



THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 29—NO. 49

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1918

8 PAGES

WAR SAVING STAMPS CAMPAIGN

After a visit to Merkel last Thursday of a number of the leading business men of Abilene, a committee was appointed and a campaign planned for pushing the War Saving Stamp campaign in Merkel and surrounding country. The work was started Monday and will be carried on indefinitely. It is hoped that every person in all this country will co-operate with the movement to the extent of buying a stamp.

The local committee is composed of T. A. Johnson, R. O. Anderson, T. L. Grimes, R. L. Bland, A. C. Rose and Walter Jackson. A number of young ladies were selected to work during the week, and the school is expected to furnish a large number to work Saturday. Cards have been printed to be worn by parties making purchases, and it is hoped by Saturday night every man, woman, boy, girl and baby will own a stamp. It only takes 25 cents to start the movement. It is a splendid movement, clearly outlined in the advertisements that the business men of the city were good enough to donate to the government this week. Read them all over.

The idea of the thrift stamp is to accumulate a little at a time until the amount reaches \$4.00, then take 12 cents and add to it and you can buy a \$5.00 war saving stamp, bearing 4 per cent interest, compounded quarterly, due January 1, 1923. This stamp can be cashed at the post office at any time by giving 10 days notice. It is a very fine investment, carrying with it the idea of thrift. These funds go to the government to help finance the war. By buying one you show that you are a patriot, heart and soul for the American army, that you are not in sympathy with the German arms, that you are helping the boys in their supreme struggle, and that you believe in the principles of thrift.

If the war accomplished no other purpose for us than the idea of thrift, it will be well worth while. It is a principle greatly needed in this country. It will help boys and girls to grow into manhood with some well founded idea of true economy and will greatly aid in teaching them how to make investments. If a person once be-

NO. 355
Official Statement of the Financial Condition of

The Farmers State Bank

at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 31st day of Dec., 1917, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 18th day of Jan., 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$225,171.02
Loans, real estate	7,150.00
Overdrafts	9.40
Bonds and Stocks	2,817.11
Real Estate (banking house)	9,400.00
Other Real Estate
Furniture and Fixtures	3,950.00
Due from approved Reserve Agents, etc.	35,112.65
Cash Items	9,408.27
Currency	11,099.50
Specie	4,280.31
Int. in Depositors Guaranty Fund	3,063.57
Bills of Exchange—cotton	64,499.92
Other Resources as follows	9,994.01
Total	\$388,922.88
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock paid in	\$35,000.00
Surplus Fund	30,000.00
Undivided Profits, net	3,967.86
Individual Deposits sub. to check	286,533.96
Time Certificates of Deposit	32,982.12
Cashiers' checks	1,589.14
Bills Payable and Rediscouunts
Total	\$388,922.88

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. S. Swans, as president, and H. O. Anderson, as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
J. S. Swans, president.
H. O. Anderson, cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of Jan. A. D. 1918.
W. W. Wheeler.
(SEAL) Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas
Correct—Attest:
J. C. Moore
John Sears
M. Armstrong } Directors

comes interested in thrift, it will aid him greatly in the accumulation of funds for a successful business in life. The thrift story is too long for us to attempt to go into its ramifications here, but it is the greatest movement of the war, and it ought to be urged forward with all diligence by every thinking man.

HIGH TEMPERATURE IN POLITICS

JOHN BOND FOR SHERIFF

I hereby announced for nomination for the office of sheriff of Taylor County, subject to the action of the Democratic primary, and will greatly appreciate your support.

In due time I will endeavor to visit you and talk the matter over.

I am 42 years of age. For the past 11 years I have been engaged in raising and dealing in stock in Taylor County.

I have nothing to conceal in my life, and it is with pleasure that I invite you to inquire with all diligence as regards my fitness for the honor I seek, my morals and my integrity. I am experienced in the work required and believe I can serve you to your entire satisfaction.

My friends and acquaintances can testify as to my standing. I adhere to Christian principles and stand for the moral uplift of the community.

I have always been a democrat, have never been accused of lacking in courage, have never asked for public office before, and am confident of your good judgment in placing my ambitions in your hands.

Yours to serve,
JOHN BOND.

JAMES PATTERSON FOR PUBLIC WEIGHER

To the Voters:

I hereby announce for the office of Public Weigher of Merkel, subject to the Democratic Primary.

I have lived in Merkel country for thirty-one years and have always been a Farmer, and as some of my Farmer friends have asked that I enter the race for weigher, I have decided to do so.

I feel that I am amply qualified to fill this Office. I am thirty-two years old and not subject to the draft, am a democrat of the Jeff Davis type and have always voted the ticket.

If I am elected I promise diligent and efficient service and a fair deal to all. No special favors shown.

I solicit your vote and influence.

JAMES PATTERSON JR.

FITTS IN THE RUNNING

It is doubtless if another man in the country can run like Austin Fitts. Some men run and never get anywhere, but when Fitts comes tearing down the line you can just bet your bottom dollar that he is going to make a touch-down. He has entered the race for re-election as Treasurer of Taylor County. Everybody knows Fitts. He is a splendid fellow, possessing those rare qualities of winning friends at first meeting, which, added to the fact that he is a true and just man, possessing the highest of ideals, fits him admirably for a race of this kind. The voters are asked to give his aspirations due consideration.

Window glass, all sizes. A. B. Barrow and Company.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

STEAM VULCANIZING—Modern equipment, experienced, work guaranteed. Location in building with Henry Rose. E. B. Robbins.

FOR RENT—Have two farms for rent to parties that can furnish themselves. S. F. Haynes.

WANTED HANDS—To pull cotton bolls. S. F. Haynes.

FOR RENT—Choice business building, 50x65 feet; rent reasonable, on best business street Full details at Merkel Mail office.

Glass! Glass! Glass, all sizes at Barrows Store.

WANTED—A man with family to do general ranch work. Tom Largent. tlp.

FOR SALE AT A BARGAIN—5-room box and stripped house, each room 14X14. R. D. Tyler. tlc

LOST—Cameo pin last Wednesday before Christmas. Return to Merkel Mail and get reward. 18t2c.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR RATES

For District offices \$8.00
For County offices 8.00
For Precinct offices 6.00
For City offices 3.00
Subscription price, 1 year 1.00
Always Cash in Advance.

For County Clerk:

H. Holland Teaff.
Henry R. Hicks.

For Sheriff:

J. T. Dodson.
John Bond.

For County Treasurer:

Austin Fitts.

For Commissioner, Precinct 2:

J. M. Toombs.
T. R. Lassiter.
Sam Butman, Jr.
J. L. Banner.

For Public Weigher at Merkel:

J. M. Garrett.
H. M. Mayfield.
James Patterson, Jr.

WANTED — To trade work mule for colt. W.L.Diltz. t1p

SERVICE—Durham male at Southside Livery Barn. R. L. Bland.

FOR RENT—C. W. Young home, 8-room, near school building, all conveniences—also 31 acres will rent with place or separate. Roy Quattlebaum, Phone 411, Abilene, Tex 18t4c

NOTICE TO FORD OWNERS—You will in the future find me at Merkel Motor Co., where I am prepared to do all kinds of Ford work. First door south of Star Store. Len Sublett. 19J4c.

PRICKLY PEAR BURNERS

New kerosene and gasoline pear burners. Old ones repaired. Extras carried in stock. Send in your order for what you need and they will receive prompt attention. Mail or phone your order today. Jno. C. Sherman, plumber, gas, electrical and pumping supplies, Cisco, Texas, Phone 155. 18t4c

Youngest Red Cross Member.

Editor Mail: Some time ago you mentioned Mr. Merritt's son, 4 years old, as a member of the Red Cross. Please include the following in the Red Cross news.

Little Thelma Martin, the 3 year old daughter, of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Martin, who lives in the Mulberry community is a member of the Red Cross. Please tell whether or not she is the youngest Merkel member —JUANITA

(Mr. and Mrs. Tom Toombs' baby, two months old, is the youngest member).

We acknowledge receipt of subscription from John White, Bokchito, Ok.

Aged Man Dies at Hospital.
Thos. Kilmurry, aged 85 years, died at St. Mary's Hospi-

NO. 7481

Report of the Condition of

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

AT MERKEL

In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on December 31, 1917

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts (except those shown on b and c)	\$282,318.35
Overdrafts, secured, None; Unsecured, None.
U. S. Bonds deposited to secure circulation (par value)	6,250.00
U. S. Bonds and certificates of indebtedness pledged to secure postal savings deposits (par value)	5,000.00— 11,250.00
Liberty Loan Bonds, unpledged, 3 1/2 per cent and 4 per cent.	2,050.00
Securities other than U.S. bonds (not including stocks) owned unpledged	3,035.40
Stock of Federal Reserve bank (50 per cent of Subscription)	1,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate owned other than banking house	5,700.00
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	38,903.59
Cash in vault and net amounts due from national banks	60,207.31
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank (other than Item 17)	1,218.43
Total of Items 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18	\$61625.74
Checks on banks located outside of city or town of reporting bank and other cash items	1,498.77
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
Total	\$411,594.35
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided profits	9,916.92
Circulating notes outstanding	6,250.00
Net amounts due to National banks	2,340.42
Net amounts due to banks, bankers, and trust companies (other than included in 30 or 31)	18,228.40
Total of items 31 and 32	\$20568.82
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:
Individual deposits subject to check	294,987.54
Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	6,730.00
Cashiers checks outstanding	4,195.71
Total demand deposits subject to Reserve, Items 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40	\$305913.25
Certificates of deposit (other than for money borrowed)	14,192.30
Postal savings deposits	4,753.06
Total of time dep. subject to Reserve, Items 41, 42, 43, 44	\$18945.36
Total	\$411,594.35

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:

I, Thos. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of Jan. 1918.

J. T. HOWARD, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:—HENRY JAMES
J. T. WARREN
G. F. WEST, Directors

tal as a result of ailments incident to old age. Mr. Kilmurry was born in Ireland. The funeral was held from St. Peter's Catholic church at 9 o'clock Monday morning, Jan 7, 1918.—Roswell N. M.

Mr. Kilmurry formerly lived in this vicinity and is remembered by many warm friends. He was a pioneer of this section.

WORLD'S IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS

WAR NEWS

War news is very scarce now. Some fighting is being done on the Italian front. It seems that Germany is preparing for a mighty dash on the French front before the American army can get on the ground. Germany has all along sought to ignore the fact that America was in the war, but nevertheless she doubtless understands what she is up against and is likely to make the most desperate effort of the war to break the French and English lines before our army reaches the scene.

Italians Repulse Germans

Rome, Jan. 11.—Austro-German forces yesterday were forced to evacuate some trench sections near Cavazucchurina, on the Italian mountain front, the war office announced today.

The retreating Teutons were caught under the Italian fire and suffered considerable losses.

Bill to Enforce Food Conservation

Washington, Jan. 15.—Bills to amend the food law so as to empower the food administration to compel observance of wheatless and meatless days or any other measure it prescribes, were introduced today by Representative Lever and Senator Pomerene, acting for the administration.

Plan To Include Young Men.

Washington, Jan. 15.—At the request of the war department today, Chairman Chamberlain of the senate military committee introduced a bill for the registration for military duty of all men who have become 21 years old since June 5, 1917, when the draft law went into effect, and for an annual registration for the same purpose thereafter.

Woman Suffrage Before Congress

Woman suffrage won before the House on January 11. Doubtless the Senate will adopt the measure. Exactly the two-thirds necessary to carry the amendment was voted. Texas Congressmen voting for the measure were Blanton, Gregg, Connolly, Garrett, Jones and Summers.

Coal Shortage Desperate

Washington, Jan. 16.—All industries in the United States east of the Mississippi, but including Louisiana and Minnesota, even all war industries, are to be denied further supplies of coal during the next five days, Fuel Administrator Garfield announced late today.

The order also provides that from now until March 18 every Monday shall be a holiday, with every industry suspending for the entire day.

At a children's hospital recently established by American Red Croce in France, an average of 350 boys and girls are being examined each day. In connection is a dental dispensary located in an old kitchen, with a dental chair improvised from a wine barrel.

ALL COTTON GOODS ARE TOO HIGH

Government Must Right Conditions—System not in Keeping with Patriotic Principles.

It seems from recent developments in the cotton goods market that it is high time for Uncle Sam to take hold and right the conditions existing today, proving the old adage that a "Stitch in time saves nine" in the way of trouble for the government. Such action will prevent many hardships for a very large number of merchants over the country, including practically all of the smaller ones, and a very large number of the users of such cotton goods as our flannels, bleached and brown domestics, etc.

The mills recently made their allotments to the jobbers on outings for next fall delivery and the most of the jobbers put these on the market and accepted bookings for their entire advance holdings in less than one week's time.

Of course most of these goods were sold to people who would buy not less than a case and some much more, and consequently the many thousands of small merchants are just to do the best they can.

The writer has been advised that there are quite a lot of merchants who have enough of these goods on hand to run another winter, yet they are booking these goods, thinking they might need them or they might be worth more.

And the majority of these men think they are patriotic, yet they take advantage of the war conditions, take these goods off the market, out of their legitimate channels of trade, hoard them away in the hope of a few paltry dollars additional profit.

These goods are necessities and the question is:

"Is the government going to stand for a state of affairs like this? or is it going to see that this class of merchandise has a fair chance of a proper distribution? If so now is a good time for the government to order all future contracts, sales or purchases cancelled for the duration of the war and the greater part of the temptation will be removed.

Paint! Paint! Paint! Buy it from A. B. Barrow and Co.,

NO. 354

First State Bank, Trent, Texas

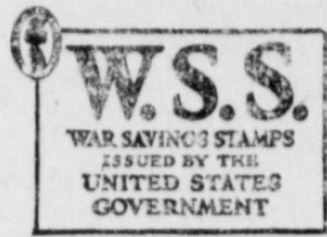
at the close of business on the 31st day of Dec., 1917, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, state of Texas, on the 18th day of Jan. 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and dis., personal or collateral	\$59,458.02
Loans, real estate	1,350.00
Overdrafts	1,247.42
Furniture and fixtures	1,275.00
Due from approved reserve agents, net	23,929.87
Due from other banks and bankers, subject to ck., net	18,395.70
Cash Items	906.05
Currency	7,548.90
Specie	962.50
Interest in Depositors Guaranty Fund	1,112.01
Other Resources as follows:
Cotton Bills of Exchange	21,371.22
Total	\$137,452.79
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 10,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, net	7,842.28
Individual Deposits Sub. to Check	106,641.32
Cashiers checks	2,599.19
Other Liabilities of follows:
Letters of Credit outstanding	70.00
Total	\$137,452.79

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. T. Warren as president, and L. E. Adrian as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

J. T. Warren, President.
L. E. Adrian, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of Jan. A. D. 1918.
Thos. Johnson
Notary Public Taylor County, Texas.
Correct—Attest: R. B. Johnson
G. F. West
L. E. Adrian } Directors



War Savings In A Nut-Shell

Q. What is the War-Savings Plan?

A. It is a plan by which you can lend small savings to your Government at 4 per cent interest, compounded quarterly.

Q. How may this be done?

A. By purchasing War-Saving Stamps and Thrift Stamps.

Q. What is a War-Saving Stamp?

A. It is a stamp for which the Government will pay you \$5 on January 1, 1923.

Q. What does it cost?

A. Between \$4.12 and \$4.23 during 1918, depending upon the month in which purchased.

Q. What is a Thrift Stamp?

A. It is a stamp costing 25 cents, to be applied in payment for a War-Saving Stamp. It does not earn interest. The purpose of its issue is to enable people to accumulate in small sums the amount necessary to pay for a War-Savings Stamp.

Q. Where can I buy them?

A. At post offices, banks, and authorized agencies.

Q. Why should I buy them?

A. Every dollar loaned to the Government helps to save the lives of our men at the front and to win the war.

The Farmers State BANK

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.

PATRIOTISM IN ARKANSAS

If you will spare me space in your paper I will endeavor to thank the more than two hundred patriotic citizens who, recently, so cheerfully contributed to the Red Cross call. I canvassed three days in the cause and am in no sense disappointed. While I met some very contemptible individuals, they were the exception and not the rule. It is unfortunate that there are some who haven't sense enough to give ladies a respect, and, of course, when a man is that degraded he will not give another man anything more in table and courteous answer, keeping with the ethics of common respectability. I met several such people in my rounds—some worse than others. One is L. A. Burns, who lives east of Marmaduke. Another's name is Gibson, who operates a peanut stand in the old blacksmith shop adjoining the shop owned by Mr. Birmingham; another is a "Big Burly Cuss" who runs a little business the first door south of Dr. F. C. Johnson's of fice; another is "Coonzie," who has made a fortune off the American people—a man who claims to be a good patriot by criticizing the government, and who insists that the German government is the greatest organization on earth. Mr. Burns, I understand, is a man in good circumstances. I asked him for a membership fee of one dollar and he abruptly advised me there was "nothing doing." I asked him if that wasn't a rather short answer and he replied by saying that he had his mind fully made up. I then asked him if he didn't think he would be a little "short" if he refused to help the boys who are sacrificing their lives for the future freedom of the world, and he replied: "I told you I had made up my mind and there is no use in going into the detail of it." And then I told him I had just made up my mind what to say, and I said it, but it isn't fit to print.

The man Gibson near the Birmingham place just simply said he denounced the Red Cross, and therefore, I unloaded on him, and don't you forget it. I don't put any meanness past one who will denounce the Red Cross. I weigh 200 pounds, and every ounce of blood and every pound of flesh and bone in that 200 pounds is for our boys.

There are some so-called "Holy Rollers" in a place just south of Dr. Johnson's office, who are entirely out of line. I am rather inclined to believe they are "unholy Devils." I don't mean to criticize the Holy Roler people at large—but I do mean to criticize those who have refused to stand by the Red Cross and the work it is doing.

Yours for the Kaiser's Scalp
—J. W. Williams.—Weekly Soli phone, Paragould.

Fever Sores

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for this purpose. It is also most excellent for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by all Dealers.

I am now employed by The Merkel Motor Co., who are equipped to do all kinds of Ford work. Will also be glad to do electrical work on other makes of cars. Lin Sublett. 18t3c

FOR SALE—Plenty First Class Expecting car of flour and all kinds of mill feed stuff in few days. Cash Grocery, Blair, Tex. 17t2.

Car of good heavy Missouri corn rolling. Will be in Blair next week. John S. Hughes. 182

Thrift Stamps

25c each

War Saving Stamps \$4.12 each

They are Safe

They bear a good rate of interest—4 per cent—compounded quarterly.

They are convertible into cash upon ten days' notice.

The price is fixed by the government—no fluctuation in the market.

This space donated to Government by

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK MERKEL

ESSAY ON THRIFT

The following essay, by Ione Farris, a 12-year old girl of Fort Worth, appeared in the Star-Telegram a few days ago.

"Everybody knows that the U. S. and her allies are in war with Germany and her allies. The Red Cross is working very hard to clothe our soldier boys and give them plenty to eat. Uncle Sam has many soldiers but needs very many more indeed. The food administration is working trying to get people to be saving. There is lots and lots of food wasted every day. War is on. The war is fierce! Thrift is the power to save. It is the power that will win the world democracy.

"You can save food when you go to the table. Before you leave your table, see that your sister or brother does not leave a single crumb of bread on the plate. See that they leave nothing but their knife and fork.

"Think, children and grown people! Think of the poor people in France and England. They have only one pound of sugar a month for a single family. And then sugar is three and four pounds for \$1. The people over there are allowed meat only one time a week. And the poor people who are not able to buy meat and other foods, even eat salves and vaseline if they can get it, or anything that has some grease about it, for they are starved for fats.

"So please save every little bit. Do without your nickle or dime's worth of candy every day and give that money to the Red Cross, if you want to help win the war. Save every little thing. Save food—eat less pork and beef, less white bread. Eat more brown bread and vegetables, etc.

"Buy Thrift Stamps and War Saving Certificates—if you want to help win the war."

Other contestants shall have to work hard to excel the substantial ideas of little Ione Farris. But it is expected that there will be many very clever

compositions received, for the contestants have such a splendid subject.

All essays must be received at The Star-Telegram office by noon February 1. Remember the two prizes are war savings certificates of \$5 each. The contest is open to the school children all over Texas and Oklahoma. The children in Tarrant county will have their essays judged by a different committee from the contestants outside. The two prizes will be given for the county and statewide contest.

Appreciative of Merkel Mail

Fort Worth, Texas, January, 15.—The Merkel Mail:—The Manager of our down town soldiers club informs me that you have very kindly donated a copy of your paper to its reading table. I am writing to thank you and to tell you that your paper is not only appreciated at the club, but also at the Hospital where we have been sending them.

It occurs to me that with so many relatives and friends coming to Fort Worth on account of Camp Bowie, to ask you to tell your readers that the War Service Board stands ready to assist them in every way. A list of rooms can be found at our down town club, No. 826 Monroe Street, just opposite the Central Fire Station, and this place can be used as a Hostess House, where appointments can be made with the soldiers.

We expect to have a map of the town and the Camp in a booklet that we will be glad to furnish to anyone calling for it. Yours very truly, Burton O. Greening, War Service Board.

JUNIOR B. Y. P. U. Program.
Elijah and Elisha.
Elijah.—Hugh Mayfield.
His Discouragement, Nellie Holloway.
Elisha, Dixie Blair.
Protected by God, Leah Owen
When God Opened His Eyes, Ruth Jones.
Songs, Prayer, Business.

TEXAS PEOPLE IN THE WAR

THE STORY OF A HOME REGIMENT THAT IS TRY- ING TO PULL THE KAIS- ER FROM HIS THRONE.

Few people know that there is a Texas Regiment playing a great part in the war. In its ranks are to be found a girl school teacher; a confederate veteran of 77, maimed for life in the war; there is an alderman, some locomotive engineers, a doctor, and several clergymen. Many women are in the ranks of this strange regiment.

The uniform consists of well-worn civilian clothing, the regimental motto is "Service"; its standard the Stars and Stripes.

To explain further, there is in a certain Texas city of about 12,000 inhabitants a set of people, drawn chiefly from those not rich in this world's goods who have made up their minds that they must personally help win the war. They have read carefully the advice given by the Government, they have devised ways and means of their own to accomplish their object, and they have placed themselves on record, in writing, over their signature, that they have done certain things, and will do certain things in the future, to win this war.

Their records and pledges constitute

Human Stories of the Deepest Interest

Here are a few of them:
"Doing without meat, give up my only boy for the cause."

"I am raising quite a nice garden, and trying to save, while my husband is away in the army."

"I am seventy-seven and one-half years of age, half of my face was shot away in the Civil war. Have nothing but the rent of a very small farm. Took \$100.00 Liberty Bond—one-fifth of all I had."

"Helpless with a broken limb, but paying \$4.00 monthly for a Liberty Bond."

"Preserved lots of food for winter use, teaching thrift and helped to sell Liberty Bonds in school. Purchased one Liberty Bond, and intend to buy more. Managing my mother's business while two brothers in the army."

"Father is a soldier, two brothers soldiers, two sons soldiers. No money because have to try to keep my own and relatives' families."

"Family of five. Try to live entirely on goods we produce. Bought Liberty Bond, and will buy one of each issue. Supporting Red Cross and Young Men's Christian Association. Am a teacher and pastor, preaching the needs of the Government."

"Am an old man of seventy-seven. Will do my best every day, and invest every dollar I can spare in Bonds."

"Buy half what I used to. Make more stuff on the farm. Bought a \$80.00 sow and pigs. Made more than twice as much farm products this year than ever, and expect to make more next year. Bought two Liberty Bonds and expect to buy more."

"Am doing work that I used to employ others to do. Will set aside money regularly for purchase of Bonds."

"Reduced living expenses to minimum. Putting aside 10 per cent of income for Bonds. Will invest everything I possess if necessary to win the war."

"Using practically no meat. Will buy \$500.00 worth of each issue of Bonds. Am working to produce more."

"Am an alderman. Economizing and working for greater efficiency in Departments under my care."

"Am a teacher. Living on half my salary, and investing the other half in Bonds."

"Am a boy. I bought Bonds, and am raising pigs to help feed our soldiers."

Hats Off to Them!

True Americans everywhere pay their deepest respects to

you brave little woman "carrying on," while your loved one is fighting, and to you M'am, toiling night and day to keep the home together while brother is away. They pay their tribute to you old soldiers, still trying to "do your bit" in spite of age and poverty, and to you men, who unable to accept the heavier burdens of youth, are still denying yourself of food and recreation in order that you may help financially to win the war. They honor you men who are preaching the gospel of patriotism and service, and you one enlightened farmer producing "over twice as much as ever before." To you doctors trying to conserve health, to you men cutting down unnecessary labor, to you boys who are raising a pig to help the world's food supply, honor and credit is due.

What of the Reverse Side of the Picture:

You will note that not one of the members of the Regiment referred to writes in this way:

"I am a merchant. I have done a splendid business owing to good conditions in this section. Out of gratitude to the country that has educated and protected me I propose to cut out extravagances and subscribe 10 per cent of my savings to the Liberty Loan."

The one solitary pledge from a farm owner brings into strong relief the attitude of several hundreds of men in this community referred to who, undoubtedly, own farm lands. We hoped to have been able to report many replies along the following lines.

"I derive my income from products of the land. I have made more money this year than ever before. I feel it to be my duty to subscribe to the limit of my ability to the Liberty Loan, and to raise or encourage the raising of hogs, winter wheat and every thing else which will help feed our soldiers."

Unfortunately, there is but one such reply. In fairness it should be said that the farmer living out on his farm was not approached to enlist in this regiment, but the fact remains that many an owner of farm-land lives in this purely agricultural community.

Again, not one said, "I have made money to the extent that I do not have to work now. I cannot remain idle, I will get to work producing something needed by our boys 'over there'. My little fortune is at the disposal of the Government."

Hundreds of trim little houses, automobiles, and well dressed people lead one to believe that there are plenty of people in this thriving little city who could have written in this strain. They did not do so.

Without These People the War Cannot Be Won

It is useless for the tired little school teacher to wear herself out, for the war veteran to "do his bit" clear through to the grave. It will be in vain that the mother and the wife gave their flesh and blood and their dearest possession in life, unless the wholesale and retail merchants, the farmer, the lawyer, all come forward, throw off that indifference which hangs like a pall of death over so many of our communities, and come out strong as preachers and practitioners of economy, production, and self-denial.

May the blush of shame, and the resolution to amend come to many as they read this little story—every word of it true.

ISN'T IT TRUE?

When the power and resources of this Country can be applied effectively, the war will be won. Are you doing your share?

It has been reserved to the producer of today to feel the satisfaction derived from patriotism and personal profit at one and the same time.

It is not money, but goods and service that will win the war.

But as goods and service must be bought, the Government sells Liberty Bonds.

Be doubly a patriot by producing, making money, and buying Bonds.

Some Choice Farms For Sale In The Great Merkel Country

We have the exclusive listing of a few choice farms near Merkel. We have tried to obtain farms of such dimensions as would interest any one in the market for land.

These farms range in price from \$25 to \$35 an acre. All of them have improvements, which if removed, would reduce the value of the land from \$5 to \$15 an acre.

Every one of these farms have made money and big money. They made something this year in spite of the worst drouth this country ever saw.

They will produce one year with another nearly as much as the black land belt. If the seasons are right they will produce more.

Compare the price with from \$150 to \$200 an acre land in other sections and where the improvements here are often even better. It will be worth money to prospectors to look over this section.

A PERFECTLY IMPROVED FARM.

540 Acres of Alluvial Farming Land at \$35 An Acre—Farm May be Divided

Just 5 1/2 miles from Merkel, with public road and rural route running squarely on two sides is one of the richest and best improved farms in all Texas. The only reason the owner has agreed to part with this ideal farm is on account of his boys being of military age and subject to call at any time.

The residence consists of 6 rooms, frame, is painted white, has hall, front and back porch, lightning rods, \$300 acetylene gas plant with lights and light fixtures in every room. Adjacent improvements include brick and cement cistern, storm house, smoke house with counter, meat cabinet fly proof, shelves, etc., 32-barrel zinc tank, large chicken house, cow lot that will house 5 cows with shed covered with new corrugated iron; granary 32 feet long that will house 2500 bushels of grain, built of 6X6 sills, 2X6 studs, with 11-foot shed, costing over \$300; well built shop building, with large side room; windmill, brand new, with everlasting water; barn 33X28 feet, well built, and high plank fence 2-acre hog lots, with partition, hog sheds and feed troughs; yard for little chickens, rat and varmint proof, with well built house; outhouse that can be used for cotton pickers, servant house or for storage purposes. These improvements are located systematically and a nice distance from each other.

Of the 540 acres in this place, 330 are in cultivation and 210 in pasture. Adjoining the improvements just mentioned, is a pasture of 80 acres, with tank that has never been dry. There is another set of improvements on the place including 4-room box house, painted white, with brick flues, porch on north, fronting on public road; barn two chicken houses and lot, zinc stock tank, cellar, plank lot fences, adjoining pasture of 130 acres, with tank that has never been dry. These improvements also include a windmill. Near this place is a 2 acre plot, sub-irrigated, with a fine young orchard, and fenced to protect plants from rabbits and all foreign varmints. The farm runs to the creek bottoms.

With the exception of the first residence mentioned, all of these improvements have been added within the past four years at an aggregate cost of nearly \$8000, including the very substantial fencing placed over and around the land. This place is within two miles of a modern school building, where the Baptist and Metho-

dist churches hold services regularly, with Sunday School every Sunday.

In 1914 170 acres produced 105 bales of cotton; in 1915 100 acres produced 1600 bushels of wheat, 10 acres 400 bushels of rye, 100 acres 4000 bushels of oats and 50 acres 32 bales of cotton; in 1916 53 bales were raised off of 150 acres, and tons and tons of feed were raised; this year the farm made enough feedstuff to run the place and several bales of cotton.

The farm has a complete outfit of machinery that can be purchased with the farm at a big bargain, including 40-20 Case tractor, 7-bottom disc plow 28-50 Case separator practically new, drills, rakes, harrows, etc. This farm can be divided, throwing one set of improvements on each part. 200 or more acres can be sold off of the west side.

This is absolutely one of the biggest bargains in all the country. We will gladly refer inquirers to any business man in Merkel as to the correctness of the above description.

GOOD LOCATION FOR DOC- TOR

Have four-room house, good barn, good water, 10 acres of land, small orchard, good fences, creek running through property in thickly settled neighborhood. The only doctor within 11 miles. Fine opportunity. This property can be purchased for \$600.

The reason for selling is that present owner is advanced in age and desires to quit practicing medicine. Other land can be obtained in the neighborhood at a reasonable price.

Any one desiring a nice little home of their own will do well to buy this place. Close by land can be rented almost any time.

SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

A farm of 175 acres, located seven miles northeast of Merkel in one of the richest sections of this country, is for sale at the very low price of \$30 per acre. Of this land 110 acres are in cultivation and 65 in pasture. Improvements consist of 7-room residence big barn, small tenant house, storm cellar, well, pump and good water. There are 21 pecan trees on the farm, and a plum orchard.

This place is located 1 1/4 miles from school and church.

Owner has lived on the place for 10 years. The crops were short this year. Last year he made 30 bales off of 60 acres. For several years previous he never fell below one-third of a bale per acre.

The place is ready for business and offers a fine opportunity to any one desiring a good farm. Terms given.

GOOD PLACE READY FOR OCCUPANCY

The Price is \$25 an Acre.

Seven miles southeast of Merkel, and four miles southwest of Tye, a railroad station. There are 219 acres in this farm, 125 in cultivation, the remainder in grass and wood.

There is a 4-room house, with hall and gallery, with necessary outbuildings. Place has well of best water in all this country and never goes dry. The farm is in a good state of cultivation, free of johnson grass. For the past six years, with the exception of this year, the farm has made splendid and profitable crops.

The house is about 300 yards of a good, State-aid school building. Church and Sunday School are also held in the school building regularly. A public road runs on two sides of the farm with Rural Route service. This is a specially fine community, most of the people owning their own farms and there is a splendid community spirit.

This is one of the very finest opportunities in all this country. No improved place in the vicinity can be purchased for less than \$30 or \$35 and acre, and \$40 is not an unusual price.

GOOD FARM FOR SALE

Well located, about five miles northeast of Merkel, adjoining two public roads, there is a splendid little farm of 136 acres that is now for sale. The improvements consist of a 5-room well built house, with front, east and west porches; barn 32X38 feet with one shed; storm house; cistern, walled up and cemented; three wells, all lasting water; 60 acres in cultivation, 76 in pasture, well timbered, with tank that never goes dry. Abstract is furnished and titles guaranteed. Present owner has lived on the place for a number of years. He has never made a crop failure, and even this year, made a good feed crop. Many times he has made enough in one year to practically pay for the place.

Owner says he has not paid \$10 for doctor's bill in 12 years. He is near school and church.

His reason for selling is that he is advanced some in age and wishes to retire from the farm.

He asks \$35.00 an acre. Compare this price with \$150.00 an acre black land. Here is where a man can practice diversification. Hundreds of dollars can be made annually off of the pasture land; the cultivated section is highly productive for cotton and feedstuff.

If you are in the market for farm land, look over this place.

HONOR ROLL

Willie Leo Miller, Trent.
Lester Earl White.
Andrew Archer.
Roy Adams.
Britt Baker.
Fauss Banner.
Edgar Breeze.
W. B. Brown.
Arthur Derrington.
Frank J. Ferrier.
De Gorcus.
Wm. R. Green.
James F. Holloway.
B. Jobe.
Pete Meek.
F. O'Brien.
Herbert Ricker.
Paul Stamford.
Bill Sheppard.
Paul Turner.
George White.
L. B. Wells.
Riley White.
L. Powers.
Z. T. Lamar.
Emzi Burroughs.
Thos Bearden.
Jas. Brown.
Emmitt Grimes.
L. M. Hutchins.
Chester A. Duncan, Trent.
John T. Morris, Trent.
Joe L. Evans, Trent.
W. W. McElmurray, Trent.
Hubert J. Swan, Trent.
John Moore, Merkel.
Lieut B. B. Brown
Chester Hall.
Stuart Grimes.
Jas. Clyde White.
Lloyd Shepard.
L. A. Dudley.
Robert Vernon Boring.
Shelley King.
O. A. Horton.
Ira Huss.
Archie Rose.
Fred Harrell.
Chas. C. Jones.
Glen Thompson
Roscoe Sharp.
John Ware.
John D. Dudley.
John Edward Hunter.
E. M. Harris.
George Smith.
Geo. N. Reynolds.
J. H. Rister, Tye.
Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
H. W. Beckham, Trent
Dee H. Donnell, Trent
Hollis Brown, Trent.
Royce Dowdy, Trent.
Robt. B. Parker.
Frank E. Smith
Luther Grimes.
W. L. Diltz, Jr.
William B. Tharpley.
N. D. Teaff, Tye.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Jasper L. Hassey, Trent.
Kirby L. Vidrine.
Leonard Morrison.
Joseph A. McMurray.
Charles I. Swain, Trent.
Rufus H. O'Neal.
Willie E. Pool.
Ennis Grimes.
Charley Fitzgerald.
Berry Forrester.
Joseph A. Pruitt, Trent
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.
Reuben C. Hall
Henry D. (Doc) Hall
R. O. Stevens.
Tom Smith Martin.
Leland L. Martin.
T. J. Bird.
R. E. Harris
Robert Rainbolt.
Lee Raymond Campbell
Eulless McNeas.
John P. Gibson.

Mrs. N. Roberts Dead.

Last Saturday afternoon death came to relieve the sufferings of Mrs. N. Roberts, at Brownwood, where she has resided since the death of her husband, about a year ago. Her body reached Merkel last Monday morning and was removed to the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Ferguson, where the funeral was preached by Rev. L. B. Owen at 2 p. m. Burial took place immediately afterward in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Roberts was an old and honored citizen of Merkel, a beautiful Christian character. She had a host of friends here who mourn her departure. Our full sympathy is extended the bereaved.

For Indigestion, Constipation or Biliousness

Just try one 50-cent bottle of LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN. A Liquid Digestive Laxative pleasant to take. Made and recommended to the public by Paris Medicine Co., manufacturers of Laxative Bromo Quinine and Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic.

For further particulars write or call on

The Merkel Mail



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

A Farewell Party.

Tuesday night a farewell party was given in honor of Misses Ona Costephens and Ruby Bryant of Stamford...

Refreshments were served. Those present were: Misses Ona Costephens and Ruby Bryant, Wilma Garrett, Annie Bickley, Girlie Howard, and hostess, Messrs Roy Holmes, Bourdon Smith, Wallace Bragg, Frank Counts, Roy Moore and Howell Britain.

Misses Ona Costephens and Ruby Bryant returned home Wednesday morning.

The Teachers Simple Duties These Tasks Finished She Can Rest Till The Next Day

A school teacher is a person who teaches things to people when they are young.

The teacher comes to school at 8:30 o'clock, and when she has gotten enough children for a mess in her room, she teaches them reading, writing, geography, grammar, arithmetic, music, drawing, cooking, board sawing, crocheting, deep breathing, bird calls, scientific, eating patriotism, plain and fancy bathing, forestry, civics and other sciences too numerous to mention.

School teacher's range from \$30 a month up—but not far enough up to make them dizzy. On her salary the teacher must dress nicely, buy herself things for her work which the city is too poor to get, go to twenty-nine lectures and concerts a year...

THE STATE BANKS OF

A comparative statement of condition of the 875 state banks of Texas responding to the call for an official statement November 20 1917, as compared with the statement of 865 banks responding to the call of September 11, 1917, shows an increase in deposits of \$60, 364, 483. 89, the deposits on the latter date amounting to \$215, 889, 289.38.



The Pirate-

"Sh! What would happen to me if I were your kid? Well, if you're not acquainted with Calumet Baking Powder you don't know what a good excuse I have."

Millions of mothers use CALUMET BAKING POWDER because of its purity—because it always gives best results and is economical in cost and use.



largest crops in history and received the highest prices therefor.

Loans show an insignificant increase while cash and exchange, or available reserves on hand amounting to 41.7%, show an unprecedented increase as a natural corollary of the great increase in deposits.

Bills payable have decreased 60.9% which, taken together with the slight increase in loans and great increase in cash and exchange, shows not only the present very easy condition of money matters in the state, but also demonstrates the much to be admired spirit of conservatism generally prevailing among our state bankers.

Patriotic citizens will note with the greatest satisfaction the increase in the bond account of \$8, 144.00, when it is explained that this represents almost to the last dollar, investments of our state banks in Liberty Bonds, and the most excellent condition of the banks at the present time gives rise to the hope that they will subscribe as liberally, if not more, so, to the next bond issue that may be made by the government.

Taking the statement as a whole, it should be a source of great satisfaction to the people of Texas that their banks are in such a prosperous and healthy condition and the bankers themselves are to be congratulated upon making the best statement that has ever been made in the history of state banks in Texas.

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. 60c

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.

Sr. B. Y. P. U. Program Jan, 20 Leader, Miss Ruby Campbell Prayer. Song. Scripture Reading, Leader. Source of Information, Mattie Richie. Heathen Ideas, Bettie Toomb Childish Ideas, Ona Faye Bland. Vocal Duet, Misses Dry and Thomas. God Is a Spirit and God Has Infinite Power, Wille Swann. God Knows Everything and God Is Love, Holland Teaff. God Is Perfect and God Is Like Jesus, Ruth Boden. Conclusion, Chester Hutcheson.

Epworth League Program Leader, Roy Moore. Song. Scripture Reading by Leader. Prayer, Song. Prayer, Miss Maurine Cobb. Know the Bible, Miss Essie Tucker. Solo, Miss Lucile Edwards. Power, Miss Lillie Prat Sears. Song. Miscellaneous.

Chamberlain's Tablets When you are troubled with indigestion or constipation, take Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally.

SHORTHAND AND TYPE WRITING

Will teach a limited number in shorthand and typewriting. Most modern system of phonography and touch typewriting. Office methods also taught. Experience covers 15 years. Guarantee to fit any one who will apply themselves as well as any business college.

H. B. Strode is back on his job at the depot, after a trip of inspection to the Camps at San Antonio. He saw the Merkel boys and found them all in fine condition.

BUY A WAR SAVING STAMP

FOR EVERY TIME YOU LICK A WAR STAMP YOU HELP TO LICK THE

KAISER SANDERS DRUG STORE

The HOME of PURE Drugs.

Rheumatism Yields

Only rheumatic sufferers know the agony of its darting pains, aching joints or twisting cords. But some few have not known that

SCOTT'S EMULSION

has been correcting this trouble when other treatments have utterly failed.

Scott's is essentially blood-food in such rich, concentrated form that its oil gets into the blood to alleviate this stubborn malady. Get a bottle of Scott's Emulsion or advise an ailing friend. No alcohol.

The Norwegian cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is now refined in our own American laboratories which makes it pure and palatable.

STOMACH TROUBLE Mr. Marion Holcomb, of Nancy, Ky., says: "For quite a long while I suffered with stomach trouble. I would have pains and a heavy feeling after my meals, a most disagreeable taste in my mouth. If I ate anything with butter, oil or grease, I would spit it up. I began to have regular sick headache. I had used pills and tablets, but after a course of these, I would be constipated. It just seemed to tear my stomach all up. I found they were no good at all for my trouble. I heard

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

recommended very highly, so began to use it. It cured me. I keep it in the house all the time. It is the best liver medicine made. I do not have sick headache or stomach trouble any more."

ONE CENT A DOSE

Strikes Oil

John J. Cave has a stock well in the bed of a creek near his home which has every indication of being an oil well instead of a water well.

LOST—Between Abilene and Merkel 32X3 1/4 Auto casing and rim, pumped ready for use.

Return to W. E. Lowe and get reward.

Cold pressed cake at Bob Martin's.

JAS. PATTERSON JR., FOR PUBLIC WEIGHER

Jas. Patterson, a true son of the soil, has announced as a candidate for election to the office of public weigher of Merkel. Possibly there is not a better known man in all this section.

We want to print the Red Cross list in full, but we will have to do it in installments.

DRAUGHON'S Business College

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

JOHN BOND FOR SHERIFF.

John Bond has announced as a candidate for sheriff. His qualifications fit him for the position he seeks in every particular.

Mr. Bond is a man of high, Christian ideals. He said that he was not being pushed into the race by his friends, but had thought the matter over thoroughly and entered upon his own judgment.

It is a great thing for a man to ask honor at the hands of his fellows and not one word of reproach to be found to enter against his good name.

CANT WE DO MORE

"If the American women would make and send to France one thousand times as many surgical dressings as are now being sent, there would still be too few to supply the needs of the immense amount of hospital supplies necessary."

Here is a message for the women of Minneapolis from one of their number, Mrs. E. H. Erb, who is in France doing work of

Red Cross. She knows conditions:

Some women have awakened to their duty, and are giving all the time they can possibly spare for volunteer work. But they are in the small minority. Many are knitting and this is commendable, but there is urgent need for more workers at the bandage and hospital supply stations.

For want of these surgical dressings men are DYING in France. The work of our heroic surgeons and nurses is being hampered. We do not want to believe that our women are slackers. It is a nasty word to use. We prefer to think that they have not yet realized the crying need for their work.

LAMESA TEXAS

To my friends in and around Merkel. We arrived here all OK, and like this country fine, but believe me we have had some cold weather since we came.

I have always heard of things but this isn't any hear say its facts in the case. I saw it with my own eyes, and you can believe it if you want to or let it go by. Yours truly, G. W. Brady.

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER DENTIST Office Phone 154 Over Woodroofs Store

DR. GAMBILL, Dentist. All dental work done personally, and not entrusted to any laboratory or second party. Lady assistant. Office over Farmers State Bank. Phones: Office, 306, Res. 108.

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 Woodroof Bros. Store Merkel — Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS The most Up-to-Date SHOP IN MERKEL CITY BARBER SHOP CHAS WEST Proprietor

W. P. MAHAFFEY Attorney at Law Merkel and Abilene, Texas Merkel Office in rear Farmers State Bank. 22Sept17

DR. J. E. ADKISSON Physician and Surgeon Hours From 6 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Office over City Barber Shop Phones: Of. 163, Res. 187. Nov9

E. D. COATS Repairs Pianos, Organs And Sewing Machines. Also Sells Tombstones. All Work Guaranteed Phone 9029 R. 12 Merkel, Texas Route 5. 23 Feb. 18.

Magazine Club Bargains. SEND in your cash renewal to our paper now and you can have your choice of any of these splendid magazine clubs at the special prices shown below. This offer is open to both old and new subscribers. If you are already a subscriber to any of these magazines, your subscription will be extended one year from date of expiration.

The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company

CAPITAL STOCK \$100,000.00
Full Paid, Non-Assessable

\$100.00 INVESTED IN OIL HAS PAID \$40,000.00
AND IT MAY DO SO HERE

Wages Never Made a Man Rich, But
A Small Investment Has

Stock Selling at 10c a Share

\$20 buys 200 shares; \$50 buys 500 shares; \$100 buys 1000 shares. If desired, send 2c a share cash and 2c per share each month. Five per cent discount for all cash.

Figure what it means if it advances to \$1.00 or \$10.00 as others have done.

Our holdings are in Wyoming, Oklahoma, Kansas, Kentucky, Colorado, Texas, where wells produce as high as 10,000 barrels daily. One 100-barrel well will pay \$72,000.00 a year, which would enable us to pay 4 per cent a month dividends on stock issued, as 50 per cent of net profits are to be paid in dividends to stockholders.

We are selling stock to increase holdings, drill wells and pay dividends. Buy now before it advances.

WM. F. REYNOLDS, Secretary

GENERAL OFFICES

830 Seventeenth St., Boston Building, Denver, Col.
Phone Main 3937

Salesmen Wanted. Send for free oil map and literature

LOCAL NEWS

Marvin Boney has returned to Tucson, Ariz., after having visited homefolks during the holidays.

BARGAIN—For Sale one four year old registered Mammoth jack. Prize winner at State Fair Also two fine jennets bred. Owner J. W. Teaff, Merkel Tex. t1c.

Mr. J. M. Costephens and daughter, Ona and Miss Ruby Bryan of Stamford, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Costephens the past week.

Expecting car of war flour, Bob Martin.

Alfred Costephens has been home for a few days stay. He belongs to the Sanitary Detachment of the 8th Cavalry and is stationed at Marfa. He says they have been having some experiences with the Mexicans but likes his work fine. He left Thursday night for a few days stay in Rosco with relatives and friends. He was accompanied to Roscoe by his sister, Mrs. G.H. Johnson and daughter, Eva May of that place, who have been home to stay during his visit.

Just received car coal. Warren Bros.

FOR RENT—Cheap. Wagon Yard with water conveniences, good lots, Camp house, stable, Feed barn.—See A.C. Boney tfc

Glass! Glass! Glass, all sizes at Barrows Store.

We highly appreciate the letter from Blair. Come again. We want the splendid people of that section represented often.

Warren Bros just received a car of coal.

Mrs. Bill Cox, near Merkel was thought to have to undergo a most serious operation, but after an examination at Abilene it was decided that an operation was not necessary. She was removed to her home for treatments. Her many friends rejoice with her at her improved condition, and wish for her a rapid recovery.

Expecting car of war flour, Bob Martin.

STOMACH TROUBLE CURED

If you have any trouble with your stomach you should take Chamberlain's Tablets. Mr. J.P. Klote of Edina, Mo., says: "I have used a great many different medicines for stomach trouble, but find Chamberlain's Tablets more beneficial than any other remedy I ever used." For sale by all dealers.

Paints, Oils, and all kinds of Stains. A. B. Barrow and Co.,

YOU ARE THE JURY

Here The Testimony of Merkel people and Decide the Case. Doan's Kidney Pills are on trial—are being tried every day for weak kidneys—for exhausted kidney backaches. What is the verdict? Read Merkel testimony—personal experiences of Merkel witnesses. There can be only one verdict—a chorus of approval.

T. J. King, Kent St., Merkel, says: "I didn't know that my kidneys were causing my backache until a neighbor told me to use Doan's Kidney Pills, saying that my kidneys were the cause of my complaint. My back ached nearly all the time and even when lying down, it bothered me. I used Doan's Kidney Pills and the discomfort left. Two boxes of Doan's cured me."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that cured Mr. King. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. adv.

SEVERE WEATHER

The weather the past week was rather severe. We had about two inches of snow, but the way it drifted made it several feet in some places. A severe winter is usually followed by a good crop year, old timers say. Let us hope they know. The mail carriers couldn't get out for a couple of days on account of the drifts.

Advertised Letters.

Childress, Jessie.
Ducan, Dick
Hill W. C.
Sanids, Alfred
Spain J. H.
Stephens, Hazel
West, Mrs. Lizzie.
These letters will be sent to Sent to dead letter office on January 30, 1918.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

Before using this preparation for a cough or cold you may wish to know what is has done for others. Mrs. O. Cook, Macon, Ill., writes, "I have found is gives the quickest relief of any cough remedy I have ever used." Mrs. James A. Knott, Chillicothe, Mo., saysb "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy cannot be beat for coughs and colds." H. J. Moore, Oval, Pa., says "I have sued Chamberlain's Cough Remedy on several occasions when I was suffering with a settled cold upon the chest and it has always brought about a cure.

Dee Grimes left Sunday evening for Houston, going by way of Fort Worth, where he visited Camp Bowie. He will return Saturday.

Quick Cure For Croup.

Watch for the first symptom, hoarseness and give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy at once. It is prompt and effectual.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. West have returned to Merkel from Dalhart. They ran into such a snowstorm that thy had to leave their car at Plainview.

Any one wanting good home made quilts, call on Mrs. Dr. Williams. 11t2p.

We are glad to have "Juanita" as our correspondent from Mulberry. Come again, you are always welcome.

Whenever You Need a General Tonic

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. 60 cents.

THE NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

Will loan you money to buy you a home or to take up indebtedness. Rate 5½ per cent interest and 1 per cent to apply to the principal is paid Semiannually. This amount pays both principal and interest and liquidates the entire debt in 36 years. If your land is in Taylor County you can get a loan here. The United States Government desires that every Farmer own his home and has established the Federal Land Bank for that purpose. Do not wait until your paper is due before you apply for a loan. See or write W. C. Lasley at Buffalo Gap, Texas. —Adv. 4t3c.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the Blood on the Mucous surfaces, expelling the Poison from the Blood and healing the diseased portions. After you have taken Hall's Catarrh Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Start taking Hall's Catarrh Medicine at once and get rid of catarrh. Send for testimonials free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

W. H. Frazier left Merkel last Saturday for Grandbury where he will remain for three or four months. His family will remain in Merkel.

GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER

has been a household remedy all over the civilized world for more than half a century for constipation, intestinal troubles, torpid liver and the generally depressed feeling that accompanies such disorders. It is a most valuable remedy for indigestion or nervous dyspepsia and liver trouble, bringing on headache, coming up of food, palpitation of heart, and many other symptoms. A few doses of August Flower will relieve you. It is a gentle laxative. Sold by Grimes Drug Store. 30 and 90 cent bottles.

Repairs to Ford Cars

Bring us your crippled Fords
We guarantee a quick and sure cure
Charges Reasonable

The Ford Garage :: Ira Armstrong, Prop.

A Money-Saving SALE

I have decided to offer at an unprecedented bargain my splendid new and well assorted stock of

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| SHOES | SWEATERS |
| UNDERWEAR | OVERSHIRTS |
| OVERALLS | RACKET GOODS |
| GLOVES | TRUNKS AND VALISES |
| SHIRTS | QUEENSWARE |
| HOSIERY | AMMUNITION |
| MIDDY BLOUSES | CUTLERY |
| OIL CLOTH | CANDY |

Special Bargains in Grocery Staples will be offered

T. C. DONNELL, Prop.
TRENT, TEXAS

Merkel Milling Co.

Wants to figure with you on Corn, Crushed Corn and Crushing Corn. Meal and whole grain flour for sale. Having special feed analyzed and will be on the market next week. Scrap iron 45 cents a hundred, received at Merkel and Trent until Jan. 20

Fire and Stovewood -- COAL --

DAWSON EGG and TEXAS COALS

All Coal orders C. O. D.

Warren Brothers

Bring Us Your Ford Cars for Repairs

Our service is Complete for maimed and dilapidated

Fords

We guarantee to quickly put them in first-class running order

Charges Reasonable

Merkel Motor Co.

Help Your Government by Buying

WAR-SAVING STAMPS

You help, you prove your patriotism, you invest---all at the same time

G. M. SHARP

Our Government is Now Offering

For sale Thrift and War Stamps. These stamps as an investment are good. The wealth of the nation back of them is a guarantee unequalled. The Government needs your financial aid. You and all that is yours need its protection. Do not delay but come and begin making thrift investments today. We have a supply of the stamps on hand and will be glad to explain them to you

MERKEL DRUG COMP'NY

Why Wear Dirty, Dingy CLOTHES

Or throw away garments that are almost good. Try having them Cleaned and Mended.

Mrs. C. L. Cash

At the Anchor Mercantile Co. PHONE 124

FIGARO--Reliable Liquid Smoke For Curing Meat

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded
We pay highest prices for Country Produce

E. L. ROGERS

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

SAND BURR ITEMS

As the old year has passed out and a New Year has begun let us set our resolutions high and try to hit the mark.

Hasn't the Red Cross gone some? West Texas has always come up with her part of the quota. If the West had made the crops our Eastern countries have, we would have ranked even higher than they have. A lot of people wanted to join the Red Cross but were not financially able. God bless them for their hearts are with the Red Cross and our noble President. We are hoping for 1918, we can not live on hope always.

Miss Effie Ford, of Stith, visited her sister, Mrs. E. F. Vantrees, last week.

Miss Jessie West is visiting her sister, Mrs. Minnie Rodgers, of Warren, this week.

Miles West and wife have returned from Wichita Fall, where they have been working the past few months.

John Collins was in our midst gathering up some cattle he bought. He spent the night with E. F. Vantrees the last night of 1917.

J. W. Woodard Jr. of Manitau Okla is visiting his father, J. W. Woodard. He said he made 11 bales of cotton and plenty of feed to do him.

C. F. McCoy of Stith has moved to the J. McCaleb place, which he recently bought. Mr. McCaleb moved one mile this side of Anson.

Mr. Love of the Plains has moved to the C. F. McCoy place. Houston Scott has moved to the Felin Rushing place.

Miss Ella Mayfield spent the night with Mattie Woods last Friday night.

The Boys are getting busy a round here having their questionnaires filled out.

Mrs. Mollie Vantrees's sons and daughters of Hamlin were visitors at the home of J. T. Vantress Christmas week.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Jones are the proud parents of a fine girl.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Lee Welch, a fine boy.

BLAIR

The Blair school is moving along nicely under the management of Mr. Swafford and his able assistants, Misses Harber and Wilson.

Oscar Walker has moved his stock of groceries from Merkel into the Hughs building, at Blair, and will do business at that stand this year.

John Ray is our postmaster now having moved the post-office into the Sherman building where he, also carries a stock of groceries.

Grandma Campbell entertained her two grandsons, Campbell and Emmett Morris, soldiers from Camp Bowie, Thursday. All of her children and a number of her grand and great grand children and neighbors were with her that day. She served 42 with dinner that day.

Campbell sprang a surprise on his people by bringing his bride home with him from Herndon. They married August 4th, the day he was called to join his company in Sweetwater, but have kept it a secret until he returned home Christmas. He married Miss Eva Swan of Herndon.

O. W. Walker has built him a nice resident in Blair.

Lee Campbell came in from Camp Bowie to spend Christmas at home.

H. H. Tittle and family were visiting at Herndon Sunday.

The woodmen circle with their families had a social at the hall on New Years night. Refreshments were served. All report a great time.

W. A. Campbell and wife visited relatives at Herndon Saturday returning Sunday.

Brit Mayfield spent xmas with home folks. He is attending school at Abilene in the Christian College.

Barrow wants to sell you an Edison Phonograph.

MULBERRY NEWS

I suppose the blizzard of the past week made us all realize how delightful home and a hot stove can be. The casualty list of this vicinity due to the intense cold, consisted of a number of chickens, which froze to death.

A few men put too much faith in the ability of their "Ford" to "get there" and got stuck in the snow drifts.

We had no mail service Friday nor Saturday—and no mail on a bad cloudy day is a real calamity.

S. D. Martin and Aron Horton were visitors in the city of Tye on Monday.

Mr. Jas. Walton caught a coyote in one of his traps, it was carrying another trap attached to its foot.

Mrs. J. D. Daniel was the guest of her son Curren Daniel of Stith, one day of the past week.

Dewey Childers, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Childers left home on Monday the 7th and at this writing has not been located. His whereabouts have caused his parents much uneasiness.

The Xmas edition of the Merkel Mail was a winner, but it evidently dislocated the Linotype somewhere or perhaps it felt it was being imposed upon and balked. We hope that by this week it decides it has taken holidays enough and gets down to business again.

JUANITA

Paints, Oils, and all kinds of Stains. A. B. Barrow and Co.,

W. S. Telford of Anson visited his daughter, Mrs. J. P. Sharp, and family last Tuesday.

Window glass, all sizes. A. B. Barrow and Company.

Serve Your Country

BY DOING YOUR "BIT" IN INVESTING YOUR SAVINGS IN

War-Savings Stamps

Our boys are sacrificing their time, their opportunities, even their lives, in the defense of their country's principles and for the protection of homes. It is our opportunity and our duty to furnish funds that will keep them comfortably clothed and fed.

GET INTO THE HABIT OF THRIFT

Hardly a country in all the world is so lacking in this one essential of well being. Thrift stamps help save small funds, which mature beautifully into bigger and better accumulations. Thrift saves the waste and opens the door of opportunity.

Buy a War-Savings Stamp now and be one of the big army of patriots of this liberty loving land.

Contributed by

Woodroof - Bragg Dry Goods Co.

The Habit of Thrift is Embodied in the

WAR SAVING STAMPS

Buy one today and help the boys in their fight for the principles for which we stand.

Contributed by

E. L. ROGERS

A Splendid Practice and a Mighty Good Habit is Centered in the Principles of the

WAR-SAVINGS STAMP

If only the idea of Thrift could reach every soul in the land through this devastating war, it would be worth while.

Get the Habit Buy a Stamp Now

Contributed to the government by

J. T. DENNIS

GROVER LEWIS AT TRENT

Trent, Texas, Jan. 8.—To the Merkel Mail:

Well, the Scroll of Time presents another year; and let us hope that it shall be fraught with deeds of activity, rather than deeds of passiveness.

Christmas—the paragon delight of children—has come, and against their dearest wishes, has become a detail—circumstance—in the postern of time. Many mother's hearts were gladdened by the return of their sons home from camp. They found that their boys looked better, weighed more, and stood more nearly erect, than they did prior to their induction into the army.

The return home of so many boys, and the good reports they gave of the treatment accorded them and of the splendid quality and variety of rations issued them has had a fruitful salutary effect on recruiting since Christmas. So, not only did their Christmas furloughs have a heartening effect on both themselves and friends, but it operated as an asset to enlistment, as well. The boys all appear spick and span in their khaki vesture; and one can easily discern contentment in their features, which proves there's a lack of moodiness connected with army life, not to mention the respectable stipendiary consideration they command.

Let us all hope that the future issue of the war will be in our favor; and that a veritable cornucopia of victories will be given us by the god of battle, stern and grimace-faced, whose decrees are staid and irrevocable.

Mr. Alfred Costephens is spending a belated Christmas furlough at home and with friends. He is connected with

the medical department of the army, and is stationed at Marfa, Texas. He has two other brothers in the service of the nation; Roy is in the navy, and is now in training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Camp close to Chicago; and Ernest is at San Antonio, in the Aviation service. All three of the boys entered as volunteers, and all gave up lucrative occupations, which stamps them as patriots. The father and mother are very proud of their loyal sons. And who could justly question their right to be proud of them?

The writer is a great friend of the above boys, having lived on their father's place in 1906. Many a time have we gone hunting together, at night, built up fires and told each other stories. The first fight I came near having in Texas was with them. But we afterwards ironed out our ruffled differences, and became great chums; many times have we cut the leanest meat off hams, stole all the bread left over from supper, and gone to the woods, where we built fires, roasted the ham, which we ate, amidst tales and stories of our own invention.

Best New Years Wishes to all readers of the Mail.

DODSON FOR RE-ELECTION

J. T. Dodson, who is completing his second term as sheriff of Taylor County, has announced as a candidate for re-election. Mr. Dodson is known all over the country for his sterling qualities. No one can charge him with partiality in the strict adherence to duty. Not only has he made a good officer, but he is well spoken of as a man in every sense of the word. He respectfully asks the votes of the country for their support.

The Hicks 1918 Almanac.

For more than twenty-five years the Hicks Almanac has had a world-wide reputation. The 1918 Almanac has been prepared by Irl R. Hicks Jr., assisted by Rev. John B. Noyles, for many years the assistant editor associated with Rev. Irl R. Hicks. Bigger, better than ever is a concise description of the 1918 Almanac. It is now ready and is sold as before for 35 cents postpaid. **WORD AND WORKS** is the name of the monthly family magazine founded by Rev. Irl R. Hicks. The subscription price is \$1.00 a year, including a copy of The Hicks Almanac to the subscriber. Send 5 cents for a sample copy. Write **WORD AND WORKS PUBLISHING CO.**, 3101 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Reubin Chester Hall Writes.

Boston Mass., Jan. 6.—Dear Pa: How are you this fine day? The sun has been shining today but still it is rather coal. Hope you are not as lonesome as I am I haven't been ashore for about ten or twelve days now, and time goes rather slow, just sitting around reading I haven't worked any yet, guess I'll go to work in a few days. The Dr. said today that I must not work for few days longer. You see I can pass off the time better when I can work.

You ought to be here and see us take our supply of food and other things aboard. Gee! it is grand to stand by and look on but oh my! you catch it if you happen to be a sailor and helping to take them on. Well you see I have just been standing around and watching as I could not work. We have got about two hundred sacks of spuds (100 pounds each) stacked on the mess deck. Have other things in proportion, such as coffee, meat, sugar, lard, flour and every thing that we need to eat. All the things except the spuds are locked in the store room.

Reubin Chester Hall.

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. 30c.

Place Your Order Now For

That Winter Suit

Cleaning and Pressing Altering a Specialty

L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop Merkel, Texas