



## WORK OF A BRAVE PEOPLE

### Trent Occupies New School Building—Work of School Making Rapid Progress

We took advantage of an opportunity to visit Trent and go through her magnificent school building last Tuesday. The school had been using the building only a week. It is the crowning crown of splendid endeavor by as patriotic, lofty-minded citizenship as ever blessed a community of this great commonwealth. In the face of adversity when fire had destroyed a good building, when the doors of heaven were shut up and drouth prevailed the land, this citizenship rose up in mighty purpose and voted bonds that has placed a building on their campus that would do credit to a city many times the size of Trent. The building stands out in splendid relief as an index to a population whose purpose reaches out to their posterity in beneficent helpfulness.

We called upon Superintendent Roy C. Scuddy and found him to be aggressive, purposeful, planning a school system that contemplates affiliation with the State University next year. Mr. Scuddy is from Simmons College, a young man subject to draft, but the patrons of the school are very hopeful that he will not be called until the close of the term. Speaking of his faculty, he said he felt proud of every teacher, believing they could hardly be beat, and that he felt that every one was putting forth every energy to the end of efficiency in the school system. He said he felt that the student body was the best he had ever seen, full of "pep," and possessing a marvelous amount of school spirit.

F. H. Toombs is principal of the school, a very affable and able educator. He is over the science and mathematical departments. Mr. Scuddy is over the English and history departments.

Miss Mable Terry, a graduate of Denton Normal, has charge of the latin department and is doing fine work.

Miss Delfa Russell, also a graduate of Denton Normal, is primary teacher and is specialist with the little folks.

Miss Minnie Coats teaches the third and fourth grades and is doing splendid work.

Miss Tennie Pope teaches the fifth and sixth grades. She has a room full and is keeping them hard at work, making envious records.

The school enrollment is 262 with a remarkable attendance. The graduating class consists of nine, the war having effected this part of the school work to an appreciable extent.

Athletics is receiving marked attention in the school system. It is under the direction of Mr. Toombs and is doing effective work. A fine plan is being arranged, grounds prepared and everything is in readiness to bring this feature to the front. Mr. Toombs has had previous experience along this line, having won his spurs as a participant in former athletic contests.

The building is three-story, four class rooms being on the third floor and a big shipment of books and furnishings are expected daily. The building is wired, it being the belief of the school board that in the near future the electric power line would be extended to that place. The auditorium is the unique part of the building, with a seating capacity of 550. It can

# Thrift



## WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

Thrift Stamps cost 25 cents each and draw no interest. You can buy them from your letter carrier, either city or rural route at the post office or your bank. You will be given a card to paste them on. This costs nothing. There are spaces for 16 Thrift Stamps on this card. When your card is full, take it to your post office or bank any time, with a few cents additional and your card will be exchanged for an interest-bearing War Savings Certificate worth \$5 on Jan. 1, 1923. This gives you 4 per cent interest compounded quarterly. You can buy 20 War Savings Certificates at one time. They will cost you \$2.50, and their face value at the time of redemption, January 1, 1923, will be \$5.00. War Savings Certificates may be registered at any post office of the First, Second or Third Class. War Savings Certificates may be converted into cash at the post office where issued if you need the money. You will get interest, too, at about 3 per cent.

## STAY the Hand That Would Hoard the Pennies—



### Guide It to Patriotic and Profitable Investment

The childish instinct tends usually toward saving. But to this instinct must be added a purpose in the saving. The mere hoarding of coin pleases a child's fancy, but it does not teach the lesson of thrift. Teach your child his first lesson of patriotism by making him a factor in aiding the government, and his first lesson of investment by placing his money where it earns interest. Thrift Stamps furnish the government with money for carrying on the war. They earn 4 per cent interest. Replace the penny bank with a Thrift Stamp Book.

This Advertisement Paid for and Donated by

## JONES IS CONVICTED APPEALS

The Jones murder trial resulted in conviction, the defendant being sentenced to the penitentiary for a term of 25 years. An appeal has been filed.

From the time Lyons, a wealthy cattle man of New Mexico, was murdered, the case has been full of sensational features.

be used for all public gatherings and is of easy access.

The building is modernly furnished throughout, except the auditorium, the furnishings for which are expected at any time.

The people are all proud of their building, and they have a right to be. The citizens gathered on the ground last Friday and had a "Clean-up Day." All the rubbish, stumps and mesquite trees were taken off. The grounds are as clean as can be. Athletic grounds have been laid off, a complete waterworks system installed, and it seems that not a thing has been left done that would in any manner hamper the work of the school.

For the efficiency of the school, the faculty deserves great credit; for the rapid progress and spirit of the school the students deserve great credit; for the wonderful vision of a great building, the school board deserves great credit; for the loyalty of the patrons, the citizenship deserves great credit, for God has blessed the whole assemblage and the whole community with a degree of congeniality, progress and high pur-

## 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.

**COTTON SEED**—I have arranged for some good East Texas cotton seed, that will cost you about \$1.65 per bushel f. o. b. Merkel. If you are interested see me at once. G. B. Brown.

**FOUND**—Sack of wheat near Merkel. Call on or see P. T. Hains, Merkel, Texas.

**COTTON SEED**—About 1000 bushels pure Mebane cotton seed direct from Lockhart community, at \$2.25 a bushel. W. H. Laney. 15t4

### NOTICE

We buy and sell second hand Fords. See us if you have a second hand Ford for sale. Merkel Motor Company.

**TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER**—At Merkel Mail office.

**WANTED**—Good young fresh milk cow. S. F. Haynes.

pose that makes them rank exceedingly high in the choice land of the living.

### ACT OF DISLOYALTY

It is reported that one or two parties, residing near Merkel, were in the habit of going from place to place, buying a dollar's worth of sugar, until the amount has run into the hundreds of pounds. These parties may get into serious trouble at any time. They are not keeping the spirit or the letter of the law. We hate to know that any

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

Fresh shipment typewriter ribbons just received at Merkel Mail office.

**BARRED ROCK EGGS FOR SALE**—A setting of 15 for \$1. Mrs. W. A. Campbell, Route 5, Merkel, Texas. 1t3

**FOR SALE**—A few good shoats at my place 13 miles south of Merkel.—J. S. Touchstone. 2tp.

**FOR RENT**—8-room house with lights, water in house, bath, close in. 5-room house east front 2 lots, lights windmill, plenty of water for garden good location. 4-room house close in well located. W. O. Boney. tfc

### WANTED

We pay cash for second hand Fords. See us before you sell. Merkel Motor Company.

**FOR SALE**—One of the best homes on College Heights, at a bargain. For further particulars see S. G. Houston, 19th and Orange Street, Abilene Texas.

of our citizens will do this. One party in particular lives out on the Divide.

Recently a man out in the Canyon purchased several months supply of flour. This is also a disloyal act. If every man followed suit the law would be entirely worthless.

**FOR SALE**—Mares, Mules and horses, at my Wagon yard balance of week. W. A. Helums. 1tp

**FOR SALE**—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

## FOOD SPEAKERS IN MERKEL

The Food and Feed Crop Production Campaigners met at the opera house last Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Nearly 400 people attended the lectures.

Messrs. Kinsley and Kinard Team No. 5 made talks on food and feed crops and their importance to the winning of the war. Judge J. M. Wagstaff member of the State Council of Defense, made what was pronounced one of his greatest patriotic speeches. With the party at Merkel besides Judge Wagstaff, who is touring the West with them, were War Emergency Agent Morrison and County Judge E. M. Overshiner.

The point the speakers are impressing on the western mind is the fact that every indication points to a cotton surplus this year, that the continued drouth may cut the Western cotton production short but that it cannot stop growing of maize and sorghum crops, for which there is and will continue to be a tremendous demand. The pinto bean was urged as an excellent crop for the West.

### GERMAN AUTOMATIC

The Merkel Motor Co, had on display this week a German automatic luger.

It is a pocket gun, shooting eleven times and carrying 2000 yards. It is the property of V. B. Sublett who was home on a visit last week. He left Sunday for Fort Worth for military examination.

J. A. Bennett, Hartford, Ky., placed a subscription with the Mail the past week.

## 6,500,000,000 LBS. OF MEAT FOOD

### What City and Country Can Produce in the Form of Poultry and Eggs.

If poultry production is doubled next year, as is rapidly possible with this city and county co-operation, we will have 6,500,000,000 pounds of meat food, in the form of poultry and eggs. This will release almost that many pounds of other meats,—pork and beef, for our Armies in Europe, and for the Arimes and civilian populations of the Allies.

If we do not produce this amount of poultry we may find ourselves short of meat food to just that extent.

It is a patriotic duty of the utmost importance that every farmer and every person in town do his part in producing this increase of poultry, which will help to win the war. It is also a profitable proposition for the average individual. Both town and farm families will produce, at its lowest cost, meat food for their own use, and by putting up eggs for winter use will further reduce living expenses.

The poultry will be handled as a by-product of the farm and back yard; each flock large enough in numbers to utilize the scraps and waste from the kitchen and the "pick-ups" around the place, supplemented by some feed. But no flock should be out of proportion to the ground space and kitchen wastage—not so large that feed will become, relatively, too costly an item. The idea is not only to increase our poultry production, but to do it economically; to do it as very little cost, by turning the waste of kitchens and backyards all over the United States into chickens and eggs. Fowls are the only medium through which a good deal of this waste can be transformed into a valuable food product.

### YARN HAS ARRIVED

Call at the Red Cross rooms for yarn for knitting socks, and sweaters, etc. When knitting for the soldiers please use Red Cross needles.

Mrs. H. F. Groene.

### 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 Judge:  
E. M. Overshiner.  
For County Clerk:  
H. Holland Teaff.  
Henry R. Hicks.  
J. D. Hilton  
J. L. Mingus  
For Sheriff:  
J. T. Dodson.  
John Bond.  
For County Treasurer:  
Austin Fitts.  
For County Tax Assessor:  
John H. Vance.  
For County School Supt.  
J. S. Smith.  
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.  
W. R. Britton

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
<b>CASH &amp; EXCHANGE.....</b>	<b>128,507.98</b>
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$388,902.88</b>

**LIABILITIES**

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

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

**SOLDIER LOY WRITES**

Dear Mother:—I received the box of eats yesterday. Words cannot express how I enjoyed eating the doughnuts, cakes, and jelly. I remembered you and how I would like to be at home where I could say, thanks, for butter and etc. I was really surprised when I found you had neglected putting in some sausage. Uncle Sam gives his boys plenty to eat however. Owing to the scarcity of sugar we do not get as much sweets as we would like. I will say just here that Uncle Sam is very careful in the conservation of sugar, wheat, meat, and coal. Not only is he urging you people to conserve, he is practicing the same thing in Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

Mother, several of the boys tell me I am getting fat. I wonder if such a stack of bones like my self could ever get fat. I am sure that is too good to be true. I weighed last Saturday and weighed 160 pounds. Now you see I was not joking when I said we got plenty to eat.

Mother, you have asked me several time to tell you all about sailor life. I have neglected this for the simple reason that I wanted to get more acquainted with the life. I realize that I can not do justice to you or my self however, I will try to tell you a few things about the Navy. 1st. I will tell you of our trip to the Great Lakes. You remember I enlisted December 15. The same afternoon at six o'clock we were marched down Main street, 196 in number, to the depot. There we found three pullman cars in waiting for us. We were soon loaded and on our way. Most of the boys felt about half as good as I did, which is good enough for anybody. Some of the boys went to bed, others shot craps, while some were saying good-bye to dear old Dallas, Texas. When I awoke the next morning all I could see was snow and hills. We were then in Arkansas I noticed the country very close, and if all of Arkansas and Missouri is as rough as that along-

side the railroad, I do not care to move over. We reached St. Louis about dark. I jumped off the car and ran across to a little cafe and bought a pie. I was eating this pie when we crossed the Mississippi river. I tell you the Mississippi is some stream of water. We reached Chicago the next morning about ten o'clock after a forty hour ride. The man in charge of us dismissed us until one o'clock. We got to see a little of the city. At one o'clock we took the train for Great Lakes, which is about thirty-five miles from Chicago. When we reached the station we were lined up and marched inside of the main camp. There all the chewing tobacco, cigarettes, whiskey and patent medicine and fire arms were take away from us. As soon as this was done we were marched to the detention camp. About six o'clock we were again lined up and marched down to the Quartermaster's Department where we were given our bedding, which consisted of one mattress, two woolen blankets and a hammock, with cover. We returned to our barracks and soon heard the chow call. Four men rushed to the (galley) that is where the chow is cooked, for chow. It was my luck to have to help wash dishes the first night. We all retired early as we were so tired. About twelve o'clock a couple of fellows rushed into our barrack and hollowed, hit the deck: That was a little unusual for us fellows so we did not get out quick enough. Again they shouted shake a leg; shake a leg; They wanted to stencil our bedding. We asked them if this was Navy life and they replied it was not even an introduction, said the worst was still to come. The next thing was breakfast. We were called at five o'clock. Had to scrub the deck, and head before we could go for breakfast. Soon after breakfast we were again marched to the Quartermaster's Department where we were given our uniforms, you ought to see me in mine, if I do say so myself, I look as good as \$500 a week would look to a

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

United States  
 Government  
 Depository  
 for  
 Postal Savings



Member Bank  
 in  
 Federal  
 Reserve  
 System

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

All forms of Commercial Banking  
 transacted with accuracy

We invite your account and will  
 extend every loan accommoda-  
 tion justified by Safe Banking  
 Methods

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

**LOCAL NEWS**

J. W. Powell of Fort Worth was in Merkel the past week.

I buy hens and roosters, A. L. Jobe, Kent Street Wagon Yard.

Mrs. D. Miller returned the past week from an extended visit with her husband at San Antonio.

Get your garden tools and water hose at the Anchor Mercantile Co.

Lenn Puckett of Floydada is visiting his mother, Mrs. E. P. Puckett, who is sick, this week.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Messrs, Ed moore and Ed Musick hied themselves to Buffalo Gap ravines, hills, rivulets and brush last Tuesday morning to make an attack on the hordes of squirrels that are said to infest that region.

Plenty corn at G. M. Sharps.

Misses Ruby Campbell, Irene Swann, Emma Houston, Ollie Teaff and Annie Lee Smith and Messrs. Holland and Nim Teaff motored to Abilene last Thursday evening to witness the Simmons-Baylor basket ball game.

Seed oats, at G. M. Sharps.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Coit of Plano are the happy parents of a fine baby boy. The little visitor was given the name, Henry Warren Coit. Mrs. Coit and the baby are reported doing nicely.

Choice hay at G. M. Sharps.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goliday and family of Abilene visited relatives and friends in Merkel last Saturday.

Mrs. S. J. Freeman, Sylvester, will rent her farm of 160 acres, 100 in cultivation, 2 miles of Stith and 6 miles northeast of Merkel; good improvements. t1stlp.

**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

**New Goods are Here**

New Gingham  
 New Percales  
 New Suitings  
 New Shirtings

**SEE**

New Kimona Silk  
 New Plaid Silks  
 New Stripe Silks  
 New Waist Silks

**New Romper and Work Pant Cloths**

See our Khaki Overall for Men at **\$1.45**  
 See our Pin Check boys Overall at **65c**

**Ladies new Waists, Dresses and Middies**  
**New Boots and Oxfords for Ladies**  
**New Hosiery, Ties and Shirts for Men**

**WE HAVE THE GOODS  
 AT THE RIGHT PRICE**

--- CASH TALKS ---

**The Brown D. G. Comp'ny**

motorman; Its fits me like an eel's skin. After I had given myself the once over, when I was all togged out, dressed to kill (the Germans). In a couple of days, they staked us to a lot of their furnishing's like shoes, sweaters, socks, and peacoat, and so fourth, and by the end of the week we had more stuff than the average young married couple starts out life with. Uncle Sam is sure good to his neephews, take it from me; I don't see how they can afford to give us all this stuff, and some of these guys are living better right now than they ever did in their lives.

We had to stay in detention camp nineteen days. Did not do much drilling as we had to be vaccinated. Not only were we vaccinated but received three shots in our left arm. The shots are not very severe although some of the boys keeled over as if they were dead. My vaccination is almost well now.

I believe this will give you a pretty good idea of what we have to go through with in getting our clothes, and the life in detention camp.

Will write again and tell you about Camp Perry. I will tell you about our Amusements, cleanliness, daily routine of work what we do and so on.

You may send this to the Merkel Mail as I promised the Editor I would write. If any of my friends see this letter and would like to answer, will appreciate their letter.

Joe M. Peterson, Company G. Fourth Reg. Camp Perry, Great Lakes, Ill.

The war has created a demand for stenographers and typewriter operators. You can prepare yourself for a position by the first of September at the Merkel Business College.

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

## QUARTER BUYS FIVE BULLETS

ONE THRIFT STAMP FILLS RIFLE'S MAGAZINE—BABY BOND GETS U. S. SOLDIER PAIR OF SHOES.

If you have an idea that your quarters won't help win the war and do lots of service when invested in thrift stamps and war savings stamps, just look over this table. The little bonds are translated in terms of soldier equipment. Here's how they stack up:

- 1 Thrift Stamp—5 Bullets.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Pair of Shoes.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—2 Woolen Shirts.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—4 Winter Undershirts.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Steel Helmet and \$1.12 over.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Shelter Tent and part payment on Overcoat.

Those quarters will do the Government lots of good. And remember you are not giving them away, but lending them at four per cent interest compounded quarterly.

A single thrift stamp doesn't look very large and the quarter it costs doesn't seem like it would count for very much, but that thrift stamp means five bullets for one of our soldiers—a clip of cartridges, they'll fill the magazine of his rifle. With them he may save his life and the lives of two or three American heroes in France.

These little war bonds will do lots of big things. Armies can be ammunitioned with them, hungry soldiers fed, fighters kept warm in No Man's land. Lives saved—enough of them will bring victory, save the Nation and liberate thousands of poor Europeans whose condition is worse than slavery.

They stand for patriotism, those little certificates which cost only a trifle. They are evidences of willingness to serve and back up the boys in the trenches. People who refrain from spending their money on unnecessary things and put it in the tiny war bonds don't have to talk about their loyalty—they are proving it, paying for it.

The price of the victory stamps can be saved or made in a thousand ways. Luxuries can be left unbought and thrift stamps purchased instead. Everyone can give up luxuries, because nearly everyone spends money for things he is not compelled to have. Money saved is money made. Let part of the money in the pay envelope be put to work for Uncle Sam and the Liberty boys. The old hen out there at the barn can help you. Every time she lays a dozen eggs you have the price of two thrift stamps—that's ten bullets. There are just lots of ways to earn the little treasury bonds.

These little stamps stand for something else—thrift and prosperity. You help the Government when you buy them, but you also help yourself. You have saved the money, it will come in handy later on, and when you get it back will get a lot of extra nickels and dimes and dollars with it. Every minute of the time since you lent it to the Government it will have been working for you—making more money for you. When you buy thrift stamps you are not giving away a thing, you are getting paid for everything you have done.

Have the pleasure of knowing that one of those soldiers "over there" is wearing a pair of shoes you bought for him; that a coat your money purchased is keeping him warm; that the ammunition you got for him will help him out of tight places and bring him back home to those who love him.

### PLANS MADE TO ENLIST 91,000 TEXAS FACTORY EMPLOYEES AS SAVERS

Plans to enlist the 91,000 factory workers of Texas as members of the thrift army have been suggested by L. J. Black of Beaumont, president of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the South, and approved by Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee.

The concern, of which Mr. Black is president, has given every one of its employes a thrift stamp. Since the gift was made, nearly every worker has added five or six stamps every week to his thrift card. That his employes will have no difficulty in buying the little war bonds, Mr. Black has established a stamp sales agency at the plant; the cashier acts as selling agent.

Mr. Lipsitz is anxious that all of the 5,054 manufacturing plants in Texas make it easy for their employes to buy savings stamps and help them to put aside a definite amount every week. He has suggested that all of these factories, large and small, make arrangements to place thrift and savings stamps on sale in their stores.

If each of the 91,000 workers buys a thrift stamp every week the aggregate weekly investment will be \$22,700. If they put up a quarter every week for a year, they will have lent the Government \$1,135,000. The Government pays 4 per cent interest compounded quarterly. The interest alone on this would be a snug little fortune.

### RECORDS BEING MADE IN THRIFT CAMPAIGN BY TEXAS PATRIOTS

Since it was announced by Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee, that the Government expects Texans to purchase thrift stamps and savings certificates valued at \$91,000,000, enthusiastic workers have rolled up a number of records that speak volumes for Lone Star patriotism.

The people of Cherokee county lead the counties in the State in the number of limit buyers—persons who have purchased the maximum amount of bonds the individual is permitted to own. The county has eighty-eight members in its Thousand Dollar Club; in Jacksonville alone, seventy-two persons have "gone the limit" and bought "baby bonds" valued at \$1,000.

A. G. Adams is county chairman. Letter carriers, the blue-clad men who plow through snow and mud and sun to fill Texas mail boxes, have become enthusiastic ministers of the new gospel of thrift which will help win the war and make possessors out of slackers. R. A. Furr, rural mail carrier in Collin County, has sold more than \$6,500 worth of stamps; \$2,200 of this represents the work of a single day. He travels 28.5 miles every week day and delivers over 4,000,000 pieces of mail every twelve months.

C. D. Morrow, a Sherman letter carrier has also hung up a record. He has sold the persons on his route little Government war bonds valued at more than \$1,162.84. In a single day he took orders for \$865.30 worth of thrift stamps.

The business men and bankers of Abilene wanted to tell Taylor County people what an excellent and patriotic form of investment is the purchase of thrift stamps, so they used six full page advertisements and thirty smaller ones in the Taylor County Times to tell Uncle Sam's story. The hearty co-operation of Texas newspaper men is piling up records of publicity and patriotism everywhere.

Tucker Royall lives in Palestine. He's a busy man, but he found time to sell \$1,000 certificates to each of thirty Palestine business men and Anderson County farmers and run a bank. Every bank should be a thrift stamp sales agency and advise its patrons to put some of their savings in war certificates, Mr. Royall says.

More frequently than not lackers are slackers. The county has no need for the one and no use for the other.

### APPROPRIATE BIRTHDAY GIFTS.

The most appropriate birthday gifts this year are thrift stamps and war savings stamps. The practice of giving the little money saving bonds has already sprung up in Texas. Such a gift has deep significance and it may be the means of starting the one who receives it on the road to thrift and wealth, especially children. Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee, points out.

### ROUNTREE W. S. S. ENTHUSIAST.

Lee J. Rountree of Georgetown, secretary and former president of the National Editorial Association, is an enthusiastic supporter of the thrift doctrine. He is a heavy investor in war savings stamps and he urges others to buy them.

### SHERMAN PEOPLE THRIFTY.

Sherman people are religiously practicing the thrift lessons urged by the government. Not only are they putting something aside every day for war bond purchasing, but they have decided to invest the interest from their Liberty bonds in war savings stamps. Sherman people have a yearly revenue of over \$40,000 from their Liberty bonds. By converting this money into the "baby bonds," they are making the interest earn interest.

### LESSONS OF THRIFT.

W. F. Doughty, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, has promised that 1,000,000 of the 1,200,000 school children in Texas will be told about War Savings Stamps and the lesson of thrift impressed upon them. Superintendent Doughty has made many speeches throughout the state of War Savings work and through him there has been distributed to the 39,000 school teachers of Texas an outline of the three weeks' campaign that is now being carried on in the schools, and it is expected that this will be the foundation of a regular course of study in the new ideas of goods and service, and the necessity for economy for the purpose of winning the war.

### PASTE IT ON.

If a Thrift Stamp you can buy, Paste it on. Biff the kaiser in the eye. Paste it on. Don't forget, 'twill help you, too. Interest on it will accrue, And 'twill all come back to you, Paste it on.

## 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, lightning rods, \$300 acetylene gas plant with lights and light fixtures in every room. Adjacent improvements include brick and cement cistern, storm house, smoke house with counter, meat cabinet fly proof, shelves, etc., 32-barrel zinc tank, large chicken house, cow lot that will house 5 cows with shed covered with new corrugated iron; granary 32 feet long that will house 2500 bushels of grain, built of 6x6 sills, 2x6 studs, with 11-foot shed, costing over \$300; well built shop building, with large side room; windmill, brand new, with everlasting water; barn 33x28 feet, well built, and high plank fence 2-acre hog lots, with partition, hog sheds and feed troughs; yard for little chickens, rat and varmint proof, with well built house; outhouse that can be used for cotton pickers, servant house or for storage purposes. These improvements are located systematically and a nice distance from each other.

Of the 540 acres in this place, 330 are in cultivation and 210 in pasture. Adjoining the improvements just mentioned, is a pasture of 80 acres, with tank that has never been dry.

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

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Owner has lived on the place for 10 years. The crops were short this year. Last year he made 80 bales off of 60 acres. For several years previous he never fell below one-third of a bale per acre.

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"There has never been a similar body of men to lead as clean lives as our American soldiers in France. They have entered the war with the highest devotion to duty and with no other idea than to perform these duties in most efficient manner possible. They fully realize their obligation to their own people, their friends and the country. A rigid program of instruction is carried out daily with traditional American enthusiasm. Engaged in healthy, interesting exercises in the open air, with simple diets, officers and men, alike trained athletes, are ready for their tasks. Forbidden the use of strong drink and protected by stringent regulations against evils, and supported by their own moral courage, their good behavior is the subject of most favorable comments, especially by our allies. American mothers may rest assured that their sons are a credit to them and to the Nation, and they may well look forward to the proud day when on the battle field these splendid men will shed a new luster on American manhood."

For further particulars write or call on

## The Merkel Mail

## QUARTER BUYS FIVE BULLETS

ONE THRIFT STAMP FILLS RIFLE'S MAGAZINE—BABY BOND GETS U. S. SOLDIER PAIR OF SHOES.

If you have an idea that your quarters won't help win the war and do lots of service when invested in thrift stamps and war savings stamps, just look over this table. The little bonds are translated in terms of soldier equipment. Here's how they stack up:

- 1 Thrift Stamp—5 Bullets.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Pair of Shoes.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—2 Woolen Shirts.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—4 Winter Undershirts.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Steel Helmet and \$1.12 over.
- 1 War Savings Stamp—1 Shelter Tent and part payment on Overcoat.

Those quarters will do the Government lots of good. And remember you are not giving them away, but lending them at four per cent interest compounded quarterly.

A single thrift stamp doesn't look very large and the quarter it costs doesn't seem like it would count for very much, but that thrift stamp means five bullets for one of our soldiers—a clip of cartridges, they'll fill the magazine of his rifle. With them he may save his life and the lives of two or three American heroes in France.

These little war bonds will do lots of big things. Armies can be ammunitioned with them, hungry soldiers fed, fighters kept warm in No Man's land. Lives saved—enough of them will bring victory, save the Nation and liberate thousands of poor Europeans whose condition is worse than slavery.

They stand for patriotism, those little certificates which cost only a trifle. They are evidences of willingness to serve and back up the boys in the trenches. People who refrain from spending their money on unnecessary things and put it in the tiny war bonds don't have to talk about their loyalty—they are proving it, paying for it.

The price of the victory stamps can be saved or made in a thousand ways. Luxuries can be left unthought and thrift stamps purchased instead. Everyone can give up luxuries, because nearly everyone spends money for things he is not compelled to have. Money saved is money made. Let part of the money in the pay envelope be put to work for Uncle Sam and the Liberty boys. The old hen out there at the barn can help you. Every time she lays a dozen eggs you have the price of two thrift stamps—that's ten bullets. There are just lots of ways to earn the little treasury bonds.

Those little stamps stand for something else—thrift and prosperity. You help the Government when you buy them, but you also help yourself. You have saved the money. It will come in handy later on, and when you get it back will get a lot of extra nickles and dimes and dollars with it. Every minute of the time since you lent it to the Government it will have been working for you—making more money for you. When you buy thrift stamps you are not giving away a thing, you are getting paid for everything you have done.

Have the pleasure of knowing that one of those soldiers "over there" is wearing a pair of shoes you bought for him; that a coat your money purchased is keeping him warm; that the ammunition you got for him will help him out of tight places and bring him back home to those who love him.

### PLANS MADE TO ENLIST 91,000 TEXAS FACTORY EMPLOYEES AS SAVERS

Plans to enlist the 91,000 factory workers of Texas as members of the thrift army have been suggested by L. J. Black of Beaumont, president of one of the largest manufacturing concerns in the South, and approved by Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee.

The concern, of which Mr. Black is president, has given every one of its employees a thrift stamp. Since the gift was made, nearly every worker has added five or six stamps every week to his thrift card. That his employees will have no difficulty in buying the little war bonds, Mr. Black has established a stamp sales agency at the plant; the cashier acts as selling agent.

Mr. Lipsitz is anxious that all of the 5,984 manufacturing plants in Texas make it easy for their employees to buy savings stamps and help them to put aside a definite amount every week. He has suggested that all of these factories, large and small, make arrangements to place thrift and war savings stamps on sale in their plants.

If each of the 91,000 workers buys a thrift stamp every week the aggregate weekly investment will be \$22,750. If they put up a quarter every week for a year, they will have lent the Government \$1,137,500. The Government pays 4 per cent interest compounded quarterly. The interest alone on this would be a snug little fortune.

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### RECORDS BEING MADE IN THRIFT CAMPAIGN BY TEXAS PATRIOTS

Since it was announced by Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee, that the Government expects Texans to purchase thrift stamps and savings certificates valued at \$91,000,000, enthusiastic workers have rolled up a number of records that speak volumes for Lone Star patriotism.

The people of Cherokee county lead the counties in the State in the number of limit buyers—persons who have purchased the maximum amount of bonds the individual is permitted to own. The county has eighty-eight members in its Thousand Dollar Club; in Jacksonville alone, seventy-two persons have "gone the limit" and bought "baby bonds" valued at \$1,000. A. G. Adams is county chairman.

Letter carriers, the blue-clad men who plow through snow and mud and sun to fill Texas mail boxes, have become enthusiastic ministers of the new gospel of thrift which will help win the war and make possessors out of slackers. R. A. Furr, rural mail carrier in Collin County, has sold more than \$6,500 worth of stamps; \$2,200 of this represents the work of a single day. He travels 28.5 miles every week day and delivers over 4,000,000 pieces of mail every twelve months.

C. D. Morrow, a Sherman letter carrier has also hung up a record. He has sold the persons on his route little Government war bonds valued at more than \$1,162.84. In a single day he took orders for \$866.20 worth of thrift stamps.

The business men and bankers of Abilene wanted to tell Taylor County people what an excellent and patriotic form of investment is the purchase of thrift stamps, so they used six full page advertisements and thirty smaller ones in the Taylor County Times to tell Uncle Sam's story. The hearty co-operation of Texas newspaper men is piling up records of publicity and patriotism everywhere.

Tucker Royall lives in Palestine. He's a busy man, but he found time to sell \$1,000 certificates to each of thirty Palestine business men and Anderson County farmers and run a bank. Every bank should be a thrift stamp sales agency and advise its patrons to put some of their savings in war certificates, Mr. Royall says.

More frequently than not lackers are slackers. The county has no need for the one and no use for the other.

### APPROPRIATE BIRTHDAY GIFTS.

The most appropriate birthday gifts this year are thrift stamps and war savings stamps. The practice of giving the little money saving bonds has already sprung up in Texas. Such a gift has deep significance and it may be the means of starting the one who receives it on the road to thrift and wealth, especially children. Louis Lipsitz, State Director of the National War Savings Committee, points out.

### ROUNTREE W. S. S. ENTHUSIAST.

Lee J. Rountree of Georgetown, secretary and former president of the National Editorial Association, is an enthusiastic supporter of the thrift doctrine. He is a heavy investor in war savings stamps and he urges others to buy them.

### SHERMAN PEOPLE THRIFTY.

Sherman people are religiously practicing the thrift lessons urged by the government. Not only are they putting something aside every day for war bond purchasing, but they have decided to invest the interest from their Liberty bonds in war savings stamps. Sherman people have a yearly revenue of over \$40,000 from their Liberty bonds. By converting this money into the "baby bonds," they are making the interest earn interest.

### LESSONS OF THRIFT.

W. F. Doughty, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, has promised that 1,000,000 of the 1,200,000 school children in Texas will be told about War Savings Stamps and the lesson of thrift impressed upon them. Superintendent Doughty has made many speeches throughout the state of War Savings work and through him there has been distributed to the 39,000 school teachers of Texas an outline of the three weeks' campaign that is now being carried on in the schools, and it is expected that this will be the foundation of a regular course of study in the new ideas of goods and service, and the necessity for economy for the purpose of winning the war.

### PASTE IT ON.

If a Thrift Stamp you can buy, Paste it on. Biff the Kaiser in the eye. Paste it on. Don't forget, 'twill help you, too. Interest on it will accrue, And 'twill all come back to you, Paste it on.

# 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.

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

Is your money rusting or  
fighting?

Every Texan is expected to  
save \$20 this year and invest it  
in Baby Government bonds.

It's a poor penny that won't  
work two ways—for you and for  
America. Put your pennies into  
Thrift Stamps.

Frank W. Thomason, former  
newspaper publisher, editor and  
printer, and who describes him-  
self as a "Texas Irishman," is  
cultivating a half-acre garden at  
Ferris, working at night by elec-  
tric light. He has also converted  
an old auto-shed into a poultry  
house, and intends to start an  
electric incubator. Mr. Thomp-  
son says he is planting seed and  
raising poultry in order to help  
whip the rulers of Germany.

What about gardening this  
spring? There ought not to be a  
vacant lot left unplanted in Mer-  
kel. The Commercial Club might  
get behind the movement. Feed-  
stuff and vegetables might be  
raised to splendid advantage.  
There are many good places  
that could be worked by voun-  
teer effort in the afternoons.  
Many seers have promised plen-  
ty of rain in due time, so why  
should we be worried about  
such a trivial matter as drouth.  
Let us get busy on war gardens  
at once.

A fortune may be tranquilly  
resting beneath our feet. Black  
oozey oil of untold worth may be  
sloshing about the bowels of  
mother earth so close to us that  
fortunes may even now be in  
our grasp. All over this great  
Merkel country the leading oil  
companies of the land have rec-  
ently been placing leases. Now  
if any one thinks these compan-  
ies have money to throw away,  
they ought to study their busi-  
ness methods a little. Indica-  
tions are as good here as any-  
where. hen again, how many  
of our citizens have from time  
to time invested in oil experi-  
ment propositions elsewhere? It  
is pretty much like the fellow in  
India who had studied about  
diamonds, and finally sold his  
farm, went in quest of diamonds  
and finally committed suicide  
because his funds were all gone,  
he was broken in health and still  
no diamonds. A few years later  
the biggest diamond farm in the  
world was discovered on the  
very place he sold. Is there a  
land owner in all this section  
who would not invest at least a  
small amount in a proposition to  
determine once and for all if oil  
does not exist in this section?  
A company could be formed and  
if enough people would take a  
little stock this investigation  
could be made. Oil booms are in  
evidence in other nearby places  
where oil deposits are not so  
promising. The country is in  
good shape now to be helped out  
by a big oil find. We would like  
to have some opinions on the  
subject.

## Boy Scouts Organizing

The Boy Scouts of Merkel are  
perfecting organization. This is  
mighty fine for the boys and  
every good, moral, upright boy  
ought to be a member. They ex-  
pect to perfect organization the  
coming week with fully 50 or  
100 members. If any parent is  
tender-footed about their boy  
joining, just let them look  
through a Boy Scout book and  
they will change their mind.  
Some people think it makes a  
soldier out of a boy. They  
needn't be afraid, for military  
training soon will be put in  
every school in the land and  
their boys will be taught to be  
soldiers and good ones too, just  
as long as a Kaiser holds the  
scepter to endanger the liberties  
of our people.

# OPPORTUNITY

## IS CALLING FOR YOU TODAY AS NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Young men and young women must step into the business and indus-  
trial life of the country and keep things moving while the boys are at the  
battle front. The army has called from the offices the men of military age.  
Many business institutions are already hampered. There are many boys  
and girls in this vicinity who are looking for an opportunity---for a career.

Why not use the art of stenography as a stepping stone? It leads,  
when backed by true principles, courage and ambition, to the very highest  
positions in the land. It leads to professional life. Without it law would  
be minus many of its leading lights. In the halls of Congress may be found  
many who were given their great life's opportunity by being thrown with  
men of power and influence through stenography. It is an art not to be  
despised.

And to think you can get the very best training to be given anywhere  
right here at home, without having to pay high board elsewhere, and at a  
very moderate rate of tuition. If you live near here you can take the course.  
Board can be secured here very reasonable.

We have a class that is making rapid progress in this art. Several  
more are contemplating starting at once. We expect to start another class  
right soon. Don't defer this matter. Learn to do something that will gain  
you a situation to be of help in time of war, for the war is not yet near the  
end and will not be for some time to come. Act now.

Life Scholarship \$50.00

# Merkel Business College

WALTER JACKSON, PROP.

## A CORRECTION

To the Voters of Precinct No. 2:  
It has come to me that if in  
the good judgment of the vot-  
ers, I am honored with the posi-  
tion of cotton weigher, I will  
hire the work done and continue  
my cement work.

Evidently this report was  
hatched in the interest of some  
other applicant for the position.

I hereby solemnly and sincere-  
ly promise that if elected I will  
serve the people to the best of  
my ability, will be on the job  
personally just as long as there  
is business to attend to.

I thank each and every one of  
you for whatever encourage-  
ment and help you feel inclined  
to give my candidacy. I am en-  
couraged daily by leading citi-  
zens who assure me of their  
full support.

Yours to win,  
J. M. Garrett.

## Elder Rice Goes to New Field.

Elder John M. Rice, who has  
made Merkel his home for the  
past 10 years, left Friday for  
Houston to accept the pastorate  
of the Houston Heights Chris-  
tian Church. His family will fol-  
low in about three weeks.

Another estimable family  
leaves Merkel. The best wishes  
of their friends go with them.  
The field is a great one and the  
Elder is to be congratulated up-  
on the call. We hope to hear of  
much good following his labors.

J. I. Leaman and family of  
Trent left Wednesday for Fort  
Worth.

Claude Reed and family of  
Trent left a few days ago to  
make their home in California.

## CHURCH NEWS

### Sunday School Report

Attendance	Collection
Methodist 153	\$3.85
Baptist 124	2.55

Rev. O. J. Hull of Abilene will  
preach at the Baptist church  
Sunday morning and evening.  
Everybody is invited to attend.

Sunday, February 10th, has  
been designated as Seed Sowing  
Sunday. Every minister of what  
ever faith is urged to say some-  
thing on this great important  
subject next Sunday or as near  
thereto as possible.

### Sunday School Class Meet.

The members of the Kings  
Daughters Class of the Metho-  
dist church, will meet at the  
home of Mrs. H. A. Sanders,  
next Tuesday afternoon at  
three o'clock. These meetings  
are held monthly, and highly  
enjoyed. The program com-  
mittee has arranged a surprise  
which is somewhat unique and  
will be enjoyed by every one in  
attendance. All members of the  
class are invited to attend.

### JUNIOR B. Y. P. U. Leader.

Mrs. T. E. Ragan has taken  
charge of the Junior B. Y. P. U.  
She is arranging very interest-  
ing programs and plans for the  
young people and invites all the  
members to be a their post of  
duty, and bring some one with  
them and help to make this the  
greatest organization of its kind  
in town.

### UNION RIDGE

We are so thankful for those  
two or three days of Spring  
weather, but that sand we had

Monday almost made us forget  
we had ever had a spring day.

Rev. J. C. Carpenter filled his  
appointment here Saturday and  
Sunday.

Mrs. Lama Harris who has  
been sick with pneumonia is  
able to sit up now. We hope she  
will be completely recovered in a  
short time.

The basket ball team went to  
Cross Roads last Saturday and  
won the game. The score being  
24 to 7. We play Trent this week

The school rendered a fine  
program at the school house  
Friday night. I liked the pro-  
gram but oh! you boys supper.

Mrs. Douglas and her son, Joe,  
went to Arlington to be at the  
lede side of Mrs. Vester Sibley  
Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Derstine visi-  
ted Mr. and Mrs. Arch Harris  
Sunday evening.

We are preparing to enter  
the County Contest in several of  
the contests. We expect to enter  
Spelling, declamation and ath-  
letics.

Several young people took  
supper with Miss Erma Harris  
Sunday evening.

Miss Mamie McNeese visited  
home folks Saturday and Sun-  
day.

Mr. Ab Ely of Noodle visited  
his brother, B. W. Ely Sunday.

Mr. Sam Martin was in the  
community Sunday.

We wish the one who got  
part of our lock to the water  
house would bring it back to  
save us buying one. We don't  
mind it being torn off so much  
because some people just have  
to tear up things sometimes,  
but we need the part that is  
gone.

Plenty of fresh groceries at  
G. M. Sharps.

## TEXAS POULTRY RAISERS

By F. W. Kazmeir, Polutry Hus-  
bandman, Extension Service, A.  
and M. College.

Every agency working for  
the increased production of food  
is encouraging people and farm-  
ers to raise more chickens this  
year. The United States Depart-  
ment of Agriculture is waging a  
great campaign to bring about  
an increased production of poul-  
try. The Extension Service of  
the Agriculture and Mechanical  
College of Texas, with over 250  
workers is devoting extra time  
to increasing the poultry popula-  
tion of the Lone Star State.

Our armies at home and a-  
broad must have more meat.  
This meat must largely come  
directly and indirectly through  
the increase production of poul-  
try and poultry products.

Poultry breeding stock and  
eggs for hatching will be in  
great demand; but unless those  
that have a surplus and care to  
dispose of it will advertise those  
desiring to buy will not be able  
to locate what they want, and  
the poultry breeders will not  
find a ready sale for their eggs.

Every egg from any of the  
pure-bred or standard-bred var-  
iety of chickens ought to be  
hatched this spring.

Keep and preach keeping all  
standard-bred chickens. They  
are most profitable. Early hatch-  
ing pays best.

Do not hide your light under  
a bushel basket—advertise!  
Be patriotic and let the world  
know you have standard-bred  
eggs for hatching (pure bred)  
for sale.

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 sys-  
tem. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c

## HONOR ROLL

Willie Leo Miller, Trent.  
Lester Earl White.  
G. C. Hodges.

Ulric Forrester.

Andrew Archer.  
Roy Adams.  
Britt Baker.  
Fauss Banner.  
Edgar Breeze.  
W. B. Brown.  
Arthur Derrington.  
Frank J. Ferrier.  
De Gorcus.  
Wm. R. Green.  
James F. Holloway.  
B. Jobe.  
Pete Meek.  
F. O'Brien.  
Herbert Ricker.  
Paul Stamford.  
Bill Sheppard.  
Paul Turner.  
George White.  
L. B. Wells.  
Riley White.  
L. Powers.  
Z. T. Lamar.  
Emzi Burroughs.  
Thos Bearden.  
Jas. Brown.  
Emmitt Grimes.  
L. M. Hutchins.  
Chester A. Duncan, Trent.  
John T. Morris, Trent.  
Joe L. Evans, Trent.  
W. W. McElmurray, Trent.  
Hurbert 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. Hassey, Trent.  
Kirby L. Vidrine.  
Leonard Morrison.  
Joseph A. McMurray.  
Charles I. Swain, Trent.  
Rufus H. O'Neal.  
Willie E. Pool.  
Ennis Grimes.  
Charley Fitzgerald.  
Berry Forrester.  
Joseph A. Pruitt, Trent  
John T. Mattingley, Noodle.  
Reuben C. Hall  
Henry D. (Doc) Hall  
R. O. Stevens.  
Tom Smith Martin.  
Leland L. Martin.  
T. J. Bird.  
R. E. Harris  
Robert Rainbolt.  
Lee Raymond Campbell  
Eulless McNeese.  
John P. Gibson.  
Leonard Wills  
Winslow J. Beckham, Trent.  
John Rex McClain.  
Clanance Melton.  
O. R. Burns.

## Ona Mae Duckett Dead

Word came to Merkel last  
Monday announcing the death  
at Granbury of Ona Mae Duck-  
ett, daughter of J. A. Duckett,  
who has been living there with  
the family for the past several  
months. Her grandparents, Mr.  
and Mrs. W. R. Duckett and fam-  
ily left immediately for that  
place, going as far as Weather-  
ford in a car driven by F. H.  
Dennis, where they were met by  
Earnest Duckett and taken to  
Granbury.

The many friends of the little  
girl sympathize with the family  
in their deep bereavement.

Full details as to the cause of  
death could not be ascertained  
as we went to press.

## WAR TALKS

By UNCLE DAN

Number Six

Billie and Jimmie Will Take Military Training.

"I am mighty sorry, Uncle Dan, that this is your last night with us. Can't you stay longer? We boys are having a peach of a time," said Billie.

"Well, if you get more out of it in the way of pleasure than I," said Uncle Dan, "you are going some."

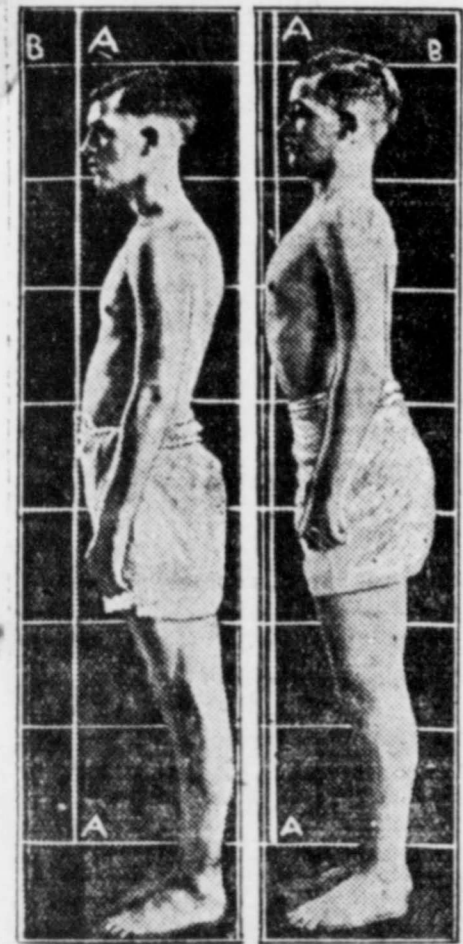
"Billie, I have been talking seriously with your father and mother about sending you to a military academy and they asked me to talk with you about it."

"Whoopie!" Billie screamed, like a wild Indian.

"Now, hold your horses," said Uncle Dan, "and listen to me. You know I sent my boy, Howard, to one of these schools for a year when he was about your age. He was narrow chested, stoop shouldered, rather loose jointed; he had the big head and needed discipline and physical development. He was growing fast and I wanted him to be strong physically."

"Say, Uncle Dan," said Billie, "I believe your description of Howard fits me pretty well, eh?"

"Well," said Uncle Dan, "to be frank I think it does; you need the same thing. Howard did not like it at first. I am told for a few weeks he had 'rough sledding,' but after he found that the only way was to obey orders, he caught the spirit of the institution and liked it. We did not see him for about six months, then he came home for a few days. We were astonished at his appearance. He had gained about 20 pounds in weight, his muscles were as hard as nails, he stood as straight as an arrow, he was courteous, consider-



Note the result of six months of military training. Compare lines A-A and B-B in cut.

ate and manly. His awkwardness had disappeared. The change was wonderful and it was all to the good. Here is a photograph showing 'before and after taking,' and I am sure no patent medicine advertisement could beat it.

"Well, mother and I were delighted. That was ten years ago, and Howard says the year he spent at the military academy was the best year of his life."

"Now," said Uncle Dan, with great earnestness, "when such training does so much good, makes better citizens and at the same time fits a man to defend his country, why should not Uncle Sam furnish this training at the government's expense? The government has the right to call anyone to serve in case of war, and without training, a man is worth nothing as a soldier. Uncle Sam has splendid new training camps that will soon be available for the purpose, therefore, here is double reason why the Chamberlain bill for compulsory military training should be passed at once, so that every boy physically fit may have this training and not leave it for his parents to pay for. On account of the expense, not one boy in 50 can take the training now. I am glad that you can do so. These big crops and big prices, I find, make the farmers rather 'cocky,' and that the best is demanded by them."

Billie was up with the lark the next morning, more excited and enthusiastic than ever. He had a plan. He knew Jimmie owned a colt worth \$100; that he would make almost another \$100 on his potatoes if they turned out well, and that he had from his previous savings, bought a \$100 Liberty bond. Billie's plan was to have Jimmie cash in and go with him. He was disappointed to find that Jimmie would still lack about \$300 of having enough to see him through. His lip quivering, he said: "I'm mighty sorry to leave Jimmie."

Uncle Dan was silent a moment or two, then he asked Billie to go down to the orchard and get him some apples to eat on the train. While he was gone, it was arranged that Uncle Dan and Mr. and Mrs. Graham would advance the money necessary so that Jimmie could go. When Billie returned he was told about it. He ran to the phone and called Jimmie, saying: "Come on over, run just as fast as you can, I've got the greatest news you ever heard of."

# Bargains in Men's, Ladies' and Children's Oxfords

We find we have too many shoes and are bound and compelled to reduce our stock to a minimum

150 pairs Ladies Oxfords in pumps, buttons and lace, ranging in prices from \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$4.50; your choice only ..... \$2.00

100 pairs Mens Oxfords in button, lace and blucher, ranging in price from \$4.50, 5.00, 5.50 to 6.50; your choice only ..... \$3.48

100 pairs Childrens Baby Doll slippers, ranging in price from \$2.50 to \$3.00; your choice only ..... \$1.95

Early buying will save you many dollars on your spring shoe bill

## Anchor Mercantile Company

### NOODLE

The farmers are putting up their land in order to be ready for a rain.

H. C. Thompson and Odell Herring left the past week for Okla, where they will be engaged in work.

The Woodrow Wilson Literary Society met Friday night.

Little Marshall Orman Thompson happened to the misfortune of getting his face badly burned by a lamp Thursday night.

Rev. Johnson filled his regular appointment at the M. E. Church Sunday.

Mr. John Winters left Monday to be examined for Military service.

Mrs. R. W. Green was a guest

of Mrs. W. C. Thompson Sunday.

The singing at Mr. Brysons was enjoyed by a large crowd Sunday night.

Selma Hendrix was guest of Mrs. E. L. Eason Sunday.

Pauline Green entertained a few of her friends Saturday night with a forty-two party.

Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Beene were guests to dinner with Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Meeks Sunday.

Ora Bryson spent the week end with homefolks.

Bula Ely who has been attending School at Merkel it at home.

Lucille Beene visited friends here the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ely spent Sunday with A. B. Ely and family.

Mrs. L. G. Ely and baby of near Merkel spent the first of the week with relatives of this place.

Mrs. W. H. Eason left the past week for Laredo Texas, where she joined her husband, who is in the training Camp there.

Mrs. C. P. Hendrix and baby spent the latter part of last week with their parents and grandparents at Merkel.

(Editors note—This splendid letter was crowd out the past issue.)

### Forgot What He Needed

From the Republican, Mt. Gil- iad, Ohio: The editor had an interesting experience some time ago, when a young gentleman came to this office and asked for

a copy of the Morrow County Republican. He scrutinized it carefully when a copy was handed him, and then said: "Now I know!" "What is it you are looking for," we inquired. "My wife sent me after a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and I forgot the name. I went to several stores and the clerks named over everything in the line on the shelf except 'Chamberlain's I'll try again, and I'll never go home without Chamberlain's Cough Remedy." The Republican would suggest to the proprietors of stores, that they post their clerks, and never let them substitute. Customers lose faith in stores where substituting is permitted, to say nothing of the injustice to makers of good goods and the disappointment of customers.

## OVER THE TOP, FARMERS! OVER THE TOP!

This war cannot be won without the aid of the Farmers. Why?

Because they represent about 80 per cent of the population of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District, in which we live, and it is impossible for the other 20 per cent of the people to carry the financial burden.

The farmer in this section who has done reasonably well last season has indeed a double duty to perform. He has to do his full share towards protecting his business, his home, and his Country, and he has, as a generous open-hearted, broad-minded Southerner to help make up for the probable lack of over-subscription in the drouth-stricken Counties of West and South Texas.

The people of the West and South of Texas will do their share—of that there is no question. They will raise their assigned portion of the Loan, because it is their duty, but we cannot hope for a large over-subscription from them.

An over-subscription from the Eleventh Federal District is called for. On the occasion of the Second Liberty Loan we raised but a little more than we were forced to. Other Districts raised 25 per cent and 50 per cent more than the Government demanded of them. Such a grudging response is unworthy of us and we must improve upon it. Shall it be said that we men who live upon the rich soil of Louisiana, who inhabit the great producing State of Texas, the progressive State of New Mexico, who wrest the wealth from the ground of Arizona, or who have opened up the great possibilities of Oklahoma, possess less patriotism than our neighbors? It is unthinkable!

We have a big task ahead, but we will meet it. Let us plan, and look ahead, and let us start doing it right now, in order that this great old South West may shine as a bright star in the firmament of patriotism when our Country calls.

### FARMERS AND SHIPS

Two things which do not appear to have very much to do with each other. And yet they have.

It is not sufficient merely to produce goods, they must be marketed, and ships are necessary to the farmer unless he wishes to be cut off from the best of all markets of the world—Europe.

Just as an automobile is a good thing for hauling produce to nearby towns and freight cars are necessary to haul the produce to the great grain centers, so ships are necessary to market the produce of the farmers.

We have been losing ships in great numbers, and so have our Allies. These must be replaced. The farmer knows what would happen if the freight cars on the railroads were burned up—he would be cut off from the market. Ships are just as important and necessary as freight cars.

Several Million Dollars of the amount subscribed to the Liberty Loan is being used by The United States Government to provide a fleet of freight vessels to maintain our trade with Europe. It follows that in subscribing to the Liberty Loan, the farmer is putting money into his own business, with Uncle Sam as a partner, with a certain knowledge that he will receive 4 per cent interest on his money, and that his principal will be used for his own trade convenience and expansion. Was there ever a clearer case of an investment profitable in two distinct ways?

The German Government have realized the necessity of providing a merchant fleet and recently have set aside Thirty-five Million Dollars for the building of ships, which are to be delivered as soon as possible after Peace is declared. Let us at least be as wise as the Germans.

To every farmer there will be offered during the next few months this sensible business like proposition to take Uncle Sam into partnership in his business. Be ready to invest in Liberty Bonds when the time comes.

## A \$2,000,000 GUARANTEE That this \$49 Typewriter was \$100 The Sales Policy Alone is Changed---Not the Machine

One year ago the Oliver Typewriter Company announced its revolutionary selling plans. They discontinued an expensive sales force of 15,000 salesmen and agents. They gave up costly offices in 50 cities. Other wasteful methods were discarded.

By eliminating these terrific expenses, they reduced the price of the OLIVER NINE from the standard level of \$100 to \$49.

This means that you save \$51 per machine. This is not philanthropy on our part. While our plan saves you much, it also saves for US.

There's nothing more wasteful in the whole realm of business than our old ways of selling typewriters. Who wants to continue them? Wouldn't you rather pocket 50 per cent for yourself?

Send us the coupon and we will tell you the whole story.

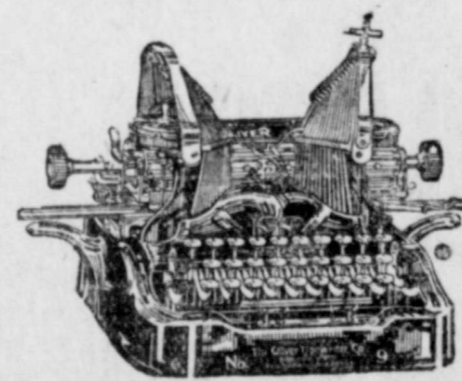
## WM. A. PARKER

Texas Distributor

SAN ANTONIO

DALLAS

LAREDO



Over 600,000 Sold

WM. A. PARKER  
Distributor  
San Antonio, Texas

Mail me your book, "The High Cost of Typewriters—the Reason and Remedy," de luxe catalog and further information—all free [and without obligating me.

Name .....  
Street .....  
City .....



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

### A Valentine Party.

It may rain, snow and sleet but Dan Cupid is never meek. Thursday evening the M. H. S. Seniors met at the home of Miss Ora Bryson—the entrance fee was a hand made heart, where they enjoyed a few pranks of Cupid. After partners were chosen by hearts each gentleman and his "ladylove" marched about the room until they were ordered to "go". Then a great search for hearts followed. At the end of the heart-hunt Miss Virginia Duckett and Mr. Clayton Meeks had found the greater number of hearts and were awarded a large hearts for a prize. After the exchange of humorous words found on the small hearts each guest present was given a pencil and a small piece of paper where on was written a love letter of a bashful swain which was to be translated. Many called the ideal of his dreams "little onions," which he loved more than apples, Miss Edna Walls was awarded the prize for the best letter however. Mr. Wade Insminger was given the prize for the best hand-made valentine.

As upon all such occasions each boy and girl left the scene of merriment with a greater and deeper feeling of love and gratitude for their friends and classmates.

To Misses Ora Bryson (hostess), Beulah Walker, Myrtle Reeves, Edna Watts, Julia Martain and Virginia Duckett; Messers Walter Bryson and Clayton Meeks, Bourdon Smith, Wade Insminger and Vernon Coats. Refreshments of chocolate and cake were served.

**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 expectation 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.

### DISPOSITION OF RED CROSS FUNDS

As has been explained, time and time again, 50 per cent of Red Cross membership fees is sent to Washington, to be used in transporting these supplies to our hospitals across the seas, printing literature, paying for clerical work, and so on. We are allowed to retain 50 per cent to purchase materials that go into all these garments, surgical dressings and thread used for knitting.

There is no secret work done, all is fair and open. Our accounts are paid at stated times, books are audited by competent reliable citizens; the women do not handle the money; they do not want to; they have no time to fool away on such business. Their time is all used in sewing and knitting. They only ask to do the back-breaking part, and they gladly do that for our soldiers.

The Merkel Red Cross women have made and sent in 2989 pieces up to February 20, this year.

Why not join the shorthand and typewriting class that has just been started in Merkel? Best of facilities offered. Prices right. Merkel Business College.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH MEDICINE. FRANK J. CHENEY. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1936. A. W. GLEASON, (Seal) Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Medicine is taken internally and acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists. 50c. Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

**S-O-M-E Goodies!**

"—the kind that melt in your mouth—light, fluffy, tender cakes, biscuits and doughnuts that just keep you hanging 'round the pantry—all made with

**CALUMET BAKING POWDER**

the safest, purest, most economical kind. Try it—drive away bake-day failures."

You save when you buy it. You save when you use it. Calumet contains only such ingredients as have been approved officially by the U. S. Food Authorities.

**HIGHEST QUALITY AWARDS**

**ONLY A VOLUNTEER**  
Now why didn't I wait to be drafted?  
And be led to the train by a band,  
Or put in a claim for exemption.  
Oh, why did I hold up my hand  
Why didn't I wait for the banquet?  
Why didn't I wait to be cheered  
For the drafted man got all the

**For Weak Women**

In use for over 40 years!  
Thousands of voluntary letters from women, telling of the good Cardui has done them. This is the best proof of the value of Cardui. It proves that Cardui is a good medicine for women.

There are no harmful or habit-forming drugs in Cardui. It is composed only of mild, medicinal ingredients, with no bad after-effects.

**TAKE CARDUI**

**The Woman's Tonic**

You can rely on Cardui. Surely it will do for you what it has done for so many thousands of other women! It should help.

"I was taken sick, seemed to be . . .," writes Mrs. Mary E. Veste, of Madison Heights, Va. "I got down so weak, could hardly walk . . . just staggered around. . . I read of Cardui, and after taking one bottle, or before taking quite all, I felt much better. I took 3 or 4 bottles at that time, and was able to do my work. I take it in the spring when run-down. I had no appetite, and I commenced eating. It is the best tonic I ever saw." Try Cardui.

**All Druggists**

credit.  
While I only volunteered,  
But nobody gave me a banquet,  
And nobody said a kind word,  
The puff of the engine and the  
grind of the wheels  
Was all the good-bye that I  
heard,  
Then they hustled,  
To be trained for the next  
half year  
And in the shuffle, forgotten,  
I was only a volunteer.

But perhaps some day in the  
future,  
When my little boy sits on my  
knee,  
And asks what I did in the great  
war,  
And his big eye look up at me;  
I will have to look back at those  
eyes,  
That at me so trustingly peer,  
And tell him that I wasn't draf-  
ted,  
I was only a volunteer. —Ex.

## NOTICE ROAD BOND ELECTION

Notice is hereby given of a road bond election to be held within and for Road District No. 2, Taylor County, Texas, on the 30th day of March, 1918, in accordance with the following order of the Commissioners Court of said county:

Abilene, Tex. Feb. 13, 1918.  
"Order of Commissioners Court Ordering Bond Election For Road District No. 2."

On this day was presented to the court the petition of M. Armstrong and others asking for a road bond election for Road District No. 2. And it appearing to the court that said Road District No. 2 has been heretofore laid off and defined by metes and bounds by order of this court made and entered on the 11 day of Feb. A. D. 1918, and that said petition is signed by more than fifty resident property tax paying voters of said district, and that there is a necessity for said road bond election in order to provide funds for the construction, maintaining and operating of macadamized graveled and paved roads and turnpikes and in aid thereof and that there is a necessity for such roads in said district. It is therefore ordered at this a regular session of said court, all commissioners and the county judge being present that an election be held on the 30th day of March, 1918, within and for Road District No. 2, said county, to determine whether or not the bonds of said Road District shall be issued in the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) said bonds to bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum and to mature at such times as may be fixed by the commissioners court, serially or otherwise, not to exceed thirty years from their date, for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining of macadamized, graveled and paved roads and turnpikes and in aid thereof, and to determine whether or not a tax shall be levied upon the taxable property of said Road District to provide a fund for the purpose of paying interest on said bonds and the redemption of said bonds. Said Road District No. 2, is particularly described by metes and bounds in the order of said court dated Feb. 11, 1918 which is hereby referred to and made a part hereof, said metes and bounds being as follows, viz:

Beginning at the intersection of the N. line of Sec. 58, Blk. 13, T. & P. Ry Co. surveys with the west line of Taylor County Texas, Thence north with the west line of said county to its N. W. cor. Thence East with the North line of Taylor County to its intersection with the west line of the David Bruce Sur. No. 135; Thence, southward along the west line of David Bruce sur. to the N. E. cor. of Jose Gabo sur. No. 128; Thence southward along the east line of Jose Gabo Sur. and the east line of the John McSherry Sur. No. 129 to the S. E. cor. of Shelly's Subdivision No. 4 of said McSherry Sur. Thence westward along the

south boundary lines of subdivision Nos. 4 and 3, Shelly's, and south boundary line of Drummond's subdivision and south boundary lines of Rister's subdivisions Nos. 7, 5, and 4 and M. B. Toole's sub. of said McSherry sur. to west boundary line of said sur. Thence northward to N. E. cor. of Willis Avery Sur. Thence along the north boundary line of said Avery sur. to its N. W. cor. Thence continuing in same direction across N. B. Teaff sur. to east line of W. R. Willis League; Thence southward along east line of said Willis sur. to S. E. cor. of Henry Sayles Jr. Subdivision No. 29 of said W. R. Willis sur. Thence westward along the south boundary lines of subdivisions Nos. 23, 27, 26, 25, 24, 23, "2, and 21 of the said Henry Sayles Jr. Subdivision to the W. B. line of said Willis sur. Thence westward along the S. B. line of Sub. No. 11 Grimes County School Land League No. 146; Thence northward along W. B. lines of subdivisions Nos. 11, 10, and 1 of said league No. 146; Thence westward along N. B. lines of said League No. 146 and S. B. line of Sur. No. 4, Blk. 18, T & P. Ry. Co. surveys to S. W. cor. of said sur. No. 4; Thence northward along W. B. line of said Survey No. 4 to its N. W. cor. Thence westward along the N. B. lines of sur. Nos. 5 and 6 Blk. 18, T. & P. Ry Co. surveys to the N. W. cor. of said sur. No. 6; Thence Northward along the E. B. line of Sur. No. 2, Blk. 19, T & P Ry Co. sur. to its N. E. cor. Thence westward along the N. B. lines of Secs. Nos. 62, 61, 60, 59, and 58, Blk. 19, T & P Ry Co. Surveys to the place of beginning.

All resident property tax paying voters of said Road District No. 2 shall be entitled to vote at said election which election shall be held in conformity with the general election laws of this state and Art. 628 et seq. of the Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, the general election laws governing where no special provisions are made with reference to road bond elections. The polls shall be opened at the following places, and the following persons are hereby appointed managers of said election, viz:

Election Prec. No. 6, City Hall, Merkel, W. O. Boney, Presiding Judge; J. Van West, Henry West and J. J. Stallings, Assistants.

Election Precinct No. 11, School House Trent, T. J. Williamson, Presiding Judge; C. T. Beckham, W. A. Abbott, and E. D. Massey, assistants.

Election Prec. No. 20, Tye-Merkel at S. Y. Reese, Residence; J. B. Thomas, Presiding Judge, S. Y. Reese, assistant.

The qualified property tax paying voters of said Road District shall vote at their usual voting places in their respective precincts, except those who reside in election Prec. No. 26, Blair and who are embraced within the bounds of said Road Dist. No. 2, shall vote at City Hall, Merkel.

All voters voting at said election who desire to support the proposition of issuing the bonds and levying the tax shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "For the Issuance of Bonds" and those opposed to the proposition shall have written or printed on their ballots the words: "Against the Issuance of Bonds."

A copy of this order signed by the county judge of said county shall serve as a proper notice of said election and the county judge is directed to cause said notices to be posted and published as prescribed by law. Passed Feb. 13, 1918 at a regular session of the commissioners court in testimony of which witness our hands on said date.

Now therefore, I, E. M. Overshiner, County Judge of said county in pursuance of said order hereby order said election to be held at the time for the purposes at the places by the officers and in accordance with the stipulations and provisions of the foregoing order and issue this notice which shall be posted and published as prescribed by law.

## LUCKY STRIKE CIGARETTE

Until this new "smoke" was made you could never have a real Burley tobacco cigarette. It's the best yet.

### IT'S TOASTED

The toasting brings out the delicious flavor of that fine old Kentucky Burley. You never tasted anything so agreeable—think what roasting does for peanuts.

Guaranteed by  
*The American Tobacco 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

## WAR SAVINGS STAMPS FOR SALE HERE

Also the Freshest and Best Groceries  
in town

**E. L. ROGERS**

## Merkel Milling Co.

Have car of good Corn on hand

Plenty of Meal and  
Whole-grain Flour

Scrap iron 45 cents a hundred, received at Merkel and Trent

WHEN IN ABILENE EAT AT

## The Metropolitan Cafe

JACK GILSTRAP, Mgr.

One per cent of Gross Receipts donated to the  
**RED CROSS**

**WHY EAT ELSEWHERE**

**2 in 1**

**SHOE POLISHES**

**KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT**

LIQUIDS AND PASTES. FOR BLACK, WHITE, TAN, DARK BROWN OR OX-BLOOD SHOES. PRESERVE THE LEATHER.

THE F. F. DALLEY CORPORATION, LIMITED, BUFFALO, N. Y.

**The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company**

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

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

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

**Stock Selling at 10c a Share**

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

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

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

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

WM. F. REYNOLDS, Secretary

GENERAL OFFICES

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

Salesmen Wanted. Send for free oil map and literature



Put on the Bevo Glasses when you set the table for the bite you've prepared for the guests of the evening. As a suggestion for a dainty lunch: Cream cheese and chopped olive sandwiches (on brown bread), Dill pickles, Shrimp salad, Ice cold Bevo.

It's a nutritive drink. Bevo makes an appetizing and delightful addition to any meal—hot or cold, light or heavy.

Bevo—the all-year-round soft drink.  
Sold in bottles only and bottled exclusively by ANHEUSER-BUSCH—ST. LOUIS



**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

**Specialty in Farm Loans**

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

**W. O. BONEY** West of Farmers State Bank

**Notice Gasoline Buyers**

I am handling that "GOOD GULF GASOLINE" Will also appreciate your Tire Work Free Battery Service

**GEORGE WOODRUM**  
Successor to W. E. Britain

**TOUCHSTONE REACHES CHINA**

(Continued from last week)  
December 26, 1917.

Dear Mamma—Christmas Day has come and gone. I have spent several of them away from home in the past ten years but none so far away as this. I have had everything possible to help pass the time and prevent homesickness, but can't say I have been altogether free of that disease. Have been working right along ever since I got here and there has been plenty of celebrating going on here, but most every hour of the day ever since Sunday I have figured just what time it might be at home and what you all might be doing. I had two Christmas dinners yesterday and am going to another tonight. If any "Santa Claus" started from America to me it got delayed because I have not received it yet, in fact not a letter even has reached me from you, tho I have had two or three from others, written about the time I started from San Francisco. The Christmas spirit is very evident on the University Campus. A very significant thing happened, pointing to the influence Christianity is beginning to have in this country. The president, who is not a Christian, sent out a proclamation wishing all his Christian friends a Merry Christmas.

I believe I told you of my trip as far as the Tokio station. There is a hotel in connection with the station where we expected to stay, but we got there about 9:30 p. m. and it was full. After telephoning to three or four hotels we got a room at a small Japanese hotel. We learned next morning from a fellow passenger that no other hotel in the city had any rooms. So we engaged ours for two nights on the spot. Immediately after breakfast I hunted out Dr. S. H. Wainwright, a doctor and also a preacher, our leading missionary perhaps in Japan. He is editor and manager of the Japanese Christian Literature Society which is supported by all the Protestant churches working in Japan, and which published about 40,000,000 pages of literature last year. Dr. Wainwright and wife gave us a hearty welcome on the strength of my being a missionary. A young lady of my acquaintance is living with them and attending the language school before she begins her regular work as a missionary. Dr. Wainwright told her and his stenographer, who by the way is a former Texas girl, to take a holiday and show us boys the city. We spent the forenoon driving through the broad city streets, visited the leading department stores, as fine as can be seen any where, drove around the imperial palace, nothing to be seen except the wall which is about thirty feet high—and went to one of the leading temples, drove by the Imperial University which accommodates several thousand students, and stopped for lunch at a lunch room at one of the largest parks. After lunch we went through a part of the museum, which was very interesting. As I said before, it would take a book to really tell about what I saw so I am not undertaking that. As we had dismissed our automobile when we got out to eat lunch we took the street cars to the opposite side of the city where we had an invitation from the president of the T. K. K. Steamship Co. owners of the boat on which we crossed, to an afternoon tea party. This was a very swell affair. The house was built for this special purpose and is very beautiful. The stairways are the finest of handworked wood, and the walls are covered with hand painted tapestry, as are the ceilings, which are laid off in panels. Various kinds of entertainment was furnished and refreshments, including of course, tea, were served. It was certainly worth our time.

We could have spent several days in Tokio, but wanted to see other places and our time was limited, so on Wednesday morning we took the Limited Express for the Southwest. This took us back through Yokohama, where we were pleasantly

surprised to see some more of our fellow passengers from the boat get on. We got to be with them all day. We got off the train first as they were going to the extreme west end of the island and crossing over to China, where they took another railway trip of about 1000 miles to Peking.

I think an American might travel quite a bit without seeing a stranger or more picturesque sight than the first few miles from Yokohama presents. The country is very hilly and broken, and almost as thickly populated as a village. Every foot of soil is cultivated right up to the tops of the hills. The houses look like play houses, the fields are no bigger than gardens, and the gardens the size of large flower beds at home. It is absolutely impossible to describe it in a way to make you understand just what it all looks like. In a short time the country became more even and we could see the famous mountain of Japan, Fujiyama, or Sun-God Mountain. Fortunately the day was clear and we had a fine view of it for several hours since we passed within fifteen or twenty miles of it and went about half way around it. Sometimes it is so foggy that tourists do not get to see the mountain at all. It is as beautiful as the pictures of it—like Pike's Peak in Colorado, it is the outstanding feature of most any landscape for many miles. The terraced rice fields, cut into many small patches by the irrigation canals, the mulberry groves, the tea trees on the hillsides, the prune and apricot orchards, with a few grape vines, the many villages, with their multiplied hundreds of people, the range of mountains in the background, an occasional glimpse of an arm of the sea, all gave us plenty to look at that day. It was a whole day of "moving pictures." The railroad is narrow gauged, but double tracked and the service is good. Meals in the dining car were good and cost less than half what they would cost in America. At supper time I was brave enough to buy one of the "ready-to-eat" lunches that were offered for sale at every station of any consequence. A lady whom I knew, and who has lived in Japan about fifteen years, was eating one, and said it was good. It consisted of a small wooden box with a top, containing about a large plate full of rice. In another box the same size contained a small piece of fish, a small piece of fried omelet, and various kinds of vegetables, dried, pickled, and a few cooked—perhaps a dozen kinds. Wrapped in a piece of paper was a clean white pair of chop sticks. All this cost the equivalent of fifteen cents in American money, no twelve and a half cents. For two more cents I could have had a small pot of tea and a cup to drink it from. The rice was cooked very dry without any salt, and to my surprise I found I liked that way. The others who knew me thought they had a laugh on me when I began to try to handle the chop sticks, but I had used them a little in Nashville and really got along fine, well enough at any rate to satisfy my hunger in a short time. We got off at Kyoto, the ancient capitol of Japan at nine o'clock that night. More next time.

(To be continued.)

**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.

**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.

**A POWERFUL AID**  
When you feel sluggish and nervous, tired and indifferent, you have the first symptoms of declining strength and your system positively needs the special nutritive food- tonic in

**SCOTT'S EMULSION**

to replenish your blood power, enliven its circulation and bring back the snap and elasticity of good health. Scott's Emulsion supplies Nature with the correct building-food which is better than any drugs, pills or alcoholic mixtures.

The Norwegian cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is now refined in our own American laboratories which makes it pure and palatable.  
Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J. 17-16

**The Baptist In a Campaign For Education.**

The Baptist of Texas own and operate more than one dozen schools located in different sections of the State. They conduct a Theological Seminary at Ft. Worth, the second largest Baptist Theological Seminary in the World. They conduct a Medical College which is in Class A, allied with the Baptist Sanitarium, Dallas. They conduct two nurses training schools of the first grade. The other schools are all correlated with Baylor University and are from the academic grade to the college grade.

Two years ago, the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas resolved to raise \$1,000,000 to set all of these schools forward, the same to be raised in four separate campaigns, one quarter of a million a year. The first campaign resulted in \$265,000 cash. The second, resulted in \$282,000 cash. The Baptist in every section of the State are now in a sixty days campaign, beginning January the first, to raise the

**DON'T MISTAKE THE CAUSE**  
Many Merkel People Have Kidney Trouble And do Not know it

Do you have backache?  
Are you tired and worn out?  
Feel dizzy, nervous and depressed?  
Do your kidneys act irregularly?  
Highly colored; contain sediment?  
Likely your kidneys are at fault.  
Weak kidneys give warning of distress.  
Heed the warning; don't delay  
Use a tested kidney remedy. Read this Merkel testimony.  
Mrs. J. M. Dry says: "I had pains in my back and when I bent over, it was hard to straighten up again. Dizzy spells came on me and I felt worn out and depressed most all the time. I used but one box of Doan's Kidney Pills and the pains in my back left, the headaches disappeared and my kidneys were greatly strengthened. I have never had much need of a kidney medicine since."  
Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Dry had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfgs., Buffalo, N. Y. adv.

**Tan-No-More**  
THE SKIN BEAUTIFIER

The most scientific and most wonderful facial preparation of the modern age. It imparts to the skin a velvety softness and delicacy which is delightful in appearance and pleasing in effect. Used during the day it is a protection from the Sun and Wind. In the evening its use assures a faultless complexion. Tints: White and Flesh. All dealers, 35c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

**BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY**  
DALLAS, TEXAS

third quarter of a million dollars. No notes are taken.

There are 5,000 students in all of the Baptist schools of Texas; Theological, Medical, Literary and such like. The Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, selected as a campaign committee to carry this third effort to success: J. B. Gamrell, Corresponding Secretary of the Board, S. P. Brooks, President of Baylor University and L. B. Scarborough, President of the Southwestern Theological Seminary.

The campaign is well under way. All forces of the Baptist denomination in this State are enlisted. The pastors, the school men, the missionaries, the women workers, the B. Y. P. U.'s, and the Sunday Schools are all in. It is the purpose to carry the question of Christian Education into every Baptist church in the State and to appeal to the intelligent devotion of Baptist to help the great cause of Christian Education. The campaign opens auspiciously. The school centers are responding nobly and the committee is hopeful, though not unmindful of the difficulties of the times we are now in. J. B. Gambrell, Chairman, for the Committee.

**For Diseases of the Skin.**

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema tetter, salt rheum and barbers' itch, are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Savle. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all Dealers.

**HELP WIN THE WAR BY PREVENTING UNNECESSARY SICKNESS**

Texas State Council of Defense Committee on Sanitation and Medicine

**Cleanliness is Cheaper than Sickness**

Spring will soon be here. It's time to clean up. Let's all help to make our City more attractive and Healthful. Keep your yard, in front and rear, neat and clean. Ask your neighbors to do likewise.  
A Soldier's First Duty is cleanliness. His person, His Equipment and His Surroundings. Be a Good Soldier Yourself.  
Plant trees, shrubs, vines and flowers. Destroy weeds. Put garbage, trash and manure in covered, fly-tight receptacles. Such refuse breeds flies and insects which are dangerous because they spread disease.  
Every Texas City Should Have at Least One Wide-Awake Sanitary Inspector to Help the Health Officer Locate and abolish All Possible Sources of Disease.  
Spare the birds. They destroy worms and insects, thus preserving the flowers and trees and helping to make the city beautiful.  
Cleanliness Transformed Havana from a Plague Spot to a Famous Health Resort.  
What Are You Doing To Make Your City A Healthier And A Better Place To Live In.

**A Pleasant Physic.**

When you want a pleasant physic give Chamberlain's Tablets a trial. They are mild and gentle in their action and always produce a pleasant cathartic effect. For sale by all Dealers. adv.

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

**Fire and Stovewood -- COAL --**

DAWSON EGG and TEXAS COALS

All Coal orders C. O. D.

**Warren Brothers**



## LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. T. L. Cross and son, Ira, have moved from Sweetwater to the Mulberry community, Route 4, nine miles north of Merkel.

Cowfeed and oats G. M. Sharp

Roy Penney, formerly of Merhas accepted a position with the First National Bank.

Garden seed at G. M. Sharps.

Roger Hamblett of Ft. Worth visited homefolks the past week

H. F. Groene of Camp Bowie showed his smiling face in Merkel Tuesday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Goode a fine baby boy last Tuesday evening. He bears the name of Milton Eugene. Mother and baby are getting along nicely. The home of this young couple is at Noodle, but at present they are with Mrs. Goode's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Horton on Oak Street.

Mrs. Jim Bird of Stith was operated on a few days ago at Abilene. She is getting along nicely at present.

Dr. Miller is expected home in a few days. He has been away for several months attending clinics and doing special practice in New Orleans and San Antonio

Mrs. Dutch Huddleston underwent a very serious operation in Abilene a few days ago. She is now getting along nicely.

Misses Agnes Lassiter and Edith Brown, who are attending College in Abilene, were visitors in Merkel this week.

Misses Edna and Nellie Swan have been on the sick list for the past week or two. They are reported better now.

Mrs. Morgan of San Angelo is visiting her mother, Mrs. Calvert.

### For a Bad Cold

Take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It has stood the test of time and can be depended upon.

J. J. Shelton made a trip to San Antonio in his car the past week. He said he found conditions pretty good in and around Menard. He visited a son who is in the hospital at Fort Sam Houston.

G. B. Linn of Melbourne, Ark., is visiting C. T. Beckham and family of Trent. From here he will go to visit his brother in Bell County.

**Try This For Sour Stomach**  
Eat slowly, masticate your food thoroughly. Eat but little meat and none at all for supper. If you are still troubled with sour stomach take one of Chamberlain's Tablets before going to bed.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Hale and little niece of DeMoines N. M., are visiting their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Brittain.

### To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. It stops the Cough and Headache and works off the Cold. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature on each box. 30c.

## LISTEN

This is Our Golden Rule

Compound each prescription as carefully and accurately as for a member of our own family—price it as low as we would want it priced for ourselves

**SANDERS**  
DRUG STORE  
The Home of Pure Drugs

Place Your Order Now For

# That Spring Suit

Cleaning and Pressing  
Altering a Specialty

# L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop  
Merkel, Texas

# NEW SPRING MERCHANDISE

-- ARRIVING ALMOST DAILY AT --

## Woodroof-Bragg's Store

Taffeta and Foulard Dresses, Suits, Millinery, Crepe de Chine, Wash Chiffon and Lingerie Waists, beautiful new taffetas in plaids and stripes, Pongees, Crepe de Chines and Georgetts in all the new shades. Linweaves in nice assortment of exclusive patterns.

We especially invite you to visit our Millinery Department and meet our Miss Biggs, who will take pleasure in showing you the newest things in Spring Millinery.

Regardless of advanced prices on all merchandise found in the markets this season we are prepared to offer a wonderful lot of bargains at the following low prices:

A few bolts of Red Seal Gingham, while they last at ..... 20c  
A good assortment of Galeteas, Linens and Piques, the yard ..... 25c  
One lot of Suitings, sold at 25c, while they last at ..... 15c  
One big lot of laces and embroideries, worth to 25c, at ..... 4c  
One lot muslin underwear, consisting of combination suits, corset covers, drawers and underskirts, each garment now worth \$1.00, while they last at ..... 49c

## A WONDERFUL LOT OF BARGAINS ON THE REMNANT TABLE

We guarantee to save you money on any purchase you make at our store  
A visit will convince you

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To whom it may concern:  
To all creditors other persons interested in either of the Estates of W. A. Hall deceased or R. E. Hall deceased, we the undersigned were appointed Administrators jointly of both of said Estates by the County Court of Taylor County, Texas sitting for Probate business on the 19th day of February A. D. 1918 and all persons having claims against said Estate or either of them will present said claims to us within the time prescribed by law. We each reside in Taylor County, Texas and our Post Office address is Merkel, Texas, Rural Route.  
W. A. Campbell, Route 5.  
George Moore, Route 3.  
Administrators of the Estate of W. A. Hall and R. F. Hall, Deceased. 1t4.

### NOTICE TO FARMERS

I am still in the produce business at the same old stand and will buy all your hens, friers, pullets, roosters, turkeys, ducks, guineas, eggs, butter, hides, sacks, beeswax, etc., and will pay you the highest market price in cash. Don't forget to see me when you have anything to sell. I will treat you right.  
I thank you for past favors and in advance for any future business. I remain  
Yours truly, W. P. Duckett.

Lemuel A. Dudley Writes  
American Expeditionary Forces—Am spending a five-day furlough in London, and you can guess I am enjoying it. This is a very interesting place. I have seen some of the most historical places, I guess, there is in the world. I will have a great story to tell when I get home.

## KEEP THE HOME WIRES RUNNING

What's the use of having a nice lot of electric equipment and part of it out of order—out of commission?

Electric Service is available at the snap of the switch. But you can't use it when appliances are out of order.

If brought to our workshop we will not charge you anything for labor repairs; if we go to your place we will make a moderate charge.

### MERKEL POWER COMPANY

Am getting along fine with my work, like all my shipmates.

Have received package and sure appreciate them. Have also received a couple of letters, which did me a great deal of good. Was glad to hear that you all were well. Was sorry to hear that grandma was so weak. I only hope she is better and stronger now. I am getting along better than you can imagine, so, don't you worry about me. Can not write much, so will close and write again soon. Hope to hear from you often. Give my best regards to all my

friends and loads of love to you and all the homefolks.—Extract of letter to his mother.

You Can't Eat Your Cake And Have It—But You Can Poach Your Egg And Eat The Hen Later

Washington, D. C., Feb. 28—Appreciation of this fact, the poultry specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture say, will add 150,000,000 eggs to our food supply this year without reducing our supply of chicken meat. Investigators have found that because poultry brings 2 cents a pound more in winter than in late spring, many farmers in the South have been throwing away valuable egg profits just to get 8 cents more per hen. They believe that if farmers will keep their laying hens and sell their eggs and then market the birds in late spring, they will not only add to the food supply, but actually increase their profits 50 cents per hen.

**Bad Taste in Your Mouth**  
When you have a bad taste in your mouth you may know that your digestion is faulty. A dose of Chamberlain's Tablets will usually correct the disorder. hey also cause a gentle movement of the bowels. You will find this to be one of the best medicines you have ver become acquainted with.

**Advertised Letters.**  
Edwards, J. W.  
Miller, Roy  
Spain, James.  
Turner, W. R.  
Sent to dead letter office March 13th.

H. C. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

Bran and shorts, G. M. Sharp.

### PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER  
DENTIST

Office Phone 154  
Over Woodroofs Store

DR. GAMBILL  
Dentist.

Office hours 8 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 6 p. m.  
Office over Farmers State Ban.  
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, Nov9

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

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.

## SONG OF THE SAND

By JUANITA

"If You Cannot Realize Your Ideal, Idealize the Real"  
Blow, blow, rise and blow,  
Little waves of sand,  
Wafted over hill and dale,  
By the breezes fanned,  
We will surely miss you so  
If you do decide to go.

If at morning calm serene  
Earth before us lies  
By the time we start our 'wash'  
You have filled our eyes.  
You will make your self a pest  
If you don't give us a rest.

Yet you make our lives so full,  
I don't say complete  
Mind and hands you will employ  
There is no retreat.  
If we've nothing else to do  
We must dust up after you.

Have you really come to stay?  
Riches may take wings,  
And the life we dreamed of once  
May lack many things—  
But, I'm sure, until you quit  
None can say we lack in grit.

But that really isn't bad  
Surely you're a friend  
And 'gainst all who criticize  
You I will defend.  
If we stick to it and succeed  
Grit is just the thing we need.

### Had You Thought Of It?

The younger ladies of Merkel, who are unable to work during the day, are meeting together at the Red Cross rooms Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Their work is to consist as far as possible in the making of refugee garments. The materials for this work will have to be obtained largely through individual giving and the following yardages of material will be gratefully received:

White outing in 4-yard lengths, diaper cloth in any number of yards, white muslin in from 5 up to 10 yard lengths.

The following is taken from the last official bulletin of the American Red Cross.

The articles most in demand in the layette is diaper cloth. But more important is the clothing for children from 1 to 3 years of age.

Indefinite numbers of black sateen and gallitea pinafores Women's wrappers are also needed womens and girls chemises and girls dresses. In general, the quantity of underclothing should be double that of outside clothing.

Any remnants of cloth in the above mentioned materials or any donation in cash can be left with Miss Elma Sheppard at the Star Store or Miss Eva Williams at the Post Office.

### Merkel Wins Second Game

Merkel High School basketball team met Trent High school Friday on the latter's court and carried the victory by a score of 21 to 12. This is the second game the Merkel team has played in the county contest. So far she has won 100 per cent of the games played.

Several cars, carrying students, business citizens and members of the faculty accompanied the team over. The loud rooting of Trent was met by and equal demonstration of the Merkel rooters. Mr. Parker occasionally broke the monotony with a low grumbling sound, "play ball boys!" Misses Smith and Wright who were ardent onlookers, would also occasionally drown the others sounds by loud screams. All of the support, which was not by any means small, was first class. The Merkel quintet is anxiously awaiting their next schedule game, which is with Cross Roads, and will be played at Merkel next Saturday. The Merkel boys realized that it will be no task at all to completely clean up on the Cross Roads team but they are anxious to do it.

J. M. Chandler.

J. S. Swann has just returned from a trip to South Texas, where he has been for the past several weeks.