

FLAMES DESTROY VOL MARTIN HOME

At an early hour Friday morning of last week flames almost completely destroyed the Vol Martin home in the extremes northwest part of town. The entire household effect were destroyed in the conflagration with the exception of a few pictures and one or two pieces of furniture.

The building being a large home of two story structure, made a brilliant fire, which apparently started in the rear of the house and had eaten its way toward the front of the building before it was discovered. When the alarm reached the fire station the building was a mass of flames. A quick response was made by the boys at the station and in all twenty-three hundred feet of hose were used in reaching the burning residence, in fact nearly every available foot of fire hose the fire department possessed was called into service. On reaching the place a siamese coupling was made and two streams of water were played on the fire in time to keep only a small part of the building from being destroyed. The portion saved however would be of no value due to its charred condition. Parties who were present at the fire stated that sufficient pressure was maintained to allow the two streams of water to be thrown high over the building, which is considered as highly efficient.

Insurance to the amount of \$1,500 was carried on the building with \$1,000 on the contents.

REVIVAL MEETING COMMENCES SUN.

The Baptist revival meeting will begin at the tabernacle next Sunday morning to continue at least two weeks. Rev. O. W. Dean, pastor at Seymour, will do the preaching. Merkel people know Bro. Dean, and I am sure he will be glad to know he is to be with us again.

We are anxious that the meeting shall be for reaching for good. We want every body to attend. If you are not a church goer, come and be with us through this meeting any way and at least hear what the preacher has to say. We invite and ask for the co-operation of all orthodox christians. If you are saved you want others saved also. We will ignore and treat with contempt all attempts at a wrangle or discussion. Especially do we invite everybody who sings to come and take part in the song service. We would appreciate it if the business men of our town would arrange to close doors one hour each day for worship.

Come and help us with your presence and with your prayers.
L. B. Owen, Pastor.

BALLOON IS MADE KEEP EYE ON SKY

Capt. Andrews has completed his new balloon and may be seen ascending from the town the first still day, probably Saturday.

The new balloon lacks five feet being as high as the other one and has a smaller circumference and is what Capt. Andrews calls a swift climber.

NEW NAMES ARE ON STATE TICKET

With eleven candidates for congressman-at-large, eight for United States senator, three for governor, three for attorney general and as many a number of other state offices filed with State Chairman Paul Waples, the time limit for filling such applications expired Monday at midnight. They will be voted on at the state Democratic primary July 29.

Lieutenant Governor W. P. Hobby and W. F. Doughty, state superintendent of public instruction, are the old candidates for re-election without opposition. Comptroller, H. B. Terrell was without opposition until the last moment, when two applications were filed. Only that of Charles B. White of Dallas was recorded however another by J. M. Terrell of Dallas being thrown out because it did not give the information required by the Terrell election law.

Eleventh hour filings are Hugh Nugent Fitzgerald of Fort Worth for congressman at large and Charles T. Rowland of Fort Worth for attorney general, and C. H. Jenkins of Austin, for chief justice of the supreme court.

H. A. Halbert, who filed as a candidate for commissioner of agriculture in the opposition to Fred W. Davis, requested that his name go on the ballot as H. A. (Pecan and Watermelon) Halbert, citing the precedent of Cyclone Davis in the last primary election. His request will be granted.

The candidates are as follows: Governor—James E. Ferguson, Austin; C. H. Morris, Winnsboro; H. C. Marshall, Winnsboro.

Lieutenant Governor—W. P. Hobby.

Congressman-at-large—Jeff McLemore, Washington; Roger Byrne, Smithville; Arthur E. Firmin, Dallas; J. H. (Cyclone) Davis, Sulphur Springs; H. D. Darwin, Cooper; Daniel E. Garret, Houston; Rufus J. Lackland, Fort Worth; W. R. Cox, Hamlin; H. G. Cooley, Dallas; S. C. Padleford, Cleburne; and Hugh Nugent Fitzgerald, Fort Worth.

United States Senator—John S. Davis, Dallas; O. B. Colquitt, Dallas; C. A. Culberson, Washington; John J. Harrington, Austin; T. M. Camsbell, Palestine; S. P. Brooks, Waco; George W. Riddle, Dallas; and R. L. Henry, Waco.

State Treasurer—John W. Baker, Crosbyton; J. M. Edwards, Austin; and W. E. Munn, Boyd. Attorney General—E. F. Looney, Austin; John W. Woods, Rottan; Chas. T. Rowland, Fort Worth.

Judge of Criminal Appeals—W. C. Morrow, Hillsboro, and A. J. Harper, Austin.

Railroad Commissioner—John W. Robbins, Austin, Allison Mayfield, Sherman, and Rufus B. Daniel, El Paso.

Commissioner of General Land Office—J. T. Robinson, Austin, and Charles Geers, Fort Worth.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction—W. F. Doughty, Austin.

Commissioner of Agriculture—Fred W. Davis, Austin, and H. A. Halbert, Coleman.

Associate Justice of the Supreme Court—R. W. Hall, Amarillo, and J. E. Yantis, Austin.

Chief Justice—Nelson Philips, Austin, and C. H. Jenkins, Austin.

Comptroller of Public Accounts—H. B. Terrell, Austin, and Chas. B. White, Dallas.

An application for comptroller was received Tuesday morning from J. M. Terrell, Dallas, but it was not made out in due form and was not by registered mail. It was not considered, therefore. —Star Telegram.

LIGHT ATTENDANCE IS HAD AT THE COMMERCIAL LEAGUE MEET MONDAY

Two Important Committees Have Been Appointed to Handle Matters Coming Before Merkel People Almost Daily

Regardless of the light attendance at the Commercial League meeting on Monday evening (due to the show) two important matters were taken up and one of them disposed of. A committee was appointed to handle all sorts of advertising schemes, to pass on them according to their merit and if worthy of consideration to O. K. them and allow the matter to go before the merchants for further consideration. In any and all events the committee is to act first on any and all advertising schemes or like propositions of questionable importance and every merchant and business man is asked to always direct these people to the Committee on Transient Advertising and if said committee fails to O. K. the proposition, all members are expected to refuse to consider the scheme. Two of the committee are known and one is unknown, this is done to allow a vote on a matter to be taken without embarrassment to the committee. When a proposition is placed before the known members they in turn will caucus with the third party and report their findings at the earliest possible moment. President Bland appointed as the known members of the committee Thos. Johnson and Homer Easterwood, the third member being known only to President Bland and the other two committeemen.

A committee of W. D. Woodroof, W. E. Britain and H. F. Groene was appointed to confer with the city councilmen and city attorney in regard to ordinance regulations of tented shows visiting this place. The seating arrangement of nearly every tented company showing here is faulty and not in accordance with degrees of safety as are required of many amusement places. The Commercial League went on record as strongly impressing on the city authorities the necessity of pushing this regulation to an early disposal, due to the fact that some six tented aggregations now have their sights on Merkel during the summer months, each one would likely stay from one to two weeks. The regulations are needed for more purposes than one and the safety clause is the only one possible to regulate on, as such regulations can be made in this way as will give the city ample authority to control the show situation.

HOMER RANDOLPH DROWNED MONDAY

Homer Randolph, aged 12 years son of Claud Randolph, was drowned fifteen miles north of Abilene Monday morning. The body was recovered Monday morning and burial took place at Hawley that afternoon.

According to the information here, the boy was fishing on the banks of the Clear Fork and in some manner lost his balance and fell in. His hat was seen floating on the stream and this led to the finding of the body. —Abilene Reporter.

TEACHER OF MUSIC

Mrs. J. F. Edmunston has just moved to Merkel from Gainesville and will begin teaching music at once. Mrs. Edmunston is a teacher of many years experience teaches PIANO, VOICE, VIOLIN and other instruments is a pupil of the noted Prof. Silvio Scenti of Chicago.

Lessons will be given in HARMONY COMPOSITION and the HIGHER BRANCHES of MUSIC Your patronage solicited. Terms \$4.00 per month.

Don't buy a monument for your loved one until you figure with A. L. Jobe. 54

Several head of jersey cows for sale or will exchange for dry stock. Judd Sheppard.

TWO DAYS' PICNIC AT WARREN LAKE

A two days picnic at Warren Lake is now being planned for June 16 and 17th with an assured attraction of a high dive of approximately 70 feet by legless Andrews the aeronaut. Andrews has also been secured to make a balloon ascension on each of the two days, if conditions will permit his flight. The high dives will be assured attraction for each day. Ball games and other attraction are being booked and will be advertised in full at an early date.

Masons to Meet Saturday.

Saturday night is regular meeting night of the local A. F. & A. M. Lodge and all members are requested to be present. Degree work is to be done. Wesley Edwards.

Land For Sale

I now offer my land for sale for a short time. Reason for selling is change of business. James Baker, Trent, Texas.

For Sale

Duroc pigs, pedigree furnished, \$5.00, at my farm 3 miles east Merkel on Abilene-Merkel road. J.T. Warren.

Wanted man with small family to do farm and ranch work. M. Largent. 9t

STORM KILLS THREE DAMAGE BY HAIL

The Panhandle and north central west Texas was visited by a severe storm Sunday a toll of three lives being exacted, one at Haskell, one at Stamford one at Wellington. Several people were injured in various towns throughout the path of the heavy winds and hail and crops were damaged heavily in many places.

At Aspermont, Wichita Falls, Claude Clarendon, Roby and many other towns in their vicinity had houses blown down, telephone and telegraph service severely crippled. South of Aspermont a small cyclone was reported followed by a terrific hail. Heavy rains were reported in nearly every point on the Fort Worth & Denver between Wichita Falls and Fort Worth.

A FINAL COTTON REPORT FOR YEAR

After some delay in getting small amounts of cotton weighed the Merkel yards are now able to give what might be termed a final report on cotton sold and weighed at Merkel during the season of 1915 and '16.

The grand total to date on receipts being 18,822 bales. This amount takes in all the cotton in the country with the exception of nine bales now being held by a Merkel country farmer. If there be other cotton stored in this section we are not informed of the amount and the above figures may be taken as final and correct.

DODGE CARS IN PARADE SATURDAY

The first parade of its kind ever held in Merkel was made a complete success when owners of Dodge automobiles engaged in a giant parade through the streets of Merkel Saturday afternoon.

The parade was led by three touring cars abreast in which the entire band of the Roy E. Fox Popular Players gave music for the occasion. In short it might be termed a preparedness parade for the numerous national emblems that waved from various cars. In all thirty cars were lined up and were photographed just before the parade started.

SWIMMERS WILL NOW WEAR SUITS

I have prepared a dressing room for both ladies and men at the Warren Lake and hereafter all bathers must wear suits. Bathing 10 cents.

On Sunday afternoon the Lake will open to the public with a special program. The balloon man will make a highdive and will give expert swimming demonstration. J. B. Walton.

Notice to Car Owners

If you want to cut 1/3 off of the high cost of gasoline let us furnish you with A Henderson Oxidizer. Satisfaction guaranteed. C. W. Russell at Crown Hardware Co. 24

I do painting of all kinds, houses, buggies and autos, paper hanging a specialty. See or phone 24. A. C. McGee. 24.

A. R. DICK-PAYNE KILLS HIMSELF

The shocking news of the death of A. R. (Dick) Payne reached Merkel Saturday night when Justice of The Peace N. D. Cobb was called to the deceased's residence to hold an inquest over the remains.

Using a twelve gauge shotgun, the victim of his own hand placed the muzzle of the gun against his head and pulled the trigger.

The suicide was committed about nine o'clock Saturday night, Mr. Payne going to the rear of the house where he seated himself in somewhat of a reclining position, where he was found by the family after the gunshot report. The charge entered the head near the right temple and ranged nearly directly across the skull, tearing its way in a ragged wound, death being instantaneous. Mr. Payne had been bothering for some time over what are termed minor troubles and had confided in friends that life was not worth living, and while it was a shock to his near neighbors, it was known among some that he had made threats to end his life.

The deceased is survived by a wife and five children and the family is one of the most respected in the Trent section. Burial was given the body at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon in the Trent cemetery.

TORNADOES EXACT TOLL--80 KILLED

Storms and tornadoes in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mississippi within the last few days have exacted a toll of eighty killed and over one hundred injured the latest storm victims being at

LITTLE ROCK, June 6—A telephone message received here this afternoon from Heber Springs says that between twenty-five white person were killed and more than fifty injured in that town in yesterday's tornado.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., June 6.—Forty-nine persons are known to have been killed by tornadoes, which swept northwestern Arkansas late yesterday and last night, according to the best estimates today.

The town of Jucosonia is reported to have been the worst hit, while eighteen are reported dead from Heber Spring.

A lack of wire communication makes it impossible to obtain a correct toll of the storm.

JACKSON, Miss., June 6.—Two whites and six negroes were killed and fifty others were injured, some seriously, by a tornado which swept through the western section of this city early today. Two hundred and fifty homes were damaged.

I want to sell you your groceries. G. M. Sharp.

NEW FRONT NEAR BEING COMPLETE

The new solid plate glass front of the Elite Confectionery, now being built in by contractor Myers will be finished within a few days.

In addition to the new front, a new concrete sidewalk has been laid for the building an improvement that several other business places need fearfully bad.

THE Farmers State BANK

HAS

**PLENTY OF MONEY TO
LOAN ON APPROVED
SECURITY**

We solicit your business
pledging Service
Safety and
Satisfaction

No account too Large
None too Small

THE GUARANTY FUND BANK

Capital, Surplus & Stock-
holders' Liability

\$85,000.00

J. S. SWANN, President
JOHN SEARS, Vice Pres.
R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC

Entered in the post office at Merke
Texas as second class matter.

Lackland A Candidate

Rufus J. Lackland, a noted Texas auctioneer is now a candidate for Congressman at Large and will probably pass through Merkel June 21st, on a speaking trip he now has planned.

Merkel people will remember Mr. Lackland as one who helped auction off a number of lots in an addition to Merkel, which were then thought to be of (it happened years ago) unknown value, as they were later proved to be. His announcement for congress takes him entirely out of the sphere of life he has recently been following.

Stomach Troubles

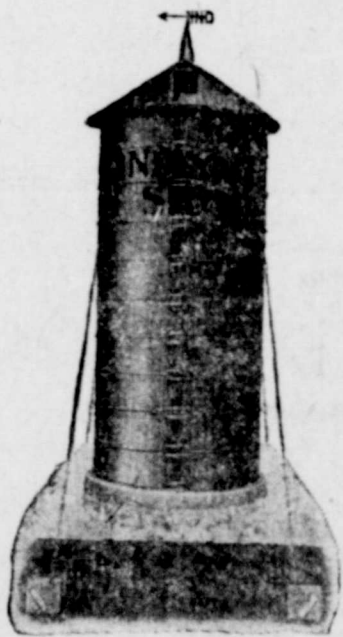
Many remarkable cures of stomach troubles have been effected by Chamberlain's Tablets. One man who had spent over two thousand dollars for medicine and treatment was cured by a few boxes of these tablets. Price, 25c. For sale by all dealers.

Here Prospecting

Messrs A. C. Goen, J. C. Goodman and W. B. Knight of Floyd county were here Monday prospecting. The former being on trade for the purchase of the Goodman farm in the Shiloh community.

Restored to Good Health

"I was sick for four years with stomach trouble," writes Mrs. Otto Gans, Zanesville, Ohio. "I lost weight and felt so weak that I almost gave up hope of being cured. A friend told me about Chamberlain's Tablets, and since using two bottles of them I have been a well woman." For sale by all dealers.



Any Silo is Better than no Silo

but no Silo is better than the Indiana Silo. Let me sell you a silo, and let it pay for itself out of the proceeds of the Silo. If you are interested in a Silo write or see F. L. Wood, Merkel, Texas

AVOID OPERATION

Get Out From Under the
Shadow of the Knife.



Thousands of women on the verge of serious surgical operations are saved by a timely use of **Stella-Vitae** the great female remedy. The usual female troubles are unnatural and unnecessary.

Taken in time they can be cured and the operation avoided. The tonic principle of **Stella-Vitae** picks you up and gives you new life and hope, new desires and energy, new strength and purpose in life.

For two generations Dr. Thacher has been helping Southern women to better health, to more cheerful lives. **Stella-Vitae** is the means employed and evolved by this celebrated physician from thousands of test cases.

Any woman who suffers even in a slight degree can be benefited by just one bottle of this celebrated remedy. Don't put it off, don't neglect yourself and become old and care worn before your time. Get a bottle of **Stella-Vitae** from your dealer and if you find that it does not improve your condition the dealer will return full purchase price. But it will help you. It will improve your digestion, clear up your complexion and work wonders with your disposition and appearance. Get a bottle today. Don't delay! Your dealer sells this wonderful guaranteed-to-benefit remedy in \$1 bottles. Thacher Medicine Co., at Chattanooga, Tenn.

For sale by T. L. Grimes
Druggist



Stop in On Your Way Home

and purchase some of our ideal ice cream. It will keep hard plenty long enough for you to reach home. You will find it a splendid restorer of energy after the fatigue of shopping or calling. For our cream is more than a sweet. It is a food of exceptional nutritive value.

ELITE CONFECTIONERY

Dr. John Walling Dead

Dr. John Walling, a pioneer physician in this section, died at an Abilene sanitarium Monday evening following a lengthy illness.

Dr. Walling was 81 years of age and had lived in Texas 78 years and in the Merkel-Nienda community northwest of Merkel since '87. Surviving him is his wife, a son Riley Walling of Trent, Mrs. Joe Beall and Mrs. Esta Webb of other points in Texas. The body was brought here for interment, the funeral services being held at the Church of Christ Tuesday afternoon.

Sore Nipples

Any mother who has had experience with this distressing ailment will be pleased to know that a cure may be effected by applying Chamberlain's Salve as soon as the child is done nursing. Wipe it off with a soft cloth before allowing the babe to nurse. Many trained nurses use this salve with best results. For sale by all dealers.



FOR SALE—Duroc pigs, pedigree furnished, \$5.00, at my farm 3 miles east of Merkel on Merkel-Abilene road. J. T. Warren.

FOR SALE—Several head of Jersey cows and heifers. Will exchange for dry stock. Judd Sheppard.

WANTED—A good farm hand wanted. Apply to Sam Butman, Nubia, Texas.

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

FOUND—Gray mare fourteen and one half hands high, left ear split, no brand. Owner pay this ad and fees and get her at old "Lackey" farm S. W. of Merkel. W. B. Wells.

STRAYED OR STOLEN—Bay mare with white spot in forehead, thin, sixteen hands high, lame in front feet. \$5.00 reward. Return to city marshal. J. T. Walker. 2p

FOR SALE—My place where I now live, cheap and on easy terms. J. A. Provine. 9t4

LOST—A big heavy dark overcoat Between Merkel and the Canyon. Return to Merkel Mail office. 8t2pd.

Drives Out Malaria, Builds Up System
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. 5c.

Peculiar Deaths

A decorator at Grapvine, Texas was fumbling with a folding bed one day last week when the outfit snapped up and broke the man's neck. A party in Missouri fell out of a bath tub and met a like fate.

A captured French aviator was forced by his German captor to make a return flight over the French lines, that the German might spy on the enemy's position and return to his forces with the news. The German had taken the precaution to strap the Frenchman to the machine while he sat unfettered just behind him with drawn pistol and directed

TOTAL RESOURCES
\$350,000.



**A REPUTATION MONEY
CAN NOT BUY**

We want you to investigate the character of our service and the financial condition of the institution. The largely increasing volume of business is taken by us as a gratifying acknowledgement of public confidence

J. T. WARREN, Pres. THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

Family Dr. says:
**Try our
Cooling
Drinks.**



FAMILY DOCTOR RECOMMENDS OUR SODAS BECAUSE OUR SYRUPS ARE PURE. HE ADVISES THAT YOU COME DAILY TO OUR COOLING FOUNTAIN FOR ICE CREAM BECAUSE OURS IS MADE OF PURE JERSEY RICH CREAM, AND HAS MUCH "FOOD-VALUE" AND IS HEALTHFUL.

"DRINK AT OUR COOLING FOUNTAIN ONCE AND YOU WILL DRINK FROM IT MANY TIMES AGAIN. ONE TRIAL OF OUR ICE CREAM WILL MAKE YOU OUR DAILY CUSTOMER. JUST TRY OUR DELICIOUS BEVERAGES AND ICES ON THE PURITY OF WHICH YOU CAN "RELY."

T. L. Grimes, Druggist

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET

RENFRO THE TAILOR

AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO

Your Cleaning and Pressing

by orders the course of the machine. The Frenchman realizing the fate of his brothers if their location was given the German man's neck was broken.

LOCAL NEWS

Shorts and Bran at G. M. Sharps.

The water is always fine at the Warren Lake.

The latest and standard magazines at Burroughs.

Mrs. W. M. Woodall of Austin has been here this week visiting her daughter, Mrs. Olin Graves.

Protect your stock by using the best dips and disinfectants obtainable from Burroughs.

Miss Erma Alsbrook of Cisco has been a recent guest of Miss Minnie Ferguson.

Plenty of meal, bran, shorts and mixed feed. Bob Martin Grocery Company.

Miss Esta Lee Hinson of Fletcher, Okla. is here visiting her grandfather, Thos. Smith.

We give a free pass to the picture with each 25c purchase. Burroughs.

If you want a good cup coffee try Wamba's Steel Cut at G. M. Sharp's.

Miss Mae Stanley of Brownwood is here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Oliver. She will visit in Merkel for two or three weeks.

For all first class painting and paperhanging, see or phone 24. A. C. McGee. 2t4.

Owing to Mrs. Jobe's sickness we will close all ladies hats out within next ten days. A. L. Jobe. 9tf.

Mrs. F. J. McKee of Nolan came in the first of the week and will spend two weeks visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. A. Burford.

Off on the first mail. Our motto, let us fill your parcel post orders. Burroughs.

Why not save your money? Matches three boxes 10 cents at Ducketts.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. King of Lamar county are here visiting their son, E. W. King, who lives in the Tye route 1 community. They will remain in this vicinity about ten days.

Best North Texas Hay at G. M. Sharps.

Mr. and Mrs. George Cauthen and family have moved to Midland where they will make their home in the future. They made the trip through the country in their Dodge touring car.

Just received the most complete line of paints and varnishes ever shown in Merkel. Burroughs.

Elder W. G. Cypert was in Colorado Sunday and Sunday night conducting services for the Christain congregation of that city.

Don't fail to get one of the nice salad bowls worth 25 to 50 cents on sale Saturday June 18th for only 10 cents see them in J. A. Ducketts window call and get yours.

Get the swimmers habit every afternoon at the Warren Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Henderson and family of Coleman came in Saturday to visit the family of Thos. Smith. Mrs. Henderson and the children will remain several day, Mr. Henderson having returned Monday.

See A. C. McGee for all first class painting and paperhanging. Phone 24. 2t4.

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.



COOL SUMMER CLOTHES FOR MEN

YOU WILL FEEL JUST AS COOL AS IF YOU WERE IN A CAKE OF ICE IF YOU COME IN AND BUY A SUIT OF OUR "BREEZY" CLOTHES AND SOME TONY, SUMMER FURNISHINGS.

NO USE TO "SWELTER" WHEN IT WON'T TAKE A FORTUNE TO BUY YOURSELF AN ENTIRE NEW SUMMER OUTFIT. WE CAN "RIG YOU OUT" FROM YOUR HEELS UP AND WHEN WE DO YOU WILL BE PLEASED WITH YOUR CLOTHES, SO WILL YOUR FRIENDS.

COME IN AND BUY YOU A NEW OUTFIT. YOUR FRIENDS WILL ASK: "WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR CLOTHES?" YOU WILL TELL THEM; THEN THEY, TOO, WILL COME TO US FOR THEIR CLOTHES.

A Beautiful Assortment of 10c and 12½c Ginghams at only 9 Cents

MIDDY BLOUSES

In new late snappy patterns at greatly reduced prices to close out. You'll want to see them.

65c Middy now 50c
\$1.25 Middy 95c

DRESSES

Ready-to-wear made of good washable fabric in newest and latest styles. Must be closed out at once.

35c Child's Dress now 25c
65c & 75c child's dress 50c
\$1.00 child's dress 85c
\$1.25 child's dress 95c

GROCERIES

100 pounds Varabest Flour \$3.30
10 pounds Compound \$1.25
15 pounds Peaches \$1.00
1 pound Best Soda 5c
3 boxes Best Matches 10c
1 can best Kraut 5c
14 cans best Lye \$1.00
1 quart jar A1 good Coffee 25c

Get your Coupons, they are good for VALUABLE PREMIUMS

THE STAR STORE

MEN'S SUITS

In Palm Beach, in dark and light colors, made with the most careful attention to details; at moderate prices to please the older as well as the younger. Price

\$6.00 to \$7.50

SPORT SHIRTS

For men, cool and natty for summer wear, ideally combining comfort and good taste, in patterns of pretty stripes, at

\$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50

FREE

With each dollar purchase made with us SATURDAY we will give absolutely FREE one Durham Duplex

SAFETY RAZOR

As a matter of fact these razors need no introduction, as they have been in use for several years and have proven themselves to be one of the best Safety Razors ever introduced to the American public. Don't forget the Date and Place, as we have only a limited number of these razors.

BURROUGHS DRUG STORE

MERKEL, TEXAS

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.

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 or ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE, 25c.

J. A. Hamner has returned from the mesquite infested country of south Texas after a sojourn in those parts during the winter. He will remain at home with homefolks and old friends during the summer and recuperate enough to hibernate again within the pines and bog-wollar country when first signs of winter approaches. While in southeast Texas he has been with his daughter Mesdames E. A. Oualine and J. T. Rollo of Jasper.

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.

Attention Merchants

This is to notify all merchants and business men of Merkel and other places that I will not be responsible for any accounts made by Marion Boden (my son) and charged to me. This order is effective now. W.M. Boden 1tp

Notice

\$5.00 reward for return of two sorrell mares, lost or stolen. Ages 3 and 7, 14½ and 15 hands no brands, oldest mare blazed faced, wire marks on both right legs. W. W. Brownlee. Phone Sylvester. 1tpd

Mrs A. J. Leighty of Abilene was the guest Tuesday of Mr. and Mrs H. F. Groene.

Mesdames Garvin and Cobb went to Sweetwater Monday to attend the annual meeting of the Methodist Womens Missionary Society for Northwest Conference. Others will probably be in attendance during the week

Get you a bathing suit and learn to swim at Warren Lake.

Bilious Attacks

when you have a bilious attack your liver fails to perform its functions. You become constipated. The food you eat ferments in your stomach instead of digesting. This inflames the stomach which causes nausea, vomiting and a terrible headache. Take Chamberlain's Tablets. They will tone up your liver, clean out your stomach and you will soon be as well as ever. They only cost only a quarter. For sale by all dealers.

LOCAL NEWS

Fresh potatoes at G.M. Sharps
Fresh corn meal at G. M. Sharp's.

Come to the Warren Lake Sunday. Good swimming.

W. T. Bird of route 2 recently purchased an Overland touring car from the Merkel Garage.

Get your cream and Pearl meal from the Bob Martin Grocery Company.

Miss Lina Morgan of Greenville is the guest of Messrs W. Roundtree and F. B. Hale and family this week.

Shorts and bran at G. M. Sharp's.

Miss Jessie Sutphen has returned from San Angelo where she was employed as a teacher in the San Angelo schools during the school term just closed.

For sale, my home in Merkel. Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mrs. B. C. Moore and daughter, Tina, with Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Sadler drove to Colorado Saturday morning for a short visit with Mr. Moore and friends there.

A few more Durham Duplex Razors free with each dollar purchase. Burroughs.

Mrs. L. Sparkman of Amarillo spent last Sunday with old Merkel friends. She will be in attendance this week on the Ladies Missionary meeting at Sweetwater.

See W. H. Roach The Kent Street Wagon Yard Grocery for staple and fancy groceries everything new and fresh highest price paid for Poltry, Eggs and Buttor. 9t4

Mrs. Chas. Fryar and two children of Abilene made a visit last week at the country home of Mrs. Fryar's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

Have you seen those \$1.25 waists at Ducketts for only 65c?

Dr. J. T. Pue reports that he has this week moved his family here from Sweetwater. They will make Merkel their future home.

Mrs. Jim Prince and daughter, Addie, and Mrs. R. C. Lockhart of Coleman are visiting their sister Mrs. S. E. Tarlton and family.

Cotton seed Meal at G. M. Sharps.

Mrs. J. A. Collins and son, R. G., have returned from a several weeks' stay in Dallas where the former has been a patient in the Baptist Sanitarium.

\$1.00 Overalls at Ducketts only 85 cents.

Mr. Jno. Edwards and family of Midland are visiting their mother, Mrs. M. T. Edwards, and other relatives. Messrs John and Wesley are enjoying a few days fishing this week.

Holland Teaff who has been in Baylor Univrsity for the past few years returned last week to spend the summer vacation on his father's farm on route 4. Holland takes this method of vacation every summer and backs it up with the sweat of his brow in as highly industrious a fashion as he is known to use in his college work.

Save money on Ice Cream freezers at J. A. Ducketts.

Mrs. Geo. D. Henck of Pasadena, Cal. arrived Saturday of last week for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fitts. On Wednesday morning Mrs. Fitts and Mrs. Henck left for Whitewright Fort Worth and other eastern points for a ten days visit after which Mrs. Henck will spend the remaining time of her visit in Merkel.

The Strong Withstand the Heat of Summer Better Than the Weak
Old people who are feeble, and younger people who are weak, will be strengthened and enabled to go through the depressing heat of summer by taking regularly Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. It purifies and enriches the blood and builds up the whole system. 50c.

SOCIETY

MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. King and Mr. and Mrs. Smith Gray gave a dinner Sunday in honor of Lamar county friends and relatives. Those present were H. C. King and wife of Milton, Neck Link and family, Robert Buie and family of Stamford, T. J. and J. M. McAllister and families of Tuxedo, Mrs. E. J. Finley, Misses Annie G. Bentley, Vera Fuller and Mr. Ralph Fuller of Abilene. In the afternoon Messrs J. C. Mason and E. J. Dennis, of Merkel joined this merry crowd and the time was pleasantly spent in talking over olden times.

The large number of social events last week crowded out a mention of the High School Senior dinner which was enjoyed at the high school building on last Friday at noon before the close of school. Only the members of the class were present with their instructors Messrs. Witt and Williams and Miss Lankford. On this same day a fourth holiday was due so in the afternoon the class went on a hunt. In the search for game Mr. Joe Hartley proved expert gunner. The seniors this year have enjoyed many good times and this only added one to those already happily remembered.

Immediately after the Hicks-Walters wedding on last Wednesday evening a wedding reception was tendered these two at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Walters, the bride's parent. The invitation list was restricted to relatives and close friends but then the guests were not a few. The remainder of the evening was largely spent in viewing the many wedding gifts which were in display. Punch was served as refreshment.

Miss Eunice Russel entertained a number of girl friends at her home on last Sunday this being her birthday. The girls were invited for dinner and to spend the afternoon. And mention must not be overlooked of that which came first, the dinner, so ably prepared by Miss Eunice and her mother. In the afternoon kodaking, especially, was enjoyed. The young ladies present were Misses Agnes Lassiter, Florence Holmes, Vera Jinkens, Mary Campbell, Charley Bell Thomas, Beatrice Nidiver, Josie Smith and the hostess.

The closing program of the school year was the piano recital given by the pupils of Miss Burketts at the school auditorium on last Friday night. Having so large a number to appear the program was necessarily long but a good audience and many numbers displayed unusual talent and artistic taste on the part of the pupils. The song "Poppy Time in Old Japan" given in costume by some eighteen girls was a very taking number as also the choruses given as closing number.

Last week saw the closing of the Merkel public school with the exception of the senior class who will be given special instruction a few weeks longer by Supt. Morris in order to complete their year's work. Among the teachers who have already returned to their homes away are Misses Willie Carr to Bonham, Zelma



Bell Connection Adds to Farm Cheer

It was a blustery March evening, but inside the cozy sitting-room of the Browns' 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.

residence to shower them. These two were the recipients of many dainty and useful gifts. The ladies present were Mesdames T. L. Grimes, R. L. Bland, H. E. Bullock, J. G. Sadler, G. J. Jones, T. E. Collins, T. Hand, W. J. Largent, F. K. Rister, J. H. West, W. P. Browning and McCullough. Misses Ruby Jones, Jessie Sutphen and Carrol Rister.

Hicks-Walters

With a simplicity that was beautiful in itself, was the marriage ceremony performed Wednesday evening, May 31st, which united the lives of Mr. Robert Hicks and Miss Eva Walters. The church auditorium had been beautifully decorated by the girl friends of the bride. Ferns and flowers of different kinds were used, among these the Philathea class colors of blue and white had been entwined.

At 8:30 Mrs. R. A. Sadler accompanied by Miss Evelyn Williams sang "Call Me Thine Own." Immediately thereafter Miss Fay Allen played Mendelssohn's wedding march, to which the bridal party entered. Before the bride, and her maid, Miss Carrol Rister, came Elizabeth Harkrider who, fairy like, scattered rose petals in their pathway. Miss Walters wore a gown of tan taffeta while her maid was dressed in rose crepe de chene. Both wore picture hats and carried arm bouquets of carnations.

While these had entered the main doorway, Mr. Hicks, with Mr. Floyd Dean as best man, was advancing down the north aisle. They were preceded by Master Roy Propst, the ring bearer. Rev. W. P. Garvin met the party at the chancel where the ring ceremony was read which made these two man and wife.

Miss Eva who is a daughter of City Marshall and Mrs. Ben A. Walters has lived in Merkel since girlhood and is very popular with all who know her. While Mr. Hicks for a number of years has been an attaché of the Anchor Mercantile Co., counts his friends by all who know him.

These two will begin home-making immediately in a new bungalow on Rose street which has just been completed for their occupancy. The many wedding gifts received attest to the universal popularity which these two enjoy in their home town as well as away.

Allen-Valentine

On last Wednesday evening when our thoughts were largely

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!

occupied with one wedding Dan Cupid was very quietly playing pranks in another direction. After prayer meeting time, in the home of Rev. L. B. Owen, Mr. R. D. Allen and Miss Willie Valentine were quietly married with only the minister's family as witnesses. Both of these parties are widely known in Merkel and surrounding country. Miss Willie, as she is known to her friends, has been primary teacher in the Merkel schools for several years and is loved and respected by her pupils and their parents as well. The Mail joins, with all other interested friends, in wishing them future happiness and success.

Hoppe-Jones

Invitations have been received by a number of Merkel friends for the marriage of Miss Lola Jones to Mr. Paul Hoppe, Jr. The wedding will occur on June the fourteenth at the First Presbyterian church Abilene, Texas.

Moved to Merkel

Dr. J. T. Pae has moved to Merkel and is now living in the Causseaux place, where he has a delightfully cool office. Call and get a free examination and let us tell you of the great benefit our patients are receiving from scientific massage treatment. 9t1



OUR CUSTOM TAILORING

stands out as the highest conception in artistic elegance and fine fitting to the form. We can emphasize individuality in clothes. For the sake of being as well dressed as you possibly can be, let us measure a suit for you. Eventually all of your clothes will be made right here.

F. E. Church



NO MATTER HOW SMASHED UP YOUR CAR

may be, have us send for it and even if it is a total wreck we will put it in usable condition again. So don't condemn your machine to the dump pile or sell it for junk just because it is badly damaged. Why sacrifice good money when we can make your car all right again?

MERKEL GARAGE



IT MAY SEEM IMPOSSIBLE

to you when we say that we can repair that old and damaged harness in a way that will make it as good or almost as new. But if you doubt our word there is nothing that would please us better than repairing your set of old harness to prove it to you. Our charges for repairing harness are very moderate. Just a fraction of the cost of a new set.

J. A. BROWN



We Deliver The Goods

Yes, in more ways than one: PRICE, QUALITY, COURTEOUS TREATMENT, SERVICE, FAIR DEALING and ATTENTION.

Let us Deliver Your Goods

E. L. ROGERS

GROCERY

TEXACO MOTOR OIL AND GASOLINE

A FILM of oil is a small thing, but on just that hinges the economy of your motor and a great deal of the pleasure in motoring.

The film which is maintained between the rings and cylinder walls when Texaco Motor Oil is used proves this:

First:—It doesn't allow the mixture to leak through. All the "gas" is used to produce power.

Second:—It checks wear by preventing metal-to-metal contact.

Third:—It means no excess oil is sucked up into the combustion chamber.

When you use Texaco Motor Oil, you find that your spark plugs won't foul and that there is no heavy carbon deposit to get in the valve seats or to clog the exhaust.

You ride easier with less juggling of the throttle and with freedom from back fires and other annoyances.

Get some Texaco Motor Oil and at the same time, try Texaco Gasoline. This is the other partner of the Texaco Winning Combination.

The Texas Company
General Offices: Houston, Texas

SANDERS DISK PLOWS

THE WORLD'S STANDARD. ALL SIZES—EVERY EQUIPMENT

The lightest draft DISK FLOW on the market! Give your team a chance—insist on the Sanders!

SANDERS Disk Plows are one piece solid steel. They are extra strong and heavy. All levers are equipped with large lift springs—an exclusive feature not found on other disk plows. SANDERS Disk Plows are regularly carried in stock by Hardware and Implement dealers. They cost you no more than the old fashioned unimproved kind. Ask for the SANDERS and accept no other. We carry the new SANDERS regularly in stock. Come in and let us show them to you.

SANDERS Disk Plows are better than other Disk Plows "Headquarters for Disk Plows"—Ask us.

G. F. WEST CO.
Merkel, Texas

Merchants Matinee

AT
COZY THEATRE
Every Wednesday Afternoon

Attend the Cozy every Wednesday Afternoon on Free Tickets Issued by the Leading Merchants

ELITE CONFECTIONERY After the Show visit our Fountain	MERKEL BAKERY Bread, Rolls, Cakes—Hot Rolls Daily 11 o'clock. Phone 118. Delivery Service
WEST & PATE For First-Class Barber Work Hot and Cold Baths	BURROUGHS DRUG STORE Druggist Visit Our Fountain
E. L. TURNER CAFE The place to Eat Short Orders a Specialty	F. E. CHURCH The Tailor Cleaning and Pressing Done Right
JAMES A. BROWN Harness and Saddles—Shoe Repairing On Front Street	WALTERS Furniture and Undertaking Phone 54

FERCUSSON & RENFRO, TAILORS, "FOR PARTICULAR PEOPLE"

The above Merchants will gladly give you tickets to the COZY for Wednesday Matinees. Ask them for tickets. They give tickets with cash purchases amounting to 25c or more, or payment on accounts. Make Wednesdays your shopping day and attend the SPECIAL MATINEE.

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 nutrient 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 & Bower, Bloomfield, N. J.

CROP CONDITIONS OVER THE STATE

Lamar County

While corn and cotton are small yet the stands are fine except of late cotton in places. Farmers are well up with their work; all cotton being chopped out. The oat crop prospect is very poor. Gardens are very good.

Travis, Hays, Comal and Bexar

Those sections of these counties traversed by the I. & G. N. railroad are planted heavily to cotton, corn and sorghum cane, with cotton preponderating. All of these crops look well with a splendid season in the ground. From San Antonio along the S. P. railroad there is a good season in the ground—all late cotton and cane looking well, but corn indifferent, showing carelessness in seed selection. The cotton about Stockdale in Wilson county and Nixon in Gonzales, is heavy and peanuts about Nixon in good bulk.

Llano County

Crops are looking well in this section. Fine rains have fallen. Cotton is about all up; oats will average about twenty bushels to the acre; corn about twenty-five; grass is fine and some of the stockmen are getting a dollar an acre for pasturage.

Denton, Tarrant, Dallas and Grayson

Wheat 85 per cent; oats, 90; hay crop, 100; grapes, 95; gardens, 110. All crops are late and small. Just south of the T. & P. railroad crops are very small and all look poor. Better north of that road. The poultry crop very promising two months ago, is not doing well, many dying from lice infection. Stock on the farms on the increase all over north Texas.

Limestone and Freestone

Spring oats are better than fall and some are being harvested. Some cotton not planted, and some planted just before the rain now being planted over. Conditions of all cotton bad. Much of the land and cotton damaged by washing rains. No rain during the week. In the northern portion of Freestone county rust is damaging the oat crop. The chinch bug is less active since the heavy rains.

Bastrop, Harris, Fort Bend and Liberty

Crop conditions in these counties have improved materially since the late rains, and the promise of dry weather will be welcomed by the farmers. The cucumber crop is promising and some of the farmers of Liberty county are gathering. The yield will be good.

Taylor, Callahan and Eastland

The favorable weather conditions of the last two weeks promise good crops of all kinds. A much larger yield of wheat than was expected is in evidence in Taylor county, though some fields will yield very little. The oat crops are not, as a rule, doing so well but will yield better than was thought possible two weeks ago. About same conditions exist in Callahan and Eastland counties. Good rains about Cisco and Baird on the 26th.

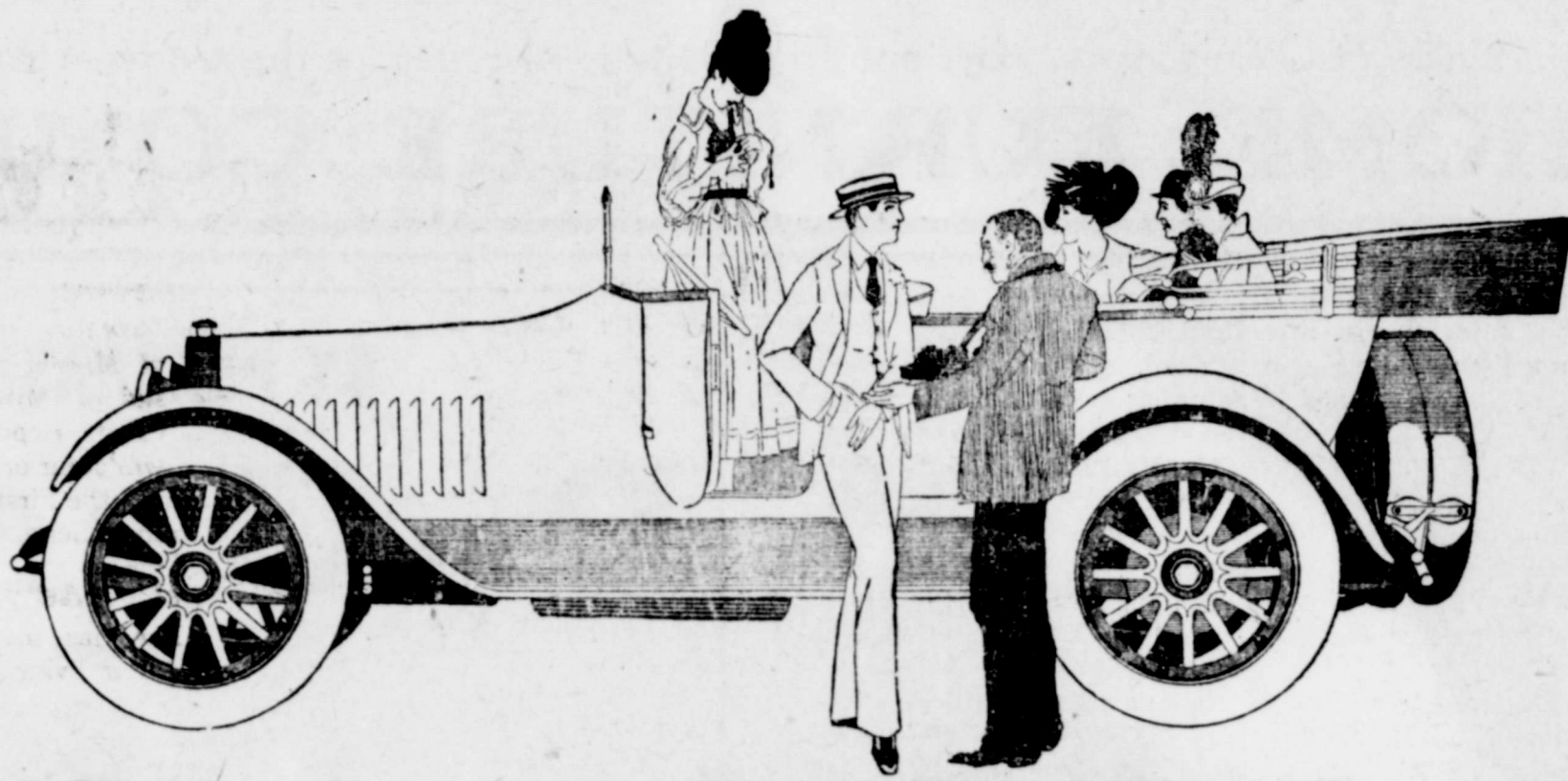
Peaches and Tomatoes

The Georgia Department of Agriculture and the Georgia Fruit Exchange report that be-

45 H. P., 115-inch Wheelbase, 5-Passenger, 32 x 4 Tires, \$1090 Detroit



Quality First



I Have a 3400 r. p. m Ready This Minute For You

This certainly is a great year for selling cars. Most everybody has had success. Some more than others, as is always the case.

Chalmers sales are running 900 per cent ahead of last year all over the United States. Mr. Chalmers' foresight in doubly providing against a shortage of materials has won a great contest.

It has enabled the Chalmers plant to keep on building cars when one or two have shut down or others have had to cut down on allotments to their dealers.

Here it is June and the great Chalmers plant is running day and night, three shifts, turning out more cars than ever before.

How long can Chalmers keep filling the demand?

I don't know. I know only this: the plant is turning out about 125 a day; Chalmers dealers are selling about 425 a day.

The only reason I or any other dealer can supply a car now is because during December, January and February the Chalmers plant worked day and night like Trojans and built about 125 cars a day when the dealers were selling probably only about 80. Soon these 425-a-day sales are

going to eat up the surplus made during the Winter months.

I got a letter a few days ago from the Chalmers plant which simply said: "We have on hand orders asking for immediate shipment of cars whose value is in excess of \$8,000,000."

I need not narrate the rest of the note which was so obviously subtle that I got the telegraph operators on the job right off.

I'm making my promises on delivery from day to day. I've got cars or can get them now. This may not hold good tomorrow.

Next week I shall cut my promises down still more. Remember, there are only two things that I concern myself with these days. One is to get you to take one ride in a 3400 r. p. m. Chalmers if you have not done so already. That's all I want. The car speaks in a language you'll understand.

The other thing is simply one of mathematics: If the Chalmers factory can turn out 125 cars a day and Chalmers dealers all over the United States are selling 425 a day, how long will the supply last?

Price still unchanged—\$1090 Detroit.

tween 3,000 and 3,500 cars of peaches will be shipped from that state this season. The peach crop of Texas will not exceed 1,500 cars for shipment, and tomatoes not over 1,000 cars.

Baylor and Haskell

These counties show splendid stands of cotton, corn and feed-stuffs, with a twenty per cent increase of cotton acreage. Cotton chopping is in progress and corn

looks well but two weeks late. Grass is fine throughout the section and stock doing well.

West and Central-West Texas

From Abilene to San Angelo via Ovalo, Bradshaw, Winters, Ballinger, and Miles, wheat will make from 5 to 10 bushels per acre; oats, nothing to 40 bushels. Cotton 50 per cent; badly overrun with weeds and from two to four weeks late. About Ballin-

ger, Coleman, Sweetwater, and Abilene small grain crops are rather inferior. Heavy rains Friday night over Eastland and Callahan counties and Saturday about Abilene.

Crop Canvass

Replies to the Austin American's crop canvass from 213 points over the state show a slightly increased acreage of both cotton and corn with a good

increase in the acreage of feed-stuffs. This canvass covers 104 counties, and indicates heavier diversification than any previous year.

Cass and Adjoining Counties

There is some improvement in Cass and adjoining counties over last week's reports. Crops of all kinds are doing fine and crops in fair condition. Good growing weather with plenty of moisture.

No insect complaint to amount to anything. Week closed cloudy and warm.

West Texas

West Texas is in fine shape, crops look fine and cattle are getting fat.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city Toledo county and state aforesaid and that said firm will pay the sum of one hundred dollars for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Frank J. Cheney

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December A D 1886.

(Seal) A. W. Gleason
Notary Public

Hall's Catarrh cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. Cheney & Co Toledo, O.
Sole by all druggists 75 c.
Take Halls family Pills constipation.

Card of Thanks

We wish to express our appreciation to the boys for their loyal work they did to save our house. We also wish to include our gratitude to the ladies and girls for their kindness and nice shower of such useful things Tuesday afternoon. Vol Martin and family.

Advertised Letters.

Cawyer, Earl
Goodman, Mrs. C. A.
Heflin, J. M.
Keen, R. M.
Smith, Jess
Smith, T. W. H.
Weldon, Valeria

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office June 21st. 1916.

H. C. Williams, P. M.
Merkel, Texas.



Protect Your Barn and Silo

This is the time of year when you should paint your barn and silo. It means protection to your buildings and everything in them.

Lowe Brothers
Standard
BARN PAINT

is of the highest quality—made expressly to protect your barn and outbuildings. The colors and the quality are vastly superior to those generally used for barn paint. It withstands the wear and tear of the severest weather and keeps your barn weather-proof, always looking new.

It's fine, too, for shingles, roofs, fences, sheds, etc. Color card upon request.

There is a Lowe Brothers paint, varnish, enamel or stain for every farm purpose. Tell us what you want to paint and we'll help you select the best finish for the purpose.

Burton-Lingo Co.

Merkel, Texas

PURE

ANNOUNCING

SANITARY

The Merkel Drug Company

DRUGS

A New Line of Exquisite Stationery
See It

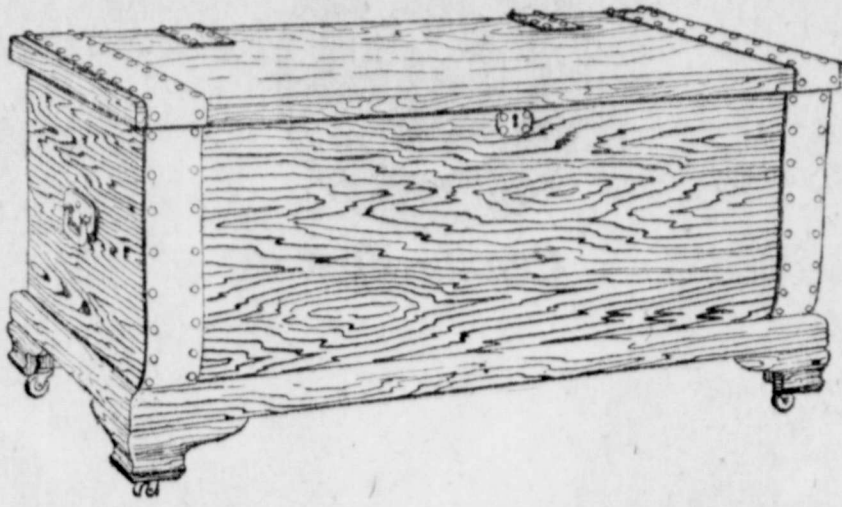
DRINKS

You Insure Against Fire

You Insure Against Death

You protect your money by depositing it in a bank; why not protect your winter garments

With a CEDAR CHEST-- Proof Against Rodents and M o t h s . Worth Their Weight in Gold.



Get One While We Are Quoting Special Prices, Far Lower Than Ever Given in Merkel Before.

Bargain Prices in Cedar Chests. Get one now; unheard of prices for the next two weeks

THE HOME FURNITURE COMPANY

NOODLE

Cotton chopping and plowing are the chief industries of our community.

Rev. Gattis filled his regular appointment here Sunday and intended preaching Sunday night but on account of a cloud coming up at the preaching hour, he did not preach.

The singing class met at the christain church Sunday afternoon but there were but a few singers present. We have decided to meet every Sunday evening at four o'clock. Everybody come to the Methodist church next Sunday evening and lets have a good singing. Everybody both old and young are welcome to our singing meetings.

Mrs. W. R. Green gave the young people a party Saturday night and was enjoyed by all present.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Barkley from Paducah, also Frank Otto and Earnest Sosebee from the same place were guests of some of the Noodle people Sunday.

Mr. Oscar Ely from Belcher-ville is visiting relatives here. Hince Meeks has purchased

him a new Ford of late and is riding around enjoying life.

The Methodist meeting will begin the first Sunday in July if not changed.

There was a fine rain here Sunday night.

J. Walters of Anson was here inspecting the new bridge over the Clear Fork. It is almost complete now after five weeks of labor.

Mr. and Mrs. Rountree of Merkel were visiting A. M. Daniels Sunday.

Dr. Geo. L. Miller was called out to see J. H. Kerby Monday.

Mrs. W. N. Farris returned home last week after several weeks visit with her mother on the plains.

J. D. Barclay and family of Golan spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Barbee.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Thompson and Leldon Goode went to Paducah last Wednesday week to spend several days with friends.

The Noodle Grocery store which has changed hands is now under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Parker Hendrix of Abilene. We welcome them to our vicinity and wish them much success.

Dellis Green left Sunday for Matador to visit relatives.

Mrs J. M. Cook returned home Saturday from Lubbock where she visited her daughter.

Mr. Paul Harkins and family and Mr. Wade and family of Roscoe were in our community Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Church of Merkel spent Sunday with the latter's parents.

Quite a number attended the play at Comper last Wednesday night given by Misses Josie and Bessie Medlin.

SHILOH

Rev. G. W. Scott of Abilene preached here Sunday.

Rev. Grover Myner of Abilene is here visiting homefolks.

Miss Albertine Winters has returned home from Abilene where she attended school the past term.

Terrell Winters was an Anson visitor Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seago spent Saturday with their aunt Mrs. Green of Noodle.

J. H. Grayson went to Sweetwater Sunday.

W. L. Boyd of Trent attended services here Sunday.

There was an ice cream supper at Sinclair Phillips Friday night.

Miss Florence Cade has returned home from Abilene.

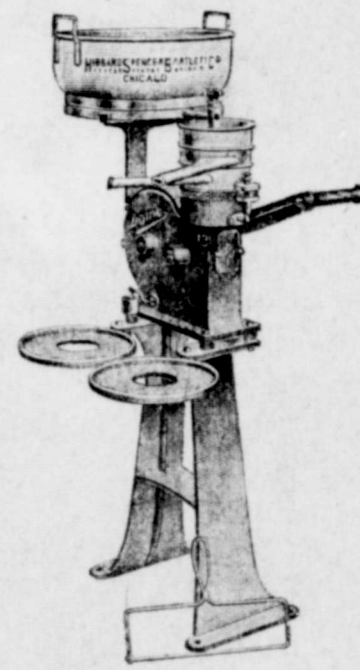
Misses Laura Howell, Vera Phillips and Agnes James visited Mrs. Robert Conder Sunday.

Mrs. S. L. Grayson entertained her sunday school class Sunday with a nice dinner in honor of her little son Clarence's birthday. All report an enjoyable time.

Mr. W. B. Weavers is suffering with rheumtism this week.

BY PURCHASING A

D-O-M-O



YOU WILL SECURE

The SIMPLEST and EASIEST
The CLEANEST SKIMMING
The Most DURABLE
The Most PRACTICAL
The Most MODERN and
The CHEAPEST Separator.

Consequently in every respect the most perfect on the market.

Anchor Mercantile Company

SANDERS TRACTOR PLOWS

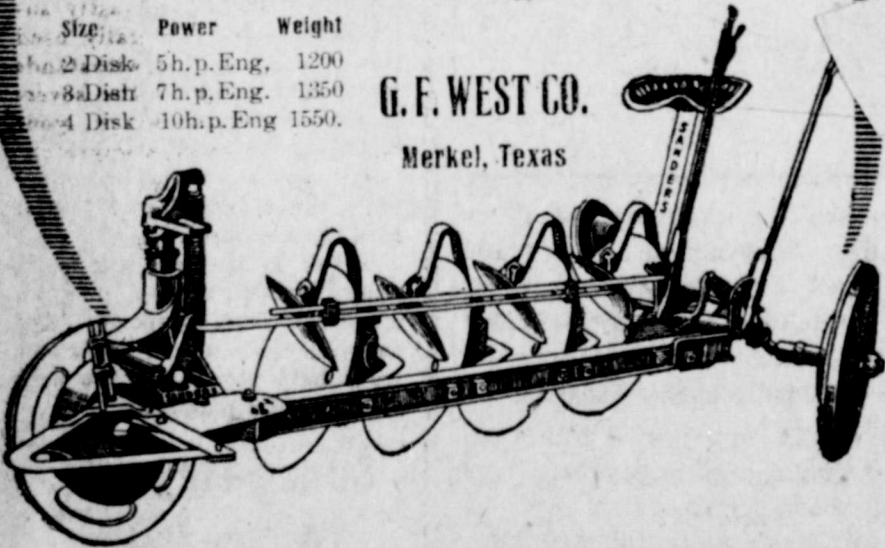
Guaranteed to hitch and plow successfully behind ANY LIGHT TRACTOR
Don't Experiment with Your TRACTOR--it Costs Money!
There's only ONE Universal TRACTOR DISK PLOW--the SANDERS

Built in 2, 3, or 4-disk. Can be set to cut 8 or 10 inches per disk. Regularly built with 24-inch disks but 26 or 28-inch can be furnished at small added cost. Turns to right or left while plowing. Plows 7, 8 or 9 inches deep, depending on size of disks used. Fraiks your Light Tractor perfectly. Raises high. Good clearance. Shipped complete with chain ready to attach. Any one can attach the SANDERS. Requires no operator on the plow.

You can obtain the SANDERS through all Light Tractor Companies. All Hardware and Implement Dealers sell them. Insist on the SANDERS. Take no other. Don't accept a built-over Horse Plow or any other of the various substitutes offered. Give your Light Tractor a chance. You owe it to yourself to insist on the SANDERS. If you have any difficulty obtaining a SANDERS write us at Dallas. We will see that you are supplied.

Size	Power	Weight
2 Disk	5 h. p. Eng.	1200
3 Disk	7 h. p. Eng.	1350
4 Disk	10 h. p. Eng.	1550.

G. F. WEST CO.
Merkel, Texas



A number from here attended the St. Elmo play at Merkel Monday night.

Mr. Martin of Big Springs is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Wilner Grayson.

Famous Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee

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

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.

Recruiting The Army

Congress has doubled the size of the army. Its maximum peace strength now is to be somewhat over 200,000 men, whereas formerly it was somewhat over 100,000 men. The Administration urged the establishment of such an army and the War Department strongly favored it, but Secretary of War Baker frankly is concerned about the ability of the Department to obtain the necessary recruits. Two months ago Congress added 23,000 men to the paper strength of the army. This was to provide for the filling up of existing regiments. New recruiting stations were opened and advertisements inserted, asking able-bodied young Americans to enlist. Two months have elapsed and only 7,000 of the 23,000 have so far been obtained. The reason, of course, for the reluctance of young men to enter the army is

that work is plentiful in the industrial field, and wages are high. Nearly every officer of the army appeared before the Senate and Home Military Affairs Committees stated that the one real solution of the army problem is universal military service. President Wilson favors universal military training, but not compulsory service.

CONVENIENCE

For the convenience of our customers we have been and will continue until further notice, stay at the Burroughs Drug Store from the time you receive your Electric Bill until the 10th of the month, the dates your Bill is due. You can call there between the hours of 8 a. m. to 6 p. m. or mail us your check.

MERKEL POWER Co.
W. A. McSpadden Mgr.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

Should you at any time desire to have any wearing apparel Dyed, Cleaned, Pressed, Repaired or Altered we would be pleased if afforded the opportunity of demonstrating to you our unexcelled service. You fully realize that apparel which, oftentimes cast aside owing to soil, can be by modern methods Cleaned, Dyed or Repaired, etc., and in many instances made to look like new, thereby not only improving appearance but being economical as well. Give our service a trial and let us convince you we can save you money. Phone 83 when again in need and we shall be pleased to call and secure any work you may have. Thanking you in advance for same, I am, yours very truly

STAR STORE TAILOR SHOP

MRS. C. L. CASH, MGR.

THE
Farmers State
BANK

HAS

**PLENTY OF MONEY TO
LOAN ON APPROVED
SECURITY**

We solicit your business
pledging Service
Safety and
Satisfaction

No account too Large
None too Small

**THE
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**THE FIRST
VIOLIN**

By LOUISE B. CUMMINGS

Fraulein Bertha Hauck left Germany just before the breaking out of the pan-European war to come to America. She was to be followed by a lover, Gustav Schultz, a young musician. They were both of the more refined class of Germans, but not noble. Their finances were cramped, and it was impossible for them to marry and live among the people with whom they had been used to associate. In America they could earn a living as they would not like to earn it where they were known. Bertha had enough money saved to enable her to cross the ocean, and it was decided that she should come over in advance of her lover, who was serving his time of military service, which would not expire for several months. Bertha was to look into the new country and, if possible, make an engagement for him with an orchestra. In this way they might be self supporting at once on Gustav's arrival.

Bertha arrived in New York, found friends who had come over years before and as soon as she had settled herself went out to look for an engagement for Gustav. She met the leader of an orchestra, who promised her that as soon as her lover arrived he would give him a trial. All was arranged, and the girl was expecting her lover to sail for New York when news came that Germany had declared war upon Russia, and the rush of German troops into Belgium commenced.

From that day forward the fraulein heard nothing of her lover. She knew that, since war had been declared, he would not be permitted to come away even if he had chosen to come. Then came news of the fighting in Belgium, followed by more than a year of warfare. Bertha heard nothing from Gustav nor from any of her relatives. She had no great expectation of hearing from her lover, but thought she should hear from her mother and sisters. That she did not was probably because the censorship had caused the destruction of letters that might have been mailed to her.

At last, after waiting a year, a letter came stating that Gustav had been reported among the missing several months before, and since nothing later had been heard from him he was undoubtedly dead.

Bertha mourned for him as lost. True, if he were dead his identification badge should have been found. But if a man is buried under tons of earth caused by explosion or blown into numerous fragments what good is an identification badge? Nevertheless the poor girl had a ray of hope that Gustav lived and that they would one day be reunited.

Bertha was very handy with her brush and had the faculty of designing cards and other things needed at social functions. In this way she made quite a snug sum of money and, being frugal, had held on to nearly all of it. She met a countryman of hers, an artist much older than herself, who paid her a great deal of attention and ended by proposing marriage. But Bertha's heart was with her lover, be he alive or dead, and she would not listen to any other man.

Bertha's friends endeavored to cheer her by trying to induce her to go about with them to amusements. She yielded so far as music and pictures were concerned, but would not go anywhere else. Finally by holding up to her the fact that many scenes of moving picture plays were beautiful they excited some interest in them. When they told her that pictures of scenes in the great European war were given she was only too ready to see them.

She had been a number of times to see pictures embodying military service when one night the marching to the French rear of a number of German prisoners was given. What was her astonishment to see, pale and haggard, a bandage on his forehead, walking on a crutch while he held up one foot, Gustav Schultz. She at once became hysterical and was taken out of the building.

When she became sufficiently calm to tell what had moved her, inquiries were made in her behalf as to the time the picture which included her lover had been taken. An approximate date was given and was found to be nearly coincident with that at which Gustav was reported missing.

Thinking it possible that her lover was alive and in a French hospital, Bertha determined to go and seek him. She crossed the ocean to England and from there went to Paris. At Paris she learned at what camp the prisoners taken in the fight after which Gustav was reported missing were interned, and there she went. Upon examining the rolls she found her lover's name as an inmate of a hospital.

One morning while Sergeant Schultz was lying on his cot reading a newspaper, an autumn sun shining at a near window, he heard a cry, and, looking up, there was Bertha staggering toward him with open arms. In another moment she had clasped him and he held her in an embrace.

Schultz was expecting that if he was ever returned to Germany he would be discharged from the service, for his foot had been so shattered that he would never be able to walk upon it again, except with difficulty. He had exchanged a good foot for the iron cross, which he considered a fair exchange. Bertha's story excited a good deal of interest and sympathy among the French officers, who finally obtained permission for Gustav to embark for America.

He is now in New York, first violinist in an orchestra.

A Doll's House

By ELINOR MARSH

Train robberies, which had quieted down during the early part of 19—, broke out with renewed vigor in the autumn of that year. One of these attacks was not only well planned, so far as getting treasure was concerned, but in getting away with it.

Jim Charnley was the leader of the band that made the attack and chose the field of enterprise by personally investigating different points on the railroad he proposed to operate on. He discovered a cave concealed by thick undergrowth where a party of men might hide. So far as he could learn, no one knew of it. He proposed to rob a train as it passed within a few hundred yards of this cave. A part of the force would make off on horseback while another part with the plunder hid in the cave. A posse would follow those who had ridden away while the men in the cave waited till the excitement had died out and then make off.

The robbery was eminently successful. The train was stopped and the plunder taken from the express car. The robbers made off through a wood, dropping the treasure into the hands of four men who made their way to the cave unseen. Those who had ridden away were followed but not captured.

A surprise awaited those who had gone to the cave, among whom was Jim Charnley, the leader of the gang. He had not been to the cave since he had discovered it several weeks before. On entering it he saw a doll in a little bed and several articles of doll furniture beside it.

The presence of this inanimate combination of china and sawdust caused a commotion on the part of the robbers. Some of them, fearing that their presence there might be discovered, were for moving at once. But Charnley argued that the region of the robbery would be filled with persons moved by curiosity, if nothing more, and that any move for the present would be dangerous. If the child came to play in the cave she could be taken in and held from giving information of their presence.

Little Margy Bickford, who lived on the other side of the rise from the mouth of the cave, was the child who had made the place a playhouse. On the afternoon of the robbery she started to go there to get her doll and bring it home. Coming to the rise, she passed over the roof of the cave, where there was a break in the rock that formed it, not sufficient to let in light, but through which sound might pass. The robbers had closed up the mouth of the cave and supposed that they might talk with freedom. At the time Margy was passing over the break in the roof they were discussing whether they should get out or remain where they were. The question was a matter of life or death with them, and their arguments were by no means subdued. Margy, hearing voices in the bowels of the earth beneath her, turned and ran back home as fast as her little legs would carry her. Her mother, seeing that the child had been frightened, questioned her and was told that some men were in her playhouse and would take her dolly away with them.

Mrs. Bickford had heard of the train robbery, and it was not long before she began to suspect the truth concerning the voices her daughter had heard in the cave. She went at once to a neighbor and reported the case. Unfortunately most of the men thereabout had gone off after the robbers, who had ridden away, and not enough men could be got together to warrant attacking an unknown number of desperadoes ensconced in a cave, so nothing was done except to station a boy of sixteen to watch the hiding place.

Charnley decided to remain where the robbers were only till midnight, then to walk to the nearest station two miles distant and board a train that would stop there at a few minutes after 1 o'clock.

Billy Stimpson, who was on watch, saw them leave the cave. He followed them to the station, near which they waited till they heard the train coming, and then went up on to the platform. Billy went to the rear car unseen by them and got aboard at the same time they did. There were four men in the gang, but they took separate seats. They paid the conductor their fare, and he passed on to the rear car, where Billy informed him as to the nature of the passengers who had just got on the train.

The conductor wrote a telegram, which he gave to Billy, instructing him to get off at the next station, five miles distant, and send it, believing that his own motions would be watched by the robbers. On reaching the station Billy stepped off on the dark side of the car unseen, and the train went on. The agent was in bed, but Billy routed him out, and the telegram was sent to a sizable town ten miles distant.

Meanwhile the conductor directed the engineer to slack speed that sufficient time might be given for preparation for a capture.

But few men could be got together in so short a time, and they were disguised, having boarded the train and went on with it. The robbers began to leave it one by one, thinking they were unsuspected. This rendered their capture easy, and they were all seized without a fight.

Little Margy, who had saved \$10,000, was adopted by the express company. Billy was given a handsome reward and later a position on the railroad.

TOTAL RESOURCES

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