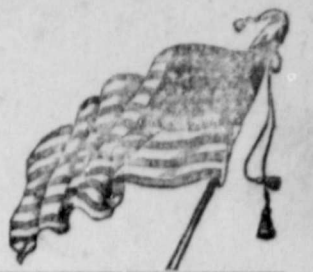




THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 29—NO. 50

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1918

8 PAGES

PLANS TO HELP THE PEOPLE NOW

Texarkana-El Paso Highway To be Given Attention at Early Date

A plan is rapidly maturing whereby funds may be obtained to give those employment, who desire same, in this section for a time. We have had a hard year; many people have had to economize greatly in order to make ends meet. The sum of \$20,000 has been set aside by the Federal government for use in constructing the Texarkana-El Paso highway across Taylor County. Before a cent of this money can be used, it is necessary to raise a like sum to put up with it. A thorough investigation of the matter convinces the thinking men of the country that there is no practical way to systematically and fairly raise money for this purpose in any manner, except by a bond issue.

It is therefore suggested that a road district be formed, beginning at Tye, on the east line of Precinct No. 2, running north with said line to Jones County line, thence west to Nolan County line, thence south to a point a short distance south of the Santa Fe railway, and then running in a zigzag course approximately two miles south of the highway in question until the line joins the east line of Precinct 2, thence north to Tye. It is planned to let those residing in this special district be given preference in the work and if the response is sufficient probably no one outside of this special district will be employed.

The road from Tye west costs about as much to keep up as all other roads in the precinct. The county funds are entirely insufficient to meet the needs of the roads. It is therefore necessary that this road be improved thoroughly in order that the funds expended upon it yearly may be diverted to other roads in the precinct. When the road is once constructed according to specifications of the State Highway Department, then the State automobile tax money can be used for its upkeep. There are now nearly \$3000 worth of this fund in the hands of the County Treasurer, and not one cent of it can be used until the road is built.

The county east of us is preparing to improve the road in first class shape; the county west is preparing to do likewise. This will leave the strip from Tye to the Nolan County line unimproved. If no provision is made for the work, the highway will have to be diverted. Further the \$20,000 donated by the Federal government will be withdrawn and used elsewhere.

The tax rate in the district is estimated at about six cents on the \$100 rendition. This is so small as to be negligible as compared with the good it will do. While every road in the district can not be improved, yet the funds diverted from this road can be used on them in such a manner as will make them first class in a short time. None of this money, except for bridge steel and some cement, only a small part, will leave this section. The bulk of the amount will be paid for the hauling of gravel, grading and pulling down hills and building dumps to men and teams in need of the work right in this district. It may be the means of helping many a man on towards another crop without serious embarrassment.

The time is not far distant when tourists to California, Colorado and New Mexico will tra-

vel this route, indirectly greatly benefiting this section.

A definite decision will be made in regard to this matter at the Commercial Club rooms in Merkel next Friday night at 7:30. Judge Overshiner will be present to explain the plan in detail. Every voter is urged to be present that he may understand the matter thoroughly. If it is decided to call the election, then the voice of every voter should be heard. The plan is a great co-operative one, and one that must not run into personalities. If the bond election is called, it would be the right thing to do to study the matter closely, and then if the proposition is thought to be a worthy one, it should receive the support of all, but if they think that it is not a practical proposition, then it ought to be voted down.

By putting up \$20,000, we get to use \$40,000; by building the road, we secure the great State highway, we also make provision whereby this road will be kept in repair; we are thus enabled to expend our road funds on other roads; we give employment to those in need of same; we get all the money back and have 30 years to pay the bill. Did ever a people receive a better proposition? Every one in the district will be benefitted. If people do not live where they can use the road, it is certain that additional money will be expended on their road. It is easy, practical, co-operative and a mighty step in the advancement of progress. The matter will be decided Friday night. Let every voter in the district be present.

PLAN FOR SEED

The Commercial Club is taking steps to secure sufficient seed, such as maize, cane, fetoretta, cotton seed, etc. In order to obtain an estimate, those desiring seed will please make their wants known to the Commercial Club, phone 10. Only the very best seed will be purchased.

In a short time seed will be hard to get. It is very necessary that orders be placed now. The Commercial Club proposes to stand by the people to the very limit. Seed will be purchased as cheaply as possible and sold to the users at cost. They will naturally come high, yet the best is always the cheapest. It is hoped that those who want seed will make their wants known at once so the orders can be placed without delay.

ROAD MEETING MONDAY NIGHT.

Too much stress can not be placed upon the road meeting to be held at the Commercial Club rooms Friday night. Every voter in Precinct No. 2, north of the T. & P. and south to a distance of about 2 1/2 miles are urged to be present. If it is the sense of the body that a bond election be held in this special district, Friday night is the time for action. It is hoped that the matter will be fully decided at this meeting. Judge Overshiner will be on hand and go thoroughly into every detail.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Beginning Saturday, January 26, and until further notice, we will close our places of business on Saturday's at twelve O'clock. Our friends and customers will please take notice, and be governed accordingly.

Burton Lingo Company.
Merkel Lumber Company

Mrs. J. V. Cockrell Dies.
Mrs. J. V. Cockrell of Abilene died at her home in Abilene last Wednesday at noon. She was 88 years of age, the widow of the late former Congressman J. Var deman Cockrell. With her distinguished husband, she came to Abilene in 1883.

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.

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

FOR SALE—Work mule. W. L. Diltz. 25tfc

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

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, Aiblene, 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.

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

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

FOR SALE—New wagon, new buggy, new set of leather harness, good gentle work horse, a dandy good mule and a lot of farming implements. Worth the money. Cash or good notes. E. D. Coats. 25tfc

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 Clerk District Court
J. N. Routh
For County Clerk:
H. Holland Teaff.
Henry R. Hicks.
J. D. Hilton
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.

THE KAISER'S DREAM

The following poem has been sent from the Dardanelles:

There's a story now current, though strange it may seem,
Of the great Kaiser Bill and a wonderful dream.
Being tired of the Allies, he laid down in bed,
And, amongst other things, he dreamt he was dead,
And in a fine coffin was lying in state,
With a guard of brave Belgians, who mourned for his fate.
He wasn't long dead till he found to his cost
That his soul, like his soldiers, would ere long be lost.
On leaving the earth, to heaven he went straight,
Arriving up there, gave a knock at the gate,
But St. Peter looked, and in a voice loud and clear,
Said, "Begone, Kaiser Bill, we don't want you here."
"Well," said the Kaiser, "that's rather uncivil."
So he turned on his heel, and away he did go
At the top of his speed to the regions below
But when he got there he was filled with dismay,
For while waiting outside, he heard old Nick say
To his imps, "Now look! here, I give you fair warning,
I'm expecting the Kaiser down here in the morning,
But don't let him in, for to me quite clear
He's a very bad man, and we don't want him here.
If once he gets in, there'll be no end of quarrels,
In fact I'm afraid he'll corrupt our good morals."
"Oh Satan, dear friend!" the Kaiser then cried,
"Excuse for listening while waiting outside;
If you don't admit me, say where can I go?"
"Indeed" said the Devil, "I really don't know
"Oh, do let me in, I am feeling quite cold.
And if you want money, I've plenty of gold
Let me sit in a corner, no matter how hot."
"No, no," said the Devil, "most certainly not,
We don't admit folks here for riches and pelf;
Here are sulphur and matches—make a hell for yourself."
Then he kicked Wilhelm out, and he vanished in smoke,
And just at that moment, the Kaiser awoke.
He jumped from his bed in the shivering sweat,
And said, "That's a dream I shall never forget.
That I won't go to Heaven I know very well,
But it's really too bad to be kicked out of Hell."

Chinese Attack Americans

Reports state that the American gunboat Monacacy was fired upon last Friday while cruising on the Yangtze-Kiang river in China. The fire is supposed to have come from bandits of the revolution. One sailor was killed. The ship returned the fire.

Private Hodges Killed.

Private C. G. Hodges, 27, in Company E. 111 Engineers, was killed by a street car in Fort Worth at 4:30 last Sunday afternoon. Alighting from one car he stepped directly in front of another one. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Hodges of the Shiloh neighborhood. His wife has lived in Fort Worth since he has been stationed there. This is the third boy from the Merkel country to meet death since the first enlistments.

Cadet Aviators Killed

Tow cadet aviators, Frank L. Seery of Evansville, Ill., and V. C. Dunham of Rochester, N.Y. were killed in a collision in the air at Kelly Field on the 21st. The airplanes collided about 300 feet from the ground.

American Soldier Killed.

A report from General Pershing states that Walter Roberts was killed in action on January 20. No details were given.

FOR RE-ELECTION

J. D. Hilton has announced as a candidate for re-election to the office of County Clerk of Taylor County. Mr. Hilton has a clean record as a man and as an officer in the employ of the county. His work has been done well. Mr. Hilton formerly came from Tye. His candidacy is deserving of the consideration of every voter in Taylor County.

ROUTH ANNOUNCES

J. N. Routh has announced as a candidate for re-election to the office of clerk of the District Court. He is now completing his first term. Mr. Routh was formerly a resident of Merkel and is well known in this section. He is a man of sterling character, marked ability and has made a faithful serant, doing credit to the position he holds. We bespeak his due consideration at the hands of the voters.

BANNER COMES OUT

J. L. Banner has announced as a candidate for Commissioner of Precinct No. 2. Mr. Banner served in this capacity some years ago and made the county a faithful servant. He again places his ambitions in the hands of the voters. Mr. Banner is a gentleman in every sense of the word, a proven friend of the people. He is well known throughout this Precinct. Every voter is asked to give his candidacy thoughtful consideration.

STATE CAPITAL DRY

Surely the prohibition machine is moving forward with majestic tread. Last Monday the battle of the ballots placed the capital-city of the State in the dry column, the result being 102 majority for the pros. This has been a mighty hard battleground. For the third time in 13 months the battle has been waged. First it was a county fight; then Austin and part of the county; now only the city. As sure as day and night prohibition will prevail in a mighty short time. No one need be surprised if Texas is not swept clear of saloons within 60 or 90 days. Some of the dyed in the wool antis are being converted. Surely the world moves and progress must prevail.

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

A LIST OF NEW RED CROSS MEMBERS

The official Red Cross receipts have arrived at last and will be mailed at once to proper parties. The work has grown to such proportions that Secretary McSpadden could not give the time to filling out and mailing the receipts, so Wallace Bragg, secretary of the Commercial Club, is performing the task.

In addition to the receipts, we intend to publish the entire membership in installments, alphabetically. We can not do this in one issue, or in two, but will get to it just as rapidly as possible. If any who have joined do not get a receipt or see their name in print, they should lose no time in making the fact known, because the officers and Committees of the Red Cross are extremely anxious that no error occur. Information may be furnished by calling up the Commercial Club, the phone number being 10. Following is a part of the Red Cross list received during the recent campaign:

Armstrong, Ira.
Addikison, Dr. J. E.
Addikison, Miss Stacy.
Allen, R. D.
Allen, Mrs. R. D.
Allen, Bob. Jr.
Adams, Roy.
Atwood, D. B.
Allen, T. C.
Adams, J. S.
Adams, Mrs. Emma.
Adcock, O. J.
Adcock, Mrs. O. J.
Angus, M. D.
Angus, Miss Maurine
Armstrong, W. A.
Allen, Miss Lillian
Adcock Mrs. Ruth
Anderson, W. D.
Brown, Geo.
Beene, Mrs. Ellis
Brown, Dewey.
Black, Miss Lena Rose
Bland, Miss Emma, Tye Rt.1.
Boden, Mrs. W. M. Tye, Rt.1.
Black Joe
Boyce Mrs. Geo.
Boyce, Miss Lorine
Boney, A. C.
Brown, E. N.
Brown, W. S. J.
Barnett, Harry
Bell, M. B.
Baxendale, Miss Uva.
Brag, Miss Iva.
Bland, Miss Lola Mae.
Bland, J. W.
Bland, Mrs. J. W.
Bankhead, Price.
Bland, J. A.
Bland, Miss Vera.
Barnett, H. C.
Blair, Grover.
Baker, Andrew
Boney, Harrel
Blair, Mrs. J. S.
Blair, J. S.
Barnett, Mrs. Harry
Beene, E. P.
Browning, Mrs. W. P.
Bland A. C.
Burns, O. S.
Brown, A. E.
Barker, M. E.
Barbee, Ona Fae.
Burns, J. S.
Burns, Mrs. Rennie
Brown, G. B. Jr.
Britain, Howell
Bradley, Mrs O E.
Baker, Lee.
Brown, Joe
Barbee, Mrs. A. J.
Beasley, Verner T.
Bickley, Joe.
Bickley, Mrs. Joe
Burrus, Mrs. A U
Butman, Mrs Will.
Bell, W. H. Rt 3.
Bell, Mrs. W. H. Rt. 3.
Burns, Ira.
Brown, Willie
Brown, Roy.
Beene J. S.
Bradley, J. G.
Burrus, S. H
Bragg Wallace
Bragg T. G.
Bradshaw, R. L.
Bradshaw, Mrs. R. L.
Boney, W. O.

Statement of Condition
The Farmers State Bank
 Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business Dec. 31, 1917

RESOURCES

Loans	\$241,224.22
Banking House	9,400.00
Furniture and Fixtures ..	3,950.00
Liberty Bonds and Thrift	
Stamps	2,817.11
Interest in Guar. Fund....	3,003.57
CASH & EXCHANGE.....	128,507.98
Total	\$388,902.88

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus Fund and Profits	
(Earned)	33,697.66
DEPOSITS	320,205.22
Total	\$388,902.88

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

SAND BURR

The cold weather still hangs on. Our mail carrier did not come last Friday, but was on time Saturday. If there is anything in cold weather making a good crop, this country ought to go in high next fall. We have been going "in low" long enough.

The Red Cross Auxiliary at Smith is getting down to business. They have a membership of 111, and meet three times a week at the I. O. O. F. Hall, with Mrs. A. J. Canon, chairman, and Miss Nora Kelso, Sec.,

A. J. Canon started to Anson Saturday morning to take the things the Red Cross had finished, but only got part of the way and turned back. He said the water in the Radiator of his Jimmy was freezing.

Clyde Jones' car of corn came in Friday evening, and all the hands had to get busy Saturday and go to Merkel after it. Walter Vantrees went to Merkel Wednesday after corn.

Charlie Baucum delivered 12 bales of cotton to A. C. Rose, of Merkel Wednesday, the consideration being \$1,985.80. Pretty good Charlie.

G. W. Thompson, of this community has his name on the ticket for cotton weigher of Jones County. Look out people, you will see him before long.

Mamie Pair hauled alfalfa from Anson one day last week. Jack Canon went to Merkel one day last week to have a little repair work done on his car.

J. F. Winters sold a hog last week for \$54.00 and a few cents.

Miss Mary Pollock, one of our teachers, was called to her home at Ovalo Friday on account of her grandmother being sick. There are a few cases of Pneumonia in this community. Mr. Jim Lee has a boy sick now.

Uncle Ras McCoy has a girl with pneumonia. There are lots of bad colds and some think they are taking pneumonia.

Bud Moore reports his little boy right sick.

H. W. Hardy of Abilene is visiting J. F. Winter and Jack Canon and looking to the interest of his farm.

Miss Annie Belle Yeager gave the young folks a party Friday night. They all report a good time.

Miss Jessie West spent one night last week with Mrs. E. F. Vantrees.

Grover Allred had 8 bushels of red top cane seed thrashed Saturday. F. L. Woods did the thrashing. The writer was lucky enough to land a bushel.

Miles West has moved to Noodle on his brother Elberts farm.

James Patterson and John Bond were in our midst one day last week buying cattle.

Lawrence Vantrees and wife spent Sunday evening with his brother, Walter Vantrees.

As I finish this letter we have a beautiful snow about 6 inches deep, the best we have had in several years.

WORK FOR THE EDITOR

Most anyone can be an editor. All an editor must do is to set at his desk six days in the week, four weeks of the month and twelve months in the year, and "edit" such stuff as this:

"Mrs. Jones, of Lost Creek, let a can opener slip last week and cut herself in the pantry."

"A mischievous lad of Matherton threw a stone and struck a companion in the alley Tuesday."

"John Die climbed on the roof of his house last week looking for a leak and fell, striking himself on the back porch."

"While Harold Green was escorting Miss Violet Wise from a church social last Saturday night, a savage dog attacked them and bit Mr. Green on the public square."

"Isaiah Timmer, of Lebanon, was playing with a cat Friday, it scratched him on the veranda."

"Mr. White, while harnessing a bronco, last Saturday, was kicked just south of the concrib."

G. F. West, V. Pres. J. T. Warren, Pres. Thos. Johnson, Cash.
 Henry James, V. Pres. Will S. Merritt, Asst. Cash.



**CAPITAL AND SURPLUS
 OVER \$50,000.00**

All forms of Commercial Banking
 transacted with accuracy

We invite your account and will
 extend every loan accommodation
 justified by Safe Banking
 Methods

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren G. F. West
 C. P. Warren Henry James
 Thos. Johnson

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by
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 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.

DON'T LOOSE YOUR VOTE.

This is election year. No telling what problems will come up this year. Don't be careless about this matter. You have got to pay your poll tax if you participate in any election this year. We are making this warning in order that some of the people wont overlook this important matter. The time is rapidly approaching. Be sure and pay your poll tax.

Expecting car of war flour,
 Bob Martin.

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.

Cold pressed cake at Bob
 Martin's.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor F. Davis of Route 3, left recently for Roby, where Mr. Davis has accepted aposition as teacher. He will be away until the close of the spring term.

Expecting car of war flour,
 Bob Martin.

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. 1813c

Cold pressed cake at Bob
 Martin's.

Warren Bros just received a
 car of coal.

The Brown D. G. Comp'ny

REDUCED PRICES

On Ladies and Misses Cloaks, Skirts and Suits.

Mens and Boys Suits and Over Coats.

10 to 20 per cent

Will be Your Gain Now

and will be by next fall 40 to 50 per cent

WE ONLY HANDLE STANDARD GOODS

The Brown D. G. Co.

LOCAL NEWS

Rev. E. E. Dawson, Abilene, and Rev. K. F. Keller, pastor of Baptist Church at Aspermont, visited Rev. L. B. Owen last Wednesday, remaining over for prayer service and returning to Abilene on the night train.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams of Purcell, Ok., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Joe Daniel of Route 2.

Just received car coal. War-
 ren Bros.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Bragg of Waco visited his brother, T. G. Bragg, and family the forepart of the week.

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

W. B. Brown, in a letter to
 his father, G. B. Brown, says:
 "We had a very good snow
 here last night."

"An going to Da's Wednes-
 day and take all of the Scottish
 Kite degrees, including the
 shrine."

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

WANTED—100 head of cattle
 to pasture, good shinary protec-
 tion plenty of sage grass and
 fine water. Phone or write Joe
 Carter, Hawley, Texas. 25t2c.

Emmitt Grimes of Camp Bow
 ie is visiting homefolks a few
 days.

FOUND—Bunch of keys on a
 Dixie Tailoring Co. key ring.
 They can be had at the Mail of-
 fice.

P. L. McClary is re-roofing
 business building occupied by
 Sanders Drug Store. It is owned
 by John Sears.

Mrs. H. F. Groene has been
 real sick this week, but is re-
 ported some better now.



SIMMONS STEEL BEDS

A Better Finished and Lighter Bed

NOTE the simple, dignified lines of this bed. It is a Simmons. Its burnished steel surface takes a smooth, perfect finish. It is so light— one-third less than a similar iron bed— that a child can move it. Mounted on steel-wheel, leg-mount casters, it will not scratch floors nor tear rugs.

The maker stands behind our endorsement on this bed. Our price is only \$30.00.

Dealer's Name

Beds Beds Beds

We buy our beds in big car load shipments direct from the manufacturers. Buying in big quantities we save money; we also save in freight rates in the straight car load system. We give our customers the advantage of all these purchases.

WE HAVE A NICE ASSORTMENT OF BEDS AND SPRINGS AT PRICES THAT ARE RIGHT

We meet the mail-order prices

A. B. BARROW & COMPANY

FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING

TRENT NEWS

I suppose that everybody, including the butlers, is proud of the hoary favor which frosty Boreas accorded their needs last Sunday night and Monday morning. About six inches of the white pellicles graced this section. A good many of the industriously inclined availed themselves of the opportunity, which the occasion afforded, and packed their citizens full of snow. It goes without saying, that they will be immune from the necessity of wanting ice water to make lemonade of. The subjection to Hamerfest weather conditions which we have been put to, has reduced many a wood pile to the point of disappearance, and, incidentally, many an axe to dullness. But, being units of an hardy race, souls and bodies, like rattling bony skeletons are still dangling together.

Last Saturday an interesting basket ball game was staged between Trent and Sweetwater, the game being played on the Trent court. The game was marked with good, hard playing, but Sweetwater, throughout the entire game, was unable to gain the ascendancy; and was therefore, nothing but plastic putty in the hands of the professional Trentites. The game stood; Trent, 38; Sweetwater, 24. Trent's lineup was: Guards, Forrester and Reese; Forwards: Boone and Abbott; center; Armour Boone and Abbott made 20, and 12 points, respectively; while Forrester's guarding was very creditable.

The Sweetwater players were large, stalwart looking fellows, but they were all lacking in the necessary, whatsoever is required to enable them to stride off with the coveted querdon of triumph.

A very raw gale kept many from seeing the game, but Trent's husky, ardent rooters were there in bold evidence, notwithstanding.

The new School building is rapidly nearing completion. About two weeks, it is thought it will be required to finish it.

Trent proud of her splendid educational spirit, will perforce, jump up like the sportive acrobat, and pop her heels together thrice.

Miss Gertrude Dowdy, who is attending Abilene Christian College spent Sunday with home folks.

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

SHORTHAND AND TYPE-WRITING

The interest aroused in the announcement made last week that I would begin a class in shorthand and typewriting has exceeded by far my expectation in so short a time. If it is convenient, I would like to meet all who are interested at the Commercial Club rooms at 4 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon, to explain the work, the time necessary to complete the course, and full details. Will try to teach at such time as will meet the convenience of the majority. Most of the applicants appreciate the advantage of studying at home, in that it will not interfere with their school work and home affairs, and will save them board necessary in attending a business college. Further, with the right kind of work, the class will be ready to complete the course in an efficient manner by next September.

Walter Jackson.

Millard Coggin Case Dismissed.

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 23.—The case of the State of Texas against Millard Coggin, indicted in connection with the death here last May, 17 of Thomas Lyons, cattleman of Silver City, was dismissed by the court by Judge W. D. ... on motion of the State.

At the same time Millard Coggin and his brother, T. J. Coggin, the case against the latter having been previously dismissed, were recognized as witnesses in the proceedings, each being released on \$1000 bond by personal recognizance.

The case against Felix Jones, alleged in indictment to have been connected to have been connected with the killing of Mr Lyons, has been set for trial January 4 and a special venire of 500 men been summoned for jurors.

Barrow wants to sell you an Edison Phonograph.

Thief Rather Bold.

There is a sneak thief in Merkey. His appetite craves ham. A week or so ago he relieved Buryl Scott of a couple of nice juicy hams. A few nights ago evidently the same party paid T. G. Bragg a visit, taking a couple of hams. This thing is going too far. Our advice is to put meat under lock and key and load the old sixshooter. A thief is not worth anything to the country any way.

HOMAGE TO FORT MAC-ARTHUR AND THE BOYS OF THE LONE STAR STATE

'Twas the night of December twenty-eight, Nineteen seven-teen,
When I wandered through camp at San Pedro,
The moon from the east was seen;

Across the bay, and Long Beach,
It glittered bright and gay,
As it rose from behind the mountains,
That stood so far away.

The lights of Long Beach caught my eye,
As I thought of a City gay;
Where a little wife was waiting,
For my return some day.

The boys in camp were in quarantine,
And in camp had to stay;
Drilling and pounding to be soldiers,
To see service in France some day.

Spaulding, Hicox and Monroe,
Lieutenants of Company Sixteen,
Were three nice Gents to work for,
The boys were all pleased so it seems.

"Right Face, Left Face" could be heard everywhere,
From dawn 'til he close of day,
'Tis time to lower Old Glory,
Have mess and crawl into the hay.

The time is about four thirty,
The Sergeant's roll call hits the ear;
And then the bugle is sounded,
Which thrills you through never fear.

The officer commands "Attention!"
The bugle is heard from the hill;
Tis then that Parade Rest is given,
So now starts the shower of thrills.

The band plays The Star Spangled Banner,
The Home of the Free and the Brave,
And says that Old Glory is rallying
And our Country means to save.

So here's hoping we'll always have freedom,
And win in this terrible strife,
And somebody be able to go back
To our Mothers, Sisters, Sweethearts—and wives.

By Arthur L. Jackson, 16th Co., N. A. San Pedro, Cal.

I WILL

"I will start anew this morning with a higher, fairer creed;
I will cease to stand complaining of my neighbor's greed;
I will cease to sit repining while my duty's call is clear;
I will waste no moment whining and my heart shall know no fear.

"I will look about me for the things that merit praise;
I will search for hidden beauties that elude the gaze;
I will try to find contentment in the paths that I tread;
I will cease to have resentment when another moves ahead
I will not be swayed by envy when my rival's strength is shown.

I will not deny his merit, but I'll strive to prove my own;
I will try to see the beauty spread before me rain or shine
I will cease to preach your duty and be more concerned with mine."

COMMUNITY COOPERATION

It may be a fact that your local stores are not as large, or as handsomely equipped as some of the big stores, but you will agree with me that your merchants cannot possibly enlarge or improve their business beyond the extent justified by the amount of patronage accorded them.

If you are interested in bringing about better local shopping facilities, it is squarely up to you, and other residents of your community, to patronize home merchants, thus keeping your money at home, insofar as possible, where it will circulate in various channels for the improvement of the community.

There are only two possible reasons why a person should remain in any certain town or community; their duties demand it, or they simply like to live there. Isn't this true in your case?

In either event, it is to your distinct advantage to do everything in your power to assist in improving local conditions. The community belongs to you and your neighbors, and you are necessarily governed by conditions as they exist.

A prosperous community is in every instance a desirable place in which to live, as it affords its residents advantages and conveniences to the extent of its prosperity, which invariable is limited to, and controlled by the amount of local commercial activity.—Copyrighted Farm and Ranch-Holland's Magazine.

Card Of Thanks

We heartily thank our numerous friends who were so kind to us during the illness of our beloved wife and mother. Greatful are we when our hearts were broken and undone, for the many words of comfort and loving kindnesses. May God's richest blessings rest upon each and every one.
G. W. Browning and children.

Supervisor Visits School.

Mr. Dudley, Supervisor of the High School, State Department of Education, Austin, visited the Merkel High School this week. He said he found the school in fine shape.

Our public schools are making rapid strides towards full affiliation with the University. In spite of the great influence brought about by the war to cripple the schools, our local schools have gone right along in a marvelous manner. In many high schools the older boys have either been drafted or

have volunteered, and in many others the men teachers have been taken.

Even our own principal has been taken, but the board succeeded in securing the services of J. M. Chandler of Abilene, a near-graduate of Simmons College, who took charge last Tuesday morning. He comes well recommended.

The school patrons are very grateful to Mr. McNeese who was kind enough to lay aside his plans for the time being and serve as principal pending the selection of a man for the place. Mr. McNeese has arranged to go on the farm another year and would have been there before now had he not accommodated the School Board in this way.

Underwent An Operation

Claude Comeg's underwent a very serious operation at the sanitarium in Abilene last Sunday. He is getting along nicely and expects a speedy recovery.

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

Mrs. Browning Dead.

Last Monday afternoon at 2:45, death came to relieve the suffering of Mrs. Amanda Browning, wife of G. W. Browning, residing three miles west of Merkel. Mrs. Browning took pneumonia a week ago last Tuesday and her illness was very critical from the start.

Funeral services were held at the residence at 2:30 Tuesday afternoon, presided over by Rev. O. B. Tatum. Interment was made immediately afterwards in Rose Hill cemetery.

Mrs. Browning had lived here about eleven years. She is survived by her husband, and four sons and three daughters, all of whom were at the bedside when death came. Those living away from Merkel are Mrs. R. L. Porter of Tulsa and J. T. Browning of Oklahoma. Two brothers, Bedford and John Walker of Cass county, and two sisters, Mrs. Tom Norman and Mrs. Morris, of Oklahoma, attended the funeral.

Mrs. Browning was a consistent member of the Primitive Baptist Church. She had a host of friends who join the family in expressions of deepest sympathy.

For Indigestion, Constipation or Biliousness

Just try one 50-cent bottle of LAX-FOSS 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.

Place Your Order Now For

That Winter Suit

Cleaning and Pressing
Altering a Specialty

L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop
Merkel, Texas

YOU MUST DO SOMETHING

If you are an American Citizen you must do something to help win this war. You cannot stand idly and selfishly looking on while your neighbors are giving their lives.

You realize all this, but perhaps you are not clear as to exactly what you can do to help.

If you own farm-land, see that it is used for the purpose God intended it—for the raising of crops. You will be providing food for our armies and making profits for yourself.

If you manufacture goods economize in time, labor, and material, in your factory or shop. Work harder and more efficiently. Above all, stop waste. Again, see that you secure the business of your home town in your line of goods. This leaves the Eastern Manufacturer free to make goods for the army, and for our allies and cuts out needless transportation expenses. Incidentally, all these things will bring you greater profit.

If you are a clerk in an office or a store, work harder—it will bring you more pay. Cut out some foolish extravagance, and so save money.

If you are a house-wife, follow out Mr. Hoover's advice. Again, teach your children thrift, and the value of money. The task will repay you many times over in satisfaction and actual wealth.

What shall you do with the money you save by this means? Why loan it to the United States Government at 4% interest. Buy a Liberty Bond. The banks have some Bonds on hand right now, and there will be another Liberty Loan issue early next year.

Imagine, if you will, that you are sitting at a table with our great President, talking this matter over, and he is asking, "What are you prepared to do to help me, to help our country? Surely you will do something; what shall it be?"

The Officials of this bank, as Agents for the United States Government, ask you this question on behalf of our revered leader.

Answer the question in your own heart, and mind, and start to act upon your decision TOMORROW.

As you are an American, you will

THE FARMERS' WAR

Let us think for a while how the War concerns the farmer.

We went to war with Germany partly because the rulers of that country refused to let us send to Europe our ships laden with grain and cotton. They sunk the ships and cruelly murdered our sailors. Now suppose we allowed them to stop all our shipping, where would you buy some of your goods would be sold in foreign countries, with the result that you would get nothing like the prices which you get today. This war is being waged partly that you may obtain fair prices for your goods.

What is going to happen if we lose this war? Prices of farm produce will drop; the Germans will impose taxation upon you which will cripple you for the next twenty years. Worse than that, if the Germans get over here, they will treat you in just the same way that they have the farmers of France, Belgium and Italy. In these sections farm houses have been shot to pieces, crops wasted and burned; even fruit trees chopped down, the cattle stolen, the men sent into slavery to work for German masters, their women ill-treated in ways that cannot be talked of in print, their little children have had their hands chopped off in order that they may never fight or do any more useful work again.

You may say "such things will not happen here." They said this in France, in Belgium and in Italy. Such things will happen here just as sure as you are alive, unless we smash the Germans so utterly that they are unable to reach this country. The German fleet and the German army will take just one week to get here if we are beaten. They have made up their minds that America shall pay.

Is there a farmer who will stand forward now and say, "This war does not concern me."

You have money that you do not need at present. Loan it to the government at good interest; when you want the money back again, you can borrow on your bond, or sell it. Uncle Sam will take care of your money until you need it and pay you interest on it.

Go and buy a Liberty Bond tomorrow.

The Banks have some Bonds on hand. They are holding them for people like yourself.

Don't be a slacker, and don't fool yourself with the idea that you are so far away from the war for it to hurt you. Remember 1914, when the Germans upset the world's shipping, and you took what you could get for your products.

Think of the twenty years starvation prices ahead of you, in case we are beaten.

This is your war, and if you won't get in it you deserve to lose your American Citizenship.

Call in at the bank tomorrow, and ask it over.

ABOUT THOSE CHILDREN OF YOURS

One word to the women of America who live peaceful lives in happy homes.

Let us draw a picture for you of a scene at Evian, in France. Six hundred and eighty Belgian children are leaving a train—thin, sickly, from four to twelve years of age—children of men who refused to work for the Germans and of mothers who let their children go rather than to let them starve. They are pouring off the train, little ones clinging to the older ones, girls all crying, boys trying to cheer. They have come all the long way alone. On the platform are the Red Cross workers to meet them. Those children who can walk at all march along crying, "Meat, meat, we are going to have meat." Their little claw-like hands are significant.

Two such trains pull into Evian every day.

Another picture—it appeared in the illustrated papers recently. It showed an English widow with her eight children and the wording underneath ran as follows: "If the mother recovers from her injuries she will have six less mouths to feed—a bomb smashed their poor little home to pieces."

Do you care to see a picture of Italian life where women and children are marched in front of the German army in order that the Italian soldiers may kill them if they fire?

Would you care to think of such scenes as are described in these words:—"All along the Piave River (in Italy) last night we could hear the screams of women in the hands of the Germans?"

Women of America, it is to save your children from such a fate that you are asked to economize and save and loan to the government all the money you can.

We hope our brave boys and our allies will prevent the Germans from ever reaching our shores, but even so, don't you want to help fight for the poor children of Belgium, France and Italy. Does not your mother's heart cry out to you to do your share.

Start saving now, and tell your husband to start saving now for the next Liberty Loan.

DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HIS MONEY

A farmer came to one of the biggest business men in the Southwest last week and said: "I have done pretty well this season. I've \$500.00 that I can spare. It's earning me nothing in the bank. You know something about investments, tell me what to do with it."

"Well," said the big fellow, "You can put your money into Railroad Stocks, you can buy Standard Commercial Stocks, or you can take long chances and buy stock in some Gold Mine which may or may not make you a Millionaire. Do you know anything about stocks, shares, or investments generally?"

"Not a thing."

"Well, what is your first requirement in an investment, do you want high interest, or absolute safety?"

"Absolute safety—no chances for me. Why I wouldn't sleep nights and my wife would never quit worrying if I took chances."

"Well," was the reply, "I can advise you to buy some good Commercial Stock but I want to warn you that owing to trade conditions being upset of course the Stock might be low just when you wanted to sell. Would you mind that?"

"Yes, I believe I would. Of course, I know all Stocks go up and down a little in price, but I must have something that can't go down too low, because I might want my money any time, and I can't afford to lose 5% to 10% of my investment just for the sake of securing 5% to 10% interest."

"So you want something that is so safe it will not cause you one moment's worry, you want something that you can purchase, hold, and feel safe about without your having to learn anything about stocks, shares, or market prices."

"That's it, exactly."

The business man had known right along what investment this man needed, but he wanted the farmer to sell himself first. "Well," he said with a smile, "What's the matter with investing with the United States Government? You won't have to sit up nights wondering whether they are going to fail. You don't have to know one thing about stocks, shares or markets, in order to get in on the proposition, and your little 4% comes around twice a year regularly."

"Oh, you mean buy a Liberty Bond?"

"Yes, why not?"

"Well, I guess I can't do better."

"Better, why, man, you can't do as well. It's the only kind of investment for a fellow like yourself who knows all about farming and nothing about finance. Your bond is the best collateral in the world, you can always sell it if you have to, and believe me there is a feeling of satisfaction about owning one of those bonds that you can't buy with any other security. The bond is Uncle Sam's certificate that you are an American in good standing and you feel that you are helping our boys in the great fight. Look at it any way you like, it's the best investment in the world."

SAND BURR

The cold weather still hangs on. Our mail carrier did not come last Friday, but was on time Saturday. If there is anything in cold weather making a good crop, this country ought to go in high next fall. We have been going "in low" long enough.

The Red Cross Auxiliary at Stith is getting down to business. They have a membership of 111, and meet three times a week at the I. O. O. F. Hall, with Mrs. A. J. Canon, chairman, and Miss Nora Kelso, Sec.

A. J. Canon started to Anson Saturday morning to take the tugs the Red Cross had finished, but only got part of the way and turned back. He said the water in the Radiator of his Jitney was freezing.

Clyde Jones' car of corn came in Friday evening, and all the hands had to get busy Saturday and go to Merkel after it.

Walter Vantrees went to Merkel Wednesday after corn.

Charlie Baucum delivered 12 bales of cotton to A. C. Rose, of Merkel Wednesday, the consideration being \$1,985.80. Pretty good Charlie.

G. W. Thompson, of this community has his name on the ticket for cotton weigher of Jones County. Look out people, you will see him before long.

Mamie Pair hauled alfalfa from Anson one day last week.

Jack Canon went to Merkel one day last week to have a lit-

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's.

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 60 cents.

MULBERRY

That things will sometimes happen, even in Mulberry, was amply proven at the home of Misses Frankie and Maggie Lee Chaney, the other day when the stove pipe fell down, just after a roaring fire was built and freedom missed a new real thriller.

No damage was reported. It was said, however, that housecleaning was afterwards in order.

S. T. Anderson mingled with the tax payer of Anson Thursday.

Colloway Chaney has bought the Bob Popham place north of Merkel.

Miss Myrtle Rogers, who has been visiting friends in this vicinity has returned to her home in Clyde.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Moore motored to Abilene Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. Curren Daniel of Stith visited the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Daniel, last Thursday.

Mr. Sheppard is making some improvements on his storm cellar this week.

Mr. S. G. Houston, of Abilene was out looking after the interests of his farm one day recently.

Mr. John Burns spent the day in Merkel last Thursday.

Misses Frankie and Maggie Lee Chaney were the guests of Miss Clara Daniel Friday afternoon.

Miss Myrtle Anderson spent Friday night with her sister, Miss Goldie, who is attending Simmons College in Abilene.

In these days of high prices and soaring taxes we should get such consolation as we can from the thought that as long as the drouth continues we are not likely to be subject to the income tax.

JUANITA.

Boschee's German Syrup will quiet your cough, soothe the inflammation of a sore throat and lungs, stop irritation in the bronchial tubes, insure a good night's rest, free from coughing and with easy expectoration in the morning. Made and sold in America for fifty-two years. A wonderful prescription, assisting nature in building up your general health and throwing off the disease. Especially useful in lung trouble, asthma, croup, bronchitis, etc. For sale by Grimes Drug Store. 30 and 90 cent bottles.

Beer
—for your cheery little chafing dish party. A triumph in soft drinks that combines the tempting flavor of wholesome cereals and the appetizing tang of genuine Saazer Hops. Bevo for refreshing properties—zest—purity—healthfulness. Serve cold.
ANHEUSER-BUSCH
St. Louis, U. S. A.

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
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All Coal orders C. O. D.

Warren Brothers

Keeping Our Soldiers Strong

Early in the world war experience proved the extraordinary value of cod liver oil for strengthening soldiers against colds, pneumonia and lung troubles.

Thousands of Our Soldiers are Taking

SCOTT'S EMULSION

Because it Guarantees the Purest Norwegian Cod Liver Oil

high in food value and rich in blood-making properties. Scott's will strengthen you against winter sickness. Beware of Alcoholic Substitutes.

The imported Norwegian cod liver oil used in Scott's Emulsion is now refined in our own American laboratories which guarantees it free from impurities.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

WAR TALKS

By UNCLE DAN
Number Five

Jimmie and a German Boy Clash— Must Do Three Things to Save Country.

It was a warm evening, so Uncle Dan went out to a lawn seat under the spreading branches of the great tree that suggested the farm's name of Oak Hill. Billie and Jimmie had been laying for him, so Uncle Dan was captured by the boys on short order.

"Say, Uncle Dan," Billie began, "We had a red-hot argument at school yesterday with Carl Newman. Carl said that German schools were miles ahead of our schools and that no one could come up to the educated German. Well, Jimmie got hot under the collar and handed it back to him good and plenty. Jimmie said if their education taught them to torpedo Lusitanias, sink hospital ships, murder hundreds of women and children, make slaves of the Belgians, poison wells, destroy fruit trees and commit all sorts of crimes, then we did not want that kind of education here. What do you think about it, Uncle Dan? I told Jimmie you spent a lot of time in Europe and knew all about schools, so give us your opinion."

"Well," replied Uncle Dan, deliberately, "the German schools are very thorough; they furnish exceedingly valuable and practical instruction. The industrial training given there is probably the best to be found. The schools as a whole, however, in my opinion, appeal to the head only, and never to the heart. The aim and trend is to make the individual blindly submissive to the Prussian plan of world dominion; they teach that it is the destiny of Germany to rule the world, and that to the glory and advance of Germany, in this plan, all things must give way; that the Kaiser as head of the state, can do no wrong if he carries forward the plan of world control. Some of the greatest teachers and preachers even defend and justify her heartless crushing of Belgians and the many other atrocious crimes she has committed in this war. Thank God, our American education reaches both the head and the heart. It is an education with a soul, and we must maintain the high ideals we have fixed. In a word, in Germany, the people are taught that they exist for the government, while here the government exists to serve the people."

"Just wait a minute," interrupted Billie, "Say that over again slowly, so I can write it down."

Uncle Dan, smilingly, complied. Billie exclaimed: "Now, we will hand that nut out for Carl to crack. Carl, you know," continued Billie, "has a very smart father who keeps him posted on the German arguments. Carl said our government was only an experiment anyway; that it would not last twenty years, and that it might burst up any old time. Jimmie asked him if Germany was so mighty good, why they did not go back there to live."

"Our government will go on forever, won't it, Uncle Dan?"

"Now," said Uncle Dan, "you are raising a big question, and one that has troubled me for years. Our government is still in the experimental stage; in fact, it is the greatest experiment ever undertaken, and if popular government is to be successful, a few things must be done, otherwise, to paraphrase the great Lincoln, the government of the people, by the people and for the people, will perish. It is my firm conviction," said Uncle Dan, in a very impressive manner, "that if our country is to go on, as we hope and pray, we must very quickly do at least three things, and I will name them in the order of importance as it appears to me:

"First, adopt compulsory universal military training of all young men physically fit before they reach the age of twenty years.

"Next, require that every foreigner who comes here to live must, within a reasonable time, say a year, declare his intention of becoming an American citizen and take the necessary steps to do so, thereby, from that moment, assuming all the obligations of citizenship of our country, and that means he must defend our flag upon equal terms with our native born, and if he is not willing to do this, he should be sent back from whence he came."

"That's the stuff," exclaimed Billie. "And, finally, enact such legislation as will make voting compulsory. Popular government is based upon the participation of all and the rule of the majority, and democracy cannot continue and be successful unless we live up to the spirit of the institution."

"The first step, however, is the passing of the Chamberlain bill for universal military training. If you will get the lending citizen, and especially the editor of your paper, to write personal letters to your congressman and both senators, urging their support, it will help enormously."

"I see by the morning papers," said Uncle Dan, "that the Rotary clubs of the entire country, the liveliest, most efficient organization to be found, have unanimously decided to get back of the Chamberlain bill and give it loyal and enthusiastic support. They will work with the Universal Military Training league to accomplish this important piece of legislation, which will do more than anything else to make us a real nation with a common viewpoint, bring us back to sane living, and teach us the patriotism of service."

AMERICAN SUGAR SENT TO FRANCE

American Price Rigidly Regulated by United States Food Administration.

CONSUMERS HERE PAY 9c.

Sugar Cost 35 Cents a Pound During Civil War—Refiners' Profits Now Curtailed.

Sugar is selling today throughout America at from 8½ to 9 cents a pound to the consumer, even though there is a world shortage which has reduced this nation's sugar allotment to 70 per cent. of normal.

Through the efforts of the United States food administration the sugar market has been regulated as far as the producer, refiner and wholesaler is concerned. The food administration has no power to regulate retail prices except by public opinion. Even though more than \$5,000 tons of sugar have been shipped to France in the last four months the retail grocer's sugar price is around 8 to 8½ cents. He should sell this sugar at 8½ to 9 cents, the food administration believes, and asks the American housewife to pay no more than this amount.

Last August when the food administration was organized the price of sugar rose suddenly to 11 cents a pound. During the Civil War sugar cost the consumer 35 cents a pound. By regulation of the sugar market and reducing the price to 8½ and 9 cents and keeping it from advancing to 20 cents the food administration has saved the American public at least \$180,000,000 in four months, according to a statement made by Herbert Hoover the other day.

"It is our stern duty to feed the allies, to maintain their health and strength at any cost to ourselves," Mr. Hoover declared. "There has not been, nor will be as we see it, enough sugar for even their present meagre and depressing ration unless they send ships to remote markets for it. If we in our greed and gluttony force them either to further reduce their ration or to send these ships we will have done damage to our abilities to win this war."

"If we send the ships to Java for 250,000 tons of sugar next year we will have necessitated the employment of eleven extra ships for one year. These ships—if used in transporting troops—would take 150,000 to 200,000 men to France."

Reason for World Shortage. As Mr. Hoover pointed out, the United States, Canada and England were sugar importing countries before the war, while France and Italy were very nearly self supporting. The main sources of the world's sugar supply was Germany and neighboring powers, the West Indies and the East Indies. German sugar is no longer available, as it is used entirely in Germany, which also absorbs sugar of surrounding countries.

England can no longer buy 1,400,000 long tons of sugar each year from Germany. The French sugar production has dropped from 750,000 to 210,000 tons. The Italian production has fallen from 210,000 tons to 75,000 tons. Thus three countries were thrown upon East and West Indian sources for 1,925,000 tons annually to maintain their normal consumption.

Because of the world's shipping shortage the allied nations started drawing on the West Indies for sugar; East Indian sugar took three times the number of ships, since the distance was three times as great. Suddenly the west was called on to furnish and did furnish 1,420,000 tons of sugar to Europe when 300,000 tons a year was the pre-war demand. The allies had drawn from Java 400,000 tons before the shipping situation became acute.

"In spite of these shipments," Mr. Hoover stated the other day, "the English government in August reduced the household sugar ration to a basis of 24 pounds per annum per capita. And in September the French government reduced their household ration to 13 2-10 pounds a year, or a bit over 1 pound of sugar a month. Even this meagre ration could not be filled by the French government it was found early in the fall. America was then asked for 100,000 tons of sugar and succeeded in sending 85,000 tons by December 1. The French request was granted because the American household consumption was then at least 55 pounds per person, and it was considered the duty of maintaining the French morale made our course clear."

Today the sugar situation may be summarized by stating that if America will reduce its sugar consumption 10 to 15 per cent. this nation will be able to send 200,000 more soldiers to France.

Sugar today sells at seaboard refineries at \$7.25 a hundred pounds. The wholesale grocer has agreed to limit his profit to 25 cents a hundred plus freight, and the retail grocer is supposed to take no more than 50 cents a hundred pounds profit. This regulation was made by the food administration, which now asks the housewife to reduce sugar consumption as much as possible, using other sweeteners, and also reminds her that she should pay no more than 9 cents a pound for sugar.

Control of Cane Refiners' Profits. "Immediately upon the establishment of the food administration," Mr.

Hoover said, "an examination was made of the costs and profits of refining and it was finally determined that the spread between the cost of raw and the sale of refined cane sugar should be limited to \$1.30 per hundred pounds. The pre-war differential had averaged about 85 cents and increased costs were found to have been imposed by the war in increased cost of refining, losses, cost of bags, labor, insurance, interest and other things, rather more than cover the difference. After prolonged negotiations the refiners were placed under agreement establishing these limits on October 1, and anything over this amount to be agreed extortionate under the law."

"In the course of these investigations it was found by canvass of the Cuban producers that their sugar had, during the first nine months of the past year, sold for an average of about \$4.24 per hundred f. o. b. Cuba, to which duty and freight added to the refiners' cost amount to about \$5.00 per hundred. The average sale price of granulated by various refineries, according to our investigation, was about \$7.50 per hundred, or a differential of \$1.84.

"In reducing the differential to \$1.30 there was a saving to the public of 54 cents per hundred. Had such a differential been in use from the 1st of January, 1917, the public would have saved in the first nine months of the year about \$24,900,000."

Next Year. With a view to more efficient organization of the trade in imported sugars next year two committees have been formed by the food administration:

1. A committee comprising representatives of all of the elements of American cane refining groups. The principal duty of this committee is to divide the sugar imports pro rata to their various capacities and see that absolute justice is done to every refiner.

2. A committee comprising three representatives of the English, French and Italian governments; two representatives of the American refiners, with a member of the food administration. Only two of the committee have arrived from Europe, but they represent the allied governments. The duties of this committee are to determine the most economical sources from a transport point of view of all the allies to arrange transport at uniform rates, to distribute the foreign sugar between the United States and allies, subject to the approval of the American, English, French and Italian governments.

This committee, while holding strong views as to the price to be paid for Cuban sugar, has not had the final voice. This voice has rested in the governments concerned, together with the Cuban government, and I wish to state emphatically that all of the gentlemen concerned as good commercial men have endeavored with the utmost patience and skill to secure a lower price, and their persistence has reduced Cuban demands by 15 cents per hundred. The price agreed upon is about \$4.00 per hundred pounds, f. o. b. Cuba, or equal to about \$6 duty paid New York.

"This price should eventuate," Mr. Hoover said, "to about \$7.30 per hundred for refined sugar from the refiners at seaboard points or should place sugar in the hands of the consumer at from 8½ to 9 cents per pound, depending upon locality and conditions of trade, or at from 1 to 2 cents below the prices of August last and from one-half to a cent per pound cheaper than today."

"There is now an elimination of speculation, extortionate profits, and in the refining alone the American people will save over \$25,000,000 of the refining charges last year. A part of these savings goes to the Cuban, Hawaiian, Porto Rican and Louisiana producer and part to the consumer."

"Appeals to prejudice against the food administration have been made because the Cuban price is 84 cents above that of 1917. It is said in effect that the Cubans are at our mercy; that we could get sugar a cent lower. We made exhaustive study of the cost of producing sugar in Cuba last year through our own agents in Cuba, and we find it averages \$3.33, while many producers are at a higher level. We found that an average profit of at least a cent per pound was necessary in order to maintain and stimulate production or that a minimum price of \$4.37 was necessary, and even this would stifle some producers."

"The price ultimately agreed was 23 cents above these figures, or about one-fifth of a cent per pound to the American consumer, and more than this amount has been saved by our reduction in refiners' profits. If we wish to stifle production in Cuba, we could take that course just at the time of all times in our history when we want production for ourselves and the allies. Further than that, the state department will assure you that such a course would produce disturbances in Cuba and destroy even our present supplies, but beyond all these material reasons is one of human justice. This great country has no right by the might of its position to strangle Cuba."

"Therefore there is no imposition upon the American public. Charges have been made before this committee that Mr. Rolph endeavored to benefit the California refinery of which he was manager by this 34 cent increase in Cuban price. Mr. Rolph did not fix the price. It does raise the price to the Hawaiian farmer about that amount. It does not raise the profit of the California refinery, because their charge for refining is, like all other refiners, limited to \$1.30 per hundred pounds, plus the freight differential on the established custom of the trade."

"Mr. Rolph has not one penny of interest in that refinery."

Save

1-wheat

use more corn

2-meat

use more fish & beans

3-fats

use just enough

4-sugar

use syrups

and serve the cause of freedom
U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION

WHEATLESS BISCUITS.



Paroled cornmeal is the feature of these excellent wheatless biscuits. First, the cornmeal—one-half a cup—is put in a shallow pan placed in the oven and stirred frequently until it is a delicate brown. The other ingredients are a teaspoon of salt, a cup of peanut butter and one and a half cups of water. Mix the peanut butter, water and salt and heat. While this mixture is hot stir in the meal which should also be hot. Beat thoroughly. The dough should be of such consistency that it can be dropped from a spoon. Bake in small cakes in an ungreased pan. This makes 16 biscuits, each of which contains one-sixth of an ounce of protein.

DELICIOUS CORN MUFFINS.



Here's an old fashioned recipe for corn muffins that has recently been revived and used with unusual success in several of the larger New York hotels: To make three and a half dozen muffins take one quart milk, six ounces butter substitute, twelve ounces of light syrup or honey, four eggs, pinch of salt, two ounces baking powder, one and a half pounds cornmeal and one and a half pounds rye flour. The butter and syrup should be thoroughly mixed; then add the eggs gradually. Pour in the milk and add the rye flour mixed with cornmeal and baking powder.

FACE the FACTS

LET us face the facts. The war situation is critical. Unless the Allies fight as they never yet have fought, defeat threatens. Hungry men cannot fight at their best; nor hungry nations. France, England, and Italy are going hungry unless we feed them.

Wheat Savings—They must have wheat. It is the best food to fight on. It is the easiest to ship. We alone can spare it to them. By saving just a little—less than a quarter of what we ate last year—we can support those who are fighting our battles. And we can do it without stinting ourselves. We have only to substitute another food just as good.

The Corn of Plenty—Corn is that food. There's a surplus of it. Providence has been generous in the hour of our need. It has given us corn in such bounty as was never known before. Tons of corn. Trainloads of corn. Five hundred million bushels over and above our regular needs. All we have to do is to learn to appreciate it. Was ever patriotic duty made so easy? And so clear?

America's Own Food—Corn! It is the true American food. The Indians, hardest of races, lived on it. Our forefathers adopted the diet and conquered a continent. For a great section of our country it has long been the staff of life. Now well the South fought on it, history tells. Now it can help America win a world war.

Learn Something—Corn! It isn't one food. It's a dozen. It's a cereal. It's a vegetable. It's a bread. It's a dessert. It's nutritious; more food value in it, dollar for dollar, than meat or eggs or most other vegetables. It's good to eat; how good you don't know until you've had corn-bread properly cooked. Best of all, it's plentiful and it's patriotic.

Corn's Infinite Variety—How much do you know about corn? About how good it is? About the many delicious ways of cooking it? And what you miss by not knowing more about it? Here are a few of its uses:

There are at least fifty ways to use corn meal to make good dishes for dinner, supper, lunch or breakfast. Here are some suggestions:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| HOT BREADS | DESSERTS |
| Boston brown bread. | Corn-meal molasses cake. |
| Hoecake. | Apple corn bread. |
| Muffins. | Dumplings. |
| Biscuits. | Gingerbread. |
| Griddle cakes. | Fruit gems. |
| Waffles. | |
| HEARTY DISHES | |
| Corn-meal croquettes. | Corn-meal fish balls. |
| Meat and corn-meal dumplings. | |
| Italian polenta. | Tamales. |
- The recipes are in Farmers' Bulletin 565, "Corn Meal as a Food and Ways of Using It," free from the Department of Agriculture.

This Is Our Winter of Test

SERVING food is a local problem for each community. Prices and definite rules for every one cannot be formulated. It is a duty for each one to eat only so much as is necessary to maintain the human body healthy and strong. This winter of 1918 is the period when it is to be tested here in America whether our people are capable of voluntary individual sacrifice to save the world. That is the purpose of the organization of the United States Food Administration—by voluntary effort to provide the food that the world needs.

U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION

NEED BIG HERDS

Europe's Meat Supply Must Come From America.

Warring Nations Have Depleted Live Stock at Enormous Rate, Even Killing Dairy Cattle For Food.

American stock breeders are being asked to conserve their flocks and herds in order to meet Europe's tremendous demands for meats during the war and probably for many years afterward.

The United States food administration reports that American stock raisers have shown a disposition to co-operate with the government in increasing the nation's supply of live stock.

Germany today is probably better supplied with live stock than any other European nation. When the German armies made their big advance into France and then retreated virtually all the cattle in the invaded territory—approximately 1,800,000 head—were driven behind the German lines.

But in England—where 2,400,000 acres of pasture lands have been turned into grain fields—the cattle herds are decreasing rapidly. One of the reasons apparently is the declining maximum price scale adopted by the English as follows: For September, \$17.76 per 100 pounds; October, \$17.28; November and December, \$16.08; January, \$14.40. The effect of these prices was to drive beef animals on the market as soon as possible.

In France the number of cattle as well as the quality have shown an enormous decline during the war. Where France had 14,807,000 head of cattle in 1913, she now has only 12,341,900, a decrease of 16.6 per cent. And France is today producing only one gallon of milk compared to two and one-half gallons before the war.

Denmark and Holland have been forced to sacrifice dairy herds for beef because of the lack of necessary feed.

Close study of the European meat situation has convinced the Food Administration that the future problem of America lies largely in the production of meat producing animals and dairy products rather than in the production of cereals for export when the war will have ceased.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT HELPS PAY FOR BREAD

There has been much misunderstanding about the bread program in England. It is true that the Englishman buys a loaf of bread for less than an American can, but it is poorer bread, and the British government is paying \$200,000,000 a year toward the cost of it.

All the grain grown in Great Britain is taken over by the government at an arbitrary price and the imported wheat purchased on the markets at the prevailing market price. This is turned over to the mills by the government at a price that allows the adulterated war bread loaf of four pounds to sell at 18 cents, the two pound loaf at 9 cents and the one pound loaf at 5 cents.

In France, under conditions somewhat similar, but with a larger extraction, the four pound loaf sells for 16 cents.

BAKING MEATLESS DAYS PERMANENT.

In the meatless menu there is a fertile field for developing new and nourishing dishes, according to E. H. Niles, writing in the Hotel Gazette, who believes that the present shortage of meat and fats will not end with the coming of peace, but may grow more acute and continue for five or six years, thus making it worth while to develop menus of grain, vegetables and fish on a more or less permanent basis. Meat can be replaced by cereals and other protein foods, or may be served in small portions as a flavoring for other food. In making up meatless menus this author finds our American Creole and southern cuisine a broad field for investigation.

CORN WILL WIN DEMOCRACY'S WAR

America's Greatest Cereal Crop Is Now Moving to Market.

MAINSTAY IN NATION'S CRISIS.

Surplus Wheat of the United States Has Been Sent to Famine Threatened Europe.

America's great corn crop, exceeding 3,000,000,000 bushels, will save the world's food situation, officials of the United States food administration believe.

Corn is the nation's best food cereal, housewives are beginning to realize. It contains all the elements needed to keep the body in a state of health and when used according to the scores of tried recipes, especially when combined with an added portion of oil or fat, will sustain life indefinitely. Indian warriors in colonial days lived on parched corn alone for many days at a time, and at Valley Forge parched corn was at times the sole ration of the Continental soldiers.

Owing to transportation difficulties caused by the war the corn crop moved more slowly to market this year than ever before. Now, however, the cereal is reaching the millers and consumers. In the meantime the nation's surplus wheat has been sent to Europe.

Today there are approximately 30 bushels of corn for every American. This quantity is greater by five bushels than in former years.

Corn has become the nation's mainstay in the crisis of war.

Just as this cereal saved the first American colonists from famine on many occasions, just as it served as a staple food during the War of the Revolution and during the Civil War, King Corn has again come to the front in the nation's battle with autocracy.

Corn meal is finding greatly increased use in the making of ordinary white bread. Hundreds of housewives and many of the larger bakers are mixing 20 per cent. corn meal with wheat flour to make leavened bread. This kind of a mixture is worked and baked in the same recipes and with the same methods that apply to straight wheat bread.

Corn bread—using corn meal entirely—is gaining a greater popularity than ever before. Housewives are coming to realize that every pound of wheat saved in America means a pound of wheat released for shipment to the nations with which America is associated in the war.

There are a score of corn products that today possess unusual importance for Americans. Corn syrup for sweetening corn cakes and buckwheat cakes and for use in the kitchen instead of granulated sugar is one of the leading products made from corn.

Corn oil, excellent for frying and for every other purpose filled by salad oils, is appearing on the market in large quantities. It comes from the germ of the corn.

MADE-IN-GERMANY LIES CIRCULATED IN CANADA

Canada is also having trouble with Made-in-Germany lies calculated to hinder Canadian food conservation according to an official statement received from the Canadian food controller by the United States food administration.

The stories bothering Canada are of the same general character as those the United States food administrator recently denounced in this country, such as the ridiculous salt and blueing famine fakes and the report that the government would seize housewives' stocks of home canned goods.

The Canadian food controller estimates that when the people listen to and pass on such stories, each one has the power of destruction that has in a battalion of soldiers.

"Stories without even a vestige of foundation have been scattered broadcast," said the Canadian statement. "Nor have they come to life casually. They have started simultaneously in different parts of the country and in each instance have been calculated to arouse public indignation."

"They are insidious, subtle, persistent. Bit by bit they dissipate public trust, the great essential in the work of food control."

"It lies with every individual to forbear from criticism; to refrain from passing on the vagrant and harmful story, and thus the more effectively to co-operate in work which is going to mean more than the majority of people yet realize."

THE UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION SAYS:

There is no royal road to food conservation. We can only accomplish this by the voluntary action of our whole people, each element in proportion to its means. It is a matter of equality of burden; a matter of minute saving and substitution at every point in the 20,000,000 kitchens, on the 20,000,000 dinner tables, and in the 2,000,000 manufacturing, wholesale and retail establishments of the country.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Miss Sadie Collins entertained her Sunday School class last Tuesday afternoon at her home. There were ten present. Games and snow-balling were indulged in, and every one had a good time.

Farewell to Miss Owen.
Thursday afternoon the Seniors of Merkel High School surprised their ex-class mate, Callie Lou Owen, who left school last week for preparation for her departure from the city. The few hours spent with her will long be remembered by her class mates, although many merry games were in progress, thoughts of the future crept in and made this little crowd more appreciative of their opportunity of being with Miss Owen. This added to the deep felt pleasure however, and everyone went away happy.

Hot chocolate and cake were served to: Misses Myrtle Reeves, Beulah Walker, Bessie and Essie Tucker, Ora Bryson and Virginia Duckett, Messrs Hugh McCree, Vernon Coats and Wade Ensminger.

Bicknell-Herring Wedding
A quiet home wedding Sunday night was that of Mr. Homer Herring and Miss Zelma Bicknell which took place at seven o'clock at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bicknell.

Rev. F. F. Johnson, of Trent, officiated. After the ceremony a fruit course was served in the dining room.

The bride wore a grey taffetta gown with shoes to match. We congratulate Mr. Herring on the winning of such a sweet character for a life companion.

May their life be one of happiness and success in the wish of their many friends.

Farewell to Departing Pastor.

Next Monday evening at the Baptist Church a farewell hour will be given to Rev. L.B. Owen and his family. Every member of the church is urged to be present and a cordial invitation is extended to every one. Rev. Owen has been pastor of the Baptist church in Merkel for nearly three years and goes from here to take up the work at Petrolia. He has wrought well and the congregation wishes him Godspeed in his new field of endeavor. He has stood for the truth and for what he thought to be right at every occasion. The Sunday School workers meeting will be deferred for the evening.

Senior Snowball Party.

What is so rare as a "snowie" day in January? Cried the merry crowd of Merkel High School Seniors as they rushed from their comfortable fires to the home of Miss Julia Martin, where they spent a number of pleasant hours conversing, skating, snow-balling and making pictures. Upon the suggestion everyone scampered through the snow to the home of Miss Ora Bryson, who they managed to get out of the house into the "refreshing" snow. No one attempted to curb the spirit of youth and life that ran through their being—and the snow balling was enjoyed only as snow balling can be.

With the setting of the sun each boy and girl went to their home full of the joy of living.

Misses Julia Martin, Ora Bryson, Myrtle Reeves, Beulah Walker, Essie and Bessie Tucker, and Virginia Duckett; Messrs. Wade Ensminger, Bourdon Smith and Vernon Coats.

Advertised Letters.

McBride, Mrs. C.
Roberson, Sam
Smith, Lewis
Stevens, Wilma
Trizz, Mabel
Nagar, Jase
Vasquez, Gonzale
Sent away February 6th.
H. C. Williams, Postmaster,
Merkel, Texas.

Pains, Dizzy Spells

Mrs. G. P. Cartwright, of Whitwell, Tenn., writes: "I suffered with bearing-down pains. . . The dizzy spells got so bad that when I would start to walk, I would just pretty nearly fall. Was very much run-down. I told my husband I thought Cardui would help me. . . He got me a bottle. . . It helped me so much that he got me another bottle. I got a whole lot better. The dizzy spells and the bearing-down pains . . . left me entirely."
If you are weak and run-down, or suffer from womanly pains,

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

You can feel safe in giving Cardui a thorough trial. It is composed of mild, vegetable, medicinal ingredients, recognized by standard medical books for many years, as being of great value in the troubles from which only women suffer. The enthusiastic praise of the thousands of women who have been helped by Cardui in its past 40 years of successful use should assure you of its genuine merit, and convince you that it would be worth your while to try this medicine for your troubles. All druggists sell it.

Try Cardui 174

STRIKE QUICKLY ENDED

According to dispatches from London, the strike movement which assumed such menacing dimensions in Austria on Sunday was virtually ended Monday morning when the strikers resumed their tasks today, according to news dispatched from Switzerland. Before the strike and the food demonstration accompanying it had spread throughout the whole empire, including Galicia and had everywhere assumed a political character with the demand for peace taking precedence over everything else.

There is ample evidence of unrest in the Central powers. This very thing will doubtless hasten the end of the war. A disruption of our enemies will save thousands of lives and millions of dollars worth of property. Let us devoutly hope that the end is near.

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

Fine Snow For Merkel.

Merkel and surrounding country enjoyed a fine 6-inch snow last Sunday night. According to weather bureau, the snow will equal .64 of an inch. This is the best snow in this section in years. It will doubtless do a great deal of good in bringing up grain crops sown last fall. It is not thought that enough moisture will be produced to be of lasting benefit, but if we can get more rain or snow in the near future, we can expect plenty of good feed for cattle. Every one is feeling mighty good over the snow.

We have had some very severe weather this winter, together with two snows, and it is generally accepted that such weather conduct forebodes a good crop year. Let us hope.

Quick Cure For Croup.

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

AN OLD-TIMER DEAD

Death came almost suddenly to the veteran wayfarer, W. A. Hall, last Wednesday night at 7:04 o'clock. He was struck with paralysis early Wednesday morning, and never regained consciousness. He was an old-timer in this section, having come here over thirty years ago. His wife died August 9, 1916. Surviving him are Mrs. Mollie Wilson, Mrs. Cynthia Hall, Mrs. Mattie Moore, Mrs. Olan Sherman and Mrs. Sallie Campbell.

He was a member of the Methodist church, a Mason and an Odd Fellow. The funeral was in charge of the Masons.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 Thursday afternoon at the Methodist church, conducted by Revs. C. S. Cameron and A. A. Baker. He only recently moved from Blair to Merkel.

He was universally liked, a splendid old fellow with a fine spirit. He was always jovial, and we remember, only recently he called at the office and told us about his grandsons in the army and showing us a letter received from one of them, which appeared in last week's issue.

To the bereaved go our full heart of sympathy in this their sad hour of affliction.

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. Indigestion is usually accompanied by constipation and is aggravated by it. Chamberlain's Tablets cause a gentle movement of the bowels, relieving the constipated condition.

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.**, 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

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. You can study at home and be ready to take a position in a few months and save board and other expenses. If a class can be started, will begin teaching February 1. Call at office. Walter Jackson.

John W. Woods, formerly of this county, but for several years a citizen of Fisher county is a candidate for attorney general. John Woods is well and favorably known in this county, where he lived from a boy to manhood, was county attorney of Callahan county two terms. Was elected Sealer of the House in the Legislature in 1914 was a candidate for attorney general in 1916 and made a splendid race. The Star hopes he will be elected.—Baird Star.

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. 184c

Epworth League Program

Topic, Yougn Christians Reaching Outward.
Leader, Miss Lorena Dry.
Song, Prayer.
Scripture Reading, Leader.
The First Condition of Reaching Outward, Robtre Hicks.
Reaching Outward by Reaching Downward, Wallace Bragg.
Reaching Outward by Reaching Upward, Julia Martin.
Young Christians Reaching Outward by Another form of Prayer, Mrs. Hutcheson.
Song.
Special Music, Mattie Mann, Lillies Ayers.
League Benediction.

B. Y. P. U. Program Jan 27
Missionary Meeting.
Home Mission Survey, Leader.

Scripture Readings.
Matt. 9:38, Nellie Swann.
John 4:35, Alva Wheeler.
Mark 16:15, Roy Holmes.
Special Music, Ruth Holoway
How Home Missions Differ from State Missions, Wallace Bragg.
Co-operative Missions, Evangelism, Frank Counts.
Education Enlistment and Church Extension, Nim Teaff.
Home Missions Etands for a Complete Obedience to the Commission, Claude Riney.
Song.

Farmer Needs 3 Autos to Haul His Big Family

Feder Anderson, farmer, of Fisher Minn., has a 7-passenger motor car which, even when loaded to normal capacity, only carries about one-third of his family. Another 7-passenger car and a 4-seater are needed by him if no one is to be left at home.

Anderson is the father of sixteen living children. The youngest, a daughter, arrived last week and has been christened Marie. There have been eighteen children in all, but two are dead. The oldest, a son, was 21 on June 30 last. There are no twins or triplets in his family. The mother will be 44 on January 25, 1918. The father is 48.

Anderson has 237 acres of land, worth \$100 an acre, and can do all his farming without help outside of the family.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures Kidney and Bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism, and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for Texas testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

THE CANDIDATES ARE OUT

It takes no seer to read the signs,
No guess at what's "between the lines,"
No trumpeting, nor shout,
You read it in his beaming eye,
His handclasp, as you pass him by.
"The candidates are out"

'Tis good to know that tho the land
Rises and fills our eyes with sand,
The wind howls north or south,
The candidate, with sprightly grace,
Will keep a cheerful smiling face
Regardless of the drouth.

For him no luxury of "blues,"
As he the vagrant "Voye" pursues
Mile after weary mile
Tho' other races droop and gloom
With impress of impending doom,
The candidate will smile.

Good luck old fellows. Try your wings
God gave that right to striving things
From mocking birds to men and kings
Let naught your courage daunt,
If from the ranks you hope to rise
Don't wait and wish to win a prize
GO AFTER WHAT YOU WANT.

JUANITA.

Navy Perfects Deadly Shell

Washington, Jan. 22.—"non-ricochet" shell, a weapon as deadly as the depth charge, is the newest device perfected by the navy ordinance experts for use against German submarines. The new shell dives when it strikes the surface of the water instead of bouncing, as do ordinary missiles used in either naval or coast defense artillery. The charge can be made to explode on contact with a solid surface under the water or at a predetermined depth.

The value of the latest anti-submarine weapon lies in the fact that shots which fall slightly short will be of as much effect as those which register direct hits.

The Navy Department has forbidden the publication of details of the invention but it is known that the British and French admiralties also have adopted it.

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

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.

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.

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. Nov 9

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

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

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

Telephone Manager Change.
D. E. Daniel, manager of the telephone company here, has been transferred to Snyder. L. E. Stone of Stamford takes his place here.

Mr. Daniel has been here several months and was very popular. We hate to see him leave, but wish him success in his new field of endeavor.

Mr Stone has moved his family here and already assumed charge. He comes well recommended.

WANTED—Good sacks are wanted by The Anchor Mercantile Company. t1

Mr. Gafford Hurt
J. W. Gafford was right badly hurt last Wednesday night, when Jess Ferguson, who was driving W. E. Lowe's service car, struck him, knocking him down. At first it seemed that he was only slightly hurt, but later he became unconscious. He is rational only part of the time. The full extent of his injuries were not known. The driver failed to see him, because of the wind shield being muddy.

P. L. McCLARY CONTRACTOR

You had better see me about your leaky roofs, I know how to fix them. I guarantee. Phone 19 25tfc

JUNIOR RED CROSS NOW

We have started the Junior Branch of the Red Cross, for all children under 12 years of age. The annual dues are 25 cents. We would like to see every child a member to fight the Kaiser.

Below are the members so far—
Amy Bradshaw.
Maude Highsmith.
Fay Lynn McDonald.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Porter of Tulia were visitors in Merkel the past week, on account of the illness and death of Mrs. Porter's mother, Mrs. Amanda Browning.

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.

DUTY OF BANKS IN WAR FINANCING

To the Banks and Bankers of the Eleventh District:

You must bring to yourself a realization of the fact that in order for our participation in the Great War to be effective and to result in an early and successful termination of the War, it will be necessary for you to do your part towards financing our Government.

At present War is the business of the United States and your every effort must be exerted toward making it a successful business.

Primarily the banks must bear an important part of this burden and for a time forget the pleasures and satisfaction to be derived from large earnings and use every available dollar in financing our Government between the bond issues by purchases of the several issues of Treasury Certificates of Indebtedness which are being offered from time to time.

The financing of enterprises and business not necessary to the conduct of the war nor incidental thereto, and the financing of speculation must immediately STOP.

While banks could probably make larger profits from such transactions, the rate of interest on these short time certificates of indebtedness is sufficiently large to give a fair return on the investment, and our President has said: "Patriotism and Profits must not be mentioned in the same breath."

No bank in the entire United States can afford to fail subscribe for these certificates, and the time to send in your subscription is TODAY.

To see of you the purchase of these certificates may mean a sacrifice, but to what an infinitesimal extent does your sacrifice compare to that supreme sacrifice which is being made, and will be made, by thousands of our men who go to the front to do the actual fighting for us.

The Secretary of the Treasury has allotted to the Eleventh Federal Reserve District a minimum of Ten Million Dollars out of a total of Four Hundred Million Dollars of the present offering of certificates, which are dated January 22, 1918, and will mature on April 22, 1918, and with a proper response from our banks this minimum should be several times over-subscribed.

Read our circular of January 18 announcing this offering and communicate with us immediately.

R. L. VanZandt.

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., Mfgs., Buffalo, N. Y. adv.

Boy Scouts to be Official Messengers of the Committee on Public Information.

President Wilson has sent the following letter to Mr. Colin H. Livingstone, President, of National Council, Boy Scouts of America:

"My Dear Mr. Livingstone: "I desire to entrust the Boy Scouts of America with a new and important commission, to make them the Government despatch bearers in carrying to the homes of their community the pamphlets on the war, prepared by the Committee on Public Information. The excellent services performed by the Boy Scouts in the past encourages me to believe that this new task will be cheerfully and faithfully discharged.

"Yours sincerely, "Woodrow Wilson."

The Boy Scouts of America numbering nearly 300,000, have responded to the request of the President with hearty unanimity and will undertake, as their first despatch bearing service, a distribution of copies of the President's Flag Day address, published by the Committee on Public Information in pamphlet form on September 15, 1917, and regarded as the most comprehensive statement that has been issued by the Government in regard to the fundamental issues of the war.

It is the desire of the Administration that this pamphlet be carefully studied by the people of the country and the Boy Scouts, acting as despatch bearers directly under command of the President, will place the document in the hands of five million citizens of every city, town and hamlet of the country, with specific instructions that its contents be carefully considered and that the reader then make it his personal responsibility to see that at least one other citizen of the community also read these copies. By these means a minimum of ten millions of thoughtful citizens will have had this important message impressed upon their minds or will have been refreshed in memory as to the principles of the war as expressed by the President on September 15.

The pamphlets will be sent through the mails to the individual scouts and in each package there will be a manual for the guidance of these young Government messengers. Acting under the local instructions of the Scoutmasters the bearers will deliver such printed matter as may be issued from time to time by the Committee on Public Information to citizens, carefully avoiding duplication. They will accept signed receipts from the persons visited and also their personal assurance that they will comply with the request made, particularly to aid distribution by passing the documents to others.

Each Boy Scout is provided with an identification card, bearing his name, troop number, city and State, and declaring his appointment as an aide to the Committee on Public Information to serve as a despatch bearer for the Government during the period covered by his registration, under the direction of the National Council, Boy Scouts of America. President Wilson's letter requesting the service is reproduced on the identification card.

Each Scout despatch bearer will have access to franked postal cards, returnable to the Committee on Public Information, by means of which any citizen may order mailed to him any of the various war pamphlets that the Committee on Public Information has published during the war.

ENDORSEMENT

Mabank, Texas, County of Kaufman, January, 10, 1918.—We have known for a great many years that the peanut was the coming crop for many sandy lands of Texas. We also heartily endorse the plans as outlined by the Texas Peanut Works of Texas and feel no hesitancy in taking an interest in this company and asking our friends and acquaintances to do likewise, believing it to be worthy of any patriotic Texan's aid.

Jno. T. Jate, banker; C. F. Olson, banker; W. M. Covey, editor; Jno. Carter, Jr., banker; J. C. Howard, merchant; Walter Tynes, Jr., banker; C. M. Hearn, banker; B. C. Andrews, physician; L. B. Hale, railroad man; H. L. Williams, jeweler; J. W. Flanagan, mechanic; Henry Eubanks, merchant; J. F. Foster, merchant; G. Osborne, notary public; J. A. Griffin, real estate agent; J. H. Woolverton, merchant; A. E. Morris, merchant;

W. T. Morris, merchant; H. P. Powell, merchant; Chas Monaghan, merchant; F. H. Jarrell, merchant; C. H. Thompson, merchant; Sutton Bros., merchants; W. E. Hart, merchant; E. E. Treadwell, Jr., merchant; John Garvin, blacksmith; W. F. Waggoner, merchant; J. H. Strait, merchant; Geo. Cockrell, stockman; D. B. Lewis, real estate; W. J. Adair, marshal; B. F. Holsombeck, farmer; C. C. Hudson, merchant; L. C. Spikes, mayor; R. F. Orman, town clerk; E. F. McShan, ginmer; W. E. Butler, ginmer; A. J. Tyler, merchant; W. L. Campbell, merchant; K. Morris, farmer; R. C. Nesmith, farmer; T. M. Pippin, farmer; C. P. Williams, farmer; B. F. Lewis, farmer; Russom Mallory, farmer; A. G. Woolman, blacksmith; L. W. Treadwell, merchant.

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.

SOLDIER KILLED BY CAR.

All the Great Merkel Country was saddened when word reached here of the fatal accident to Clarence Hodge of Shiloh. Last Sunday afternoon he was returning to Camp Bowie from a visit to his wife, who resides in another part of the city, and as he got off of the car, we walked in front of another car going in an opposite direction, meeting death instantly. This is the third one of our soldier boys to come back a corpse. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Hodge and is survived by his parents, five brothers and two sisters.

The body arrived in Merkel Tuesday night, accompanied by a couple of soldier boys. The funeral was preached by Rev. O. B. Tatum at White Church Wednesday afternoon. Interments were made immediately afterwards at that place. A large concourse of friends and relatives were in attendance.

Mr. Hodge only married a few months ago. He was a congenial young man of strong character. He was a member of the Kale Methodist church.

He was full of hope and ambition, and was loyal to the call of his country. As we lay another heroic soul to rest, we can but express our deepest sympathy for the young wife, for the family and friends. He has paid the greatest price that man can pay, and his sacrifice was for every liberty loving man and woman of this great community.

T. M. Clinton Dead.

T. M. Clinton, age 73, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. L. Tucker at 9 o'clock, Monday night. Mr. Clinton was thrown from a wagon in Abilene on September 3 and never fully recovered. His hip was broken and took considerable time to knit back together, and during the meantime paralysis and kidney trouble set up and owing to his advanced age, he wasn't strong enough to combat the complications. He was considered an old settler in this section. Seven children survive him, Melton, George, Olan, Sam and John, and Mrs. Etta Tucker and Mrs. Viola Larson of Los Angeles, Cal. Only Mrs. Tucker and George were able to attend the funeral. His wife has been dead about eight years.

Mr. Clinton was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, an old and honored citizen. Burial took place at Stanton, beside his wife, Tuesday afternoon. Stanton was his old home for many years.

Our full sympathy goes out to the bereaved in this hour of their affliction.

J. N. Shelton, who has been nursing T. M. Clinton for the past four months, is ready to assume his old duties, as Mr. Clinton succumbed to the injury and disease that have afflicted him during that time.

What is your school doing to help win the war? Have you begun to make your children feel,

Mr. Teacher, that they have a definite part to play in this great world conflict? Do they feel that they are a part of it—that they are helping to win by supporting our boys at the front?

Are you teaching them the great necessity of eliminating all waste and conserving in every way possible? Mr. Hoover has told us time after time that food will win the war. Is your school, and are your children, helping to win the war by saving food?

What are you doing with the scraps from the lunch basket? There should be few scraps, but always there must be some food that is not palatable.

This food that is not palatable for people is for pigs. Have you a pig at your school to eat that part of the food that too frequently thrown away?

There are approximately eight thousand rural school districts in Texas. Think of the help these eight thousand can give by raising a pig at every school. Almost any two hundred pound pig will bring \$30.00. If every school were to raise a two hundred pound pig this year the schools would produce \$240,000 worth of meat for our soldiers.

There are two economic reasons that make this project distinctly worth while. In the first place, our great task in America at present is to make everybody realize the necessity of food conservation and food production. The school has an excellent opportunity to do this through the feeding of a pig on lunch scraps. Hogs are becoming scarce in the country and we need to stimulate greater production.

A rural school in McLennon County raised two pigs in one year. Can't your school do half as well?

A. C. Browning of Dallas visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Browning, the past week.

SERVICE

We are carrying a first-class line of

DRUGS

and

ACCESSORIES

If we haven't got what you want, we will get it at once.

Courtesy is our motto always

SANDERS DRUG STORE

If You Want RESULTS

YOU can get them by advertising in this paper. It reaches the best class of people in this community.

Use this paper if you want some of their business.

Use This Paper

Remember

That every added subscriber helps to make this paper better for everybody

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.

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF

Tablets, Pencils, Stationery and a complete

line of

Drugs and Sundries

We appreciate your business

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

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

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's.
 The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 60 cents.

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. 31

AN IDLE DOLLAR IS KAISER'S ALLY

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS ARE TWO-FOLD—TEACH THRIFT AND HELP NATION TO SUPPLY HER NEEDS.

Mr. Frank Vanderlip, Chairman of the War Savings Committee, said in his Dallas address: "There are just three things you can do with a dollar; you can hoard it; you can spend it, or you can invest it. Now a hoarded dollar is a slacker dollar and it is not doing anything, but a dollar that is spent foolishly is the dollar that means you are competing with the Government for labor and material—it is a traitor dollar; it is the ally of Germany. There is nothing the Kaiser would like better than to see us going on with pleasure as usual, with comfort and luxury as usual; he would see us go on, demanding the things that prosperity has led us to think we want, to think that we can afford. We must wake up to the fact that the nation cannot afford to permit us to do the things that we have been able to do. We hear a lot of talk about a united nation, but we must have a united nation, united to the point of sacrifice, trained to self discipline and to see that democracy does not mean a Government in which we play no part. We are beginning to understand that we have a personal responsibility, every man, every woman, and every child, to help win the war. Now what are these War Savings Stamps. You have seen them in the windows; you have read something about them. They are little things; they cost a quarter, or \$4.12, and we expect to raise \$2,000,000,000 from them—the greatest financial transaction ever carried through in this country. Now what is back of it? One thing is that we are going to teach thrift to the whole nation and to a nation that needs it terribly. We are going to have 30,000,000 stockholders in the United States. If we are really to teach thrift, really build up character so that it will stand self-discipline, make men and women and boys and girls ready to forego the thing of the moment that they may desire so that they may have something of greater value in the future, stimulate industry, encourage those old homely virtues, the virtues by which is to be measured the strength of the nation, then I believe we shall have gone a long way toward compensating us for the money cost of the war."

ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR PRIZE FOR THE BEST ESSAY ON THRIFT.

Louis Lipsitz, State Director, War Savings Committee, will give on April 15th, 1918, a War Savings Certificate of \$100.00 for the best essay on Thrift written by any child in school in Texas. Mr. Lipsitz says: "In nearly every county the County Chairmen of War Savings are giving prizes for the best essay written by any school child in Texas, and the essays which take the county prize will compete for the state prize. I am extremely anxious that the 1,200,000 school children learn the basic lesson of thrift and economy. If this can be accomplished, it means the solution of the present economic difficulties of our nation. If thrift is studied and practiced, the great demand for goods and service for running the war will be easily met, so I expect that school children will study thrift and practice it. The County Chairmen will give their prize, select the best essay in the county and send it to me in a letter by April 1st, and of the prize essays from each of the 258 counties, I will have a committee to select the best one, which will receive the \$100 prize. I suggest that these essays be not longer than 500 words—that the age of the child be indicated; that they be written in ink, on one side of the paper, by the child competing, with a signed statement that the child received no help in composing the essay, that is, I want it to be the result of the original thought of the child after he or she has studied thoroughly the literature that is obtainable everywhere on the general subject of thrift."

THRIFT STAMPS FOR TIPS.

In all of the hotels and restaurants in Texas a new plan is being inaugurated by Jesse Johnson, one of the Captains in Dallas, working continuously on the sale of War Savings and Thrift Stamps. Mr. Johnson says: "Instead of giving a Pullman porter or waiter a quarter, the thing to do is to say 'give him a Thrift Stamp.' If he says 'have him a Thrift Stamp' instead of a quarter, and if not, give him a card with a stamp on it. This starts him in the War Savings idea and impresses him with the necessity for co-operation on the part of every person, regardless of wealth or station."

BARGAINS IN STAMPS.

Mr. Frank A. Vanderlip, formerly President of the National City Bank of New York City, and now Chairman of the National War Savings Committee, said in his speech in Dallas on December 16th: "This is the first time in history when the United States Government ever offered any

thing at bargain prices," and explained that the plan of the Government in selling War Savings Stamps reads like an Oklahoma Oil Well advertisement—the selling price of a \$5.00 stamp being \$4.12 in January, \$4.13 in February and the price raised one cent per month all during the year. "This should especially appeal to the women," said Mr. Vanderlip, "and cause them to buy now rather than put it off because they cost more as the months go by."

\$5.00 BILLS SELLING AT \$4.12.

"The United States Government is selling \$5.00 War Savings Stamps at \$4.12 in January, \$4.13 in February, raising the price one cent per month throughout the year," said Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the War Savings Committee. "and I want to impress the fact that a \$5.00 bill today will not buy as much or as many of the pleasures of life for which we save money as will a War Savings Stamp when it matures January 1st, 1923. The war cannot be fought with paper money; we cannot wad up a \$5.00 bill and shoot it at the Kaiser and do any damage; that bill is merely a demand for wheat, or wool, or gasoline, or some other material which our Government actually needs to successfully win the war, so the wise thing for us to do is not to spend money now but loan it to our Government, get 4% interest compounded quarterly for it, and then five years from now, the Government will cash the stamp and we will have the money to spend—then it will buy more of the things which we want than it will today so that we can spend later. It is not only good sense but it is patriotic as well to buy War Savings Stamps."

A NOVEL SCHEME SUGGESTED.

R. H. Alexander, County Chairman for Coleman County on War Savings work, has put in practice a new scheme to interest school children on the subject of War Savings Stamps. Mr. Louis Lipsitz, State Director, says: "I endorse Mr. Alexander's idea and suggest that in every school a picture of the Kaiser be drawn and put up in the school room. Every child who buys a 25-cent Thrift Stamp is entitled to stick a pin in the Kaiser's picture and this will be a demonstration of the activity of school children in blotting out Kaiserism and autocracy and showing in a graphic way that the 25-cent piece saved and loaned to the Government in the purchase of a Thrift Stamp is going to help to save the child from autocracy and poverty."

SAVE THE CHILD FROM AUTOCRACY AND POVERTY.

This is the new slogan of the War Savings Committee engaged in selling \$91,000,000 of War Savings Stamps in Texas. The Federal Government wants every man, woman and child to save and invest their savings in stamps. These stamps mature January 1st, 1923, and earn an interest rate of 4% compounded quarterly. This is not only the best investment possible in war times, but also as President Wilson has said, "is intended to correct our unpardonable habits of waste and extravagance." The great thing to be accomplished is to preach thrift from every pulpit, teach it in every school and practice it in the home. This is war work in which all may join; it not only helps win the war which saves our children from autocracy but it saves them from poverty as well.

ENGLAND SAVES \$650,000,000 A YEAR.

The working people of Great Britain are doing their utmost to help win the war by denying themselves every luxury and loaning the money saved to their Government. The English plan of War Savings Stamps is very much like ours. In the past eighteen months the English people have not only bought \$650,000,000 worth of stamps, but the new spirit of thrift has caused savings bank deposits to increase over 100%. There are great signs up all over England, reading, "It is not good form to dress extravagantly," and a woman or man who appears on the street whose dress indicates extravagance, is not only subject to criticism, but in many cases has been attacked and beaten.

WAR SAVINGS SCHEMES.

In Amarillo, each boy who pledges himself to buy Thrift Stamps, receives a poster to hang up in his window, reading, "Thrift boy here, I am working for Uncle Sam,"—then he gets a card signed by Mr. Mayer, Chairman of the Potter County Division which shows he is a member of the army of boys in Amarillo who are ready and anxious to work; who need everything they can get to do and who have promised to save that money for Uncle Sam.

Abe Sobel, a twelve-year-old newsboy at Beaumont, Tex., won the \$5.00 prize offered by County Chairman Jas. P. Weed in the Thrift Contest there last week. In five days he earned \$3.79. The only requirement stipulated in Mr. Weed's prize who won must earn the money and submit a statement showing how he earned it. Abe was the first boy to turn in his results, and as a consequence, he now owns two Government securities that in 1923 will be worth \$19.00.

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 5½ 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 porches, lighting 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, 40 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.

GOOD LOCATION FOR DOCTOR

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 1¼ 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.
G. C. Hodges.

Andrew Archer.
Roy Adams.
Britt Baker.
Fauss Banner.
Edgar Breeze.
W. B. Brown.
Arthur Derrington.
Frank J. Ferrer.
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.
Sherley 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. Tarpley.
N. D. Teaff, Tye.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Jasper L. Hickey, 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.

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, Macoon, Ill., writes, "I have found it gives the quickest relief of any cough remedy I have ever used." Mrs. James A. Knott, Chillicothe, Mo., says "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."

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

For further particulars write or call on

The Merkel Mail