

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 29—NO. 9

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 13, 1917

8 PAGES

OUR COUNTRY AT WAR

Washington, April 5—Small army but terribly efficient, backed by a citizenry capable of bearing arms and willing if needed, amounting to 20,000,000.

Washington, April 11—IT is plan of War Department to increase regular army from 203,000 to 287,000 men.

Washington, April 11—Army appropriation bill passed carrying \$278,000,000 for existing regular army.

Havana, Cuba—Cuba has severed diplomatic relations with Germany.

Rio De Janeiro, April 11—Brazil expects to sever diplomatic relations with Germany.

German ships in ports of United States have been taken over by the government, with an estimated value of fully \$20,000,000.

The T. and P. railroad is having all bridges and trestles guarded.

A few of our boys are enlisting, and a large number have the matter under consideration.

Patritism is alive in Merkel all right. Scarcely had the word been announced that we were at war until Mrs. Wesley Edwards took to make a flag, and upwards hung it high above the portals of their palatial where it proudly floats down to the enemies of this id. Determined not to be outdone in the matter of patriotism, H. T. Merritt, a neighbor of Mr. Edwards, placed his flag just a little higher, and placed a light on top, representative of the spirit of eternal vigilance in this country. Next The Farmers State Bank hauled out their coats the stars and stripes. J. A. 2 Buford next joined the regulars, and declared their allegiance and in less degree there is evidence of patriotism on every hand.

THE GHASTLINESS OF WAR

A lurid picture is drawn of some of the experiences at the front. When the Germans retreat began in the vicinity of the Somme, even the most hurried glimpse of the evacuated trenches indicated how untenable they had become and why it was decided to run no risks of another allied offensive in this sector. Five miles of slogging along the old German lines in the vicinity of Bapaume today revealed a picture of ghastliness which may never be seen again in this or any other war. The front line was a long, open, dilapidated, crumbling grave, which disappeared in the mud at times. It could be picked up further on by means of the bodies that marked the way.

One realized with a shudder how the men doomed to live in these trenches had been plagued by their own dead. Such a ceremony as decent burial had been wholly out of the question, and there was on means of conveying the bodies to the rear. It had been like passing through a fiery rain from Hades to bring up food and water to the living. So the dead had simply been tossed out of the trenches only to be blown back again by an exploding shell. Sometimes they came back in fragments, for there were arms and legs, feet and hands everywhere.

Occasionally graves had been dug in the sides of the trench itself, but the dead could not rest there. At frequent intervals the inevitable skeleton hand and feet protrude from the trench walls.

Grim sights this war has had men who passed on

down those trenches during the long and bitter nights of winter.

OUR COUNTRY AT WAR

By Grover Lewis.

Well the war is here, the culmination of a form of thinking which had almost become hackneyed with the winter, and the patriots of powerful America, will never desist from rising to the requirements of the occasion. A tremendous wave of patriotism is engulfing this nation, and when its reflex has been effected through the entire breadth and scope of the land, then we will become aware of the fact that our people are brave, not poltroons. This fact will afford repose to our possible perturbations, and cause us to be filled with the hope of victory, not fear of defeat.

The German nation is assaying to attach the least importance to America's action, refusing even to make any response to Mr. Wilson's declaration of war. Its motive for this is its belief that such refusal will be conducive to the allayment of discord which has been smoldering almost blazing among its people. The Teutonic people have been induced to believe that America could do no more harm at war than she has done in peace. Poor Germany this is an irreparable delusion whose atonement it will be hard for the German people to effect in future years. They will rue with regret the monumental errors they committed, errors so gross in their stupidity that condemnation is rendered unthinkable.

America did not seek this war, rather we endeavored to avoid it but it was cruelly thrust upon us by the ruthlessness of the Kaiser's nation. It is concerning to know that we are not entering the war half-fledged, but war-proved.

President Wilson has suddenly become the cynosure of popularity. We are investing our implicit trust in him, and we can't conceive of disappointment arising from his custodianship. The war has given us a splendid opportunity for defending ourselves without inviting the suspicions of other nations. It has been only a year ago since the South American nations were incensed at us for mobilizing our national guard. They were afraid we meant to extend our borders as a result of war. But now, since we have declared war on Germany, they welcome the move, regardless of the fact that we propose to spend billions of dollars for defense—a thing that will make us all-powerful when the war terminates. Simply it took a grave crisis like the present one to teach us how insecure was our position in comparison to other nations. Skilled military critics, politicians, and many others, now feel that a load of dread has been removed from their minds—the dread and fear of us being attacked by an aggregation of nations. But where can that combination of nations be found now? They are either for us or they are against us, already; and we are on the stronger side.

The present war will occasion many opportunities to our young boys for winning distinction along some line or other. By the way, while passing, I would like to say that I have studied not a little about going to the front in the capacity of war correspondent, to do justice to those whose valor merits special mention.

The readers of the Mail will hear from me again, if my ideas are worth knowing.

Superintendent Parker was in Abilene Friday and Saturday holding county examinations for teachers certificates. There were many applicants.

\$1.00

The subscription price to the Merkel Mail is only \$1.00 for twelve months—a whole year. If your neighbor does not take the Mail insist on him to subscribe now. We can save you money on subscriptions to other papers and would be glad to serve you. Come to see us.

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 SERVICE.—At my barn, Bay draft stallion, black points, 5 yrs. old, weight 1600 pounds. Arthur Cranston. 23Mar.8tp

BREEDING NOTICE — I am standing my horse and jack at Hellums Wagon Yard, same old price of \$10.00, and will use all care in breeding, but will not be responsible for accidents. I need and will appreciate your business. G. R. Gazzaway, office in Boyce Building. tf

LOST.—Party who has Collie dog belonging to Mrs. Rust will kindly return at once. 6t2p

FOR SALE.—Cash or note, span young mare mules, gentle horse, good mare 5 yrs. old and yearling colt. Ira Armstrong. 6t2p

FOR SALE.—Mebane Triumph cotton seed at \$1.60 per bu. C. L. Deutschman, Noodle. apr6t2pd

BREEDER'S NOTICE — Full blood registered poland china boar at home of W. E. Adams, Route 2. 13t4pd

WANTED — Old Goodyear and United States tires, with fabric in fairly good condition. R. L. Penney, with Central Garage, on Kent Street. 1t1c

FOR SALE
Davenport, costing \$35.00, good as new, for \$20.00
New perfection fireless cooking oil stove, costing \$27.50, in good condition. \$15.00
Kitchen cabinet, costing \$11.00, good as new for \$5.00
Various household articles at your own price.
A single buggy for \$15.00
Rev. H. E. Bullock.

SPECIAL
Pump electrically, eliminate the unsightly looks of wind mill, takes care of garden and lawn, whether the wind blows or not. See the outfit in our show window.
Special inducements.
Merkel Power Company.

DENTAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Beginning on April the 10th, I will give a 20 per cent discount from the regular prices on all Dental work, done in my Merkel office, during the months of April and May—terms cash. I am in Trent every Tuesday.
O. F. McMaster, Dentist.

G. M. Patterson, of this city, who had recently purchased a Buick and started well along with an automobile service car, was in Wichita Falls during the big fire there the past week, and was in Wichita Falls during the suffered the loss of his car. The loss is particularly heavy on Mr. Patterson, as he did not have any insurance on the car.

CITY JUST KEEPS GROWING

Anchor Mercantile Company.
Of no small importance to the city and this great Merkel country is the improvements being made by the Anchor Mercantile company. An addition to the already large building was recently completed. The petitions have now been torn out and the hardware and grocery stocks moved towards the eastern portion of the building, occupying the same relative design as heretofore. The purpose of this change is for the enlargement of the dry goods, clothing and shoe department. The new arrangement will give almost double the space heretofore occupied, the new frontage being 52 feet. Ample room will be provided for the shoe department, for a better display of dry goods, ladies ready-to-wear and gents furnishings.

Located on the corner, with modern show windows, large floor space, a well assorted line of goods, this department of the Anchor will be such as this entire country will be proud of. This enterprising company only put in this line at a comparative recent date, but already its growth has so far exceeded their expectations that the room allotted for it has long been overcrowded. They expect to make it second to none, even in much larger cities. They believe Merkel is justified in having the very best, and are determined to leave no stone unturned to accomplish this end.

Telephone Improvements.
The Southwestern Telephone & Telegraph Company is making extensive improvements to the local plant. A terminating frame has been installed, replacing a complicated system previously used. Not only are the improvements being made to the local plant, but to the long distance system as well. The company is also doing extensive outside work, such as the replacing of poles, extension of lines, hanging cables, etc. The interior of the office has been repapered and repainted. Not among the least of the improvements is a rest room for the operators. This is a feature the company is pursuing all over the country and is deserving of the highest commendation. The building has also been rewired for lights and fan service.

The improvement in service will be welcome news to the patrons of the system, especially those living adjacent to the city. The management fully believes that few complaints will be necessary when the improvements are finished.
The local system is growing rapidly under the splendid management of O. C. Lomax, manager. R. E. McCaskill of Fort Worth is here doing the work. The system now employs five regular and one relief operators.

Porter Building.
J. D. Porter is having the floor cemented and is otherwise making extensive improvements to his building, occupied by the Grimes Garage, and the Chevrolet sales room of Ira Armstrong. The building is also being rewired. The Grimes Garage has occupied the building some time. A petition has been built for Mr. Armstrong, and he has a very fine place for the display of his cars. He will also handle tires and automobile accessories. The interior of his portion of the building will be painted in white and no expense will be spared in attractiveness and convenience. He is particularly optimistic in regard to the possibility of his car in this section. Like many other cars the Chevrolet has been hard to get heretofore, but they are now turned out from Fort Worth factory, and it is expected that the plant can meet

School Trustees Elected.
The following school trustees have been elected to serve the ensuing year. J. S. Swann, T. A. Johnson, J. T. Toombs and J. W. Wheeler. By this election Merkel is assured of continuous progress in the building up of a school system second to none in all Texas. With a capable superintendent, an efficient corps of teachers, an unexcelled school board, there is no question as to the future of our school system.
In the home of the grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Sam Winters of the Hawley community, a son was born April 4 to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Rogers. The weight at birth was 10 1-2 pounds. Con-

Edwards Home.
Mrs. Lula Edwards is building magnificent sleeping porches, up and down stairs, at her beautiful residence in West Merkel. Doubtless this is the most modern home in Merkel, with the surroundings improved in the latest fashion. The addition now being made will add greatly to the comfort and convenience of the home. The architectural design of the home is being preserved and enhanced.

Casseaux Home.
A few blocks from the Edwards home, and nearer the business district, on the same street, Mrs. Casseaux is grading up her premises and making improvements to the home. She has rebuilt her windmill, and is carrying out the idea of "the city beautiful."

Baptist Parsonage.
The Baptist congregation is making a very nice addition to the parsonage, adding a sleeping porch, bath room and doing some flooring, the work costing about \$300.

POULTRY BREEDERS ORGANIZE

The Taylor County Poultry organization in this city, and date for a midwinter show was set to be held in Abilene January 9 to 12, inclusive, 1918.

The following officers were elected: E. H. Cordell, Merkel, president; D. H. Jefferies, Abilene, vice president; Louis T. Ward, Abilene, secretary; T. K. Douglas, Merkel, treasurer; Willis Cox, Abilene, corresponding secretary. The executive board is composed of C. C. Sellar, Abilene; R. A. Ellis, J. K. Higgins and A. J. Hartley, Merkel, and R. L. Young, Abilene. Other members of the association besides those mentioned above are G. L. Holland and H. P. Wilkins, of Merkel. A campaign is being launched for more members.

Quite a number of poultry fanciers in Merkel, Trent and adjoining country are expecting to join the association. This is doubtless the best poultry country in all Texas. There is hardly a section of country that can boast of so many high class birds. It is really a question if the people of this section quite realize its importance as a poultry raising section.

Speaking in reference to the work, H. M. Rose said: "I have just received and now have on exhibit at my office on Front St. a silver loving cup, which I won in December. Engraved on the cup are these words Presented by American Trust and Savings Bank (El Paso) for the best pen in the American class. To be won twice for permanent ownership." There were birds there from four or five states of the Southwest.

Hardware Mer Form Organization

The Central West Tex Hardware & Implement Ass'n finally perfected organization at Sweetwater last Thursday. The association for the present covers the imaginary boundary outlined by Cisco on the east, Coleman Ballinger and San Angelo on the south, Midland on the west, Lubbock on the north and Wichita Falls on the northeast.

A splendid meeting is reported it may be that the association will later enlarge its territory. Much enthusiasm was manifest, and a large attendance was present. A. C. Rose of this city is one of the directors: Just one month from the previous meeting, the association will again convene in Sweetwater.

C. C. Campbell, Coleman, Tex., formerly connected with a newspaper in Merkel, was a visitor in

Statement of Condition

Farmers State BANK

Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business March 5, 1917

RESOURCES

Loans	\$255,245.56
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,950.00
Interest in City Fund	2,717.44
Cash and Exchange	87,275.43
Total	\$361,188.43

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	29,942.03
Deposits	284,246.40
Certificate of deposit for money borrowed	12,000.00
Total	\$361,188.43

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

Commence Business January, 1912

Safety—Service—Satisfaction

We Solicit Your Business

BANK MAKES CHANGE

Homer L. Easterwood accepted the position of cashier of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, which was tendered to him the past week, H. L. Rudmose having resigned to accept a position in the clerical department of the Ft. Worth and Denver City railroad at Ft. Worth.

While the friends and acquaintances of Mr. and Mrs. Rudmose dislike very much to see them leave the city, yet they wish them well in their new field of endeavor. They own their home in Fort Worth, where they formerly lived, and left for that city last Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Easterwood is well known in Merkel and the Merkel country, having until recently been owner and editor of the Merkel Mail. He has proven himself worthy of the position which he holds by his unswerving devotion to duty. Capable, honest, fearless, a man of charming personality and splendid address, we feel that we are not encroaching upon the province of the prophet in predicting for him a bright career, as the years, with their ebb and flow, are credited to his account.

Mr. Easterwood is a Merkel boy, having been raised here. He has achieved success even beyond his years, and with the conservatism practiced by the splendid bank with which he is connected, added to his already vast fund of experience, he will be equipped for the battles of life as indeed are few men of this generation. For awhile many of his friends were uneasy that he might leave the city, but now rejoice that Merkel can at least retain and profitably employ a portion of her young men of genius and promise.

Card of Thanks.

To all friends who showed us so much kindness and sympathy in our recent bereavement, the loss of our dear husband and father, we extend our heartfelt and sincere thanks. May God bless you all in our prayer.
Mrs. W. J. Dulin and family.

DR. H. W. SEARS.



Dr. H. W. Sears, sometimes spoken of as "The Tally Man," "The Laughing Philosopher," is one of the most popular and best loved men on the public platform. It has been reported that his lectures are a "remedy for dyspepsia, despondency, worry—in fact, for almost every human fault, and that the medicine is as palatable as ever mortal swallowed." To hear him is to discover that life is worth living, that joy can be found in every day life no matter where we may be and that there is a place for everybody. Dr. Sears will lecture on the third day of the Chautauqua.

We greatly dislike to chronicle the fact that Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burroughs have left Merkel. Mr. Burroughs accepted a position in Plainview, and this esteemed couple left for their new home. Mr. Burroughs was among our most progressive young business men, and Merkel can ill afford to lose too many of them. We hope that at no distant date, they will have occasion to return to Merkel in a business capacity.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hunter of Midland, who have been visiting here, returned home Thursday. R. J. Adcock who has been spending the winter in Noodle come in to join them on their return trip.

Mrs. Rufus Grisham of Hamlin is visiting with relatives here being most of the time in the home of her father, J. T. Howard.

J. T. WARREN, Pres.

G. F. WEST, Vice-Pres.

HENRY JAMES, Vice-Pres.

THE Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL, TEXAS

☛ We invite the business of Farmers, Stockmen, Professional and Business Men, promising every consideration that is warranted by sound Banking Methods.

☛ We are an old established NATIONAL BANK and a Member in the FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM—a financial system that is regarded by all nations as the very best.

☛ We have large Capital and Surplus and vast Liquid Cash Resources.

☛ We stand ready and willing to take care of good banking business at all times.

☛ The growth of this bank in the last two years is due, in a large measure, to the loyalty of our friends.

WE WANT TO SERVE YOU

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Asst. Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

Grimes Drug Store for Black-leg Vaccine.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Shaffer are again in Merkel after having spent the winter in Hico.

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

Mrs. F. F. Seefert of Dallas is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Carter.

Pure red top sorghum seed, free from Johnson grass, at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Latham of Abilene spent Sunday evening with their mother, Mrs. J. C. Calver.

Can Cull your cotton seed for planting purposes. Machine is located in feed store of Boyce Building. G. R. Gazzaway. 16th

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. McCaulley of Abilene visited Mrs. E. M. Rust Sunday eve, ng.

Big car of Baker Boy flour at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mrs. O. J. Shaffer has returned from Atlanta, Ga., where she has been during the winter with her husband. Dr. Shaffer will be unable to return on account of school duties for about a month.

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

R. L. Penney, formerly of Merkel, who has been living in Abilene for a few months, has returned to Merkel and installed a vulcanizing plant in connection with the Central Garage, on Kent Street.

Miss Leila R. Hill left Monday morning for Grandview where she will remain. During the time Miss Hill has made her home in Merkel she has been worth much to her friends especially in musical circles where her work has lain her departure is learned of with regret.

Work on the addition to the Baptist Parsonage is being completed this week.

RIGHT EFFORT AND SERVICE WE PLEDGE YOU

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

Wants the public to understand that there will never be any let-up to serve aright the customers that come within the walls of their store

Our Spot Cash Way is Your Gain

It is the faithful watch dog around your affairs, and we pledge you a true service to the ditch.

You Lose no Time Over Prices

As we firmly believe in one price, and it being our earnest work to sell every article at a small margin we have left no place for the Jewing habit. We hammer the price before the pencil places the figures on the goods that they must be sold for. If No. 1. butter is 25c per pound what would you think of a fellow trying to Jew you to 20c?

This firm does not believe in big profits and never will be guilty of the practice

WE ARE A ONE-PRICE SPOT-CASH STORE No Trouble to Show Goods

See our men's \$1.00 work Pant See our \$2.50 men's work shoe
See our \$1.40 boys' wash suit See our shoes for women at \$2.50 to \$5

Our men's suits are great at \$6.75 to \$20—are made by best men tailors of America

Ladies, come see our Silk Dresses at \$8.75, and skirts at \$3 to \$7.50 are unmatched

NEW GOODS EVERY WEEK :: Yours to Serve

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. Bob Wilson is visiting his sister Mrs. H. N. Rose.

Grimes Drug Store for Black-leg Vaccine.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Telford and Mrs. Kate Longacre from near Anson visited Mr. J. P. Sharp and family the past week.

Mr. Oran Edwards from Midland is visiting his mother Mrs. West Edwards of this city.

Mr. Silas Darnall of Gainsville was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Shelton of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Rose have a very sick little boy. Cleburn first had measles and had gone back to school. He suddenly developed Pneumonia and is very low at last report.

Mrs. A. Grayson and daughter Vennie and Bessie Jones of Shiloh visited the Merkel Mail office last Saturday and the children enjoyed seeing the linotype operate, it being their first time in a newspaper office of this kind.

Tom Freeman was arrested on charge of being drunk last week. After being arrested, he escaped over some buildings, caught No. 3 and was recaptured in Sweetwater. His fine was paid and he was released.

Lee Estes, who has been in the hospital at Abilene from the effects of an operation, has so far recovered that he was able to be brought home last Tuesday.

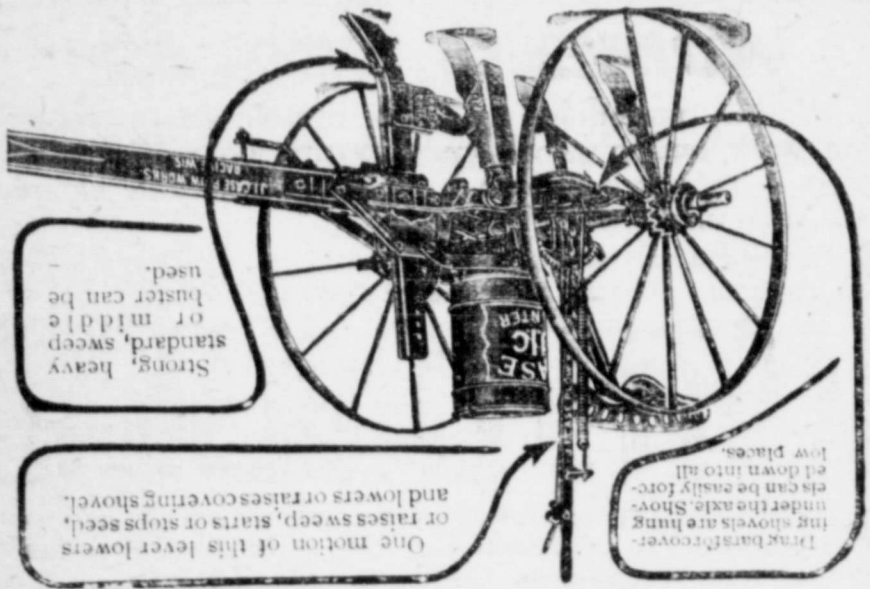
T. L. Shepard, who is superintendent of the high school at Tye, has purchased the Sandusky place on Oak St. and will move there about May 1st. He has not yet perfected his plans for the future. Mr. Shepard is also a registered Pharmacist, having formerly been manager of the Canton Pharmacy 5th and Main Sts., Fort Worth.

CLEAN — CLEAN
With an electric cleaner. I will clean your rugs for 25c each, piano 50c, curtains 3 pr. 25c, portiers 15c each. Phone 215 Warren McSpadden. 6t2c

Dora

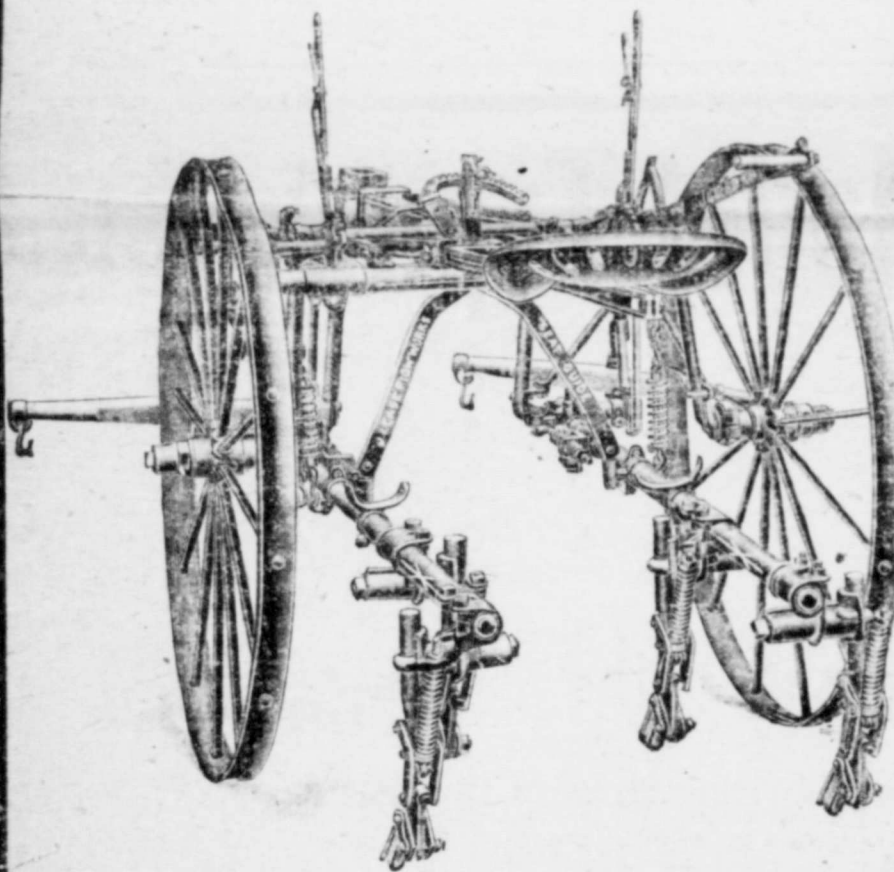
THE WORLDS GREATEST FARMING IMPLEMENTS

**J. I. Case Cell Drop Planter and
Seat Guide Cultivator far in
Advance of other Makes**



The J. I. Case Cell Drop Planter

Is the only one of its kind in existence. Nothing else is like it—nothing can be like it. The first and original planter to plant cotton seed thru a plate. Holds the bed better and has a lighter draft than any other. You should not fail to see this wonderful planter.



The J. I. Case Seat Guide Cultivator

Is without a doubt the most practical thing of its kind ever invented. The only one on which you may change the width of beams while the cultivator is in motion. The beams are adjustable to wear for a lifetime. No more loose and shaky beams. Will be as tight in ten years as they were the day you bought it. Can be operated by a 12-year-old boy with perfect ease and comfort. We are headquarters for the most scientific and up-to-date line of implements on the market. Come in at once and let us show you the many exclusive features of this wonderful line.

The Home of Better Service

G. F. WEST COMPANY



DONT YOU NEED SHOES & HOSE?

Recruits

Don't you think it a good plan to follow Uncle Sam's example and recruit your present stock of Dry Goods and Groceries before the price gets so high, and the necessities of life become so scarce that you can't recruit?

Some new arrivals in fancy and novelty silks, striped and figured percales suitings of seasonable goods and styles for your selections and satisfaction

Lace and Embroidery Bargains

See our display of laces and embroideries at prices far below the market value. You'll miss an exceptional bargain if you fail to see this assortment. A few lace curtains left at half price.

SATURDAY SPECIALS

4 pkgs. cocoanut25c
5 pkgs. 1-pound soda25c
1 35c can coffee25c
3 pounds Bermuda onions ...25c
10 cans No. 3 pie peaches . \$1.00

10 cans No. 2 black berries \$1.00
7 pounds bulk coffee\$1.00
3-lb bucket steel-cut coffee with cup and saucer85c

Hats and Shirts Specials

On display in our gents' furnishings department are some values in hats and shirts that should interest every hat and shirt buyer in this country. \$2.50 to \$3 hats 89c and up. \$1 to \$1.50 shirts 29c and up. See them.

THE STAR STORE

SHILOH

Rev. W. K. Horn of Abilene filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday. He was accompanied by Bro. Kelly, who preached Sunday night. Charlie Williams of Merkel spent Saturday with J.D. Barnes and family.

Will Johnson was a visitor to Waco last week.

There was a party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jennings Winters Friday night.

Miss Effie Mayberry of Merkel spent the week-end with Misses Lyda and Nina Beavers.

Walter Phillips and family spent Sunday with Roger Grayson and wife.

Miss Cleo Clark visited Miss Nina Beavers Sunday.

Mr. McCright and family spent Sunday at Noodle.

Terrell Winter and family spent Sunday with Mrs. Green and family.

Uhric Wheeler and family are making preparations to move to their new home out west.

Shiloh was well represented at Merkel Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. Wright of Trent visited Mrs. McCright Sunday.

BILL WINTER ARRESTED

Bill Winter, who has been living with W.L. Barbee in W. Merkel, was taken by officers to Abilene, on a charge of being an accessory to the murder of a man by the name of Taylor, in Knox county, the latter part of December, it is alleged. Full details can not be learned. This is the murder that led up to the shooting in the courtroom at Benjamin a couple of weeks ago. Mr. Winter has been released on bond.

CASTLE PEAK

The people of this community are enjoying this wind and sand and also good health.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Barnes had a family Easter egg hunt on their farm last Sunday, all their children except one was present.

We are getting ready for fighting for there is so much wind and sand that we are getting gritty.

W. O. Clinton and J. B. Lilly made a trip to Butman the first of the week to get some pigs.

Roy Riney's baby was suffering with blood poison in his foot, and we are glad to report it improving nicely.

Luther Jones spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives in the



Texaco Axle Grease is Real Grease—pure lubricant throughout.

Get a trial can—say just a pound to begin with. Subject it to the test of heavy hauling in hot weather. Keep a careful check on the number of times you need to regrease the axles.

You will see that Texaco Axle Grease costs less because it lasts longer.

It is one of the many Quality Products we make for use on the farm, in the factory, in the home—everywhere where oil products are used in this country and abroad.



city of Merkel.

The people of this community are on a dividing line when the Germans come over to fight us some of them are going to the front and some are going to the

mountains.

We expect some of the fighting will be with heel dust.

It is pretty good and cheap ammunition any way, if you have enough of the start.

"THAT'S THE POLISH"

2 in 1

SHOE POLISHES

10¢ -BLACK-WHITE-TAN- 10¢

F.F. Dalley Co. of New York Inc.
Buffalo, N.Y.

POWHATTAN HOLDS CHAUTAQUA RECORD

Every Family but Three Has
Chautauqua Season Tickets.

Powhattan, Kan., holds the Chautauqua record for 1916. Every family in town but three bought season tickets. This shows something of the hold that this form of amusement and instruction has upon the people. Another form of social activity came as near a majority as that. The circus in its palmiest days never thought of getting more than one at tendance to the main show, with a lesser fee for a concert and side show. But here the Chautauqua sells its season tickets at \$1.50 to \$3, and at this Kansas town all but three families have season tickets.

Elk Lick, Pa., is a town of 1,000 people, and yet the committee sold 3,200 season tickets for their Chautauqua at \$2 each. This shows the splendid efficiency of the local ticket committee. Practically every farmer for miles around had one or more season tickets for his family.

AN EXPLANATION

In reference to the article which appeared in your last issue, in regard to "Class Criticism," I wish to make the following statement:

The inference is that some people in Merkel charge that streets have been improved in front of some of our most influential citizens, while others have been neglected. Such is not the case. Every street in the city that has been improved during the past three and one-half years outside of the business district, has been graveled entirely at the expense of the property owners, the city only doing the grading.

We have at all times endeavored to make every dollar count and where we have spent \$1 in grading, the citizens referred to have spent several times that much in graveleving. There has been no policy pursued to the detriment of the poor man.

Wherever he had stood the expense personally, we have just as eagerly done the grading before his property.

Perhaps the city officials have been partially at fault in not giving publicity to the matter. It is entirely possible that some parties may have misunderstood. For the benefit of the fair minded citizens of Merkel, we think best to make this statement of facts.

J. J. Stallings, Mayor.

"The Fall of a Nation"

By THOMAS DIXON
A Sequel to the "BIRTH OF A NATION"
(Also by Thomas Dixon)

The Greatest Screen Production Ever in Merkel
Monday and Tuesday April 16th and 17th
At 8:30 Sharp
Matinee Tuesday at 4:15

SPECIAL MUSIC

Prices 25-35-50

Seats now at the Elite

Screen Time 2 Hours 25 Minutes

COZY THEATRE

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.

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

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 label of your paper to ascertain when your time is out, and renew before your name automatically leaves our list, as all papers stop when the term of subscription expires.

A Merkel merchant received a phone call from Stamford for a pair of fine shoes, showing that correct styles and quality are being carried by Merkel Merchantal houses.

We have seen men endure privation, fight, spend fortunes, disgrace themselves, ruin themselves and their loved ones, all before they will acknowledge a wrong that even conscience tells them they have made.

When a man gets rid of an enemy by shooting him instead of making friends, it only goes to prove that it is easier to pull the trigger than to think. Such is the basis of war.

The Clean-up campaign did not receive the attention that it should have. Those so enthusiastic in regard to the matter had other business to attend to on the days selected. However a large number of our fine boys were right there on the job, and many a wagon load of trash was hauled away.

The rain here early Wednesday morning amounted to just one-half inch in Merkel. The rain was general, being much heavier in other portions of the State.

If we read conditions aright, we feel that we make no mistake in advising the farmer to raise all the feedstuff possible. It is doubtful if we have yet realized the "high cost of living". With the world now at war, even our own country, the demand will increase. Not only will it be highly profitable to raise feedstuff, but it is somewhat of a duty in relieving a perishing humanity, even if the individuals have no better sense than to get out and shoot other people's heads off.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance.

R. T. Hunter, district manager of the Southwestern Telephone Company, of Sweetwater, was in the city last Wednesday on regular visit.

Farmers Institute.
The Farmers Institute will be held at the tabernacle Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m., in Merkel.
G. W. Boyce, Sec. Pro. Tem.

FALL OF A NATION

Thomas Dixon, author of the "Birth of a Nation," essayed his second great picture in the "Fall of a Nation," a photoplay that need not be compared with earlier works, because in several vital respects it is quite different. Mr. Dixon chose a tremendous national theme and treated it with keen regard for the importance of trivial personal affairs in the lives of those who constitute the nation. In numberless ways he shows just how a national calamity means unavoidable personal suffering, and breaking up of families. He intensifies an ignorant Italian's devotion to his adopted country, in fact he has overlooked few means of reaching the heart as it responds to patriotism or sentiment.

He used good taste in showing actors unmistakably intended to represent W. J. Bryan and Henry Ford carrying flowers to a conquering army where they are given the task of peeling potatoes.

In a prologue covering important historical happenings in Europe and the United States between 1620 and 1905, Mr. Dixon shows why the ideals of this country are worth preserving.

The "Daughters of Jael" with their dash and spirit and their white uniforms, vividly recall the Ku Klux Klan episodes of the "Birth of a Nation."

Washington, April 6—Congress passed war resolution, already passed by Senate, by vote of 373 to 50.

EVIDENCE THAT CONVINCES

A Twice-Told Tale That Will Carry Conviction to Mail Readers

Nearly eleven years ago Mr. Derstine publicly endorsed Doan's Kidney Pills.

He then told of benefit he had received.

Later, with unshaken confidence,

Confirms his statement—

Tells how passing years have strengthened his faith in Doan's.

There's no better test than the test of time.

Can any Merkel reader ask for more convincing evidence?

H. W. Derstine, retired farmer, Kent St., Merkel, says: "Doan's Kidney Pills relieved me of a dull backache which had troubled me for several years and I positively believe they will cure any ordinary case of kidney complaint, if taken as directed." (Statement given May 27, 1905)

On April 16th, 1915, Mr. Derstine added to the above: "Doan's Kidney Pills are good, I always keep them on hand and use them occasionally with good results."

Price 50 cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Derstine has twice publicly recommended. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

Gazzaway Baby Dead.

The little month old baby girl of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Gazzaway died last Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock. Interment was made at Slaters Chapel. The little fellow had only lived long enough to bring a ray of sunshine and love into the hearts of the parents, and its early departure carries darkness and sadness. The family has the sympathy of friends and neighbors in their bereavement.

The Hinshaw Conservatory Party



THIS company is composed of a mixed quartet and a piano accompanist and presents a full concert program in the afternoon and scenes from the popular opera "Mikado" in costume at night on the opening day of the Chautauqua. This is an "all professional" company, and its presentations will prove one of the most enjoyable events of the whole season's music.

NORINE MAE HIGH.



Mrs. High possesses a mezzo-soprano voice of unusual tone quality. Her singing is always a source of pleasure to music loving people. Her songs catch the heart of her audience and win well deserved applause. She is the soloist of the Lone Star Ladies Trio and will appear on the second day of the Chautauqua program.

KENNARD BARRADELL.



Mr. Barradell, tenor and director of the Hinshaw Conservatory Party, has had wide experience in operatic work as a singer, stage manager and musical coach. He has sung with the Aborn Opera Company, the Hinshaw Opera Company and the College Theater Opera Company in Chicago. In addition to the operatic work Mr. Barradell specializes in a style of song rather different and amusing in the contents.

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

WOMEN'S NERVES

Women, more than men, have excitable nerves, because tiring work and physical strain tax their more delicate nervous systems and bring premature age and chronic weakness—unless treated intelligently.

Drug-laden pills and alcoholic concoctions cannot build up a woman's strength, but the concentrated medicinal food properties in

SCOTT'S EMULSION

build strength from its very source and are helping thousands of women to gain control of their nerve power—overcome tiredness, nervousness, impatience and irritability.

SCOTT'S is a liquid-food—free from alcohol.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

Advertised Letters.

Daniel, Georgia.
Caldwell, W. F.
Gamble, Jack.
Heddleston, Ed.
Girdner, W. H.
Hoffman, H. D.
Neblett, Mrs. L.
Patton, Mrs. Ed.
Pemberton, Gordon.
Richardson, Mrs. Gertie.
Riddle, Bill.
Rorson, Mrs. A. C.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on April 25. H. G. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

New Produce House.

The Corner Produce Company has just begun business in Merkel, located in the Boyce Bldg. Thos. McCoy of Dora has been in the city a couple of weeks getting the business on its feet. It will be in charge of W. E. Pool. The company claims to have ample backing and is expected to do a good business.

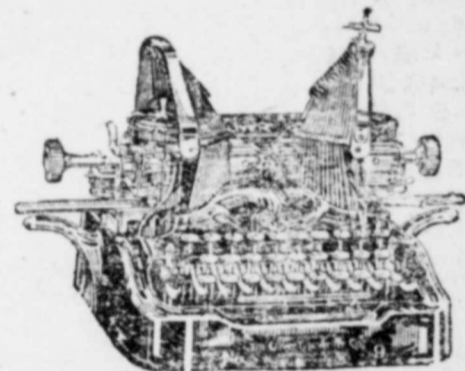
Drives Out Malaria, Builds Up System
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

The Merkel and Abilene High schools will cross bats on the local field Friday afternoon.

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, 6 1/2-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.

The Oliver Typewriter Company

Oliver Typewriter Building, Chicago

CHAUTAUQUA AN ALL AMERICAN INSTITUTION

Indorsed by Nation's Great Men and Nation's Citizenship.

"It is not an institution with a formula, a creed or a peculiar propaganda. It is in its essence a method by which the productions of great brains and the contagion of great spirits can be brought to every American community from the crossroads village to the greatest city. It is the guardian of a free platform, on which men may speak without the hamper of tradition or the blight of intolerance. It is today the most effective instrument yet devised for the molding of public opinion. It is a pulpit from which the prophet may deliver his message unmenaced by tribunal or fagot. It is the people's university, where teaching is not restricted to partisan politics, dogmatic religion or selfish philosophy. It is one of the few forces in our democracy that wealth does not control."

HAZEL BROWN.



Miss Brown, contralto, is a woman of splendid presence, admirably suited to the part of Katisha in "Mikado," being naturally of a dramatic temperament. Her voice is glorious, rich and full, and has an appealing quality that wins friends and applause instantly. She is with the Hinshaw Conservatory party on the first day of the Chautauqua.

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 Medicine 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 ingredients making it better than ordinary CASCARA, and thus the combination acts not only as a stimulating laxative and cathartic but also as a digestive and liver tonic. Syrup laxatives are weak, but LAX-FOS combines strength with palatable, aromatic 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

TRAIN SCHEDULE

Westbound

NO. 5 Through Train 5:55 a.m.

NO. 3 Sweetwater 5:38 p.m.

NO. 1 Sunshine Spec. 8:30 p.m.

Eastbound

NO. 2 Sunshine Spec. 8:44 a.m.

NO. 4 Through Train 10:18 a.m.

NO. 6 Through Train 10:00 p.m.

NOS. 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 carry U. S. Mail.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. It stops the cold and Headache and works off the Cold. It refunds money if it fails to cure. H. L. GROVE'S signature on each box. 25c.

The rain at Dora last week turned out to be a sand storm. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Whitaker make a business trip to San Angelo, the first of the week.

The party at Enon, Friday night was well attended by Dora as well as Nolan people.

Mr. Melvin Sator of Black Hill was a caller in the Dora community Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. Howard Lewis is reported to have the measles.

War is the main subject for discussion around here now.

There is quite a bit of excitement about the rural route they are trying to get from Sweetwater to Dora and Nolan.

Prof. and Mrs. T. S. Christopher of Trent have just spent a week-end visit with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Tarpley, at Abilene.

We are now in war and Uncle Sam is calling for the bravest and best of our young manhood. In a time like this real men will not be found wanting. Whenever this nation is put to shame, it will be over the dead bodies of our beloved heroes.

The school at Thent at present is being conducted in the church buildings of the city. Little time will be lost in making arrangements for the erection of a new building.

The Overland people had an elaborate banquet in Abilene Wednesday night. Claton Brown and E. L. Horton of Merkel attended.

Mrs. E. P. McMillan of Merkel was a visitor in Abilene Tuesday.

Gussita Couch has returned to her home in Kirkland after spending the winter with her sister Mrs. Hancock of this city.

Gussita Couch, Ina Faye Barbee, and Effie Mayberry, Evelyn Barbee, were visitors of the Merkel Mail this week.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance.

J. N. Hatfield and son, Noodle, were in Merkel Saturday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones moved from Merkel to Mt. Pleasant the past week.

Farmers Institute.

This organization meets at the Warren school house every two weeks. The purpose of this meeting is for the betterment of Agriculture.

Mr. Will Armstrong will deliver an address on Education at the next meeting April 20th.

The Standing of Contestants on April - 9 - 1917

1	108,675
2	54,115
3	74,865
4	12,490
5	4,000
6	2,085
7	473,030
8	38,510
9	8,150
10	195,680
11	5,160
12	2,005
13	2,000
14	2,960
15	59,110
16	20,095
17	320,810
18	412,505
19	2,000
20	191,825
21	5,255
22	24,485
23	16,055

G. F. WEST COMPANY

United States Super-Dreadnought Wyoming

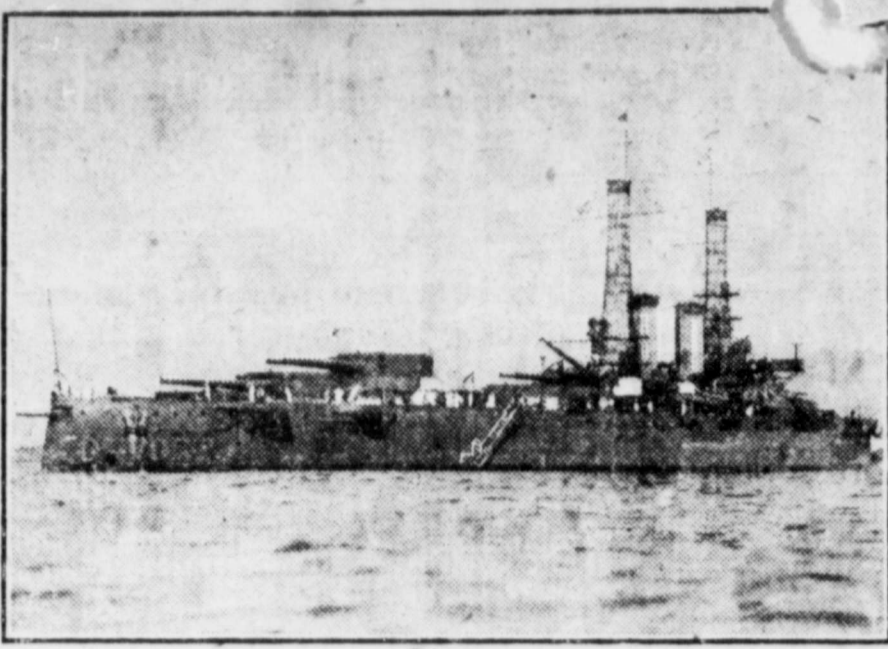


Photo by American Press Association. The Wyoming displaces 26,000 tons and is 562 feet long and carries twelve twelve-inch guns. She carries a crew of 1,043 officers and men.

United States Battleship Minnesota

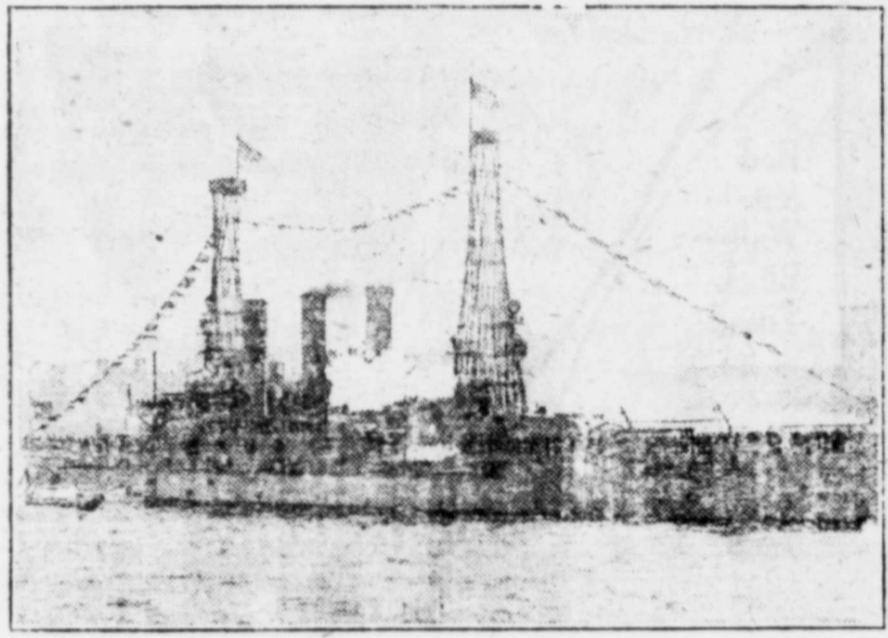


Photo by American Press Association. There are four twelve-inch and eight eight-inch guns in the main battery of the Minnesota. This battleship displaces 16,000 tons and is 456.3 feet in length. She has a speed of 19 knots, and her officers and men number 856.

United States Battleship Connecticut

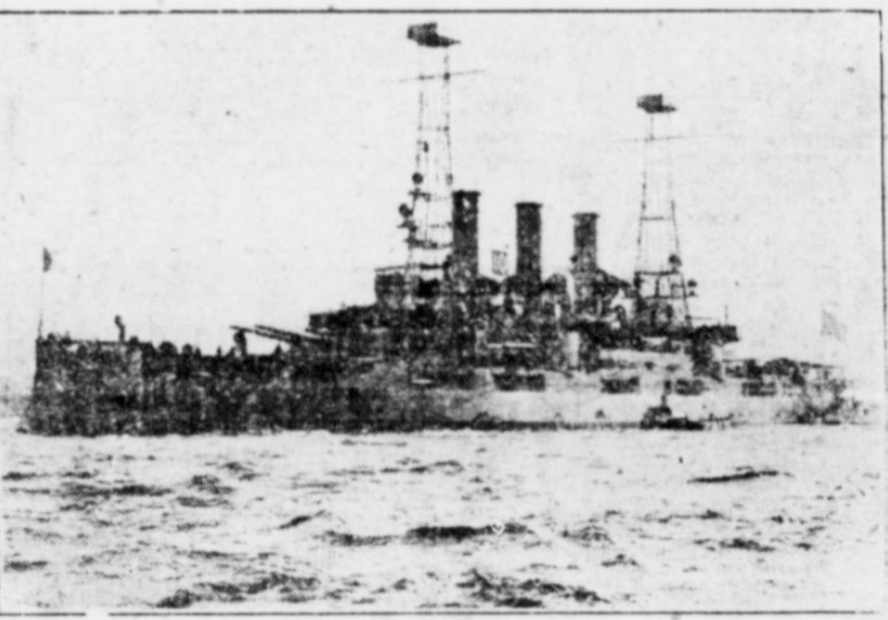


Photo by American Press Association. The 16,000 ton Connecticut was laid down in 1903 and cost \$7,511,174. She has four twelve-inch and eight eight-inch guns and can make a speed of 19 knots. Her crew comprises 856 officers and men.

United States Dreadnought Delaware

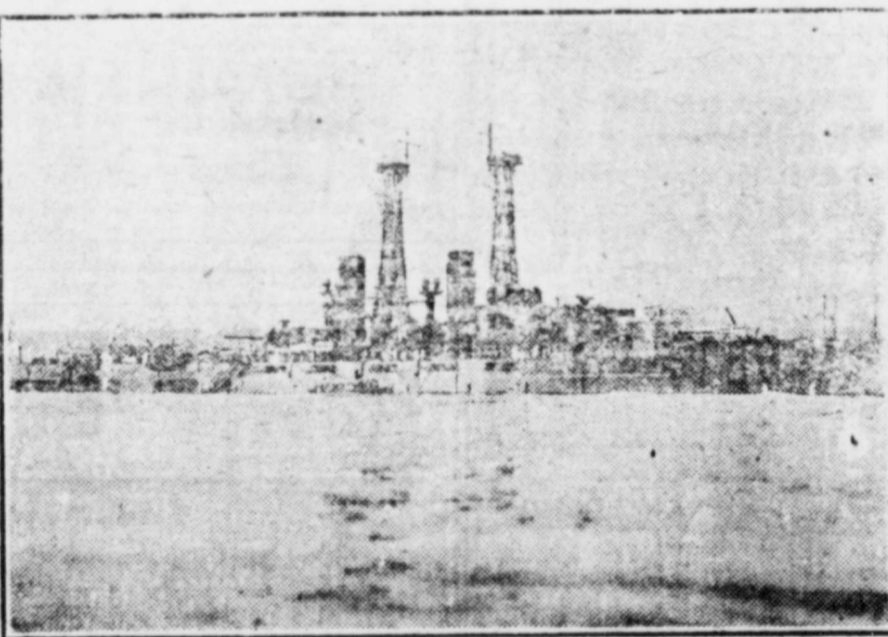


Photo by American Press Association. The battleship Delaware displaces 20,000 tons, and she is 551.5 feet long. She carries ten twelve-inch guns in her main batteries and is manned by 927 officers and men.

After Organized, evening the first Arch Mason's Lodge ever held in Merkel was opened for dispatch of business, the chapter from the Grand High Elfest of the State of Texas. Officers appointed were: W. Hall, H. P., G. E. Comegys, Excellent King; C. T. Mershon, Excellent Scribe protem.

Regular meetings will be held each second Tuesday evening hereafter at the A. F. and A. M. hall. The first meeting was given over to organization, following which degree work was commenced on a candidate who was in waiting, the ancient and mystic usages being carried out to the full extent in as great a degree of accuracy as is usually found in some of the larger chapters of the State.

Much work is in front of the newly organized chapter, there being others elected, candidates who will be initiated just as soon as possible, called meetings to be held for the purpose.

The meeting on Tuesday evening was attended by many Royal Arch Masons who reside here, enthusiasm being in evidence throughout.

The Clod Hoppers again beat the Kale school team last Friday 11 to 4. It is said that Kale is hunting somebody else to play against, and the Clod Hoppers are holding mighty high heads.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker of Comper were visitors of the Merkel Mail Monday and Mrs. Baker made us hungry by telling of the fresh vegetables they are having to eat from her garden. She also has about eighty chicks most large enough to fry.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance.

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, 9:15 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.

CHURCH NEWS.

Sunday School Report.

The Sunday schools are beginning to show an increase. Most of the schools mentioned below increased from 10 to 25 per cent in attendance over the previous Sunday. Would it be expecting too much for at least one-half of the people of this section to attend Sunday school? Following is the record made last Sunday:

	Attendance	Col.
Methodist	147	\$2.75
Baptist	95	2.60
Presbyterian	65	.96
Christian	89	6.76
Trent Methodist	97	
Trent Baptist	42	

A Beautiful Service

The Easter service at the Methodist church last Sunday evening were of a highly interesting educational nature. The program was rendered entirely by the children of the Sunday School, under the supervision of Mrs. McMasters and her efficient co-workers.

The stage was composed of an Easter background, of artistic design and surpassing beauty. A picture of blended loveliness, choice pot plants dotted the screen with here and there an Easter lily, some with electric bulbs within the petals, lending even greater charm to the already seemingly perfect design.

At the front of the stage honeysuckle vines, roses and evergreens were intertwined about the banisters, and suspended above were the likeness of doves with green twigs in their mouth.

It is hard to estimate the crowd. The building was filled to its capacity and some were standing about the walls. The program was very much enjoyed

The Sunday School class taught by Miss Winnie Warren entertained with an Easter hunt at Blow Out Mountain last Saturday afternoon. A large crowd attended and all had a most delightful time. Dinner was spread on the ground after the hunt for eggs was enjoyed to the fullest extent. Five cars were used to convey the crowd, and each one was taxed to its capacity. Misses Ola and Lula Sharp, Mrs. Joe Owen, Messrs. J. W. Wheeler, Oran Edwards, Lewis Swann and John Wheeler were first aids to Miss Warren in the entertainment of her guests.

Mrs. E. W. Turner of Abilene will be in Merkel Sunday afternoon to assist in organizing an Intermediate Endeavor, at the Presbyterian Church, and it is urged that all who are interested in this line of work to be present at 4:30.

Mrs. Willie Scarborough has been appointed Supt. of the Dept.

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.

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. See

FREE ——— FREE ——— FREE

Tickets to the COZY THEATRE for the

Merchants' Matinee

Every Wednesday Afternoon 3:00 to 5:30

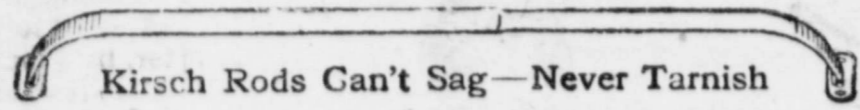
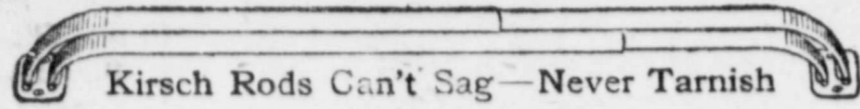
Beginning Saturday morning, April 14th, the following firms of Merkel will give with each 25c purchase a ticket good for admission to the Cozy Theatre any Wednesday afternoon 3:00 to 5:30

Merkel Drug Co.
Merkel Bakery

Woodroof-Bragg Co.
Metropolitan Cafe

Behrens-McMillen Fur. Co.
Sanitary Barber Shop

G. F. West Company
Ideal Tailor Shop



NOTHING ADDS TO HOME SO MUCH BEAUTY, COMFORT AND CHEER, AS TASTILY HUNG CURTAINS

How cold and cheerless home looked during housecleaning, with curtains down! Your window draping counts more in the appearance of your rooms than any other one thing.

KIRSCH Flat Rods

are guaranteed never to sag or tarnish

Make possible every artistic and beautiful window draping arrangement idea. THEY ARE GUARANTEED NOT TO SAG, TURN BLACK OR TARNISH. The brackets set inside the casing, if woodwork is beautiful—or outside if you wish to conceal it. They are the simplest brackets you ever saw—make the rods easy to put up, and never come down accidentally. The graceful, curved ends of Kirsch Flat Rods permit draping clear to the casing.

Kirsch Flat Rods come in white enamel, satin brass oxidized. They will stay as good as new for years. Yet they cost very little more than cheap, flimsy rods that last only a season or so. It will please us to show them to you.

Columbia WINDOW SHADES



Take your choice of many rich and lovely colorings

Shades have so much to do with the good looks of your home that it is wise to take no chance in buying.

We not only have a window shade that won't crack, but also have a wide range of colorings.

It will please us to show them to you.

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company

Furniture and Undertaking

NOODLE

We are enjoying this windy weather as we always brave the task, while out doors, of freeing our eyes of sand.

The school boys played quite a joke on Mr. Andrews if April did did come on Sunday.

Quite a crowd of Noodles young people attended the Jones County track meet, also the singing Convention at Anson Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Bula Jones of Sinclair spent the past week with friends at Noodle and Shiloh.

Noodle was well represented at the show last week in Merkel. C. R. and Mrs. Horton and granddaughter Louise Tweedy of Merkel spent Sunday with relatives near Noodle.

Charley Seago and wife and Mrs. R. W. Green spent Sunday night and Monday in Anson.

Mrs. Ruby Haybrest of Vernon returned home Wednesday evening after a months visit with her father, B. N. Wheeler.

Mrs. G. M. Williams of Merkel spent a part of last week with her daughter Mrs. C. P. Hendrix.

Mrs. Flora Rees, and little son of Abilene returned home Tuesday after a weeks visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hendrix.

E. E. Wheeler of Tulia spent Sunday at Noodle.

AN EXCITING ARREST

Jim Thomas, who was being held at Sweetwater for stealing french leave, was returned giving him three years in the pen, lo and behold he was not there. Search was immediately made and our local officers, W. H. Laney and R. E. Counts, got on his trail and captured the fugitive about seven miles southeast of Merkel. They ordered him to surrender, but instead he broke and ran, refusing to stop.

As a result a few shots were fired in his direction, one inflicting a flesh wound in the leg. After this he still ran a considerable distance, but soon was overtaken. When captured he was entirely out of breath.

The prisoner was brought to Merkel and his wound given attention by Dr. Foster, after which he was returned to Sweet-

FRESH HOME-BAKED BREAD

10 Cents a Loaf

Hot Rolls—Cinnamon and Plain

Baked Under Most Sanitary Conditions
Customers invited to visit Plant

We will appreciate your trade and show you every courtesy

The Merkel Bakery

Opposite Postoffice
N. HANCOCK, Prop.

SUITS SUITS SUITS

MEN'S TAILOR-MADE SUITS AT \$12.50 and up

THE IDEAL TAILOR SHOP

F. E. CHURCH, PROPRIETOR

GREAT SAVING IN TIRES

In Spite of Rapidly Increasing Cost

Large stock bought before the rise permits

us to sell at old prices

WARREN BROTHERS

water and placed in jail. There is a question if the verdict will stand, as the prisoner was not present when it was returned by the jury. It is alleged that this is the

He used a pebble in his day, to keep his mouth moist—

WE use

WRIGLEY'S



WRIGLEY'S gives us a wholesome, antiseptic, refreshing confection to take the place of the cave man's pebble.

We help teeth, breath, appetite, digestion and deliciously soothe mouth and throat with this welcome sweetmeat.

The Wrigley Spearmen want to send you their Book of Gum-ption. Send a postal for it today, Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co., 1732 Kesner Building, Chicago.

The Flavor Lasts!



AN AWFUL DEATH.

Mrs. H. C. Owen who lived seven miles north of Anson, recently was burned so badly that she died. She had an incubator in the cellar and was attending to same, having with her two small children. In some manner the incubator exploded and Mrs. Owens dress caught fire. She rescued the children, but emerging from the cellar the flames sprang rapidly over her body. Having on a new dress, she was forced to let it burn away before she could disrobe. She was able to reach a telephone and call a neighbor. She lingered in the most excruciating pain for a period of three weeks, when death relieved her or her misery.

Bud Brown of this city is her brother. Mrs. Owens was 21 years of age. She leaves a husband and two small children, besides a host of relatives and friends.

GIVE NATURE A CHANCE TO "COME BACK"

THE WONDERFUL WATERS THE 1500 FOOT HIGH OZONE THE CHARMING SCENERY AROUND

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same party who stole Mr. Craig's horse last week, mention of which was made in the Mail. The prisoner has lived in this vicinity in the past and seems to have achieved a reputation of desperation. He stated after being arrested, it is reported, that he had been connected with the stealing of at least 14 automobiles. He was not armed when arrested.

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Elbert Hubbard said, "Had my foresight in 1880 been equal to my hindsight in 1909 I would have dedicated my life to the Chautauqua idea."

Thomas Edison graduated in the literary work of the Home Chautauqua and kept on reading until his diploma was well nigh covered with seals.

William Howard Taft last year gave a large part of his vacation to the Chautauqua platform, to his own personal delight and to the betterment of his audiences.

William Jennings Bryan in one Texas town drew enough receipts at the gate to pay the whole expense of the Chautauqua.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "The Chautauqua is the most American thing in America."

President Wilson, Vice President Marshall, Champ Clark, Ople Read, Henry van Dyke, Senator La Follette, "Billy" Sunday and many others who may be properly listed as "Great Americans" have graced the Chautauqua platform and given the movement their unqualified support.

FEROL ONNOLEE LEGGETT.



Miss Leggett has won an enviable place among the leading operatic singers and will appear as the soprano of the Hinshaw Conservatory Party. The company is fortunate in having such a splendid voice for its foundation.

With each 25c purchase we will give a free ticket to Merchants Matinee Wednesday afternoon at the Cozy Theatre.
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GOOD HIGHWAY POSSIBLE

Gravel Pits Accessible — Construction at Low Cost — Minute Details Given.

Following is given a letter addressed to Commissioner Lassiter, by John D. Meriwether, and is self-explanatory, being of especial interest to the patrons of good roads in this section:

Big Spring, April 3. T. R. Lassiter, county commissioner, Merkel. This report on the location of gravel pits along the Fort Worth—El Paso Highway in the western precinct of Taylor county, which I recently investigated with you, for your information:

Two miles west of Tye, quite a large deposit of very good gravel on top of hill north side of adjoining road. Considerable of this gravel has already been hauled on road and seems to pack very nicely.

At Bull Wagon creek, 2.3 miles west, 500 yards of good gravel can be gotten for surfacing.

At Mulberry creek, 4.2 miles west there is a large deposit of excellent gravel, probably good as any in the country. "Hester Hill", 5.4 miles west, judging from outcrop in railroad cut, large pit of gravel can be opened up by stripping about foot of earth. This will probably be used in surfacing road through Merkel.

"Taft Hill" 9.7 miles, there seems to be a two foot vein of gravel under about a foot of earth. The extent of this body of gravel is rather uncertain. "Derstine Tank", there is a three foot vein of excellent gravel, but will have to be stripped of from one to one and a half feet of earth.

At Taylor-Nolan county 16 miles, the T. and P. has large pit of good gravel. The spurs from the railroad cut on the north side can be used for surfacing the road and can be very cheaply loaded, and I think will make good surfacing.

Considering the excellent quality of the gravel and the location of the pit at frequent intervals along the road you should be able to surface this sixteen miles at an unusually low cost and get a very satisfactory road and one cheaply maintained. I would suggest surfacing twelve feet wide by eight inches at center and six inches at side with room for earth roads on each side that will be travelled by most of the traffic for ten months in the year and make your gravel surface last several years longer than if it carried all the traffic.

I estimate that surfacing as above outlined the sixteen mile will cost approximately \$17000.00

I would suggest that short bridges and culverts be replaced with concrete structures when it is necessary to renew them.

John D. Meriwether, Highway Engineer for Ass'n.

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MERKEL WINS THEM ALL

In the fastest game they have had this season the Merkel High School "Tigers" defeated the Stamford High School team last Friday afternoon on the Stamford College grounds. At the close of the sixth inning the score stood 8 to 4 in favor of Stamford and everything looked gloomy for Merkel, but they finally got on their feet again and closed out the game with a score of 11 to 9 in favor of Merkel. The wind and dust was terrible and every thing was at a disadvantage. Stamford used two "whirlers" and got nine strike outs. Robertson pitched the game for Merkel and got eleven strike outs. This is the second game between the two teams and Merkel has won both games. The line up was the same that we used against Abilene with the exception of the pitcher. After the game the Stamford High school put on a special reception for the visiting boys and they will all tell you that they have never been so royally treated by any club, after the reception and refreshments at the High School building the entertainment committee announced they were going to take everybody to the theatre.

Merkel, 12; Stamford, 11; Merkel, 12; Abilene 6, Merkel 19; Sweetwater 6, Merkel 14; Stamford 9, Merkel 11.

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Superintendent Parker had a call last week from East Texas Normal College, Commerce, offering him the conductorship of the State Summer Normal, which is the largest normal in Texas, having from 1500 to 2000 in attendance. Prof. Parker had previously agreed to teach in the State Normal to be held at Simmons College, Abilene, but succeeded in begging off. He accepted the offer. The tender is highly complimentary to Prof. Parker, in that it is to be held in his old home community, where the people are fully acquainted with his ability. Quite an attractive offer was made him.

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