

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 27—NO. 24

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1915

8 PAGES

UNION MEETING BEGINS SUNDAY, AUG. 8TH—REV. W. M. M'INTOSH TO PRESIDE

Meeting Will be Union in Endeavors, Uniting Forces of Religious Bodies Especially Methodist and Presbyterian

Rev. W. M. McIntosh of Mississippi who held an unusually successful meeting for the Methodist church at Abilene several weeks ago, will begin a revival Sunday, August 8, in this city. The congregations of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches will be especially united in the work of this meeting which will be held under a large canvas tent obtained for this meeting and will be located just north of the residence of H. C. Burroughs, near Oak street.

The chairman of Committees will call a meeting of the Committees to arrange their duties and the first name on each of the following committees as has been selected as chairman of the committee in which the party is chosen. Other announcements will follow next week.

Sunday services are as follows: Eleven o'clock at the Methodist church, preaching by Rev. H. E. Bullock. At 8:30 Sunday evening at the Presbyterian church, preaching by Rev. C. P. Garvin.

The following have been selected on committees and the following committees arranged:

WEIR BROTHERS WIN AT CHEYENNE

George and Chas. Weir stopped off at Merkel to shake hands with friends Wednesday afternoon, having just returned from Cheyenne, Wyoming, where George Weir was awarded the prize of Champion Roper of the World and also a handsome purse of \$600.00 in Gold for his trouble of tying three steers at an average of a fraction over 36 seconds each.

These steers were given a forty yard start which seems to make the performance of Geo. Weir all the more creditable. The nearest contender to his time averaged 46 seconds on each of three steers while Chas. Weir, brother of the Champion took third money in the time. The Cheyenne State Leader published the following in regard to work of the Weir brothers. "Determination to win marked the work of George Weir as he dashed after his steer, but he was over anxious and pulled him upon 2nd chance he finished up in 43 1-5, and what looked like a new world's record was spoiled for Charlie Weir when his steer kicked enough to take Weir 37 2-5 seconds to tie him." This comment was made on the performances of the last day and does not give the records of time made by the Weir brothers for the other days during the Cheyenne meet.

WRECKS BUILDING BY USING DYNAMITE

A hurried job of tearing down the southside school building, was done Monday when the workmen had completed tearing out the woodwork of the structure.

A few charges of dynamite shook three walls from their foundations and a team of mules with a long rope easily toppled over the last one which had already been made rickety by force of the explosions. The last wall in falling created such a current of air by the ground impact that nearby persons were all but knocked to the ground by the concussion.

Thos. Elliott, a former Merkel boy, came in Wednesday afternoon to visit his brother, W. M. Elliott and family.

Committee on tabernacle and grounds—W. L. Diltz, H. M. Rainbolt, F. R. Irving, W. E. Douglas, S. F. Haynes, H. M. Mayfield, E. P. McMillen, S. H. L. Swafford, Will Campbell, J. F. Shaffer, W. D. Butler, Bunk Tipton, Jno. Hancock, Geo. Boyce, Jim Tipton, E. L. Rogers, Chas. Beard, J. G. Sadler, Dr. Gilliland, Will Woodroof, J. L. Lamar, Will Armstrong.

Committee on finance—T. A. Johnson, R. L. Bland, J. L. Harris, J. G. Jones, Dr. M. Armstrong.

Committee on music—C. E. Connor, Tom Douglass, W. C. Ayers, Elzie Stanley, Henry Rose, Robert Hicks, Mrs. Robinson, Ira Armstrong, Mrs. Jas. Tipton, Mrs. R. L. Bland, Miss Eva Williams, Miss Neva Warnick, Miss Fannie Burroughs, Mrs. Henry West, Miss Bessie Touchstone, Mrs. H. E. Bullock, Luther Woodroof, J. F. Holdridge, Mrs. Rust, Mrs. Templeton, Clyde Garrett.

Usher and collector committee—Jno. Morgan, William Elliott, Ernest Rogers, E. P. McMillen, Dr. O. F. McMaster, Henry West, Shirley King, Mr. Duckett.

Committee on advertisement—H. E. Bullock, W. P. Garvin, Henry West, W. F. Dupree, J. J. Shelton.

Committee on entertainment—Mrs. H. C. Burroughs, Mrs. J. G. Sadler, Mrs. E. L. Woodroof.

Miss Genevieve Rust who is attending the Summer Normal at Abilene spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. E. M. Rust.

FARM CROPS ARE SUFFERING SOME

In a few places feed stuff is suffering for rain but over the country in general the crops are holding up fine under the cool weather we have been having and young cotton is continuing to grow.

Early maize is being cut in the Trent country and farmers generally have about completed their land cultivation and are now preparing to gather the fruits of their year's labors.

The reduction of cotton acreage in the Merkel country over last year's crop will perhaps reach 33 per cent.

The accuracy and competence of our prescription department has gained its own fame. Wont you place your next with us? Burroughs.

AGAIN, NO GOOD ROADS FOR MERKEL

Amendments voted on Blindly by Many Voters Over State who failed to Acquaint Themselves with the Amendment Provisions.

It was through the efforts of the writer that the Good Roads Bonds Election was ordered by the Commissioner's Court but it was not through any of the writers efforts that the issue was defeated.

Throughout the time the bond issue was pending, the attitude of the Mail was friendly in every respect to every voter regardless of his feeling toward the issue. The Mail freely granted without censure that it was the undisputed right of every man to vote his sentiments and we yet uphold that contention. To those who voted in opposition to the measure they were only exercising their rights as a citizen and no one should question their integrity or good intentions for the man who strongly supported the bonds is as liable to have the wrong idea of what is best for our country as the man who voted in opposition to the bond issue and in the majority. This is a free country and when the time arrives that a man cannot exercise his personal rights the American Eagle will have flown from his lofty perch long before.

All these things and many more are regarded as truths by every one and no one was more ready to respect this freedom of privilege than was the writer in advance of this bond issue. Contrary to the sentiments expressed in the good road bond election in 1910 which was largely brought about by discussions in the columns of the Mail, this election passed off quietly and on its own merits "if it ever had any" and without any expression of animosity between any voters so far as we have been able to ascertain.

The policy of the Mail in refraining from allowing its column to be filled with personalities has in the mind of the writer been abused to an extent following the announcement of the final vote. The Mail and its management have been made the objects of sarcastic criticism from several sources, and entirely without cause for in every case the Mail has dealt fairly and the writer does not feel that these remarks are justifiable in the least even though the Mail supported the Good Roads Bonds. Furthermore we do not feel it worth while to bring up a dead issue, for surely the Good Roads Bonds in Merkel is dead and buried so deep it would take Col. Geo. W. Goethals of Panama Canal fame longer to resurrect the idea of public improvement here than it did for him to dig the big ditch across the Isthmus of Panama.

To review the actual needs of the Merkel country and taking the expression of the majority of the voters as evidence we have about arrived at the conclusion that Merkel and Merkel country are not in need of improvements of this respect and our stand was a mistake from start to finish but there is some consolation in having the good roads election held along side that of the Constitutional Amendments for the verdicts of the majority of the voters over the state also goes to show that the State Legislative body and Congress also made a big mistake by even thinking our Commonwealth was in need of any changes whatever and the laws that governed our forefather are also good enough to govern us and the roads used by our prehistoric ancestors are also good enough for the present generation and thus those who voted for the good roads in the Merkel country are placed in the same boat with the State senators and representative over the entire state, and after it is all over we find by close study that Merkel people will continue to follow the same calf trail, that only three Supreme Judges will continue to sit at our higher courts and that our Supreme Court will continue three years in arrears with its duties, and that men away from home who have paid their poll tax and are qualified voters will continue to have no voice in any election unless they go to their own voting precinct even if that necessitate a trip entirely across the state and without much of a study we also find that illiterate Mexicans of the border of this state who cannot read a word of English or understand our language in the least will continue to vote in Texas even though they are not citizens of the United States.

For the writer to become eligible to vote in this country it was necessary to live here for twenty

CHRISTIAN MEETING STARTS AT THE TABERNACLE NEXT TUESDAY NIGHT

Services Afternoon and Night on Week Days With Three Preaching Hours on Sundays. Meeting ends August the 21st.

The Christian meeting scheduled for some months will start Tuesday evening of next week at 8:30 o'clock, Elder J. W. Chism will be in charge.

Elder Chism, as many will remember conducted a meeting at the Tabernacle for his church last summer during the month of July and is one of the ablest preachers who has ever visited our town.

Services during the week will be held at 4 and 8:30 p. m., each afternoon and evening while the same hours will probably be observed on Sunday in addition to the regular 11 o'clock services. Mr. H. Turner who has been making extensive arrangements for the meeting stated that Elder Chism would not arrive in time to conduct the services at the Church of Christ on Sunday as the meeting he is now engaged in would not end until Sunday night services, allowing him to reach here the following day.

Work of getting the tabernacle in readiness for the meeting will be looked after and everything done to make the place comfortable in every respect and the public is cordially invited to attend each and every service.

one years but for the half-breed Mexican man it is only necessary that he be in our country one year and then he need not be a naturalized citizen in order that he may enjoy the same rights and privileges of any person in Merkel when it comes to voting. He can merely announce his intention of becoming a naturalized citizen, and there you are, a Mexican vote to be bought in any way and for a small price but the voters over the state in general did not seem to care that this evil be remedied and at the same time did not want to allow the ordinary American born American Texan (died in the wool democrat) who happens to be out of his precinct on day of election to vote, though he may have his poll tax receipt and be one of the best men of our state, and one who is qualified to vote intelligently on every question that might arise.

In all the voting on last Saturday on the state amendments seemed a jumbled affair, people who did not understand even one of the amendments voted against them all on general principles because some one said it would be dangerous to change the laws we have been living under all these years. This form of voting without the voter knowing in reality what he votes for is and has been the undisputed distinction of the un-naturalized Mexican on the Texas border who announces his intention of becoming an American citizen and is then voted by a boss, but on last Saturday the Mexican lost this destination to a great extent when many a free born Texan voted to defeat all the amendments without having so much as taken the trouble to read them.

The man who takes no more interest in the making of the laws of his country than to fail to familiarize himself with a proposition when given a chance should stay away from the polls on election day and permit the man to vote who knows how to cast an intelligent ballot, in doing this the careless voter is doing his country a good deed for through his ignorance he may do his neighbor a great wrong.

To Preach Here Sunday.

Rev. E. E. Dawson of Abilene will occupy the pulpit at the Baptist Church Sunday during the absence of the local pastor Rev. L. B. Owen who is away in evangelistic work.

It is not yet known whether Rev. Dawson will preach Sunday night or not, announcement of this will be made at the morning services.

FRUIT CANNERY IN CITY OF MERKEL

C. L. McNeese who sustained injuries several months ago that came very near leaving him permanently disabled is celebrating his recovery by assisting in canning fruit at the McNeese home in south east Merkel.

Mr. McNeese always has abundant garden vegetables and fruit for his own table and usually raises enough to sell a good portion. This year he will have about 500 3-pound cans of fruit to sell from his orchards, the fruit consisting of peaches, grapes and plums. In addition to the three pound cans he is putting up for sale purposes he has sufficient amount canned in glass jars to furnish his home for some time to come. The writer in company with R. O. Anderson, Ed Teaff and Fred Bigham visited Mr. McNeese Tuesday afternoon and found him playing tinner and soldering the cans as fast as they were handed him. The fruit from the McNeese cannery is of a highly palatable quality and will be on sale to Merkel people who want to buy Merkel country canned fruit in preference to paying their money out for fruit from other sections.

Incidentally the writer and the parties who constituted the visitors crowd Tuesday afternoon were helped to a nice lot of fresh peaches ripe from the trees.

DELEGATES OFF TO AUSTIN CONGRESS

Many delegates to the annual Farmers Congress of this state departed Saturday for Austin to attend the deliberation of that association.

President J. A. Pike of the Merkel Farmers Institute left Friday night in company with F. J. Smith, the other delegates J. N. Shelton, J. M. Dunn, B. F. Ely, Marshal Parker, Lee Campbell, Bert Chambless and Mrs. J. D. Porter left Saturday night.

Noodle delegates going were Misses Aileen and Evalyn Barbee and Sallie Goode, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Green, Mr. and Mrs. B. Winter, Clearance Eoff, Sam Seago and Sam Rosson.

Fresh car of Peacemaker flour expected to arrive today at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

**If you want a Dependable Connection, where Safety is the
First Consideration, open an account with this Bank
Every member of our force wants to do some-
thing for you Call on us
GUARANTY FUND BANK**

Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Rev. A. L. Jobe returned Friday from Briggs and Liberty Hill where he has been conducting successful meetings. Mr. Jobe reports crop conditions in this section much better than in any of the counties he has been in, including Williamson, Mills, Brown, Burnett, Lampasas, Coleman and Runnels.

George Smith who has been attending the Southwestern University at Georgetown for the past year, returned home Wednesday afternoon to spend the summer with his parents Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Smith.

J. S. French of Amity, Ark., who has been here for some time looking after business matters and visiting his sister, Mrs. Geo. Boyce, has returned to his home. Before going, however, he asked that the Mail be sent to him for another year.

F. F. Clark of Colorado, formerly a resident of this city, was in our midst Monday shaking hands with friends. We neglected to ascertain if Mr. Clark was not contemplating a return to Merkel.

R. J. Adcock who has been visiting relatives in Pecos has returned home but did not arrive in time to vote for the good roads bonds. Some more of his friends must have been out of town.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell and little daughters, Mary and Ouida, are at home from near Coleman where they visited the family of Jim Eoff.

Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Cranford motored to Buffalo Gap Friday where Mrs. Cranford visited friends. Dr. Cranford made a professional call at Moran.

Mrs. J. S. Thomas and daughter, Charlie Bell, are at home from Caps where they visited daughter and sister, Mrs. Hugh Brewster.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lyles returned home Saturday from a two months' visit with friends and relatives in Adolphus, Ky.

Misses Ruth and Kate Taylor are here from Richland Springs visiting Miss Callie Lou Owen.

Miss Emogene Cummings of White Bear, Minn., is visiting Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Foster.

Miss Mittie Fulbright of Carlton is visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. F. Shaffer.

Miss Myrtice Huffaker of Greenville is visiting her sister, Mrs. H. C. Burroughs, Jr.

Walter Phillips of Noodle was in town Saturday probably on official business.

Mrs. W. B. Farmer is in Clyde and Baird this week visiting relatives.

Miss Uva Baxendale of Mingus is visiting Miss Ona Fay Bland.

GROCERY SPECIALS

For a few days we will make some very low cash prices on the following articles

\$1.00 Deacon Brown bucket coffee, cup and saucer in each bucket	80c
Arbuckle Coffee, per pound	19c
6 pounds Peaberry Coffee	\$1.00
7½ pounds "1859" Coffee	\$1.00
Red Velva Syrup	60c
Green Velva Syrup	65c
Mary Jane Syrup	45c
Nice dried California Peaches, per lb.	7c
Extra High Patent Flour, the Big C	\$1.55
High Patent Flour, only	\$1.55
7 spools Thread	25c

We also have one lot of Shoes and Slippers we are selling AT COST

When in need of anything in the grocery line see us. Next door to Behrens-McMillen furniture store.

J. L. JOHNSON

CHEER UP

That Tired Grouchy Feeling Means a Lazy Liver.

LIV-VER-LAX will clear you out, and make you feel fine and dandy again. It is just as effective as calomel, but has none of its well known disagreeable after effects.

LIV-VER-LAX eliminates poisons, cleanses the system, and relieves constipation in a thorough but pleasant manner. A little taken regularly, means consistent health and no doctor bills.

GUARANTEE. Every bottle bearing the likeness of L. K. Grigsby, is guaranteed to give satisfaction or your money will be returned. For sale here in 50c and \$1 size bottles at Mrs. E. M. Rust's Drug Store. 1613

W. O. W.

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

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

Furnished Rooms.

Furnished suit of rooms with water connections. Apply to Mrs. J. W. Daniel at Woodroofs Store.

Your Votes Appreciated

I will appreciate your votes in the contest now on at E. L. Rogers Grocery. Miss Ada Woodrum.

Cotton Seed Wanted.

All who have seed for sale see me or phone 27 for price and date of loading car. G. R. Gazzaway.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. The worst cases, no matter how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00

Leaves for New York.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassater and children left Saturday night for a month's stay in New York, Chicago and other points in the north. While away Mr. Lassater's place as chief operator for Texas & Pacific Co., is filled by Henry Hester.

Mr. Lassater planned to leave for the north several days before his departure but remained until after the election was over and the results announced.

Fire Destroys Farm Home.

The farm home of Harvey Rutledge of the Route 2 country was destroyed by fire at an early hour Saturday morning. The place belonged to Geo. L. Paxton of Abilene.

Mr. Rutledge and family barely had time to escape with their clothing and their household goods were entirely lost. The cause of the blaze is attributed to mice having carried matches into the walls of the building and ignited them.

H. C. Burroughs Jr., Unimproved.

Reports of the condition of H. C. Burroughs Jr., go to show that he is not yet entirely out of danger of Typhoid fever which he has been confined to his bed with during most of this month.

Marshal Walters Returns

City Marshal Ben Walters returned Thursday morning from Fort Worth where he has been attending the State Marshal's Association.

While away Mr. Walters also visited his old home in Wills Point, spending most of the time there with his aged father.

1915		JULY					1915	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

Gained Four Days Out of Nine

Over in Oklahoma one of the business concerns using a great many wagons had been considering the question of axle grease.

Apparently no conclusion could be reached from the statements of competitive sellers of the products, so the company decided to make a test.

Two NEW wagons which had just been delivered to the company were selected for the test. To one wagon a competitive grease was applied on both front and rear wheels, Texaco grease being used on the other.

They were set to work. In five days the competitive grease was done, the spindles got hot and a new application was required.

IN NINE DAYS TEXACO GREASE WAS STILL GOOD. SPINDLES IN PERFECT CONDITION READY FOR ONE MORE DAY.

Texaco service on wagons is like Texaco service on anything else, ready to give unusual value to the man who uses it.

Take advantage of Texaco quality by buying the Red-Star-Green-T oils. Made in Texas.

**The Texas Company
General Offices, Houston, Texas**

Prizes for Farm Exhibits.

Secretary Fred Wood of the Abilene Fair Association advises us that extensive arrangements have been made by the Association for taking care of various Taylor county farm exhibits this year and feels that the Merkel country should be one of the strongest contenders for the many prizes to be given there this fall.

While in Merkel last week Mr. Wood announced that he was agreeably surprised at the condition of farm products in the Merkel country which he frankly admitted to be better than what he had viewed in his section of the country.

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.

Cotton Seed Wanted.

All who have seed for sale see me or phone 27 for price and date of loading car. G. R. Gazzaway.

Minor Burns, Will Merritt and Merle Burroughs motored to Anson Sunday and on their return trip stopped long enough on the river to devour a delicious lunch spread by Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burroughs.

Miss Sallie Orr who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. J. A. Adkisson and family of Beaumont, returned home Wednesday. She was accompanied home by her nephew, Ray Adkisson.

Mrs. J. W. Dickerson and children of Newman visited her sister, Mrs. Jno Wheeler.

Miss Dota Garoutte visited relatives in Snyder last week.

Miss Madge Dean is in Abilene this week visiting friends.

Mrs. Ollie Dye visited her parents in Abilene the past week.

Mrs. Carlos Robinson of Trent visited Mrs. J. S. Thomas Monday.

Jno. Thixton, of Trent was a visitor in Merkel the first of the week.

G. M. Byrum of Trent Route 2, was a business visitor in Merkel Monday.

Mrs. R. L. Proctor and children are here visiting the family of A. C. Rose.

Mrs. Sterling P. Miller is at home from Pecos where she visited relatives.

T. W. Killen of Falls county has been visiting his sister, Mrs. Jno. Wheeler.

Miss Sophia Howard visited Miss Weimer Widmer in Abilene the past week.

Mrs. Harry Harris of Abilene visited her cousin, Mrs. Jno. D. Gaither, Sunday.

Miss Ella Hobbs of Abilene was the week-end guest of Miss Irene Swann last week.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Grimes are at home from Meridian where they visited relatives.

Miss Annie Swann is here from Tyler visiting her cousin, J. S. Swann and family.

G. J. Jones is visiting relatives in Collin county and will be absent several days.

Mrs. Jno. Milliken and little daughter, Gladys, are visiting Mrs. Hugh Brewster at Caps.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McCauley of Abilene motored here Thursday to visit Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Propst and little son are at home from a visit with friends in Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Wheeler and children motored to Rotan, Sylvester and Roby last Tuesday.

Miss Louise Hodges of Sweetwater visited her cousin, Mrs. Alvin Wheeler, the past week.

Mrs. A. L. Jobe who has been quite ill from an attack of appendicitis is reported much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bland and children, Ona Faye and Marjorie, are at home from an auto trip to McLennan county.

Fort Worth Lady Died Friday.

Mrs. L. D. Smith of Fort Worth died at her home Friday of last week following a serious illness of several days duration, burial being given the body the following day in Oakwood cemetery.

At the time of her death Mrs. Smith was attended by all her immediate family and also her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Duckett, of this city, who had been called there to the bedside of their daughter.

PROFESSIONAL

McMASTER & GILLILAND
DENTISTS
Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Practicing Physician
Office at Grimes Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-

W. W. WHEELER
Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado
Insurance Agent
Notary Public.
Office over Farmers State Bank

C. D. MIMS
Attorney-At Law
General Practice and Collections
Land Title Work a Speciality
Office over Farmers State Bank.

G. W. JOHNSON
Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident
Insurance Agent
Respectfully Solicits Your Business
Notary Public in Office
Office over Woodroof & Company
Merkel - Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS
The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

ABSTRACTS
To buy land without seeing it is poor
business, but to buy it without
an abstract is worse. You should
see your title as well as your land.
**WE MAKE ABSTRACTS
AND KNOW HOW**
Taylor County Abstract Co.
Abilene, Texas Geo. C. Bishop, Mgr.

When in Abilene
Mosart Cafe
Regular Lunch 25c
Short Orders
Service and Satisfaction
JACK GILSTRAP

Citation by Publication.

THE STATE OF TEXAS
To the Sheriff or any Constable of
Taylor County—Greeting:
You are hereby commanded to sum-
mon Maud Huddleston by making pub-
lication of this citation once in each
week for four successive weeks pre-
vious to the return day hereof, in some
newspaper published in your county, if
there be a newspaper published therein,
but if not, then in any newspaper pub-
lished in the 42nd Judicial District; but
if there be no newspaper published in
said Judicial District, then in a news-
paper published in the nearest District
to said 42nd Judicial District, to appear
at the next regular term of the Dis-
trict Court of Taylor county, to be
held at the Court House thereof, in
Abilene, on the 5th Monday in August
A. D. 1915, the same being the 30th
day of August A. D. 1915, then and
there to answer a petition filed in said
Court on the 14th day of July A. D.
1915, in a suit, numbered on the docket
of said Court No. 3480, wherein F. B.
Huddleston is plaintiff, and Maud Hud-
dleston is defendant, and said petition
alleging, Plaintiff F. B. Huddleston
sues for divorce on the grounds of
abandonment, alleging that more than
three years ago defendant left the bed
and board of this plaintiff with the in-
tention of permanently abandoning plain-
tiff, since which time they have not
lived together as man and wife.
Plaintiff asks for judgment of the
court dissolving the marriage relation
now existing between Plaintiff and De-
fendant and for general relief.
Herein fail not, but have before said
Court, at its aforesaid next regular
term, this writ with your return there-
of, showing how you have executed
the same.

Given under my hand and the seal of
said Court, at office in Abilene this,
the 15th day of July A. D. 1915.
J. Fuller, Clerk,
District Court Taylor County.

Shiloh Home Burned.

Late Saturday night the home
of J. D. Barnes of the Shiloh
community was discovered to be
on fire and the occupants being
away the home was a complete
loss.

The origin of the fire is un-
known, according to the report
received by the Mail office.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Plenty bran and cow feed at
the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

Cleanliness, Quality, and Ser-
vice are the essential builders of
our fountain trade, Burroughs.

Fresh by express, Nunnally's
fine candies on ice at Burroughs'
Drug Store.

Our line of Stationery is the
most complete of any to be found
in Merkel, Burroughs.

Eat more Ice Cream, but be
sure that it is Alta Vista. Bur-
roughs.

Mrs. M. C. Church is in Wint-
ers this week visiting her
daughter, Mrs. W. E. Davis.

Good people want good service
Call at the Star Store Tailor
Shop.

Mrs. N. E. Horn and daugh-
ter, Mrs. A. F. Huber, of Noodle,
were shopping in Merkel Tues-
day.

**Do it Electrically. Watch
next week's ad and see how to
do it Electrically.**

Mrs. C. E. Brown of San An-
gelo returned to her home
Wednesday after a weeks visit
with Mrs. J. K. Higgins of rt 1.

Try a sack of Jersey Cream
flour at \$1.50 or a sack of Bumble
Bee at \$1.65. Guaranteed to
give satisfaction. W.F. Hamblet.

Misses Mogie Cane of Throck-
morton and Annie Bynum of
Sylvester have been visiting
Miss Emma Smith. Miss Cane
returned to her home Tuesday.

Drive to the right and head
your car to my station for gaso-
line and auto oils. H. M. Rose.
23t3

Mr. and Mrs. Jim York and
family who have been here visit-
ing Mr. and Mrs. Jno Pate left
Wednesday for their home at
Del Rio. They were accompanied
home by Miss Jewel Pate.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burrouhs
and children, Billie and Charm,
Miss Mamie Mann Mann of Dal-
las, Miss Frances Burroughs and
Luther Woodroof motored to
Stanford Sunday. A delightful
dinner was spread at the river on
their return home.

**Do you know how to do it
Electrically? Next week's
issue will show you how easy
it is done Electrically.**

D. P. Rawlings of Chicago, a
former Texas man, was here
Monday and Tuesday looking
over ranch propositions in this
country but was unable to find
as large a tract of land as he
was in need of.

My gasoline equipments are
the best and latest that money
can buy. Try my goods and be
convinced. H. M. Rose. 23t3

D. E. Compton and family
of Route 2 have returned from
a weeks visit at Royston where
they visited the family of M. B.
Patterson. Mr. Compton report-
ed watermelons plentiful in that
section of the country.

Miss Gladys Walls who has
been visiting Miss Pet Sears for
several weeks returned to her
home at Eupora, Miss. Wednes-
day morning of this week.

Free motor vote with cleaning
and pressing. Star Store Tailor
Shop.

Messrs. Jim and Tom Douglass
and Mr. and Mrs. Will Elliott
were in Hamlin Sunday in the
formers car visiting Mr. Elliott's
mother, Mrs. N. E. Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Saffle of
of Caps are visiting Mr. and
Mrs. H. N. Mashburn.

All the latest standard Periodi-
cals to be found at Burroughs.
Filtered gasoline eliminates all
trouble. H. M. Rose. 23t3

J. N. Shelton is spending the
week in Austin and Dallas.

Mrs. Ben T. Merritt is visit-
ing relatives in Goldthwaite.

Friday, July 30

"Called Back," a 4-part Universal Feature.
4 Reels, 5 and 10c

Saturday, July 31

"Mother," a 5-part World Film
Also 1-part Comedy. Special music
5 and 10c

PROGRAM WEEK OF AUGUST 2 TO 7

Monday, August 2

"The Trail Breakers," 2-part Bison Drama
"Two of a Kind," Joker Comedy
"When Eddie Took a Bath," Nestor Comedy
4 reels, 5 and 10c

Tuesday, August 3

"Today and Tomorrow," a Who Pays Master
Picture complete in 3 parts
"Cards Never Lie," 2-part Victor Drama
5 reels, 5 and 10c

Wednesday, August 3

"The Mad Cap Queen," 2-part Gold Seal
Comedy-Drama. "All Over the Biscuits,"
Nestor Comedy. 3 reels, 5 and 10c

Thursday, August 5

"A Daughter of the People," a 5-part
World Film. 5 reels
5 and 10c

Friday, August 6

"The Girl of the Secret Service,"
2-part Gold Seal Drama
"Blank Notes," Joker Comedy
3 reels, 5 and 10c

Saturday, August 7

"A Gentleman From Mississippi"
A 5-part World Comedy
(Better than "Tillie's Punctured Romance")
5 and 10c

This program and 5c will admit you to the
Cozy on Monday night, August 9nd

Good Pictures **COZY** Good Music

SOME SPECIAL PRICES

ON

PENNSYLVANIA

DIAMOND and

GOOD YEAR Tires

FILTERED GASOLINE

and AUTO OILS my Specialty

HENRY M. ROSE

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic,
GROVE'S FASTER CHILL TONIC, drives out
Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the sys-
tem. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c

Bond Issue Results.

Voters at the Tye-Merkel box
were the only ones in the Merkel
precinct who gave a majority for
the good roads bonds Saturday.
At all other boxes the issue took
the count in rapid order.

The total vote over the precinct
was 117 for and 184 against, a
vote of more than two-thirds in
opposition to the issue when two-
thirds would have been required
to issue the bonds.

Miss Tennie Pope is in Tye vis-
iting the family of T. N. Vick.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—Good milch cows.
Chas. Orr, two miles southeast of
Merkel. 1Augpd

LOST—Gentleman's gold band
ring on streets of Merkel near
Grimes Drug Store. Has initials
G. T. E. engraved inside. Re-
ward of \$1.00 will be paid for re-
turn to Merkel Mail Office.

FOR SALE—Four residences,
all in Merkel and of various sizes.
All bargains. See W. A. Scott.

WANTED—A good gentle
buggy pony; safe for children to
drive. H. P. Wilkins, Route 1.
23t2pd

FOUND—Purse with money,
describe and pay for this ad at
the Mail Office.

COOK WANTED—Woman
wanted to assist with cooking
and to do washing and ironing
for family of five. Middle aged
woman preferred. Apply at
once. R. H. Collins.

Wood for Sale.

Good mesquite cord wood at
\$1.50 per cord until September
1 only. On ground at my place
3 miles northeast of Stith. A. B.
Cranston. 23t3pd

New Delivery Service

General baggage transfer work
and light hauling. Wagon ready
at all times. Phone 252 Ash Bros.
tf

Porch Furniture.

Special prices on porch and
lawn furniture for the next ten
days. Come in and investigate.
Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Your druggist will refund money if **PAZO
GENTLETT** fails to cure any case of Itching,
Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days.
The first application gives Ease and Rest. 50c.

Mrs. Lois Jones of near Nubia
is here visiting her sister, Mrs.
Lake Renfro.

Dr. J. M. C. King was in
Abilene Tuesday visiting his
daughter, Mrs. R. A. McClain.

Mrs. Wm. Jenkins and little
son are here from Dallas visiting
the former's sister, Mrs. Wesley
Edwards.

Elder and Mrs. M. J. Rice are
at Newhope where Elder Rice
has been called to conduct a
meeting.

P. B. Deavenport of Route 2,
Trent, is making preparations to
move to Big Springs where he
will reside in the future.

Mrs. M. J. Dodson returned to
her home at Abilene Tuesday
after a visit with her sister, Mrs.
W. H. Maddox of Stith.

Mrs. J. S. Burns and daughter,
Mrs. S. L. Penny, are visiting
their daughter and sister, Mrs.
R. C. Hampton, near Big Springs.

H. L. Propst who has been in
North Carolina during the past
few weeks, is enjoying the trip
immensely, according to informa-
tion he has been sending home.

Mrs. D. P. Simmons of Dallas
returned to her home Thursday
after a weeks visit with the fam-
ily of S. T. Simmons of this
place.

Mrs. J. A. Dean of Uvalde
who has been here visiting her
sister, Mrs. T. M. Pribble, left
Tuesday for Abilene to visit
other relatives before leaving for
her home.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Swafford
of Yoakum returned to their
home Monday after a short visit
with the former's parents, Mr.
and Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford of
Route 1.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Eldridge
of Gorman, formerly residents
of Merkel for several years, have
been here during the past week
visiting their daughter, Mrs. Ed
Ash. Mr. Eldridge at present
has changed his farming in the
Gorman country to the raising
of peanuts almost exclusively
and states he received an un-
usually heavy yield this year.

WHAT MAKES A BANK STRONG?

The things that contribute to
a Bank's Strength are

LARGE RESOURCES

This Bank has total resources
of nearly a Quarter Million
Dollars made up of Cash and
Good Investments. These in-
vestments are approved by the
Board of Directors and the Ex-
aminers appointed by the
Federal Government.

AMPLE CASH RESERVES

At its last published statement
over One Hundred Thousand
Dollars in Cash was shown,
enabling us to take care of the
demands of our customers and
friends and this we are glad to
do at all times.

ADEQUATE CAPITAL

Our Capital and Surplus is over
\$50,000. A substantial amount
of our earnings are yearly left
in the surplus fund until at
this time this fund is larger
than the Capital Stock or over
\$30,000. This is an element
of strength of which we are
justly proud.

CAPABLE MANAGEMENT

Since organization, nearly
eleven years ago, the manage-
ment has never changed. The
same executive officers are in
charge today that were here
when the Bank was organized.
Your financial affairs are
handled here by men who
know the needs and conditions
of this country.

We Appreciate your business---
invite new accounts and will
grant every consistent favor.

F. & M. National Bank

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

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

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

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

TELEPHONE No. 61

A YEAR OF WAR.

On July 24, 1914, the Servian minister and staff left Vienna.

On the same day an official telegram came from St Petersburg announcing that the mobilization of the Russian army was beginning.

On this day the German emperor left near a point off Bergen in Norway for Berlin.

The world never saw such happenings of tremendous events as occurred in the last week of July and the first days of August, 1914.

The end of the week found Austria, Russia, Germany, France, Belgium and Servia at war, and everybody knew that England's going in was a matter of hours.

During the week we saw \$500,000,000 taken out of the selling price of cotton. We also saw the exchanges of Europe closed and Wall Street paralyzed: The most portentous thing to America was the rapid outflow of gold.

Progress towards ending the war, measured by strategic advantage, is slow.

Germany's rush into France was stopped and thrown back, and Germany on the west has been practically the same line of entrenchments for nine months.

The Russians swept over the German border and then were thrown back; again they swept over the German border and again they were thrown back. They crowded south into Austria, where the Austrians drove them northward, and they, in turn, drove the Austrians to the foothills of the Carpathians.

At no point is there now a hundred miles distance between the Russian line today and the Russian line during the first week of the war. The Austrians invaded Servia and were driven out. The conquering of Servia was a mere incident.

The other big events of historic interest are the entrance of Turkey and Italy into the fray.

England has cleared Germany's commerce from the sea. But England in turn suffers from Germany's submarines.

The end of the first year brings the United States into a critical relation with Germany.

Many things predicted have not happened. It was said that the world could not stand the expense of such a war for three months. So far as the expense is concerned, the war can go along for two years more.

It was said that the machine guns and other instruments which were invented would make the losses so great that the war at best would be short. For every offensive instrument of war the enemy has constructed some sort of a defense.

The most brutal of all the instruments evolved by science was poisonous gas. The Germans first used it, but the French have already found ways of counteracting its bad effects.

The thing outstanding, over and above all, is the waste.

In proportion to the number of men engaged, the losses are no greater than they were in our own Civil War, but the aggregation of numbers is appalling.

The expenses are greater than in any other war undertaken because of the bigness of the enterprise.

The spectacle is so big that it is uninteresting. There is so much of it that the contrasts are lost.

There are few lights and shadows in this war. It is a big, dull gray picture without a soft line or dash of color.

The war is so big that it is impersonal. If an English brigadier is killed we do not carry the story.

We do not know what contingents of the Eng-

lish army are in France, and we do not know who are actually commanding the forces in the field.

We could not offhand mention the names of half a dozen French generals. Joffre has practically cashiered 60 of them, and yet no more importance was attached to the event than if the chief of police had discharged 60 patrolmen.

The first few days of the war the kaiser sent telegrams to the members or his family about the exploits of the crown prince and Oscar. Even the personality of the crown prince could not save him from oblivion brought about by the great numbers.

Von Kluck for a time was a picturesque character. We hear of him no more. Von Hindenburg holds the middle of the stage, but to keep it he must beat an army every day.

The war has a strange effect on the readers of newspapers. During the first month every bulletin was read with avidity, and the circulation of the American newspapers ran higher. As a circulation builder the war soon exhausted itself.

The only interest the daily developments of the war have is their bearing upon the end. The reader is no longer concerned about the daily fights. What he wants to find out is when the business will be over.

The most dulling effect of the war has been that it makes death commonplace. It has cheapened our estimate of human life. It has driven us towards the barbaric conditions of a thousand years ago when the story of pain and suffering does not arouse keen sympathy. A local tragedy involving the deaths of the young and beautiful may be the subject for a few minutes' conversation.

The San Francisco earthquake stirred people of all nations. The Italian earthquake of 1908 was followed by a rush of supplies and money, and strong men and women for the succor and aid of the stricken people.

If San Francisco should sink into the sea today, we would pass it out of our mind day after tomorrow. If all the toe of the boot of Italy would drop into the Mediterranean, we would be sorry if we had time to think of it.

A lake-going boat turned over Saturday in the Chicago river and a thousand people lost their lives. Ten thousand people are daily losing their lives in battle in Europe. Twenty thousand people are being daily wounded. One thousand people drowned, then, in measuring up human life by human units, is a small loss.

In one thing the spirit of America stood out big and fine, and that was its succor of the starving Belgians. Probably more people are starving today in Poland than are starving in Belgium, but they are out of our mind's eye.

Thus the spiritual waste of the war is as great as the material. The love of the beautiful and fine things has been deadened. The war has been an opiate to the soul of the world. It has coarsened the fiber of the cosmos.—Ex.

CITY REGULATIONS GALORE.

Nearly every man in Merkel violates some ordinance at some time. Usually it is done without malice or intent on the part of the offender. At present we find those who are being reminded most forcibly are people who violate automobile ordinances. You are stuck for driving too fast, which is good. You are stuck if you drive on the wrong side of the street, which is questionable. A request from the law against the repetition of such offense no doubt would be sufficient. If you take a seat in an auto without first having obtained the permission of the owner you are subject to a fine for the great crime you have committed against humanity. In order to force our city to build a park for those who want to lounge around an ordinance prohibiting a man from sitting in a farmer's wagon or buggy for fear of scaring up the varnish on same would make our legislative job complete. While our law body and executive force is going good let's complete the job and regulate everything.

Personally we do not claim to be much of a diplomatist, but if we were called upon to pen that note to Germany we would shoo der Kaiser.—Dallas News.

Yes, you might, but the fighting Dutch would continue to "Hoc der Kaiser."

EXTRA

"Greater than necessary"—that's the dictionary definition of "EXTRA."

And that is exactly what every car-owner buys when he specifies—

Firestone

TIRES AND TUBES

"Greater than necessary"—ready for the unusual demands!

The endurance-strain of long tours; the friction-test of fast driving; the certain hold on slippery places—for all these Firestone building "extras" pile up comfort and lessen cost.

G. F. West Company, Merkel

THE DODGE BROS. CAR

5785 F.O.B. DETROIT

The Most Powerful Light Touring Car Made

BOYD & McDONALD, Distributors

MERKEL

Hogs, Pigs and Shoats

We have about 85 head of hogs, pigs and shoats for sale. See us for your porkers. Beasley Bros., Route 1.

Porch Furniture.

Special prices on porch and lawn furniture for the next ten days. Come in and investigate. Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Notice.

My farm is no public park. All persons, whether fishermen or picnickers, should get permission before coming in. All trespassing will be prosecuted. J. B. Walton, at Warren Tank. 30t2

Hurry and get your suit cleaned and pressed and get a motor vote. Star Store Tailor Shop.

Citation by Publication.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—Greeting:

You are hereby Comanded to summon G. F. Tasker by making publication of this Citation once in each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day hereof, in some newspaper published in your county, if there be a newspaper published therein, but if not, then in any newspaper published in the 42nd Judicial District; but if there be no newspaper published in said Judicial District, then in a newspaper published in the nearest District to said 42nd Judicial District, to appear at the next regular term of the District Court of Taylor county, to be held at the court house thereof, in Abilene on the 5th Monday in August, A.D. 1915, the same being the 30th day of August, A.D. 1915, then and there to answer a petition filed in said court on the 10th day of July, A.D. 1915, in a suit, numbered on the docket of said court No. 3127, wherein Alphonse Kloh, Emil Baerwild and David Rumsey are plaintiffs, and G. F. Tasker is defendant, and said petition alleging

No. 3127
 Alphonse Kloh, et als., vs.
 G. F. Tasker.

In the District Court of Taylor County, Texas—September Term, A.D. 1915
 To the Honorable Thomas L. Blanton, Judge of Said Court:

1. Now comes Alphonse Kloh, Emil Baerwild and David Rumsey, hereinafter called plaintiffs, and files this their first Amended Original Petition, in lieu of and as a substitute for their original petition filed in this court on July 10th, 1913, leave of the court first being had, complaining of G. F. Tasker, whose residence to these plaintiffs is unknown, and for cause of action plaintiffs represent to the court that heretofore to-wit: On or about the 19th day of March, 1909, the defendant G. F. Tasker, executed and delivered to Chas J. Canda, Simeon J. Drake and Sigmund Neustadt his certain promissory note, for the sum of \$40.00, bearing date on the day and year aforesaid, due one year after date, payable to the order of said Charles J. Canda, Simeon J. Drake and Sigmund Neustadt, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, and providing for an attor-

ney's fee of ten per cent on the amount of principal and interest then due as attorney's fees in case suit is brought on same, or if placed in the hands of an attorney for collection.

2. That said note and lien as herein described is now owned and held by Alphonse Kloh, Emil Baerwild and David Rumsey.

3. That the said G. F. Tasker became liable and bound and promised to pay plaintiffs the sum of money specified in said note, together with all interest and attorney's fees due thereon according to the tenor and effect thereof, said note being in words and figures substantially as follows: Dated March 19th, 1909, due one year after date, being Note No. 12116, payable to order of Charles J. Canda, Simeon J. Drake and Sigmund Neustadt, at Dallas, Texas, with interest thereon from date at the rate of six per cent per annum, said note reciting that same is given in part payment of Lots Nos. 8 and 9, in Block 13, in the town of Tye, Taylor county, Texas, and recites that a vendor's lien is retained on said property to secure the payment of said note and interest thereon, and that said note and lien is described in grantor's deed of even date with said deed, and being No. 2815, and that if said note is placed in the hands of an attorney or if suit is brought thereon, the maker agrees to pay an additional amount of ten per cent on the amount of principal and interest, as attorney's fees, signed by G. F. Tasker.

4. That said property was heretofore to-wit: On the 19th day of March 1909, conveyed to the defendant G. F. Tasker by Charles J. Canda, Simeon J. Drake and Sigmund Neustadt, by their deed of that date, in consideration among other things of the described herein and that in said deed of conveyance a lien was retained and reserved to secure the payment of said note, that said note now due and unpaid, and defendant though often requested has failed and refused to pay same or any part thereof, but the same still remains due and unpaid.

5. That said note has been placed in the hands of an attorney for collection and plaintiffs have contracted to pay him the ten per cent attorney's fee stipulated in said note, the same being the usual and customary fee.

6. Notice is hereby given to the defendant G. F. Tasker to produce the

BLAIR

Jimmie Moore is very sick at this writing.

Mrs. Leah Hand of Herndon visited her grandmother Campbell the past week.

H. B. Chambliss and Lee Campbell are in Austin this week attending the Farmer's Institute.

Mesdames W. A. Hall and Eliza Campbell are on the sick list this week also W. A. Tuttle.

The Baptist meeting closed Monday night. Rev. Farris will not be here again until the 3rd Sunday in August.

George Mayfield and family of Hardiman county came in Sunday evening in their car to visit J. A. Mayfield.

Grandpa Sherman who is reported very sick at this writing.

Messrs. George, Willis, James and Ora Mayfield and Luny Tittle took a spin to Abilene Monday. While there they viewed Taylor county's new courthouse and they say she is a dandy of which we are all justly proud.

Farmers are getting busy harvesting their maize crop which is very good. The weather is fine for that but cotton is suffering for rain.

Best Diarrhoea Remedy.

If you have ever used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy you know that it is a success. Sam F. Guin, Whatley, Ala., writes, "I had measles and got caught out in the rain, and it settled in my stomach and bowels I had an awful time and had not been for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea remedy. I could not possibly have lived but a few hours longer, but thanks to this remedy I am well and strong. For sale by all dealers"

Porch Furniture.

Special prices on porch and lawn furniture for the next ten days. Come in and investigate. Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Twenty-Five Cents is the Price of Peace

The terrible itching and smarting incident to certain skin diseases, is almost instantly allayed by applying Chamberlain's Salve. Price 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

For good groceries go to W. F. Hamblet's.

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.

To Drive Out Malaria

And Build Up The System Take the Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. You know what you are taking, as the formula is printed on every label, showing it is Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents

For The Next Few Days

We offer a few interesting prices on goods that you will need for the hot days of July and August. In our store you find Dependable GOODS, AND THE PRICE THE LOWEST

Dress Goods Department	Staples	Staples	Ladies' Oxfords	Children's Oxfords
\$1.00 Foulard's, special.....65c	Best grade Calico.....4c	Best grade 10c Ginghams.....7c	Ladies \$2.50 Oxfords, black and tan..\$1.75	\$2.50 Children's Oxfords.....\$1.75
50c Crepes, special.....38c	Best grade 10c Bleached Domestic.....7c	Best grade 10c Brown Domestic.....7c	Ladies 3.00 Oxfords, black and tan.. 1.95	\$2.00 Children's Oxfords..... 1.50
\$1.00 Organdies.....70c	Best grade 10c Bleached Domestic.....7c	Best grade 10c Brown Domestic.....7c	Ladies 3.50 Oxfords, black and tan.. 2.75	\$1.75 Children's Oxfords..... 1.35
35c Flowered Lawns.....22c	Best grade 10c Brown Domestic.....7c	Best grade 8 1/2c Brown Domestic.....6 1/2c	Ladies 4.00 Oxfords, black and tan.. 3.15	\$1.50 Children's Oxfords..... 1.15
25c Flowered Lawns.....18c	Best grade 8 1/2c Brown Domestic.....6 1/2c		Ladies 1.75 Oxfords, black and tan.. 1.25	\$1.25 Children's Oxfords..... 1.00
25c Piques.....15c				\$1.00 Children's Oxfords..... 85c
35c Piques.....20c	Men's Dress Oxfords		Men's 50c Silk Hats..... 39c	Men's best grade Overalls..... 75c
50c Piques.....35c	Men's \$4.00 black and tan oxfords....\$2.95		Men's \$3.00 Straw Hats..... 2.25	Men's \$6.50 Palm Beach Suits.....\$4.75
25c Shadow Laces.....12 1/2c	Men's \$4.50 black and tan oxfords....\$3.25		Men's \$2.50 Straw Hats..... 1.95	Men's \$8.50 Palm Beach Suits.....\$6.75
25c Egyptian Tissue.....15c	Men's \$5.00 black and tan oxfords....\$3.85		Men's Work Shirts..... 40c	

Woodroof Brothers Merkel, Texas

NEWS HAPPENINGS IN ABILENE, TEXAS

Tom Eddings, Jr., a young man of Abilene, sustained a fractured skull which rendered him unconscious for several hours Wednesday when he was thrown violently against the pavement by his horse falling. His recovery is looked forward to.

County Judge Overshiner is in receipt of a letter from a Waxahachie party in which the writer asks pay for having made it rain in Taylor county since 1887 and also promises rain before the month of July is over. He did not set his price. Judge Overshiner is at loss what to do in regard to the matter.

A trade excursion of three days' duration is being planned by Abilene business men. The itinerary, which is not officially accepted yet, does not include Merkel as a place to be visited.

The automobile ordinance and driving ordinance recently inaugurated in Abilene was torn up considerably the first of the week when the merchants asked the city council to revoke a portion of it from the fact that it was obnoxious and worked an inconvenience and embarrassment on many farmers who visited the town.

County Attorney Rob Keeble and six officers raided a portion of negro town Tuesday night and placed six negro women behind the bars and filed charges of vagrancy against them.

Help for Those Who Have Stomach Trouble

After doctoring for about twelve years for a bad stomach trouble, and spending nearly five hundred dollars for medicine and doctors fees, I purchased my wife one box of Chamberlain's Tablets, which did her so much good that she continued to use them and they have done her more good than all of the medicine I bought before. Samuel Boyer, Folsom, Iowa. This medicine is for sale by all dealers.

New Homes About Completed

Two new homes are about completed and added to the already large list on newly built bungalows in our city, these are the residences of A. H. Thornton and Miss Amanda Curtis.

Mr. Thornton is building a modern bungalow on the lots where his home recently burned while Miss Amanda Curtis is remodeling her home in the southwest part of town into a bungalow.

Severe Attack of Colic Cured.

E. E. Cross, who travels in Virginia and other Southern States, was taken suddenly and severely ill with colic. At the first store he came to the merchant recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. Two doses of it cured him. No one should leave home on a journey without a bottle of this preparation. For sale by all dealers.

YOU HEAR IT EVERYWHERE

"SEE MACK"

For Rugs, Linoleum, Window Shades, Window Glass, Picture Frames
Paints, Linseed Oil, Wall Paper and Canvas

FURNITURE
For Every Room in Every Home

Behrens - McMillen Furniture Company

UNDERTAKING

MERKEL, TEXAS

SALT BRANCH

Health in our community is very good at this writing.

Threshing is all the go. Everyone will soon have their grain threshed.

Several from this community left for Austin Sunday night. Those going were Mr. and Mrs. Houston Robertson and Mack Buzbee.

John Mobley left for his home in Louisiana this week.

A jolly crowd took dinner with Miss Lula Higgins Sunday. Those present were Misses Alma and Neva Hays, Laura Stone and Gertrude Higgins. Messrs. Ollie Higgins, Joe and Manly Stone.

Roy Shook left for Temple this week.

Irum Allen of near Anson visited T. C. Allen and family the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Higgins visited relatives near Warren Sunday.

Floyd Allen returned to his home in Sweetwater Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Osee Gollightly are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Robertson.

Eman Allen is visiting in Sweetwater.

Warren Higgins spent Saturday night with relatives in Merkel.

Cured of Indigestion

Mrs. Sadie P. Clawson, Indiana, Pa., was bothered with indigestion. "My stomach pained me night and day," she writes. "I would feel bloated and have headache and belching after eating. I also suffered from constipation. My daughter had used Chamberlain's Tablets and they did her so much good that she gave me a few doses of them and insisted upon my trying them. They have helped me as nothing else has done." For sale by all dealers.

THIS

Entire Page

Will be Edited Next Week

by

A Merkel Lady

It will Contain

some

Interesting Facts

as well as some startling revelations

Watch For It

NOODLE

Several from here were visiting friends in Noodle Sunday.

Wilmer Grayson and family left last week to visit relatives in Howard county.

Rev. Gentry of Anson was seen in our midst Tuesday.

Mr. Truett and family of Anson are visiting J. D. Barnes and family of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Beavers attended services at Golan Sunday.

A stack of oats belonging to Wilmer Grayson burned early Saturday morning. It is not known how the fire originated as there were none of the family at home at the time.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Barnes returned Sunday from Anson where they had been at the bedside of a daughter who is very low at this writing. They found their home reduced to ashes as the house and all its contents were burned Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock. This good family have the sympathy of the entire community.

Prof. Stevens of Abilene spent a few hours at the home of W. B. Beavers Thursday afternoon. Mrs. and Mrs. Marion Winter celebrated the sixth birthday of their son, Winston, Thursday evening by giving an ice cream supper. Many playmates of the little boy were invited and many older ones also. All report an enjoyable time and departed wishing Master Winston many more happy birthdays.

The Baptist protracted meeting begins at Shiloh Friday night, July 30.

Mrs. Mae Seago was a visitor on Noodle Wednesday.

GOT THE MONEY AND THEN RAN

Saturday afternoon Jinks McGee, the well known horse and mule dealer, gave a youth a check for \$105 in exchange for a horse, and there ensued a lively foot-race between clerks of the Minter Dry Goods company and the holder of the check. This requires explanation.

The youth went to the Minter store and bought \$18.10 worth of goods. He received \$86.90 in change from his check. Mr. McGee decided to investigate the ownership of the horse and phoned the store. The youth overheard the conversation and took to his heels leaving the goods behind. Marion Watson, who had waited upon him, gave a creditable but ineffectual chase. So far as is known, the youth is still running. He was a stranger here, 'tis said. McGee is still in possession of the horse. — Abilene Reporter.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh That Contain Mercury

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by druggists. Price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. — adv

COMPERE

Health of the community is good as far as we know.

The Baptist protracted meeting has closed. Baptized four and had some conversions. Rev. Williams preached most of the time.

We are very dry out here. Need rain so bad.

Ruth Moore and brother, Billie spent the week-end at Blair.

Among those who attended the Farmers Congress at Austin were: Clent Tarvin and daughter Misses Mollie Shannon, Clarice Moore, Henrys, Beulah, Ethel Palmer, Messrs. Eugene Spurgin and Marvin Palmer.

The Methodist meeting commences next Sunday. Everyone is invited to attend and help in the meeting.

Rev. Buzbee filled his regular appointment Sunday.

Headaches and Nervousness Cured.

"Chamberlain's Tablets are entitled to all the praise I can give them," writes Mrs. Richard Oip, Spencerport, N. Y. They have cured me of headache and nervousness and me restored to my normal health." For sale by all dealers.

ONLY A SHORT TIME --- A LITTLE MORE THAN ONE MONTH
Until The Automobile Will be Given Away

DURING THIS SHORT TIME, TO MAKE THE CONTEST DOUBLY INTERESTING

Our Great Money-Raising Sale Prices will remain in Full force, giving to the people of Merkel country the most interesting trade features ever offered in this or any other part of the United States.

The above are absolute facts from observation, our manager having visited the biggest trade centers in the United States and has ascertained this fact beyond the smallest possible minimum of a doubt

This will give even those who have not yet started, a chance to catch up, get ahead and win the Automobile. Read! Read! Read! and don't be skeptical. You love to ride in an "Auto" and there is no use denying it.

We all do and are not ashamed of it. Why walk when riding is so easily and surely obtained?

BEGINNING FRIDAY MORNING AND LASTING ONE WEEK--UNTIL THE NEXT THURSDAY NIGHT--WE WILL OFFER THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF VOTES ON FOLLOWING ARTICLES

- 1,000 Votes on each and every Ladies' Hat
- 1,500 Votes on each Lawn or Summer Dress Pattern of 5 yards or more
- 1,500 Votes on each pair of Ladies' or Men's Slippers
- 500 Votes on every Man or Boy's Tie
- 1,000 Votes on every Man's Straw Hat
- 1,000 Votes on every piece of Ladies' Underwear

NOW IS THE TIME TO GET BUSY -- BIG MONEY-RAISING SALE IN FULL BLAST

Parten Dry Goods Company

MERKEL'S EXCLUSIVE CASH STORE



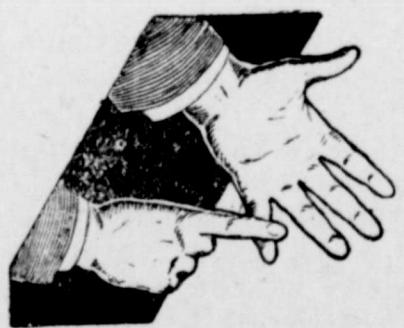
MRS. W. H. DICKSON EDITOR

A sunrise breakfast Saturday morning featured in the week's pleasures for the visiting girls. The crowd motored out to the Santa Fe bridge six miles south where they cooked and served a delicious breakfast. Those present were: Misses Eva Holland, Waxahachie, Tommie Lou Coggin, El Paso, Mamie Mann, Dallas, Jessie Sutphen, Eva Walters, Elma Sheppard, Maude Jinkens, Maude Martin and Frances Burroughs, Messrs. Jno West, Dee Grimes, Homer Easterwood, Jno Morgan, Robert Hicks, Billie and Luke Woodroof, Ennis Grimes, Jack Graves and Emzy Burroughs. Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Woodroof, Mrs. H. C. Burroughs and little Miss Evelyn Woodroof, Master Charm Burroughs and William Woodroof.

Mrs. J. F. Shaffer chaperoned a crowd to Mt Pleasant Thursday evening to a party given by Mr. and Mrs. Ira Shaffer in honor of Miss Milly Fullbright of Carlton. After an unusually pleasant time spent in 42 and other games peach and pineapple sherbert with cake were served to the guests who were Misses Fullbright, Lizzie Mae and Bernadine Freeman, Jewel Pate, Eva Calvert, Pauline Johnson, Emma Mashburn, Faye Allen, Bernice Rainbolt, Beatrice Nid-ever, Dora Casey and Winnie Houghton. Messrs. Claude Jinkens, Ernest and Freeman Roger, Robert Rainbolt, Royal Hargrove Messrs. York of Del Rio, Esco and Guy Casey. James White.

Saturday afternoon from 4 to 7 Elizabeth, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Harkrider, entertained with a birthday

party on the lawn at her home on Austin street. The little guests were royally entertained. Miss Eva Walters assisted little Miss Harkrider in entertaining and serving. Many outdoor games were enjoyed. All left wishing to be with Elizabeth when she celebrates her sixth birthday next year. Those present were little Misses and Masters Mary Comegys, Evelyn Woodroof, Mildred Hamm, Ona Faye Rose, Anna Lou Russell, William Woodroof, Jack Anderson, Fred Boyd, Marion Johnson, William and Sterling Sheppard, W. L. Harkrider, Jr., and the little hostess. Cream and cake were served.



IN THE FIRST PLACE

Everything we have to offer bears testimony of our SUPERIOR BUYING ABILITY.

IN THE SECOND PLACE

everything you buy from us will testify to your GOOD JUDGEMENT in selecting our store as HEADQUARTERS for GROCERIES.

E. L. ROGERS
GROCERY



Bell Connection

Adds to Farm Cheer

It was a blustery March evening, but inside the cozy sitting-room of the Brown's all was cheery and bright.

Mrs. Brown stepped to the telephone. Her husband smiled—for he knew the pleasant custom for years had been to call the daughter, in the distant village, each week.

Have you a Telephone connected to the Bell System?

The Southwestern Telegraph & Telephone Co.



A moonlight drive was greatly enjoyed Saturday evening when Mesdames W. H. Laney and Jack Provine chaperoned a crowd of young people who motored to the Warren Lake where they served a bountiful supper to Misses Tennie Pope, Maxie Banner, Mabel Laney, Nellie Wright. Messrs. Joe Bickley, Paul Stamford, Homer Laney and Cleo Penney.

Last Thursday evening the young people enjoyed a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McNeas. Special music was rendered by Miss Rena Burns. Outdoor games furnished great amusement. At a late hour ice

cream and cake were to Misses Viola Davis, Josie Smith, Rena Burns, Nellie Penney, Agnes Rister, Maxie Banner, Ruth Boden, Vida McNeas and Mabel Laney. Messrs Henry Maples, Homer Laney, Joe Bickley, Cleo Penney, Paul Stanford, Tom Douglass, John Curk. All reported a most delightful time.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Briggs entertained at the Cozy Tuesday evening with a box party. All enjoyed a "Who Pays" masterpiece. At the conclusion of the of the show the host and hostesses entertained their guests with an ice course at the Elite. Those in the party were Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. O'Malley of Abilene, Mrs. J. B. Steel of Waurika, Okla. Miss Evelyn Williams and J. C. Mason.

Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Angus and Miss Ona Hamblet chaperoned a jolly crowd of young people on a moonlight picnic to the Warren Lake. All enjoyed the ride on float also the picnic style lunch served to Misses Pearl Toombs, Ona Fay Bland, Nelle Britton, Myrtie Duprey, Madge Dean, Pearle Gilliland, Kate Ross of Dallas, Uva Baxendale, Mingus. Messrs. Lloyd Gilliland, Ed Scott, Will Merritt, Elbert Touchstone, Minor Burns and Lloyd Dry.

Shriners Pass Through Merkel

Over fifty Shriners from the Moslah Temple at Fort Worth passed through Merkel Wednesday en route home from Seattle and San Francisco.

The representatives of the trodden desert paths seemed tired and wearied from their twenty-seven days trip but had plenty of time to ring a few bells and make their presence known while they were in town.

Our drinks hit the spot. Makes you wish you were a leopard. Burroughs.

It Always Helps

says Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mills, Ky., in writing of her experience with Cardui, the woman's tonic. She says further: "Before I began to use Cardui, my back and head would hurt so bad, I thought the pain would kill me. I was hardly able to do any of my housework. After taking three bottles of Cardui, I began to feel like a new woman. I soon gained 35 pounds, and now, I do all my housework, as well as run a big water mill.

I wish every suffering woman would give

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

a trial. I still use Cardui when I feel a little bad, and it always does me good."

Headache, backache, side ache, nervousness, tired, worn-out feelings, etc., are sure signs of womanly trouble. Signs that you need Cardui, the woman's tonic. You cannot make a mistake in trying Cardui for your trouble. It has been helping weak, ailing women for more than fifty years.

Get a Bottle Today!

Advertised Letters.

Brown, Gid.
Harris, Hattie
West, S. C.
Chapa, Enrique

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office Aug. 7.
H. C. Williams, P M
Merkel, Texas.

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents.

Notice.

No more fishing or hunting allowed on my farm or pasture on Mulberry creek four miles east of Merkel. Hope this will be sufficient notice. Don't wish to give anyone any trouble.

It. J. T. Warren.



FOR DRESS AFFAIRS

shirts and collars must be absolutely immaculate. Nothing less than absolutely perfect laundering can be tolerated. We make a specialty of high class laundry work. Send your dress shirts here with confidence that when you come to wear them they will be found just as they should be and as you would have them.

SWEETWATER STEAM LAUNDRY
M. B. BELL, Agent, Merkel.
Phone No. 133

Plenty bran and cow feed at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

ZUDORA In the Twenty Million Dollar Mystery

By HAROLD MACGRATH

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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, who has married himself up as a Hindu mystic and is known as Hassam All. He 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 All 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 All, "solve my next twenty cases and you can marry him; fall in a single case and you must renounce him."

Zudora unravels a mystery and wins her first case—a case in which John Storm is saved from being convicted of a murder instigated by Hassam All himself. Zudora and Hassam All 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 foils Nabok Shan, restores the princess to her original lover and saves Storm from death.

A maker of diamonds tells Hassam All his secret. Storm informs Zudora that his life is being attempted frequently. Storm suspects Hassam All. 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 feeling 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 him. Storm appears and saves her.

Hassam All asks Zudora to find a gem lost by two mysterious old men. Zudora gets a photograph of the gem and it burns in her hand. An old house is mined by Hassam All and the old men. Storm and Zudora are lured there and narrowly escape destruction when the house blows up. John McWinter, endeavoring to trap and kill George Smith, is killed himself, and Smith is charged with murder. Hassam All conspires to have John Storm meet the same fate as McWinter, and he and Storm are overcome by powerful fumes. Zudora saves them, proves that McWinter's own dog trapped and killed him and saves Smith from a band of lynchmen.

An inventor blows up a submarine with a powerful heat ray which he sends through water. Hassam All sends Zudora to a photographer directly beneath the inventor's laboratory and orders the inventor to kill her. Zudora gets a warning, and her life is saved. The heat ray machine is destroyed, and the photographer, after a quarrel with Hassam All, is found dead in the river.

Wu Chang prevents Zudora's elopement with John Storm by hypnotizing her, and he and Hassam All attempt to smuggle her out of the country. This plot is frustrated by Storm.

Baird, Hassam All's double, falls in love with Zudora. Baird and Mme. Du Val kidnap Zudora and the Van Wick child. Storm rescues them, and Hassam All dies.

With Hassam All dead Zudora is released of her pledge to solve twenty cases. She confronts, however, the greatest mystery of all, which is the mystery of her own life, and the ambition to secure the vast fortune of \$20,000,000 left to her. This great photo serial is being shown in the leading moving picture theaters by the Thanhouser Film Corporation. Among those participating are Marguerite Snow, Mary Elizabeth Forbes, James Cruze, in the new role of reporter-hero, Sidney Bracey and Frank Farrington.

On looking through her uncle's papers Zudora finds that her father left her an interest in a diamond mine, and Storm and Baird both lend assistance in trying to regain for her possession of this estate which is being appropriated by rogues under the leadership of Mme. Du Val. They plan to frighten Zudora so that she will run away. Failing, they kidnap Zudora and Howard, the mine superintendent, and put them in a private insane asylum. Howard dies, but Zudora, nearly famished, is rescued by Storm and his friends. Detective Hunt and Baird find the Zudora gold mine.

Mrs. Copeland's jewels are stolen, but recovered through the cleverness of Hunt and Baird.

CHAPTER XVI.

The Battle at the Bridge.

ONE bright, keen winter day Zudora and Mrs. Ramsay sat in the former's room discussing the malignancy of the star that hovered over Zudora's destiny. If only she might find one bit of complete evidence against her enemies or some document to fully uphold her claims! She could do nothing at court with these fragments, these half sheets. Possession was nine points in law, and it did not require John Storm's legal advice to convince her of this fact.

If Hassam All had not been a thorough miser all valuable papers would have been deposited in the deposit box at the bank. More and more she became convinced that her uncle had had sinister designs upon her life; that he had been maneuvering to get her out of the way so that he might control the entire fortune. All she wanted was to be mind free. Well, sooner or later something would turn up, some workable plan. Three such men as Storm, Baird and Hunt would find a chink in the enemy's armor.

"I'm going to look through that old trunk again," Zudora declared, rising. "Come and help me."

So the two of them dragged out the trunk and went through everything religiously, so thoroughly that a moth could not have escaped. Protruding from a torn place in the lining Zudora came upon a sheet of paper. She studied the pothooks from all angles, but could make nothing of it. However, she laid it aside for Storm's appraisal.

What puzzled her as much as any-

thing was the fact that the spurious claimants had the law on their side. Where had they secured their backing? How had they learned that there existed documents, that there were gold and diamond mines? Hassam All certainly had not confided these facts to them.

"There is nothing but this sheet with the pothooks," she declared finally. "I can't make anything out of it."

"You poor child! Why don't you marry your sweetheart and have done with all this? He has plenty for both."

"That isn't it, Mrs. Ramsay. I come from a fighting stock, and I will never

give up this fight until I am beaten." She glanced at the clock. "It is time John was here. Why not come along with us? The skating will be fine."

"I haven't had skates on in an age," protested Mrs. Ramsay.

"That won't matter; all the more fun for you," insisted Zudora.

"You're a strange girl."

"In what way?"

"Why, you can throw off your burdens so quickly, without apparent effort."

"I do not throw them off; I merely refuse to let them dampen what pleasure I can get out of life." Zudora ran to a window. "There he is now! He's just as patient and kindly as he can be. And there's a box under his arm. I'll wager it's hothouse violets. He never forgets the fact that I love flowers."

She did not notice the two men loitering on the opposite side of the street. Radcliffe and Gyp the gun man.

Storm came in, his eyes clear and his cheeks full of color. He was bubbling with cheer.

"All aboard! The ice will be just splendid. Here's a bunch of violets for you, sweetheart."

"Thank you, John." Zudora pinned the flowers against her waist. "You are very thoughtful, after all the trouble I have caused you."

"Piffle! What man wouldn't be thoughtful if he had you always in

assured of his star as he rejoined Gyp. Millions, luxury, all his cravings to be gratified!

And Zudora, flying across the smooth, glistening surface of the pond, began to have hopes that her star had reached its nadir and was once more ascending toward the zenith. Well, perhaps it was. The sunshine, the exhilaration of the sport, the nearness of one beloved, these would have set cheer into many a heart darker than Zudora's.

When the three of them returned to Mrs. Ramsay's the latter served tea, and for an hour it was a happy family. Then Storm remembered the survey map.

"You'd better let me have that and lock it up in my safe," he suggested. "You never can tell what will happen these days."

But Zudora searched the leather trunk from top to bottom in vain.

"That's funny! You saw me put it on the top tray?"

"I did," said Storm gravely. He went about the room examining the windows. He left the two women and went downstairs. On the holocum in the kitchen he saw muddy tracks. That was enough. "Some one has been here during our absence," he declared on returning to Zudora's room. "Whoever it was has got that paper. Evidently I was watched, and when we went to the pond the watcher came into the kitchen window. Well, perhaps I'm to blame. I should have put it into my pocket."

Meantime in Detective Hunt's office things were being arranged for the ascendancy of Zudora's star, which was in truth very low.

"Baird, I'm going to enter the Du Val villa by the front door this trip."

"What do you mean by that?" asked the late Hassam All's double.

"I mean that I'm going to enter in a capacity which will excite madam's vanity. There's no woman alive that does not like the idea of having her likeness perpetuated in oil if done by a celebrated artist."

tract I go to a brother lawyer to see if he gets the same points I do. Put it back into the trunk and come along. It's glorious out of doors today."

When Radcliffe and Gyp the gun man saw the three depart for the skating pond the former instructed the gun man to remain on the watch and to whistle in case of danger. He himself was determined to enter the house and have a thorough look into Zudora's room. He found an unlocked window in the rear, and through this he entered the house. Everybody was out, including the servant. He could not have found a better opportunity.

He knew where Zudora's room was, having once made a midnight visit to it. They had tricked him out of a fine lot of gems, and he had not yet recovered from the chagrin of this fact. To this day he had not the least idea where they had hidden the stones. He was certain that the gems were not in the house at present. Doubtless they had been disposed of secretly.

The first thing that welcomed his gaze was the battered old trunk. The scorched leather at once convinced him that this had come from the house of Hassam All. He knelt beside it and threw back the lid. He eyed curiously the spangles and mulle of the old circus days. But the folded sheet of paper interested him far more. And when he spread it out and discovered that it was practically a complete survey of the mine in Africa he was delighted. He already knew the confines of the African property. So far as he was concerned it was of no intrinsic value, but it would eventually be valuable to Zudora. So he stuffed it into his pocket and went on with his search. Then he came upon the false bottom to the trunk, and here he found the documents which completed the case. He laughed. With these in his possession Zudora would lose her case in any court in America. What a find! Neither the girl nor her advisers had ever thought to thoroughly investigate the battered old leather trunk!

He was in high feather when he stole out of the Ramsay house. He had made a great find. He was legally master of millions. It would be a simple case of manufacturing a will of prior date to Zudora's, upon old legal cap, with the notary's seal of some old chap who had died in Montana. It would be very easy now that he had all the documents in the case. Mme. Du Val would be pleased, so pleased that she might lend a more willing ear to his pleas. They had had this trunk all these weeks and had not thought to sound it for a false bottom. That was supreme luck. He felt more and more

vanity stirred. Now, then, watch your Uncle Dudley. In ten minutes I'll be the exact counterpart of the painter as he was during his last visit, six months ago. He came with splendid introductions, one of which I have. And I've based a neat little forgery on it. Here's La Fontaine's photograph. Keep your eye on me and take a lesson on how to get into the skin of another man. I want to get into that villa the worst kind of way. It keeps going through my head that there is some connection between it and that old junk hut or garage we've skylarked in once or twice."

"I recollect the place," observed Baird dryly. "They nearly had me there one day."

Hunt went to work rapidly and skillfully and within the stipulated time presented an appearance that was near enough to that of the real artist to fool the ordinary eye.

"Great work!" cried Baird. "I tell you what—you enter the villa and get established, and I on my part will see where that garage trapdoor leads to."

At 4 that afternoon Hunt, armed with his forged introduction, presented himself at the front door of the Du Val villa. He was ushered in by the pompous footman. The pseudo artist was requested to be seated. Then the footman took the letter upstairs to his mistress, who was more delighted by the letter than the thought of being painted. She had met the distinguished French nobleman but twice, and it flattered her greatly to believe that she had been remembered. And, more than this, the famous artist had once noted her singular beauty and never would be happy until he had put it upon canvas.

Thus Hunt's initial reception was most cordial. Mme. Du Val would be

pretended not to notice this peculiarity, but he could see that madame began to stir restively. Suddenly she set down her cup, complaining of a violent headache. Hunt gathered up his materials and politely excused himself. The footman, however, in letting him out failed to note that the ferrule of Hunt's cane had caught between the door and the jamb. Cautiously the detective re-entered and tiptoed into the conservatory. He waited for a moment or two, then stole out into the salon. A spot on one of the columns attracted his attention. Upon close inspection he found it to be a sliding panel. He was fingering about for a method to open it when he heard footsteps. He slipped behind the portiere.

It was Mme. Du Val, coming down to greet Captain Radcliffe, who had just come in. She at once showed him the portrait. He shrugged. He was not at all interested in this style of art.

"There goes the fountain," he warned.

"Merciful heaven, I had forgotten all about those fools! They struck the signal while La Fontaine was here, but luckily he did not notice it. Let them be."

Hunt was very much surprised to see three old antagonists enter the room from one of the columns. He was still more surprised when he saw madame open the secret drawer in the onyx table. His eyes snapped. That table would be worth while. Just as soon as these precious rogues left the salon he determined to investigate. He was an ingenious man, but his ingenuity failed utterly to learn the secret of the onyx table. He was certain, however, that it held all he wanted so badly. He left the villa unobserved.

In the meantime Baird had discovered that the tunnel from the garage led directly to the Du Val villa, but he had chosen a bad day for the investigation. The three crooks, returning from their visit, caught sight of him and gave chase. He reached the trap door in

"That's true enough," said Baird. "Go on. I'm interested."

"Well, I'm going to be that celebrated artist."

"But, Lord, man, can you paint?"

"Well enough to serve my purpose."

"You're a man of many surprises."

"That's high praise. You used to be that yourself."

"Give me all the points of the game."

"You've heard of Jacques La Fontaine?"

"Yes. Just at present he's in the trenches in Alsace."

"So I learned. But Mme. Du Val will not dig deep so long as I can keep her

can take it from me, though, that she'll never hang this portrait anywhere for her friends to see. What I want is a few minutes alone inside that villa, when they think I'm outside of it. That's the ticket, and it may take a week or two to make the play."

Later, when they reached another part of the town, Baird caught Hunt by the arm.

"See that old codger ahead of us?"

Hunt nodded.

"Well, that's the diamond cutter I told you about. Suppose we run along after him and see where he goes?"

The old man led them to his den without so much as a single glance over his shoulder. Hunt agreed to go inside while Baird stood on guard outside. Half an hour later Hunt rejoined the reporter.

"I have seen Captain Radcliffe go in there," said Baird, "and I've just been thinking hard."

"No!" cried the detective jestingly.

"That bearded man in Montana and the captain shape up a good deal alike."

"So much alike that I'm certain they are one and the same. I've been thinking too. But when a fisherman casts his net he first makes sure that there are no holes in it. That old lapidary's face is known to me. Half the smuggled gems go to him, but we can't arrest the old boy. It's only logical that if some one brings him a stone to cut he cuts it without asking questions. But I'm hanged if I don't stop some of the men who go there. I can't bother with him now. I want Mme. Du Val's portrait started."

Four days later at half after 4—at the same moment Zudora and Storm set out upon a short automobile trip—you could have seen the detective in his velvet jacket, dabbling away earnestly and with no inconsiderable success. He could paint and paint well, but he was a man who required action, complexities to untangle, mobility, and it irked him to sit in a chair for an hour or two with the odor of paint making him headachy.

Mme. Du Val sat so that from the corner of her eye she could watch the fountain. By and by Hunt laid aside his palette.

"That will be all for today. I am quite sure you are tired."

"Join me with a cup of chocolate," she said amiably.

While they were sipping the chocolate the fountain jet reversed. Hunt

delighted to give him as many sittings as he desired.

Baird met Hunt a short distance from the villa, and the two of them walked toward town.

"What luck?" asked the reporter.

"It was the easiest bit of work I ever did. When you tickle a woman's vanity you blind her. I'm going to put up at one of the hotels. She might have it in her mind to call me up to change the hour of appointment. Tomorrow I'll begin to outline her features. You



Why don't you marry your sweetheart?



He knelt beside it and threw back the lid.



Here's a bunch of violets for you, sweetheart.



Hunt as Jacques La Fontaine.



Cautiously the Detective Re-entered.



Mme. Du Val Would Be Delighted to Give Him as Many Sittings as He Desired.

the garage first, but before he could make the door they were upon him. He succeeded in laying out two of them, but the largest man proved to be a tough customer. This was not the first time Baird had felt the bear-like grip of the man.

They battled through the doorway, along the sidewalk, until they reached the bridge. That Baird lived to tell the tale was due solely to the unexpected arrival of Zudora and Storm. They recognized Baird as he and his antagonist toppled over the parapet into the icy stream below, where the fight still raged. At length the reporter succeeded in getting free of the clutch



Mme. Du Val and Radcliffe Examine the Map.

of his antagonist, who paid the penalty for his loyalty to a bad cause.

Storm got a rope from his tool box. This he tied to the extra tire, flinging it out toward Baird as one would throw a life preserver at sea. Baird was all in. He had just strength enough to grasp the tire, and Storm hauled away with a will.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Diamonds From Sugar.

Although at first thought the statement seems incredible, it is perfectly true that a lump of sugar may be converted into diamonds. Not all the substance of the sugar, of course, will enter into the composition of the diamond, but only the carbon that it contains. Sugar consists of carbon united with oxygen and hydrogen. It is an easy matter to separate out the carbon, and in certain experiments for the production of diamonds this sugar carbon has been employed. The diamonds so produced were, of course, very small and destitute of commercial value, but still they were real diamonds and the chemical result achieved would be no greater intrinsically if they were as big as the Cullinan. Scientists have often expressed the hope that an improvement in the process of manufacturing diamonds may be effected whereby the necessity of dissolving the carbon in molten iron may be dispensed with, and the required combination of great pressure with great heat may be brought about by some such operations as squeezing the carbon between red hot metal plates.—Exchange.

Origin of Mussel Catching.

Mussel culture in France—where it is carried on more extensively than anywhere else—originated so far back as 1255, when an Irish ship was wrecked near La Rochelle. One of the rescued sailors, James Walton, being hard put to it for a living, conceived the plan of setting nets on poles for the capture of sea fowl at night, the muddy shores of the bay being frequented by these birds in large numbers. Before long he noticed that myriads of young mussels became attached to the stakes, and that, being above the level of the mud, these grew rapidly. Thereupon he interlaced branches of trees between the stakes, thus forming a kind of wicker work, which also became coated with mussels. Walton's example was followed by some of the natives of La Rochelle and an industry was started which has now flourished for close on 800 years.—London Mail.

Buckingham Palace.

Buckingham palace stands on the site of pleasure grounds known in the days of Evelyn and Pepys and frequently mentioned in their diaries as the Mulberry gardens. The property was eventually bought by the Duke of Buckingham, who erected the first house, which, however, was not large or handsome, notwithstanding that it was even then called Buckingham palace. George III. purchased it from the dowager Duchess of Buckingham as a residence for Queen Charlotte, whose palace, Somerset House, in the Strand, was required for public purposes. After much haggling with his majesty's agent the duchess parted with it for £60,000. It was not greatly altered till 1824, when it was enlarged and almost rebuilt after designs by Joseph Nash for the London residence of the royal family.—London Chronicle.

Asking Too Much.

"This is an age of invention," remarked the bumptious philosopher. "Then," said his friend, "maybe you can concoct a new excuse for me to give my wife for not going home to dinner tonight." Whereat the punctured philosopher subsided.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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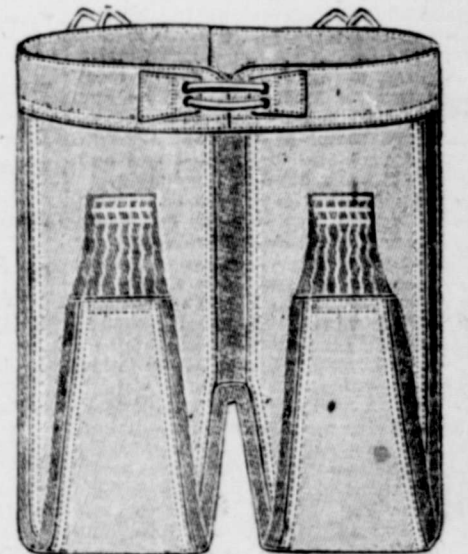
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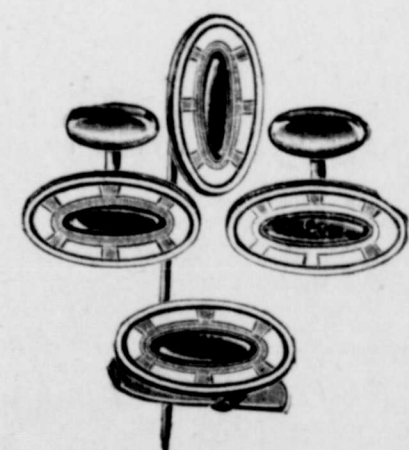
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