

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 29—NO. 4

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1917

8 PAGES

MERKEL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTS

It is not every man that enjoys the peculiarly gratifying satisfaction of an acknowledgement of duty well done, of a public service rendered, yet in a surprisingly quiet manner, our very efficient and thoughtful school board honored our worthy Superintendent of Schools by an unsolicited re-election long before the usual time. It was an acknowledgement of a general uplift along school lines in the City of Merkel. Striving might and main to bring the system up to the highest state of efficiency, his efforts have not gone unnoticed and unrewarded. There is the peculiar satisfaction in this action that reaches a man's soul and spurs him on to further good works. As beautiful as was the action of the board, fully as beautiful was the prompt acceptance by Mr. Parker.

The board feels confident that the school is fifty per cent better than ever before, in discipline, organization, co-operation of Superintendent, teachers and pupils. Remarkable is the progress being made in learning as compared with other years.

The board and faculty hope to attain eight or ten units of affiliation with the State University this year. The school is rapidly rising to the very front rank among like institutions of the State.

It was thought that when the present building was erected it would equal the demand for a number of years, but already it is crowded, and soon the time will come when more room is imperative. It has been suggested that a primary building be erected on the North Side in order to solve the situation, and that feature might be given due consideration in the near future.

The School Board has devoted a great deal of time to the institution, and the citizens of Merkel should feel grateful to them for their splendid efforts. The members of the board are J. S. Swann, president; J. M. Dry, secretary; Thos. Johnson, W. L. Harkrider, G. M. Sharp, J. T. Dennis and T. J. Toombs.

Superintendent Parker took charge of the schools last September, and ever since has given his entire energy to the perfection of the system. It is the duty of every citizen to help as much as possible in the great work that is being undertaken for the City. The work is hard in the schools, as the previous short terms encroached upon the efforts of the pupils, and things must be brightened before the system can be thoroughly perfected. Let us not forget that a good school system is the greatest asset a city can have, and it becomes us as individuals not to defer that splendid spirit of co-operation at this crucial time of the development of our educational assets.

The Battle Cry Of Peace.

Timely, entertaining, instructive, "The Battle Cry of Peace" appears crisp and new to arouse the conscience of a nation, rapidly being surfeited by the woeful sights on the world's battlefields. It is without equal from a dramatic standpoint. The theory of the play is that under present conditions our only hope to maintain peace is by ample preparation. The illustrations are apt and abundantly convincing. It was conceived and produced by J. Stuart Blackton of the Vitagraph Company, and featuring Charles Richman. It is proving to be one of the most popular productions wherever it has been shown. Moreover it is a clean, high class production, worthy of the patronage of the choicest lovers of artistic productions. Soon it will be shown in Merkel, and those who miss the opportunity of seeing this wonderfully constructed feature will miss a treat. It affords food for serious

thought, and the kind of thinking that is uppermost in the minds of the people of this country at the present time.

Woman Chief Deputy

Miss Bertye Diltz, of Van Horn Texas, is receiving a great deal of notoriety on account of being the only woman chief deputy sheriff in the State. Miss Diltz is by no means the type of woman one naturally would expect to see with such a title. A deputy wanted to know who the "stylish woman was." She says she likes the job. She has served in this capacity for four years, under three different sheriffs.

Miss Diltz is the daughter of our fellowtownsman, W. L. Diltz, and was formerly a Merkelite. She has a host of friends in this section.

Trent High School Notes.

The Zona Gale Society met in regular session Thursday February 22 and rendered an excellent Washington program. This society is composed of the girls of the High School and they are doing some fine work. Every member is always prepared when she is on the program and none of the meetings are a drag. They recently gave a library program and added some 60 or 70 volumes to the library. They have also raised \$85.00, which will go to the library. These girls have adopted the motto, "By our own efforts we hope to rise", and their present efforts seem to indicate the success of each member.

The Expression Class, under the direction of Miss Harkins, gave a recital Friday night. There was a large crowd present and the affair was a success in every way. This department of the school is doing good work and every one is highly pleased with it.

Next Friday, March 2, we will hold our annual field and track meet. This contest will determine our representatives at the county contest. A large number have already entered the various events and a lively meet is assured.

Trent's second team went to Kale and played basket ball last Friday evening and were defeated by a score of 14 to 13. The measles are about to break up our first teams. At present three members of the girls team and two members of the boys team have them.

The members of the English classes, under the direction of the teacher of English, who has made this a part of the regular work, are working hard on their essays for the county contest. They are also studying the question for debate and expect to be ready to successfully meet all comers in the approaching contests.

The date for the declamation contests has been set for March 30. A large number have already entered these contests and are practicing for that event.

The Boys Debating Society met in regular session last Thursday evening and a good program was rendered. The subject for debate was: Resolved, That the Philippines should be given their independence during the present administration. New officers for the next term were installed. The challenge for a debate from Sweetwater, was considered and it was decided to accept the challenge. This means a lively little debate some time in the near future.

"Zona Gale", Press Reporter.

R. L. Green, Ferris, Tex., prominently connected with the brick industry of that place, was a visitor in the home of O. R. Duff and family the past week. Mr. Green dropped by on his way home from an extended trip to the Plains Country.

Melodious Noodle Notes.

The southern half of the county singing convention met with the Noodle singing class Sunday. Noodle has not been honored with such a crowd in many a day. Singers from all over this and adjoining counties were present. Dinner was the most important part of the day's program, there being plenty for all and to spare. The place for the

holding of next meeting was placed in the hands of a committee, to make report at the County Convention, which meets at Anson first Sunday in April. Delegates were appointed from all the classes represented to attend the county convention.

Rev. Horn preached at the Methodist church Sunday night; also left an appointment for each third Sunday.

OUR NEW SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Hereafter the price of Subscription to the Merkel Mail will be \$1.00 a Year

Merkel Mail Printing Co
Walter Jackson

CLASSIFIED ADS

All ads in this department will be 1 cent per word for each time

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

FOR TRADE — \$5000.00 in cash and 123¼-acre farm for larger place. W. J. Rogers, Merkel, Route 2. 23t4pd

S-O-O-O
To our Regular Customers 25 Cents—cash or trade.
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

LOST—Somewhere in Merkel a pin: Center a blue 5-pointed star with initials S. H. N. in gold, underneath 99 in blue, all encircled in a laurel wreath of gold.
Mrs. J. M. Williams.
Finder please leave at Merkel Mail office. 3Mar2tch

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

FEED — All Kinds
Get Our Prices —
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

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

FOR SALE—One good young jack. See jack at Helms Yard, or write me at 16th and Orange Sts., Abilene, Tex. W. A. Scott. 1f
HAY AND MILL STUFF—2 cars of feed to be sold from the track at Blair, to be there Monday. John S. Hughes, Blair, Tex.

Sand Burr Items.

We celebrated George Washington's birthday with a sandstorm.

J. C. Huddleston went to Abilene Thursday on business.

J. I. Ford, commissioner, and wife of Stith, were visiting their daughter, Mrs. E. F. Vantrees, Mr. W. J. Mashburn, Sam Mashburn, Jim Kelso, Jack Canon and Elbert West are on a prospecting trip to New Mexico and other points this week, going in Jim Kelso's car.

Mamie Pare is having a concrete cellar made, Mr. F. J. Ferrier doing the work.

The Hodges boys and the Sand Burr boys played basket ball on Washington's birthday. The game was played on the home grounds, the result being 7 to 10 in favor of Hodges.

Mrs. J. T. Vantrees is visiting her daughter, Mrs. S. E. Pierce of Noodle.

E. F. Vantrees has been adding some improvements to his place the past week.

M. T. McCoy is having his house painted and a windmill put up.

E. F. Vantrees and family visited his sister, Mrs. S. E. Pierce of Noodle Saturday night and Sunday, and took in the singing convention.
Mr. and Mrs. McCaleb and Mrs.

FOR SALE—\$110 buggy, with top, side curtains, used 8 months. Price, with a fairly good set of harness, \$60. Same may be seen at Kent St. Wagon Yard at any time. J. W. Powell, phone 50, Merkel, Texas. 1tc

MAIZE SEED—Pure dwarf at G. M. Sharp's.

FEED — All Kinds
Get Our Prices —
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

FOR SALE—1000 or 1200 bushels of oats at 60 cents per bushel. W. A. Pramely, Route 3, Abilene, Texas.

WANTED—Family of workers to do general farm work. House, water, wood and pasture furnished. A. B. Highsmith, 3 miles north of Stith. 1tpd

Remember to-morrow — The 10th and last. Pay your electric bill. Merkel Power Company.
CAFE — Metropolitan, Abilene, open day and night. Latham Bros., proprietors. 14t

L-G-G-S
To our Regular Customers 25 Cents—cash or trade.
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

I have decided to discontinue a credit business. It is my purpose to render service, and I appreciate your patronage. J. A. Brown, harness, saddlery and shoe repairer. t2ch

J. T. Vantrees went to Kale Monday to see Mrs. J. M. Sloan, who is right sick. Mrs. Sloan is a daughter of Mrs. Vantrees.

Mr. John Yerger's folks have the measles.

Mr. M. T. McCoy motored to Abilene Friday.

Mrs. Frank Munday has been suffering several days with a bone felon on her finger. She went to Merkel Saturday to have it lanced.

Mr. J. F. Winters has been very sick with indigestion, but is able to be up at this writing.

Everybody is about done plowing, but they have lots of rows to lay off. What there is of wheat looks good. Spring oats are coming up.

Arthur Cranston and wife visited Mr. M. R. Holt Sunday evening.

(Editor)—This is our correspondent's first attempt. Good! Come again.

Dudley Bros., Route 3, popular farmers and stockmen of the Elm Grove community, paid us a very pleasant visit the other day, and while in placed a subscription with the Mail. They stated that farm work was well up in their community. The people there are rejoicing over the shower that fell a few days ago.

CIVIC PRIDE IN THE NUBIA SECTION

Junius In The "Soup".

Trent, March 7.—In trouble again. Mr. Editor, crushing and serious trouble. It is this: the supposed good people of the far-famed city of Shiloh, held an animated convention at our shack a few months ago, and stated the numerous chickens, turkeys that had mysteriously disappeared since we made our advent into their lovely and tranquil neighborhood, the corn, bacon and flour that had disappeared, as if by magic, and advised us to move to the jungles of Sweetwater Creek, near Mr. Ulric Wheeler's, Warren's, McMillan's, Kirks', James' Mauks' Johnson's and a host of their pure and untarnished Christian gentlemen, all of whom are honest, frank and generous. We took their mandatory advice, stuffed our household and kitchen furniture in a tow sack and hit the road for Sweetwater Creek, where we thought to be free from the fear of shot guns, pistols, locks and biting dogs. But alas! These presumably nice and refined Christian gentlemen keep guns, dogs and locks, too, and we have been advised to move a little further up the creek.

A superb social entertainment will be given at the home of Rev. Charles Seago and wife Tuesday night, in honor of Miss Lyttie Jones of Anson.

Miss Nancy Green, one of our most charming and bewitching young ladies, had the misfortune to burn one of her eyes a few days ago. It was thought at first that the eye was permanently injured, but the latest reports state that her eye is not so seriously injured, and no facial disfigurement will result from the painful accident.

The Literacy Bill

The following is a very interesting excerpt from a letter written to the Times Herald of Waco, by our genial, humorous and affable correspondent, "Junius", of far upper Sweetwater Creek:

"We heartily commend the attitude of our editor, Mr. George Robinson, on the 'literacy bill,' now pending before congress, and we have read with much interest and a modicum of profit the spicy controversy of he and Mr. C. O. Calloway on the subject of education. But do not exactly agree with either of the disputants on this highly interesting subject. There is entirely too much useless rubbish being crammed into the juvenile cranium, and not enough of the essentials for the future weal and success of the individuals. Of what use is a besmattering of anatomy, physiology, astronomy, geology, metaphysics or Egyptian, Roman or Greek mythology to the farmer, artisan or business man? It may afford the pedantic book work some pleasure to expatiate on the wars of Alexander, Cyrus, Darius and Xerxes; the conquests of Caesar, Hannibal, Constantine, Cincinnatus and later on of William the Conqueror, Oliver Cromwell, Napoleon and others, but such knowledge can not be utilized in furnishing food or raiment to a dependent family, and ask all of the professional and business of your town and the wealthiest and most prominent farmers of the country what he knows of the subjects above enumerated—a sensible man would forget such stuff in two hours, or go crazy if he tried to retain it."

The writer received, with gratification, the invitation sent him by Mr. Jackson, via Mr. Neill. When the opportunity affords an occasion, I will gladly acquiesce. I am grateful to you for your obvious solicitude, but please don't make of me an object of cynosure; for publicity to me is not a morsel ardently to be sought, for I am vain enough already. Celebrity might set me availing, and turn me to a bauble or a nincompoop. (Ed.—Nay friend, not ours to tear vulture-like at the vitals of your vanity, but being so constituted, like a woman, if you please, our curiosity just got a little the best of us, and we wanted to know if you are pretty. Even if you are not, come to see us and maybe our own homeliness will stir within you at least a fellow sympathy.)

John Elliot, a prominent and prosperous cattleman of the vicinity about six miles west of Trent, expects to be represented at the Fat Stock Show with one or more of his breed.

John Sears took a number of cattle to the Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth the past week.

If any Merkelite doubts the civic pride of Canyon citizenry, let him harness up his self-propeller and try out our roads, subjecting them to the severest acid test. Not content with very well, we are striving for a consummation of road efficiency, which could not fail to meet the minutest approval of the most scrupulous road builder; and the ultimate efforts are yet to be put forth.

The latest and most needed piece of work has just been completed, and all who travel that part of the Nubia-Blair-Merkel road between Jim Richies and Uncle Bill Clarks, will have no more annoyance with sandy ruts. About 16 teams and 30 hands have been busy for the past seven or eight days claying and graveling it. We trust that representatives of other communities were present in the audience, with pencil and paper in hand, taking notes. The people of this immediate vicinity are by no means disciples of the philosophy of tarrying, for lo! they are workers.

Miss Maud Burnham, teacher at Butman, is one of the latest victims of chicken-pox. The writer ventures the hazardous iteration that her vacation is not after the manner of her liking. Mr. and Mrs. Will Rawlings, of Blair, visited Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Perry, Sunday.

Miss Jewel Anderson is teaching in Miss Burnham's place at Butman this week.

The ideal weather which prevailed last week, sufficed as an inducement to several to plant corn.

A party of young folks met at Mr. M. E. Perry's, Sunday afternoon and had some pictures made. The following comprised the party: Messrs. Bud Perry, Will Rawlings, Leslie Wood and Grover and Bennie Lewis; Messdames Bud Perry and Will Rawlings; Misses Ila Mae Anderson, Lizzie Finley, Cigale Bankhead and Irene Perry.

Uncle Bill Perry returned Saturday from Loraine, where he has been visiting Mr. John Cozart his son-in-law.

Mrs. Sam Butman, Sr., is in El Paso, visiting her aged mother, Grandma Vaughn, who is reported very low.

At this writing old Boreas is emanating from the quarters of Aurora Boreas. For aught we know, it may be the last effort of rigorous winter to gesticulate his imperious authority, for the sun is shifting its course to the north, making its rays fall upon us more vertically; thus producing, we are told, spring and summer.

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(Ed.—Nay friend, not ours to tear vulture-like at the vitals of your vanity, but being so constituted, like a woman, if you please, our curiosity just got a little the best of us, and we wanted to know if you are pretty. Even if you are not, come to see us and maybe our own homeliness will stir within you at least a fellow sympathy.)

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at Warren school house Sunday, March 11, at 11 a. m. and 3 p. m., and at Merkel at 7:30 p. m. Everybody is invited to hear him at both places.

J. S. Swan will leave Monday to attend the Fat Stock Show in Fort Worth.

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

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

There don't seem to be much excitement over the coming city election. Strange, isn't it?

It is urged that in the clean up campaign that no one remove the depot. The railroad values it highly as a souvenir, else it would have long ago been buried with the debris that afflicted every other city between Fort Worth and El Paso.

Don't forget to prepare for the most successful "Clean Up and Paint Up Campaign" ever pulled off in Merkel. The citizens might get in practice on their back yards. Some one has suggested that two prizes be offered—one for the best kept private premises and one for the worst. At any rate, let us start off right by cleaning up in the early spring.

In this issue we have the announcement of C. E. Counts for election as City Marshall. If Mr. Counts has been an efficient officer in the discharge of his duty, it becomes not only a duty but a privilege to return him to the place; but if he has not measured up to the duties that devolve upon the office, then it would be a moral wrong to further incumbent the office by his election. In other words it is the patriotic duty of the voters to place in office those who are most competent, and not always those who may be most popular.

Letter of Thanks.

We take this method of thanking each and every one who so kindly assisted us during the three long years of illness and the death of our dear little Nellie Fay. May God bless each and every one of them.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Harvell.

J. T. Lewis, of Nubia, called day or so ago and looked our machine over. He agreed with us that it was mightily and wonderfully constructed. Every one seems ready to plant. Wheat is looking good, and everything is in fine shape. Some planting has been done. Mr. Lewis will plant corn and maizenext week. Wheat prospects are mighty fine at the present time. Mr. Lewis placed a subscription for his nephew in Mississippi.

We cordially invite our friends to call at the Metropolitan Cafe when in Abilene. Latham Bros., proprietors.

The Merke Baptist congregation decided to hold their protracted meeting in June, beginning the second Sunday. Rev. W. T. Sherron, of Fort Worth, has been invited to assist Pastor Owings in the meeting.

F-G-G-S

To our Regular Customers 25 Cents—cash or trade.
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

J. H. Tubbs died of measles and pneumonia, at 10:45 a.m., February 21, 32 years of age. He lived with his sister, Mrs. Woodward on the Will Boring farm. He was a Christian, but had never affiliated with the church. He was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Rev. L. B. Owen officiating at the funeral.

FEED

All Kinds

Get Our Prices —
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

B. F. and H. F. Ricker paid us a visit the past week and inspected our new machine.

J. A. Patterson and family, who have been living out on Route 1, moved into Merkel the past week.

The Standing of Contestants on March — 3 — 1917

- 1— 34880
- 2— 19870
- 3— 53455
- 4— 6300
- 5— 2000
- 6— 2085
- 7— 114310
- 8— 3030
- 9— 5930
- 10— 27220
- 11— 4855
- 12— 2000
- 13— 2000
- 14— 2950
- 15— 22435
- 16— 3055
- 17— 47455
- 18— 77270
- 19— 4000
- 20— 61415
- 21— 5060
- 22— 2575

G.F. WEST COMPANY

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.

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.

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

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

Monday, March 12th

ONE NIGHT ONLY

TOM CHRISTY'S

(ALL WHITE)

MINSTRELS

BAND AND ORCHESTRA
A Classy Attraction With Special Scenery

STREET PARADE AT NOON

Band Concerts at 2 and 7 p.m.

Prices 25-35-50c Seats now at the Elite Curtain at 8:30

COZY THEATRE

Don't Miss it.

Monday March 12th

COMPLETE NURSERY STOCK

Splendid assortment of Shade Trees—Sycamore, Black Locus, Honey Locus, China, Ash and Mulberry.

Fine Variety of Roses. Splendid variety of grape vines, hedge plants and suitable fruit trees.

Planting season soon will close. Place your order now.

J. D. BORING

Coming to Merkel FOR ONE WEEK

THE FAMOUS Southern Amusement COMPANY

Presenting High-Class Amusements

10 Big Shows 10

3 Riding Devices 3

Band Concerts—Free Attractions

100 FUN MAKERS 100

6 BIG DAYS 6
BIG NIGHTS

Fun, Frolic, Amusement for Everybody

Remember the date and meet me on

MIDWAY IN MERKEL

March 12th to 17th

LOCAL NEWS

Red top cane seed. G.M. Sharp.

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

C. M. Largent left the past week for Fort Worth, with three cars of cattle, which he will exhibit at the Fat Stock Show.

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

Rev. W. T. Sherod, member of the evangelistic force of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, preached to highly appreciative audiences at the Baptist Church Sunday and Sunday night.

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

Miss Ruth Mimms, of Abilene, is guest at the home of Mrs. N.G. Wade.

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

The infant of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Allen was born last Monday and died the same day. Interment was made in Rose Hill cemetery.

Prompt service always rendered by Sublett, the jeweler, at the Merkel Drug Co. 16tf

The farmhouse of W. B. Massey, near Trent, burned a few days ago. His loss was total.

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



NEW MATERIALS FOR MAKING SPRING CLOTHES

COME IN THIS WEEK AND GET THE NEW MATERIALS YOU NEED.

IF YOU WAIT TO MAKE YOUR SPRING THINGS UNTIL SPRING REALLY COMES YOU WILL BE LATE IN HAVING THEM.

THE STYLES FOR SPRING ARE NOW ON SHOW IN OUR STORE. THE MOMENT WINTER BREAKS BE READY TO DROP YOUR OLD, HEAVY, WORN CLOTHES AND PUT ON NEW ONES.

REMEMBER, OURS IS THE STORE THAT SELLS GOOD GOODS REASONABLY ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

See our new silks and dress fabrics in all new and late designs in stripes, plaids and solids. All new patterns of excellent quality of pleasing prices

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.

100 pounds Flour \$4.65

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	1 No. 3 can pie peaches 10c
1-lb. can best steel-cut Coffee, a genuine 35c value, special 25c	1 No. 3 can hominy 10c
	No. 10 can hand-pack. apils 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

Place Your Order now For

That Spring Suit

Cleaning, Pressing, Altering Guaranteed by

Yarborough

At City Barber Shop Merkel, Texas.

Butman Items.

As we haven't written to the Mail in a long time, thought we had better wake up and let the people know we are still on foot and enjoying another beautiful snow. The snow came just in time to get the gardens, the loss of which has saddened the faces of many of our women, who took great pride in their gardens. The health of the community is good, with the exception of a few cases of chicken pox. Several grown people have them, among whom is Miss Maud Burnham, but we are glad to say that she will be able to resume her place in the schoolroom Monday.

We are glad to report the little son of W. C. Matthews, of Merkel, on the mend, after a serious attack of pneumonia.

The farmers are ready to go to planting as soon as spring peeps in. They are expecting good

Special on Sheet Music

We have over 800 sheets in our window, regular price 15 cents per sheet; buy one sheet and we give you TWO SHEETS FREE

Friday and Saturday Only

GRIMES DRUG STORE

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Matthews plan making a trip to the city Monday.

Prof. E. C. Martin, of the Butman school was a very pleas-

ant caller at the home of Miss Maud Burnham Friday evening. S. L. Grayson and family and Uncle Terrell Winter spent Sunday afternoon with W. B. Beavers and family.

U. B. Wheeler and family and T. H. Murray, near Sweetwater Creek, visited J. H. Grayson and family Sunday.

Mrs. Atlas Phillips and children spent the past week with

T. R. Melton of the Butman

community, came in the other day and placed a subscription with the Mail for himself and father, who lives in the Blair community. Work is well up in his district, and general conditions are good.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Winter of Lamesa are visiting relatives here.

C. C. Church and family spent last week with relatives at Vernon.

Miss Bertie Tabor was a visitor to San Angelo the first of the week.

Several parties from here attended the singing at the home of Ben Wheeler of Noodle, Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Brown were Merkel visitors Monday.

Drives Out Malaria, Builds Up System The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 5c

Wm. P. Carey of the Wm. P. Carey Lumber Company of Chicago was a visitor in Merkel Tuesday morning inspecting his local yard. Mr. Carey was accompanied by his wife and O. W. Williams of the State offices in Fort Worth.

The burning of the brooder house of Henry Rose, last Sunday afternoon, caused considerable excitement in that part of the city. Mr. Rose lost about 35 little chickens.

H. J. Knapp, representing the La Resistia Corset Company, visited the city the past week.



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

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

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

Plenty of Garden Hose. Also Chopping Hose, 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.

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 City Barber Shop—Front St.

G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance, Notary Public
Office over Woodroofs 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
INVISIBLE
BI-FOCAL


lenses give him the two visions
he requires in a one-piece lens
They are truly wonderf
bifocals with no lines of separ
tion and no cemented pieces.
Come in and see them.

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. B. 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.
Communion Service at 11:00.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. H. E. 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.

FRUITS IN SEASON

Fresh Every Day

Bread, Cakes and Candles
No Better Made

Cleanliness our Motto—Come see our Plant
Carelessness in Preparation Prohibited

Ours is a home enterprise. We pride our-
selves on being able to render first-class
service. We thank you for your orders.

The Merkel Bakery

Opposite Postoffice
N. HANCOCK, Prop.

JUST RECEIVED

A very classy and up-to-now line of box Stationery. The
beauty of our line may be termed as the "last word" in stationery
Burroughs Drug Store

**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

Shiloh, Tex., March 2—Several
of the young people from this
place attended the Singing con-
vention at Noodle Sunday.

Bud Brown and family visited
Will Bond and family of Abilene
Sunday.

W. A. Scott and daughters,
Misses Mattie and Cora, of Trent
spent Sunday with W. B. Bea-
vers and family.

Allen Cade is the proud owner
of a new car.

Terrell Winter made a busi-
ness trip to Big Springs Wednes-
day.

Will McDonald and family
spent the week end in Ballinger
visiting relatives.

Misses Maud and Della
Greene, Alice Brown and Thelma
McCrigh were Merkel visitors
Saturday afternoon.

Miss Albatine Winter, accom-
panied by two of her friends of
Abilene, visited at the home of
the former's parents, Mr. and
Mrs. T. Winter, Saturday and
Sunday.

Mr. Tabor and daughters,
Misses Carrie and Blanche, spent
a few days last week in Haskell.

Rev. W. K. Horn of Abilene
was in our midst Monday.

Mrs. Alice Wright and baby
of Trent spent a few days this
week with Mrs. McCright and
family.

Miss Lettye Jones of near An-
son attended services here Sun-
day night.

Mr. and Mrs. Eoff of Noodle
spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs.
McCright.

Mrs. Phoebe Green, who has
been in Abilene for some two
weeks, has returned home.

Mrs. Bessie Johnson left for
her home Monday night after
a month's visit with relatives
here.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Winter gave
the young folks a party Monday
night.

Tom Christy's wife minstrels
will be in Merkel Monday. They
come highly recommended from
various sections of the country.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Subject to the action of the
voters of the City of Merkel, in
the regular election to be held
the first Tuesday in April, same
being third day of the month
I take this opportunity to an-
nounce my candidacy for the of-
fice of City Marshall. I appre-
ciate highly the confidence here-
tofore placed in me, and assure
you of my appreciation of your
continued support and co-opera-
tion. R. E. COUNTS.

T. N. Robinson of Big Springs
was here on a visit to his wife,
the past week. Mrs. Robinson
teaches at the Warren school,
near here. Mr. Robinson for-
merly lived here and has many
friends in these parts.

L. E. Perkins of the Butman
community, dad his subscription
to the Mail extended for a period
of two years. He is a great be-
liever in practical farming, and
states that everything is in good
shape in his section.

Jackson Bright and his
nephew, L. N., called and sub-
scribed to the Mail the other day.
The people in their section are
anxious to go to planting, they
say.

Rev. A. J. Leach of Snyder
visited the Mail office while on
his way to his appointment at
the Salt Branch Baptist church
the other day. He said he want-
ed to keep in touch with the
news of this great Merkel Coun-
try and placed a subscription
with the Mail.

F. E. Hale brings most en-
couraging reports from the
Shiloh community. He is a re-
cent acquisition to our growing
list of subscribers.

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



Miss Evelyn Williams, Editor

Members of the Presbyterian
Gymnasium Club met at the
usual hour Tuesday evening.
Two new members joined the
organization. Every one enjoy-
ed a delightful evening.

The S. D. S. S. I. Club met with
Miss Gladys Haynes on Febru-
ary 25. The afternoon was spent
in car-riding, and a most enjoy-
able trip to Abilene with Mr. and
Mrs. Angus. Later dinner was
served at the Metropolitan Cafe,
to Mr. and Mrs. Angus, Jewell
Toombs, Edythe Brown, Irene
Hairston, Ruby Hamm, Marion
Hairston, and Gladys Haynes.

Davis-Moore Marriage
Too late for publication last
week was the news of the mar-
riage Taylor F. Davis and Miss
Gertrude Moore, daughter of Mr.
and Mrs. Geo. Moore of Merkel,
Route 1.

The groom, who teaches at
Castle Peak school has been a
member of the Moore household
there this year and the result is
that Dan Cupid began playing
tricks at once, which resulted
in the marriage a few days ago.

Mr. Davis is to be congratu-
lated on the charming girl which
he has won as his bride, and
best wishes are extended for
their success and happiness.

**WHAT IS
LAX-FOS**

LAX-FOS IS AN IMPROVED CASCARA
A DIGESTIVE LAXATIVE
CATHARTIC AND LIVER TONIC

LAX-FOS is not a Secret or Patent Medi-
cine but is composed of the following
old-fashioned roots and herbs:

CASCARA BARK
BLUE FLAG ROOT
RHUBARB ROOT
BLACK ROOT
MAY APPLE ROOT
SENNA LEAVES
AND PEPSIN

In LAX-FOS the CASCARA is improved by
the addition of these digestive ingredi-
ents making it better than ordinary CAS-
CARA, and thus the combination acts not
only as a stimulating laxative and cathar-
tic but also as a digestive and liver tonic.
Syrup laxatives are weak, but LAX-FOS
combines strength with palatable, aro-
matic taste and does not gripe or disturb
the stomach. One bottle will prove
LAX-FOS is invaluable for Constipation,
Indigestion or Torpid Liver. Price 50c

Advertised Letters.

Helm, Edith.
Gillette, Henry.
Johnson, Gladys.
Taliferro, A.
Castillo, Maria A.
Poreis, Balcis.

These letters will be sent to
the dead letter office on March
21st. H. G. Williams, Postmas-
ter, Merkel, Texas.

**Friends
And
Neighbors**

are never out of reach with
a Bell Telephone.

**Bell Telephone Service ce-
ments community ties and
makes possible those little
touches of personal attention
that deepen friendship and
develop acquaintances.**

Bell Service Is a Social Builder

**THE
SOUTHWESTERN
TELEGRAPH &
TELEPHONE
COMPANY**

VALUE

AND VERY LOW PRICES
go hand-in-hand here

Our display of
**Authoritative
Styles**

in fine suitings for
Spring and Summer is
most complete

Let us take your
measure

Satisfaction Guaranteed



SHARP & HAYNES

Tailors Who Please
Phone 184 Phone 184

**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 186

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.

METROPOLITAN CAFE

Open Day and Night
When in Abilene make the Metropolitan
Your Headquarters

LATHAM BROTHERS, PROPS.
ABILENE, TEXAS

SUITS SUITS SUITS

Choice Spring Styles of Natty Suitings
QUALITY AND PRICES
RIGHT

Cleaning and Pressing Guaranteed

Laundry Agents—Family Washing Cheaply Done
Laundry secured on Thursday and Friday can be
returned same day

THE IDEAL TAILOR SHOP
F. E. CHURCH, Proprietor

LOCAL NEWS

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

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker are happy parents of a bouncing baby girl, born February 21.

FOR SALE—2 good work horses, for cash or good note. See J. T. Warren.

Rev. E. E. Dawson, editor of the Western Evangel, Abilene, visited in Merkel Sunday.

The finest of arborvitae growing in the nursery here at 25 cents each while they last.

J. D. Boring.

See me for your groceries. G. M. Sharp.

J. L. Tucker, who recently suffered the loss of his farm house near Blair by fire, plans to rebuild at an early date.

FEED ———
All Kinds
Get Our Prices ———
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

NOTICE

Dr. Daly is coming prepared to treat diseases of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat and fit glasses. Don't forget the dates—in Merkel, March 14, office at the Commercial Hotel.

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 our agent, only assist in renting your vacant property.
Merkel Power Company.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. McMillan are visitors in Abilene Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Ehrens. Mrs. "Mack" remained over until Monday night.

E-G-G-S

To our Regular Customers 25 cents—cash or trade.

ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

Mrs. Jennie Boden, mother of the Boden Brothers, of the Merkel country is seriously ill at her home in North Merkel. Mrs. Boden is suffering complications following an attack of grippe.

WAGON AND MILL STUFF—2 cars of feed to be sold from the track at Blair, to be there Monday. John S. Hughes, Blair, Tex.

Miss May Valentine was recently elected to the position of primary teacher in the school of Odesa. She left last week to begin her work there.

FEED ———
All Kinds
Get Our Prices ———
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

Mrs. T. L. Grimes, who was taken last week to the Scott-White Sanitarium in Temple, is reported to be gaining and the operation, which she must undergo will probably be performed in a few days.

The Metropolitan Cafe, Abilene, open day and night, solicits your patronage. Latham Bros., proprietors.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Brown had as their guests last week-end their grand-parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Brown, of Abilene, on Monday. The party was joined by Mr. and Mrs. Henson. The party spent the day fishing and picnicking out for miles from town.

E-G-G-S

To our Regular Customers 25 cents—cash or trade.

ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.

W. T. Cox, Route 2, called the past week and placed a subscription with the Mail. He states that everything looks lovely in this vicinity.

I. D. Daniels, of Route 5, visited the Mail office the past week and renewed his subscription to the Mail. He reports several cases of measles and camps in that vicinity. Farm work is in good shape.

FEED ———
All Kinds
Get Our Prices ———
ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO.
White Swan and Diamond syrup. G. M. Sharp.

IT'S MONEY IN YOUR POCKET TO READ ALL OF THIS AD

THE NEW SPRING GOODS ARE HERE

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

Have for your examination a well-assorted Spring Stock. You are invited to come see the new styles. Remember our buying and sell for cash saves you money

READ CAREFULLY

Dress Goods

We have a beautiful stock of all the leading new Kinds

Yard-wide Silks in Guaranteed Taffetas

in solid colors, Roman Stripes and Plaids

Prices, \$1.50 to \$1.85, and 5 yards make a Dress So don't get frightened at \$1.50 to \$1.85 per yard when you used to pay \$15 to \$20 for silk to make a dress

Wool and Wash Suitings

Choice designs for you to select a skirt, coat suit or dress to please your taste.

Price per yard 25c to \$2.00

READ CAREFULLY

Tub Goods

You will be delighted when you look over the good qualities and cleverness of colorings. Have them in all the wanted, quiet to loud sport stripes

See our 36-inch wash silk waistings at \$1.25

Big assortment of 36-inch cambric percales 15c

Very large stock of ginghams 10c, 12½c and 15c

White Goods

India Lawns, Middy Cloth, Indian Head, waist and dress Linens, pure Flax, Long Cloth and many other kinds.

STORE AWAY IN YOUR MIND EVERY WORD IN THIS AD

Snaps For You

Wonderful One Dollar Values

Truly Big Values for \$1.00--Some are worth One-Third More

\$1 Ladies Waists

Just received, beautiful India Lawn, laced, trimmed, long sleeves.

\$1 Mens Pants

Mens work pants, overalls, boys Sunday pants—all new

\$1 Wash Dresses

Childrens white lace trimmed. Ladies striped ginghams

\$1 Mens Shirts

The shirts we are selling for \$1 are worth \$1.25

\$1 Pure Silk Hose

Ladies Plain Black Ladies Embroidered These are A1 values

\$1 Union Suits

For men and ladies, of best makes, knit and muslin

Boys striped and solid blue Overalls

Mens and boys Spring 1917 Caps

50c

Mens Silk Hose, all colors

Ladies Boot Silk, black and white

Good makes of best for prices in Union Suits for boys and men, short and full lengths

Beautiful new fancy and plain, all silk Ribbons, 1c per yard to 35c per yard
ATTRACTIVE NEW LINE OF LACES AND EMBROIDERIES

Best Shoes that Money and Brains can Make

Frankness is always best, therefore we are saying to you that shoes are still advancing and no one yet can say how much higher they will go. The great demand across the seas, at home and scarcity of skins is the reason for advance in price. We are saving our trade 10c to \$1.00 per pair on shoes

Just received Leather Bags and Suit Cases. Also good Trunks
Stetson Hats at The Old Prices

Ladies Silk Dresses at \$10 to \$20. See Them

Skirts \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.00, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50

OUR MOTTO---QUALITY AND STYLE AT THE LOWEST PRICE

Our buying and selling for cash ONLY, reduces prices for you
Our store is for you whether you buy or not

The Brown Dry Goods Co.



THE NEWEST STYLES FOR SPRING

A Splendid Showing of Spring Fashions Will Greet Visitors to Our Ready-to-Wear Department This Week

New Exclusive Models Will be Shown in Coats, Suits and Dresses

STYLISH SPRING SUITS

Visit our Suit Department this week. Many new things to show you. New suits arriving every day. All priced reasonably

\$18.50 to \$30.00

STYLISH SPRING DRESSES

We are showing a wide variety of the newest creations in Dresses, made of Georgette Crepe, Crepe de Chine and Taffetas. Priced

\$15.00 to \$30.00

NEW SPORT COATS

We are receiving new coats every day. Many new Sport Coats to show you at

\$6.50 to \$15.00



New Blouses For Spring

A beautiful showing of the newest styles in Ladies' Waists, made of crepe de chine, georgette crepe, wash silk, voiles and lingers, at

\$1.25 to \$6.50

Ladies' Skirts

Big line of the newest creations in Skirts, made of taffetas in plain and fancy, wool in fancy, serges, poplins and wash materials, at

\$1.00 to \$12.50

Children's Dresses

A complete assortment of children's Dresses, very suitable for school wear, a big line to select from, at

75c to \$1.75

Something new in Misses' Skirts ask to see them



Ladies' Shoes For Spring

We are showing some good numbers in Ladies' High-Top Boots in black, white and grey kid. Also some two-tone effects, priced

\$6.50 to \$8.00

Have a nice line of Ladies' and Misses' Sport Oxfords and Mary Jane Pumps, at

\$2.00 to \$6.50

Special For Saturday

12 yards good grade 10c Gingham for Saturday, 12 yards \$1.00

15 yards good 27-inch Percale, in blues and greys, for Saturday \$1.00

4 pair extra heavy 35c Turkish Bath Towels for Saturday \$1.00

1 pair Big Buck Overalls, worth \$1.25, for Saturday \$1.00



New Millinery

Have just opened up a large shipment of remarkably clever new hats, and they are now on display, ready for your inspection.

Included are many snappy little hats suitable for the Miss who insists on individuality. Also very becoming patterns for equally discriminating matrons.

Come in Today and See Them

STYLE LEADERS FOR SPRING

Hart Schaffner & Marx Varsity Fifty-Fives

Considering what they are and what you will get out of them, they are undoubtedly the most economical clothes you can buy. All wool, wears better, good tailoring, lasts longer and keeps shape better; and the excellent fit is worth a great deal to any man. We don't urge these goods on you because we make more by selling them, but because you make more by buying them.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

BOYS' SUITS

First showing of Boys' Suits for spring this week. Many new, bright, snappy patterns, just the thing your boy has been looking for. A full run of sizes and patterns to select from.

\$3.50 to \$9.00



MEN'S SHOES FOR SPRING

We now have on display a splendid assortment of Men's Shoes for spring in all shapes and widths. Don't fail to visit us when wanting anything in the shoe line. Prices

\$3.50 to \$7.00

A full line of Boys' Shoes

HART SCHAFFNER & MARX
SUITS FOR MEN

WOODROOF'S

REDFERN SUITS
FOR LADIES