

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 28—NO. 11

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1916

8 PAGES

CARRANZA ORDERS AMERICAN TROOPS OUT OF MEXICO AT ONCE IS REPORT

NOTE NOT YET CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON

The Situation Seems to Appear Very Grave, but United States will Consider the Request Before Answering Same.

—Abilene Reporter of Thursday.

18,371 JACKRABBIT SCALPS TURNED IN

The Taylor County commissioners' court probably established a record this week when it allowed bounty on a total of 18,371 jackrabbit scalps, so far as is known the biggest number any county has ever paid bounty on at any one time.

The safe fund was exhausted last month, but Taylor County commissioners decided to allow the usual bounty for another month out of its own purse. This month is out and there is no longer a bounty on scalps.

The sum of \$918.55, a nickel apiece, was paid out for rabbit scalps. There were 37 wolf scalps and 10 wildcats on which bounty was claimed at \$2.00 each. E. P. Berry turned in six wolf and three wild cat pelts, while C. R. Lindsey was second with five wolf pelts.

In the matter of rabbits, S. T. Tucker was first with 1320, J. A. Duckett second with 1085 and Hardy Bonebrake third with 937. During the entire season Rev. E. S. Tucker of Tye claimed bounty on 1483 rabbits. There were 155 separate bounty accounts allowed by the court this week.

The commissioners adjourned Tuesday after transaction routine business matters.—Abilene Reporter.

SATURDAY NIGHT 3RD DEGREE CASE

Saturday night the local A. F. A. M. Lodge will conduct work in the third degree and visiting members are cordially invited to be present.

A special feature for the evening speaker Morris R. Locke of Abilene who will address the lodge on a subject especially selected by himself. In responding to the invitation Mr. Locke will no doubt give one of the most interesting talks on Masonry ever heard in the Merkel Lodge and for this reason alone all members are urgently requested to be present.

Wesley Edwards, W. M.

Notice

The Colorado Steam Laundry is making many well-pleased customers. Why not give it a trial and be well pleased too? Call Owen. Phone 194. 10 tf

Indiana Silos

I am agent for this famous silo and would be pleased to talk with all parties interested in same. For prices and terms call on or write me. F. L. Wood, Merkel, Texas, Route 4. 24t4pd

In Memory of Mrs. Collins

At exactly 2:30 o'clock Thursday morning April, 13., Mrs. Swann Collins wife of R. H. Collins of this city passed into the great beyond, having suffered a dread death, that slowly but surely took from a home that ray of sunshine only possible to be emitted toward a family by none other than the mother.

When Mrs. Collins was born into this world the angels smiled and if it were possible for mortal man to see beyond that veil of mystery, again the smiles of angels could have been detected as this noble Christian lady was ushered before the Almighty Ruler of the Universe. Her very presence even as an invalid was an inspiration to all who knew her. The possible appreciation of what death means to one whose life is so worthy of emulation as was this good lady's, can be gathered in it's greatest lesson only when the observer stands by as death enters the door and reaps a harvest. Death such as this causes the strong man of the house to bow down in humble submission before his God and frankly admit the bitterness of the cup of death from which he is forced to drink. His emotions and feelings were not his alone for the realization of so great a loss was sufficient to strike deep and to the bottom of the heart of every member of the family.

That God is good and great, even yet an administrator of overflowing cups of bitterness is indelibly written in the mind of the layman when he in all solemnity possible, gazes with tear stained eyes as every member of a family are brought to their knees around the one death bed, holding the lifeless body of the mother.

Tokens of respect and reverence shown by every member of the family at all times when an opportunity afforded itself could have never exceeded the right and just dues in reparation for motherly love and affection borne to each and every member of her family.

Grief reigns supreme at this Collins home today while final arrangements are made to deposit the body in it's last resting place, and after it has been placed beneath the sod the very same grief will continue to reign supreme just as long as thoughts revert to what this dear little mother was to this one family.

Final funeral arrangements have not been made but interment will likely take place in Rose Hill cemetery at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon.

Notice

J. R. Sandlin, L. J. Bradford & Son have opened a new grocery store on Kent St., in Crenshaw building. Call and see us, the prices are right. 7t3pd

Plenty of bran and cowfeed at G. M. Sharps.

STORMY SESSION GREET'S ORGANIZATION OF COMMERCIAL CLUB MONDAY EVENING

Banquet was Complete Success and Permanent Organization is Now Assured

R. L. BLAND IS PRESIDENT AND W. D. WOODROOF V-PRESIDENT

Thos. A. Johnson, J. S. Swann, J. T. Warren and Dr. M. Armstrong Appointed on Executive Committee to Formulate Full Plans

From 8:30 until 12:00 o'clock Monday Evening over eighty business men met at the W. O. W. Hall and braved the complete organization of a live Commercial Club.

The final motions and discussions were only arrived at after lengthy pro and con cross-fire of ideas given by many of those present. In all probability the friction has only served to strengthen the bounds that now unite some seventy-five Commercial Club Members, for the ending was tranquil in every respect and every person departed at the midnight hour highly enthused and with the best of feeling toward his fellowmen.

President Bland appointed the executive committee named in the heading of this article, whose duties it will be to decide upon a board of directors for the club work. A meeting has been called for the coming Monday night, at which time the executive committee hope to have definite plans to lay before the body for approval, and every person present on last Monday evening is requested to be present and have someone with them.

Names Omitted Last Week

In the report published of the banquet in last week's issue of the Mail, the names of all who were represented were not published. The error or oversight as the case may be, was and is entirely with the Mail management. At the time of publication of the article last week a complete canvas had not been made for representatives at the banquet. Among those who the writer was not able to see were Messrs. W. D. Hutcheson and Seth Hamilton of the Crown Hardware Co., and J. T. Dennis. These parties, as well as others, the writer was not able to see owing to the rush of time, were in no way responsible for the omission of their names from the co-operative list published in last week's paper. This correction is published in justice to those who were not properly called upon in advance of the banquet, for all members present Monday evening were co-operative in every respect and the organization is now on sound working basis with true and tried business men at its head.

Vote of Thanks to Lodges and Ladies

After President Bland had taken the the chair, he called for a rising vote of thanks to the ladies who had prepared the banquet and to the W. O. W. and I. O. O. F. Lodges for the use of their banquet hall. The vote was unanimous. Among those who figured most conspicuously in the discussions of the evening were J. C. Mason, Z. Z. Mathews of Abilene, with the Abilene Electric Co., Drs. Foster and Armstrong, Thos. A. Johnson, W. D. Woodroof, J. T. Warren, J. S. Swann, W. E. Britain, R. L. Bland, E. P. McMillen and others. Especially impressive along the line of work expected for the evening, were the talks by Messrs. Mason and Mathews. Both of these gentlemen were in a class alone when it came to enthusiasm and were past masters in the art of impromptu talks on such occasions.

In all, it was the most successful merchants' meeting held in the city of Merkel in several years. Every person present seemed established upon the fact that Merkel needed concerted action and the only delay was arriving at a working basis. In the words of J. T. Warren a slogan for the M. C. C. will no doubt be established. Mr. Warren's expression was in toto, "If the Commercial Club won't go with me, I'll go with the Commercial Club." J. C. Mason said, "Gentlemen, I am with you right or wrong." R. L. Bland told his crowd of hearers that he was no piker and expected every man of Merkel to back him up in making the evening's work a success. Thos. A. Johnson firmly impressed upon the audience his belief in co-operative work and cited past instances of failure in such work, that the present organization might profit and thrive, and was unusually strong in pressing the claims of R. L. Bland for president that finally resulted in the election of that gentleman to the head of the organization. J. S. Swann

THE UNITED STATES HAS STARTED NEW IMPETUS OF ARMS SHIPMENT TO BORDER

RECENT TRAIN LOAD SHIPMENTS OVER T. & P.

One Train Consisted of Motor Trucks and Another Trainload of Automobiles Equipped With Machine Guns of Forty Cars Each.

assured every man present that his most hearty co-operation would be given in every respect, realizing the need of such and hoping for its success.

It was the popular opinion of everyone present that one of the liveliest wires that ever struck West Texas had quietly, and without much introduction, slipped into the banquet hall at the request of a friend. This man was Mr. Z. Z. Mathews of Abilene. He did more to push the work on to success by his prompt assistance in squally times than any other man except J. C. Mason.

Seated at the banquet tables for the evening were eighty, namely: Dr O F McMaster, T A Johnson, W D Woodroof, Jess Fergusson, Emzi Burroughs, Ben Little, Ollie Dye, W D Hutcheson, J Massey, John West, Luther Grimes, Ellis Warren, Mr Latham, W L Diltz, Jr. Dee Grimes, Ennis and Emmett Grimes, B C Gaither, Raymond Touchstone, The fourth estate representative, Clayton Brown, Eugene Hargrove, R L Bland, Freeman Rogers, Ernest Rogers, W F Hamblet, E L Rogers, Thos Largent, Nat Anderson, J S Swann, J B Bell, Tally Holloway, Claud Sears, W Parten, H M Warren, Ben T Merritt, H C Williams, Luther Woodroof, Jno W Wheeler, F Y Gaither, H Bullock, Asa Shepperd, Chas Russell, J T Warren, J C Mason, Chief Ferrier, Sam Swann, Lytton Howard, E P McMillen, Dr Armstrong, H M Rose, W M Elliott, Oscar Walker, G M Sharp, Ernest Duckett, J A Duckett, A C Boney, De Verle Johnson, H Turner, J T Dennis, 'Bud' Smith, Jas West, M H Morris, W E Brittain, F A Mathews, W A McSpadden, Dr Foster, W H Laney, V B Walters, Austin Boyd, J D Gaither, J J Stallings, Robert Hicks, T L Grimes, Rev H E Bullock, W L Diltz, Sr, and J G Sadtler.

The above representation did not complete those who might have attended for shortage of time in arranging for the banquet prohibited all parties interested being seen. Those who were not present at the banquet and who have not been conferred with in regard to the organization, are cordially invited to be present at the next meeting of the M. C. C. on Monday night, at the City Hall, at which time working plans will be formulated. The meeting is scheduled for 8 o'clock and President Bland will be "ready-to-go." Be on hand.

Card of Appreciation

We desire to publicly thank our Merkel friends who so kindly administered attention to our bereavement at the death of our husband and son.

Very Respectfully,
Mrs. C. L. Cash,
Mrs. and Mrs. Sam Cash and family.

C. L. CASH VICTIM OF SUDDEN DEATH

Congestion of muscles and nerves brought on by a chilled condition was responsible for the death of C. L. Cash, which occurred at his home Monday at 12:30 p. m.

Mr. Cash was taken home Monday morning suffering from a congested condition, and after having medical treatment was thought to be getting along nicely, his pulsation being somewhat restored. Friends who called at the home early in the morning felt that he was improving, and departing asked Mrs. Cash to call them if he did not continue to improve. Shortly afternoon a rapid decline struck him, however, and before anything could be done to relieve his condition he had gasped for his last breath. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sam M. Cash of Comanche were promptly notified and reached here Monday evening; a brother, V. G. Cash of Waco arriving the following morning. One other brother, C. W. Cash, of Dead Man, New Mexico, could not be located in time to reach here for the burial which occurred at Rose Hill Cemetery Tuesday afternoon at 8 o'clock, Rev. L. B. Owen conducting same.

Surviving the deceased, who has been a resident of Merkel for several years, is a wife and two small children, who, together with the deceased's parents and other relatives, have the sympathy of their many Merkel friends.

FISHERMEN BACK FROM 'JIM NED'

There are no little fish in Jim Ned. The news brought back to Merkel by H. C. Burroughs, Jr., Wesley Edwards, Will Brown and Ross Ferrier who returned Monday evening from a fishing trip on Jim Ned in the vicinity of Coleman.

The fishing party left here Tuesday of last week and reported a fine catch and few small fish to contend with during their piscatorial punitive pursuits.

Ladies Free Rest Room

Ladies dont fail to take advantage of the Rest Room when in Merkel. It is free to you to use at any time you are in Merkel. Side entrance to Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Cemetery Work

Mr. Ferguson can be found at the Cemetery all hours during the day, except at noon. Reasonable rates for all work done. 7t3pd.

ON THE WAY

Coming!

The Real Live
**Buster
Brown
and his Dog
Tige**

To the store of



WOODROOF'S

Merkel, Texas

Saturday, April 15th

Grand Free Entertainment --- Everybody Invited

An entertainment that will amuse and interest
both young and old

Free Souvenirs to Every Boy and Girl

LOCAL NEWS

Read carefully every word of the Consolidated Oil & Gas Co's. ad in this paper.

Windmills, windmills; lots of them. See me before you buy your windmill and pipe fixtures. H. M. Rose.

\$5.00 reward for the return of a spotted hog to me. Strayed from stock pens over three weeks ago. R. H. Collins.

Mrs. H. K. Calhoun of Kaufman has been here visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. B. Tucker of Nubia.

Be sure and visit Duckett's new Variety Store next door to Behrens-McMillen.

Place a hundred dollars in the Consolidated Oil & Gas Co. with long time to pay out the stock, and watch your investment grow. Read their in this paper.

See me for all kinds of field and planting cotton seed. G. R. Gazzaway. 7t3

When you come to Sweetwater, Texas, drive your car in the National Southern Highway Garage, on the west side of the square near the hotels. No charges to tourists and visitors for day storage. Do not leave your car in the hot sun, it will ruin the varnish and upholstery on your car. You are welcome to make our place home while in Sweetwater. We have free air and water on the sidewalk. We carry a fine line of accessories and tires. Our readers are especially invited to call on them while in Sweetwater. — Adv. 7t

See Mr. Ferguson at the Cemetery and have him clean your lot. Charges reasonable.

J. B. Shannon is in Dallas this week attending the State Lumbermen's Convention. It was the plan of the yard managers for the Carey Lumber Co., in this district, to meet at the state offices in Fort Worth and from there go in to the convention in a body.

Blacklegoid Vaccine at Burroughs.

For extra high grade flour order the Seal from W. F. Hamblet.

Miss Pet Sears left Saturday night for Paducah to visit her sister, Mrs. Campbell.

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.

Buster Brown is scheduled to be here for sure April 15th at Woodroof's store.

Blacklegoid Vaccine at Burroughs.

Mrs. R. A. McMillen who has spent the winter with her son E. P., left Monday for her home in Iowa. Mrs. "Mack" accompanied her mother home, and will make visits with relatives at various places in Iowa and Missouri.

For prompt deliveries phone 286.

When driving go by the cemetery and give Mr. Ferguson an order to clean your cemetery lot. He is there at all hours of the day and his charges are reasonable.

No hunting allowed on my premises. Mrs. R. B. Rains. 14t1pd

E. L. Woodroof returned from a stay of some length at Battle Creek, Mich.

Neopolitan Ice Cream at Burroughs.

Laundry leaves for Colorado on Mondays and Wednesdays. Phone Owen your needs. 10tf

Corn chops and shorts at G. M. Sharps.

Famous Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee

Try the famous Wamba coffee that made Houston, Texas, famous. G. M. Sharp. 17tf



EASTER Millinery

of a
decidedly
**SMART
TYPE**

IT is time to buy an Easter bonnet! Don't be the last, and then wish you had attended to it when you could have gotten just the hat you wanted. NOW is the time. TODAY we will commence to feature EASTER Millinery and will have special models constantly on sale.

WOODROOF'S

Miss Smith is charge

LOCAL NEWS

J. V. Tye has departed for Mineral Wells, where he will take advantage of the curative effects of the waters of that place for an attack of rheumatism he has suffered for some weeks.

My Jack will make the season at my barn on hill between Ed. Compton's and Largent. Dr. M. Armstrong. 2t

Highest prices paid for eggs. W. F. Hamblet.

Read the Consolidated Oil ad in this issue of the Mail.

Mrs. Emma Daniel was in Abilene the first of the week arranging business matters, prior to her departure from here to Big Springs for her future home. Mrs. Daniels said on leaving that wherever she should go she would always have a friendly feeling for Merkel and Merkel people.

Come to the Merkel bargain store first door east of the Merkel Garage when you want your money's worth. A. L. Jobe, prop.

Buster Brown is scheduled to be here for sure April 15th at Woodroof's store.

Recent sales of 5-passenger Dodge cars by Warren Bros. were made to Dr. Addison of Anson, J. L. Tabor and G. W. Moore.

We clean and press anything and guarantee every job. Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

Mrs. Lula E. Bowman of Abilene returned to her home Tuesday, having visited the family of M. Graham at Trent for a short time.

We appreciate your patronage. You will appreciate our service if your tailoring work is done by Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

Buster Brown is scheduled to be here for sure on April 15 at Woodroof's store.

Blacklegoid Vaccine at Burroughs.

"She Runs Like a Clock"

You know that feeling of pleasure when you drive mile after mile without hitch or miss—when you pass hills unnoticed—when you hardly know you have an engine.

Good ignition, good lubrication—**TEXACO GASOLINE** and **TEXACO MOTOR OIL**—These will make this ideal condition a reality.

TEXACO GASOLINE
a clean, powerful product—provides steady, even, power from first to last.

TEXACO MOTOR OIL
thorough lubrication, saves wear, saves power, and cannot deposit hard carbon. Our agent in your town will be pleased to serve you with these or any other petroleum products.

The Texas Company
General Offices: Houston, Texas

FOR "FACES"

Use Nyal Face Cream freely at night—in the morn you find your complexion is right. Greasless and flowery fragrant—beautifies the complexion. 25c and 50c jars.

NYALFACE CREAM

T. L. Grimes, Druggist

YOU will appreciate the true meaning of clothes satisfaction when you wear a suit "tailored to your order by Born."

Why search a clothing stock for your size in a fabric you like? Or, why take a fabric or style you don't like, just because it fits? Why not select a fabric in the very pattern and coloring your fancy dictates, and have it tailored to fit your personality, as well as your figure?

There will be no uncertainty in the result if you make your selection from "Born's Blue Book." Born's forty-year record for "making good" is your assurance of complete satisfaction—a cheerful refund of your money if you're not satisfied.

Renfro & Fergusson, Tailors

BLACKLEGOIDS

Simplest Safest Surest
Vaccination for prevention of
BLACKLEG IN CATTLE

NOTICE
An ANIMAL VACCINE INJECTOR will be sent to users of BLACKLEGOIDS who send us 10 coupons and a remittance of 50c.

NOW IS THE TIME TO VACCINATE
TO PREVENT LOSSES AND PROVIDE
AGAINST INFECTION

USE BLACKLEGOIDS GRIMES DRUG STORE

CALL OR WRITE FOR FREE BOOKLET

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE

Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second-Class Mail Matter

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

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Patrons of the Mail who do not receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon the management by reporting the fact. You should also watch the label of your paper to ascertain when your time is out and renew before your name automatically leaves our list, as all papers stop when the term of subscription expires.

Paper Going Up, Up, Up

About the most regular thing printers have to contend with these days is the advance in the price of paper. There's nothing spasmodic or sensational about the advance, but just a steady pull, and eruptions as well-timed as the first-of-the-month bill collectors. The paper on which the Signal is printed this week cost about one dollar more than the paper that went into last week's Signal, and there had been several advances prior to the one announced this week. The paper houses say the price will keep on climbing, and that we should make our arrangements to meet the advances. The suggestion has a humorous ring to us and to folks at home, but it is possible that the paper houses intend to urge us, in a polite way to raise a big garden and sell vegetables. —Honey Grove Signal.

Prices of paper are 50 per cent higher now than 12 months ago, and lots of fool printers are

making the same prices for job printing as of yore. There has to be a stopping place somewhere, but that may be in the bankruptcy courts unless prices are revised to at least cost of production. —Taylor County Times.

The advances spoken of above have made it necessary for the Mail to advance prices in many grades of commercial printing. We trust that no further advances will be made by paper mills, even though they advise that their present prices may not remain same passed the month of June.

THE EFFECT OF WHISKY ON COTTON

A friend from Gurdon, Ark., Mr. R. A. Stuart by name, sends us some queer literature put out by a sour-mash establishment in Memphis. Their Bourbon prophecy runs about like this: No whisky, less United States internal revenue, hence a terrible burden of taxation on cotton and tobacco; for further enlightenment write the Dixie Growers' League, P. O. Box 987, Atlanta, Ga. To which Mr. Stuart replies in one unanswerable sentence: "It is strange that the whisky people, in talking of the lost revenue on their products, never seem to think that the people are being taxed to build penitentiaries, jails, orphan homes, and the like, to say nothing of the wrecked homes caused by drink."

These Memphis Cassandras ask that the whole subject be studied. All right, here goes: Whisky puts weeds in many a cornfield, but nothing in the crib, whisky causes plenty of accidents, but it never moved a freight car nor ginned a pound of cotton, whisky turns men into swine, but it never hangs a ham in the smokehouse; whisky keeps the jails and courts busy, but it does less than nothing for the schools and churches. To argue that the South cannot do without whisky is like arguing that it cannot do without hook-worm. Whisky is a drain on the life of any community tolerating it, and its relation to legitimate industry is one of cost and hindrance. "Dixie Growers' League" sounds well; nevertheless booze is not King Cotton's ally, but his unrelenting enemy. —Collier's Weekly.

DR. S. P. BROOKS' SPEECH

As a Democrat, I believe in suiting legislative action to the people's needs, using the past to throw light on the future and not to bind it. I believe in the democracy of Woodrow Wilson and his administration of domestic and foreign affairs. In my judgment, no president has ever surpassed him for poise, character, sanity of mind and individuality of thinking.

In offering my services to the state, I do not do it as one who can make something out of nothing nor yet in the belief that the government can. I know that one man cannot lift himself by his own bootstraps, neither can we two, we twenty nor a hundred million men. I know that congress cannot get around a bushel of smutty wheat and cause it to make good biscuits, nor can it make a bale of cotton worth twenty cents a pound when the markets of the world will not pay it.

These facts, however, do not blind me to the protective character of government and the opportunity of legislators aiding their constituents in saving money as well as constructing laws. Nor do they hinder me from the appreciation of the social service every man can render to his fellowman. To this end let us consider some of the things wherein extravagance and for which the people suffer, in all of which I faithfully pledge my best efforts to cure.

Pensions, Economy

One man in every one hundred persons in the United States draws a pension from the Federal government. About 900,000 now are on the pension rolls, of whom 376,782, having served only three months, who were never hurt, nor sick, have been given retiring allowances of from 13 to 30 dollars per month. About \$500,000 have gone to each of the Congressional Districts of the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

Such legislation is a shame and I cannot but believe that if all faithful Southern Democrats would throw themselves across such fraud it would be stopped. I do not belittle the pensions of deserving and faithful old soldiers. I do not want them ever to lose their crowns of reward, but I do not want the government

to pay fake soldiers, nor yet young girl widows who, to get the pensions, have married old fellows tottering on the edge of the grave. It is a question worthy of consideration why a man in the army may get a pension and one in a railway mail service, or one grown old and helpless in some other civil service of the government, should have none.

Against Mileage Graft

Under the law a member of either House of Congress draws twenty cents a mile each way from his home to Washington. This is pure graft. If a congressman in Texas lives fifteen hundred miles from Washington, that distance at twenty cents per mile would bring him three hundred dollars, or a round trip \$600. You and I know that he can travel from his home to Washington and back living like a prince enroute at a cost of \$125.00. Thus he has a clear gain of \$475.00. In the face of this fact congressmen have run for office shedding great tears of sorrow for the people who pay taxes, yet at every opportunity in Congress they have voted against any reduction of this 20-cent mileage.

Franking Privileges

There are over 600,000 voters in Texas. It would cost me, a candidate, or any other citizen, above \$12,000.00 to pay the postage for one letter to each of the voters, not to count the cost of paper, envelopes and clerical help in mailing them. A Congressman can run for the Senate, sending not one but as many letters as he wishes to all the voters of his state without a cent of cost to himself. He may send tons of stuff through the mails at the expense of the people. In my judgment, mailing franks should be limited to legitimate correspondence and no letters should be franked by a member of either House to any one outside of one's district or state, as the case may be, unless it is in answer to letters or appeals. Millions of dollars annually could be saved and thus start us on the road to penny postage, a positive gain to all the people.

Against Pork Barrel Methods

This is a term of reproach applied to the use of public funds for political purposes. It often

shows itself where Congressmen squander the people's money for public building out of all proportion to wisdom used by local business men. It comes from Congressmen swapping votes to build up their local political fences, each helping the other at the cost of the people. It comes also in building unnecessary naval and military stations at fabulous sums of money.

The absurdity and the crime of this is not confined to the North or to the Republicans. Examples of such robbery are shown where a fifty-thousand-dollar public building was erected in Vernal, Utah, which has only 836 people in it. Another costing \$107,000 was built in Jasper, Alabama, a town of 2,569 people. Another costing \$188,000 was erected in Gadsden, Alabama, a town of \$10,000 people. Even nearer home we find these gross extravagances as are shown by the appropriation of \$55,000 to build a postoffice at Gilmer, Texas, a town of approximately 1,000 people and scores of other examples could be given where the people's money has been spent to raise the price of real estate for speculators to raise votes for politicians.

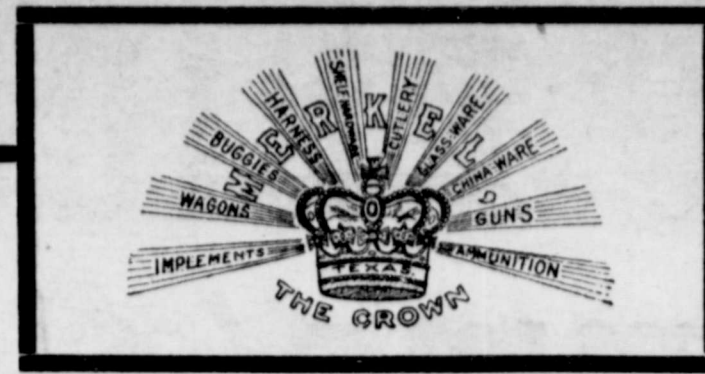
Garden Seeds

The folly of the present method of Congressional distribution of seeds is apparent to all. In my judgment all seeds should be sent out by the Secretary of Agriculture upon application of the people under certain prescribed rules; or upon suggestion of the State or Federal Agricultural agent.

Domestic Affairs, Prohibition

The revelations of the brewery investigation, now a matter of court record in Sulphur Springs, are shocking to every sense of good citizenship. We stand aghast at the thought of millions of dollars in the course of a few years having been spent to debauch the ballot box. Poll taxes have been fraudulently paid, kept in safes for use by designing men in the hands of others ignorant and vicious. This has been done in practically all of our large cities, especially where idle, vicious negroes and Mexicans dwell. No man need deny these statements. Every man should seek to correct them by law.

It shames us that those guilty of most talk about local self-government are those who spend the most money to pierce society



IMPLEMENTS

We are expecting the last of the week another car of implements from John Deere Plow Co. and will have in this car

Double Row Cultivators, Single Row Cultivators, Double and Single Row Planters

and other implements that are needed at this season of the year. Do not fail to see the John Deere Double Row Cultivator.

We have also received in the last few days a full car of new Buggies direct from the factory. Prices can't be beat, quality considered. A complete line of

Detroit Vapor, Clark-Jewel and Perfection Oil Stoves on hand

WIND MILLS

We are now carrying a full line of Wind Mills, pipe and fixtures. Call on us for anything in this line.

Our stock in all lines is very complete, and we want your business, for we are in position to serve you well, and at the right prices. Call and see us, we will strive to deserve your patronage and treat you right.

CROWN HARDWARE CO.

Dr. J. T. PUE

Scientific Masseur

You have been thinking of trying
Massage Treatments?

I will give you one treatment and if you
do not care to continue it will be FREE.

Try it NOW

Consultation free at office at

COLLINS HOUSE

THE PRICE IS THE THING

A Chance of a Lifetime to Buy Goods at a Fraction of Cost to Manufacture

2,000 pair Shoes must go at once. We will put out 200 pair ladies shoes at the unheard of price of per pair..... **39c**
 Men and boys Hats, one lot worth 75c to \$2 only **39c**
 Better grades men's Hats, worth \$1.50 to \$2.50 each our price only..... **69c**
 Men's regular \$1.00 Overalls, our price..... **85c**
 Men's medium weight Underwear worth 50c per garment, now only..... **29c**
 Men's blue chambray work shirts only..... **25c**

Big assortment children's Hose worth 10c to 15c per pair, our price..... **5c**
 Large assortment valencene Lace. regular 5c and 10c values, special per yard..... **3c**
 Can Corn, good grade, only per can..... **8c**
 Salmon, special per can..... **8c**
 Best grade Peaberry Coffee, regular 30c value, our price per pound only..... **20c**
 Best make matches 3 boxes for..... **10c**
 Crystal white soap 7 bars for..... **25c**

Space forbids making prices on all lines but we want to say that if you want to save money you can't afford to miss these Big Bargains. Remember you have a \$10,000 stock to select from and we are going to make prices that will astonish the natives, and you will miss it if you miss it. Don't think for a moment this is one of the ordinary sales, for we are going to sell goods regardless of cost

FOR THE NEXT THIRTY DAYS---THERE IS A REASON but don't mention it **"WE NEED THE MONEY"**

SAY! Don't fail to visit our Variety Store, as we have some Real Bargains there that I wish I could tell you about. If you have been trading with us you know "The Price is The Thing," if not, let us prove it.

J. A. DUCKETT, Merkel, Texas

"THE PRICE IS THE THING"

through the heart. Their method of attack is to stuff the ballot boxes with fraudulent ballots of Mexicans, back alley and river bottom negroes who are led as sheep to the slaughter. Honest voters count as nothing to such men.

Therefore I am for the constitutional abolition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors without limit of geographical bounds in the United States. What one believes about this question has not been made a test of democratic soundness by either the state or national platforms. I will never make a compromise with a business that brow-beats courts, bribes juries, suborns witnesses, degrades men, shames women, orphans, children and mocks decency and laughs at all law and order.

Men run for Congress on the other side of this question, talking much about state rights. I remind these gentlemen that the doctrine of State Rights never did involve the right of any state to do wrong merely to demonstrate its sovereignty. In saying this I would be just as quick to affirm that the sovereignty of the states must not be destroyed, as seen in the rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission. On other occasions some gentlemen have talked about county rights, but on all occasions they are on the liquor side of this vicious business. They have voted in Congress to stop the sale of opium to habitual users. They have voted for laws having to do with Texas fever cattle in transit. But they have forgotten that booze is a greater blight to the country boys than ticks for country cattle.

The Landless Man

The problem of getting homes for all the people is one that commands the respect of thoughtful people everywhere. No honorable man will dodge the needs of the tenant classes. By every

SPRING & SUMMER HATS

For Misses and Ladies

Trimmed and Tailored Hats in a far more complete stock than we have ever shown before and at exceedingly reasonable prices. Do not fail to visit our parlors upstairs, rear of Star Store, and view the full showing we are now making.

MISSSES STANLEYS

honorably means of mind and time, I promise to do what I can to help get homes for the frugal homeless. To this end Rural Credits legislation has been promised by Congress now in session. But if for any reason, Congress fails I would try to get Farm Land Loan Banks and Rural Credit Associations organized for this purpose, whereby money could be borrowed at the lowest possible rate of interest and payments so adjusted that interest and principal can be paid in equal installments over a period of say five to thirty-five years. This I will undertake, and beyond this no wise man can honorably promise.

Budget System

It amazes us that America, the light of the world in so many things, has refused to adopt the Budget System when every civilized nation in the world has done so. At the present time there are about a dozen important committees, for example: Rivers and Harbors, Army, Navy, Post office, etc. Each makes out a

budget of its probable expenses for the ensuing year, asking Congress for all sorts of advancements irrespective and ignorant of what other committees than itself wants. These committees usually meet behind closed doors. They may invite advice. Usually, however, the advice comes from those friendly to the work of the given committee. Thus we have as many secret legislatures as there are committees, for Congress usually tries to grant the request of all.

Such a system would stop the abominable and criminal practice of so many private bills. It would annihilate the strength of Pork Barrel politicians who feed and fatten on the taxes of the people. It would stop the practice of congressional vote-swapping, where one man helps another sell a swamp lot for a public building and the latter is paid off by an appropriation to help irrigate some creek during dry weather.


Cabinet Officials

I would favor the creation of a

LINOLEUM

in 6, 7½ and 12 foot widths at the Old Price

Linoleum Logic
No. 7



The Easy Way

Armstrong's Linoleum eases the work—saves the walk, that rests the foot.

Can be cleaned in a jiffy—has the elasticity that rests the foot.

Armstrong's Linoleum cuts the drudgery out of housework.

It is sensible, serviceable and sightly.

The new designs put it in a class by itself. See the samples soon. Will be shown in your own home, if you prefer. Our telephone number is

Make yourself at home in our Rest Room

Belmont & Miller Co.
Frank

Undertaking. License No. 392

department of education and a department of health. The government now seeks to promote the health and culture of fine cattle, but apparently forgets to guard the present American human race.

Usury Laws

I do not want to punish capital nor those who have it, but I do want capital to obey the laws of the state and believe that these banks that get the help of the national government should cease the outrageously high usurious rates of interest of which so

many of them are guilty. This can be done in fairness to both the lender and the borrower and I would help to do it.

Warehouse Law

It will be my aim to get enacted a Federal Warehouse Law whereby through the Department of Agriculture experts could sample and grade cotton and other non-perishable farm products. This would give uniformity in grading, confidence among buyers and standardize warehouse receipts among bankers at home and abroad.

Parcel Post
 I would enlarge it to include all express business. It is understood (1) that all express property would be purchased at a fair value; (2) that all railroads thereafter be properly remunerated for any incident increase in the mail business, and (3) that all worthy express employees may pass into the Postal Department without recourse to the civil service laws.

This enlarged mail service in co-operation with the Federal Agricultural Department would revolutionize the distribution of farm products. Market prices would be posted in the postoffices. Eggs, butter, milk, chickens, vegetables, fruits and a thousand other things for which city people hunger would find ready and good market.

In final remarks, Dr. Brooks, though an advocate of peace lauded the present Preparedness policy as absolutely necessary, bringing it closely in touch with the "American Spirit" calling upon his audience to remember that we will never get out of life or out of governments more than we put into them, reminding them that much is expected of those who have much, and that no man has a right to throw off on poor citizenship because he is poor.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the past 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm. National Bank of Commerce Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

LISTEN

I want to speak a few words to the patriotic people of the Merkel trade territory.

The Consolidated Oil & Gas Company is an organization perfected by a few of the best business men of Colorado, Texas, for the sole purpose of developing the oil and gas resources of this section of the country, including our own trade territory, and will mean just as much to the people of Merkel as it will to the people of Colorado and Sweetwater, and it is to our own interest directly to join hands with them in this laudable undertaking and give them all the assistance that we can. After you have thoroughly familiarized yourself with this development proposition you can readily see that they are not selfish in the matter and that there is no money to be made out of this promotion proposition by the officers of this company and that they have no motive whatever other than the development of oil and gas in this section. The Consolidated Oil & Gas Company fully outline in their literature the expenditure of all monies paid into the said company.

This proposition should appeal to every patriotic citizen in this entire territory alike, as we are all directly interested in the development of our country. The company has arranged to see that all can come in and assist in this development and share in any profits that accrue therefrom.

I will state that all of said test wells are under the control and management of an oil expert, who has extensive experience in different oil fields. All locations have been made by this party and the leases secured under his directions and not depending upon their own judgment. They have faith in his ability as an experienced oil man and are backing his judgment.

As above stated, this is a proposition that we are all directly interested in, meaning more to the people of this section than anything put before them for many years in the past, and if successful will bring more money to this section than all the cotton that will be grown in this territory in the next 20 years. I want you to study this proposition from every angle and if it is not thoroughly clear to you, I will take pleasure in giving you all the information that I possibly can. Don't wait for me to look you up but come to see me and let's all get busy and do our part in this, the greatest undertaking in the country.

Paul Bennett.

Splendid for Rheumatism

"I think that Chamberlain's Liniment is just splendid for rheumatism," writes Mrs. Danburg, Eldridge, N. Y. "It has been used by myself and other members of my family time and time again during the past six years and has always given the best of satisfaction." The quick relief from pain which Chamberlain's Liniment affords is alone worth many times the cost. For sale by all dealers.

Make our store your headquarters. Burroughs.

Have your clothes look good. Try Owen and be convinced. Phone 194.

Fresh Box Candy at Burroughs Watch for our talcum powder specials next week. Burroughs.

Seymour flour is the best. G. M. Sharp.



OVER 65 YEARS' EXPERIENCE
PATENTS
TRADE MARKS
DESIGNS
COPYRIGHTS &c.
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion from whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munst & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$1 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all news-dealers.
MUNST & Co. 364 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 225 P. St., Washington, D. C.

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!

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET

RENFRO THE TAILOR

AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO

Your Cleaning and Pressing

EYE GLASSES & SPECTACLES

Correctly fitted will relieve all strain and discomfort; also give you perfect sight when fitted by

P. T. QUAST, Optometrist

Sweetwater, Texas



TAKE HOME A BOX

of our ice cream and you'll have a splendid dessert without any of the trouble of preparing one. It will keep hard an hour, so the dinner needn't be hurried thru in order to enjoy the dessert. We don't have to say anything about our ice cream. It speaks for itself.

ELITE CONFECTIONERY

Should Not Feel Discouraged
So many people troubled with indigestion and constipation have been benefited by taking Chamberlain's Tablets that no one should feel discouraged who has not given them a trial. They contain no pepsin or other digestive ferments but strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. For sale by all dealers.

Fresh vegetables every Wednesday and Saturday. W. F. Hamblet.

Mrs. H. E. Pickerill has returned from Roscoe where she visited her daughter, Mrs. Gilliland.

Harmonizing.

"The philosopher across the way is having an appropriate time of it with his wisdom tooth."
"How so?"
"Both he and the tooth are wise-acres."—Baltimore American.

For Constipation

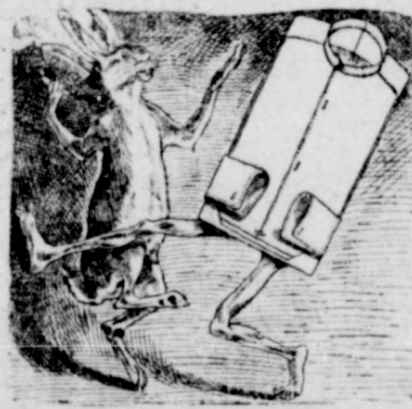
Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent druggist of Spirit Lake, Iowa, says: Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly the best thing on the market for constipation." Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable and pleasant in effect. For sale by all dealers.



The Wonderful Machine

which does the stitching on our shoes transforms them into new footwear. No hand work can equal it in regularity and evenness of stitching. Send us a pair of your old shoes as a test of the magic work of this machine. We do it in half the time and twice as well as any cobbler.

J. A. BROWN



YOUR EASTER SHIRT

Will be all that it should be if we launder it. Just right in finish and stiffness and, of course, immaculately clean. Send us your collars and cuffs too. Then you will know what exquisite laundering is. Feel more joyous as you realize how clean you feel and look.

Sweetwater Steam Laundry

Grimes-Howard Tailors
Merkel Agents

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT 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.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McGee came in Saturday from Detroit to make this their home. Being unable to get a house they are for the present with Mrs McGee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Stallings.

A car of meal and hulls just arrived at R. D. Allen's Feed Barn. Phone 245. It

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER

DENTIST
Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

Practicing Physician
Office at Grimes Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-5

DOCTOR MILLER

Physician and Surgeon
Over Woodroofs Store

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 Woodroofs & Company
Merkel - Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL

CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

W. U. W.

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

T. F. Compton, C. C.
S. Hamilton, Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Subject to the Democratic Primaries of July, 1916

For Legislature
(Capt.) J. T. TUCKER

For District Judge
JOE BURKETT, of Eastland
W. P. MAHAFFEY
D. K. SCOTT, of Cisco.
• F. S. BELL, of Baird
Callahan County

For District Clerk
J. N. ROUTH
H. O. DRUMMOND

For District Attorney
N. N. ROSENQUEST
(Re-election)
W. J. CUNNINGHAM

For County Judge
E. M. OVERSHINER
Re-election

For County Clerk
J. D. HILTON, Re-election

For County Attorney
W. H. GRAHAM

For County Superintendent
J. S. SMITH, Re-election
C. E. SIMS
ARTHUR JONES

For Treasurer:
J. A. BOYCE
AUSTIN FITTS

For Tax Assessor:
W. T. (TOM) ST. JOHN
Re-election
JOHN H. VANCE
L. R. (ROY) PARMELLY
J. S. PATTERSON

For Tax Collector:
G. B. (BLUE) TITTLE
W. F. DILLARD, Re-election

For Public Weigher at Merkel
J. M. (JIM) TOOMES
Re-election

For Commissioner Precinct No. 2.
T. R. LASSITER (Re-election)

Jones County Announcements

For County Attorney
J. L. (LEE) CEARLEY
Re-election

For County Clerk
C. H. P'POOL, Re-election

For Tax Collector
R. L. BARRETT, Re-election

Dr. Price's
CREAM
BAKING POWDER
Sixty Years the Standard
No Alum—No Phosphate



MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

Watson-Pitzer

Thursday's Abilene Reporter of last week contained an extended write up of Miss Mary Pitzer and Mr. M. C. Watson, which occurred the Wednesday evening previous in the home of the bride. Miss Pitzer, during her young girlhood, was often a visitor in Merkel and many here will be interested in her marriage. The wedding march was played by Miss Lola Jones, once a resident of Merkel, and Miss Lyska Pitzer a cousin to the bride was named as one of the out of town guests.

A few friends of Miss Wilma Smith spent last Friday evening in her home in southeast Merkel. One of those little 42 parties when interest is so keen as to make time fly was the main diversion. The players were Misses Ola Sharp, Vera Jinkens, Lula and Winnie Sharp. Messrs. Joe Owen, Jim Peterson, Z. T. Lamar and Richard Davis.

Miss Mary Teaff Entertains

Miss Mary Teaff gave an evening of unalloyed pleasure to her Senior Class mates of the high school, when she opened her home to them on last Friday evening. The guests were driven to the J. N. Teaff home in four cars. These met at the home of



"Oh Look!

I can eat 'em all—they won't hurt me! That's because they're made with Calumet—and that's why they're pure, tempting, tasty, wholesome—that's why they won't hurt any kid."

Received Highest Awards
New Cook Book Free—See Slip
in Prand Can.



Cheap and big can Baking Powders do not save you money. Calumet does—it's Pure and far superior to sour milk and soda.

Miss Wilma Garrett as a starting point, and a car ride was enjoyed before going to the home of the hostess. After arriving at Miss Teaff's games of forty-two, picks and flinch were enjoyed, also musical numbers given by Misses Coats and Teaff. In the game of picks, which is a new one, Lewis Swann was the most fortunate player, and was given as a prize a monster stick of red stick candy. In the later hours of the evening refreshments of ambrosia with whipped cream and cake were served. The hostess was assisted by her sister, Miss Ruby, in entertaining the guests who were Misses Osie Teaff, Josie Smith, Minnie Coats Mamie McNeas and Wilma Garrett; Messrs. Hobson Robertson, Sidney and Roy Coats, Joe Hartley, Nim Teaff, Milam Pike, Noel Moore, Arl Sharp and Lewis Swann.

Mrs. J. W. Wheeler

Mrs. J. W. Wheeler delightfully entertained a number of her friends with a three-course birthday dinner at her home in South Merkel last Sunday in honor of the birth of the hostess and Miss Ruth Wheeler. Those present besides the hostess and her family, were Misses Ruth, Willie and Maggie Wheeler, Lorena Dry, Anna Mae Swann and Girlie Howard; Messrs. S. D. and Lewis Swann, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swann, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler. The guests after spending the afternoon with this good family, departed for their homes wishing the hostess many happy annual returns.

Cox-McKee

The marriage of Miss Mina Cox and Mr. Jack McKee, of Cleburne, Texas, on Thursday afternoon, came as a surprise to their many friends.

The wedding was quiet and informal, only the relatives and most intimate friends accompanied the young couple to the Baptist parsonage, where the ceremony was most impressively performed by Dr. Jenkins.

The bride is the charming and accomplished daughter of Judge and Mrs. B. A. Cox and never looked lovelier or more charming, than on this occasion, gowned in a lovely gray taffeta, with pink carnations and accessories to match.

Mr. McKee is of a prominent family of Cleburne, Texas, but at present is engaged in business at Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. McKee left immediately for Merkel, accompanied by Miss Zoe West and Mr. Luther Grimes of that place.

Mr. and Mrs. McKee are located at present at the Templeton House on Oak street. This young bride, a frequent visitor here, is given a most hearty welcome as a resident.

Told That There Was No Cure for Him.

"After suffering for over twenty years with indigestion and having some of the best doctors here tell me there was no cure for me, I think it only right to tell you for the sake of other sufferers as well as your own satisfaction that a 25 cent bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets not only relieved me but cured me within two months although I am a man of 65 years." writes Jul. Groben, Houston Texas. For sale by all dealers.

When in town drop in and see our unique line of stationery. Burroughs.

If you want your clothes to look good, try Owen Phone 194. 10tf

THE Consolidated Oil & Gas Co.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this organization is for the development of the resources of Oil, Gas, Coal and other mineral in the counties of Coke, Fisher, Garza, Howard, Mitchell, Kent, Nolan, Taylor, Sterling and Jones.

We have contracted for the purchase of 12 tracts of land, each containing 200 acres, aggregating 2,400 acres in all. Said tracts are in several of the above mentioned counties and covering a territory both north and south of the T. & P. R.R., beginning at Trent and reaching as far west as Iatan. We also have under lease 63,160 acres surrounding the 12 purchased tracts. We have had an expert geologist in this field for the past four months, this man has had wide experience in various oil fields in Texas, Oklahoma and other states, we have thoroughly tested his ability in proven fields, and he has proven to our satisfaction that there is Oil and Gas in paying quantities in this field. We have the same geographical surroundings of all the best fields in Texas. We have better surface out-cropping and indications of oil and gas than has many of the fields already producing oil and gas and just as good indications as the Tulsa or Healdton Fields in Oklahoma. We are going to drill 12 test wells, one on each of the 12 tracts, said wells to be drilled not less than 2,500 nor more than 4,500 feet deep provided that we did not find oil or gas in paying quantities at a lesser depth.

We are selling contracts in this company for the small sum of \$34.00 and a balance of \$66.00 payable on or before Nov. 1, 1916, and a purchaser of one of the contracts will receive one lot containing 750 square feet at each of the 12 locations, and in addition to the lots his pro rata interest in the 40 acre tracts at each of the locations and whatever they produce, these being reserved for drilling purposes, also his pro rata interest in the 63,160 acres of leased lands. Under this plan the purchaser has every possible advantage of receiving a profit on his or her investment. Should we be so successful as to bring in several good wells the profits would be enormous, and should we only bring in one out of the 12 tests it would certainly be a splendid investment, however, we do not believe it is possible to explore this great territory and not bring in more than one good well.

This proposition is backed by some of the best business men, stockmen and bankers of Colorado, Texas. And every person in this country should be interested and use their influence in the interest of this proposition, as it, beyond a doubt, means more to this section of Texas than any proposition that has ever been before the people from a development standpoint. Let us all do our very best to develop our country and be the ones that receive the direct benefits, by buying a contract now.

Brooks Bell, President.
C. M. Adams, 1st Vice-Pres.
F. E. McKenzie, 2nd V-Pres.
E. M. Baldwin, Sec.
C. T. Harness, Treas.

TRUSTEES
J. M. Thomas
S. D. Vauhan
T. W. Stoneroad, Jr.

BOARD OF MANAGERS
Brooks Bell
C. M. Adams
F. E. McKenzie
C. T. Harness
Oscar Longbotham

For further information, call on, or address Paul Bennett, Merkel, Texas, District Agent

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL & GAS COMP'Y

Good Western Grown Seeds

We have in Merkel a stock of, Sudan, Feterita, Dwarf Red and White Maize, Red Top and Orange as well as Seeded Ribbon Cane, Corn, Higaria and Schrock Sorghum, these last two are recommended as the greatest feed crops ever grown in Texas, Western Growned Mebane cotton Seed, free of weevil or "boll rot". You will find these with Mr. G. R. Gazzaway Boyce Building - Phone 37, he will appreciate your inquiries and sell you the best of seed worth the money.

The Sweetwater Seed & Grain Company.

WHY YOU ARE NERVOUS

The nervous system is the alarm system of the human body. In perfect health we hardly realize that we have a network of nerves, but when health is ebbing, when strength is declining, the same nervous system gives the alarm in headaches, tiredness, dreamful sleep, irritability and unless corrected, leads straight to a breakdown. To correct nervousness, Scott's Emulsion is exactly what you should take; its rich nutriment gets into the blood and rich blood feeds the tiny nerve-cells while the whole system responds to its refreshing tonic force. It is free from alcohol. Scott & Dawne, Bloomfield, N. J.

Mr. and Mrs. Byron Thomas have gone to Tye to spend the spring months at the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brewster.

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.

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



You'll feel proud of your old floors if you will take a few hours time and finish them with

Loam Brothers VERNICOL
Floor and Varnish Stain

Then your old floors will not look old any longer, because Vernicol will cover up their ugliness and make them look bright and new. Vernicol does not show heel marks, is easily cleaned and holds its own under rough everyday wear. It's just the thing for floors. Bring in the measurements of your floors. You will be surprised how little the cost will be.

Burton-Lingo Co.
Merkel

Advertised Letters.

Bruner, Pearly
Daniel, Bill
Gravis, Pete
Jones, Mrs. Alma
Poryea, Pedro
Yrigione, Mannel
Morales, Bentorio
Terro, Victorio
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office April 26, 1916.
H. C. Williams, P. M.
Merkel, Texas.

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



LOST—One solid gold Brooch Pin, set in pearls, one pearl in center with small prongs. Lost while on the streets shopping, finder will leave with Dr. Cranford and receive reward. Mrs. W. V. Cranford.

FOR SALE—Good bath tub. See Mrs. W. P. Browning. 14t2pd

FOR SALE—A fine saddle colt one year old. Mrs. R. B. Rains. 14t1pd

FARM WANTED—Will pay cash for good farm of 160 to 200 acres within 8 miles of Merkel. State location, improvements, acres in cultivation and cash price in first letter. Address K care of Merkel Mail.

FOR RENT—A 5-room house to desirable parties. H. C. Williams at the postoffice. 1t

FOR SALE—Span of young horse mules at a bargain, cash or approved note. Apply H. C. Burroughs Jr. Merkel, Texas. 7t2

FOR SALE—Span of young horse mules at a bargain, cash or approved note. Apply H. C. Burroughs Jr. Merkel, Texas. 7t2

WANTED—To buy six extra good cows. I want strictly the very choicest. C. M. Largent. 7t2

FOR SALE—My roadster automobile. Run only 1200 miles since complete overhauling, repainting and new top. First-class shape. Will take good buggy or used lumber as part payment. Price \$250, worth more. Dr. Miller.

FOR SALE—My home in northwest Merkel where I now live. A bargain. T. J. Evans. 17tf

FOR SALE—My home at a bargain. Nice four room house. Thos. Largent. 1t

Fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.



Self Satisfaction

will be your lot, for you will surely be Well Pleased With Yourself if your Good Judgment leads you to place your Account in our hands.

And then it's Our Business to keep you Well Pleased.

E. L. ROGERS

GROCERY

Shetland Pony For Sale

One thoroughbred shetland pony, absolutely gentle for children to drive and guaranteed safe. Also set of harness and surry. See me if interested. W. Parten.

Loans

8 per cent money on good land on long time. We are fully ready for loans again. Ask for clients all over this territory who have been borrowing from us for years and years about our liberal terms and then see or write us for details. Quick work with us on loans. 31tf

Compere Bros., Abilene, Texas



The Telephone Saved a Life

When one of our men was badly injured by the threshing machine we telephoned the doctor, who told us how to patch the man up. The doctor then started for our place in a hurry. When he arrived the man was pretty weak, and without the doctor's advice the results might have proved serious. Thanks to the telephone, the man pulled through.

Every farm should have Bell Telephone connection.

Write our nearest Manager for information
The Southwestern
Telephone &
Telegraph Company



The Misses Woods of Buffalo Gap were guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Moore Saturday and Sunday.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

From a small beginning the sale and use of this remedy has extended to all parts of the United States and to many foreign countries. When you have need of such medicine give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy a trial and you will understand why it has become so popular for coughs, cold and croup. For sale by all dealers.

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.

\$1,000,000.00 FOR A NEW STOMACH

It is said that one of America's best known multi-millionaires—a man who ruined his digestion in the pursuit of wealth—stated that he would pay a million dollars for a new stomach.

But, while surgeons have become very skillful in performing operations that were once considered impossible, nobody has stepped forward and offered to sell his stomach to that millionaire. Your stomach is worth more than a million dollars to you. It is LIFE to you.

This millionaire's stomach is so ruined by abuse that it can never be made "as good as new" by any medicine. But YOUR stomach, if properly aided NOW can be restored to its normal condition.

If YOU suffer from indigestion, "heartburn," gas in stomach, foul breath, sense of illness after eating, sour stomach, and will not eat NOW instead of delaying longer, you can get PROMPT relief.

DR. THACHER'S Liver and Blood Syrup

will set your stomach right, and do it quickly. It will stimulate and regulate your liver, which supplies bile to the stomach. It will also provide the stomach with JUST WHAT IT NEEDS in order to do its wonderful work of digestion more perfectly.

It will lubricate your bowels, and cause them to move naturally and gently. It will get your whole digestive "Workshop" into working order, cleanse it, oil up the "machinery," strengthen it—and you'll be AMAZED by the change.

Your appetite will improve. Food will taste GOOD to you. There will be no more discomfort or pains. You'll feel STRONGER. Life will be better worth the living.

DO IT NOW—give your stomach the relief it is calling for, before you are like the millionaire, whose stomach is now BEYOND REPAIR. Dealers sell 50c and \$1.00 bottles. THACHER MEDICINE COMPANY, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

For sale by T. L. Grimes Druggist

A Healing Salve for Burns, Chapped Hands and Sore Nipples

As a healing salve for burns, sore nipples and chapped hands Chamberlain's Salve is most excellent. It allays the pain of a almost instantly, and unless the injury is very severe, heals the parts without leaving a scar. Price, 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

Candies For The Children

Boney's drug store has received a complete line of candies of all sorts.

Special line of Easter candies. Also, fresh fruits and nuts at all times. A. C. Boney.

Cure 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

PARTEN'S GRAND EASTER SPECIALS

Dress-Up For Easter

Our low prices and big handsome stock of Easter materials and Ready-Made dresses and other garments make Easter preparedness extremely easy. Throughout our entire big \$30,000 stock of new clean dry goods, clothing, shoes and millinery, we have made hundreds of Easter Specials, where you can make one dollar do the work of two. Remember, from now until Easter Parten's Grand Easter Specials make Easter buying doubly easy and profitable for everybody who wants to dress up at the smallest possible cost.

See---Inspect our big stock of unmatched Easter goods at unprecedented low prices---Parten's Cash Store With Easter Bargains

OUR EASTER MILLINERY

This department is the pride of our store, and though the season is scarcely opened, our sales are far in excess of any previous season. This fact is attributable to the unquestionable values we are offering and the exquisite beauty and Artful tailoring of each and every hat sold. Mrs. Golden Cypert is the artist and will be delighted to show you and give each individual customer special attention.

Beautiful New Spring Dress Goods and Silks at Monster Savings. Be on Hand Early

- New spring dress gingham now worth 12c now selling for..... **10c**
- New spring dress percales 38 inches wide guaranteed not to fade, now worth 15c now selling for..... **10c**
- New spring suitings now worth 20c now selling for only..... **12c**
- New spring suiting now worth 25c now selling for only..... **18c**
- New spring suiting now worth 35c now selling for only..... **25c**
- New spring suiting now worth 50c now selling for only..... **35c**
- New spring woollens now worth 75c now selling for only..... **50c**
- New spring silks now worth 35c now selling for only..... **25c**
- New spring silks now worth 50c now selling for only..... **35c**
- New spring silks, now worth 75c, now selling for only..... **50c**
- New spring silks, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only..... **75c**
- New spring silks, now worth \$1.50, now selling for only..... **\$1.00**
- New spring lawns, now worth 15c, now selling for only..... **10c**
- New spring lawns, now worth 20c, now selling for only..... **12c**
- New spring lawns, now worth 25c, now selling for only..... **18c**
- New spring lawns, now worth 35c, now selling for only..... **25c**
- New spring lingerie, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **35c**

Clothing for Men & Boys

We are impelled by a natural kindly feeling for our fellow being to implore every would-be good dresser to inspect our high-grade, perfect-fitting within-reason clothes—every suit is guaranteed to fit and wear and hold its shape and not fade. What more do you want for the price? If we don't save you money we don't want to sell you.

New Spring Laces and Embroideries at Monster Savings

Beautiful to Behold—Better to Buy at These Prices

- Beautiful new val laces, now worth 10c to 15c, now selling for only..... **5c**
- Beautiful new shadow laces, now worth 15c to 25c, now selling for only..... **10c**
- Beautiful new embroideries, including baby sets, now worth 10c, now selling for only..... **5c**
- Beautiful new embroideries, including baby sets, now worth 15c to 20c, now selling for only..... **10c**
- Beautiful new organdie flouncing, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **35c**
- Beautiful new shadow laces, now worth 25c, now selling for only..... **15c**
- Other beautiful laces and embroideries in the newest, daintiest patterns and designs too numerous to mention at the same low prices.

Staples Staples Staples

These prices are good as long as the present stock lasts, only.

- Bleached domestic, now worth 7c, now selling for only..... **5c**
- Bleached domestic, now worth 10c, now selling for only..... **7c**
- Bleached domestic, now worth 11c, now selling for only..... **8c**
- Bleached domestic, now worth 12c, now selling for only..... **10c**
- Brown domestic, now worth 10c, now selling for only..... **7c**
- Bleached pepperell sheeting, now worth 35c, now selling for only..... **30c**
- Brown pepperell sheeting, now worth 32c, now selling for only..... **28c**
- Extra quality mattress ticking, now worth 12c, now selling for only..... **10c**
- Extra quality feather ticking, now worth 20c, now selling for only..... **15c**
- Extra quality canvassing, now worth 5c, now selling for only..... **4c**
- Extra quality blue denim, now worth 20c, now selling for only..... **15c**
- Full width best bleached sheeting only... **25c**

Free Free Free

- A \$1.00 and 50c tie free with every spring suit sold, Saturday, April 15, 1916
- Mens work pants, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only..... **90c**
- Mens work pants, now worth \$2.00, now selling for only..... **\$1.45**
- Mens work pants, now worth \$2.50, now selling for only..... **\$1.95**
- Mens work pants, now worth \$3.00, now selling for only..... **\$2.25**
- Mens dress pants, now worth \$2 to \$2.50 now selling for only..... **\$1.45**
- Mens dress pants, now worth \$3.00, now selling for only..... **\$1.95**
- Mens dress pants, now worth \$3.50, now selling for only..... **\$2.45**
- Mens dress pants, now worth \$4.00, now selling for only..... **\$2.95**
- Mens dress pants, now worth \$5.00, now selling for only..... **\$3.45**

Men's Furnishings

- Here is where our sparker is superb.
- Mens work shirts, full made, now worth fully 50c, now selling for only..... **39c**
- Mens dress shirts, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only..... **75c**
- Mens dress shirts, now worth \$1.25, now selling for only..... **\$1.00**
- Mens sport shirts, latest degree, now worth \$1.50 now selling for only..... **\$1.00**
- Mens balbriggan undershirts, now worth 35c, now selling for only..... **25c**
- Mens balbriggan undershirts, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **39c**
- Mens elastic seam drawers, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **39c**
- Mens all solid leather belts, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **25c**
- Mens all silk four-in-hand ties, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **25c**
- Mens suspenders, now worth 50c, now selling for only..... **25c**
- Mens cotton gloves, now worth 15c, now selling for only..... **8c**
- Numerous others at the same big bargains.

Shoes and Slippers for Ladies, Men, Girls and Boys

We are prepared with both style and quality, both to a degree of the most eminent efficiency to supply every one of each every family within Merkel's trade radius with the most marvelous values in spring footwear possible to wish for. If your feet are sore our shoes will ease them. If you've been getting sorry shoes we'll cure that—If the prices have been too high we have the only remedy—

25 to 50 per cent Saved on Every Pair

And we guarantee better shoes. NO RISK TO TRY US.

Men & Boys New Spring Hats and Caps The Best Ever

- John B. Stetson, worth \$4.50 and 5.00, now selling..... **\$3.50**
- Now worth 1.50, now selling for..... **\$1.00**
- Now worth 2.00, now selling for..... **1.45**
- Now worth 3.00, now selling for..... **2.45**
- Now worth 3.50, now selling for..... **2.95**
- These are the biggest values ever offered at the beginning of any previous season. It'll pay you to buy now.

It would give us greater pleasure to describe in detail and price every article in our store, but the lack and cost of greater space prevents. We will pay you for your day's trouble, however, if you fail to find a day's compensation in the savings we shall make in your spring purchases. It is with better goods, better advantages and lower prices that we base our claims for your spring business.

Our big store will be aglitter with the opulence of spring's hoardings and aglow with phosphorescence of handsome savings for every cash buyer.

FREE FREE FREE FREE

We have secured a big assortment of Beautifully decorated Chinaware which we will give Absolutely Free as long as they last with each purchase of \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$7.50. Only one piece with each purchase of above amounts or more. :: On Display :: It will pay you to investigate

MERKEL'S BARGAIN EMPORIUM PARTEN DRY GOODS CO. MERKEL'S BARGAIN EMPORIUM