

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 29—NO. 2

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1917

8 PAGES

LOCAL HIGHWAY INTEREST

Capt. J. D. Fauntleroy, district engineer for the U. S. Government, with Engineer Meriwether and your secretary, inspected the highway route last week from El Paso to Abilene. From the latter point, Capt. Fauntleroy was called to New Orleans on important business, leaving the route in several of the eastern counties still to go over. Inspection of those will be made as soon as convenient to Capt. Fauntleroy.

On the trip last week, meetings were held in fifteen towns, and from the interest shown at these places and the information received, it will be only a short time until considerable work will be in progress. Several road outfits at work were passed at different places.

During the past week, the Commissioners Court of El Paso county appropriated from the county funds \$50,000 to complete the highway in that part of El Paso county, which soon will be taken over by the recently created county of Hudspeth.

The bond issue election in Shackelford county for \$100,000, to be used on the highways in a special road district, was carried last week by a handsome majority.

An election was ordered last week in Parker county, Precinct No. 1 (Weatherford), for a bond issue of \$240,000.

W. B. STARR, Sec'y.

Considerable interest was taken in the meeting of the officials of the Fort Worth-El Paso Highway, as above indicated, with a number of our citizens last Saturday afternoon. Commissioner T. R. Lassiter made a few introductory remarks, after which Capt. Fauntleroy fully explained the workings of the Federal Department, and its connections with this route. Secretary Starr spent considerable time emphasizing the great importance of this route to our section of the country. It is evident that our citizens will favor any reasonable plan to further the securing of this great highway. Few improvements would add more to the development of this section. When it is considered that the expenditure of a few thousand dollars here will link on to the expenditure of thousands of dollars all along the proposed highway; that it will increase and facilitate through travel; that it will bring our part of the country more to the front; that it will help to make times better and be for our general good; then it is doubtful if a single citizen who fully understands the proposition will oppose the improvement. The encouragement of through travel will encourage the expenditure of money in this section, and every producer near the line will be benefitted. If the building of roads increases taxes, we must also remember that they save tires, both rubber and iron, save horse flesh, save gasoline, save repair bills, facilitate marketing, bring neighbors closer together, and in the end just simply make us love each other a little better. Give us more roads and better roads, more neighbors and better neighbors, and let us not hinder the prosperity that Providence has allotted our section by failing to promote conditions that lead to the fullness of life in all of its ramifications.

New Merkel Firm

A plumbing firm has just been organized in Merkel, known as McFaul & Baker. Mr. McFaul just arrived from Kaufman Co., and Mr. Baker is from Sweetwater. They are located at the tin shop of H. M. Rose. They expect and are equipped to do a general plumbing and repair

RAINFALL IN THE MERKEL COUNTRY

Thinking that it might be of general interest to the people of the great Merkel country, we give herewith data of the rainfall for the past year. For this information we are indebted to the careful and painstaking record kept by our fellow townsman and popular and well known business man, J. P. Sharp. January 26, 1916, light shower; January 30, mist and freezing; February 2, cold, with thermometer 10 above; March 31, 3-4-inch rain; April 1, 3-inch rain; April 5, light mist; April 14, 1 1-4-inch rain; April 26, 1 3-4-inch rain; May 1, 3-4-inch rain; May 17, 1 1-2-inch rain; May 27, 3-4-inch rain; June 12, 5-16-inch rain; June 14, 9-16-inch rain; July 8, 1-2-inch rain; July 29, 3-4-inch rain; August 19, 1-4-inch rain; August 22, 1-4-inch rain; September 1, 1-4-inch rain; October 13, 3-4-inch rain; October 14, 3-4-inch rain; October 17, 1-inch rain; November 14, mercury down to 16; November 21, 2-inch rain; a total of about 18 inches for the year 1916.

For 1917—January 14, snow 5 1-2 to 6 inches; January 15, mist; January 16, freezing; February 13, 6-10-inch rain.

HAPPENINGS AT SHILOH

SHILOH, Texas, Feb. 15.—Rev. Horn of Abilene filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday.

We are glad to report Bud Brown able to be at church Saturday and Sunday.

Clyde Williams was a Merkel visitor Saturday.

Messrs. Jim Hugh and Sam Grayson have returned home from Montague County.

Bud Brown is the proud owner of a new car.

W. B. Beavers was called last week to Johnson County to the bedside of his father, who is real low with pneumonia.

Terrell Winter was a visitor to Paducah Saturday and Sunday.

Atlas Phillips and family of Trent visited the family of Terrell Winter Sunday.

Mrs. Montgomery and children of Golan spent Saturday with Mrs. Beavers and children.

J. H. Grayson has purchased a new car.

Mrs. J. H. Grayson visited friends in Noodle Saturday afternoon.

Grover Tyner, who has been here at the bedside of his mother, has returned to Abilene.

Grandma Bennett spent Saturday afternoon with Mrs. Beavers.

Mrs. Will McDonald visited Mrs. Lawler of Trent Saturday.

Grandma Tyner is able to be up now after a very severe spell of pneumonia.

(Too late for publication last week.)

REMARKABLE REMARKS

Prof. I. S. Holborn—Poetry is not for an idle hour.

Field Marshall French—The contest is approaching the climax.

King Constantine—What has become of the rights of the little neutral nations?

Ed. Lowe—I can point instances where Ralph Waldo Emerson was ridiculous.

Theo. Roosevelt—No amount of talk can induce me to speak of the 1920 nomination.

Grover J. Shoholm—Major Higginson, with an aspect of benevolence, holds Harvard under his wing.

Congresswoman -Elect Jeanette Rankin—I positively re-

tographed.

W. J. Bryan—Wilson was the first President in many years who has been independent of wall street.

"Big Bill" Edwards—A football victory to many men is as dearly longed for as any goal of ambition in life.

Mrs. Julian Heath—Our girls must realize that in married life something more than mere affection is needed.

Francis J. Henry—The West will continue to be the dominating influence until such time as

the East adopts reform legislation.

Vice-President Marshall—Solomon worked his men eight hours a day and Solomon was a pretty wise man for his generation.

Woodrow Wilson—Again and again I have found men in Wall without their advice.

Dr. Cary T. Grayson—I played golf with the President Wednesday with the news favoring Hughes and everybody excited. He played the best game I ever saw him play.

OUR SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

Merkel Mail

TWO YEARS

\$1.50

For the month of February we are making the special rate of **Two Years' Subscription** for the price of one **\$1.50**

We want to add 500 names to our list this month. The privilege is extended to old as well as new subscribers. Let us have your order to-day. **Two Years \$1.50**

The above offer is also in keeping with our twenty-ninth anniversary. Since first the Mail began business, wonderful changes have taken place in Merkel and in this country. The Mail starts into its new year with renewed vigor and earnestly hopes to have the hearty co-operation of every person in this Great Merkel Country.

We thank those who have stood by us in the years that are gone, and those who patronize us at present, and our friends of the future.

Merkel Mail Printing Co

Walter Jackson

P. S.—From all over the great Merkel country new subscriptions are coming in daily, and old subscribers are taking advantage of this liberal offer.

A. C. Rose is erecting a nice modern residence just across the railroad track near the depot. It will be equipped with every convenience. He expects to have it completed by March 1. It will have five rooms, bath and a couple of porches.

Messrs. J. H. S. L. and Hugh Grayson, who live in the Shiloh community, have been visiting at Sunset for a week. Their mother has been seriously ill and all the boys returned to visit her. J. H. and S. L. have returned, but Hugh will remain a while longer. There are nine boys and one girl in the family, all of whom were at their mother's bedside, the first time all of them have been together in thirty-eight years. J. H. showed us a photograph he had taken of the family, which will likely

las News at an early date, and which the Mail will try to obtain for reproduction. Mr. Grayson reports his mother much improved, though for a while, it was thought she could not survive.

E. D. and Walter Massey of Trent visited in Abilene Monday.

John Elliot, a popular ranchman of the Trent community, was a very welcome guest of the Mail the past week. We have known Mr. Elliot for a long time and were mighty glad to see him. He claims that conditions are very good in his locality.

F. A. and L. B. Baker, who live about six miles northeast of Merkel, paid the Mail a visit the other day. He reports everything in good shape and the land

MERKEL ENLARGING HER BOUNDS

HATCHING NEXT WINTER'S LAYERS

(Taken from an article by T. J. Conway, assistant professor, poultry husbandry, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.)

The poultryman and farmer must depend on pullets for their winter supply of eggs. These should be matured and in good laying condition before the beginning of cold weather to obtain best results, and must be obtained from chicks hatched in March and April, which have been properly reared, while good stock and carefully selected eggs are all important. Hens laying large eggs are preferable, although overly large ones are not desirable. The size of the egg determines the size of the chick and the size of the egg it will lay; the shape has a pronounced effect on the developing embryo, while color is an inherited characteristic of the breed and affects hatching; therefore, select large eggs, of uniform size and shape and all of the same color, with shells of good texture. Brown eggs hatch from twelve to twenty-four hours later than the white, so it is not advisable to mix them. Eggs with shells that are pebbled should be culled and thin shell eggs should be avoided, as they break easily when turned, while evaporation takes place faster and poor hatches result.

Rigid and constant selection of hatching eggs along above lines will result in uniformly good chicks and a large number of them, and since these characteristics are inherent, a flock will be developed in a few years in which the hens will lay uniformly large, well shaped, evenly colored eggs of strong shell texture, while culling will be reduced to a minimum. Every increase for more desirable products means increased profits for the owner, as the markets are paying a premium for large, uniform eggs.

Mrs. Tucker Dies.

Sarah Ann Woodrum was born in Lawrence county, Arkansas, March 30, 1844. She came to Texas, with her parents, in 1855.

In 1860 she was married to Lewis Collings, who served as a Texas ranger, and was killed in a fight with Indians in 1863.

She was married to John T. Tucker on December 13, 1866, and is survived by her husband. To the first union were born two children, and to the latter there were six.

Sister Tucker came to Pecos with her husband March 8, 1916. Loving hearts and hands did all that could be done for her during her long and serious illness, until death came and released her from her sufferings at 1:40 p. m., February 12.

She died as she had lived, in the triumphs of a living faith in a living Saviour.—Pecos Times.

Mrs. Tucker formerly lived in Merkel, where she resided for a number of years, and where she leaves a number of relatives. Mr. Tucker, especially, has a host of relatives here. As long as her health permitted, Mrs. Tucker was very active in church work. In a remarkable manner her mental faculties remained unimpaired until the day of her death and it was always with a great deal of interest that she related the experiences of the early days and kept informed as to present affairs. Since an attack of lagrippe about two years ago, she has not been in the best of health. Her friends and acquaintances sorrow in her demise, but are recompensed with the thought that one of heaven's own jewels

Geo. Brown and C. P. Stevens are erecting two modern brick business buildings, each 25x65 feet. They will be completed about March 5 or 10. These buildings make quite an addition to the city, in that they enlarge the business sphere no little. Messrs. Brown and Stevens will occupy one of the buildings with their modern blacksmith shop. Both have been in business separately in Merkel for about 10 years, but will now become associated. They expect to greatly enlarge their facilities. The adjoining building will be a "rest room" for a while, Mr. Brown said.

The Anchor Mercantile Company has just completed a modern brick business building adjoining their present mammoth building. This rapidly growing business had been cramped in its quarters for some time, but the addition provides space for ample display of their popular vehicle line. Being one of the leading business streets, the improvement makes quite an addition to the city.

The Farmers State Bank, as previously noted, is remodeling its building from top to bottom. It is being made strictly modern in every particular.

The residence, which A. C. Rose is erecting is rapidly assuming the proportions of a completed structure. It fills a break in Merkel's most beautiful residence street. He expects to have it completed by the first of the month, or shortly thereafter.

The Merkel Baker, which recently moved to a location across the street from the post office, has made telling improvements to the building. This is an industry of which the Merkel people should feel proud. The city is short in manufacturing enterprises, and we all hope to see this enterprise rise to the highest point of success. Under the able management of Mr. Hancock and his good wife, with a line of goods that make people "want more," it is difficult to see how it would be possible for failure to appear upon the scene.

Some other improvements of a minor nature are under way. With the coming of spring, it will be high time to sound the "clean up," "fix up," "paint up" call, the call that will place the city in the very front rank of the progressive, modern, alluring dwelling places to be found in all the country.

While industry is being manifested in our midst, it might be well to look about us and see if it is not possible for a laundry and an ice plant to profitably locate here. The city is large enough, it seems, to amply support such industries, and they ought to be profitable to those who are willing to make such investments. They would prove a great convenience to the people, and a saving as well. Industries add stability to a city, bring more people, add a greater trade volume, consume more of our local produce and give a vim to enterprise that arouses the pride of her citizens.

The time has about come when there must be some more building done. The residence section must expand. A vacant building can hardly be found; rents are increasing immensely. Merkel is a good place in which to live, the people are congenial and happy, there is a thrill of industry in the very atmosphere, and if it is humanly possible to place the city on a basis to induce more good people to stay and more bad ones to leave, then let us all welcome the coming of that day.

READ THIS

Same goods for less money! More goods for same money! at Kent Street Bargain House.

Statement of Condition

Farmers State BANK

Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business Dec. 27, 1916

RESOURCES

Loans	\$211,968.21
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,950.00
Interest in Gty. Fund	2,720.32
Cash and Exchange	186,354.12
Total	\$416,992.65

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	26,150.30
Deposits	355,242.35
Reserved for Taxes	600.00
Total	\$416,992.65

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

Commence Business January, 1912

Safety—Service—Satisfaction

We Solicit Your Business

Junius At The Bat.

Trent, Route 2—The last issue of the Merkel Mail seemed to excel any previous issue, in point of miscellaneous news briefly chronicled and typographically perfect. "Honor to whom honor is due", is our motto. We doff our beaver to our ingenious and versatile editor.

Shakespeare has said that "Our troubles come not in single file, but by batalions, and one woe treads upon another's heel," and so it is; last week it was trouble with these blasted stuck-up Epicurian town dogs. This week it is a result of having a severe crazy spell and batching with Capt. Ulric Wheeler during his wife's visit to relatives at Colorado. We will say, by way of parenthesis, that Captain Wheeler is a kind, good and most excellent man, but possessing that detestable, fastidious taste and habit of a prudish town spinster. He wanted us to wash our face and hands before making up bread when he knew that we washed them last week at Merkel, and he would not drink the milk that a stray kitten and four mice had drowned in, even after we had strained it. If this is town estheticism and patrician taste, we don't want any of it in ours.

Col. Bill Barbe, one of the wealthy and prominent citizens of Merkel, and Mr. Clarence Eoff visited Capt. Ulric Wheeler last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bowers spent Sunday at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Nicholson, near Needle.

Misses Ruth Pomeroy and Agnes James, Mr. and Mrs. Woods, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cander Grover Tiner and Ed. Grayson were visitors at the lovely home of Rev. Charles Seago and wife Sunday.

Mr. S. B. Mayberry one of the popular and exemplary citizens of Merkel, is spending the week at the palatial home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson, and seems to enjoy the rural outing.

Mr. Edgar and Floid Grayson paid us an appreciated visit a few nights ago in their magnifi-

cent new auto. In our nocturnal perambulations we generally carry a sack with us, but never wake any one up, or visit a house where they keep shot guns or biting dogs.

Mr. J. W. Warren, one of our affable and prominent farmers favors us with his subscription to The Merkel Mail.

Mr. Hugh Grayson has just returned from a visit to his mother at Sunset, who has been dangerously ill, but is slowly improving. Each of her ten children were at her home during the most serious stage of her illness, which was something unusual, the youngest one being 39, the oldest 59, and their venerable and venerated mother being 83, an honored octogenarian, who has passed the allotted three score and ten years of life's dreary pilgrimage. Her's is a life well and nobly spent for her children, nine boys and one girl, all of whom are noted for truth, honor and Christian benevolence, who are a credit to any country.

Mr. W. B. Beavers has just returned home from Lillian, Johnson County, where he has been the past fortnight, attending at the sick bed of his father who died a few days ago. Our neighborhood sympathizes with Mr. Beavers in his poignant grief at the death of his loved father. Mr. Beavers is one of our best and most exemplary citizens, whom no man has ever said aught against.

Col. Henry Wheeler and Mrs. Ulric Wheeler came down from Colorado Wednesday, where Mrs. Wheeler has been visiting the past week.

Mr. Frank Hale, one of the good and progressive young farmers of Merkel, Route 2, has favored us with his subscription to The Merkel Mail, for which we extend our hearty thanks.

Junius.

Notice

If you want to borrow money or have your notes extended, wire, write or come to see me. Can loan you money at 8 per cent. T. C. Weir, Abilene, Tex.

J. T. WARREN, Pres.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

No. 7481



CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OVER \$50,000.00

Organized November 1904

Under one continuous management since organization

We invite your account and will grant every favor that good business methods will permit

STOCKHOLDERS

J. T. Warren G. F. West C. P. Warren
Henry James Ed S. Hughes
H. L. Rudemose Thos. Johnson



A CONBITATION SYRINGE-WATER-BOTTLE IS JUST AS MUCH A NECESSITY IN YOUR HOME AS YOUR COOK STOVE. IF YOU HAVEN'T GON ONE COME AND BUY ONE. IT IS NECESSARY IN CASES OF CONSTIPATION, TOOTHACHE, EARACHE, STOMACHACHE, OR ANY OTHER KIND OF ACHE, PAIN OR TROUBLE. WE SELL LOTS OF RUBBER GOODS OF ALL KINDS. THIS IS WHY "OURS" ARE FRESH AND WILL "LAST." WHEN YOU NEED RUBBER GOODS OR ANY OTHER SORT OF A "DRUG STORE THING" COME TO US FOR IT AND YOU CAN "RELY" ON WHAT YOU BUY.

GRIMES DRUG STORE

AT COZY THEATRE TUESDAY

Feb. 27—Matinee and Night
10c and 25c

Benefit Merkel Baseball Team

Charles Richman in

The Hero of Submarine D-2

Help the Merkel High School Baseball Team by attending this show—it is worth while
Matinee 4:30 Night 8:30

United States Battleship Louisiana

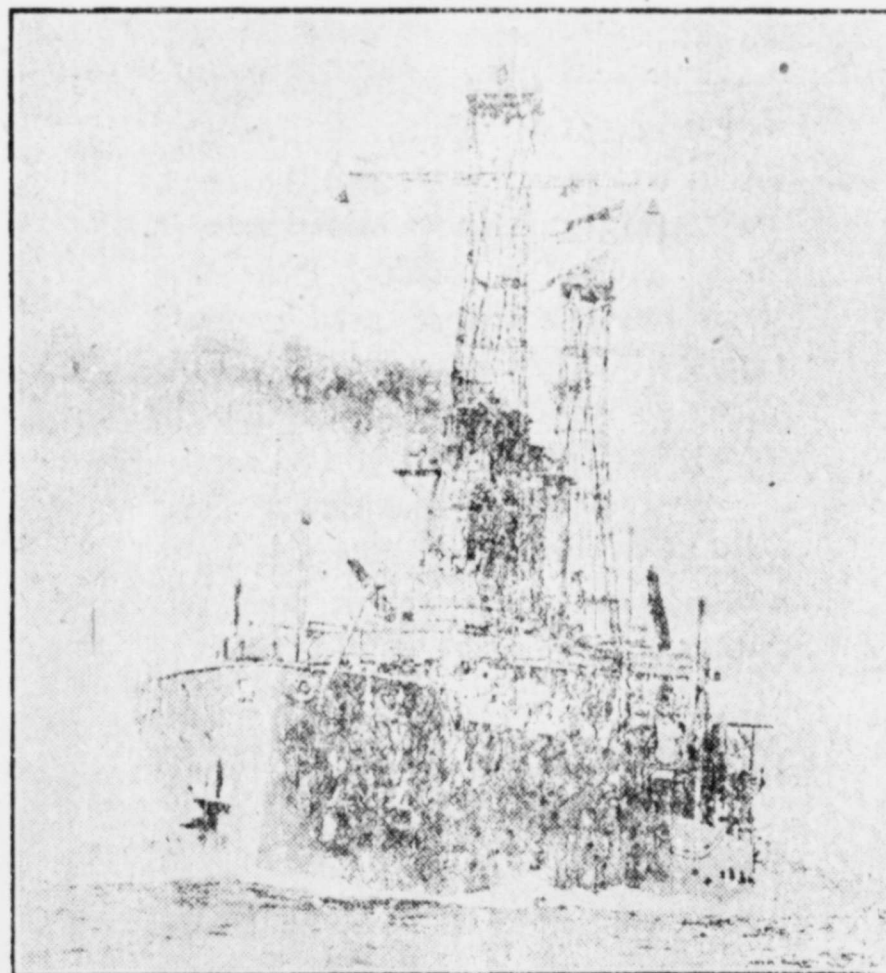


Photo by American Press Association.

The Louisiana cost \$7,425,013 and has a displacement of 16,000 tons, is 456.3 feet in length. Her big guns consist of four twelve-inch and eight-inch. She is manned by a crew of 520 officers and men and can make 18.8 knots an hour.

United States Super-Dreadnought Utah

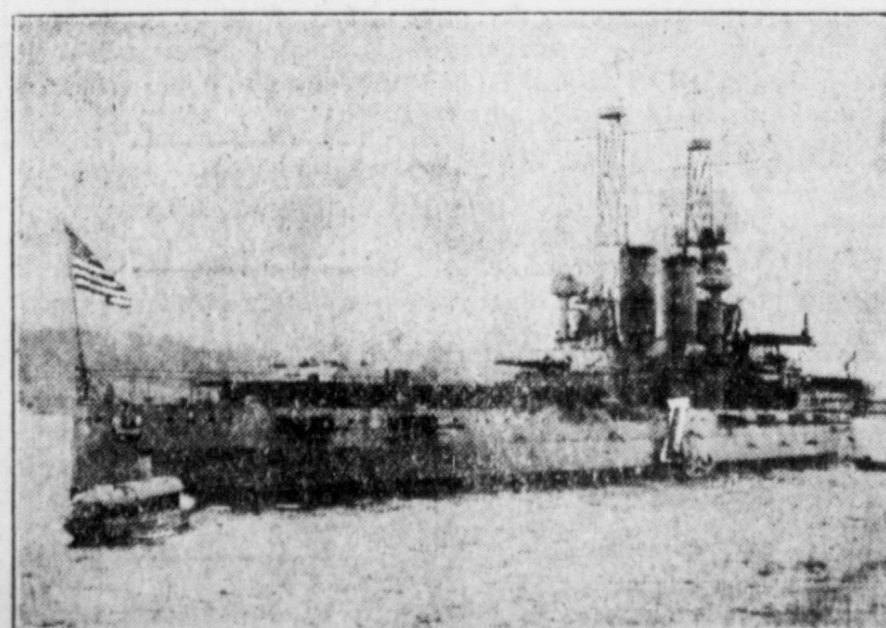


Photo by American Press Association.

The Utah is a 21,825 ton warship, 321.5 feet long. Her main batteries consist of ten twelve-inch guns and she has a crew of 1,014 officers and men.

Mrs. Townsend Dead

The body of Mrs. F. M. Townsend, mother of Mrs. W. J. Behrens, was shipped last Sunday morning to Farmington, Ia., for burial. Mr. Townsend, Mrs. Behrens and E. P. McMillan of Merkel, accompanied the body. Mr. Behrens being unable to go on account of an attack of la-grippe. Mrs. McMillan returned Sunday night from Abilene.

WORK STOCK.

A few good mules and horses for sale. Cash or good notes. See us if you need work stock. McDonald & Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Daniel came

up from Eula Sunday and spent the night with relatives. Harry Harris, brother of Mrs. Daniel will return home with them and after spending a week at Eula will go to Fort Stockton where he and Mrs. Harris will make their future home. Mr. Harris has accepted a position with R. B. Spencer & Company, lumber dealers of that city. Mr. Harris has been connected with Campbell's for years and is a fine business man.

Mrs. Harris was a former resident here and a frequent visitor.

Removal Sale AT Blair, Texas

Something over 200 sacks of high-grade Flour, and all other goods that are carried in a first-class grocery store, and quite a lot of Texas Red Rust-proof Oats.

The sale will open the morning of **March 2** and close the evening of **March 10**

It will be the biggest sale that has ever been held at that place

A discount of 5 and 10 cents on the dollar is offered to save moving the goods to new building.

John S. Hughes
Blair, Texas

AVAILABLE LAND FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES TODAY IS ABOUT 265,000 MEN

Reserve, However, More Vast Than Any White Nation's Except Russia—Can Raise Twenty Million—Industrial Capacity Is Impressive.

President Is Commander In Chief Over All—Directing Force Is General Staff, of Which Major General Hugh L. Scott Is Chief.

A VAILABLE organized land forces of the United States today amount, roughly, to 265,000 officers and men, made up of 125,000 regulars and 140,000 national guardsmen, including both those still in the federal service and those under state control.

The exact figures are known only to the war department at Washington, but recent reports give a close idea of what the organizations represent in fighting strength.

In his last annual report Secretary of War Baker stated that the actual strength of the regular army on June 30, 1916, including the Philippine scouts, was 107,641 officers and men.

In the year beginning July 1 last, by the national defense act of June 3, 1916, the army was to be increased to 138,807 officers and men, divided as follows:

Infantry, 28 regiments	61,274
Cavalry, 17 regiments	12,367
Field artillery, 9 regiments	1,831
Engineers, 3 regiments and 1 mounted company	2,158
Coast artillery corps	21,423
Staff corps and departments	19,224
Philippine scouts	3,733
Miscellaneous	12,537

Total enlisted strength (including medical department) 138,807

Exceptional difficulties have been found in carrying out this program for increasing the army. On account of the remarkable industrial activity of the country, recruiting is and has been since the increase was authorized at a very low ebb. It is therefore probable that the estimate of 125,000 as the strength of the regular army errs on the side of optimism, and 115,000 may be closer the true figure.

National Guard.

The strength of the national guard in federal service on Sept. 30 last was 125,737 officers and men, divided as follows:

Alabama	4,694
Arizona	562
Arkansas	1,779
California	3,562
Colorado	942
Connecticut	2,923
Delaware	573
District of Columbia	2,125
Florida	1,225
Georgia	2,303
Illinois	8,497
Indiana	3,132
Iowa	4,232
Kansas	2,665
Kentucky	2,393
Louisiana	482
Maine	982
Maryland	3,154
Michigan	4,279
Minnesota	4,619
Mississippi	1,226
Missouri	2,625
Montana	1,649
Nebraska	1,718
New Hampshire	1,412
New Jersey	4,126
New Mexico	507
New York	17,352
North Carolina	1,709
North Dakota	592
Ohio	7,473
Oklahoma	2,388
Oregon	358
Pennsylvania	12,746
Rhode Island	644
South Carolina	2,271
South Dakota	566
Tennessee	2,448
Texas	4,847
Utah	781
Vermont	829
Virginia	2,819
Washington	3,720
West Virginia	3,126
Wisconsin	4,125
Wyoming	695

Total 135,747

To show how the forces of the regular army are dispersed the geographical distribution on June 30, 1916, the last date for which definite figures have been made public, are given here:

United States and Mexico, 71,028; Alaska, 792; Philippines (regulars), 11,884; Philippines (scouts), 5,785; China, 1,274; Porto Rico, 714; Hawaii, 8,145; canal zone, 7,099; miscellaneous, 610; total, 107,641.

Vast Unorganized Forces.

While the present organized forces are minute, the reserve man power of the United States is more vast than that of any white nation except Russia.

According to the census of 1910 since when the increase has been great, the reserve militia of the United States, by which is meant the males aged between eighteen and forty years, not included in the organized forces, amounted to 20,528,347 men.

The above total does not include the men of the insular possessions except

Hawaii. These could produce another 2,000,000 men of military age.

France is said now to have one person out of every six in her population serving in the army or navy. If the United States and her insular possessions ever made such an effort, taking the present population as 112,000,000, the president would have at his disposal no less than 18,666,666 men.

This is probably more men than Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey together have in the field today.

Unapproached Industrial Power.

If the unorganized manhood strength of the United States is imposing, the industrial capacity of the nation is even more impressive.

With less than one-tenth of the world's population, we make nearly one-third of all the things produced.

In iron and steel, for instance, we turn out more than Great Britain and Germany, the two next largest producers, do together.

Some observers have estimated the present industrial capacity of the United States at as much as all the rest of the world put together. While this is perhaps an overestimate, large scale production has been carried to such a fine point here that no nation can approach us in the total produced per worker.

The average American produces more per hour of labor than the citizen of any other nation. We rely on mechanical power three times more per man than does Great Britain, four times more than Germany and five times more than France.

The committee on industrial preparedness of the naval consulting board is just about completing an inventory of the nation's war resources.

While the organization which was to result from this inventory has only just been started, the work of investigation done indicates in the clearest manner the factory strength of this country.

In a preliminary report Howard E. Coffin, chairman of the committee, stated that there are more than 30,000 manufacturing concerns in the United States which can render important service in the event of war. No plant is included in this list whose annual output is less than \$100,000.

The inventory is in the hands of the great engineering societies of the country, which have had committees at work in every state.

The United States marine corps is independent of both the army and the navy. Its small strength should perhaps be added to that of the two main services when estimating the total organized belligerent power of the nation. The authorized strength of the corps is 15,427 officers and men of all classifications, and the ranks are nearly full.

Various schemes for army reserve bodies were incorporated in the national defense act of last year, but these provisions have not been in force long enough to produce results of importance. For instance, of 500,000 reserve officers provided for a total of less than 200 has been commissioned.

Organization of the Army.

The commander in chief of the army is the president of the United States.

His representative, who carries out his wishes, is the secretary of war, Newton D. Baker.

The directing force of the army is the general staff, Major General Hugh L. Scott is now chief of staff, and his assistant is Major General Tasker H. Bliss. Grouped about them in Washington are army experts of various ranks, who are supposed to do the thinking about general problems for the whole army.

Should the United States send a military expedition abroad the commander would undoubtedly be one of the seven active major generals. These are given below, with their present assignments and headquarters:

Leonard Wood, eastern department, Governors Island, New York.

J. Franklin Bell, western department, San Francisco.

Thomas H. Barry, central department, Chicago.

Frederick Funston, southern department, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, general staff, Washington.

Tasker H. Bliss, general staff, Washington.

John J. Pershing, Eighth brigade, Columbus, N. M.



SPRING'S COMING

MONEY SAVERS FOR EARLY BUYERS
IT IS NOW TIME FOR YOU TO THINK OF PUTTING ASIDE YOUR WINTER CLOTHES YOU HAVE WORN SO LONG, AND TO BUY NEW ONES FOR FAST-APPROACHING WARM SPRINGTIME.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN "CAUGHT" BY NOT HAVING PICKED OUT YOUR COSTUME AND ACCESSORIES EARLY? YOU CAN MISS NOTHING BY BEING PREPARED FOR THE SUNSHINY DAYS SOON TO COME.

BUY NOW AND SAVE MONEY; BECAUSE TO PUSH BUSINESS WE HAVE MADE ADVANCE PRICES ON SPRING THINGS LOW.

Our buyer has just returned from Market, where a new and beautiful assortment of Silks in staple and fancy patterns was bought, and we are asking your attention in this line—Quality, the Best Price, the Lowest

SLIPPERS

Just received a new lot of ladies' and children's slippers. We are anxious to show you. Call and see them before making your spring purchase.

1 3-pound can best steel cut coffee	90c	5 1-lb. packages coffee	\$1.00
1 3-pound can with china cup and saucer	85c	4 packages best cocoa nut	25c
1 1-pound can best steel cut coffee, 35c value	30c	1 No. 3 can kraut	10c
		1 No. 3 can pie peaches	10c
		1 No. 3 can hominy	10c
		No. 10 can hand-pack. apis	40c

SHOES---LOW CUTS

Men's and boys' shoes and low-cuts, hats, ties, shirts, and summer underwear now in stock. Keep pace with season by calling at THE STAR STORE and get the newest and latest for less.

THE STAR STORE

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—Work horses, mules and mares, second hand planters and cultivators. M. Armstrong.

FOR SALE—Good Ford car at a bargain. Luther Grimes.

WANTED—To trade high grade piano, almost new, for an automobile. Enquire at the Mail office. 16t3pd

FOR SALE—Some nice work horses. Terms.C.E.Whitaker 2t

FOR SALE—Four mares, one 2-year-old mare, one young jack and two jennets, all well bred; one binder and one seeder, and a number of farm tools; on my farm at the bridge on Sweetwater Creek on the Roby Road U. B. Wheeler 2tpd

FOR TRADE — \$5000.00 in cash and 123 3/4-acre farm for larger place. W.J. Rogers, Merkel, Route 2. 23t4pd

Housekeeper Wanted—White girl for couple, light work. Phone 69, or The Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE—Two new incubators; never been used. See Sam Butman Jr. Route 5. 1tpd

FOR RENT—House close in on the south side. S. F. Haynes.

FOR SALE—Mebane cotton seed. Made 39-per cent lint. S. F. Haynes. 1t

WANTED Man with auto to take interest and assist photographer around Merkel. No capital or experience required. Salary. Excellent chance to learn high grade photography. File application with The Merkel Mail. 1tpd

W. Parten, of the Parten Dry Goods Company, has just returned from market, where he placed heavy orders for the popular lines he handles. He intends to do a larger business this spring than ever before.

Pure east Texas Ribbon Cane syrup. Made by a farmer. In gallon buckets at Bob Martin's.

In a visit to The Mail office from J. M. Sloan, he states that the farmers in his community, Route 2, Merkel, are well up with their work. He placed a subscription for the publication while in.

Pure Mebane cotton seed \$2 per bu., if taken at once. Inquire at Farmers' State Bank.

Syrup of all kinds.G.M.Sharp.

North Texas hay, nice and green. G. M. Sharp.

Mrs. P. B. Cousseaux, Route 1, Noodle, visited the Mail office the other day and took advantage of our subscription offer. She stated that work would at once begin on the improvement of the road in that vicinity in order to hold the mail route.

10 inch Disk Phonograph records while they last for 25c. J. A. Ducketts.

S. L. Owens of the Mount Pleasant community reports about an inch of rain in his vicinity. He said that the farmers were delighted and that land was in good shape for planting. He subscribed for The Mail while in.

Seed potatoes and garden seed. G. M. Sharp.

W. E. and W. C. Perkins of Route 5, Merkel, visited The Mail office and each placed a subscription for the publication. They stated that the ground out their way was in the very best of shape after the rain. Nearly every one is through plowing and is ready for planting.

Get your household paint for 15c can at J. A. Ducketts.

Homer L. Easterwood and Claud Comegys have just returned from a successful and pleasant hunting trip in the Davis Mountains.

H. F. Wheeler, of Colorado, Texas, is visiting his son, Ulric Wheeler, near Trent.

Special Sermon to the Fire Boys.

It was quite an inspiration to see the fire boys line up and march into church in a body last Sunday morning at the Baptist church. Rev. Owens preached a very appropriate and forceful sermon. He said he was glad to see the boys out and gave them a most cordial welcome to come again. He spoke of the very successful manner in which the fire boys had performed their duty, saving in the past two years fully \$25,000.00 worth of property.

Little Roberta Tucker Dies.

Little Roberta Tucker, 18-month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Tucker, passed away at 5:40 p. m. Monday. The baby suffered from the measles and other complications. To the bereft parents, family and friends go our heartfelt sympathy. It is hard to give up the little prattle, the childish smile, the innocent devotion, but in human life we often have to bow to the inevitable, knowing that somehow it is ordained thus by the powers above.

M. C. Parnell, of Goldsboro, visited his brother-in-law, S. P. Martin, the past week.

The farm home of J. L. Tucker, about eight miles southwest of Merkel, was burned early Tuesday morning. The loss was total. The family lives in the city, but Mr. Tucker usually stays on the farm. He was here at the time of the fire.

LOCAL NEWS

Corn and corn Chops at G.M. Sharp's.

We guarantee everything, even prompt service. E. L. Rogers.

Service Car day or night—Marvin Boney. Phone 263, Busy Bee Cafe. Night phone No. 9.

D. D. Coats, who lives 12 miles southwest of the city, visited the Mail office a few days since. He stated that nearly everybody was through plowing, and that after the fine rains prospects are very good for a splendid crop.

W. L. Meeks, Route 5, called the other day and placed a subscription with the Mail.

Phone Busy Bee Cafe No. 263 for service car—Marvin Boney.

A message to the grandfather W. T. Hamblett, on Friday night of last week, brought news of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Tarver at their home in Water Valley, Miss. This wee one has been christened Robert Fielder Tarver.

M. A. Perkins, Route 5, visited the Mail the past week and subscribed for the Mail for two years.

Well Drilling—See R. D. Tyler, or M. D. Daniel. 22tf

Garden hose and rakes, 25 and 30 cents. J. A. Duckett's.

D. L. Wilson, of the Merkel from a trip to Dallas.

A. C. Rose, of the Anchor Mercantile Company, has returned from market, where he placed orders for the latest goods in his company's varied lines. Mr. Rose expects a good business this spring.

Fresh candy of all sorts, 15c lb. at J. A. Ducketts.

J. A. Cook, Dora, Texas, took advantage of our subscription offer a few days ago for himself and also his father, A. W. Cook. He said the people of his neighborhood were rejoicing over the splendid rain the other night.

Try a \$1.00 bucket Wamba coffee at G. M. Sharp's.

Advertised Letters.

Adams, Katie.
Brannon, J. H.
Evans, G. S.
Lamkin, Effie.
Salon, J. M.
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on March 7th. H. C. Williams, Merkel, Tex.

HOW OUR ARMY OF 265,000 COMPARES WITH OTHER COUNTRIES

Country	Peace Strength	Total War Strength	Organized Military
United States	26,000	20,000	2,000,000
Germany	80,000	1,100,000	1,100,000
France	724,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Russia	1,284,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Austria-Hungary	436,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Italy	325,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Great Britain	206,014	1,400,000	1,400,000
Holland	70,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Switzerland	242,200	1,400,000	1,400,000
Spain	200,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
Japan	200,000	1,400,000	1,400,000

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
WALTER JACKSON, Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel Texas as second class mail matter.

Any error or 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.

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.

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 date 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.

We wonder if any one let another day pass without a thought of tree-planting.

Don't forget that it is much easier to prosecute a clean-up campaign now than later.

E. F. Vantreese, of the Hawley community, will represent the splendid section as correspondent for the Mail.

John Chadwick, of Route 4, has agreed to represent the Mail as correspondent from his section. We hope to have a letter from him shortly.

We would like to know if any one in Merkel thinks we ought to have a new depot, and good one at that. If the people really want one they might at least ask for one, and ask in no unmistakable terms.

We hope to see that commercial organization on its feet and doing business in grand shape in a short time. It is essential for the proper co-ordination and conservation of our business in.

F. A. Matthes, vice chairman of the Abilene Chapter of the American Red Cross, visited Merkel the past week, and stated that he is interested in the organization of auxiliaries in nearby towns, whose purpose it will be to co-operate in the furthering of this great work. Our next issue will likely contain something further on the subject.

W. B. Starr, secretary of the Fort Worth-El Paso Association, dropped into The Mail office last week. He said that he was busy interesting the people along the route to get busy in an effort to secure this much needed highway. Now is the time to be up and doing on this work. The designation of this highway depends largely upon the activities of the people along the route. At the present time about a dozen of the counties are figuring on bond issues to provide funds for road building in these districts.

Thomas A. Edison has just celebrated his seventieth birthday. In the life of Edison we have a living example of what talented intellect, hard work and dogged tenacity can do. The world has been made happier and more comfortable because of him. The electric lights, the phonograph and a vast list of miscellaneous inventions and improvements are credited to his fertile brain and the end is not yet, for the wizard labors unceasingly today, when many another man has retired and taken life easy. Has this man ever failed? Yes, hundreds of times. He has proven that success is built upon the foundation of failure. His life is an inspiration to the youth of the land.

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. 50c.

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST

Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

C. J. SHERRILL
DENTIST

Office over Farmers State Bank
12 July

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado
Insurance Agent
Notary Public.

Office over Farmers State Bank

G. W. JOHNSON

Insurance, Notary Public
Office over Woodroof Bros.
Store
Merkel — Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

W. O. W.

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

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

DRAUGHON'S

Practical Business College
ABILENE, TEXAS
Only well-known Business College in West Texas.
Thousands of firms nearer our Employment Department than any other. Money-back contract guarantees position. Catalogue FREE.

KRYPTOK
FAR VISION



NEAR VISION
lenses give her two pairs of glasses in one, and no one is the wiser. There are no lines of separation and no cemented pieces. Come in and see these wonderful bifocals which look like ordinary glasses.

H. C. FLOYD, Optician
Office at Merkel Drug Company
Merkel, Texas

METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. L. A. Humphries Pastor
Seth Hamilton Fin. Sec'y
Dr. O. F. McMaster Supt. S.S.
H. M. Rombalt Pr. Bd. Stewards
H. M. Rainbolt Pr. Bd. Stewards
Mrs. Joe L. Harris
Pr. Ladies Home Mis. Society
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
Sunday School, 9:45 a. m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday Evening.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. L. E. Owen Pastor
Dr. J. T. Pue Supt. S. S.
Mrs. J. S. Swann Pr. Ladies Aid
Mrs. Chas. West Sec. Ladies Aid
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
Sunday School, 10 a. m.
Prayer Service, Wednesday evening.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Rev. W. G. Cypert Minister
H. Turner Leader S. S.
Preaching every third Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.
Sunday School every Sunday, 10 a. m.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. E. T. Bullock Pastor
R. L. Bland Clerk of Session
H. C. West Supt. of S. S.
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Sec. S. S.
Henry Rose Dir. of Choir
Mrs. J. S. Saddler Pres. Ladies Aid and Missionary Society
Mrs. R. L. Bland Sec. L. A. M. S.
E. P. McMillan Supt. Gym.
Boys Department
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Supt. Girls Department
Preaching 11 a. m.—7:30 p. m.
Sunday School at 10 a. m.
Prayer Meet. Wed. 7:30 p. m.
Choir Practice Fri. 7:30 p. m.
Girls Gym. Tues. 7:30 p. m.
Boys Gym. Fri. 7:30 p. m.



EVANGELIST JOE S. WARLICK TO CONDUCT REVIVAL MEETING

At Church of Christ (North Side), beginning Sunday, February 25, at 11 a. m. and to continue until Sunday night, March 4, services each afternoon at 3 p. m. and 7:30 at night, except Sundays. Elder Warlick is an able teacher and an interesting speaker, and every man, woman and child in Merkel and vicinity should hear this great teacher while here. Elder Warlick promises to present to you such truths only as

are taught in God's revealed will, the Bible; without abuse to anyone, and we extend a special invitation to all ministers and church-going people to come and hear him, assuring you that our only aim and desire is to build up the great cause for which our Savior died. Elder Warlick visited our town some years ago and those who heard him well remember his wonderful ability as a speaker and teacher. Come one come all, let us spend a few days reasoning together.

HAYDEN TURNER,
O. J. ADCOCK,
F. M. CORDELL,
Elders.

The Quinine That Does Not Cause Nervousness or Ringing in Head

Because of its Tonic and Laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. It removes the cause of Colds, Grip and Headache. Used whenever Quinine is needed.

—but remember there is Only One

"Bromo Quinine"

That is the Original

Laxative Bromo Quinine

This Signature on Every Box

E. W. Grove
Used the World Over to Cure a Cold in One Day. 25c.

Maker also of the Old Standard Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic

Baseball Benefit

The Merkel High School Baseball Club will give Charles Richman in The Hero of Submarine D-2, next Tuesday night at 8:30, February 27, at the Cozy Theatre. Matinee will be given at 4:30 in the afternoon. Admission will be 10 and 25 cents. The play will be given in five reels; also a one-reel comedy.

The boys hope the public will turn out and give them their hearty support. Baseball is the great American game, a clean, thrilling sport, and we hope our boys will be able to carry off the honors against all comers this season.

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.

Mrs. M. R. Woodrum and Miss Sadie, with little Missy, were visitors Sunday in Abilene.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free. F. J. CHEENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The little child of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Deavenport, who has been so critically ill, following an attack of measles, is now reported improving.

E. L. Rogers not only sells, but keeps everything in the grocery line only.

WHY NOT?

Buy Your Spring Suit from Sharp & Haynes

BEST QUALITY

BEST PRICES

BEST SAMPLES to select from

A Perfect Fit Guaranteed

SHARP & HAYNES

Tailors Who Please

Phone 184

Phone 184

Merkel Drug Co.

For Your Drug Wants

We carry a good line and will endeavor to please

R. D. BROYLES

Veterinary Surgeon and Dentist

Blair Hotel :: Merkel, Texas

Calls answered Day or Night

O. S. BURNS, Merkel

Dodge Service Car

Goes Day or Night—Anywhere

Phone 6, Elite Confectionery—Nite Phone 136

BONEY'S AUTO SERVICE

Phone 263 Merkel Cafe

Goes Anywhere at Any Time

I'll Take You and Bring You Back. Night Phone No. 9

Marvin Boney

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

C. E. WHITAKER

W. O. BONEY

Office over Crown Hardware Co.

E. L. Bankhead and W. C. Neill, of Nubia, visited the Mail office a few days ago. They said that everything in that section was in mighty good shape since the rain. Wheat and oats are looking nice. All land is about broken, and the farmers are nearer up with their work than ever before. The health of the community is good.

Lots of Blacksmith Coal. Crown Hardware Co. 2312

WHAT IS LAX-FOS

LAX-FOS is an improved Cascara (a tonic-laxative) pleasant to take

In LAX-FOS the Cascara is improved by the addition of certain harmless chemicals which increase the efficiency of the Cascara, making it better than ordinary Cascara. LAX-FOS is pleasant to take and does not gripe nor disturb stomach. Adapted to children as well as adults. Just try one bottle for constipation. 50c.



IMPLEMENTS

The time for Implements is here, and we have the goods. We have in the Oliver line, Cultivators, Planters, Go Devils, etc. We also have a complete line of John Deere double and single row Cultivators, Planters, Go Devils Section Harrows, and in fact most anything you may need in this dependable line of goods.

We have just received a full car of attractive Buggies. See us when you need a new Buggy

We have a full car of Blacksmith Coal. Don't forget us when you need Coal.

Call on us for your Poultry Wire, Screen Wire and Screen Door Fittings.

Plenty of Garden Hose. Also Chopping Hoes, Rakes and Files now on hand. Come see them.

Our stock is complete in all departments and we are in position to render satisfactory service, and you will find our prices as low as the class of merchandise we handle can be sold. Call and see us, we will appreciate a visit and endeavor to merit your trade

Crown Hardware Co.

Mrs. French Dead
By relatives residing here, details were received a few days ago of the death of Mrs. Annie French, wife of J. S. French, her death having occurred in a sanitarium in Little Rock, Ark., several days ago.

The deceased, with her husband, was a resident of Merkel for several years, but for some time has lived in Arkansas. The body was shipped to their home at Amity for burial.

Mrs. French has been an invalid for quite a while, and her death was a release from great affliction. During her residence here Mrs. French was thought of as a woman of much ability, particularly along musical lines, possessing a charming character.

Cold Quickly Cured.
December first I had a severe cold or attack of the grip as it may be, and was nearly down sick in bed," writes O. J. Metcalf, Weatherby, Mo. "I bought two bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and it was only a few days until I was completely restored to health. I firmly believe that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is one of the very best medicines and will know what to do when I have another cold." Obtainable everywhere.

"Grandma" Fillmon Dies.
Grandma" Fillmon, aged 84 years, died Wednesday night at the home of her son, LaFayette Fillmon, in the Caps community. The funeral was set for Thursday afternoon with burial at Caps. Decedent was well known in this section and was one of the pioneer citizens.

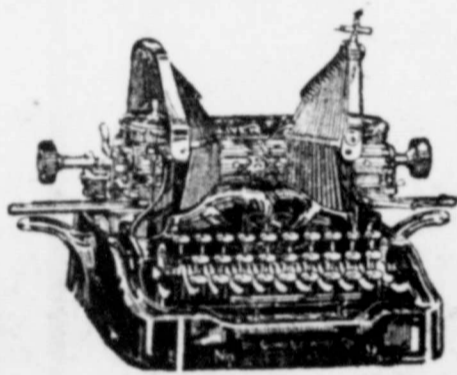
Reason Enthroned.
Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale by all dealers.

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

Publication Plant Burns.
The Lubbock Avalanche was destroyed by fire a few days since, and Editor Dow has our full sympathy in this hour of his loss. We bet our bottom dollar, however, that on the ruins of the Avalanche will rise an institution of greater proportions, and that even a bigger and better paper will be issued therefrom. We would not

A New Model Typewriter

The **OLIVER** 9
The Standard Visible Writer



Buy It Now

Yes, the crowning typewriter triumph IS HERE!

It is just out—and comes years before experts expected it. For makers have striven a life-time to attain this ideal machine. And Oliver has won again, as we scored when we gave the world its first visible writing.

There is truly no other typewriter on earth like this new Oliver "9." Think of touch so light that the tread of a kitten will run the keys!

CAUTION

The new-day advances that come alone on this machine are all controlled by Oliver. Even our own famous models—famous in their day—never had the Optional Duplex Shift.

It puts the whole control of 84 letters and characters in the little fingers of the right and left hands. And it lets you write them all with only 28 keys, the least to operate of any standard typewriter made.

Thus writers of all other machines can immediately run the Oliver Number "9" with more speed and greater ease.

WARNING

This brilliant new Oliver comes at the old-time price. It costs no more than lesser makes—now out of date when compared with this discovery.

For while the Oliver's splendid new features are costly—we have equalized the added expense to us by simplifying construction.

Resolve right now to see this great achievement before you spend a dollar for any typewriter. If you are using some other make you will want to see how much more this one does.

If you are using an Oliver, it naturally follows that you want the finest model.

17 CENTS A DAY Remember this brand-new Oliver "9" is the greatest value ever given in a typewriter. It has all our previous special inventions—visible writing, automatic spacer, 6½-ounce touch—plus the Optional Duplex Shift, Selective Color Attachment and all these other new-day features.

Yet we have decided to sell it to everyone everywhere on our famous payment plan—17 cents a day! Now every user can easily afford to have the world's crack visible writer, with the famous PRINTYPE, that writes like print, included FREE if desired.

TODAY---Write for Full Details and be among the first to know about this marvel of writing machines. See why typists, employers, and individuals everywhere are flocking to the Oliver. Just mail a postal at ONCE. No obligation. It's a pleasure for us to tell you about it. jan12t11

The Oliver Typewriter Company

Oliver Typewriter Building, Chicago

be at all surprised to know that a daily would come forth and grow to be a mighty power in that section. Aren't we right, Mr. Dow?

For That Terrible Itching.

Eczema, tetter and salt rheum keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all dealers.

Report of Grand Jury.

Returning thirty-nine bills of indictment for felony offenses,

the special grand jury made its report at noon Thursday to District Judge Joe Burkett and adjourned after six days' work.

Among the indictments were fifteen for burglary, thirteen for bootlegging, six for forgery, two for pandering, one for criminal assault, one for theft by conversion and one for theft.

Pure alfalfa honey at \$1.25 a bucket at Bob Martin Grocery Company. 2t16

A.L. Jobe's Store on Kent St., Crenshaw Building, is the Merkel Bargain House. 16t2

6½ Per Cent Money—Quick Service

By dealing direct with borrowers, I can make loans on land at the rate above mentioned, and can give you the best service ever offered in the West. Abilene inspector. Abilene attorneys, Abilene MONEY, no red tape, no frills, no delays. Terms, brokerage and expenses reasonable. Write me for full particulars.

E. B. Bynum, No. 5, Radford Building, Abilene, Texas. 16t2



The Railroad Station

is usually on the edge of town. To reach it means a trip across the city.

If you are taking the train, or meeting travelers, a telephone inquiry to the station agent about the movement of trains will save you a second trip to the station or a tiresome wait there when the train is late.

This is but one of the many ways in which Bell Telephone Service serves.



THE SOUTH-WESTERN TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE COMPANY

NEEDFUL KNOWLEDGE

People Should Learn To Detect 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, headaches and 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 50 cents, 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.

A. & M. COLLEGE.

The bill finally has been passed appropriating \$500,000 for the establishment of the West Texas A. & M. College. It is now up to the locating committee composed of Governor Ferguson, Lieutenant Governor Hobby, Speaker Fuller, Superintendent Doughty and Commissioner of Agriculture Davis. Practically every city in West Texas is bidding for the institution. Merkel just as well put in her bid. The institution could not go to a better country, or be more centrally located in the great West Texas.

For a Bilious Attack.

When you have a severe headache, accompanied by a coated tongue, loathing of food, constipation, torpid liver, vomiting of partly digested food and then bile, you know that you have a severe bilious attack. While you may be quite sick there is much consolation in knowing that relief may be had by taking three of Chamberlain's Tablets. They are prompt and effectual. Obtainable everywhere.

E. L. Berry, of Route 1, was a caller at the Mail office the past week. He says that everybody in his vicinity is well up with their work. He reports that there has been about seventy cases of measles in his neighborhood, but everybody is getting well and straightened out again.

J. H. Bridges, Route 1, visited the Mail plant a few days since and inspected our new machine.

H. S. Bridges and family and sister of Rotan visited Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bridges, Route 1, the past week.

O. S. Campbell and wife of Roby visited Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bridges, Route 1, the past week.

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

W. F. Patterson, Route 1, five miles from here, dropped in to see our new lino type machine the other day. He stated that there are still a few cases of measles in his neighborhood, most of the patients just recovering from the epidemic.

Something Good.

Those who hate nasty medicine should try Chamberlain's Tablets for constipation. They are pleasant to take and their effect is so agreeable and so natural that you will not realize that it has been produced by a medicine. Obtainable everywhere.

HAVE
Your

Cleaning & Pressing

DONE
by

Yarborough

At City
Barber Shop



MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

A few friends, musicians and those enjoying the art were invited on Monday to spend that evening with Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Johnson.

Several were present for this informal gathering and much musical pleasure was enjoyed by them. The musical numbers given by the Misses Stuff, who have been stopping here several days was particularly pleasing.

Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Duff were at home to several friends Monday evening, honoring their sister, Miss Cleva Duff, of Ferris.

Everything to make the evening pleasant for the guests had been planned. On the first floor cards were enjoyed, while the large room upstairs was in order for a general good time, where many games were played and old dances, such as the Virginia reel enjoyed.

The guests were Misses Duff, Lura and Stacy Atkisson, Gladys Haynes, Elma Sheppard, Maud Martin, Ona Hamblett, Lou Sears and Mabel Collins, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson, Drs. and Mesdames C. J. Sherrill and Geo. L. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp, Messrs. Emmett and Dee Grimes, James Brown, Roger Haynes, John West, W. E. Baze, Frank Hart and J. P. Sharp Jr.

Refreshments, consisting of a most complete salad course, were served in buffet style.

The Dinner and Bazaar

The dinner and parcel post sale as planned by the Methodist ladies for last Saturday was well attended and a decided success. The packages on display were all sold and the tables for dinner crowded during the noon hour. The money raised will be used in improving the parsonage.

Sibley-Bender

With Rev. A. A. Baker officiating at the ceremony, Miss Clara, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Sibley and L. E. Bender of Leuders, were married here Sunday at ten a.m., in the home of the bride's parents.

The bride has lived since childhood in and near Merkel and there are many friends to be interested in her romance and to wish future happiness.

Mr. and Mrs. Bender have already gone to their home in Leuders, where the best wishes of their many friends follow.

Birthday Celebration

NUBIA, Texas, Feb. 15.—In observance of the eighteenth birthday anniversary of their daughter, Jewel, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Anderson of Nubia gave a party Saturday night.

Games and music were entertaining features, piano numbers being contributed by Miss Maud Burnham and Mrs. Bud Perry. Jewel Anderson, Grover and Charles Lewis gave vocal numbers.

Hot chocolate was served to Mesdames James Pardue, H. A. Matthews, Bud Perry, Bernice Toombs; Misses Myrtle Crow, Irene Perry, Ila Mae Anderson, Charlotte and Gladys Butman, Lottie and Maggie Jones, Alice and Bessie Brooks; Messrs. James Pardue, W. W. Toombs, Dee Moore, Grover Lewis, Louis Butman, Charles Lewis, Kyle Blair, Nell Perkins, Will Butman, Henry Spears, John Brooks.

The Best Recommendation

The strongest recommendation any article may receive is a favorable word from one user. It is the recommendations of those who have used it that makes Chamberlain's Cough Remedy so popular. Mrs. Amanda Gierhart, Waynesfield, Ohio, writes, "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been used in my family off and on for twenty years and it has never failed to cure a cough or cold." Obtainable everywhere.



"I Can't Resist—"



anything made with Calumet Baking Powder. Mother never had such wholesome bakings until she used Calumet.

"It's Calumet surety, uniformity, purity, strength, that makes every baking turn out right—that saves millions of housewives Baking Powder money. Be fair to yourself—use Calumet."

Received Highest Awards
See Cook Book Free
See Sign in Food Can.



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

Nellie Fay Harvell Dies

Last Friday morning at 9:15 the angel of death knocked at the door of Mr. and Mrs. Harvell, and little Nellie Fay answered to the summons. The end was not unexpected, as the little girl has been a sufferer for about three years. She was seven years and five months old. Burial was made in the Rose Hill Cemetery, after the funeral services were held at the Christian church, preached by Rev. Price Bankhead, last Saturday morning. She leaves a sorrowing father and mother, two brothers Sewell and Noel, and a host of friends and relatives.

It is with the tenderest sympathy that we mingle our tears with the bereft in this sad hour of their affliction. Only a little girl, unused to the vast experiences of life, and yet with a multitude of heartstrings entwined about wounded hearts that bleed in painful silence at her long absence. They are comforted in the thought that over yonder the mystery of her early going will be amply justified.

FREE-FREE-FREE

Rent your house and rooms. If wired for electric service, we will list them on our rental board, in our show window free of charge. We will not act as your agent, only assist in renting your vacant property.
Merkel Power Company.

Six Per Cent Money

On good improved farms. 25 years in the business. Write us what you have and find out what we can do for you before you place your loan. Compere & Compere, District Managers, Abilene, Texas.

Spring Fever At Nubia

Nubia, Feb. 20—Everything is lovely here. The larks have commenced their caroling, and the very sound of their oboe notes forebodes the proximity of spring. The doves will soon begin to coo and mate; and nest and rear their fledglings; millions of inconsiderable insects will glisten and shimmer in the sultry summer afternoons; and the dogs, by instinct active and alert, mode indolent by tepidity, will lounge about in the pleasant shades, panting and snapping at the pesky flies that wantonly annoy them.

Meanwhile, the infant buds, too full of nature's energy, burst forth into an emerald profusion of leaves, and a vari-colored universe of floral wealth, by which the ambient air is fragrant fraught.

It is a time when the gallant natured swain feels an overwhelming disposition to stride fearlessly forth in affection's holy crusade, to wrest, not the holy sepulcher from its state of sacrilege, but some coy damsel from the state of single blessedness to a dual bliss.

Enough anent this.

Quite a large assemblage of young folk enjoyed the entertainment given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Butman, Sr., last Saturday night. The diversion consisted of music, forty-two, chocolate refreshments, and a new game called, I believe, "Snap".

Miss Sadie Collins of Merkel visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Butman, Sr., Saturday and Sunday.

There was singing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Perry Sunday night.

Miss Margery Butman, who is attending school at Abilene, visited homefolks Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. Walter Rawlings of Blair spent Saturday night with Mr. Bud Perry's folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Crow, of Castle Peak community, visited at Mr. Will Toombs' Sunday.

A very good sized crowd was at church meeting at Cross Roads Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Burchell's baby has been sick lately, but is better now.

We are proud to announce to the many friends of Grand Ma Perdy, that she is well and able to be about.

There are still a good many cases of measles in this neighborhood, but all who have them seem to be doing nicely.

DAINTY THINGS

SOIL EASILY

But why should you care?

Dry cleaning now and then will keep the daintiest dress or waist always like new.

We are masters in the art of perfect dry cleaning.

Entrust your garments to our hands. We charge no more.

MRS. C. L. CASH
At Star Store,
Merkel, Tex.

A Card of Thanks

We wish to thank all of our neighbors and friends for their sympathetic help and tender care of our little Roberta.

It was hard to give up our little babe, yet we thank God and are consoled that it is our lot to live among so good a people.

We are also grateful to the school children who sent the beautiful flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Tucker and family.

Pure east Texas Ribbon Cane syrup. Made by a farmer. In gallon buckets at Bob Martin's.

L. H. Penney, who has resided in Merkel for about two years, at once will move to Abilene.

Prompt service always rendered by Sublett, the jeweler, at the Merkel Drug Co. 164f

Parten Dry Goods Company's New Spring Goods ARE ARRIVING

IN BIG QUANTITIES AND THE MOST BEAUTIFUL EVER BROUGHT TO MERKEL

We are getting them ready and will be in shape to show you by Saturday. We will show you that our prices

Can't be Beat

BIG BEAUTIFUL

New Spring Millinery

Biggest, Prettiest Showing of Ladies' Hats in Merkel's History. Prices surprisingly Low. Mrs. Cypert in charge

Parten Dry Goods Co.

Merkel's Exclusive Cash Store

United States Scout Cruiser Chester

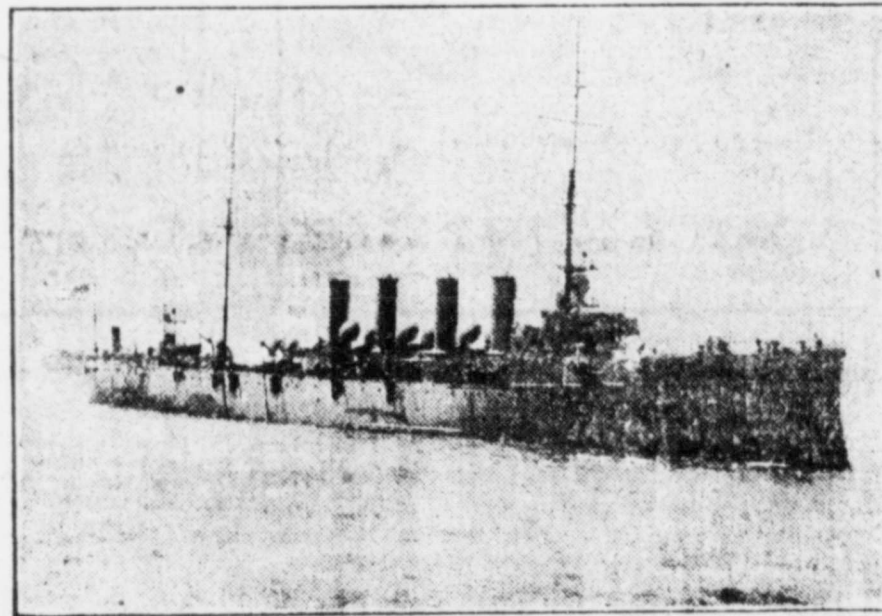


Photo by American Press Association.

With a speed of twenty six knots an hour the Chester is the fastest cruise in the United States navy. She has a displacement of 2,750 tons, and her gun consist of two five-inch and six three-inch. She was built at the cost of \$1,050,074 and has 356 officers and men.

United States Flagship Pennsylvania

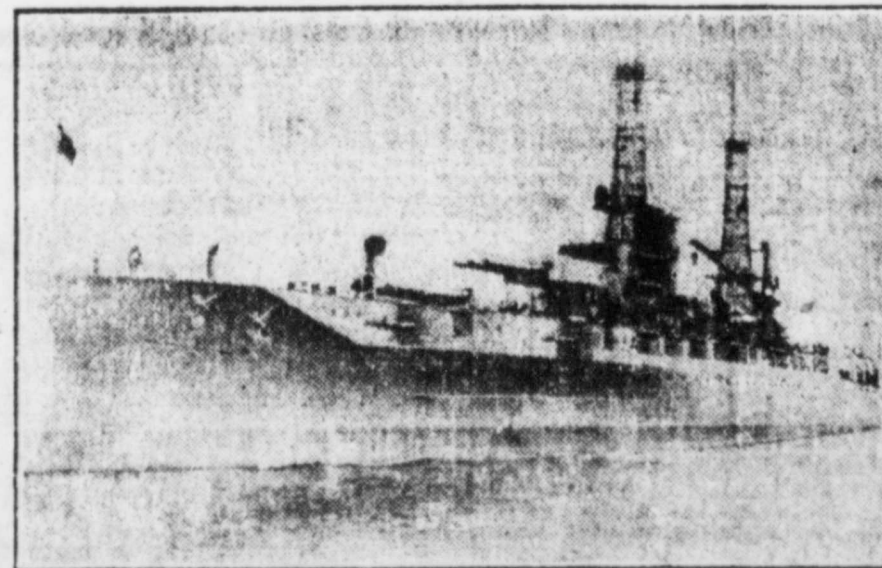


Photo by American Press Association.

The Pennsylvania, one of the most powerful warships afloat, of 31,400 tons, succeeded the Wyoming as flagship of the Atlantic fleet. She carries twelve fourteen-inch guns and cost more than \$7,000,000.

Trent Claims Honors

Trent, Tex., Feb. 19—In the last week's issue of the Mail you stated that Merkel and Abilene were tied in basket ball for the county championship in the Class A division, girls contest.

It seems that in some manner you have been misinformed. Trent girls are wondering when Trent was moved out of Taylor County. Trent is competing in this contest and it is hard for us to understand how Abilene and Merkel are tied for the championship after we have defeated Merkel in two games in which the score was 26 to 8 and 24 to 5 respectively. Does that sound much like a championship for Merkel or Abilene? Abilene is continually framing excuses to keep from meeting us and the county meet is still before us. It is our understanding that no championships are won until the county contest and you may look for us for we'll be there.

The winners in the contest last year are in the game and feel that they can't be beat, and that wasn't Abilene or Merkel either. So it remains for some of the Merkel High School mathematicians to solve this problem of how Merkel or Abilene is going to win the championship. We are undefeated and looking for some one that can play basket ball—guess we will have to go to Tuscola.

We will appreciate the correction.
T. S. Christopher,
Principal Trent High School.

Plenty bran, oats, chops and cow feed, shorts. Bob Martin Grocery Co.

See Sublett, the jeweler, for your clock and watch repairing.

ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

The Largest & Best Assorted

Stock of Merchandise ever shown in Merkel is now on Display at
The Anchor Mercantile Company

Representing a full line of staple cotton goods, consisting of Gingham, Percales, Cheviots, Sport Goods of all kinds, woolen and silk Dress Goods in all the new shades, checks and stripes. Also our buyer has just returned from the markets, where he has purchased a full line of Ready-to-Wear, consisting of all the new sport coats, coat suits, skirts and waists. A beautiful array of colors are being shown in the new shades of gold, mustard, apple green, kelly green, turquoise, chartreuse and rose

COAT SUITS

Ranging in Price from

\$15.00, 20.00, 22.50, 25.00
and up to 35.00

NEW WAISTS

In the most fastidious coloring and styles
Ranging in Prices from

\$1, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, \$3
\$3.50, 5.00 and up to \$7.50

SPORT COATS

Ranging in Price from

\$12.50, 15.00, 17.50 and up
to \$25.00

Staple Department

Red-hot prices on our staple department will make your eyes water when you consider today the high cost of merchandise and the prices we are making. We would not be in position to buy many articles we are quoting here should we go into the markets today and buy these goods, but owing to our large volume of business placed with the mills last year, still gives us a leverage and a saving of present values of 25 to 50 per cent.

Good grade fast color book fold gingham at per yard only **10c**
Red Seal gingham, fast colors, book fold, all new spring patterns, only per yard **12½c**
Good grade 36-inch bleached domestic, at per yard only **10c**
Good grade full width 10-4 bleached sheeting at per yard only **33c**
Good grade full width 9-4 bleached sheeting at per yard only **31c**
Good heavy LL brown domestic, 36 inches wide at per yard only **7½c**
Good grade heavy cheviots, in short lengths, only a few patterns left, solid colors, yd. **10c**
Good grade calico, in all the new spring light colors, at per yard only **6c**

Shoes Shoes

We have recently increased our shoe stock with new shipments until we are now carrying the largest shoe stock by double any other concern in Merkel.

Our last year's contracts have not yet all been filled along this line, and you will notice no particular advance when buying your shoes of us, as we have them well bought and paid for, and are going to stay by our customers on them as long as present contracts and shoes last.

Our shoe stock alone will now invoice better than \$14,000.00 and consists of nothing but the very best of everything that money will buy.

Take a look at our line of fancy boots in our Utz & Dunn quality, makers of nothing but ladies' high-grade boots. New shipments just arrived, in black, white kids, and the new color combinations, ranging in price from \$4, \$4.50 \$5, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$8.50 and \$10.00

New baby doll slippers in patent and kid for the children and misses, ranging in price from \$2.00, \$2.50 to \$3.00 and \$3.50

Shoe Department

Big line of men's dress shoes and oxfords just received and moderate in price, ranging from \$3.00, 3.50, 4.00, 4.50, 5.00, 6.00 and 6.50

**Nothing Higher in the House
in Men's Shoes**

Our No. 288 tan elk skin work shoe, with water proof bottom, same as we have sold for three years for \$3.00, and are still going to continue this number at the same old price.

Our No. 354 tan elk skin work shoe, with water proof bottom, a dandy, at the old price of **2.50**

Many good things in shoes that we have held in reserve for the big advance that we knew was bound to come sooner or later.

A glimpse at our shoe stock will convince you readily that we are over-loaded on shoes, but our being in position to buy these goods and pay the cash for them enables you to buy your goods at practically the old prices and at a saving of from 33% to 50 per cent over present high values.

**FULL LINE OF GROCERIES, GRAIN, HAY, FEED STUFFS, HARDWARE, FARM IMPLEMENTS
BUGGIES, WAGONS, IN FACT WE PRIDE OURSELVES IN CARRYING EVERYTHING TO BE
CARRIED IN A FIRST-CLASS GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORE**

ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

**The Largest Store of its Kind in Taylor County
DID MORE BUSINESS LAST YEAR THAN ANY THREE FIRMS IN MERKEL**

A COMPLETE SHOWING FOR EARLY SPRING

SATURDAY SPECIALS

Extra Special for Saturday only—A good grade 10c Ginghams, per yard8c
12 yards for \$1.00

A big assortment of blue and grey 27-inch Percale, Saturday Special
15 yards for \$1.00

WILL BE FOUND THIS WEEK AT WOODROOF'S

Never before so early in the season have we had such a splendid showing of new spring merchandise! Every department offers the newest creations for spring wear. A cordial invitation is extended to all to come see the many new spring goods

SATURDAY SPECIALS

Big Buck Overalls known as the best, regular price \$1.15, Saturday only, pair\$1.00

Big Special one lot men's shirts, with or without collar, mostly light patterns, regular price 65c, Saturday Special
Two for \$1.00

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Many new arrivals will be found in this department this week. Also the newest styles in Sport Coats.

Don't fail to visit this department. Always something new and pretty to show you



SPRING FOOTWEAR DISPLAY

Our shoe department is brim full of new Snappy Shoes and Slippers for spring and summer. A beautiful showing in high boots for ladies—black kid, white kid, grey kid and two-tone combinations

\$6.50 to \$8.00

Full line of slippers in Pumps, Mary Janes, with white soles, and many Sport Oxfords

\$2.00 to \$7.50

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX SUITS

For men are here, and our spring line is now ready for your careful inspection. We are showing many new patterns this season. Call in and see Hart Schaffner & Marx DIXIE WEAVE. Price

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New Spring Shirts New Spring Hosiery
New Spring Caps

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We now have a complete showing in the new skirts for spring. We have them in Fancy Taffetas, Serges, Poplins and an extensive line of Wash Skirts. Prices ranging

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We have a beautiful assortment of the newest styles in Ladies' Waists. The new ones are in Lingerie, Crepe de Chine, Georgette Crepe, Tub Silk. Prices ranging

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for men

WOODROOF'S

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25c, 35c, 50c, \$1.00

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Photo by American Press Association.
Major General Frederick Funston.

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Refuse Alcohol! Substitutes Which Exclude the Oil.

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To Cure a Cold in One Day
Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. It stops the Cough, and Headache and works off the Cold. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure.

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Lots of Blacksmith Coal
Crown Hardware Co. 2312

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The house that attends to its own business (the grocery business) E. L. Rogers.

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W. A. Thornton, Route 4, was in a few days ago and took advantage of our subscription offer. He stated that land in his vicinity was in good shape, had a good season and that everybody was in with their



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Major General John J. Pershing.

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His guarantee is worth one hundred cents on the dollar. E. L. Rogers.

J. Wiley Smith, and sons, T.J. and R. G., of the Tye community, dropped in to see our new lino-type machine a few days ago. They state that plowing is about completed in their neighborhood, and that the people are rejoicing over the good rain of a few days ago.

W. A. Thornton, Route 4, was in a few days ago and took advantage of our subscription offer. He stated that land in his vicinity was in good shape, had a good season and that everybody was in with their work.