

EDITOR HOLFORD AIRS HIS VIEWS

Editor Holford is the mainstay of the Taylor County Times and furthermore than acting as a figurehead for this distinctive publication, can handle his typewriter in such a style as would show his ability to write things. He has a glorious handshake that usually gets a grip on you first. He can express himself in most any language from English on down the line through Spanish until he ends up with quotations from a vocabulary peculiarly his own yet acceptable to the most sanctimonious ear. He has a peculiar style all his own for telling stories, and political fights are just to his liking. He will sit and listen to the very best fish story you have then go you one better, all the time telling his in a tone of voice that gives you no opportunity for recourse, and about this time he will open you to the door of his parlor-sanatorium with an expression of regret that you cannot stay and chat with him longer. As an illustration of his ability to seat himself at his old whamp-a-jawed Oliver and give graphic reports of things and how they happen, we publish the following from his pen, which tells of a skirmish that occurred at Abilene a few days ago during the democratic convention:

"The reports of these committees were received by acclamation and everything looked as merry as a marriage procession on a June morning until Ben L. Cox moved the addition of the name of Hon. J. F. Cunningham to the list of delegates to the State convention. Then knives were unsheathed which had been sharpened at El Paso two years ago for just such a time, and the fire flew from the blades as vital parts were carved into. It appears that Mr. Cunningham was guilty of the heinous offense of misappropriating unto his own use and benefit at the historic Paso pow wow two years past the credentials, honors, privileges or whatever they may be termed, of the rightfully elected and constituted delegates from Taylor county. Just how this was accomplished was not fully elucidated, but it was shown that with the assistance of a co-conspirator the seat in the State convention aforesaid was unlawfully, unjustly and without due compensation wrested from the honest-to-goodness delegates, who were advised to go to Juarez and take a vacation while the building of a platform was being attended to by those who had swiped their political honors. Anyhow, some of these delegates who were undelegated were possessed with fine memories and vindictive dispositions and a lively desire for r-e-v-e-n-g-e, and they took it. On a viva voce vote Mr. Cunningham was declared elected, but on a precinct call vote he didn't get enough votes to make him second in a run-off primary where there are not sufficient voters to hold an election. A few delegates stayed with him, but most of them tumbled into the anti-Cunningham band wagon like a Mexican army charging a grub wagon. And when the smoke of battle cleared away Mr. Cunningham didn't have sufficient cuticle left on his political anatomy to cover the democratic principles possessed by Charles Evans Hughes. After which the knives which had wrought his havoc were peacefully sheathed and the dove of peace again hovered over the proceedings. But Mr. Cunningham was not present to witness his political dissection and emasculation.

AGENT LEWIS IS HELP TO SHIPPERS

Agent W. J. Lewis of the Texas & Pacific Ry. Co., has worked for the interest of the public ever since he first came to Merkel and his latest achievement will be of benefit to stock shippers. Heretofore the stock pens have without water and any stock loaded or unloaded here could not be watered until they were taken to watering places in other parts of the town. As the pens are now arranged, running water has been piped into them and several troughs fixed for watering stock. In addition the pen is made hog proof and shippers are praising Agent Lewis for his assistance in these matters.

PRESBYTERIANS TO START A MEETING

Last Sunday registered the largest Sunday School this year the morning service was well attended by the church and many visitors were present, all of which we appreciated. But Sunday night the house was taxed almost to the limit and we wish to thank the pastors for calling in their services and the people for the very large attendance.

Come again, you are always welcome. Sunday School at 10 a. m., preaching at 11 a. m. and 8:30 p. m. Special song services at the evening hour.

Our revival meeting will begin at the morning service and continues probably two weeks. Rev. Mr. Fitzhu of Fort Worth will conduct the meeting. Every one is cordially invited to attend and co-operate in these services. All singers are invited to help in the choir.

E. P. McMillen, S. S. Supt
Hubert E. Bullock, Pastor

ELMDALE MAN IS GREAT INVENTOR

To Geo. E. Neel, a farmer of near Elmdale, the credit has been given of successfully having invented a railway telephone, by which persons traveling on a fast moving train, or on a hand car, any other railway vehicle may converse freely over a telephone with parties a mile away at a station or on another train, or at some town a hundred miles away.

According to a descriptive account of the invention as was given in Monday's Abilene Reporter, the invention must be a success and will likely revolutionize operations of railway trains and will make the pocket book of the inventor flush at the four seasons of the year. Just how the outfit works is yet a mystery in a way, but now that the Germans have crossed the Atlantic in a undersea boat we have no fears that bright-eyed Americans cannot do anything they set out to accomplish, and we now say that while many things are improbable, nothing is impossible. And the man who devotes his time and study to something worth while will usually succeed.

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.

(Wamba coffee at G. M. Sharp's.)

SOME BUSINESS AXIOMS

Do it yourself.
Think out your own problems.
Listen to advice
But decide for yourself.

You must foot the bills
And your judgment in nine cases
Out of ten
Will prove safest.

If the street-corner shouter tells
You that he is your guardian,
He lies way down in his throat
And he knows it.

He is looking out for only one man
And that man is himself.

Be alive to your welfare.
No one cares for you as much as
Yourself.

RENTFROW'S SHOW SECOND MONDAY CLEAN ATTRACTION RACES AND ROPING

The Rentfrow Jolly Pathfinders exhibiting under canvas near the fire station give a different type of show than has been here in some time. Probably the show is not so different as is the absence of a hub-dub line of advertising as are indulged in by some attractions. The Rentfrow attraction has as a strong comedian Mr. Jap Rentfrow, who on Tuesday evening had the house with him all the time in his "dutch." The little lady who plays his opposite is a versatile player. The Rentfrow show will remain here thru the week showing tonight, a matinee Saturday and their final performance Saturday evening, at which time a handsome prize is to be awarded to some patron of the show.

WILL GET HIS GOAT OFF TO MARKET HERE TOMORROW FOR FALL GOODS

Either "Red" Kelly of Sweetwater or Childress of Abilene will go down as a loser in a goat roping contest here Saturday afternoon. Both these men are good ropers and many of their friends from different points will be expecting to see their man win.

Rev. Scott to Preach

The pulpit at the Baptist church will be filled Sunday by Rev. W. A. Scott of Trent who comes here in the place of Pastor Owen.

Rev. Owen is conducting a meeting at Trent this week, the attendance being unusually good and much interest manifested.

Returns from McGregor

Elder Cypert returned the first of the week from having held a meeting at the Leon. Crossing near McGregor.

In the one weeks meeting held there, nineteen additions to the church were registered.

Next Monday the regular traders day for Merkel is the time set for the horse races, the cigar races and jitney races and the amateur goat roping.

W. H. Cook a local enthusiast on good stock is managing the affair and promises to have some good horses booked for the steeplechase and the saddle horse races.

Lectures at the Tabernacle

Starting Thursday of this week a series of lectures are being given on God's plan for salvation at the Tabernacle by Messrs. Oscar Harris and W. P. Barton. Others will assist in the work which will continue several days and the public is cordially invited out and hear these men.

Messrs. E. L. Woodroof, W. Parten and A. C. Rose buyers for the firms they represent have been in eastern markets for the last few days with the view of stocking up for the rush of business that should start within a few weeks.

Both Mr. Parten and Mr. Woodroof left the early part of last week, while Mr. Rose departed a few days later.

Suffered from Heat

Thos. Largent is confined to his bed in a sanitarium at Marlin Wells with inflammatory rheumatism caused by over exertion and excessive heat.

Mr. Largent was assisting in filling the two large silos on his fathers ranch north of town when he overtaxed his energies with the results above stated. Reports from Marlin state that he is only slowly regaining his normal strength. Mrs. Largent is with her husband.

SHIPPED SIX CARS CATTLE TO MARKET

Within forty minutes time Tuesday afternoon six cars of cattle were loaded at the local stock pens for Fort Worth markets and within very short time were on their way east.

Recent improvements at the stock pens and interest the local Tee Pee forces give patrons of the road is of benefit to shippers who desire better service. The shippers were: D. O. Huddleston one car cattle and one car hogs, W. H. Laney 2 cars cattle, Malone Bros., one car of cattle, J. T. Warren one car of cattle. J. S. Swann is another shipper who has sent cattle to Fort Worth in the last few days.

R. W. CROSS BRINGS IN THE FIRST BALE

R. W. Cross living on Route 4, brought in the first bale of cotton for Merkel, or west Texas, Tuesday afternoon. It was ginned at the McDonald Stith gin.

The following morning the cotton was brought on the streets for sale and after some lively bids it was sold to W. D. Woodroof for a price of 15 cents per pound. Mr. Woodroof, the buyer will make cotton and grain an exclusive business this fall, devoting his entire time to the fleecy staple and other products. The first bale weighed 433 pounds and was raised on the Aaron Horton farm. Mr. Horton being present when the sale was made was heard to say that portions of his crop would average around a quarter bale per acre.

A premium of \$35.50 was given Mr. Cross, which in addition to the value of the bale and seed, totaled \$114.90

G. W. WOOD BRINGS MR. FARMER T' TOWN

G. W. Woods and H. E. Farmer were sauntering down the street Wednesday afternoon not exactly pining over the fact that they didn't get the first bale of cotton but were in search of a commodity in liquid form, sufficient in amount to drown their sorrow and from all reports coming from the Canyon they were not successful in their search.

They were not after a drink, they were looking for rain. When some one spoke about working on roads in this precincts both these gentlemen joined in the chorus of saying a short portion of the White Church road leading west from Center Point was badly in need of work and while they had seen worse roads they didn't think Palo Pinto county had much on them for roughness. Crop time is about to get here and peers to us that a little work might be done on this road for we might want to go to see H. E. or Mr. G. W. some day and rough roads are a terror to our jitne.

Appreciates Cotton Premium

I desire to thank the business men of Merkel for the premium on first bale of cotton which I brought to town and marketed Wednesday. The token of friendliness shown in this is a credit to the town of Merkel and I appreciate it.

R. W. Cross.

Plenty of flour sacks at 35 cents per dozen. Merkel Bakery.

SHERIFF IS KILLED NEGRO IS BURNED

Sheriff Ellis of Seymour died at his home Sunday afternoon as result of wounds received the same morning in an encounter with a negro who had been under arrest. Sheriff Ellis had gone to the Brazos River with the negro together with two deputies to have the negro locate a shotgun he had stolen.

The deputies being unable to get the negro to locate the gun the sheriff took charge of him and with handcuffs on one hand only he started on the search. After becoming separated from the deputies he started across the river bed, when the negro jerked loose, striking Ellis with the dangling handcuffs, knocking him down. A tussel ensued during which the negro obtained the sheriffs gun and shot him four times. The shots not being fatal and not having the desired effect the negro deliberately kicked the officer to death, finishing the heinous work just before assistance reached the scene.

As soon as the news of the killing reached Seymour large posses of men were scouring the country where the crime occurred and later the negro was cornered in a field where he was shot in trying to make his escape. His body was then burned. Following the killing of the sheriff and the burning of the negro a general exodus of blacks from that part of the country ensued until negroes are very scarce in the vicinity of Seymour.

When the report of the killing first reached Merkel, much excitement was caused by Sweetwater having been confused with Seymour and people understood that the above fate had befallen the Sweetwater sheriff. Prompt telephone dispatches soon eased the minds of many close friends of Sheriff Yarborough of Sweetwater, though the people were exceedingly sorry to learn of the other death. Sheriff Yarborough in recently speaking of the negro situation stated that the negroes of Sweetwater gave him more trouble than the entire white population of Nolan county.

The Central West Texas Fair

The Central West Texas Fair will be held at Abilene this year on dates Oct. 10th 14th inclusive, the first catalogues of the premium lists are now ready for distribution and can be had for the asking or writing to Secretary Fred Wood of Abilene.

This annual fair is truly a Taylor county enterprise and is intended for all west Texas and Merkel is a part and a large part of the country to be affected by al. exhibits and Merkel should be represented in nearly every entry listed in the catalogue. Write for one of the premium list prepare now for your entries.

Receives Death Message

E. L. Rogers received a message from his wife who was called to Mississippi recently, stating that her mother Mrs. E. C. Bradley had succumbed to a stroke of paralysis at an early hour Monday morning.

Mrs. Bradley had been in bad health for some time and her death had been momentarily expected for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Herod of Clyde are here this week visiting the Latters brothes S. D. and R. W. Martin of near Stith. Mr. and Mrs. Herod formerly lived here and have many friends who are glad to meet them again.

SEVERAL
REASONS
WHY

No. 1

**GUARANTY FUND
BANK**

No. 2

**LARGE CAPITAL
AND SURPLUS**

No. 3

**ALWAYS WILLING
AND ABLE TO CARE
FOR YOUR NEEDS**

No. 4

**COURTESY AND
FAIR TREATMENT
PREVAILS**

**LET US HAVE YOUR
BUSINESS**

THE
Farmers State
BANK

NOODLE

Rev. Gaddis of Trent filled his regular appointment at the Methodist church here Sunday.

Several from here attended the services at Shiloh Sunday night.

John Bryson and family spent Monday with relatives south of Merkel.

A. J. Barbee and family moved to Merkel where they will make their home in the future.

Miss Ruth Thompson is spending this week with friends at Shiloh.

Miss Helen Thompson of Anson is the guest of her sister, Mrs. W. S. Ely this week.

Mrs. Georgia Easterwood of El Paso is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. L. Barbee and other relatives.

W. C. Witt and family are visiting relatives at Slayton and other points.

E. L. Eason is spending this week at Nolan.

M. C. Wheeler returned home from Colorado City Saturday where he visited relatives.

Miss Ora Bryson returned to Grogan Wells at Sweetwater Monday afternoon after spending a few days with homefolks.

Mr. Henry Wheeler of Colorado City is visiting relatives at this place.

Mr. Akins and daughter Mary of Abilene and Miss Tots Stewart of Waco motored to this place Monday from Abilene and were guests of D. C. Herring and family.

Mrs. W. A. Hall Dead

Mrs. W. A. Hall, age 71, died at the family home in south Merkel Wednesday morning at 3 o'clock, having been at the point of death for several days before her demise.

The aged lady was a member of an esteemed family, and one whose name has been known in this country for the last quarter of a century, she was a true christian, and around her home family ties had gone out and given motherly protection to even more than her own family until she seemed the own mother of her now grown grandchildren. Surviving the deceased other than the husband there are four daughters, Mrs. Ed Sherman and Mrs. Will Campbell of Blair, Mrs. G. W. Moore of Route 3, and Mrs. J. H. Wilson.

The funeral services were held at Rose Hill cemetery at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Revs. H. E. Bullock and A. A. Baker assisting while the Order of the Eastern Star interred the body with the ceremonies of their order.

Recent Births

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hannah on August 4th, a girl.

To Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Mauk of August 2nd, a boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sam Martin, July 17, a boy.

To Mr. and Mrs. Mark Malone a girl, July 20th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ed Faulks, a boy on July 31st.

To Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Pressley a boy on August 5th.

To Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Norris a boy, July.

To Mr. and Mrs. Richard Keene a boy on July 22nd.

Needs Prodding.

"It is a great mistake, Mabel, to trifle with the affections of a man who loves you by encouraging some one else."

"Well, he's a little slow, 'aunte. I think he needs a pacemaker."

For Sale

OUR TIME, knowledge and experience in the printing business.

When you are in need of something in this line
DON'T FORGET THIS

NUBIA

The Baptist meeting which started last Friday night week, came to an end Sunday. It was a pronounced success, there having been fifteen additions to the church and fifteen conversions, some of whom intend to join other denominational bodies. Eight were baptised at Nubia in Uncle Tom Toombs tank Sunday afternoon. The meeting was conducted by Rev. Suttle, a very strong and forceful preacher, whose well chosen words struck home to the hearts of his hearers.

Miss Emma Evans of Abilene was also in the meeting as a singer and organist. She did splendid service and some of the conversions are contributed to her direct personal work. Miss Evans made so many friends by her devotedly consecrated christian nature that when she went to leave tears, and honest ones at that filled many eyes, as they bade her farewell. About fifty-three dollars was given them as a free will offering which was about evenly divided. An invitation was given both them to come back again, and as they left us, our hearts best wishes accompanied them.

The Christian meeting at Cross Roads came to a close Sunday night week. All were united in the belief that it was the most successful meeting ever held at Cross Roads. The most visible results were the fifteen additions to the church and of course numbers of people renewed their pledges and determination to improve their lives. The meeting was conducted by Elder Norman of Winters, a very comprehensive expounder of theology.

C. E. Lewis will begin a singing school at Cross Roads next Monday August 14th. A good attendance is anticipated and all are requested to enroll. Mr. Lewis guarantees to give satisfaction and if he fails it will not cost his dissatisfied pupils a cent.

Bro. Moore will begin a summer meeting at Nubia next Saturday night. The people are requested to meet and build an arbor next Friday. Large crowds are expected, as all other meetings will be over with by that time.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Perry went to Clyde the first of the week to get some of the fine fruit raised there.

The semi-annual singing convention of Taylor county will be held at Trent on the first Sunday in September. Many from here will attend.

A young peoples prayer meeting was organized at Butman Sunday night. It's first meeting will be held next Sunday night.

While returning from meeting at Butman Saturday night Mr. Man Blackburn and Ernest Boyd were thrown from a buggy, the former was severely injured. Mr. Blackburn was trying to pass another buggy when he drove into the fence, the horse was badly cut.

Cotton is beginning to open some, though somewhat sporadic at present. It will not be long till you can witness the people heaving themselves to the scales with cotton sacks on their backs.

The feed crop is rapidly being cared for. Nearly everybody who made good feed is heading it now.

Past Grand Patron Here

Rev. I. S. Adkisson of Decaturville Tenn., Past Grand Patron O. E. S., is here visiting his son Dr. Adkisson and family.

Rev. Adkisson and wife are making a three months trip to western Texas and will remain here for some time.

Linceed oil at \$1 per gallon at Behrens-McMillen.

We will send you a nice fresh watermelon. Phone us, E. L. Rogers.

Statement of The
**Farmers & Merchants
NATIONAL BANK**
OF MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business Friday, June 30, 1916

RESOURCES

Loans	\$218,392.52
U. S. Bonds—par	10,250.00
Stock in Federal Bank	1,500.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate	5,900.00
Cash and Sight Exchange	84,185.97
Total	\$324,140.99

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	42,767.86
Circulation	6,250.00
Bills Payable	None
Rediscounts	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
DEPOSITS	250,123.13
Total	\$324,140.99

We appreciate your business and are anxious to render good Banking service to our friends and patrons at all times.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier



Family Dr. Says:
Learn to buy
Your Drugs
at Our Store—
and Stationery and
School Supplies

IF EVERYBODY HAD ONLY LEARNED HOW CAREFUL WE ARE IN FILLING PRESCRIPTIONS AND IN CHECKING UP EVERYTHING WE SEND OUT OF OUR STORE, WE WOULD DO ALL THE DRUG STORE BUSINESS IN THIS TOWN.

COME IN OR SEND THE CHILDREN FOR THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES THEY WILL SOON NEED. WE'VE GOT EVERYTHING THEY WANT FOR SCHOOL USE.

GRIMES DRUG STORE

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET

FERGUSON & RENFRO, The Tailors

AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO

Your Cleaning and Pressing

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 sys-
tem. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

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

LOCAL NEWS

Oats and cow feed at G. M. Sharp's.

New car of Baker Boy Flour at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Miss Mary Reed of Hillsboro is visiting Miss Carroll Rister.

We keep things rolling. Open your kitchen door. E. L. Rogers

Mrs. J. A. Adkisson and daughters, Madeline and Marie are here from Beaumont visiting the families of Drs. Miller and Adkisson and Mrs. Orr.

Linceed oil at \$1 per gallon at Behrens-McMillen.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bland, their daughters and Mrs. W. L. Diltz have returned from a month's vacation at Mineral Wells and points in Oklahoma.

Bring your clock and have Sublett fix it.

Miss Gladys Wright of Bellview who has been visiting her sisters, Mesdames E. L. and W. D. Woodroof since the early summer has returned home.

A class pen has been found, owner can get same by describing it and paying for this ad. It

No flour better than Seymore's Best. G. M. Sharp

Mrs. J. W. Daniel and Miss Ruby Smith left Saturday night for Eastern markets, where they will aid E. L. Woodroof in the purchasing of the fall stock of goods for Woodroof Brothers.

Get a peck of coffee for \$1.00 at E. L. Rogers.

Miss Fannye Pearl Moore is absent from her desk in the Mail office on a vacation. She will spend the time in and near Midland.

J. W. Mashburn, living two miles northeast of Stith, is having his home improved. Lumber for the work being bought and hauled from here the first of the week.

Plenty chops and bran at G. M. Sharp's.

Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Faulkner with their children of Whitney are making a drive thru central and west Texas, visited their friends Miss Amanda Curtiss and Mrs. Marvin Smith the latter part of last week.

Car fresh Seymore's flour at G. M. Sharp's.

Eli Cordell of near Nubia was in after a load of lumber Monday. Improvement on the Cordell farm seems to be a constant thought.

Have Sublett fix your watch.

Mrs. Cordia Mangham of Parsons, Kansas, is making a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Black. Mr. and Mrs. Dresser and children of Bellview are also guests in this home, and B. D. Black of Snyder has recently visited his parents.

Good hay, feed, oats at Bob Martin's Grocery Co.

W. H. Warren and family, of Hunt county, were here last week visiting Mrs. Warren's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hutcheson. From here they visited in Haskell county, where Mr. Warren has interests.

J. T. Warren and family accompanied by Abilene friends returned last week from a fishing trip on the San Saba and Concho rivers. Mr. Warren registered a kick on his return for having to act as general roust-a-bout for the party. We can imagine the biscuits he would cook would be very savory, and likely, with a little age, they would make good bullets to chunk bull frogs that are so common on those two streams.

Miss Kittie Lou Jenkins has returned to her home at Dallas after an extended visit here with Mrs. H. Turner and other friends.



REMNANTS

IT'S REMNANT WEEK

RIGHT NOW IS BY "LONG ODDS" THE BEST TIME TO GET THE "BEST END" OF A BARGAIN. IT'S REMNANT WEEK! BUT OUR REMNANTS ARE WHAT REMAIN OF OUR MAGNIFICENT STOCK OF SPLENDID MERCHANDISE. OUR PRICES ARE NOW THE LOWEST OF THE YEAR. COME QUICK; TAKE YOUR PICK.

GET YOUR COUPONS--GIVEN IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

Four full weight packages of best Cocoanut for only **25c**

Marechal Flour per hundred - **\$3.40**

Three packages of Puffed Wheat or Rice for only **25c**

A full weight three pound can of steel cut Coffee for only **90c**

THE STAR STORE

Fourteen cans of best Lye for only **\$1.00**

NEEDFUL KNOWLEDGE

Merkel People Should Learn to Detect Against the Approach of Kidney Disease

The symptoms of kidney trouble are many. Disordered kidneys often excrete a thick, cloudy, offensive urine, full of sediment, irregular of passage or attended by a sensation of scalding. The back may ache, headache or dizzy spells may occur and the victim is often weighted down by a feeling of languor and fatigue. Neglect these warnings and there is danger. Delay often proves fatal.

You can use no better endorsed kidney remedy than Doan's Kidney Pills. Here's Merkel proof of their merit.

Mrs. M. L. Ash, Kent St., Merkel, says: "I gave Doan's Kidney Pills to a younger member of my family not long ago and there has been no complaint since. This patient never was strong and healthy and always suffered from his back. The kidneys were weak and acted unnaturally. Four boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills cured all trouble. Price 50c at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy, get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Ash recommends. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y."

Assistant Cashier Ben T. Merritt of the Farmers & Merchants bank has joined his wife at the country home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Welch near Dublin, where Mrs. Merritt has visited the past month. This week will be spent on a fishing trip, after which Mr. and Mrs. Merritt will return home.

Mrs. F. Sears who with her daughters, Mesdames Dan Mathis of Trent and E. W. Campbell of Paducah has been spending the past month at Grogan Wells returned home Saturday. Miss Mossie Sears who was also with her mother will remain for a longer stay.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Baker and little son of Canyon City came in Wednesday afternoon to visit Mrs. Baker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Merritt. They were accompanied by Will Merritt who has been attending the Canyon Normal during the past year, and Harry Merritt who has been on a vacation at Canyon for the past few weeks. They were also accompanied by Mr. Baker's father and a brother. They will visit in Merkel for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Morris are away on their summer vacation and will return in time for Mr. Morris to assume his charge of the city schools.

OUR PUBLIC FORUM

H. N. Pope

ON OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.



Our educational system is more in need of intelligent consideration than any other public institution supported by the people. There has been much said and done about our penitentiary system and making good citizens out of criminals is a laudable undertaking, but children are more important and more numerous than convicts, and we should all go to school a part of the time and keep out of the penitentiary all the time. Our educational system has defects both natural and acquired which should be remedied. I will mention a few of them:

We have in Texas a half million children of scholastic age that do not attend school. The census enumerators found that 42 per cent of our children of school age were not enrolled in any kind of a school. The average annual attendance of those who do enter is 54 days, and we rank 42nd with other States in this respect. Seven per cent of our white and 25 per cent of our colored population that is ten years of age and over is unable to read and write, and if we do not overcome illiteracy more rapidly in the future than we have in the past decade, it will require three generations for all our people to become able to read and write. A comparison of our percentage of illiteracy with other states shows that we rank 35th and we have remained stationary in relative position during the past decade. This defect could, it seems, be best remedied by a compulsory educational law, and the Farmers' Union has always stood for such legislation. Texas is one of the six remaining states that has never adopted a compulsory educational law, and these states are at the bottom of the list in illiteracy.

Turning to the other extreme we will examine the finished product of our educational system regarding the State University as a basis. In looking over a recent bulletin issued by the University listing the occupations of nearly a thousand graduates after leaving the University we find that 53 per cent have been elected to office, and probably half the remainder were beaten in the race for office, making a total of 75 per cent politicians with, of course, an occasional statesman. Many of these boys soon after they graduate get into the legislature and sow their wild oats on the statute books. Thirty-five per cent of the University's male graduates are lawyers, and many times they take good plow hands and make poor lawyers out of them. Every time the University turns out a lawyer it thrusts upon society an expense of thousands of dollars, and it costs the people approximately \$300.00 to educate one, for the tax payer supports the University. It must be said to the credit of the University, however, that it has among its graduates some of the most capable citizens of Texas.

The farmers of this state want the University and favor higher education, and we must have lawyers in reasonable quantities and statesmen are a necessity in government, but the educational system of Texas needs a general overhauling, and the farmers want to hear the subject discussed.

Too Polite. "This is my coming out," remarked the facetious burglar, whose sentence had expired. "Permit me to wish you many happy returns," said the prison keeper gallantly.—New York Mail.

An English Coal Mine. Birmingham, England, has a mine in which one coal seam is twenty-eight feet thick.

Malacca Sticks. The most costly walking sticks come from the Malay archipelago, and the most highly prized stick is the malacca cane. To insure straightness these sticks are reared in glass tubes. A good malacca should be a yard long, not less than an inch in diameter at the upper end, perfectly straight and smooth and of a very dark chocolate color, slightly mottled. It should be used delicately, for the lacquer which gives it its beautiful gloss is easily chipped.—London Graphic.

One or the Other. Sillicus—So they are divorced, eh? I suppose they separated because of a misunderstanding? Cynicus—Either that or because they understood each other too well.—New York Mail.

BEE'S LAXATIVE COUGH SYRUP RELIEVES COUGHS AND COLDS

SOLDIERS CHEER RENTFROW'S BAND

Thursday at noon while the Rentfrow band was giving a concert on the streets a soldier train passed through the city.

The band master quickly changed from the "negro blues" or something of its kind to that popular southern air that causes men to yell and throw their hats skyward, and the soldiers certainly did until their yells almost drowned the music.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Barbee, formerly of Matador and recently of Noodle, have moved here and will make this city their home in the future. We welcome them to the City in Clover and hope they ever make this town their abiding place.

Mrs. Georgia Easterwood of El Paso arrived here Monday morning for a visit with relatives in Merkel, Noodle and near Sylvester.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Cathey of Dallas returned home Saturday, having visited Mrs. Calvert and family for several days.

Mesdames Will Orr of Putnam, Tyler of Baird, and Kelly of Maryneal, came in the first of the week to visit their parents Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lamar.

Dr. O. F. McMaster has returned from a business trip to Austin.

Say, You!



HOW about that printing job you're in need of?

Come in and see us about it at your first opportunity. Don't wait until the very last moment but give us a little time and we'll show you what high grade work we can turn out.



We're Shouting

about the excellent quality of our printing. We don't care what the job may be, we are equipped to turn it out to your satisfaction. If we can't, we'll tell you so frankly.

Let Us Convince You

LOCAL NEWS

Wedgewood syrup at G. M. Sharp's

Wooden barrels for sale. See W. E. Britain.

Mary and Ethel Williams are visiting friends in Abilene this week.

Plenty flour sacks at 35 cents per dozen at the Merkel Bakery. 1112

Mrs. Hayhurst of Temple is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Popham.

Sublett the jeweler is at the Merkel Drug Co.

Miss Ada McCargo of Anson is the guest of Misses Irene and Willie Swann.

Get your shorts and bran from the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mrs. Neece Hancock returned Sunday from Kirkland, where she has visited several weeks with relatives.

We'll also send you some fresh vegetables. Phone us, E. L. Rogers.

Mrs. E. L. Rogers was called Saturday to Watervalley, Miss., by the news of the serious illness of her mother.

Sweet peppers are awful good. Have you tried them? Phone E. L. Rogers.

Linceed oil at \$1 per gallon at Behrens-McMillen.

G. J. Jones and family have returned from a twelve days' automobile drive. They made short stops at Roscoe, Snyder, Ralls and Childress.

Car of fresh cow feed at less than you can get it for later. Better see Bob Martin Grocery Company now.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Duckett of Itasca are visiting with their parents, other relatives and friends.

DID

YOU GET YOURS?

You'll have to hurry if you profit by this sensational

CLEAN-UP
"PICK QUICK"

Palm Beach and Cool Cloth Suits

\$10.00 Quality **\$7.95**

\$8.50 Quality **\$6.85**

\$7.50 Quality **\$5.25**

\$6.50 Quality **\$4.45**

WOODROOF'S

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

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

The MERKEL MAIL

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

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
 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.

BARKING DOGS

Why in the eternal doggonit are papers over the country always howling about the poor boys on the border? And why in the deuce is the "Yaller Jacket" and its likes snapping at Wilson's heels for keeping the poor boys down there in the hot sun where there is no war? What we would like to know is: What would any of the Republicans who are howling their heads off about the Mexico policy do if they were in Wilson's shoes? Would they call the boys home to their afternoon teas, bridge parties and ice cream food, and let depredations on the border break out again, or would they send the bunch into Mexico to protect the Hearst and Standard oil interests? It may be that Wilson will, order intervention, but until circumstances demand, we feel safe with him at the helm of this old boat we are cruising in. Not a few weeks ago a Republican in El Paso, who has numerous interests in Mexico, took opportunity to commend Wilson's policies toward Mexico in something like the following. This man with knowledge of affairs in Mexico first said: "I have never voted the democratic ticket, but Wilson certainly is right in not going into Mexico, and if Americans who have been interested in that country would have treated the natives with proper consideration this mess never would have started, and if I had been in the place of some of those poor peons, I suppose I would have acted sooner than they did."

This El Pasoan deeply regretted the Columbus affair and lauded the border patrol policy as means of guarding against such other attacks until settled conditions reigned in Mexico. The El Pasoan is one in a thousand or probably one in a hundred.

With all due respect to our Republican friends, we must say that their leader has a fine bunch of alfalfa suspended from his chin. Somebody ought to tell him to get out from behind the bush and quit whipping the devil 'round the stump.

We are acquainted with a certain real estate man who could have closed that Danish-American deal in thirty minutes if he had ever gotten wind of the thing at the outset.

An onion a day will keep the doctor away. An old saying that may be true, but still the demand for onions among the fair sex has not materially increased. Some of them seem to prefer beets and settle down for life with a dead one.

Submarines are popping up in the Atlantic so thick the English tars must have the sore neck trying to see something to shoot at.

An Abilene man has offered the farmers of the Potosi community the free use of his gin plant if they will only pay the insurance and make minor repair to the plant. In return he asks the opportunity to purchase their cotton seed if his prices are right.

The election is all over but a small part, fishing isn't good any more and now we are about ready to settle down for the fall business.

All men are created equal. Absolutely true in the sense of the word, but make some up-starts believe it and you've got a job on your hands.

A veritable bunch of whiskers is the Hughes, Fairbanks and Carranza bunch that Wilson has got to handle for the next four months.

LUKE McLUKE SAYS

If you could buy birds of paradise at the 10-cent store you couldn't get a woman to wear one on her hat.

A man buys a newspaper to read the sporting news and then see what is doing in war politics. A woman gets a newspaper to see who is dead and to see what the large stores are advertising.

When She begins worrying about bills and the price of bacon and He quits shaving every morning, the Honeymoon folds its hands and prepares to kick the bucket.

In spite of the fact that every married woman is a detective there are lots of things that are not found out.

It is easy to gain a reputation as a Wise Man. Just keep your mouth shut when you have nothing to say.

It does not do a girl much good to have a rosebud mouth when she has been eating raw onions.

A woman never knows where he got his headache. But a man knows where he got his headache.

Even when a girl is so skinny that she has to wear suspenders to keep her skirt up, she might insist that she would rather be willowy and be a perfect 36.

The minister may make them one. But he soon finds out that he has to dig up enough for two.

Methuselah never boiled his drinking water and never used a sleeping porch and we doubt if he ever swatted a fly. And yet the dern old ignoramus managed to live a few years.

It does not matter what the job is. The man who is not doing it always knows how it should be done.

Our debtors all belong to the Don't Worry Club but our Creditors never join.

The open season for hunting Trouble runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

When it comes to talking for half an hour and saying nothing, a man with twenty beers under his skin and a girl who calls up her fellow on the phone rut a dead heat.

Any woman can dress in a half hour. It is getting the shine off her nose that keeps her upstairs her upstairs for a hour and a half.

Because a girl worker in a Lynn, Mass., factory refused to salute the American flag, 500 employees struck and demanded her dismissal.

Every wife expects too much from her husband and is entitled to more than she gets.

A girl may not believe it but a drugstore blush never convinced a man that a girl is modest.

The average girl has two reasons for wanting to wear the knee length skirt.

A man often wonders how his dear old grandma managed to get by without the assistance of the White Slave Law and the Vice Commissions.

Some men claim that women can't take a joke, but they're wrong. Just look at the husbands some of them marry.

LET THE PEOPLE RULE

Every third family in Nebraska owns an auto.

After asking for a ride on a passing hearse a Florida man jumped from the vehicle and shot himself dead.

Five New York policemen have just been indicted on the charge of blackmailing vice.

Of those who buy goods on credit 40 per cent never pay in full and 7 per cent never pay at all.

Among four Mexican bandits recently executed for murder at Laredo, Texas, one had the name of Jesus Maria Cerda.

A Boston man who stole a \$22,000 payroll from his firm, spent \$1,000 of it for a dinner for 12 friends and the remainder for racing automobiles, clothes and jewelry.—Leslie's Weekly.

Last Announcement!

This is Positively
 the last announcement of the big FREE demonstration which will be held

August 12

2 to 5 P. M.

This is the event that the women of Merkel have been looking forward to ever since the first announcement. This is the demonstration at which they expect to learn more about sewing machines than they ever knew before.

THEY ARE GOING TO BE THERE because they want to know about

The FREE

SEWING MACHINE

(Invented and Patented by W. C. Free)

That wonderful new invention that is revolutionizing the sewing machine world. They are going to be there because they are interested in an invention that will cut the work of sewing in half.

They are going to be there because they want to know about this sewing machine that is a beautiful and attractive piece of furniture, and a perfect sewing machine. **IT'S A BIG EVENT.**

Anchor Mercantile Co.

Good Pianos For Less

Pianos, direct from factory to you. On account of bad health I will close out my pianos at present at a very low price. I will sell you strictly a high grade piano for \$250.00, part cash or good trade and the rest on time, and I will guarantee this piano to be as good as the wagon man will ask you \$450.00 for. So you save \$200.00 and buy from a home man. You get a piano fully warranted for ten years by one of the largest factories in the country. What's the use of giving from \$100.00 to \$250.00 to have a piano hauled to your house when you can come in and make your selection and I will deliver it to your home. I also have one good second-hand piano, very cheap, if you are in the market for a piano and will drop me a card I will come to see you and make it worth your while. I don't believe in hauling pianos around over the country, but believe in a straight, upright business. I am here to stay and have scores of satisfied customers all over the country and will save you money on pianos as long as my stock lasts. So if you are in the market please come to see me or write me and I will call to see you.

Player Pianos \$350
 Yours for a square deal,
 E. D. Coats.

Classifying Themselves.
 "Hello, old man!" exclaimed one man on meeting a friend on shipboard. "How are you?" "First class," said the one accosted. "And how are you?" "Steerage."

Granulated Sore Eyes Cured
 For twenty years I suffered from a bad case of granulated sore eyes, says Martin Boyd of Henrietta, Ky. In February, 1903, a gentleman asked me to try Chamberlain's Salve. I bought one box and used two-thirds of it and my eyes have not given me any trouble since. This salve is for sale by all dealers.

Portugal the Politic.

Portugal has been acclaimed as the politest country in the world. Were I asked, wrote the Earl of Carnarvon after visiting that country in 1827, what society had reached the most polished form I should say that of Portugal. Portuguese politeness is delightful because it is by no means purely artificial, but flows in a great measure from a natural kindness of feeling and extends to all classes and affects all relationships.—London Standard.

Cure for Cholera Morbus

"When our little boy, now seven years old, was a baby he was cured of Cholera morbus by Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," writes Mrs. Sidney Simmons, Fair Haven, N. Y. Since then other members of my family have used this valuable medicine for colic and bowel troubles with good satisfaction and I gladly endorse it as a remedy of exceptional merit." Obtainable everywhere.

Do It Electrically. How? Cook.

Pity the Congregation.
 An old Scotch minister told his assistant that he felt more fatigued hearing him than in preaching himself. The assistant replied that he experienced a similar feeling when his senior was in the pulpit. "Then," rejoined the minister, "I peety the folk that have to hear us balth!"—Youth's Companion.

Just the Thing for Diarrhoea

"About two years ago I had a severe attack of diarrhoea which lasted over a week," writes W. C. Jones, Buford N. D. "I became so weak that I couldn't stand upright. A druggist recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. The first dose relieved me and within two days I was as well as ever." Many druggists recommend this remedy because they know that it is reliable. Obtainable everywhere.

He Learned the Lesson.

"Tommy, you should not fight with that Jimson boy."
 "I know it, ma."
 "That's right."
 "But I didn't know it before I hit him."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

stopped in 30 minutes sure with Dr. Sloop's Group Remedy. One test will surely prove. No vomiting, no diarrhea. A safe and pleasing group-remedy.

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

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

The End of A Rivalry

By ESTHER VANDEVEER

Josephine Sommers was as a girl from ten to sixteen years an incorrigible tomboy. Everybody called her Joe, and everybody admitted that she was well named, for she might be considered either a boy or a girl. Her most intimate friends were boys, and they always spoke of her as "one of us."

When Joe was fifteen a change came over her—that is, she was passing from childhood to womanhood. This transition was in her case peculiar. A girl of fifteen knows that she can't do those things she did when a child. For instance, she can't climb trees with the same freedom; she can't ride on horseback straddle without apparel fitted for the purpose; there is not the same freedom in her friendships with boys.

Joe had not quite let go all these juvenile ways, and yet she was reaching for young ladyhood. One thing she had not yet grasped, and that was a proper appreciation of being made love to by a young man. Boys had never thought of making love to her. A boy would no more have made love to her than to another boy. For a boy to make love to her would have sounded ridiculous, and, ten to one, she would have laughed at him.

The first time that anything serious in the way of a love matter occurred to Joe Sommers was when she was fifteen and a half years old. Two boys, Bob Atherton and Johnnie Myers, laid longing eyes upon her. Neither of them made any mention of the fact to her. If one walked home with her from school the other kept out of the way. If one engaged her for a game of tennis the other amused himself in some other way. Joe did not see the rivalry, but the boys were conscious of it, and there was not a day that one did not try to get ahead of the other.

Of course this constant effort was bound in the end to make trouble between the two boys. Every time one saw the other enjoying Joe's society to the exclusion of the other the green monster flapped his wings. An explosion is sure to come in such cases, and this one was no exception.

All three of the parties to this triangular love affair—though the girl had no sentimental part in it at all—were in the same class in the Effingham high school. When a certain baseball game was played between the Effingham and the Waterton high schools Bob Atherton saw on the grand stand Joe Sommers sitting with a vacant place beside her. He joined her and asked if he might occupy it. She gave him permission, saying that she expected another boy to sit with her, but there was room for him on the other side.

Now, the other boy was Johnnie Myers. Before he reached the stand the place on the other side of Joe was occupied, and he saw Bob in his place. He didn't approach the two and make a scene, but there was consternation within him. He did not even claim his right to sit by the girl. He went off to another part of the field, nursing his wrath not against Joe, who was to be blamed if any one was, but against Bob.

When the game was finished and the multitude left the athletic grounds Johnnie saw his rival walking with Joe toward her home. His own route lay in this direction. Indeed, he lived not far from her, and she could look from her window into his back yard. When Bob left her Johnnie joined him and accused him of intentionally occupying his place at the baseball game. Bob was innocent of the charge, but certain words used by Johnnie riled him.

Joe had laid aside her belongings and was sitting by her window when she saw Bob climb the fence in the rear of Johnnie's home and approach Johnnie with apparent hostile intent. The next thing she saw was a battle.

It did not take Joe long to discern the cause of this encounter. Realizing that she had not properly protected the boy she had promised to sit beside at the game, it was plain to her that this disgraceful fight between her two friends was her own fault. Running downstairs and out through a back door, she vaulted all fences that separated her from the combatants, finally alighting in the yard where they were fighting. But so engaged were they with each other that they did not see her.

What predominated in Joe's mind was this: Through her neglect these two boys had been brought to punch each other. She was angry with herself, but still more angry with them for making her fault more glaring. The fact of their rivalry for her did not enter her head. Indeed, she did not know that there was a rivalry.

It happened that the gardener had been using a hose to water some plants and had left it on the ground. Joe seized it, and the first intimation of her presence to the competitors for her favor was a stream of water poured over them. For a few moments, not discerning the cause of the interruption, they continued to maul each other. Then both turned and, seeing the object of their devotion directing the stream, they ceased to fight and stood apart, whereupon Joe dropped the hose and stood looking at them angrily. She was trying to find words to express what was within her, but, failing, she jumped the fence and ran away.

That was the end of the rivalry for Joe Sommers' favor on the part of these two boys, for she turned the cold shoulder on both of them.

The Colonel's Convalescence

By ALAN HINSDALE

In one of those battles between the French and Germans when the latter were endeavoring to reach the channel Colonel Latrobe, a man of forty, was wounded and instead of being sent to a hospital was left for want of transportation at a chateau by the way. The lady who owned the place directed that he be placed in one of her best rooms and at once assumed his care. Fortunately for both, the fighting did not come near the chateau, and the colonel was left to recover, his wants being supplied by the lady, a spinster named Remercier.

Mlle. Remercier was some five years younger than Latrobe, and spinsters usually preserve their youthful appearance longer than their married sisters. At any rate this is liable to be the case with unmarried women who have no cares or troubles. The colonel's nurse was still a handsome woman.

There was a long period of convalescence, during which the colonel was unable to join his command. Mlle. Remercier read to him, chatted with him, fed him, indeed made his convalescence delightful. Every morning she gathered flowers from her garden, carried them to his room and arranged them in a vase of Dresden china with her own hands. Many of the delicacies prepared for him to eat she cooked with her own hands. No matter what time of day he called for anything he needed the lady responded and always with a sympathetic smile.

In time Latrobe spent a portion of the day in an easy chair; then nearly all the day there; then he was able to walk about his room and finally to go downstairs. He was chafing to get back to the front, though loath to leave his luxurious abode and especially his fair hostess.

One morning in June he was sitting on the terrace with Mlle. Remercier. The sun shone brightly, and delicious perfume came from the roses growing beside the terrace. Conversation turned upon the school of St. Cyr, from which the colonel had been graduated a sublieutenant into the army.

"I visited St. Cyr when but seventeen years old," said mademoiselle. "I can conceive of no place so enthralling to a girl of that age as a military academy. The young men in uniform are far more resplendent than those in civilian dress. There are the martial music, the military ceremonies, everything to turn a girl's head."

"And I remember," added the colonel, "how we youngsters delighted in making love to the girls who visited St. Cyr. Lovemaking had not the meaning that it has for older men. It was what the Americans call flirting. We thought nothing of telling a girl we loved her, and the girl's thought nothing of pretending to reciprocate. We enjoyed the sentiment without having to fret about the responsibilities. When we had made love to one girl we were ready for another. And when they had gone we returned to our studies as free mentally as before they had come."

"Your picture may be true with respect to the young men," said the lady, "and in most cases perhaps with regard to the girls. In my case it was different. In one of these young military students I met that which was the most serious episode of my life. He made love to me simply for the temporary enjoyment of the sentiment. Alas, it was far more than that to me! That is why I have never married."

"The brute!" exclaimed the colonel. "No; he was simply young and did not realize the danger to me of what he was doing."

"Perhaps he did realize it in time, to his cost. I confess that there was one of my affairs that stood by me for many years. I could not shake it off. Even today, after twenty years, I see in my dreams that young face and press again that soft hand."

"And why did you, after discovering that you really loved her, not seek her out?"

"Ah, that would have served in America, where they marry for love, but not in France, where parents arrange marriages for their children."

"Who was the girl?"

"If I remember correctly she was the daughter of a gentleman of fortune, living in one of the provinces. Her name was Hortense"—He was stilled; he had forgotten her surname.

"Would you know her again, do you suppose, after not seeing her for twenty years?"

"That I could not say."

Mlle. Remercier arose and went into the house. Presently she returned with a miniature painting, which she handed to the colonel. He looked at it for a few moments as though it brought back some vague memory; then suddenly he turned his eyes upon his companion in a sort of wonder.

"Where did you get this?" he asked. "I have had it ever since the original visited St. Cyr twenty years ago."

The colonel's steady gaze gradually revealed to him that the miniature was a likeness of Mlle. Remercier at seventeen.

"Hortense!" he exclaimed.

"Hortense!" was the low reply. When the colonel went back to the front he returned a married man. Indeed, had not duty called him he would not have returned. He was very much pleased at receiving another wound, just severe enough to lay him up for a month. He returned to the chateau of his wife, and the month of recovery and his honeymoon were one and the same thing.

TO BUYERS OF PRINTED STATIONERY

Beginning October, 1915, the first advances on paper, caused by the war, were recorded

These advances have continued from time to time until now paper is from 100 to 200 per cent higher. Within the last 40 days two advances have been made by the mills and wholesale paper dealers advise us that even greater advances will come until prices reach 200 to 300 per cent increases. Some predict this will come by October.

To Merchants And Business Men

Who desire to avoid greater increases in their printed and blank forms, we advise immediate purchase of supplies sufficient to last at least six months time. There being positively no chance for lower prices during the next twelve months.

Our service is at your disposal. We will figure the very lowest cent possible on your orders and urge you to take advantage of present prices.

MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMP'NY
Commercial Printing

This Live Store's Half-Yearly

Mark-Down Sale of Summer Merchandise

Our extensive stocks in all departments offer many important opportunities to secure goods not available elsewhere. In comparison with the increased cost of materials and the short supply of merchandise, our prices in all lines are the lowest.

Men's Oxfords Note these exceedingly low prices \$5.00 values, choice... \$3.95 4.00 values, choice... 3.45 3.50 values, choice... 2.95 3.00 values, choice... 2.50	Men's Union Suits \$1.00 lot \$7.75 1.00 B. V. D.85 .50 Balbriggan under shirts39 .50 balbriggan drawers .39	.50 elastic seam drawers40 Men's Sport Dress Shirts \$3.50 silk shirt \$2.45 2.50 silk shirt 1.85 1.50 Madras shirt 1.35	1.00 Madras shirt85 One lot \$1.00 shirts65 Sport Shirts \$1.25 sport shirts \$.95 1.00 sport shirts85 .65 sport shirts50	Ladies Newest Styles in Pumps \$5.00 white pump \$3.95 4.00 patent pump 3.35 3.00 patent pump 2.25 4.00 gray kid pump .. 2.95	3.50 patent pump and strap 2.95 2.50 odds and ends... 1.50 Men's Novelty Hats \$3.00 Kingsbury hats... \$2.50 2.50 King hats 1.85 2.00 King hats 1.35 1.50 York hats 1.20
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WOODROOF'S

WOODROOF'S

WOODROOF'S

PICKED UP HERE AND THERE AND SLASHED BY SLIVERS OUR SPASMODIC WRITER

Mrs. Smith captured a mice last week.

Mrs. Maxwell of who'd-a-thout-it visited her daughter Mrs. Distress last week. Mrs. Distress ran a nail in her foot, Mr. Distress cut his eyeball with a piece of steel and their son Horace broke his arm.

Davey Ellis came down from the west last week to visit home-folks for a week. He is going to cut weeds during the day and smile at the girls every evening as he has had several new gold teeth put in of late.

Deacon Somebody has bought a new cow and is now supplying the people of this city with fresh butter and eggs.

The Thorn school is now supplied with a dictionary and the trustees intend to buy a geography and a globe soon. A few dollars spent judiciously along these lines will probably stop young folks from leaving the farm.

Our boss will get out a paper this week all right in spite of the aged cider some reader sent us.

Mr. and Mrs. B. V. D. Kimball are indebted to Dr. Stork for the receipt of a very-fine daughter on last publication day.

A local undertaker will give the home doctors a banquet within a few days.

On Saturday evening Miss Phylis Bedells makes her final appearance at the big show where she has danced since 1878 without interruption.

One number at the theatre the other evening was a joint recital by Viola Cole, a nervous wreck for several years, and Tew, bass of Cripple Creek.

Mr. Sand has been in a sanitarium at Mineral Wells of late where he went to take advantage of the institution.

Death Valley Dodge Parker sez that Colorado with all its grand canyons hasn't got anything on some parts of Kent street, or near the Baptist church.

Most fines collected by the city of late have accumulated from the vicinity of the express office. And yet this is a dry town.

The bride, while not very good looking, is said to be a fine cook and to have a kindly disposition. We congratulate the groom.

With a clear, sweet voice, every word intoning as distinctly as the tone of a midnight chime, and re-echoing as softly as the fall of a pearl in a golden cup, just so sweetly and sympathetically did Miss Wolf recite the sad sweet poem, while Miss Shalmer at the piano told the same plaintive story in soft, low tones of Enoch's sorrow and Phillips's patient waiting, and the entertainment was such that



MADE ON HONOR - BUILT FOR SERVICE

100

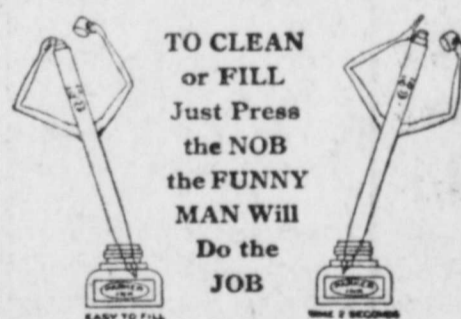
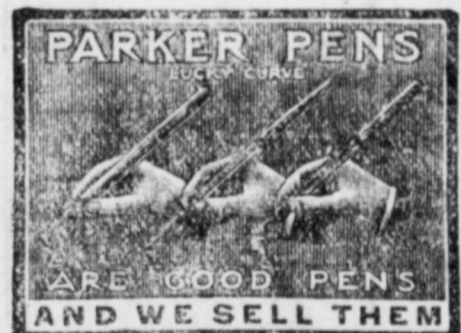
To select from at prices from

\$1.50 TO \$5.00

AT

MERKEL DRUG CO.

COME AND SEE THEM



everybody enjoyed themselves.

The jewel of the program which stamped Miss Case as a true artist was, "The Hidden Germs Are Rich Beyond All Measure."

We have no wonder now that so and so is hale hearty and fat. His wife provides for him well in the eating line. She spent last week with her father I. Av it and returned home with a lot of green corn, twelve jars of preserves, a dozen frying chickens and some butter. We looked for this esteemed gentleman to let out his belt buckle another notch.

Nothing needs reform as much as some people's habits. For this reason we champion a move-

ment to have sharpened nails driven into the curb stones of the town where so many prominent parties meet for consultation.

After summing up this week's report I am forced to say that Mark Twain was correct when he said: "When I reflect upon the number of disagreeable people who I know have gone to a better world, I am moved to lead a different life."

A recent news item said a printing plant had been established in a state hospital for the insane at Columbia and some up-start in commenting on the article said that state authorities saw where the craftsmen were headed and simply prepared a place for them.

A local young man who has connubial aspirations failed to get a letter from his intended at what he termed was the proper time the other day. He left the post office in disgust and repaired to a local establishment where he grasped a newspaper up-side-down without noticing his mis-application of mind. The first thing that attracted his attention was a picture of a fast passenger train in a railroad advertisement. The love sick boy exclaimed in horror, "I see they've had an awful train wreck!" Let's have quiet, it will all be over in a short time perhaps, and peace of mind will reign again with those who are afflicted now.

We'd call names correctly in this column but the courts are congested now with litigations of various kinds and further than that all the ammunition this country has to spare should be kept in reserve for fear of war. Who with, some republicans want to know?

Respectfully,
Slivers.

Postal From Emzi

A recent post card from Emzi Burroughs, who is with the Chocolate Shop Confectionery in Amarillo leads an air of loneliness to Emzi's life up there. He closed his written statement by saying, "Think I'll be home soon, I feel it coming on me now."

Advertised Letters.

Allen, Mrs. W.
Hawkins, Mrs. S. J.
Norris, Mrs. Emely.
Powell, John.
Sullivan, E. A. (2)
Bregan, Massana.
Rodriguez, Jose Ma.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office August 23, 1916.
H. C. Williams, P. M.
Merkel, Texas

L. R. Hogg of Dallas was here for a short time Wednesday morning and drove to his fathers home north of town for a few moments visit before returning to Dallas.

Do it Electrically. How? Fan, Iron and wash.

THE CANDIDATES THEIR EXPENSES

Of the Taylor county candidates who have filed expense accounts T. R. Lassiter registered the minimum sum, while Judge Thomas L. Blanton gives the largest expense account. The expense account of Congressman Smith showed to have been \$36.

The Taylor county list of expenses are as follows:
P. O. Forbus, \$36.62.
Thomas L. Blanton, \$3,463.09.
J. S. Smith, \$113.25.
W. J. Cunningham, \$342.75.
Eugene DeBogory, \$69.75.
W. F. Dillard, \$209.25.
Arthur Hay, \$29.90.
J. A. McMahan, \$140.00.
Roy Parmelly, \$236.10.
W. T. St. John, \$180.15.
J. D. Hilton, \$97.80.
Jeff Hood, \$192.50.
W. H. Graham, \$121.40.
Dan O'Connell, \$26.00.
W. P. Mahaffey, \$345.90.
E. M. Overshiner, \$127.30.
R. H. Welden, \$66.55.
Arthur Jones, \$220.08.
J. A. Boyce, \$89.30.
J. Fuller, \$56.60.
J. T. Dodson, \$47.15.
P. B. Ford, \$19.25.
G. B. Tittle, \$212.00.
W. H. Laney, \$5.00.
E. J. Ellison, \$125.70.
E. F. Farr, \$92.45.
J. N. Routh, \$111.75.
J. S. Patterson, \$173.35.
J. C. Montgomery, 25.75.
J. V. Norman, \$145.00.
S. L. Neely, \$63.20.
J. W. Christopher, \$27.50.
N. D. Cobb, \$195.00.
C. E. Sims, \$167.00.
J. M. Toombs, \$2.80.
H. E. Meyer, \$31.15.
W. H. Wheeler, \$16.00.
T. R. Lassiter, \$1.50.
Austin Fitts, \$197.35.
J. P. Darden, \$13.50.
M. C. Lambeth, \$17.50.
J. H. Vance, \$107.95.

New Lumber Manager

W. B. Abbott of Hamlin, an experienced lumber man, has accepted a position as manager of the Merkel Lumber Company at this place, taking up his duties on the 3rd.

Mr. Abbott's family remain at their home in Hamlin for the time being but will probably move here within a short time.



FOR RENT—Four-room house, known as the Counts place, on south side, two blocks south of the school building. Windmill, cistern and barn. J. R. Baze. 4tlp

FOR SALE—Five-room house on South Rose Street. Good terms. Robert Hicks. 23tf.



Quality First

RING OUT THE CHEAP; RING IN

QUALITY

I asked a shoe man the other day why it was that shoes were so much higher in price than they used to be.

"Shoe leather has gone up," he said. "Most people think that's the reason. But it's only one reason."

"People are buying better shoes than they used to. They want more comfortable shoes. Better fit. They want longer wear and more style. They want some individuality, too."

I thought to myself: Well here's a condition just like the one we are experiencing in the automobile business.

Nearly every 3400 r. p. m. we have sold this year has been to someone who has driven a lower priced car.

I know for myself that it pays to buy better shoes as well as a better car.

But it seems that the great big buying public has the same idea, too.

I'm particularly strong for the 3400 r. p. m. Chalmers because she's got tremendous endurance.

There are now more than 1,000,000 miles of use in owners' hands behind her—and that tells a lot.

Besides the factory writes me that she has a record of service of 99.21 percent perfect.

If you never had a run in her let me know. I want you to get this thrill whether you have any idea of buying or not.

FULWILER ELECTRIC CO.
IRA ARMSTRONG, Demonstrator

\$1 PER GALLON \$1

Just to let the public know that we are selling pure Linseed Oil at

\$1.00 PER GALLON

BURTON - LINGO CO.