant home with music, sprightly conversation and games. Fruit, punch and wafers were served.

Mrs. T A Johnson entertained the

Woman's Missionary Society of the M E church at her home Monday afternoon. The meeting was called to order by the president Mrs. J L Harris after a short business session a social program was rendered which was both interesting and profitable. A very pleasing feature on the program was the guitar solo by Mrs. Annis. While the original poems contributed by Mesdames O W Williams and C D Mims were real treats and greatly enjoyed. The attendance was splendid, each side, the white and the gold, trying for the honor. In the scripture contest the whites were winners for the afternoon. Mrs. Johnson served dainty refreshments to about thirty-five guests. The next meeting will be with Mrs. R A Clements at the parsonage, Mrs. C D Mims will be joint hostess with Mrs. Clements.

Dr. and Mrs. G L Miller entertained the members of the bridge club Friday evening at their home on Elm street. Those present were Mrs. J P C Hunt, Mrs. S P Miller of Abilene, Mesdames. J W Daniel, L D Gaither, E M Rust, Miss Genevieve Rust, Messrs T B Lucas, L D Gaither, R O Anderson and Otis Barnett. At the conclusion of the games Dr. and Mrs. Miller served angel food, brick cream and wine. The next hostess will be Mrs. E M Rust.

Misses Maude Jenkins and Jewell Garrett entertained the sixth and seventh grade pupils from the north ward at the home of Mrs. E. Hall, Friday evening. The George Washington idea was perfectly carried out. The patriotic colors, together with numerous flags featured in the decorations. The score cards were tiny hatchets. Various games were indulged in. The hostesses served about sixty-five guests with salad, hot chocolate and fancy cakes.

Mrs. R O Anderson served a turkey dinner Friday in honor of her sister Mrs. J P C Hunt of Haskell. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. G E Comegys, Mr. and Mrs. Claud Comegys, Mrs. Hunt, Miss Olga Sheppard, Mr. J R Daniel, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Masters Deyo Hunt, Jack Anderson, little Misses Mary Comegys and Flora Frances Anderson.

Wednesday afternoon Miss Evalyne Williams music class on the north side gave a recital at the studio in honor of their parents. A splendid program had been arranged for the entertainment of the guests.

J. S. Blair and W. I. Cogburn of the Nubia country were in town Wednesday on business. Mr. Blair in talking of his trip to Alabama last month reported that part of the state about the weteet country he had every seen. He was there for some time visiting his old home and during the time only saw the sun shine three days, it having rained practically every day during the visit.

The Nickel Store has moved to the Dr. J. H. Warnick building just north of McClain's drug store on Kent street. Be sure and call when in Merkel.

Taylor County Abstract Co.

Complete Abstract of all Titles in Taylor county, including all City property.

Office in First State Bank and Trust Company Abilene, Texas

Your work appreciated.

Prompt Service at Reasonable Rates

GEO. C. BISHOP :: Manager

DANIEL PRINTING COMPANY

Exclusive Job Printers Magee Building.

Prompt attention to Mail Orders.

ABILENE :: TEXAS

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most up-to-date SHOP IN MERKEL.

CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE, Proprietors

PROFESSIONAL

DR. S. L. DAVIS
DENTIST

Office over Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.

Phones—Office 154, residence 34

O. F. McMASTER

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

Practicing Physician

Office at Grimes Drug Store

Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-5



EYES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.
DRS. ADKISSON & MILLER



Eyes Tested and Fitted by the science of drugless refraction. Examination Free. All Work Guaranteed.

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

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent
Notary Public.

Office up stairs in First National bank building

W. T. POTTER, LAWYER

Land Title and Notary Work
Office J H Thornton Building

Telephones: Office 1-8-9; Home 2-2-7
Merkel, Texas

W. 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

The Star Store's Cash Prices!

| | |
|---|--------|
| The best \$1.00 Overalls for | 94c |
| The best 1.00 Jumper for | 94c |
| All \$1.00 Work Pants now being sold for | 94c |
| \$1.00 Gloves we are now sell for | 94c |
| The "Silver" \$1.00 Shirt now going for | 94c |
| All 50c work shirts going for | 46c |
| All \$3.00 Hats are now being offered for | \$2.67 |
| All -5.00 Stetson Hats now going for | \$4.58 |
| All Men's Collars | 12c |
| 10c Canvas Gloves are now being sold for | 8c |
| 50c Underwear now going for | 46c |

Our Shoe Offer

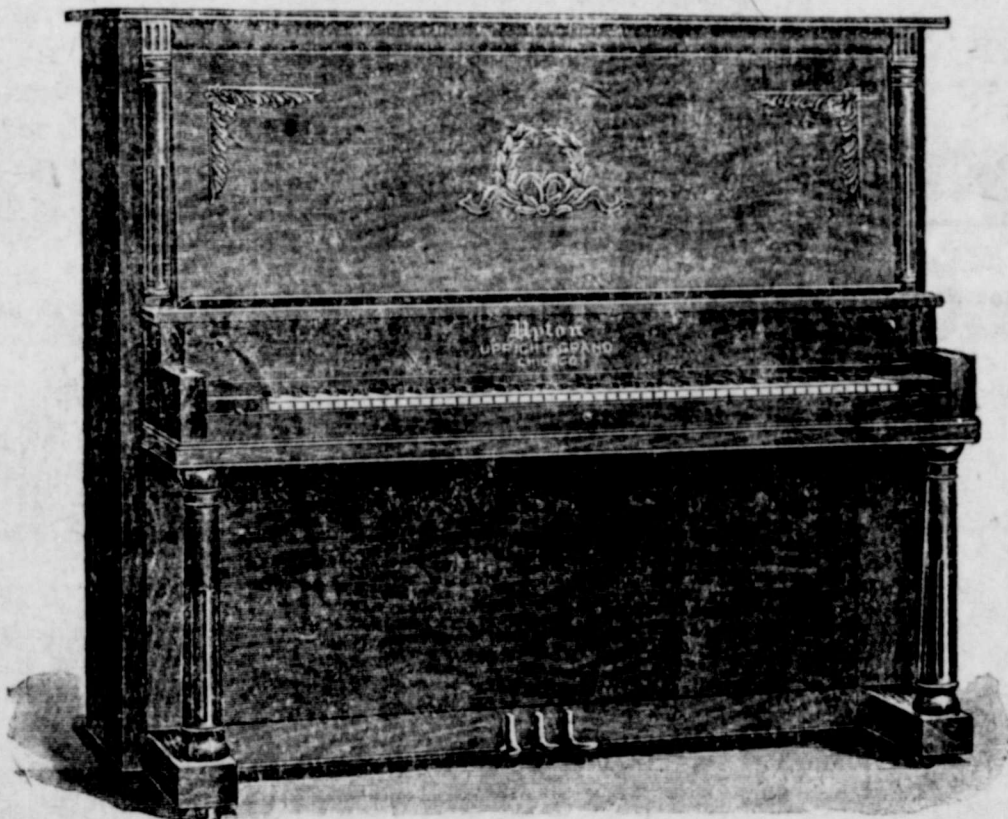
| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|------|
| \$5.00 Shoes now | \$4.55 | \$4.00 Shoes now | 3.78 |
| 50c Half Hose for | 46c | 35c Half Hose for | 28c |
| 25c Half Hose for | 22c | | |

**Suit
TO ORDER**
\$ **15**
UNION
MADE

Order Your
New
SUIT
now



Free to Someone



Value 400 Dollars

Would You Like This Beautiful Piano as a Present? We Shall Positively Give it to SOME OF OUR CUSTOMERS

Come to our store, see and try this splendid instrument. We will tell you all about our plan of giving this piano away. This is a present worth having. This piano is of the celebrated Brenard make. It carries the manufacturers' Ten Year Guarantee. We cordially invite your inspection.

West Texas Hardware Co.

THE MERKEL GARAGE

Repair work promptly done and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

TEXAS COMPANY'S OILS AND GAS.

If you need anything in our business give us a call.

S. P. FOSTER : PROPRIETOR

C. T. Beckam and John Smith citizens of Trent and the Trent community were in town Wednesday.

For your paint and wall paper see us we have just gotten in a complete stock of both. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

J. M. Folgerman, peace officer of Noodle was on the streets Wednesday.

Picture shows on Friday and Saturday nights at the opera house.

Election Notice.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Merkel, and in pursuance of the law in such matters provided, I hereby order that an election be held in the City of Merkel, on the first Tuesday in April, 1913, the same being the first day of said month, at the City Hall in said City, for the purpose of electing the following officers of said City, to-wit: A Mayor, City Secretary, City Treasurer, City Marshal and two Aldermen. J. J. Stallings is hereby appointed presiding officer at said election and the polls shall be opened at 8 o'clock a. m. and remain open (with the privilege of a recess of one hour, from 12 to 1 o'clock) until 6 o'clock p. m.

Witness my hand this 15th day of February, 1913.

C. D. Mims,
Mayor of the City of Merkel

Remember we have those Rex-all and Nyle Remedies with a guarantee on all. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

Ollie Cordell, local representative for the Groene Company was in Abilene Wednesday taking orders for panoram views of the Abilene Fire Department. The views being of the parade there last Saturday.

We would like to have your March grocery business. Our goods are fresh and our prices right. The Cash Grocery.

Jim Guitar, manager of the Continental Cotton and Oil Co., of Colorado was here the first of the week on business.

Pure ribbon cane syrup 50 and 55 cents per gallon at Hamblet & Rogers.

Misses Mary and Flay Gunn returned from San Marcos Monday afternoon where they have been in school for some time.

All sizes of elevated galvanized sheet iron tanks, best grade heavy material at reasonable prices. Martins Tin Shop.

Picture shows on Friday and Saturday nights at the opera house.

JOHN R. DANIEL

**Livery, Feed and Sale Stable
SOUTH SIDE**

Automobile Service in Connection

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

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

Easter Here Soon

GET BUSY

IN A VERY FEW DAYS EASTER WILL BE HERE WITH ALL ITS GAIETY

High Time to Get Yourself in Shape to Appear at Your Best on this "Coming Out" day for Snappy Spring Clothes

We are glad to announce that we have received our stock of Spring Goods, and with this complete stock we will be in position to take care of your wants for the "coming out" apparel.

Our Stock of Dry Goods and Notions has been Replenished to meet the demands of all our people

DRESS LINENS

We have the brown dress linens in grades ranging from 20c to **35c**

Austrian stripe, Glasgow and Irish linen in all the newest stripes and weaves from 20 to **65c**

GINGHAMS

Classy patterns from 7½c to **12½c**

STAPLES

We have a complete stock of staples. Calico, Domestics, Sheetings, Pillow Tubings, and in fact everything that is carried in a first-class Dry Goods store.

MILLINERY DEPARTMENT

We have the largest and best assortment of Millinery carried in Merkel.

It is not necessary to go away from home to buy your spring hat. This department offers you the very newest and most preferable styles in Tailored and Pattern Hats.

Never before has such a large stock of flowers and trimmings of all kinds been shown in this town.

Be Sure to Visit This Department

Our Grocery Department is Loaded

down with good things to eat, but the price we ask does not load down your pocket book. If you don't give us that grocery order you are not helping to lower the high-cost of living. We make the price to sell the goods. We buy in large quantities.

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT

February is a short month but we are long on men's furnishings. Our gents' furnishings department consists only of the very newest and most up-to-date styles that can be had.

We have the Beaver line of hats. We have just what the classy dresser is looking for.

Let us put a hat on your head that will put you in a class of distinctive dressers.

For those desiring staple styles we have The Big Four, Laloo, Dakota, Columbia, Mountain, Capitol, Mattha and many others.

For those desiring nobby hats we have an excellent assortment from \$2.00 to \$3.50.

TAILORING DEPARTMENT

We have given our tailoring department our special attention and we now have a large assortment of big ends from which to make a pleasing selection.

We have models of which we can show the workmanship, style and general make up of the clothes we sell.

If the clothes we order for you don't fit they are not yours. You haven't bought a suit from us until you say they fit.

It takes that to take the suit—a fit or no sale.

Let us sell you that suit.

BE SURE YOU VISIT THIS STORE

Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

THE STORE WHERE HIGH-CLASS SUITS HANG OUT

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 25—NO. 2

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1913

PART 2

POULTRY SHOW GREAT SUCCESS

The Poultry Show, held under the auspices of the Success Poultry Association, in the building formerly occupied by the Hall Music Company, proved a great success in every way. The building was thronged with visitors and all who saw the fowls pronounced them among the best that they had seen.

Awards were made yesterday. Mr. R. A. Davis of Farmersville, who judged the birds pronounced the classes altogether as some of the best he had seen the entire season 1912-13.

The Rhode Island Red class was an exceptionally fine one, and those who were fortunate to get into the winning have a cause to be proud of their winners.

The Barred Plymouth Rock class, was next in size and quality, and was of the very highest.

The exhibitors present were well pleased with the judging and all seemed to be of the opinion that the ribbons were placed where they should have been.

The following are the awards made yesterday:

Barred Plymouth Rock—A. J. Leighty, Abilene; 1st cock, 2nd 3rd hens, second pen, A. P. Farr, Abilene, R. F. D. 5, 3rd cockerel, 3rd hen, 3rd pullet, 4th pen, Mrs. Joe Higgins, Merkel; 1st and 4th cockerel, 2nd and 4th pullet, 1st pen; H. P. Wilkins, Merkel; 3rd pen; W. A. Payne, Abilene; 1st pullet; S. J. Bains, Baird; 1st hen.

Buff Plymouth Rock—Tom Sayles, Abilene; 1st cockerel, 1st hen.

Columbian Plymouth Rock—J. R. Reed Baird; 1st cockerel, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th pullet, 1st pen.

White Plymouth Rock—R. L. Young, Abilene; 1st cock, 1st cockerel, 1st 2nd, 3rd hen, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th pullet, 1st pen.

White Wyandottes—H. M. Rose, Merkel; 1st cockerel, 1st, 2nd and 3rd pullet, 1st, 2nd hen, 1st pen.

Rose Comb R. I. Red—Alton Rhodes, Abilene; 1st cock, 1st pullet.

S. C. R. I. Red—J. R. Powell, Tuscola; 2nd cock, 4th pen, J. M. Allen, Sweetwater; 3rd cockerel, 3rd hen, G. L. Baker & Son, Merkel; 4th cockerel, 3rd pullet, 2nd pen, Mrs. T. R. Radford, Brownwood; 4th cockerel, 1st, 2nd hen, D. H. Jeffries, Abilene; 2nd cockerel, 4th pullet, 3rd pen, T. M. Johnson, Eastland; 1st, 3rd cock, 1st cockerel, 4th hen, 1st, 2nd pullet, 1st pen.

White Orpington—V. F. Jones, Baird; 1st cockerel, 2nd hen, 2nd, 4th pullet, 2nd pen, G. A. Taylor, Abilene; 1st cock, 1st, 3rd, hen, 1st, 3rd pullet, 1st pen.

Houdans—Chas. Orr, Merkel; 1st cock, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th pullet, 1st pen.

Buff Orpington—Mrs. S. U. Hurst, Abilene; 2nd cock, 1st, 4th hen, Earl Northup, Abilene; 1st cock, 2nd, 3rd hen.

S. C. Brown Leghorn—Mrs. S. H. McPherson, Ballinger; 1st cockerel, 2nd, 3rd hen, 2nd, 3rd pullet, 1st pen, Mrs. E. Emmer-

THE MAIL RAIN GAUGE

The Merkel Mail has bought and installed this week for the interest and benefit of our readers and the public an American Rain Gauge. The register is in plain view in one of our windows and convenient to all who visit the postoffice or pass this way.

The instrument represents a neat little investment but we are more than satisfied and believe that it will be worth the money. The Mail has in the past endeavored to publish only actual facts in regard to our rainfall and yet we have been much discredited in our reports and have had much trouble in getting this accurate information. The instrument installed this week is absolutely accurate and will record the slightest precipitation and our readers may know that our reports are reliable.

In order to complete our system we are getting the records of the government bureau at Abilene for the past 25 years and will keep accurate records in the future that for the interest and benefit of our readers and the public we may make comment and comparison and have the necessary information at hand.

The rain gauge is a very simple arrangement. A receptacle mounted on a gas pipe extending eight or ten feet above the top of our roof catches the water which is carried through a hollow wire to the gauge in our office and can be accurately registered to the one-hundredth of an inch.

The Mail invites the public to use our records at their pleasure and we will cheerfully give any information desired at any time upon request by telephone or otherwise. We desire to be of any assistance possible to our readers and the public.

Kirby Favors Robertson Law.



Jno. H. Kirby

Hon. Jno. H. Kirby, representing the 15th District in the Thirty-third Legislature, is one of the most popular and influential members of the lower house and is leading the fight for the retention of the investment feature of the Robertson Insurance Law. Mr. Kirby is opposed to a constitutional convention; favors amending the stock and bond law and stands for progressive legislation generally. His wide experience in business and keen insight into governmental problems, renders his counsel of inestimable value to the legislature.

The present legislature is noted for the large number of business men and farmers who are members of that body and they are standing together for constructive legislation.

S. C. White Leghorn—Grady Weir, Abilene; 2nd cock, 1st, 4th hen, 2nd, 3rd cockerel, 3rd, 4th pullet, 2nd and 3rd pens, G. A. Taylor, Abilene; 1st cock, 2nd, 3rd hen, 1st, 2nd pullet, 1st pen, W. H. Smith, Alma; 1st cockerel.

S. C. Black Minorcas—V. F. Jones, Baird; 2nd cockerel, 3rd,

4th pullet, 3rd pen, J. A. Pearce, Henrietta; 2nd cock, 2nd hen, 1st cockerel, 1st, 2nd pullet, 1st pen, A. Nisbett, Abilene; 3rd cockerel, 3rd hen, 4th pen, C. A. Boulte, Abilene; 1st cock, 1st hen, 4th hen, 2nd pen.

Silver Spangled Hamburgs—Alton Rhodes, Abilene; 1st cockerel, 1st 2nd pullet.

Bronze Turkeys—W. H. Myatt Nugent; 1st 2nd toms, 1st hen.

English Penciled Runner Ducks—W. L. Newberry, Route 5, Abilene; 1st drake, 1st duck.

Fawn and White I. R. Ducks—Robert Hicks, Merkel; 1st drake, 1st, 4th duck, 1st pen, W. L. Newberry, Route 5, Abilene; 2nd, 3rd, 4th drake, 2nd, 3rd duck, 2nd pen.

Best Dozen Eggs—W. F. Whaley, Abilene.

Best Pen in Show—H. M. Rose on White Wyandottes.

Best Male Bird in Show—H. M. on White Wyandotte cockerel.

Best Female Bird in Show—J. A. Pearce on S. C. Black Minorca pullet.

Best Pen of Solid Color Birds in Show—H. M. Rose on White Wyandottes.

Best Pen of Parti-color Birds in Show—T. M. Johnson on S. C. R. I. Reds.

Best Solid Color Male Bird in Show—H. M. Rose on White Wyandotte.

Best Solid Color Female Bird in Show—J. A. Pearce on Black Minorca pullet.

Best Parti-colored Male Bird in Show—T. M. Johnson on S. C. R. I. Red cockerel.

Best Parti-colored Female Bird in Show—T. M. Johnson on S. C. R. I. Red pullet.

Best Display in Show—R. L. Young on White Plymouth Rocks.—Abilene Reporter.

Ladies, do not fail to see our new line of Low Cuts in black white, tan and champagne. Hogue Hamilton Company.

Legislation Encourages Warehouses.



E. A. Calvin

Hon. E. A. Calvin, representative from Harris county and one of the leaders in progressive legislation, in the lower house, piloted the resolution through the Legislature calling for a constitutional amendment permitting counties to issue bonds for building warehouses for storing and marketing cotton according to plans of the Farmers' Union. Mr. Calvin was also instrumental in defeating the full crew bill thereby saving the shippers of Texas a million dollars per annum, and he has been actively identified with all measures promoting and protecting the interests of the farmers.

Mr. Calvin was a former president of the Farmers' Union and is one of the best agriculturists in the state. There are many farmers in the present legislature and they never play politics but on roll call stand squarely for the best interests of Texas.

Easter Coming Early.

And we want you to come in and see our three complete lines of mens made-to-order clothes. Prices ranging from \$14.50 up. See our line before you send your orders out. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

MEXICO MATTERS VERY UNCERTAIN

Since the disposal of Madero as president of Mexico and the appointment of Huerto as provisional president the matters in the sister republic have taken on a new face with practically every new day that has arrived. Since the killing of Madero and Vice President Jose Pino Suarez the country is in a turmoil from the lower parts to the northern boundry. In the northern part of the country the new administration seems to be gaining favor very slowly, owing to much of that section of the land being the home of the Yaqui Indians who have been staunch supporters of Madero since the beginning of the downfall of Porfirio Diaz.

On Monday morning a report was circulated in El Paso that United States Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson had been killed by Mexicans and the report reigned like wild-fire in the border town for sometime. Communications from all over the country swamped the city in endeavors to ascertain the correctness of the report and were promptly informed of such not being the case.

During the last few days United States has rapidly increased her army and land forces at Galveston and at a moments notice could transfer a large army into various parts of Mexico for both coast and field services. And to this end the papers of El Paso seem to be clamoring, no doubt some of them if not all are in favor of immediate intervention. On the morning after the report was received of the killing of Madero one of the daily papers in El Paso came out with glaring headlines "sorry Taft" and asking for immediate intervention.

No doubt a number of the false reports reaching the ears of this section of the country are originated by politicians who hope to meet with individual gain in case United States should intervene. Authentic reports from Washington leads us to believe there will be nothing done on the part of intervention of the United States until after Wilson takes the presidents chair March 4, and as to what will be done then is only guess work, Mr. Wilson not having announced any likely action in the matter, however, he is studying the situation in Mexico thoroughly.

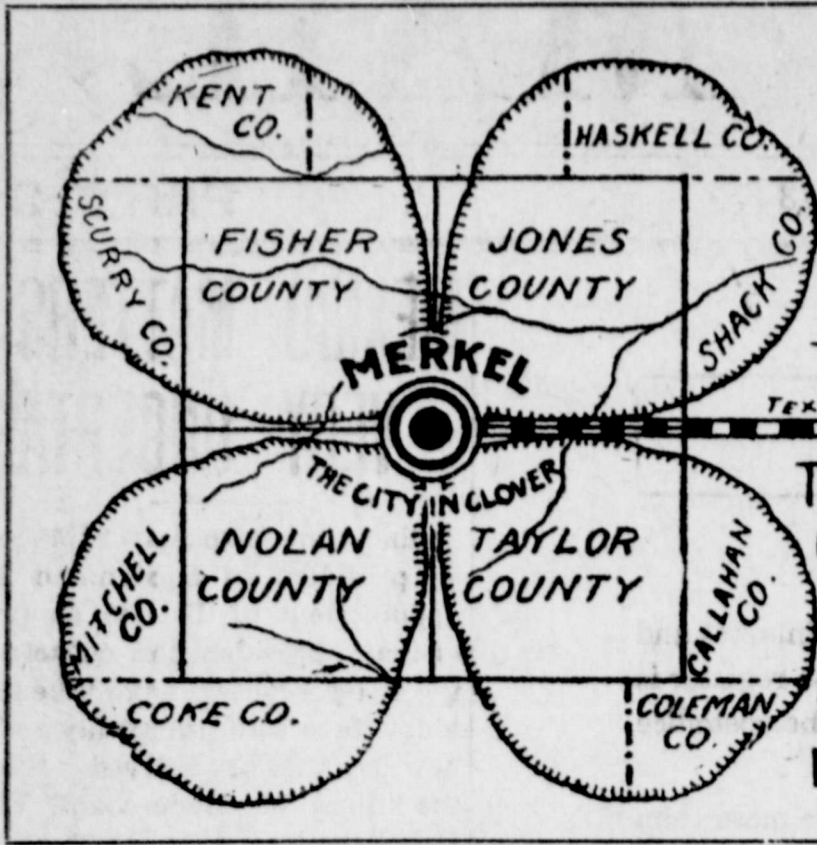
Two Negroes Lynched by Mob.

Marshall, Feb., 25—Two negroes were lynched in Harrison county last night.

Near Elysian Fields a negro named Anderson was hanged. The reasons for the hanging are not yet known.

Near Karnack, Robert Perry, charged with horse stealing, was shot to death. Another negro, George Radden, charged also with horse stealing, was wounded in the leg by the men who killed Perry.

Watch our cigar case for free cigars, Grimes Drug Store.



MERKEL

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

TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAIL ROAD

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.

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED

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

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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.

SUNDAY'S "FATAL ACCIDENT" IN MEXICO.

When Madero and Saurez were assassinated by their military guards, while helpless prisoners, something more than murder was done, the name of Mexico was sullied by the record of a crime that is worthy neither of the nation nor of the century in which we live. Are the character and meaning of the new regime to be judged from that tragic crime? "Suspension of the guarantees" has been applied before, but it did not bring peace. If the summary execution of rebels in arms only stirs their comrades to greater activity, can it be possible that murder like this, without trial or hearing, will quell disturbances of the public peace?

That absurd Taft-Knox administration, as usual, and as demanded by simple consistency, blundered again, and had to take the inevitable backslap without displaying resentment. We have become so used to seeing the Taft-Knox administration choose the course of puff headed blunder and national degradation that this latest one was no surprise. The Mexicans took pleasure in insulting the president and secretary of state of the United States at the same time that they put out of the way the men they regarded as arch-disturbers of the peace. One of the motives of the assassination of those helpless victims of factional reprisal was the belief on the part of the new government that the United States would continue its backing of Madero even to the point of trying to restore him to the throne.

Mexico has called every bluff the Taft-Knox administration has tried to put over, and so gross and so many have been our failures in foreign policy, especially in Latin-America, that American diplomacy has sunk lower than at any time in the last 150 years. Whatever may be the course of the new administration after March 4, there is this supreme satisfaction to every American citizen, that by no possibility can the state department be any more incompetently handled than it has been by Philander C. Knox, whose definite contribution to the annals of our country has been the invention of that infamous contemptible, and humiliation policy he is pleased to term "dollar diplomacy."—El Paso Herald.

From the way the Herald looks at the situation our present administration is suffering from a severe case of non-compus-come-fitus, and does not care to resent any of the insults that Americans are subjected to at the present.

MAKING A PRESIDENT.

In the United States it takes some time to get a president into shape and to elect him to office. But with our sister republic the matter is just a little different and is pulled off in about one tenth of the time it takes us to do the job. In order for a person to gain an immediate foothold in Mexico he must be advanced far enough in worldly affairs to have accumulated a fair sized fortune, then if he is not too badly tongue tied so that his fellow men cannot understand him he can quickly show them by the use of his silvery flow of "lingo" where they are making a mistake by living under such a tyrant, as now rules the country and that he is their only source of relief. He goes a little further and promises the poor "billious bean eaters of the land of Chili-Con-Carne" that if they will give him their undivided attention for a few moments he will capture the present ruling power of the land, and then he with his few faithful followers can live happily ever afterward on the spoils of war, he, all the time giving them to understand that they are to share his victory equally.

His conquest is of a shorttime only and his air-castle becomes a reality, and the cry goes up of "Viva El Nuevo Presidente." The curtain falls and the scene begins anew

A LESSON IN CITY BUILDING.

Do you know there's lots of people
Settin' 'round in every town,
Growling like a broody chicken,
Knockin' every good thing down?
Don't you be that kind o' cattle,
'Cause they aint no use on earth,
You just be a booster rooster,
Crow and boost for all you're worth.
If your town needs boostin boost 'er
Don't hold back and wait to see
If some other feller's willin'—
Sail right in, this country's free.
If things just don't seem to suit you,
An' the world seems kinder wrong,
What's the matter with a boostin',
Just to help the thing along.
'Cause if things should stop agoin'
We'd be in a sorry plight,
You just keep that horn a blowin'—
Boost 'er up with all your might.

A bill has been introduced in the Senate providing that delinquent taxes must be paid on property before the current tax is received. If it does not in fact do so, we think it ought to go further than that and declare that a receipt for taxes shall be accepted as proof that the taxes for all preceding years have been paid. Such a provision would make Assessors and Collectors more careful than many of them are now. The practice of accepting payment of taxes for a current year while taxes on the same property for preceding years remain unpaid is wholly a pernicious one, causing confusion, if not giving opportunity to practice graft. It not infrequently happens that a person has been paying taxes on a piece of property several years steadily only, on a sudden, to be confronted with a claim for taxes for one of those years removed pretty far back. If he is a business man or a large property owner he has probably kept his receipts; but it is not an uncommon thing for those who are not business men or large property owners to lose or misplace their receipts, and for such there is no escape from payment, no matter how faithful and regular such a one has been in paying taxes as they became due. It is a practice which makes the public the victims of any errors of this kind that Collectors may make in neglecting to credit property with the payment of taxes. By requiring that a tax receipt shall also evidence that all taxes due prior to its issuance are likewise paid, Collectors will be made the victims of their own errors. And, too, such a change in the law would have the effect of reducing the delinquent roll. This bill ought to pass along with that other bill which would forbid the expression of false considerations in deeds.—Dallas News.



"I Got This Fine Pipe With Liggett & Myers Duke's Mixture"

All kinds of men smoke Duke's Mixture in all kinds of pipes—as well as in cigarettes—and they all tell the same story. They like the genuine, natural tobacco taste of

Liggett & Myers

Duke's Mixture

Choice bright leaf aged to mellow mildness, carefully stemmed and then granulated—every grain pure, high-grade tobacco—that's what you get in the Liggett & Myers Duke's Mixture sack. You get one and a half ounces of this pure, mild, delightful tobacco, unsurpassed in quality, for 5c—and with each sack you get a book of papers free.

Now About the Free Pipe

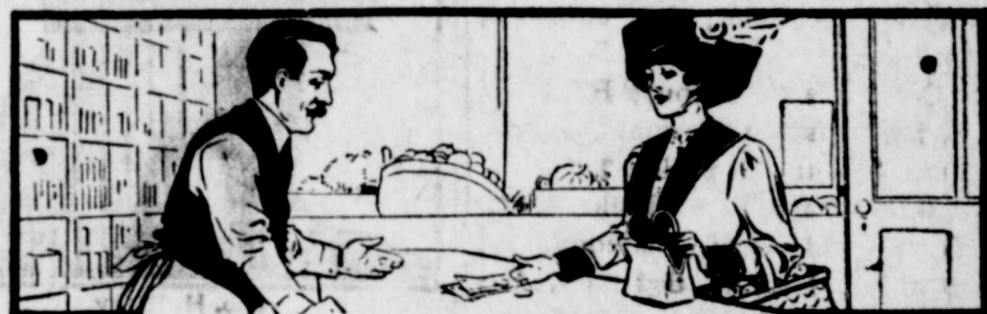
In every sack of Liggett & Myers Duke's Mixture we now pack a coupon. You can exchange these coupons for a pipe or for many other valuable and useful articles. These presents cost not one penny. There is something for every member of the family—skates, catcher's gloves, tennis rackets, cameras, toilet articles, suit cases, canes, umbrellas, and dozens of other things. Just send us your name and address on a postal and as a special offer during January and February only we will send you our new illustrated catalogue of presents FREE of any charge. Open up a sack of Liggett & Myers Duke's Mixture today.

Coupons from Duke's Mixture may be assorted with tags from HORSE SHOE, J. T. TINSLEY'S NATURAL LEAF, GRANGER TWIST, and Coupons from FOUR ROSES (10c tin double coupon), PICK PLUG CUT, PIEDMONT CIGARETTES, CLIK CIGARETTES, and other tags or coupons issued by us.

Premium Dept.

Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.

St. Louis, Mo.



Our customers keep the books, but they spend no time and have no trouble in doing so. Every customer has the same record of his account as we have and in the same handwriting.

This we accomplish by the use of

The McCASKEY SYSTEM

The One Writing Method of handling credit accounts.

With each purchase, we furnish a sale slip which shows the goods purchased, the price charged for each item and the last previous balance all noted up.

There can be no error in handling your accounts as

You Always Know What You Owe

We furnish a holder for the sale slips. We prefer that you file every slip in this holder—a glance at the last one will tell you what you owe. These slips become an expense account, without effort on your part.

Will you let us explain our McCaskey System to you?

JUST INSTALLED AT

HAMBLET & ROGERS GROCERY

BETTER GROCERIES.

AT

The Cash Grocery

AT

A BETTER PRICE

1913

MAGIC TOUCH

1913**OF SPRING****Parcel Post**

All orders sent by mail will be forwarded by parcel post without extra charge and will be sent out on first mail, and remember we guarantee satisfaction in service and merchandise. Call on us for your wants.

Is Seen in Every Nook

AND CORNER OF WOODROOF'S STORE

Fashion's color beauty running riot thru our almost endless array of dainty fabrics of Cotton, Linen, Wool and Silk. Come and revel in their wondrous beauties. Note the color blendings, the perfect texture, the newest of styles and patterns. Own them if you will, the cost is inconsiderate when their many points of merit are considered. If you are not ready to buy, take this opportunity of getting acquainted with the stock, 'twill prove profitable a little later. We appreciate your criticism as well as your praise, for it helps us to eliminate our faults and build up our business. Come in and investigate

Samples Sent

We will gladly submit samples of all piece goods and offer you selections from the largest and most attractive stock which we have ever been in position to offer. Let us help you plan your Easter dress.

**REMEMBER THAT WE CHARGE YOU ONLY FOR THE SERVICE QUALITY
AND WE GIVE YOU THE APPEARANCE QUALITY**

W. D. WOODROOF & CO.

We are Now Showing in Our Dress Goods Department

The latest effects in Crepe in white and colors. Price **50c**

A very choice selection of Sunproof and Tubproof Linens, 25c to . . . **50c**

A beautiful assortment of Embroidered Ratine, Laces and Bandings

Other new dress goods which will be found in our new assortment consists of Charmeuse, Dunbar Silk, new pin striped Silk, Crepe Tub Silk and Crepe-DeCheine in all colors, 50c to **\$1.50**

These goods are sure to meet with your heartiest approval and it will be a pleasure for you to go through and note the beautiful range of colors and selection of patterns which we are able to show at this early season. Be sure to see our line of Fancy Spring Ribbons.

We are also showing many new patterns in wool goods for stylish Spring Suits from 50c to . . . **\$1.50**

Beautiful Shadow lace in Match Sets, Ratine in white and colors, Collars for evening dresses and new Ratine Veils are to be numbered among the new things to be found at the Woodroof Store. Come and see.

Our Muslin Underwear Department

This department is complete. We carry all sizes and the most popular sellers at all times, and our prices compare with those of the lowest made in this section. Do not overlook this department, which is up-to-date.

Remember the Premium Certificates

Remember we still give certificates on all purchases from five cents up, which are redeemable for W. M. Rogers Silverware premiums. This silverware is on display at this store and will be appreciated if seen.

Ladies Ready-to-Wear Department

New Silk Dresses for spring, latest effects and a very choice array at popular prices, consisting of Pongee Silk Dresses and Mellrose Messaline Silk Dresses. Be sure to see these. You can't keep from liking them.

Our New Millinery

We are now showing a great variety of new stylish Spring Hats for street or dress wear. All of the newest shapes and at popular prices. You are especially requested to inspect this department, which is under the management of Miss Marie Aston of St. Louis, who is a thorough, competent and experienced artist in the Millinery business.

By all means, when you get ready to do your trading do not fail to visit the Woodroof Store and avail yourself of the many opportunities which we are offering.

Articles For Men

While in the markets we did not overlook the men and young men of this section and are able to show a beautiful line of spring Hats, nobby spring Pants, spring Shirts and are expecting our new spring Suits by the time this goes to press, or in a very few days afterwards. Our lines, as usual, consist of the season's very latest offered by the justly famous Hart, Shaffner & Marx house.

If you are going to need a Grip or Suit Case soon it will pay you to see our full line of Hand Grips and Suit Cases.

The New Spring Stocks Have Taken Full Possession!

I AM JUST BACK FROM MARKET WHERE I PURCHASED A FULL LINE OF DRESS GOODS, SKIRTS, SHIRT WAISTS, SLIPPERS, HOSIERY, ETC.

Slippers

Ladies and gentlemen's slipper stock in Gunmetal, Russian Calf, Vici, Kangaroo and Canvas.

Skirts

We now have a full line of ladies Skirts ranging in price from \$3 to **\$10.00**

Shirtwaists

The prettiest line of Shirtwaists can be found here, ranging from \$1 to **\$2.50**

Dress Goods

Our early spring showing is now ready. You should see the fascinating display

Exquisite Silk Novelties
Glace Chiffon
Crepe and Brocade Charmeuse
Surah Silk
Crepe Meteor
Fille Stripes Bordered Voile
Tub Tussah
Bordered and Plain Ratine
Embroidered Voile
Ratine Voile
Pheasant Cloth
Serpentine Crepe Linens
Galatea Cloth
Ginghams
Percales
and Calicoes

Men's Suits

We have a full line of men's suits, new Spring Styles, price \$12.50 to **\$25.00**

Hats and Caps

Men's and boys' hats and Caps in the new Shapes, both in felt and cloth.

Miscellaneous

Ladies' Collars, Ties, Bows, Lace Pins, etc., in profusion. Many things I have not space to tell you about, but we wish to see you in our store. We are very anxious to show you our new goods. Come see for yourself.

J. P. Sharp, The Quality Store

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Picture moulding just in at "Macks"

J. I. Leamon of Trent was in the city Saturday on business.

School supplies at the Nickel Store for the children and all others.

M. L. Estes of the Truby country was in town Monday on business.

\$1,000 worth of ladies, misses and childrens slippers just arrived. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

H. C. Burroughs was in Tulia the first of the week looking after business matters.

Come in and let us show you the safety hatch incubators. Anchor Hardware Co.

J. M. Busby and and T. L. Anderson of Route 1 were in town Saturday on business.

You will find the Nickel Store in the Dr. J. H. Warnick building on Kent street.

Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Bigham of the Scratch ranch near Trent were in town Saturday visiting relatives.

Special showing of dress goods for spring in great varieties of patterns and all prices. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

T. L. Stevens of the Trent community was on the streets Saturday shaking hands with friends.

Ranger coffee at 25c is better than all other 25c grades, try it. Whitley, Son & Co.

Have you seen the piano? The West Texas Hardware Co. gives it away.

H. L. Propst

G. M. Cauthen

W. D. Hutcheson



We have and carry in stock at all time a complete stock of

Shelf Hardware, Queensware, Builders Hardware

Cooking Stoves (wood, coal and oil cookers)

Harness, Buggies, Wagons, Implements

We deliver by Parcel Post anything that can be carried by Parcel Post to any address within 50 miles of Merkel, postoffice postage prepaid. Call and figure with us when you are in the market for any of the above goods. If you are not already a customer of this firm let us get acquainted. We offer you a square deal, consisting of good goods at

REASONABLE PRICES

Crown Hardware Co.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

For garden seed—Whitley, Son & Co.

J. A. Hamner was in Abilene Tuesday on business.

5000 fat hens wanted at the Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

T. J. Coggin and Mayor Mims made a business trip to Sweetwater Tuesday.

We treat everybody nice and sell to all alike at the Nickel Store.

J. L. Johnson of Clyde was here Monday and Tuesday looking after his Merkel property.

Men, Boys, when you need a belt, come to see us. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

W. M. O'Briant went to Rotan the first of the week to look after business matters.

We have the pure Ribbon Cane Syrup in barrels. We want your business. Hamblet & Rogers.

Miss Nina Wright of Bellville is the guest of her sister Mrs. W. D. Woodroof.

See us for poultry netting, all widths and meshes. Anchor Hardware Company.

Miss Katherine Stevens of Goldthwaite came in Friday to visit her cousin Mrs. J. D. Gaither.

Special showing of new Gingham, only 10 cents per yard for extra quality. Hogue Hamilton Company.

Think of it, a piano given away. Ask for Piano Certificates at the West Texas Hardware Co.