

PETITION TO COURT FOR AN ELECTION

A petition to the Honorable Commissioners Court of one hundred names of Merkel country tax paying voters was presented Monday asking the Commissioners to call an election in this precinct for the purpose of determining whether or not bonds should be voted for the purpose of constructing graveled or paved roads in this road district.

The signers to the petition were as follows:

James Bright, J M Reeves, R N Malone, R O Anderson, H E Stubbs, J W Wheeler, T L Grimes, R P Peterson, J R Toombs, M Armstrong, J P Sublett, A Williamson, Arthur Sears, D I Shelton, W D Woodroof, J T Biggs, E H Patterson, J V West, J D Hogg, O B Boden, Chas. West, J R Lamar, C K Russell, J M Pate, A B Harris, W V Cranford, W F Evans, S G Russell, G B Brown, W A Scott, J A Sharp, O M Sharp, W E Farmer, A R Payne, H M Rainbolt, W P Moore, Henry Wiggins, W L Diltz, W I Cogburn, T M Smith, T J Toombs, H L Easterwood, M M Denton, G H Adams, S G Tipton, G J Jones, Geo. Brown, M D Angus, B C Moore, G H McDonald, J F Shaffer, J E Kelley, Sam Roberts, S F Haynes, A R Toombs, W L Buchanan, G W Johnson, J J McCarty, R E Teaff, E W Permitter, J W Powell, W Parten, G W Cauthen, W C Lee, W R Brittan, W I Cogburn, Thos. Johnson, D B Atwood, O F McMaster, G C Blair, J M Dry, J W H Martin, J E Martin, B H Riney, W F Hamblet, A L Stanley, O W Walker, D L Boyd, W R Russell, B C Gaither, W H Frazier, R L Moore, Walter Clark, N D Cobb, R A Martin, J T Warren, E L Rogers, J T Howard, W W Wheeler, Ben T Merritt, R A Ellis, A C Boney, W D Hutcheson, J A Collins, Seth Hamilton, B A Walters, H C Burroughs, T J Cross, A C Rose, Austin Boyd, Ross Ferrier.

INTERESTING STORY BY ERNEST COUNTS

Ernest Counts, somewhat of a globe trotter, starting from Merseveral years ago, returned home Thursday evening of last week, having encircled the globe. He is here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Counts.

Mr. Counts, in making the final part of his trip from China through a portion of France where some of the world's greatest battles have recently been fought, saw sights from a different view point than the people of this country have read of from our newspaper reports. His story in this issue of the Mail is highly interesting and is given as nearly as possible in the exact words with which he related it at the Mail office for about three hours Saturday afternoon. Not being able to give space to the entire story in this week's paper, his account of his travels up to the time he reached the Suez Canal is given. The conclusion and his description of the war in France will appear in the Mail next week. Watch for it.

Don't fail to be at the "Cozy" night May 14 at 8:15 and let J. W. Hunt picture your imagination.

Twilight pie peaches in gallon cans at G. M. Sharp's.

MERKEL FAMILY TO MOVE TO FT. WORTH

Promotion of Manager O. W. Williams for the second time within the last two months will cost Merkel the loss of this good man and his family.

Mr. Williams, who has been manager of the Merkel Lumber Co., was recently promoted to manager of the Carey Lombard, Young & Co., lumber yards in west Texas, with Merkel as his headquarters. Soon after this appointment was announced another was in store for him and he is now acting in the capacity of buyer for the Carey Lombard, Young & Co., of Chicago, for all their yards in Texas and Kansas. In this new position he will have his offices at Fort Worth and expects to leave here for his new location about the 20th of this month. He will retain district management of the West Texas yards, however, and will visit Merkel occasionally. Mrs. Williams and the children will not go to Fort Worth for several months yet.

Mr. Williams is to be congratulated on his excellent record and steady advancement due much to his ability to attend strictly to business.

MERKEL DOWNED 6 TO 4 BY ABILENE

Left Merkel baseball fans forget, Merkel suffered defeat at the hands of Abilene ball artists Friday evening of last week for the second time within the last two weeks.

This brings the percentage of the Merkel team during the present year to .500, having played four games and lost two of that number. Workouts are still being given the locals and it is hoped that within a few days they will be able to redeem themselves in good fashion. Early games are expected with Sweetwater, Colorado, Abilene, Anson and Baird.

Probably the only member of either team that played here Friday who featured, was Booth Warren of this place but playing with the Simmons College Federals. Out of three times up Eooth hit safely three times and none of the hits credited to him were scratches.

Merkel games hereafter will be played at North Park.

DIST. CONFERENCE MEETING REPORT

The Abilene District Conference which met in our city last week adjourned Sunday night. A goodly number of preachers and delegates from over the district were present.

The reports of the preachers showed plainly that the various churches in this district are making progress. The presiding Elder, Rev. C. N. Fergusson, said that the conference was the best he had ever attended. Our Merkel people gave those attending the conference a hearty welcome and the entertainment was all one could desire. Each visitor was full of praises for the entertainment they received at the hands of the Merkel people.

The next conference was given to Moran.

G. M. Sharp sells Seymours Best flour. Try a sack, its good.

My Travels Around The World

AND VIEWS OF THE PRESENT FOREIGN SITUATION

By ERNEST C. COUNTS

The following was taken from the story related by Ernest C. Counts of this city who has been in China and other eastern countries during the last few years.

Mr. Counts called at the Mail office at our request to relate some of his experiences and several times we had to punch ourselves to keep writing, his description of China and the war area being so intensely interesting. The entire account as Mr. Counts gave it will appear in the Mail in two installments. Next week the account of his travels from Shanghai through war-ridden France and his return home will be given.

In the beginning I will state that it was always my ambition to go around the world but for years I was not successful. My first attempt was ended at El Paso, Texas, on account of my becoming "broke," so to say. I returned home for a new start and a year later reached San Francisco, becoming home sick I returned home to get a new start and more money. Later I was more successful and again reached the city of San Francisco, where after months of labor I accumulated the amount of \$80 savings. On walking into a steamship office one day I inquired the price of a ticket to Honolulu, more through curiosity than anything else, thinking it would be at least \$100; the agent said \$60. I took his proposition eagerly and returned to my boarding house to exhibit my ticket to a foreign country.

Arriving in the city of Honolulu I found that my total resources amounted to less than \$4. I soon found employment, however, and for two years managed to keep body and soul together, but again became homesick and returned to Merkel to get a new start and more money.

My last and successful trip started from Seattle, where I sailed to the Philippine Islands and obtained employment with the British-American Tobacco Co., and was soon on my way to China, arriving in Shanghai in September, 1912.

My work in that country was in the interior of north China around Peking during most of the time I was in the Far East. In China an American is looked upon with favor over any other nationality, even by the lower classes, the coolies, who seem to know the friendly relations of the United States to their country that followed the Boxer revolution. My work in this far east was selling cigarettes to the Chinese. During the past year the company with which I was connected sold over twenty million cases of cigarettes in Chinese provinces, each case containing fifty thousand cigarettes. To the Chinese the cigarette is a blessing. It is taking the place of the opium curse among thousands and thousands of the natives.

Commonly speaking, China is an uncivilized country. The towns are dirty and filth is to be found in every place with one exception, Tsing Tao, the city taken by Germany following the Boxer revolution. With the Germans in possession of the place it soon became the most European city in the east and was known as "Berlin of the Far East." It was held by the Germans until in the latter part of 1914, when Japan captured it with a sacrifice of thousands of men.

In alluding to the capture of Tsing Tao, it was a move eagerly done by Japan upon being drawn into the Alliance with England in the present war. Now that Japan has taken the only German possession in China it is the feeling of neutrals in that zone that China as a government is nearing her finish unless United States intervenes. Japan, as the situation now stands, will not likely take a hand in the European conflict further than to add more to her already large possessions and concessions in China. Don't ever think that the Japs are going into Europe to fight Germany. No fear, Japan has just what she wanted out of this war and they fight some more, I don't think! All other powers of the east being busy at war they cannot protect China from being overrun by the Japs, whose present demands are destructive to China's welfare and dangerous to American capital, which is heavily invested in the Orient. The diplomacy used by England in drawing Japan into this war was a very foolish move according to all easterners who are conversant with the facts and it now appears that Great Britain sees the fallacy of her move, but it is too late. It would have been better to have allowed Germany to remain in power in China than to have given Japan the very thing she has been looking forward to for years and years, that is absolute control which they almost had before this war began. Japan in all her strength would have subdued China years ago only for fear of the six big powers who guaranteed China's neutrality from the invasion of any one country. This guarantee is now practically null and void and as I said before only the United States can save China from Japan but with Mr. Wilson I do not believe that the little brown men will be so much as spoken to in their territorial confiscation that is sure to come.

To show you the injustice of the Japanese in their demands an incident occurred in China wherein two Japanese barbers were killed by Chinese soldiers during a street brawl. Japan immediately asked \$10,000,000.00 indemnity, forcing the Chinese commander to meekly bow down before a Japanese magistrate and apologize. The Japs carried their demands further and warships advanced up the river to the scene of the trouble in view of forcing a settlement and no doubt would have been successful only for American and British warships being present and forcing the commander of the Jap warships to drop their exorbitant demands and retreat from the scene, while at a later date Japanese soldiers who were in a Chinese province became engaged in an argument with Chinese policeman of a small railway town. The result was that a Jap soldier received a slap in the face from a Chink policeman. The matter being reported to the commanding officer of the Japanese regiment, he sent soldiers into the town under Chinese rule and demanded the offending policeman. His demand was refused and the Japs stormed the place, killing four and wounding about six Chinese soldiers while the Japs escaped unhurt. Yuan Shikai, president of China, demanded indemnity for the invasion of her territory and the slain men but Japan's

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SCHOOL BONDS ARE TO BE VOTED MAY 25

Within the next ten days Merkel voters will decide by ballot whether or not Merkel school bonds shall be increased \$18,000 or not.

School teachers and school children, also, patrons, are looking forward with hopes that when the next school term opens it will be in a new and modern building, well ventilated and lighted and comfortable for those who go there. At present there is little or no comfort about one of our buildings and methods for heating and lighting both of them extremely bad while one of the buildings is regarded by many as being absolutely unsafe for use.

No voter seems to criticize the fact that we need better equipment but opinions vary as to the best locations. The writer has conversed with many who expressed themselves highly in favor of the school bond issue although they were against the further issuance of bonds and stated that they would support this one but would not lend their support to any other issue that might follow. Everybody come out and vote for better schools May 23.

BUILDING GOING ON IN THIS CITY

Not since what is now spoken of as the "boom" have Merkel people seen so much painting, building, re-modeling and general spring cleaning going on within the town.

The bungalow home of G. E. Comegys will be complete for occupation within a few days, being one of the most modern arranged domiciles in Merkel. Contractors are busy each day on a new home for A. C. Rose on the site of where his old home was destroyed by fire several months ago. Adjoining the home of Mr. Rose much improving is being done on the former Warren home, now belonging to W. D. Woodroof. R. L. Bland is among those who have been beautifying the premises about his home on Oak street, all of which makes Merkel a more beautiful town.

Mrs. E. M. Rust knows about LIV-VER-LAX. You need it for your liver.

ABILENE GAS AND ELETG. MEN HERE

G. F. Cafferey, manager of the Abilene Gas & Electric Co., together with G. J. Clark, commercial manger, of the company and J. H. Sharpe, construction contractor, were in Merkel Monday looking into the investments the Abilene company proposes to place here in connection with the 24 hour electric service Merkel is to get in this near future.

Mr. Cafferey did not give out a statement as to when work would begin on the construction of the transmission lines from Abilene to Merkel but it is supposed that this will not be long off.

Don't forget to tell your friends where to buy their groceries. W. F. Hamblet.

The Home Furniture Company for furniture and coffins.

TRENT SCHOOLS IN CHARGE NEW SUPT.

During the last two weeks the Trent schools have been in charge of a new superintendent, Prof. Hood of Abilene, who has been elected to head the Trent schools for the coming fall term.

The placing of Mr. Hood in charge of the Trent schools came about when their former superintendent, Mr. Farrar, suddenly resigned. According to information received here, his action was caused by the trustees failing to elect him for the next term, while we have been reliably informed that he voiced his disapproval on several occasions to teaching the school for another term and went so far as to make his position known to members of the school board. The work of the Trent schools under Prof. Farrar has progressed in a very satisfactory manner, according to the Trent Enterprise last week, and it was with regret that the students learned of his "balloon ascension." The old saying of never waiting for a street car or a woman will also apply to some men, and when any person thinks a people cannot get along without his services, someone should pinch the sleeper to arouse him from his egotistical slumbers.

A. R. Payne Gets a Pain

A. R. Payne of the Trent community was in town Saturday and is qualified to vouch for the viciousness of a mad horse and a jitney. As he was crossing Kent street on North First he did not notice a horse nearby which was endeavoring to break away from its driver. He also did not see a man in a Ford trying to get out of the way of the frightened horse. The results were, the horse almost struck the Ford, the Ford did strike Mr. Payne and Mr. Payne struck the ground. The car passed over his body inflicting some light bruises, the extent of Mr. Payne's injuries being a dislocated thumb, a bruised hip and a bruised face.

GAS FOR MERKEL MAYBE SOMETIME

The following letter from M. W. Bahan with the Pioneer Natural Gas Co., the company which now supplies Abilene with gas fuel, was dictated in response to an inquiry from the Mail as to the prospects of Merkel obtaining natural gas:

Fort Worth, Texas May 10, 1915

Natural Gas
Mr. Homer L. Easterwood,
Merkel, Texas.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter, without date, making inquiry as to our idea of the time natural gas will be available for your city.

This is a very hard question to answer as of course it will depend largely upon the quantity of gas developed in West Texas. Our present gas field only evidences a sufficient quantity to insure the towns we are now supplying, therefore to extend to you, it is we may say, a rare guess, just when gas will reach you, although the prospects of West Texas are very good to develop in large quantities and we will surely keep your city in mind.

Thanking you for your inquiry and assuring you I will be glad any time to keep you informed, I am,
Yours respectfully,
M. W. Bahan.

Condensed Statement of
Condition

THE Farmers State BANK

OF MERKEL

As Reported May 1st, 1915

RESOURCES

Loans	\$117,138.96
Overdrafts	NONE
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,938.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00
Interest in Guaranty Fund	1,091.16
Revenue Stamps	33.58
CASH AND EXCHANGE	90,034.45
Total	\$225,236.15

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	6,063.51
Borrowed Money	NONE
DEPOSITS	184,172.64
Total	\$225,236.15

In calling attention to this statement we wish to impress the fact that this Bank commenced business in 1912 and now has over One Thousand Individual Accounts, making the largest Individual Deposits in Merkel.

We have no City or School funds nor due to Banks among our deposits. We have a large cash reserve and want some good acceptable loans. We are willing and able to serve you.

We solicit your account.

J. S. SWANN, President.
JOHN SEARS, Vice President
R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier
B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cash.

The Owl Cafe

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

I am again in charge of the Owl Cafe and Restaurant, after an absence of several months.

Absolutely new in equipment and furnishings, completely remodeled and sanitary in every respect.

Culinary Department under direction of Aftonso Hurera, an experienced Spanish cook.

I will thank my many friends to visit me at the old stand.

Better service and complete satisfaction in every respect.

The Owl Cafe

L. E. SANDERS, PROP.

SHILOH

Rev. Pope of Abilene preached at Shiloh Saturday at eleven. Rev. Ryal Griffith of Abilene preached Sunday morning and Rev. Horn preached Sunday night.

There was singing at Shiloh church Sunday afternoon.

The singing school taught by Prof. Rollins closed Friday night with a fine song service.

Rev. and Mrs. Tatum of Hebron attended services at Shiloh Sunday and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Beavers.

Mrs. Wilner Grayson and little sister, Vennie, were shopping in Merkel Saturday.

E. Howell, son and daughter of near Trent attended services at Shiloh Sunday.

Vernon Barclay of Trent was visiting Ernest McCright Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Church of the Noodle community attended services at Shiloh Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Grayson.

Prof. and Mrs. Rollins are visiting friends in McCauley this week.

Edgar Grayson is the proud owner of a new buggy purchased last week and he was seen out buggy riding with his "best girl" Sunday afternoon.

There seems to be an attraction over this way for Bruce Wheeler of Noodle.

Mr. Joe Priest and Miss Cordia Blasingame were married Sun-

day, Bev. Tatum of Hebron performing the ceremony.

A number of young people took dinner Sunday with Mrs. Coas. Seago.

Miss Ruth Pomroy spent a portion of last week with her aunt, Mrs. Ellen Wheeler.

They organized a singing class at Shiloh Sunday afternoon. Wilbur Woods was elected president, Mrs. Mae Seago, secretary; Terrell Winters, chaplain; S. L. and Wilner Grayson, John Winter and Hardy Rutledge, leaders. They will meet the second and fourth Sunday afternoon in each month. Everybody come out and take part.

On Saturday before the second Sunday in June the people of this community and all who are interested will come and bring their dinners, stay all day and clean off the cemetery. There will be preaching at eleven as that is our regular meeting day.

BLAIR

The farmers are in a contest with General Green. He is arrayed against them with all his force, but hands are more plentiful than last year.

Wheat and oats are looking fine.

The Blair school closes another successful term next Friday. The school board called a meeting of the patrons for Monday night to devise a plan to employ another teacher, making three teachers for next term.

James Mayfield returned home from Abilene Monday where he had been taking treatment under a specialist for throat trouble.

Mrs. Wilson and daughter, Cynthia, went to Sweetwater Friday, returning home Saturday.

Clay Doan, who is in very delicate health, is reported worse today.

Miss Ruby Swift visited her sister at View Friday.

Miss Ruth and Billy Moore of Compere visited Mrs. Addison Sunday.

Miss Jessie Clark returned home Monday from Fort Worth, where she has been visiting.

The Bonham Bros. show furnished entertainment for the fun lovers of Blair last week. Miss Ruby Swift was the successful contestant in the popular lady contest, receiving a watch as a prize.

The two little daughters of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Tittle are very sick. Iva Mae has pneumonia and Katherine is threatened with the same.

The Blair singing class met at the school house Sunday night for practice. Some of the young people from White Church and Trent were present and took part in the singing.

BUTMAN

We are having some beautiful weather at present. May it continue.

Many of the farmers had to plant their cotton over, while some got a very good stand and those that did will have cotton to chop next week.

J. T. Lewis has planted one acre of Sudan grass.

The next entertainment of the literary will be held one week from Friday night as that will be the end of school.

"Get up!" "Whoa!" is the slogan now.

It was thought that school would end next Friday at Butman but we hear it will continue two weeks longer.

For about the six thousandth time, according to Genesis, Dame Nature has donned her habiliments of beauty for the gratification of the hearts of her worshippers.

Russia is dry, France and Germany are practically dry, England is on the pivot of prohibition and America, dear old America, is battling assiduously for it. It is unsafe to believe our efforts shall be spent without avail.

Editor's Note—Omitted from last week owing to its late arrival. Please have your reports in by Monday if possible.

COMPERE

We are having plenty of rain—can't plant the crops yet. A good deal of land will lay out.

Mrs. William Shannon is real sick at this writing.

Rev. Young preached at Compere Sunday afternoon. The Missionary Baptist have

changed Sundays with the Nazerines and Rev. Dawson, the Baptist preacher, will preach for us on the first Sunday at 11:00 o'clock and maybe Sunday night. All are invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Childress have returned to Compere to make their home. We welcome them to our midst.

Miss Clarice Moore is sick at this writing. She has la grippe.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pannell visited the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Spurgin gave the young people a singing Sunday night. All report a good time.

SALT BRANCH

Cotton planting and ball playing is all the go these days.

W. B. Robertson returned from Rochester Monday where he visited relatives.

Manly and Joe Stone and Roy Shook spent Sunday with C. A. Higgins and family.

W. L. Barker is reported on the sick list this week.

There will be Sunday school here Sunday morning. Everybody come and bring somebody with you.

The Salt Branch second ball team defeated Warren Tuesday afternoon 23 to 10 in favor of Salt Branch.

\$400 PIANO CONTEST

The Total Vote and Standing of the Various Contestants.

The following gives the total vote registered in the Anchor Mercantile Company's contest up until Wednesday night of this week. This contest ends August 23 at which time the piano will be awarded to the contestant having the largest number of votes. There will also be six other prizes for the other six leading young ladies.

No votes can be solicited around our store either by yourself or friends. A continuation of this and we will be forced to drop offenders name from the list.

Standing in the \$400.00 Piano Trade Extension Campaign week ending May 12, 1915.

12.....	871,440	94.....	3,981,565
14.....	2,348,780	95.....	1,491,620
21.....	1,042,350	96.....	616,606
47.....	752,555	97.....	891,935
66.....	2,390,170	98.....	1,093,000
70.....	649,470	99.....	1,024,405
74.....	1,072,460	100.....	3,034,570
77.....	3,398,490	102.....	2,272,400
81.....	1,205,760	103.....	1,004,285
87.....	1,076,365	105.....	422,470
89.....	1,214,540	107.....	1,030,275
91.....	1,004,625	108.....	1,056,675
92.....	2,397,120	109.....	3,987,090
93.....	1,850,825	110.....	1,378,775

Miss Ruby Payne Injured.

Miss Ruby Payne, member of the faculty of the Merkel High School, was painfully injured Tuesday afternoon when she stepped from a moving auto-

Big Bargains

We have just received another lot of Bargains. It will pay you well to look over this list carefully and compare prices. It means a Big Saving to You.

- Just received another lot of Best Grade Matches, 2 boxes for 5c; per dozen..... **30c**
 - Four sewed Broom, 35c grade..... **19c**
 - Child's Rompers, good grade and well made, sizes 2 to 6, very special at..... **25c**
 - Large Bed Sheets, size 72x90 inches, regular \$1.00 value, our price..... **69c**
 - Ladies new Middle Aprons, regular price 75c, our price..... **50c**
 - Don't fail to see our children's White Dresses, 50c to..... **\$3.50**
 - LADIES' HATS MUST GO—Choice any Hat, worth up to \$5.00, only..... **85c**
 - Ladies' Kimonos 85c to..... **\$1.95**
 - Children's Embroidery Trimmed Drawers, only..... **10c**
 - Ladies' House Dresses..... **95c**
 - Men's Hats, worth \$2.50, only..... **95c**
 - Boys' and Men's Caps, worth 50c, only..... **25c**
 - Most up-to-date line of Ladies' Waists in Merkel, 25c to..... **\$1.25**
- You will have to hurry as these bargains will not last long.

Bring Us Your Chickens and Eggs
If you don't trade with me we both lose money

J. A. DUCKETT

THE PRICE IS THE THING

THE Home Furniture Co.

Complete Line

FURNITURE

and Undertaking Goods

When in Abilene

Mosart Cafe

Regular Lunch 25c
Short Orders

Service and Satisfaction

JACK GILSTRAP

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head because of its tonic and laxative effect. LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary Quinine and does not cause nervousness nor ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.

STILL

Too Busy to Write an "Ad"

But Never Too

Busy to Give Your Wants

Our Prompt and Capable Attention

BURROUGHS DRUG STORE

SPECIAL PRICES

We have only 20 Ladies' Skirts left and for the next week, to clean out these, we will make the

Following Cut Prices

\$10.00 Skirts cut to.....	\$7.00	\$7.00 Skirts cut to.....	\$5.00
8.00 to \$9 Skirts cut to.....	6.25	6.00 Skirts cut to.....	4.50
7.50 Skirts cut to.....	5.50	4.50 Skirts cut to.....	3.50
3.50 Skirts cut to.....			2.50

ALSO MAKE PRICES ON SOME WORK CLOTHING

\$1.50 Pants for the low price of.....	\$1.15
1.75 Pants for the low price of.....	1.25
2 Good Work Shirts.....	75c

J. P. SHARP, Merkel, Texas

Motorcycle Votes Free

One free vote with every Cleaning and Pressing Order
Don't fail to ask for your votes
You are entitled to them.
Prices Right—Satisfaction Guaranteed.

THE STAR STORE TAILOR SHOP

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Robbin Red Breast meal at G. M. Sharp's.

Mrs. Bob Johnson of Trent visited here Friday.

Mrs. Jno. Meeks was in Abilene Monday visiting relatives.

Mrs. Robert Godwin of Trent visited relatives here Saturday.

You are losing money if you are not trading with J. A. Ducketts.

Mrs. G. M. Green of Abilene was here Sunday visiting her mother, Mrs. N. E. Sandlin.

Mrs. McCoy of Dora visited her mother, Mrs. B. Jenkins, Saturday.

Miss Genevieve Rust spent the week-end with her cousin, Miss Strahan, of Trent.

FIRESTONE means better auto tires. Get them from G. F. WEST COMPANY.

Mrs. J. P. Sutphen is at home after a year spent in Nacogdoches and Meridian.

One hundred free style magazines at the Royal next Tuesday—all latest New York styles shown in connection with the story of "Runaway June."

Mrs. Roy Cox of Nubia visited friends here Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker, now of Abilene, returned to Merkel Tuesday afternoon for a short visit with friends. Mr. Walker returned to Abilene the following day but Mrs. Walker remained with friends during this week.

If you are going to paint your buggy or wagon use Neal's Carriage paint the best at Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hampton and wife of Big Springs came in the first of the week to visit the latter's father, J. S. Burns.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Bell are here visiting the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Bell.

Mrs. Chas. Fryar of Abilene is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

W. F. Dillard, county tax collector, was in Merkel Tuesday afternoon looking after business matters.

Messrs. L. E. Adrain and R. H. Reeves of Trent were in Merkel Tuesday.

Rev. R. J. Griffith and W. K. Horn of Simmons College of Abilene were at Shiloh Sunday conducting the services at the Shiloh church.

E. W. Perminter will be in Big Springs next week visiting his son.

Good Grocery Prices.

Peaberry coffee 4 1/2 pounds \$1.00, Golden Blend 6 pounds \$1.00, Special brand 7 pounds \$1.00, Bliss fruit preserves, glass jars 25 cents, Jellies in quart jars 25 cents, Country syrup at 65 cents, Other brands accordingly such as Mary Jane, Royal, New South, Red & Green Velva, D. D. or Aero syrup.

Evaporated fruits choice grade at prices you cannot afford to miss. Apricots per pound 12 1/2 cents; prunes 12 1/2 cents; apples 11 cents; peaches 9 cents; grapes 10 cents. All 10 cent sellers as mixed pickles, faultless starch, soda, salt, pepper sauce 8 cents here. Comb honey 12 1/2 Trade at Steven's Store.

T. M. Smith of the Home Furniture Co., was in Abilene on business Monday.

R. R. Meeks of route 5 was in Abilene the first of the week transacting business.

Mr. Homer Jobe of Ft. Stockton sent a box of beautiful cut flowers to his mother Mrs. A. L. Jobe for Mothers Day.

C. T. Beckham and daughter, Miss Geta, of Trent, were here Wednesday.

Mrs. Clem Wheeler of Windom is visiting her daughter Mrs. J. H. Wither.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Don't fail to see J. A. Duckett's ad in this paper.

Miss Ruby Jones visited in Roscoe this week.

"Runaway June" at the Royal next Tuesday.

Mrs. Andy Hunter of Nubia visited here Saturday.

Better get one of those 20 cent brooms at J. A. Duckette's.

German millet seed for sale at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Miss Victoria War ock of Butman visited here Saturday.

The largest and most complete stock of auto tires in town.

G. F. WEST CO.

Mrs. Samuel Butman of the Butman ranch visited here Saturday.

Ladies silk hose 25 cents at J. A. Ducketts. The Price is The Thing.

Miss Beulah Burkett spent Sunday with her parents in Abilene.

Pure California honey, new crop, at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mrs. N. E. Horn and daughter, Mrs. A. F. Huber, of Noodle, visited here Moneay.

Ladies requested to call for free style magazines at the Royal next Tuesday.

Mrs. Walter Holt of Trent visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Thomas, this week.

Runaway June is no mystery but sure is some picture. Royal next Tuesday.

Miss Willie Jones of Carbon is here visiting her sister, Mrs. H. Orr.

Every installment of "Runaway June" is complete within itself. It starts at the Royal next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Phillips and little daughters of Dora visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam Foster last week.

New California honey, new crop, at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Miss Ruby Payne visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Payne, of Abilene, Saturday.

I have fine apple vinegar at 35 cents per gallon. It is excellent. Jno. M. Westenhouwer, Crenshaw Block.

Miss Clara Will McNatt of Abilene is visiting Miss France Burroughs.

The Home Furniture Company for furniture and coffins.

Mrs. Jno. C. Hamm has returned home from Anson, where she visited her mother, Mrs. C. D. Coswert.

The most miles per dollar—Firestone auto tires. G. F. WEST CO.

Miss Lillie Lattimore of Nubia visited friends here Saturday.

The Home Furniture Company for furniture and coffins.

Miss Missouri Strahan of Trent visited her aunt, Mrs. E. M. Rust, Saturday.

German millet seed for sale at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

The Home Furniture Company for furniture and coffins.

Miss Rose Norrie, who has been here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. Smith, returned to Abilene the first of the week.

New Perfection means the highest quality in coal oil cooking stoves. If you have not investigated the merits of the new Fireless Cooker oil stove please do so at once. We are always glad to show you whether you buy or not. G. F. WEST CO.

Mrs. J. A. Green left Monday for Mineral Wells where she will make her home.

German millet seed for sale at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. E. Fee of Nugent returned to their home Monday, having attended the Methodist Conference here last week.

Who sells Seymour's Best flour? G. M. Sharp.

No. 7481

Statement of Condition

Farmers & Merchants

NATIONAL BANK

of Merkel

Close of Business Saturday
May 1st, 1915

RESOURCES

Loans.....	\$100,743.56
Overdrafts.....	NONE
U. S. Bonds—Par.....	10,250.00
Stock in Federal Bank.....	1,500.00
Five per cent Redemption Fund.....	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures.....	3,600.00
Real Estate.....	6,500.00
CASH AND SIGHT EXCHANGE.....	131,450.01
Total.....	\$254,356.07

LIABILITIES

Capital.....	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits—Net.....	32,870.29
Circulation.....	6,250.00
Bills Payable.....	NONE
Rediscounts.....	NONE
Other Borrowed Money.....	NONE
DEPOSITS.....	190,235.78
Total.....	\$254,356.57

With total resources of over a

Quarter Million Dollars

with cash on hand and in other banks of over \$131,000.00; a surplus fund larger than our capital, amounting to \$32,870.00, and total DEPOSITS over

\$190,000.00

we invite your account on the basis of our ability to take care of it.

It is through the co-operation of the banking public that we are able to make this statement.

We thank you for your business and invite you to call on us freely.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
 THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
 HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Editor and Manager

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.

FORGING A NATION'S HAND.

Within a few hours after the sinking of the Lusitania newspapers throughout the east carried editorials befitting the outrageous deed but failed to comprehend the graveness of the situation in trying to force the hand of our own country.

We can think of no plausible excuse that Germany could give for the murderous work but this is a time when outrageous acts are being committed on every hand. The sacrifice of a thousand lives on either side may tend to save the lives of a hundred thousand before the conflict is ended. The fact that one hundred and fifty Americans went down with this ship brings resentment to every true American heart. But to use this as the reason for sending thousands and thousands more of our people to the same tragic death would be foolish. England is fighting for her very life and so is France and Germany and acts that any of these or other allied nations commit under this struggle for life could no doubt be traced to some defined reason. Neutrals now have ample evidence of the new and modern warfare which gives absolutely no quarter and should not imperil their fellow countrymen by taking hazardous chances under a belligerent flag. We may next hear of a revengeful deed on the part of Great Britain even as unprecedented as was the sinking of the Lusitania, but then this is a war of unprecedented cause, of unprecedented methods, of unprecedented slaughter and the United States, "thanks to the coolness of those who are directing our destiny," should continue to erect a standard worthy of emulation of all other neutrals. We have no reason for going to war but thousands of reasons for keeping out of it. Americans should be ever mindful of the jeopardy they are placing their country in when they fail to heed the numerous warnings that have been issued. The motto, "See America First" is a good subterfuge for not seeing Europe now.

Elbert Hubbard, the great writer, predicted just before he sailed from New York on May 1, that the war would be over by autumn and cotton would be selling for 15 cents. Elbert sailed on the Lusitania and is numbed among the lost. Only that he could have foreseen his own untimely fate. After all, life is but a guess and the

world rocks on just the same with few of the guesses having any appreciable effect.

The United States may have to take both horns of a very vexatious dilemma if she really has guaranteed peace to China. With the Germans sinking vessels with Americans on board and Japan "pesticating" with China, Uncle Sam may be compelled to fight alongside the allies and at the same time whip Japan.—Abilene Reporter.

That United States is in the unfortunate position of having guaranteed China's neutrality is to be regretted at the present but we were saved by China acceding to the demands of the Japs and we have no sufficient reason owing to the sinking of the Lusitania to engage in a conflict with Germany. The Lusitania carried arms and munition and also had on board reservists for the Allied cause. Americans were warned not to sail under the British flag and especially were they warned not to sail on the Lusitania. If they did not heed this warning it is their own personal fault and no reason why the United States should enter the row. If Uncle Sam wants to get into the scrap the sinking of the Gullflight gives us ample excuse. The Gullflight was an American ship under the United States flag. In the words of Chairman Stone of the Foreign Relations Committee, "Do not Rock the Boat."

Here comes some hair-brained gringo talker criticising President Wilson for not having warned Americans against sailing on the Lusitania. Lots of good it does to warn some American citizens. For an illustration Taft and Wilson have both tried this policy in Mexico and yet we find that there are some natives who will not regard the warning of a fighting German and walk into a death trap with their eyes open. President Wilson now has more on his hands than he can say grace over and we usual ones ought to have gumption enough to stay out of the rain. "No deep sea cruises for us at present and even if ever cloud has a silver lining we are not going to take a chance and get wet.

The Commercial Appeal thinks Germany has been laying for the Lusitania every since that speedy ship flew the American flag at her mast-head. Perhaps the Appeal is right for the Lusitania was sailing under false colors and that in itself was enough to make the sauerkraut eaters exceedingly angry.

Fourteen days of May have passed and the Germans have backed up Kitchener's prophecy every day of these two weeks. Yes, it started somewhere on or about May 1 in the vicinity of the Irish sea.

"Money talks, but it makes a heap of difference as to whether it says 'Good Morning' or 'Good night'."—Exchange.

It isn't safe to get on the water in but one way now—that's by use of the wagon.

Why build a dreadnaught when a submarine will do?

Lectures Here To-Night.

Rev. J. W. Hunt of Abilene, formerly of Snyder, will be the attraction of the "Cozy" today, Friday, May 14, 8:15 P. M.

Read what they say about him. Rev. J. W. Hunt delivered the commencement address last week for the High School at Forney, of which Prof. H. E. Gable is superintendent and in reporting the commencement exercises the Forney Messenger speaks of the Snyder preacher and his address this way:

"The address of Rev. J. Winford Hunt at the public school auditorium Tuesday night carried the house off its feet. He is a platform orator of the first rank, a humorist unexcelled and a philosopher along with it. His audience was delighted and if he ever comes to Forney again, standing room will be at a premium. In our humble opinion he is in a class with Bob Taylor and if he should ever decide to leave the pulpit for the lecture platform he will rank among the highest."—Snyder Signal.

Cheap Groceries.

Pay cash for your groceries and keep out of the hole. Buy them and see if I can't save you money.

Best Flour in town \$3.90
 Good Flour 3.70
 Meal 80c
 25 pounds Sugar \$1.60
 10 pounds Lard 95c
 10 pounds Cottole \$1.30
 Come and get them while they last. 141f Walter Clark.

Don't fail to see the new invention and the valuable premiums at E. L. Rogers Grocery Store.



OUR LIST

of customers is a MUSTER ROLL of the brightest and shrewdest buyers in this vicinity.

The short-cut to "BUYING ECONOMY" leads thru our store.

E. L. ROGERS GROCERY

A regular \$1.50 patented clothes line with 36 pins for 65 cents at E. L. Rogers Grocery Store. Every purchaser also gets one of the following valuable premiums free, fountain pen, billbook and three different sizes of scissors or other premiums.

Bring me your eggs and butter. W. F. Hamlet.

Try a sack of seymour Best flour from G. M. Sharp's Grocery.

Shows Samples of Barley.

C. V. Bigham of the Trent country was too busy to pay his respects in person at the Mail office so sent his compliments along with a sample of barley from a five-acre field he has.

We are not qualified as a connoisseur of barley, either in the grain or fluid form but from the way this sample shows up, we believe Mr. Bigham is making a success of his endeavors. Any person wishing further information on the barley question will have to apply to Mr. Bigham in person. The stalks exhibited here measure about three feet in length with well developed heads.

Advertised Letters

Lillie Beavers
 Duke, Mrs. Ada
 Parker, Eugene
 Stokley, J. J. (2)
 Threet, C. S.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office May 22.
 H. C. Williams, P. M.
 Merkel, Texas

Pigs for Sale

A few full blood Duroc Jersey pigs, six weeks old, male or female. Will furnish pedigree and you can register if you like. \$5 if taken at once. J. T. Warren.

W. O. W.

Merkel Camp No. 719 meets second and fourth Friday nights of each month.

W. M. Elliott, C. C.
 S. Hamilton, Clerk

Bicycle for Sale.

Good second hand bicycle for sale at \$10.00. See Merkel Cycle Co.

Non-Stop Service

You can imagine what it means to run a natural gas plant, pumping gas to four or five towns for their light, heating, cooking, etc. Those towns absolutely depend upon the continuance of the service.

Should a breakdown occur they would be in darkness and cold, with little or no means available for relief.

Of course the machinery of such a plant is of the very best, but the operation of that machinery depends quite largely upon the lubricating oil used.

A poor lubricating oil, by allowing the cylinders of the engines to score, might cripple such a plant for days and even weeks.

TEXACO LUBRICANTS

are particularly successful under such requirements of service. They have performed in these non-stop service plants in such a way that the results are hardly to be credited.

Texaco Quality and Service make this success possible—the Quality which makes the Red-Star-Green-T Oils in your town valuable for all purposes. Be sure you have Texaco and you can go ahead with perfect confidence.

The Texas Company
 General Offices, Houston, Texas

No. 16

The Telephone Joy of Farm Life.

Life on the farm is made pleasanter and more secure by Bell Telephone Service.

Pleasanter, because it brings messages of cheer and companionship from friends far away, more secure because it brings help immediately when there is need.

Write our nearest office for information.

The Southwestern Telephone & Telephone Company
 S. R. 14.

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 Tablets. The tablets relieve the ill feelings 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.

Friday, May 21

WE WANT EVERY
MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD
 To Visit Our Grocery Department

We want to demonstrate to you the SUPERIOR qualities of the Celebrated

Chase & Sanborn's Coffees and Teas

National Biscuit Co's Cakes and Crackers

For your enjoyment we will serve you with
Iced Tea, Lemonade and Cakes

FREE - Uneeda Biscuit - FREE

We will give each customer purchasing one pound of Fancy Assorted Cakes one package of **Uneeda Biscuit** Absolutely Free. The cakes will represent the very best assortment our judgment prompts us to buy, including such recognized favorites as

Vanilla Wafers, Marshmallow Pecans, Etc.

No limit set on the quantity you may buy—one package goes with each pound of cakes. Don't forget the

Date--Friday, May 21st

Anchor Mercantile Co.

House Joint Resolution No. 34

A Joint resolution proposing an amendment to Article 7, Section 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the Constitution of the State of Texas, providing for the establishment and separate maintenance of the University of Texas and fixing its permanent location in Travis County; providing for the permanent location of the medical branch of the University of Texas in Galveston County; providing for the establishment and maintenance of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas as an independent college, and providing for its permanent location in Brazos County; providing for the establishment and separate maintenance of the College of Industrial Arts and fixing its permanent location in Denton County; authorizing the establishment of a junior agricultural college subsidiary to and under the government of the Agricultural and Mechanical College Board; establishing the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College, and declaring it a branch of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, and fixing its permanent location at Prairie View, in Waller County; making an equitable division of the State permanent endowment fund between the University of Texas, the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College; making an appropriation to defray the expenses of advertising the Governor's proclamation and submitting same to a vote of the people.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, Article 7, of the Constitution of Texas, be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

Sec. 10. The University of Texas is hereby established and its permanent location shall be in Travis County, and shall be a university of the first class. The Legislature shall provide for its organization and for its development, maintenance and permanent improvement shall make by appropriation and otherwise such provision as may be necessary for the promotion of literature and the arts and sciences, pure and applied, in a university of the first class. The affairs of the University of Texas shall be administered by its own governing board as provided by law. The members of the board shall continue in office until the expiration of their respective terms. The location herein made of the University of Texas shall in no way affect the location of the medical branch thereof situated in Galveston County.

Sec. 11. All lands and other property granted by the Republic of State of Texas to the University of Texas, or the University of Texas and its branches, except the lands transferred by Section 13 of this Article to the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, and to the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College, shall together with the proceeds of the sale of such lands, constitute the permanent university fund. All the income derived therefrom shall be the available fund, and shall be applied to the support and development of the University of Texas and to meet its obligations. The proceeds from the sale of University lands shall be invested as authorized by law for the investment of the permanent school fund. The one-tenth of the alternate section lands granted to railroads, reserved by the State, which was set apart and appropriated to the establishment of the University of Texas by an act of the Legislature of February 11, 1858, entitled "An Act to establish the University of Texas" shall not be included in or constitute a part of the permanent university fund.

Sec. 12. The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas is hereby established and permanently located in Brazos County and separated from the University of Texas and its branches as an independent college. The Legislature shall provide for the organization of said college and for its development, maintenance and permanent improvement, shall make by appropriation and otherwise such provision as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose of said institution, which, without excluding classical and cultural studies, shall be to teach and develop those branches of learning which relate to agriculture and the natural sciences connected therewith, the various branches of engineering, the mechanical arts and military sciences and tactics. The affairs of the Agricultural and Mechanical College shall be administered by its own governing board as provided by law. The present members of the board shall continue in office until the expiration of their respective terms. The Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College for Colored Youths is hereby established and its government and control shall continue under the governing board of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. Provided the Legislature may establish junior agricultural colleges subsidiary to the Agricultural and Mechanical College and under the control of the Agricultural and Mechanical College Board.

Sec. 13. Of the land heretofore set apart to the University and to the University and its branches by the State of Texas, and remaining unsold, there are hereby transferred to and made a part of the permanent fund of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, six hundred thousand acres of land of average value; there are hereby transferred as a permanent fund to the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College one hundred and fifty thousand acres of land of average value; and all of the remainder of the said land shall constitute a part of the permanent fund of the University of Texas. The Legislature shall provide for the division of the land as specified herein. The land herein set apart to the University, the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College may be sold under such regulations, at such times and on such terms as may be prescribed by law. The Legislature shall provide for the prompt collection at maturity of all debts due on account of the sale of said lands, and in no event shall any relief be granted to any purchaser.

Sec. 14. All lands and other property heretofore granted or herein granted to the Agricultural and Mechanical College, together with the proceeds of the sale of such lands, shall constitute its permanent fund. All the income derived therefrom shall be the available fund and shall be applied to the support and development of the Agricultural and Mechanical College and to meet its obligations. The proceeds from the

sale of the Agricultural and Mechanical College lands shall be invested as authorized by law for the investment of the permanent school fund.

Sec. 15. The College of Industrial Arts for White Girls located at Denton, in Denton County, Texas, is hereby established and recognized as an independent college, and the Legislature shall provide for its organization, maintenance, development and permanent improvement and shall make, by appropriation and otherwise, such provision in addition to that heretofore made as may be necessary for the establishment and maintenance of a first class college, for the education of white girls in the literary branches, the arts and sciences and the practical industries of the age. The college shall have its own governing board, which shall designate the officers of administration and instruction and employ, determine their salaries, and establish departments, subdivisions, libraries and laboratories and other agencies of education consistent with the objects of the college and perform such other duties as the Legislature may prescribe.

Sec. 2. The Governor of this State is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation and have same published as required by the Constitution and the laws of this State. The sum of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of publishing said proclamation and the expenses of submitting this resolution to a vote of the people.

Sec. 3. The foregoing amendment to Article 7, Sections, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the Constitution of the State of Texas, shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this State for its adoption or rejection at an election to be held on the fourth Saturday in July, A. D. 1915, the same being the twenty-fourth day of said month. All the voters voting on this proposed amendment at said election who favor the adoption shall have printed or written on their ballots, "For amendment to Article 7, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, providing for the separation of the University of the State of Texas and the Agricultural and Mechanical College and an equitable division of the university lands." All voters voting on this proposed amendment at said election who oppose its adoption shall have printed or written on their ballots the following:

"Against Amendment to Article 7, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, providing for the separation of the University of Texas and the Agricultural and Mechanical College and an equitable division of the university lands." Previous to the election the Secretary of State shall cause to be printed and forwarded to the County Judge of each county for use in said election a sufficient number of ballots for the use of voters in said county, on which shall be printed the form of ballot herein prescribed for the convenience of the voters.

John G. McKay, Sec. of State.
(A true copy.)

House Joint Resolution No. 4

A Joint Resolution of the Legislature of the State of Texas proposing and submitting to a vote of the people of Texas an amendment to Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution, authorizing the levy and collection of a special road tax not to exceed fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property in any county, subdivision or subdivisions, or defined district thereof, when same has been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting at an election held for that purpose, and making an appropriation for carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows, to-wit:

Section 9. The State tax on property, exclusive of the tax necessary to pay the public debt, and of the taxes provided for the benefit of the public free schools, shall never exceed thirty-five cents on the one hundred dollars valuation; and no county, city or town shall levy more than twenty-five cents for city or county purposes, and not exceeding fifteen cents for roads and bridges, and not exceeding fifteen cents to pay jurors, on the one hundred dollar valuation, except for the payment of debts incurred prior to the adoption of this amendment, September 25, 1889; and for the erection of public buildings, streets, sewers, water works and other permanent improvements, not to exceed one dollar on the one hundred dollar valuation in any one year, and except as is in this Constitution otherwise provided; and the Legislature may also authorize an additional annual ad valorem tax to be levied and collected for the further building and maintenance of the public roads; provided, that a majority of the qualified property tax voters of the county or of any political subdivision or subdivisions of the county, or of any defined district now or hereafter to be described and defined within any county, who has been assessed a property tax and paid said tax for the next year prior to the time he offers to vote, voting at an election held for that purpose, shall vote such tax, not to exceed fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property subject to taxation in such county, political subdivision or subdivisions, or described or defined district. And the Legislature may pass local laws for the maintenance of the public roads and highways, without the local notice required for special or local laws.

Sec. 2. The foregoing amendment to Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution of Texas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this State for adoption or rejection at an election to be held on the fourth Saturday in the month of July, 1915. All voters on this proposed amendment at said election who favor its adoption shall have printed or written on their ballots the following: "For amendment to Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitution, authorizing the levy and collection of a special road tax not to exceed fifty cents on the hundred dollars valuation or subdivisions, or defined district thereof, when same has been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors at an election held for that purpose." Those voting against its adoption shall have written or printed on their ballots the following: "Against the amendment to Section 9, Article 8, of the Constitu-

tion, authorizing the levy and collection of a special road tax not to exceed fifty cents on the one hundred dollars valuation of property in any county, subdivision or subdivisions, or defined district thereof, when same has been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors at an election held for that purpose.

Sec. 3. The Governor of the State is hereby directed to issue his necessary proclamation ordering this election, and have same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State. The sum of five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated to defray the expenses of publishing and printing of tickets and necessary blanks to use in said election.

John G. McKay, Sec. of State.
(A true copy.)

Senate Joint Resolution No. 18

A Joint Resolution proposing and submitting to a vote of the people of Texas an amendment to Section 52 of Article 3 of the Constitution, authorizing the issuance of bonds for public improvements, and levying of a tax to pay the interest and sinking fund on same, and for maintenance.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 52, of Article 3, of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as hereafter to read as follows, to-wit:

Sec. 52. The Legislature shall have no power to authorize any county, city, town or other political corporation or subdivision of the State, to lend its credit or to grant public money or thing of value in aid of, or to, any individual, association or corporation whatsoever, or to become a stockholder in such corporation, association or company, provided, however, that under legislative provision any county, any political subdivision of a county, or any defined district now or hereafter to be described and defined within the State of Texas, and which may or may not include towns, villages, or municipal corporations, upon a vote of two-thirds majority of the resident property tax payers voting thereon who are qualified electors of such district or territory to be affected thereby, in addition to all other debts may issue bonds or otherwise lend its credit in any amount not to exceed one-fourth of the assessed valuation of the real property of such district or territory; except that the total bonded indebtedness of any city or town shall never exceed the limits imposed by other provisions of this constitution; and levy and collect such taxes to pay the interest thereon and provide a sinking fund for the redemption thereof as the Legislature may authorize, and in such manner as it may authorize the same, for the following purposes, to-wit:

(a) The improvement of rivers, creeks and streams to prevent overflows, and to permit of navigation thereof, or irrigation therefrom, or in aid of such purposes.

(b) The construction and maintenance of pools, lakes, reservoirs, dams, canals and waterways for the purposes of irrigation, drainage or navigation, or in aid thereof.

(c) The construction, maintenance and operation of macadamized, gravelled or paved roads and turnpikes, or in aid thereof.

Provided, however, that under legislative enactment any defined district now or hereafter to be described and defined within the State of Texas, which may be formed for the purpose of reclaiming and improving overflowed and swamp lands in the State, and maintaining the improvements thereon, may authorize a vote of two-thirds majority of the resident property tax payers voting thereon who are qualified electors of such district or territory, in addition to all other debts, issue bonds or otherwise lend its credit in any amount not to exceed fifty per cent of the assessed valuation of the real property in such district or territory.

Provided, further, that where a county, district or other political subdivision has issued bonds for improvements for the purposes named in this Section, the Legislature may authorize the levy and collection of taxes for the maintenance of such improvements, not to exceed fifty cents on the hundred dollars valuation in any one year.

Sec. 2. The foregoing amendment to Section 52 of Article 3, of the Constitution of Texas, shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this State for its adoption or rejection, at a special election hereby ordered for the Fourth Saturday in July, A. D. 1915, the same being the 24th day of said month. All voters on this proposed amendment at said election who favor its adoption shall have printed or written on their ballots the following: "For amendment of Section 52 of Article 3, of the Constitution, authorizing the issuance of bonds for levee, drainage, road and other public improvements, and for taxes therefor." Those voting against its adoption shall have printed or written on their ballots the following: "Against the amendment of Section 52 of Article 3 of the Constitution, authorizing the issuance of bonds for levee, drainage, road and other improvements, and for taxes therefor."

Sec. 3. The Governor of the State is hereby directed to issue his necessary proclamation ordering this election, and have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State. The sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of publishing said proclamation, and printing and distributing the necessary tickets and blanks for use in said election.

John G. McKay, Secy. of State.
(A true copy.)

House Joint Resolution No. 1

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to Section 2, of Article 6, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, by adding thereto a provision authorizing a qualified voter to vote for State officers, or on any proposition submitted to the voters of this State

in a precinct other than the precinct of his residence under certain conditions, and making an appropriation therefor.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 2, of Article 6, of the Constitution of the State of Texas be so amended as to hereafter read as follows:

Sec. 2. Every male person subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided in this State one year next preceding an election, and the last six months within the district or county in which he offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified elector, and every male person of foreign birth, subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who shall have become a citizen of the United States in accordance with the Federal Naturalization laws, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding such election and the last six months in the county in which he offers to vote, shall also be deemed a qualified elector; and all electors shall vote in the election precinct of their residence; provided, that electors living in any unorganized county may vote at any election precinct in the county to which such county is attached for judicial purposes; and provided further, that any voter who is subject to pay a poll tax under the laws of the State of Texas shall have paid said tax before he offers to vote at any election in this State, and holds a receipt showing his poll tax paid before the first day of February next preceding such election. Or, if said voter shall have lost or misplaced said tax receipt, he shall be entitled to vote upon making affidavit before any officer authorized to administer oaths that such tax receipt has been lost. Such affidavit shall be made in writing and left with the judge of the election. If any qualified voter in this State shall have personally paid his poll tax in the county and precinct of his residence, or secured an exemption certificate showing that he is exempt from paying a poll tax, he shall be permitted to vote in the county in which he may be on election day on any proposition which may have been submitted to the voters of the entire state, and for any office to be filled by the voters of the entire state; also for members of either branch of the Legislature and Congress and judicial officials; provided, no voter shall vote for members of either branch of the Legislature, Congress, or judicial officials outside of the legislative, congressional or judicial district of such voter's residence, and nothing herein shall permit a voter to vote at any place other than his residence, if he be within the county of his residence on election day. Any person offering to vote in any county other than the county of his residence shall deliver to the election managers his poll tax receipt or exemption certificate, who shall retain same until the following day, and then mail same to the person depositing same to any address he may name, and in addition to depositing the poll tax receipt or exemption certificate, such person so offering to vote shall make an affidavit:

(1) That he is absent from home, and it will be impossible for him to return to the precinct of his residence in time to vote; (2) that he has not voted at any other election precinct on that day, and will not offer to vote at any other precinct in this State; (3) that he personally paid his poll tax within the time provided by law, or personally secured the certificate of his exemption from the payment of a poll tax.

Sec. 3. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors for members of the Legislature at an election to be held throughout the State of Texas on the fourth Saturday in July, 1915, and the Governor of this State is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation for said election, and to have same published, as required by the Constitution and laws of this State. Those favoring the amendment shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "For amendment to Section 2, of Article 6, of the Constitution, authorizing qualified voters to vote in precincts other than the precinct of their residence under certain conditions." Those opposing the amendment shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "Against amendment to Section 2, of Article 6, of the Constitution, authorizing qualified voters to vote in precincts other than the precinct of their residence under certain conditions."

Sec. 4. No legislation shall be necessary to put into effect this article of the Constitution, but when adopted same shall be self-enacting.

Sec. 5. The sum of five thousand (\$5,000) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of such proclamation, publication and election.

John G. McKay, Secy. of State.
(A true copy.)

House Joint Resolution No. 9

A Joint Resolution to amend Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of Texas, by adding thereto Section 3b, authorizing the Legislature to provide by law for the creation of a student's loan fund in each county in connection with the public schools thereof.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto a new section to be known as section 3b, which shall read and be as follows, to-wit:

Sec. 3b. The Commissioners' Court of each county in this State shall have the power, and is hereby authorized, when a majority of the qualified voters of such county shall vote to create such fund, to create a fund to be known as a "Students' Loan Fund," for the purpose of enabling students of the public free schools of said county to borrow money to be used in their education for the purpose of graduating from the county public schools and after graduation to continue their education in any higher State institution of learning, such fund to be created and administered by the Commissioners' Court of each county as may be provided by law.

Sec. 2. And the Legislature may authorize an additional ad valorem tax to be levied and collected within such county for the purpose of raising said

students' loan fund, said tax not to exceed in any one year twenty cents (20c) on the one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of the property subject to taxation in each county; provided, that a majority of the qualified property tax paying voters of the county voting at an election to be held for that purpose shall vote such tax. Provided, that if the tax is adopted, after it has been enforced for two years, an election may be held, on the order of the commissioners' court to determine whether or not said tax shall be repealed; and provided, further, that it shall be the duty of the Commissioners' Court to order such election upon a petition so to do by twenty-five per cent of the qualified tax paying voters of the county.

Sec. 3. The Legislature shall pass the necessary laws carrying into effect this provision of the Constitution.

Sec. 4. That the above and foregoing proposed amendment shall be duly published once a week for four weeks, commencing at least three (3) months before a special election to be held for the purpose of voting upon such proposed amendment, on the fourth Saturday in July, 1915, in one weekly newspaper of each county in the State of Texas, in which such newspaper may be published, and the Governor shall, and he is hereby directed, to issue the necessary proclamation for the submission of this proposed amendment to the qualified electors for members of the Legislature. At such election all persons favoring such amendment shall have written or printed on their ballots the words "For the Amendment to Section 3 of Article 7 of the Constitution, adding thereto Section 3b, authorizing the Commissioners' Court to create a Students' Loan Fund."

Sec. 5. That \$5,000.00, or as much thereof as may be necessary, but not more than the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expenses of advertising and holding the election provided for above.

John G. McKay, Sec. of State.
(A true copy.)

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3

A proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Texas, amending Article 5, Section 2, of the Constitution of said State, so as to provide that the Supreme Court of this State shall consist of a Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, describe their qualifications, tenure of office and compensation.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 2 of Article 5 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be so amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, any three of whom shall constitute a quorum, and the concurrence of three judges shall be necessary to the decision of a case. No person shall be eligible to the office of Chief Justice or Associate Justice of the Supreme Court unless he be at the time of his election a citizen of the United States, and of this State, and unless he shall have attained the age of thirty years, and shall have been a practicing lawyer or a Judge of a Court, or such lawyer and judge together, at least seven years. Said Chief Justice and Associate Justices shall be elected by the qualified voters of the State at a general election, shall hold their offices six years, or until their successors are elected and qualified, and shall each receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars until otherwise provided by law; in case of a vacancy in the office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Governor shall fill the vacancy until the next general election for said officers; and at such general election the vacancy for the unexpired term shall be filled by election by the qualified voters of the State. The Judges of the Supreme Court who may be in office at the time this amendment takes effect shall continue in office until the expiration of their term of office under the present Constitution, and until their successor are elected and qualified.

Immediately after the adoption of this amendment the Governor of this State shall call an election for the purpose of electing two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, one of whom shall, when elected, hold said office for four years and one of whom, when elected, shall hold said office for six years, and the question of which of them shall hold for four years and which of them hold for six years shall be determined by lot, as now provided by law.

Sec. 3. The Governor of this State is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation, ordering an election to determine whether or not said Constitution amendments will be adopted, and have the same published, as required by the Constitution and the laws of this State. Said election shall be held on the fourth Saturday in July, 1915, and the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or so much thereof as necessary, is hereby appropriated from any fund in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated to defray the expenses of printing said proclamation and of holding said election.

John G. McKay, Sec. of State.
(A true copy.)

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities 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.

NO LOOKING BACK IN MERKEL

New Evidence Constantly Being Published

Since the long accession of Merkel reports were first published in the local press there has been no looking back. Merkel evidence continues to pour in; and—better—still—those whose reports were first published many years ago, verify all they said in a most hearty and unmistakable way. Read the experience of Mr. H. W. Derstine says: "Backache bothered me off and on for years until Doans Kidney Pills, procured at the Rust & McCauley Drug Co. relieved me. I believe they will cure any case of kidney trouble if taken as directed." (Statement given May 27 1905)

Over Six Years Later Mr Derstine said: "I still heartily recommend Doan's Kidney Pills although I never have any need to use them any more."

Price 50 cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Derstine had. Foster-Milburn Co. Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

One Year Free Subscription.

Our editorial critic (not the editor) has handed in the following, asking that we punctuate correctly. An attempt was made to satisfy the query but long before we arrived at what we thought was correct it came to our minds that "we were all undone." The problem reads as follows:

That that is is that that is not is not is not that it is

Any person caring to compete in the contest of punctuating this correctly is at liberty to do so. The answers, if any are given, will be published in next week's Mail. The names of those sending them in will be omitted if the person making the guess so desires. To the first three who correctly do this task we will send the Merkel Mail for a period of one year. Answers will be published next week with correct punctuation given the following week. Send in your solution. You may get a year's subscription free.

Chamberlain's Liniment.

This preparation is intended especially for rheumatism, lame back, sprains and like ailments. It is a favorite with people who are well acquainted with its splendid qualities. Mrs. Charles Tanner, Wabash, Ind., says of it: "I have found Chamberlain's Liniment the best thing for lame back and sprains I have ever used. It works like a charm and relieves pain and soreness. It has been used by others of my family as well as myself for upwards of 20 years." 25 and 50 cent bottles. For sale by all dealers. adv

The Risk of Being Called Unorthodox.

A Texas farm paper, and a good one, swarms all over some one because he claims that late planting of cotton will "circumvent," so to speak, the boll-weevil. Easy, e-a-s-y! As I have before remarked, cotton is a dry weather crop, while the weevil is a wet weather bug. Therefore, as the weather is more liable to be dry late than early, and as cotton can stand a lot of dry weather, while the weevil cannot, why may not late planted cotton be a good thing, in so far as regards the weevil?

This same farm paper, seems to have the U. S. Government idea that the cotton stalks must be destroyed. To tell the farmer, especially upon our lighter sandy soils, to rake and burn his cotton stalks, or any other stalks, instead of returning them to the soil to decay and make humus, is equivalent to telling him to go out of the cotton growing business. Because, if he follows such plan, it will be only a matter of time when he will involuntarily retire from the cotton growing business.

R. R. Claridge, Agricultural Agent T. & P. Ry. Co. Longview, Texas.

Sick Headache.

Mrs. A. L. Luckie, East Rochester, N. Y., was a victim of sick headache and despondency, caused by a badly weakened and debilitated condition of her stomach, when she began taking Chamberlain's Tablets. She says: "I found them pleasant to take, also mild and effective. In a few weeks time I was restored to my former good health." For sale by all dealers. adv

"Orange Julep" Day At The Elite

ONE DRINK FREE TO EACH AND EVERY VISITOR TO OUR STORE

FREE --- Saturday, May The Fifteenth --- FREE

This offer to serve this drink - one to every man, woman and child who will call at the Elite Saturday - is to advertise this popular drink and to remind you that we serve the Coldest and Best Drinks in town. Our stock of Confectioneries, Cigars, etc., is complete AND ALWAYS FRESH. CHOCOLATES ON ICE

Just Say "Orange Julep" to The Man at The Fountain

FRANK J. FERRIER

The Elite Confectionery

THE OWNER



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Reports of the marriage of Mr. W. C. Shelton of Hamlin to Miss Olga Hightwer has reached this city. Miss Hightower is well and favorable known here, having visited in Merkel several times and has a host of friends who are extending congratulations.

On last Thursday evening a party of picnickers motored out to the Warren Lake and spent a few enjoyable hours. A lovely luncheon was spread. The chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp. The guest list included Misses Ruby Payne, Annis Burnett, Zula Huffaker, Zelma Fletcher, Elma Sheppard, Maude Martin, Maude Jinkens, Messrs D. Grimes W. L. Diltz, Lytton Howard, H. Burrough, Ennis and Emmett Grimes, John West, Parker Sharp.

Last Wednesday evening Miss Dorothy Duckett honored her friend Miss Charlie Bell Thomas at her home on Kent street. The entertainment being the celebration of Miss Thomas' birthday. Games and music afforded a pleasant time for all those present. A delightful luncheon was served.

An early morning breakfast Monday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Pattersons. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burroughs, Miss Clara Will McNatt of Abilene, France Burroughs, Emzi, Charm and Billy Bob Burroughs, who motored out at 6 A. M.

Henderson-Parks

Mr. Edgar Henderson and Miss Lola Parks were united in marriage at the Henderson Hotel Tuesday morning at 8:30, Rev. Garvin officiating.

Their many friends are extending congratulations.

Methodist Baraca

The Philathia and Baraca classes entertained the visiting delegates last Thursday evening at the church from 7 to 8 o'clock. A program was rendered followed by the serving of Punch to all who were present.

The lessons for study now are growing more interesting each Sunday. Rev. Yates, a young preacher, visited the class Sunday.

A New Club

The W. C. club met on Monday afternoon with Miss Merle Clark. This being the first meeting there was some business to be discussed. The club was organized with Miss Ina Mae Adams, president, Ida La Bell Meeks, secretary, Gwendolyn Merle Clark, treasurer. The motto of this club is: "Don't get

1st
First in Everything
First in Quality
First in Purity
First in Economy
and for these reasons Calumet Baking Powder is first in the hearts of the millions of housewives who use it and know it.

RECEIVED HIGHEST AWARDS
World's Pure Food Exposition,
Chicago, Illinois.
Paris Exposition, France, March, 1912.

JIMMY POWDER
NOT MADE BY THE TRUST
CALUMET
BAKING POWDER
CALUMET BAKING POWDER CO.
CHICAGO

You don't save money when you buy cheap or big-size baking powder. Don't be misled. Buy Calumet. It's more economical—more wholesome—gives best results. Calumet is far superior to any other brand.

skeered." Aim in life: "To find something." Flowers: "Butter cups." Colors: green, red and yellow. Luncheon was served in picnic style. Mrs. Dickson's gift was greatly appreciated by the club. Phonograph music was enjoyed by all. Those present were Misses Julia Martin, Esie Sharp, Ina Mae Adams, Ida La Bell Meeks and the hosts.

Porch and lawn Party

On Monday afternoon Miss Burkett entertained her Sunday School class of the Baptist church at the home of Mrs. W. H. Dickson. Rugs, floor pillows and roses added to the attractiveness of the porch. Various games were played. Roxie Sharp won the favor in the peanut contest.

Dainty white and pink pennant were given as souvenirs of this delightful occasion. Fruit, punch and fancy cakes were served to about twenty five little guests.

The Fidelis class of the Baptist church were entertained Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the home of Misses Ola and Lula Sharps on Oak street. The next meeting will be held at the church Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Mrs. W. H. Gilliam Dead.

Mrs. Sarah A. Gilliam, wife of W. H. Gilliam, of this city, died at the family home Tuesday night of this week after an illness of some three weeks.

Mrs. Gilliam was born in North Carolina October 22, 1851, and was 63 years, six months and twenty days old at the time of her death. She came to the Merkel country in 1902, moving here from East Texas. Joining the Church of Christ at an early day Mrs. Gilliam was ever a willing worker and was one of the most beloved members of the Merkel congregation. To aid sufferers in time of need was one of this aged lady's greatest joys, it being an assumed duty that she should assist another member of her church to attend all services. This action was never shirked, and to more than her close relatives there will be much sorrow, for the deceased leaves a companion, Mrs. W. M. Lowe, who no doubt, is broken hearted that the one who has guided her in these late years of darkness shall be taken into the great beyond. No word of praise could be spoken that would express the true christian spirit so highly exemplified by the deceased. She was a christian wife, a christian mother and a true christian to all her friends.

Surviving the deceased in addition to her husband are four daughters, Meedames R. O. Phillips of Eastland, N. O. Leerstang and Zeb V. Moore of this place and Mary Hancock of California. Funeral services were held at the Church of Christ Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, Elder W. G. Cypert conducting the services. Interment was given the body in Rose Hill cemetery immediately afterward.

Woman's Conference May 28.

The Methodist Annual Conference of the Woman's Missionary Committees will convene at Memphis, Texas, May 28.

Railroads have announced rates of one and one-third fare, tickets on sale May 26, 27 and 28, good until June 4.

Salt Branch School Closes.

The Salt Branch school closes their term today with a picnic in the Warren Pasture, near the school.

R. J. McNeese, who has been employed to teach during the winter term, stated Thursday that the work had been very successful and he felt like all patrons and students were well satisfied with the work of the year.

Remodels Barber Shop.

Messrs. West & Pate, proprietors of the City Barber Shop, are having extensive improvements made to their home this week. The entire woodwork is being painted and the walls treated to new paper.

Everybody seems to have the clean-up and paint-up fever and about the only cure is to do the work.



EGGS FOR SALE—Thoroughbred White Leghorn eggs for sale at 50 cents per setting. Small supply on hand at all times. Phone Mrs. J. A. Woodward. Phone 230.

NOTICE—If you are sick with any chronic trouble and want to get well, write Prof. J. H. Surles, Putnam, Texas.

FOR SALE—Good eight room house, has sleeping porch, barn and good garden. At a bargain. Call at Collins House.

FOR SALE—Good buggy horse and surrey in 1st class conditions also practically new piano. Will sell cheap for cash, good notes or for cattle. Mrs. S. E. Tarlton Phone No. 58 (r)

FOR SALE—Good work horse 16 1-2 hands. In fair shape. W. J. Buford, city.

STRAYED—Mouse colored mule 14-8 hands. 4 years old. thin shape. Notify A. R. Payne, Trent, Texas. Itpd

FOR SALE—Six room house, good garden, well and wind-mill and barn. Close in at a bargain. Apply at Collins house.

FOR SALE—Barn. Will sell cheap or trade. A. C. Rose.

FOR SALE—7,000 feet second hand lumber and 30 squares of sheet iron, 9 foot lengths, in Royal Airdome. See E. S. Harrison at Royal Theatre.

WANTED—1000 hens, highest market price paid. V. E. Browning at old Southside Garage.

Gives Fireboys \$10.00.

In a letter to Chief Ferrier from J. S. Barnes at Westbrook, Mr. Barnes took the opportunity to thank Chief Ferrier and the boys for the good work they did in saving a good portion of his residence here and enclosed with-in the letter a check for \$10.00 to back up his appreciation.

To Open Cafe Today.

L. E. Sanders, former proprietor of the Owl Cafe, is again in management of this place and has made extensive improvements to the place which is open to the trade today.

The Owl Cafe has been treated to an entire painting throughout and papered in a way that adds much to the appearance of the place. His ad in this week's paper announces the changes he has made.

Miss Bettie Barrett of Winters returned rete ned to her home Wednesday after a short visit with her sister, Mrs. Ely Case of Route 1.

Mrs. W. A. Pope and Mrs. A. Hamilton were in Abilene Wednesday visiting friends.

LIV-VER-LAX tones up the system, stimulates the liver to work in harmony with the other organs. Guaranteed to give satisfaction by Mrs. E. M. Rust

COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vincent Was Unable to Attend to Any of Her Housework.

Pleasant Hill, N. C.—"I suffered for three summers," writes Mrs. Walter Vincent, of this town, "and the third and last time, was my worst.

I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my housework.

I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down, until it wore off.

I was certainly in a dreadful state of health, when I finally decided to try Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I firmly

believe I would have died if I hadn't taken it.

After I began taking Cardui, I was greatly helped, and all three bottles relieved me entirely.

I fattened up, and grew so much stronger in three months, I felt like another person altogether."

Cardui is purely vegetable and gentle-acting. Its ingredients have a mild, tonic effect, on the womanly constitution.

Cardui makes for increased strength, improves the appetite, tones up the nervous system, and helps to make pale, sallow cheeks, fresh and rosy.

Cardui has helped more than a million weak women, during the past 50 years. It will surely do for you, what it has done for them. Try Cardui today.

Write to: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. 3-11

Ice Deliveries

We will deliver ice

to all parts of the city in quantities of 15 pounds

or more. No sales from the wagon will be made

in amount of less than 10 cents or 15 pounds of ice

Phone Us Your Orders

H. M. WARREN ICE

Why Swat Flies All Summer Long

and let them jeopardize the health of your family when for a small sum you can equip your home with

Screen Doors and Windows

We're prepared for a big trade in screens this summer and can fit your home on short notice. A variety of regular sizes carried in stock—others obtained with little delay if ordered early.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
The worst cases, no matter of how long standing. Your druggist will refund money if PAIN are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. OINTMENT falls to cure any case of itching, blood, bleeding or protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00 The first application gives Ease and Rest.

"ZUDORA" or "THE TWENTY MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY" --- 5th Installment, Read It

SYNOPSIS.

Zudora is left an orphan at an early age. Her father is killed in a gold mine. Zudora and the fortune from the mine, which grows to be worth \$20,000,000, are left in the guardianship of Frank Keene, Zudora's mother's brother. Zudora, giving promise of great beauty, reaches the age of eighteen. The uncle, who has set himself up as a Hindu mystic and is known as Hassam Ali, decides that Zudora must die before she can have a chance to come into possession of her money, so that it may be left to him, the next of kin. Hassam Ali sees an obstacle to his scheme in the person of John Storm, a young lawyer, for whom Zudora has taken a fancy, and he commands the girl to put the man out of her mind. Zudora insists that if she cannot marry Storm she will marry no one. "Well, well," says Hassam Ali, "if you take such a stand I'll compromise. Solve my next twenty cases and you can marry him; fail in a single case and you must renounce him."

Zudora, using the knowledge gained from years of association with her uncle, unravels a baffling mystery and wins her first case—a case in which John Storm is saved from being convicted of a murder instigated by Hassam Ali himself.

Zudora and Hassam Ali visit Nabok Shan's house, where sleep overcomes every one whenever Nabok attempts to marry a princess. Storm, seeking Zudora, is made a prisoner. Zudora follows Nabok Shan, restores the princess to her original lover and saves Storm from death.

A maker of diamonds tells Hassam Ali his secret. Storm informs Zudora that his life is being attempted frequently. Storm suspects Hassam Ali. Storm is arrested for stealing the diamond maker's gems, but Zudora discovers the real thieves—a pair of mice.

The negro help employed on Storm's father's farm are fleeing because a great skeleton hand appears at night upon a hill near by. Storm is baffled in his investigation, but Zudora learns that her uncle has employed Jimmy Bolton, a half-witted man, thus to annoy Storm's parents. Zudora finds Bolton operating a big magic lantern and is attacked by Bolton. Storm opportunely appears and saves her from Bolton.

CHAPTER V.

The Case of the Perpetual Glare.

HASSAM ALI played with his gold, digging his hands into the cold, silithing metals and letting them stay submerged for a moment or two. No coin ever went into this chest dull. He had a simple little preparation with which he washed each coin until it shone like a fresh minted one. Bankers did not particularly love Hassam Ali. He was always bringing gold certificates and having them exchanged for the coin. Whenever he had bills to pay immediately from his pocket (dreadful thought) invariably the paper money was redeemable only in silver. Having satisfied his craving to play with his hoard, he closed and locked the chest, secreted it and went into the mystic room.

Tonight he saw in his crystal globe only those things that he desired to see. Suddenly he struck his hands together gleefully. That was it, he murmured, that was it. Why hadn't he thought of it before? Absolutely sure and with less evidence than could be found in the path of the lightest wind. Simple as sunshine. He summoned Amed.

"I wish to write and send a note. Arrange the desk. I will be in in a moment."

"Yes, sahib."

When Hassam Ali finished his note he destroyed the blotter and the sheets of paper which had underlain that upon which he had written. This note he gave to the servant. He felt no worry about this note. The man who received it would immediately destroy it. To keep it and use it in the aim of blackmail would only tighten the rope about his neck. As has doubtless been surmised by this time, Hassam Ali was a master criminal. They say that every man who commits a crime leaves something behind. Hassam Ali had winnowed down his risks until they were almost negligible. Every man who worked for him did so under the unwritten contract of life or death. Nearly every tool Hassam Ali had stood under the shadow of



Hassam Ali Dreaming of Gold.

death. That was principally why nothing ever led the trail to his house. There was among the various clothes over which he held sway no ordinary cloak. The porch climber, the yeggman, the forger, the pickpocket, had no standing among these men. They were all more or less men of scientific attainments in whom the criminal instincts had been born, not created by environment.

At 9 o'clock Amed came into the mystic room and announced that two gentlemen wished to see him. Amed was bidden to bring them in forthwith. They were old men, hawk featured, with high foreheads and brilliant eyes despite their apparent antiquity. They greeted Hassam Ali re-

spectfully, but there was nothing serene in their attitude. They needed Hassam Ali, who in turn needed them. Thus they were equals.

"You have it still?" inquired Hassam Ali.

"Yes; we have never dared to patent it. We are holding it until some great war breaks forth."

"Listen."

For half an hour conversation was carried on in a monotone. At the end Hassam Ali sighed, drew out his wallet and gave each man a roll of banknotes, careful to observe that there were no gold certificates. As the visitors stood up, about to make their departure, Hassam Ali bade them wait a moment. He summoned Amed and ordered him to bring Zudora down. The expressions of the two old men changed surprisingly. When Zudora entered she beheld two old men, benevolent patriarchs, who bowed profoundly and smiled upon her benignly.

"A case for you, Zudora."

She smiled expectantly.

"These two gentlemen are curio collectors. They have lost a remarkable brilliant, one of the most ancient known. Find it and your fifth problem may be relegated to the past."

"Was it stolen?"

"They can't quite figure out. It is gone. Yesterday it reposed in a little Florentine casket. The casket remains, but the gem is gone."

"I can make an effort," said the girl.

"Where do you two gentlemen live?"

They named a small suburban town. They lived in a house on the North



She Beheld Two Old Men, Benevolent Patriarchs.

road, which was a continuation of the village main street. When the two old men had departed—and Zudora was struck by their extraordinary likeness to one another—Hassam Ali rubbed his hands.

"A curious case, my dear. These two old chaps live very moderately. Every penny they can scrape together goes to purchase some curiosity. This gem has the true wanderlust of diamonds. It has been stolen several times, and always they have managed to recover it. But this time they are at sea. It was really an heirloom, the nucleus of their collection. In some way they have heard of your success and believe a clever woman will succeed where a man would fail. Besides, they can't offer much in the way of reward. I don't think the smallness of the reward will stand in your way. You have a trifling income of your own," lightly.

"And heaven only knows how I'll ever be able to get rid of a tenth part of this income. Some day I'm going in for real charity."

"Charity makes the recipient only the poorer," he commented.

"I don't mean that kind," she replied. She was thinking of establishing some day a community. But until her tongue was free and until she could confide utterly in her lover she must perforce hold this ambition on the leash.

When she returned to her boudoir she found a note from Storm via the pigeon. John stated happily that he was free for a week or ten days and wanted to know if she would not go out and make a visit with him to the old folks. She hated to disappoint him, but she was compelled to write back that she was going to be very busy and that it would be impossible to join him, much as she would have liked to. The next morning a pigeon delivered a note to Hassam Ali, Zudora already having gone upon her new quest. Hassam Ali destroyed the message. So Storm was given leave to infer that Zudora had ignored his note.

Zudora went out to the village. The house occupied by these two old curio collectors was a ramshackle affair. It looked to Zudora as though some violent hurricane had taken it up miles away and set it down upon the hill haphazardly and indifferently. The sight of it did not create any distrust in her mind. Most collectors were mad persons, who cared little or nothing for the roof over their heads or the clothes on their backs so long as they possessed the wherewithal to pursue their idiosyncrasies. She learned that the two old fellows were twins. One of them met her at the station, and the other greeted her at the door of the house. A quick glance at the interior of the house convinced her that what curios they had were securely locked away. The first thing she did was to ask the complete history of the missing stone. It had come from India originally, a part of some loot long years before the mutiny. Its real value lay in its eternal fire. There were times when this gleam was discernible even in a dark room. They wanted it back very badly and would be willing to pay as much as \$500 for its return. Zudora

inquired if the brothers had seen any strangers recently. No. Did the village people know anything about their collection? The old men laughed and shook their tousled heads.

"They know nothing. They think that we are a couple of foolish old misers. No; in no way can we account for the disappearance."

"Can you describe the diamond?"

"We have something better than a description. Here is a photograph of the stone."

The producing of this photograph quieted any doubts Zudora might have had. Collectors were generally slipshod and careless in all respects except in the matter of their hobby. A true collector always wants a photograph of each of his treasures, partly



She Found a Note From Storm Via the Pigeon.

to identify it and partly to exhibit in testimony of his possession.

"There is always fire in the stone," said one of the old men. "In a room that to you may look dark there will be a speck of light. This stone would always catch it and you could see it flash. Oh, it was a very interesting stone."

"Very interesting," repeated the brother.

"I think," said Zudora, "that I will return to the city. A jewel like this will be found in some pawnshop. No one would dare to go to a jeweler of repute. There would be too many questions."

"You see, we have said nothing to the police because we do not want any newspaper notoriety. We have other trinkets," with a singular smile.

"I may take this photograph along?"

"Certainly. We have duplicates."

Zudora left the old house, and the two old men watched her until she disappeared around a turn in the road. Then they laughed quietly and went back into the house.

Zudora began to go over the brief facts. There was no lead anywhere as yet. The metropolitan pawnshops were the only things she could think of. All the while she was thinking she was aimlessly picking late flowers. By and by she took out the photograph and eyed it curiously. Suddenly her hand became warm. To her utter dumbfoundment the photograph burst into flames. She dropped it in terror and stood as if paralyzed while she watched the cardboard shrivel into dull brown ashes. How in the world had this happened?

When she reached home that night she asked Hassam Ali a good many questions about these two brothers. Each and every one of his answers left nothing to be desired.

"But in heaven's name how could this thing blaze up like that when there wasn't a match within a mile?"

"I'm in the dark as much as you are. Give up the case if you want to. I



The Photograph Burst Into Flames.

should not urge you to try your hand at something that fills you with terror. You are shaking now as you talk."

"But it's not fear, uncle; it's the utter incredibility of the thing!"

"On my word I've no solution to offer, except that the heat of your hand might have acted upon some chemical in the cardboard."

"That's absurd! But I'm going to stick to it. But for the little blister on my palm I could easily believe that I had been dreaming."

She retired to her boudoir, and Hassam Ali went forth into the night.

The following day Zudora sought Storm. Would he see with her? He certainly would, despite appearances. The word rather amused her. She was serenely indifferent as to what her neighbors said or thought of her. The general rim of them eyed her suspiciously, perhaps just because she possessed beauty and attractiveness.

It was only idle people who gossiped; busy persons always minded their own business. At any rate, the place was such a short jaunt out of town that they could return each evening.

As John knew little or nothing about chemistry, it was beyond his power to reason out the problem of the burning photograph. The two were on the way to the old house when the second phenomenon occurred.

"Zudora, your hat!"

"What's the matter with it?"

"It's on fire!"

Storm tore the hat from her head and threw it on the ground, stamping on it.

"I'll be tinker damned!" he exploded. "How did that happen? I wasn't smoking, and even then a spark could not have set fire to a hat like that. My dear girl, my advice is little old New York on the next train. A photograph starts burning in your hand, your hat flames up on your head. There's some devilment going on that I neither like nor understand. Who are these old men?"

Zudora shook her head dazedly. She had paid \$30 for that hat, she thought with grim humor.

"Let us go back home," he urged.

"No, John. I intend to find out what all these strange things mean. You can go back if you wish."

"Hang it, I'm thinking of you!"

"I know that, John. But I do not want any failures to my credit due to lack of spirit. I'm going to see what this means. I have an idea that I shall never find any diamond."

"I'm glad you think that," he replied. "My dear girl, some one is aiming at you, perhaps some friend of that chemist Craig or whatever his name was. To tell you the truth, it is for that sort of reason that I did not want you to go into this detective business. There's always some one hiding around the corner with reprisal. But you are determined to go to the end of this?"

"Absolutely determined."

"I might kidnap you."

"If you had kidnaped me months ago, John, I should have been a happy woman," she said sadly. "But now it's too late. I've got to go on. Just got to. I am sorry that I cannot explain any more to you. You've got to trust me wholly."

"I do, girl, only I worry for your safety. In a game like this a woman is given no more chance than a man, and she is handicapped because she is a woman. She can't fight like a man when she's in a corner. The very clothes on her interfere with her freedom of action. All right, but there's one thing that's got to be settled here and now."

"And what is that?" still eying the hat.

"That I shall always be in on your cases, somewhere in the background, where I can hear you call when you need me."

"I shall be glad of that, John."

"If you'd only marry me and settle the whole business!"

"I will some day. Supposing that we now make that call we started out to make."

The two old collectors admitted Zudora and Storm, and they began im-



Hassam Ali Stole Away From Another Exit.

mediately ply her with questions, many of which seemed odd to Storm. No; Zudora admitted that as yet she had not picked up any clew. Had she been to the pawnshops? No. Had she shown the photograph to any one yet? She had not shown it to a living soul. And out of the corner of her eye she noted the look of surprise which was exchanged between the two. This glance, swift as it was, gave her a clew, but one which had no significance, so far as the missing diamond was concerned. She at once determined to say nothing about the burning of the photograph or the hat.

"You have lost your hat?" said one.

"The wind carried it off just as we were crossing the bridge. We tried to fish for it, but the current was too strong."

There was no glance between the brothers after this statement. They knew that she was not telling the truth.

"Let us get away from here," whispered Storm when he had the opportunity to do so unobserved.

"Why?"

"I don't quite like the looks of your clients."

"Very well. Neither do I." She turned to her hosts. "Tomorrow or the next day at the latest," she said, "I expect to bring you some news regarding the diamond. A gem like that cannot totally disappear."

"Won't you have some tea?"

"No, thanks. Good day until tomorrow."

Storm and Zudora left the house.

"What do you propose to do?" John asked rather impatiently.

"Find out what agency burned that photograph and one of my best hats," ruefully.

"Here comes a farmer with a hay wagon. Let's ride into the village."

Zudora agreed, with a laugh. John had a singular idea, but he did not confide it to Zudora. So they stopped the farmer, and he entered into the joke readily enough. City folk were always wanting to take a joy ride on the hayrack. No sooner did he start on again than flames burst forth from the hay, and it was a dangerous game, the effort to put it out. The farmer accused Storm of having dropped his



A Thousand Thunders Seemed Ringing in Their Ears.

cigarette. As he knew argument would be of no avail, he gave the old man a five dollar bill.

The two young people continued their journey on foot very thoughtfully.

"A hundred years ago," mused John, "I should have said that the devil was in it."

"Maybe the devil is in it," replied Zudora enigmatically.

"Maybe he is," thinking of her uncle. "There's a shack up yonder," she said suddenly. "Suppose we hide there for awhile and watch the house. I want to see if any one comes or goes."

"A good idea."

They reached the hut and entered it and looked through the window at the house of the two strange brothers. A quarter of an hour passed without reward. There was no sign of life at that house. By and by John sniffed.

"Girl, I'm hanged if I don't smell smoke!"

"So do I!"

"Let us hike while hiking's good."

They were less than a dozen feet beyond the doorway when the shingles on the roof began to curl into bright, angry flames.

"A close shave, girl. And now I'm going back to interview those two devils with the looks of two St. Peters."

It was a stormy interview, but it resulted in the embarrassment of both. They were set upon so swiftly and skillfully that they had no time to struggle. After the two were securely bound Hassam Ali stole away from another exit. It had been a narrow squeeze for him.

Zudora and Storm were left alone in the house. There were evidently no servants. And now that they had time to inspect the room closely they drew the same conclusion—that the house had been furnished for this special occasion. Storm set himself working as best he could at the stout ropes which bound the girl. Once she was free she could easily liberate him. It seemed weary hours to them before the cords fell from Zudora's hands. She then hunted about for a knife and found one with an edge like a razor.

"Are you satisfied?" John asked, ironically.

"As to what?"

"That my death and perhaps yours is wanted."

"Mine?"

"Surely. And I'm going to tell you what's been in my mind for weeks. I'll stake my oath that that precious uncle of yours is back of all this."

"My uncle! John, that is utterly impossible. I am his flesh and blood."

"I tell you he has committed a crime of some sort and wants us out of the way before we discover it."

"And what crime could he possibly have committed that he should want us both out of the way?"

"I'd give a year of my life to find out," bitterly. "Come, there's no use loitering around here. The sooner we get back to town the better. And when we get to town we'll go right in to Uncle Hassam Ali's study and ask a few questions."

"John, that would be utter madness."

"Well, something definite may result from it. If you will not go with me I'll talk to him alone."

"And come to blows, as you did the other time, and give him a good legal excuse to harm you."

"I've made up my mind," doggedly.

"Then I don't suppose it would do any good to argue with you."

Indeed, Storm did waste his time on Uncle Hassam, as he now called the

mystic. He saw that individual at the head of the stairs and rushed up. When he arrived at the landing Hassam Ali had disappeared as effectually as if he had vanished through the wall, which, in fact, though John was not aware of it, was exactly what Hassam Ali had done. John went downstairs again, swearing under his breath. He was terribly angry, and when he finally departed he left his sweetheart in tears.

There was a good vein of stubbornness in Storm's makeup. On the way home he determined to have a reckoning with those hoary old scamps who were working in Hassam Ali's interest. At least they could satisfy his physical needs, that of bumping their heads together. They were the manipulators of some devil machine which had caused these mysterious fires, always in the vicinity of Zudora.

In the morning Zudora telephoned to learn that John had gone out of town. Instinctively she knew just where he had gone, poor, foolish lover, and so she set out after him, distracted. It was quite reasonable that the twins would be expecting John and would be prepared for his reception. She therefore made the village about an hour later than John and hired the only taxicab she could find.

John found a very queerly made apparatus back of the house on a knoll. He had read about something of the sort, a perpetual ray gathered from light and capable of sending forth a terrific heat, something like a crystal focused under clear sunlight. He could sense a mild warmth as he neared it—a mild warmth because the reflectors had been momentarily deflected, not focused. He knew nothing about the house being mined and ready for his advent. He drew his revolver and began peppering the infernal machine. He could at least put it out of business temporarily.

Vaguely he heard the rumble of a motor and turned to see Zudora step out of a taxicab. He waved his hand, and she came running up the hill. On the way up she saw something that resembled a burning fuse on the ground. Then the horror of the trap dawned upon her. They were to be lured into the house and blown up.

Gasping, she stammered forth her discovery. She caught him by the hand and dragged him down the hill at a run. None too soon. The earth

shook. A thousand thunders seemed ringing in their ears. When they finally turned they saw both house and side of the hill had been totally destroyed.

From the distance Hassam Ali saw that he must try once more.



Hassam Ali Saw That He Must Try Once More.

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[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Whooping Cough.

"About a year ago my three boys had whooping cough and I found Chamberlain's Cough Remedy that would relieve their coughing and whooping spells. I continued this treated and was surprised to find that it cured the disease in a very short time," writes Mrs. Archie Dayriddle, Crooksville, Ohio. For sale by all dealers. adv

Dr. Hobson's sun burn remedy A splendid soothing antiseptic remedy for sunburn, tan, freckle catarrh, hay fever, swelling, sore lips, insects bites and all inflammation at Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mrs. Polly and Miss Mary Reese of Noodle were guests of friends here Wednesday.

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. adv

If you are bothered by rats get a box of Rat & Roach paste and kill the pesky things. Dont let them destroy your grain and chickens. Try one box, 25 cents at Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mrs. J. W. Hunter and mother Mrs. A. L. Stanley of Nubia were visitors here Wednesday.

Logan and Black berries at G. M. Shrap's.

Paint, varnishee, enamels, putty and glass at Mrs. E. M. Rust.

"Imagination" at the Cozy Friday May 14, 8:15 P. M.

TRAVELS AROUND THE WORLD

Continued from page 1

only answer was "Nothing Doing."

Japan has for years wished that China would declare war on her but Yuan Shihkai, being a very smart man and capably advised by Americans and others, has steered clear of such, for China as a country is like a child and would be absolutely helpless in a conquest with Japan. The only salvation of China has been from the fact that their able president has kept his possessions together by assistance of great powers. When one power would threaten his land his diplomacy saved him and his people by causing the other powers to come to his aid. This fear of the great nations of one another gaining power in the east has kept China on her feet. Now that the protection is gone, you readers can figure it out for yourselves. Surely China is about to topple and along with it the millions of dollars of American capital now invested in that country.

Contrary to the average American's idea of the feeling in the present struggle, practically every person in the Far East, at least ninety per cent of them I will say, are anti-British. In this I do not mean that they are Pro-German. Their sympathies, if any, are with other countries, namely France, Belgium and China; against the Japs last of all. The Japs as a people are the most aggressive race known. It is the greatest ambition of a Jap to die for his country and nothing will daunt him in this attempt. An instance preceding the recent capture of Tsing Tao is significant of this fact. The fight between the Germans and Japanese had been going on for several days with consistent fighting on both sides; the emperor's birthday was drawing near and neutrals began to expect that there would be something doing at Tsing Tao on this day and let me say here, there surely was something doing alright. This national day with the Japs seemed to give them additional courage in their attempt to storm one of the strongest fortified hills protecting the town and held by Germans with rapid fire big guns. The Germans, foreseeing the attempt that was going to be made, confiscated the entire output of a large soap factory located at Tsing Tao and with the soap thus obtained completely painted the hill approaching their position with a thick coat of soap. This made the attempt of the Japs in taking the place all the more difficult but they were absolutely unmindful of these preparations and regiment after regiment was mowed down before the awful German gun fire, the Japs literally sacrificing themselves purely through patriotism and nothing else. They were not successful in their attempt to take the German position at that time and I got it from reliable authority, a citizen of Tsing Tao, that over 8,000 Japanese were killed during the day in the storm of this one position.

It was soon after this that Japan captured the city and the following day I was called there by my company to look after large quantities of cigarettes we had in the town, much of the company's stock being a complete loss from the bombardment and fire that followed the capture. Within three days after the capture of Tsing Tao Japan had taken the railway leading out of the city to a distance of several miles and had constructed one of the finest wireless stations in the world. And will Japan return the valuable possessions to China? If you think so you have another guess coming.

Complete Japanese rule was established over this small province quicker than it seemed possible and in this they demonstrated

Every Woman Should Know

There are three entirely different kinds of baking powder, namely:

- (1) Cream of Tartar, derived from grapes,
- (2) Alum, a mineral acid, and
- (3) Phosphate of Lime.

(1) Baking Powders made of Cream of Tartar add to the food the same healthful qualities as exist in the ripe grapes from which Cream of Tartar is derived.

(2) Baking Powders made of Alum add to the food some form of Alum or Aluminum, a heavy metal, wholly foreign to any natural article of food.

(3) Phosphate of Lime is made from rock or by burning bones which by chemical action are changed into a white powder. It is used in baking powder only because it is a cheaper substitute.

A Cream of Tartar powder never contains Alum or Phosphate.

Every housekeeper should read the ingredients printed on the label and know what she is using.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER
Made from Cream of Tartar

their ability for speedy and telling fighting that would be a national menace to the United States only from the fact that Japan could not fight a long war. The country is without funds to finance a war even with the United States for a long length of time but you readers can take my word for it that in event the United States ever locks horns with Japan that the first six months of it will be "some scrap" in which the Japs will give Uncle Sam a fight for his life. That the United States would eventually win is undisputed but it certainly would be a man's job until Japan weakened from her short finances and resources. At this point let me state that with Japan in possession of China it can easily be seen that her resources will be greatly augmented, to what extent only a guess could be made.

The present demands of Japan on China are in substance: The permit to build and operate railroads throughout the empire; to establish mines and explore for oil; to place Japanese advisors at the disposal of President Yuan Shihkai instead of the American and other advisors who have so capably assisted this weak republic during the last few years. If these demands are granted, as it seems they are going to be, Japan will be practically in control of China, only allowing them to retain their country's name. The Japs are the most non-committal race I can think of. An ordinary Jap would not tell you whether you or living or not if he could keep from it. Everyone of them is by nature a spy for his country even to those who inhabit our own land and with few exceptions they no doubt have a mission in any country other than their common pursuit in life. In making these assertions I do not give them from an entirely personal view, but I only advance the opinion of nine out of ten men of the Far East who have lived there long enough to become acquainted with the conditions. To illustrate the secretiveness of their operations, my voyage from Shanghai to Europe was on the Japanese steamer Mishima Maru, a boat under the Japanese flag and totally manned by Japs. On this voyage only a few Americans were aboard, possibly four or five, and none of us could so much as get an inkling of news from the outer world even though the boat was equipped with wireless, the Japs being resentful of our inquiries, while on my return home from London on an English steamer we were given wireless news every day, there being a boat paper published each afternoon during the time we were at sea.

Every man in the east is thoroughly conversant with these facts and the China Press, an American newspaper published at Shanghai, a Hearst paper with the largest circulation in the Far East, has for months and months been calling the people's attention to the arising conditions, especially to the perilous position of China. This Hearst paper is also Anti-English in the same respect as I stated the majority of Americans in that country are.

(Continued Next Week)

\$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 druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



OUR SHIRT IRONERS

do nothing else. The result is they have become specialists and have acquired marvelous skill in giving just a right finish to the bosom and cuffs, a perfect smoothness to the neckband. If you would know shirt satisfaction of the highest send yours to this laundry. SWEETWATER STEAM LAUNDRY M. B. BELL, Agent, Merkel. Phone No. 133

Breeders Notice.

I am standing the Britain jack at my place 2 1/2 miles east of Noodle. S. H. Meeks. 261f

Hackney Horse Notice.

I will stand the Hackney horse at the Hellums Wagon Yard this season. \$10.00 to insure living colt. Not responsible for accidents. J. G. Hale. 3014

For a Torpid Liver.

"I have used Chamberlain's Tablets off and on for the past six years whenever my liver shows signs of being in a disordered condition. They have always acted quickly and given me the desired relief," writes Mrs. F. H. Trubus, Springville, N. Y. For sale by all dealers. adv

GIRLS GIRLS GIRLS

Free Sets of Silverware Awaits You Thursday of Each Week At The ANCHOR

Every contestant is eligible to these prizes. The one registering the greatest number of votes cast during each week is given their choice of a set of Rogers Silverware Absolutely Free.

No one winning one of these free prize sets can obtain another one, even though their total vote for 1 week exceeds that of any other contestant. In such event the choice goes to the one having the second largest total vote for the week. **ONE FREE SET EACH WEEK** until contest is closed.

Miss Dixie Duncan is entitled to the Free Set of Silverware for having registered the greatest number of votes during the past week.

7 -- Grand Prizes -- 7

1st Prize \$400.00 Piano

Owing to the tremendous business we have enjoyed during this campaign we have decided to give six additional prizes at the close of the contest. To the young lady receiving the second largest number of votes the second prize will be awarded; to the third largest number of votes the third prize, and so on, until the Grand Prize and 6 subordinate prizes are given away.

- 2nd Prize \$25 Ladies Watch
- 3rd Prize 20 Ladies Watch
- 4th Prize 20 Ladies Watch
- 5th Prize 20 Ladies Watch
- 6th Prize 20 Ladies Watch
- 7th Prize German Silver Dresser Set--3 Pieces

These seven Grand Prizes will be given away August 28

Be Sure to Call For Your Votes

But also be sure to solicit no votes in the store or on sidewalk; nor allow your friends to solicit votes for you. Any further violation of this rule will cost the contestant her position in the contest. **This Rule Must be Observed**

Anchor Mercantile Co.