



ent of Condition  
**Farmers State Bank**  
 Merkel, Texas  
 Date of Business March 4, 1918

RESOURCES

Loans .....	\$235,867.77
Banking House .....	9,200.00
Furniture and Fixtures ..	3,950.00
Bonds, Cert. and Stamps ..	3,004.26
Interest in Guar. Fund....	3,003.57
<b>CASH &amp; EXCHANGE.....</b>	<b>88,388.02</b>
Total.....	\$343,413.62

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock .....	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits.....	31,660.25
<b>DEPOSITS .....</b>	<b>269,547.37</b>
Rediscounts .....	7,206.00
Total.....	\$343,413.62

The above statement is correct.  
 R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

**MULBERRY NEWS**

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Daniel made a flying trip to Abilene Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rogers of Clyde have moved on C. L. Brittons farm.

Mrs. Ruby Moore returned home Tuesday after a few days visit with her mother, Mrs. D. W. Martin of Tye.

B. N. Billingsley and S. T. Martin went to Abilene Wednesday.

Aron Horton, Calloway Cheney, Jim Burns, Hamilton Cheney accompanied John Burns to the Sanatorium Friday.

Lason Childers who has been sick for some time is improving.

Mrs. Lavinia Horton spent Friday with her mother in Tye.

Harry Bird is prospecting in the Ranger country.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Price were Merkel visitors Monday.

Misses Martha Bird and Goldie Anderson of Abilene spent Sunday with the homefolks.

The many friends of John Burns are glad to hear that he is doing splendidly since undergoing an operation at Abilene.

Mr. Henry Prather returned home from eastern parts Sunday.

Out here in the West.  
 We are tired of rest.  
 For the skies have been blue  
 For an aeon or two  
 And a day of sunshine  
 No longer looks fine.

There is one little phrase  
 That we have on all days  
 And its every day use  
 Not to mention abuse.

**Catarrhal Deafness Cannot Be Cured**

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure catarrhal deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. Catarrhal Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Many cases of deafness are caused by catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Catarrhal Deafness that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Circulars free. All Druggists, etc. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

**THE GREAT WAR HAS MADE CIGARETTES A NECESSITY.**

"Our boys must have their smokes. Send them cigarettes!" This is a familiar appeal now to all of us.

Among those most in demand is the now famous "toasted" cigarette—LUCKY STRIKE. Thousands of this favorite brand have been shipped to France. There is something home-like and friendly to the boys in the sight of the familiar green packages with the red circle.

This home-like, appetizing quality of the LUCKY STRIKE cigarette is largely due to the fact that the Burley tobacco used in making it has been toasted. "It's toasted" was the "slogan" that made a great success of LUCKY STRIKE in less than a year. Now the American Tobacco Co. is making 15 million LUCKY STRIKE Cigarettes a day.

A good part of this immense production is making its way across the water to cheer our boys.

Till its really a sin,  
 Makes it threadbare and thin  
 But it never "Goes dead,"  
 Tho' said and re-said,  
 For the interest we feel  
 Is so really real,  
 Its importance don't pale,  
 And it never gets stale,  
 So I say it again,  
 "Do you think it will rain?"  
 Juanita.

We echo in pain  
 As a modest refrain,  
 "No never, no never again!"  
 Editor.

**Do You Sleep Well?**  
 To be at his best a man must have sound, refreshing sleep. When wakeful and restless at night he is in no condition for work or business during the day. Wakefulness is often caused by indigestion and constipation, and is quickly relieved by Chamberlain's Tablets. Try a dose of these tablets and see how much better you feel with a clear head and good digestion.

**HOW TO HELP WIN THE WAR**

While the war is on, the active work in support of the boys at the front will be shouldered cheerfully and men and women a little too-old for acrobatic ser-

**THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK**

will observe the new schedule and beginning April 1 will set the clock up one hour

At that time we will begin opening at 9 o'clock a. m. and will close promptly at 4 p. m. according to the new time

Great Liberty Bond sale begins on the 6th of April. War Saving Stamps for sale at all times. Let us take your subscription.

We invite your banking business, promising the best of service. Call and see us

**THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier**

**LOCAL NEWS**

Bob Hicks has resigned his position with the Anchor Mercantile Company and accepted a position with a firm in Sweetwater. He and Mrs. Hicks are leaving the city as residents. There is hardly a more popular young couple in Merkel and their many friends greatly regret to see them leave. We wish them every success in their new field of endeavor.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

Want a man with small family to do farm and ranch work. C. M. Largent.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith of Meinda, visited Mr. and Chas. Stevens last Saturday and Sunday.

Hooverize and keep your clothes cleaned and pressed. Best service by Mrs. C. L. Cash.

J. E. Bryson, a prosperous farmer of Noodle called last Monday and renewing his subscription to the Merkel Mail. He says they are mighty anxious to see a rain.

**If I were A Farmer.**

If I were a farmer I would keep at hand a few reliable medicines for minor ailments that are not so serious as to require the attention of a physician, such as Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy for the bowel complaints.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for coughs, colds and croup.

Chamberlain's Liniment for sprains, bruises and rheumatic pains.

Chamberlain's Tablets for stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation.

By having these articles at hand it would often save the trouble of a trip to town in the busiest season or in the night, and would enable me to treat slight ailments as soon as they appear, and thereby avoid the more serious diseases that so often follow.

**Better Buy Quickly Next Week or Two will be Higher**

Boys Blue Overall \$1.00---in ages 10 to 18 years

**SEE OUR \$1.45 OVERALLS**

Best made \$1.75 and \$1.85 Overall you can buy

**Ladies Middies, Skirts and Dresses**  
 Prices are low for Make and Quality

**Good Assortment of Gingham**  
 at 15c, 22½c and 25c per yard

**BIG SAINT LOUIS MILLINERY MOUSE**

**Sends their Ladies and Childrens Hats to us exclusively for Merkel**

Prices are made in St. Louis by them and range from \$1.40 to \$4.50

COME AND LOOK THEM OVER

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

vice, but not yet frosted at the temples.

They will supply part of the money and most of the "pep" needed to supply and encourage a huge army in the field.

It is for them to realize that we have passed the period of doubting and question answering.

We have come to the days when hustling must supplant conversation.

It was all right six months ago to spare an hour a day in trying to convince some one with a vacant eye and a dark mind that we were really justified in accepting the insolent challenge thrown at us by Germany.

You are to be forgiven if, even four months ago, you spent valuable time trying to convince a sluggish minority that—

First—Government bonds are a safe investment.

Second—Pro German propaganda are to be hit in the head.

Third—The Allies are to be trusted.

Fourth—The Red Cross is above suspicion and does not obtain either money or knitted goods under false pretenses.

Fifth—All taxes which have been levied are justified by extraordinary and unprecedented conditions.

Sixth—This is not a rich man's war; it was not precipitated by any Wall Street influence; it is not concerned over private investments; it is not a grand benefit for munition makers.

**For Bilious Troubles**

To promote a healthy action of the liver and correct the disorders caused by biliousness Chamberlain's Tablets are excellent. Try them and see how quickly they give you a relish for your food and banish that dull and stupid feeling.

**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 Paria Medicine Co., manufacturers of Laxative Bromo Quinine and Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic.

## HER AWAKENING

By MARTHA MITCHELL.

After a tiresome trip up the White river, Ralph Sanders pushed the prow of his canoe into the bank and then began making a home in the edge of the Ozark country. After getting a patch of mountain and valley into some semblance of a home, he was stricken and died. Sanders was an unmarried man, and the one whom he named as heir to the little speck of a mountain home was Grace Milton, then in her early 'teens. It was with no little degree of surprise that young Miss Milton received the announcement at her home in Virginia that she was the heir to a certain tract of land in the Ozark mountain country.

The months stretched into years during the time that the little place had no tenant, and the space that Ralph Sanders had cleared there in the forest became a wild jumble of young pine, sassafras and bamboo. And before long the low house that he had built was completely hidden from the river.

Meanwhile Grace Milton was growing up in the society of her surroundings, forgetful of the little wilderness that was passing from her possession because of unpaid taxes.

Spring had come again and Virgil Ferris, one of the boys who had romped over the place, now a stalwart man, began clearing away the young growth, little thinking that this very act would restore to him the sweet heart with whom he had quarreled.

About this time Grace Milton was seeking vainly for some refuge, some place where the memory of her bitter words would cease to burn like a hot iron in her soul. For she too had quarreled with the man whom she loved, and all because he refused to have his wife independent of him and his fortune, while she desired independence for the sake of maintaining her so-called "woman's rights."

She had sought forgetfulness in suffrage meetings, in society, in charities, church work and travel. But the pain at her heart grew and would not be eased. Then a solitary camping and tramping trip to her Ozark estate, which had long been a source of merit among her friends, suggested itself.

After she alighted from the train in the village of Runkle she learned, by dint of much questioning of the sleepy agent, that the Sanders estate was "where ye see them young pine saplings, that's it. About a mile down the river."

Many paths crossed and recrossed among the slender trees, but none of them seemed to lead anywhere. She was about to despair of ever finding the log cabin, of which she had heard little and spoken much, when she heard a sigh—almost a sob—not far away. Holding her breath and listening, fearing she knew not what, she heard a man's voice, deep and rich and all untrained, singing an old ballad. He was evidently using an ax, for now she heard the even blows on a log. A girl's form darted down one of the paths and, without thinking, Grace followed. She halted when she came in view of the young man swinging the ax, for the girl was running toward him now, frankly crying. Grace stepped back among the trees, but still within ear-shot.

The man exclaimed, "Oh, you!" Then no more was said until the girl's voice broke out:

"Jack! Jack! I'm so sorry I ever said I wouldn't marry you and be a farmer's wife. I will, I will; but why have you begun planting here? Don't you know how you always said it was a sort of fairy place and its owner a fairy far away, who didn't want it disturbed?"

"Yes, I know," said the man, "but I just decided that fixing up the old log house and seeding the cleared ground wouldn't be disturbing even a fairy's place; and anyway, I'm doing it for the fairy."

"Who owns it now?" asked the girl. "I do," came the answer. "It was sold for taxes two months ago and I bought it in for us."

The girl laughed softly. "How did you know?"

"Oh, I just knew you couldn't help knowing how I wanted you, and that you would really rather live with me on a farm instead of in one of those cheap, gaudy cottages in the Center. They are not real, dear," he said, softly. "Nobody wants a place that isn't a home."

Tears stood in Grace's eyes now. A home! "Nobody wants a place that isn't a home." The words pounded themselves into her brain. This was a home for these two, and hers was far away.

"Good-by, young lovers! Good-by, Ozark estate, I'm going home." (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

### Valuable War Dogs.

The duties of dogs in war are varied. Some are trained for dispatch bearing; others show a greater aptitude for patrol duty, while others make excellent ambulance dogs. Besides these there are search dogs, watch dogs, post dogs, draft dogs, etc.

The dispatch bearers keep two bodies of soldiers in touch with each other. Messages are put in small pouches that are secured carefully to a collar about the dog's neck. Very frequently these animals are compelled to make trips under heavy shell fire. They are dogs of bravery and daring, and there is more than one case on record when they have managed to cover the distance necessary in spite of freshly acquired wounds.

Send for

# Swift & Company's 1918 Year Book

It shows that Swift & Company sells the meat from a steer for *less money* than the live steer cost!

Proceeds from the sale of the hide, fat, and other by-products covered all expense of dressing, refrigeration, freight, selling expense and the profit of \$1.29 per steer as shown by Swift & Company's 1917 figures as follows:

Average price paid for live cattle per steer	\$84.45
Average price received for meat	68.97
Average price received for by-products	24.09
Total received	93.06
This leaves for expenses and profit	8.61
Of which the profit per steer was	1.29

There are many other interesting and instructive facts and figures in the Year Book.


We want to send our 1918 Year Book, to anyone, anywhere — free for the asking. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago.

## Swift & Company, U. S. A.

## Is Your Money Fighting for Your Country

—or Is It Fighting for the Kaiser?

### United States Thrift Stamps Save Lives and Shorten the War!!!



## Start Buying Them at Your Post-office Today

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY SWEET DREAMS

Uncle Bob Hanah of Blair says that since he has been eating corn bread for supper his dreams have been nice and pleasant, but while he ate biscuit he would continue to dream of being in battle, with bullets hitting him on one side and coming out on the other. Corn bread is not so bad after all, is it, Uncle Bob?

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's.

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

## AT YOUR HOME You Will Find A Sample Like This

TRY IT TONIGHT Before you go to bed take one NR Tablet; simply place the tablet on your tongue and drink a full glass of water.



**Nature's Remedy NR-TABLETS-NR**  
FOR CONSTIPATION, DYSPEPSIA, RHEUMATISM, KIDNEY & BLOOD & SKIN DISEASES. BETTER THAN PILLS FOR LIVER ILLS.

How Different You Will Feel In The Morning—

You'll get up feeling brighter and better than you have for many a day. The reason—Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is different in action from pills, salts, calomel, oils and ordinary laxatives. It is milder, yet more thorough, because of its beneficial action on the digestive and eliminative organs—the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. That is how it relieves and eliminates such troubles as Rheumatism, Indigestion and Constipation—it corrects the causes that produce the trouble.

THIS SAMPLE IS A CONVINCER. It is given you to prove our claims. When you are convinced, get a 25c. box from your druggist.

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

**Nature's Remedy NR-TABLETS-NR Better Than Pills For Liver Ills. Get a 25c. Box**

### Employment Service Plan To Supply Farm Workers

A special farm service division is being established in most of the 100 offices of the United States Employment Service as one of the plans for meeting the labor requirements of the farmers. Special field agents are being sent into districts where acute farm labor shortage exists or where usually large numbers will be needed.

A weekly bulletin will be issued in which opportunities for farm employment and the needs of certain districts will be listed. Posters announcing the location of Federal and State employment offices are being hung in post offices, railway stations and other public places.

All third and fourth class post offices, of which there are 55,000, are now authorized farm-labor employment officers. During the harvest season in certain States temporary offices will be opened in a number of cities for the purpose of furnishing accurate information as to where harvest hands are needed.

A weekly report of farm-labor conditions is being sent to the main offices at Washington by all the branch offices and by many State employment offices.

### FOR CONSTIPATION

Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent druggist of Spirit Lake Iowa, says: "Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly the best thing on the market for constipation. Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable and pleasant in effect. Price, 50 cents. For sale by all Dealers. A Healing Salve for Burns."

**TUESDAY MEATLESS ONE MEAL WHEATLESS**

## STAMPS SHOULD BE IN ALL TEX. CASH DRAWERS

The Government wants thrift and war savings stamps sold in every store, in every bank and in all places frequented by the public. To become an agent it is only necessary to obtain an application blank from the County Chairman or State Director of the National War Savings Committee, sign it and mail to the State Director at Dallas, Tex. Stamps may be obtained from the Federal Reserve Bank or through the local bank or postoffice. In becoming an agent there is no loss liability as the thrift stamps are always convertible into War Savings Stamps which are worth more every month and can be cashed at the postoffice at any time at what they cost plus interest.

"GINGER CARS" CARRY UNCLE SAM'S MESSAGE

"Ginger cars," decorated with war savings signs, carrying literature and a flying squadron speaker, are now being sent to every town, community and schoolhouse in their counties by the chairmen of several South Texas subdivisions. At each place visited literature is distributed, agencies are designated, posters are hung up in the stores and public places and the speaker addresses the people and the school children.

## \$9,000,000 Saved By December 31st.

W.S.S. War Savings Stamps

\$200 from every Person in Texas

—w.s.s.—

Every War Savings Stamp you buy brings the end of the war that much nearer.

—w.s.s.—

Is your county going to make its quota of War Savings Stamps? Help push it over the top.

—w.s.s.—

A Thrift Card in your pocket beats a dozen flags on your coat lapel.

—w.s.s.—

If we win our fight at home our soldiers will win theirs in France. Save wisely, not miserly, and invest in Thrift and War Savings Stamps and you are serving your country in one way that is effective.

## DIMES LENT TO TREASURY SOON MAKE DOLLARS

MONEY INVESTED IN WAR SAVINGS STAMPS FAT-TENS—COMES BACK WITH GOOD INTEREST.

This little bag of money represents the cost of a War Savings Stamp. It is the price of the smallest interest-bearing bond issued by the United States Government. The money in this bag, if lent to the Government, will aid materially in winning the war. Every time a War Savings Stamp is purchased the Government is lent enough money to buy one hundred rifle or machine gun cartridges, a pair of soldier's shoes—hundreds of things American fighters must have if we win the war and for which they look to the Government and the folks at home to supply them. They must have those things or lose.

This big bag of silver and gold represents the money that the postmaster will give for every War Savings Stamp brought to the postoffice on January 1, 1923. War Savings Stamps pay their owner four per cent interest compounded quarterly; they commence bearing interest the very day they are sold. During March a War Savings Stamp can be bought for \$4.14. On January 1, 1923, the Government will take it back and give the owner a crisp five-dollar bill or five shiny silver dollars for it. In March 200 War Savings Stamps, the greatest number that the Government will permit one person to own, cost \$828.00. On January 1, 1923, the Government will redeem them for \$1,000.00.

Every month adds a cent more to the purchase price of a War Savings Stamp. In April they will cost \$4.15; in May \$4.16 and so on until in December the buyer of a War Savings Stamp will have to pay \$4.23 to get one. After December 31, 1918, no more of the War Savings Stamps of this issue can be bought. The little Government bonds are on the bargain counter for one year only.

By purchasing War Savings Stamps, Texans are saving money; they are making money; they are helping materially to win the war; they are doing a necessary patriotic duty; they are laying foundations for their own prosperity—putting away a protecting umbrella which will rob the rainy day of its discomforts. By investing regularly in War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps, the little twenty-five-cent brothers of the War Savings Stamps, and refraining from the use of non-essentials, so that goods and service needed to win the war may be released, Texans are mastering the basic principles of thrift which will bring to them prosperity and plenty.

Money invested in these little Government bonds is not given to the Government; it is lent to the Government and every stamp buyer is given a mortgage on the United States of America. It is no sacrifice to buy War Savings and Thrift Stamps. The person who buys them shows long-headed financial judgment and has the satisfaction of knowing that he is helping his country to win a war upon which his own safety and happiness depend.

—w.s.s.—

The time to talk patriotism has passed. It should be practiced now. Get a War Savings Stamp.

—w.s.s.—

Your dimes will grow into dollars if invested in War Savings Stamps.

—w.s.s.—

Are the children in your town getting a square deal? Are they being allowed to learn the principles of thrift?

## The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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



... This paper has existed  
with the government in the  
cause of America for the  
period of the war.....

The water situation in many parts of our country is becoming more and more serious each day. The end of the supply in our sister city, Abilene, is in sight. Other places are suffering even worse. All over the country God-fearing people are praying for rain. While Merkel is suffering from drouth the same as other places in this section, yet she has a bountiful water supply, even sufficient for irrigation purposes, and now the gardens are looking fine. There are some vacant houses here, the rent is very reasonable, and if it becomes necessary for a family anywhere to move on account of the water, Merkel will receive them with open arms. It is to be hoped, however, that a good rain will break the drouth in a short while.

The clocks have been moved up and the people have accepted the new time as a matter of fact. There was some discussion among our local merchants as to whether this applied to them. They argued that they might be of some benefit to the farmers if they stayed open a little later. On the other hand, it has been suggested that the farmers were about as patriotic as other people, therefore they are always not only willing but anxious to comply with every wish of our great President in this stressing war time. Some of the merchants are closing at the same time, believing that it is the patriotic thing to do and that the people will uphold them in their decision. The change was made in order to allow every individual some time for gardening and helping along production at home. It was further made to utilize all the daylight and preserve fuel of all kinds. A still further and another reason is to eliminate late hours at night and bring the people to a full realization of the fact of war. For a long time the people have been going mad for the want of sleep. In our cities, even in our town and country our young folks, and old folks, too, are shortening their lives from the lack of sleep. We are rapidly becoming a nervous race. We are prone to go on with our pleasures, while our brothers and sons are bleeding in the trenches that we may be preserved from such fate as was visited upon the beautiful little country of Belgium. We are unmindful of the boys who are giving their lives that we might live in security.

Yes, if the President wants us to close earlier and go to work earlier, we are glad to do so. If we can contribute our mite in any way, then let us comply quickly and readily. How thankful we ought to be that we have an opportunity to fight this mighty conflict on the other side. We are willing to close up and do anything that will keep our boys in as much comfort as is possible. We belong to the conscript brigade, and if it falls to our lot to enter upon any line of production that will help the boys when we are at duty.

### Statement of Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc.

April 1, 1918  
Of Merkel Mail, published weekly at Merkel, Texas, required by the act of August 24 1912.

Editor and manager, Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas.

Publisher, Merkel Mail Printing Company, Inc., Merkel, Texas.

Owners: Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas; Mrs. M. M. Jackson, Merkel, Texas; F. S. House, Abilene, Texas.

Walter Jackson.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 2nd day of April 1918.

(Seal) W. O. Boney  
Notary Public, Taylor County.  
(My commission expires on June 1st, 1919.)

We are at war. In our over enthusiastic moments we are led to send our boys at the front quantities of tobacco. This measure has been urged by the tobacco companies and the people, in misapplied patriotism, fall into line. The same kind of patriotism a few years ago would have sent them quantities of rum. The cigarette is hurtful. Many parents do not want to see their boys become a victim of the habit. If they must have it, let them arrange for their own supply. If the people at home stand back of the Red Cross and see that the boys are as comfortable as they can be made, then they have done their duty. It has not been so long ago since some of our news papers were raising cigarette funds. Who knows but that the big tobacco houses were paying for this form of publicity?

A man and his wife walked into a store one day. Both had worked hard and still very little was left. She walked to the gingham counter and looked longingly at a dress pattern. She knew she needed a new dress, and so did every one else who saw her. She timidly suggested to her husband that he buy the pattern, as it would cost only a dollar (that was some time ago). He said: "No. Times are too hard," then turning to a clerk said: "Give me a dollar's worth of tobacco."

The women are not attending the Red Cross work as heretofore. They should not grow negligent. In Germany this is fully one-third of the army's fighting strength. Let us not belittle the work. There are many women who have never yet become aligned with the work. Come out and help. The boys will need everything you can do for them, and for some of them, we fear, you will have to do now, if you do at all. Any day may witness the departure of hundreds of thousands of our American boys for the great war center.

The women can vote. At last they have received a heritage as glorious as liberty. Let them be sure that they measure up to it in true womanhood. Show some of these old doubters of woman's ability to vote that they don't know what they are talking about. We heard a man say recently that a woman ought to be in the kitchen. That is a heathen belief. One-third of the world does not believe woman has a soul. Another third keeps her housed in a harem, forbidding that she show her face outside the portals of her home. In many countries she is nothing more than a beast of burden. Whatever her attainment she owes to Christianity. Some women don't think it is right to vote. Some Chinese women believe they do not have a soul; some Turkish women think it would be a disgrace to show their face; many thousands of women almost worship man as a god. Let our American women march to the polls with all the dignity of love and virtue and register her

# 22 Million Families in the United States

## 4 CUPS OF WHEAT FLOUR TO THE POUND

If each family used 4 cups of flour less per week, the saving would be 22 million pounds or 112,244 barrels every week.

The greatest help housekeepers can give to win the war is to make this saving and it can be done by using this recipe in place of white flour bread.

### Corn Meal Biscuits

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup scalded milk       $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt  
1 cup corn meal      1 cup white flour  
2 tablespoons shortening      4 teaspoons Dr. Price's Baking Powder

Save  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of the measured flour for board. Pour milk over corn meal, add shortening and salt. When cold, add sifted flour and baking powder. Roll out lightly on floured board. Cut with biscuit cutter and bake in greased pan fifteen to twenty minutes.

New Red, White and Blue booklet, "Best War Time Recipes," containing many other recipes for making delicious and wholesome wheat saving foods, mailed free.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER, 1011 Independence Boulevard, Chicago

## FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR

in the making of the laws of the land. Let us accept her into the folds of the most blessed liberty this world knows.

It is reported that there are a few cases of diphtheria in town and further that full respect is not being given in the quarantine law. If this is a fact, it ought to be reported to the city health officer, and if that will not straighten out matters, then to the county health officer. A person who is willfully negligent and permits a dangerous disease to go out of his family,

perhaps causing a death, ought to be guilty of murder. It is no small things. Better that a person undergo all sorts of discomfort than to endanger the health and lives of his neighbor.

Be sure to see Jerry the Out-cast on April 12.

Whooping Cough.  
Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to keep the cough loose and expectoration easy. It is excellent.

Cream Meal, at G. M. Sharps

On April 29 another Red Cross play will be given at the Cozy by home talent.

Everything in feed and seed line. G. M. Sharp.

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.

Expecting car of bran and oats, Bob Martins Grocery Company.

# BREEDERS NOTICE

## PERCHERON STALLION

### "Black Jack"

Reg. No. 10551. Weight 1950 pounds

Would be glad if you can see this horse before you breed. You can't find a better animal west of Fort Worth, and I don't believe you will find a better one in the state.



## FINE BLACK JACK "Jack Johnson"

Subject to Registration. Weight about 1000 Pounds  
Sired by "Napoleon" No. 910, his dam by "Midnight" No. 3855. This jack has made three seasons at my barn and has mules all over the country, which I would be glad you could see before breeding.

My terms for either horse or jack is \$10.00 when the mare is served, and I give you the following note to secure you against any loss:

\$10.00      Trent, Texas      19  
One year after date for value received I promise to pay to the order of \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of ten dollars with interest from \_\_\_\_\_ date at the rate of ten per cent per annum. This is a conditional note and is to be void if the mare described below, which has been served by my horse—jack—is with foal and bears a colt which is able to stand and suck. If said mare is not with foal this note is to be in full force and effect.  
Payable at Trent, Texas.      Non-negotiable.  
Description of mare: Color \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ years, height \_\_\_\_\_ hands, name \_\_\_\_\_ brand \_\_\_\_\_

As to my ability to pay above note, please refer to The First State Bank, Trent, Texas

Will not be responsible for accidents

# L. W. ROSS

Located 4 miles west of Trent.      Follow T. & P. railroad from Trent

# 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

### 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 Bank  
Phones: Office, 306, Res. 103.

### DR. J. E. ADKISSON

Physician and Surgeon

Hours From 6 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.  
Office over City Barber Shop  
Phones: Of. 163, Res. 187. Nov 9

### DR. MILLER

Over Woodroof-Bragg Company  
Physician and Surgeon  
Eyes Tested and Glasses General Practice

### 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

### A TEXAS WONDER.

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

### The 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 or ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. 30c.

### 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

Place Your Order Now For

# That Spring Suit

Cleaning and Pressing  
Altering a Specialty

# L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop  
Merkel, Texas

SCHOOL CONTEST IS INTERESTING

The Girls Win Spelling Bouts—
Declamations Draw Crowd—
Winners To Go To Ovalo.

Last Friday evening the Seniors and Juniors met in their spelling contests. Both sections acquitted themselves in highly creditable manner. The winners in the Senior contest were Vivian Hutcheson, first; Bessie Tucker, second; Maggie Allen, third. The winners in the Junior contest were Opal Patterson, first; Ruth Newberry, second Ruth Wells, third.

Last Tuesday evening the Declaration try-out took place at the school building, which was crowded to capacity and overflowing into the corridors. Bessie Tucker, being the only contestant of the Senior girls, delivered her declamation in a highly meritorious manner and will represent the school at Ovalo. In the Senior boys contest, Jack Embry won first place, Minor Burns, second, and Willie Stevens, third. John Mann won first place of the Junior boys, Lewis Giles, second and R. L. Burns, third. The winners in the Junior girls contest were, Vena Mae Jackson, first; Mossie Sears, second and Charlsie Armstrong, third.

The orchestra was on hand with several selections. The citizenship appreciates the work of this body and they are being called upon at almost all gatherings. The piano selection by Mrs. Howard, and Miss Williams was much enjoyed by all. Every one having anything to do with the program should be congratulated. The program was thoroughly enjoyed.

DECLAMATION Prizes

Prizes were given in thirt stamps:

Senior boys, First Prize, \$1., given by Mr. Chandler, teacher, Jack Embry; Second Prize, .75¢ by Farmers State Bank, Minor Burns; Third Prize, .50¢, by Sanders Drug Store, Willie Stevens.

Senior Girls, First Prize, \$1. by Mr. Chandler, teacher, to Bessie Tucker.

Junior Boys, First Prize, \$1., by Miss Amber Lewis, teacher, to John Mann; Second Prize, .75¢, by Merkel Mail, to Lewis Giles; Third Prize, .50¢, by J. T. and F. H. Dennis, to R. L. Burns.

Junior Girls, First Prize, \$1., by Miss Emma Houston, to Vena Mae Jackson; Second Prize, .75¢, by A. B. Barrow & Company, to Mossie Sears; Third Prize, .50¢ by The Racket Store, to Charlsie Armstrong

SPELLING

Junior Spelling, First Prize, \$1., by Miss Ruby Campbell, teacher, to Opal Patterson; Second Prize, .75¢, by Grimes Drug Store, to Ruth Newberry; Third Prize, .50¢, by F. & M. Bank, to Ruth Wells.

Senior Spelling, First Prize, \$1., by Miss Flora Wright, teacher, to Vivian Hutcheson; Second Prize, .75¢, by The Crown Hardware Co., to Bessie Tucker; Third Prize, .50¢, by F. & M. Nat. Bank, to Maggie Allen.

The winners of first place will go to Ovalo for the county contest Friday and Saturday, the program follows:

Friday, 10 a. m.—All contestants meet at church for preliminary announcements and assignment to homes.

10:30—Junior and senior spelling matches.

10:30—Meeting of county executive committee to hear protests and transact routine business.

1 p. m.—Spelling continued.

Preliminaries in declamation and debate.

4 p. m.—County championship basketball; senior girls, junior boys.

5 p. m.—County championship basketball; senior boys, junior girls.

8 p. m.—Finals in declamation and debate.

Saturday—Beginning at 9 a. m. the track and field meet will be held for senior and junior boys and girls. The events of the different divisions will alternate.

Please send names of all contestants to Prof. M. A. Williams, Ovalo, so that the list will reach him by April 3, in order that he can arrange for free entertainment.

J. E. Temple Fetters, Director General for Taylor County.

BOY SCOUTS TO ORGANIZE

Mayor Cobb and the city council, with the assistance of the Scout Master of Abilene, and perhaps others from Abilene, will meet at the City Hall Monday night at 8:30 for the purpose of organizing the Boy Scouts of Merkel. All boys over 12 years old, wishing to join, are requested to be on time.

All parents who are interested in their boys ought also to be present. They should see that the right people are at the head of it and then stand behind it to the fullest extent. The principles of the organization are fine and can harm no boy. Loosely constructed the organization can do great harm.

Care of Knitted Garments.

In order that maximum service may be obtained from all knitted garments furnished soldiers by the Red Cross and other societies and to do away with trafficking in these garments by unprincipled parties, all of these garments previously issued the men are to be checked and when the cold weather is over, they will be collected, fumigated and packed away for service when the cold winds again blow. In the future the Quartermaster's Corps will handle the knitted goods for the soldiers, thereby insuring their safety and equal distribution. This does not mean that the soldiers will be deprived of them, but that with limited space for care and protection of them, many might otherwise be torn or injured.

The order is likewise to break down a bit of possible German propaganda work. That was the circulation of rumors that soldiers were selling broadcast sweaters that willing workers had provided them, for amounts from twenty five cents to fifty plan there will be no chance for consideration of such a rumor.

Don't miss "The Noble Outcast," by the Seniors April 12, at the Cozy.

LOST—A green coat between Merkel and Stith on Salt Branch road. Finder leave with R. S. Palmer. 4t2p.

DOES WAR PAY?

Though his army's rather meager—

So they say— Uncle Sam is getting eager For the fray.

Foreign wars are rather riskey. Yet he's feeling mighty riskey; If it only knocks out whiskey,

War will pay. —Fred Emerson Brooks in Religious Telescope.

Food will win the war—produce it.

Save food or go on short rations.

Choice hay at G. M. Sharps.

SACKS WANTED Will pay 10 cents for two bushel sacks and 15 cents for five bushel sacks. E. L. Ash. 4t

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS Will SAVE SOLDIERS

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

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

FOR RENT—Large, cool office room for \$5.00 a month, over Woodroof-Bragg store. See the Merkel Mail. tf.

FOR SERVICE—My registered Durham at the lively barn on the South Side. —R. L. Bland. tf.

FOR SERVICE—Bay draft Stallion, 6 years old. 1-5 (\$3.00) Cash at time of service.—Arthur Cranston. 228t2p

FOR SALE—A few nice barred rock hens and pullets. A few settings of eggs. Phone or write. H. P. Wilkins. 29t2p.

FOR SALE—Fine registered male Poland China pig, two months old. Walter Jackson.

FOR SALE or TRADE—Some good jacks. Dr. M. Armstrong.

FOR SALE—Work stock, horses, mares and mules. Dr. Armstrong.

LOST—Rest for top of Little Six Overland between Merkel and Stith. Finder please bring to Merkel Mail office. A. M. Wimberly. 5t2p

ON ALL DAYS

WITH EACH PURCHASE OF WHEAT FLOUR FOR HOME USE YOU MUST BUY ALSO AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF OTHER CEREALS



ON WHEATLESS DAYS

USE NO BREAD, CRACKERS, PASTRY OR BREAKFAST FOODS CONTAINING WHEAT.



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. Hiltner

J. L. Mingus G. R. Pain

For County Attorney: W. E. Martin.

W. H. Sewell.

For Sheriff: J. T. Dodson.

John Bond.

For County Treasurer: Austin Fitts.

For Tax Collector: G. B. Tittle.

For County Tax Assessor: John H. Vance.

For County School Supt. J. S. Smith.

For Commissioner, Precinct 2: T. R. Lassiter.

Sam Butman, Jr. J. L. Banner.

E. D. Coats.

For Public Weigher at Merkel: J. M. Garrett.

H. M. Mayfield. James Patterson, Jr.

W. R. Britton

Jones County Candidates

For Sheriff: T. P. (Tom) Hudson

For Tax Collector: W. C. Cutrell.

UNION RIDGE For School Trustee: Arch Harris.

RED CROSS BOOST

A number of poultry raisers of this section contributed eggs, which were auctioned off last Saturday and the proceeds given to the Red Cross. The net amount turned over to that organization was \$35.00. Some parties bought the eggs and then put them up again for auction. They ought to have another auction about April 13. Perhaps somebody might have a pig or a calf they would like to auction. Following are the parties contributing to the fund above named:

- A. J. Hartley. Henry Rose. Joe Higgins. H. P. Wilkins. Fred Baker. Mr. Ellis. Eli Cordell. G. L. Baker. D. J. Hartley. T. M. Pribble. C. F. Holland. J. M. Jordan. J. M. Dunn. C. M. Largent. A. B. Cranston. T. J. Warren. Jas. A. Patterson.

NOTICE

Don't forget to bring your chickens, turkeys ducks, geese, guineas, eggs, butter, beeswax, hides, friers, towsacks, old iron, bonec rags and the like to W. P. Duckett and get the cash for all you bring. Thank you in advance. W. P. Duckett.

W. H. SEWELL FOR COUNTY ATTORNEY

W. H. Sewell, who is now county attorney, being appointed by the Commissioners Court at the February term, to succeed Mr. W. H. Graham, resigned. Mr. Sewell's familiarity with the office made him a very

disirable man for the place in the eyes of the commissioners, and since taking charge, he has given the utmost satisfaction.

Mr. Sewell has practiced law in Taylor county since April, 1905, coming to Merkel that year and remaining here until February, 1909, when he moved to Abilene, where he formed a partnership with Hon. W. J. Cunningham. This partnership continued until the first of January of this year. It is well known fact that this firm has been engaged in nearly every important criminal case in the county for many years, which has given Mr. Sewell a wide experience along the lines needed to fill the position to which he aspires.

Mr. Sewell asks for the office solely on his merits as a prosecutor and a lawyer. He is well known all over the county and we heartily recommend him to the consideration of the voters.

RED CROSS PLAY

The Trent High School gave a play at the Cozy last Thursday night. A cold spell blew up in the late afternoon and the weather was also disagreeable that the attendance was necessarily small. The play was a real good one and the players acted their parts to perfection. Those who braved the weather to attend, feel that they got their money's worth and more. Those taking part in the play were in deed brave. We wish they might come again when the weather is more favorable. These home talent plays ought to be encouraged. It is a way in which every one may contribute his mite for this splendid work. Before this war is over the Red Cross is going to be very new, if not, the most important phase of army work.

SOLDIERS IN REVIEW

Fort Worth, Texas, With fourteen bands playing, flags waving and thousands cheering them, the Texas and Oklahoma National Guardsmen of the United States army in the 36th Division, 27,000 strong, will march inreview in Fort Worth on Thursday, April 11th. It will be the greatest single military display ever seen in Texas; never before within the state has such a large body of troops been reviewed or under such conditions, for:

Within a very short time (exactly how long known only to the War Department) these troops will be on their way to France, on their way to join the comrades who already have attacked the enemy, and with them and the Anglo-Franco allies carry the victorious banner of liberty into Berlin to mark the end of militarism in this world.

Many of the fathers and mothers of the boys in the 36th Division have not seen them in camp; quite a number have not seen them at all since their son left their homes last summer to enter Uncle Sam's training quarters and become seasoned veterans even before entering upon the foreign campaign. This will be the greatest opportunity in their lives to be with their boys again for a little while before they depart on the errand for which they enlisted and to see them under circumstances that will never fade from memory.

Every unit in the Division will be represented in the parade, each with full equipment. The artillery, cavalry, infantry, engineers, signal and hospital corps and other branches of the army will be in line. A large representation of aviators from Camp Taliaferro will attend.

Make twelve ounces of bread dough where sixteen served before. Reduction, Production—the 1918 watchwords.

THE BOND ELECTION SATURDAY

Road Bonds Carried Everywhere—To Improve Important Highway Link.

Quietly and in a very business-like manner the voters came to the polls last Saturday and registered in favor of the bonds in a most substantial manner. The vote in Merkel was 244 to 36; in Trent 56 to 10, and in Tye 15 to 2; the total being 315 to 48, or over 6 to 1 in favor of the bonds.

The voters looked into the merits of the proposition. Everything appeared fair and square and they came out and voted for what they believed to be right.

We now stand a show to get the Fort Worth-El Paso highway, the Overland highway and best of all, the Ozark Trails, with a possibility of a military highway.

There was no hard feeling aroused over the question as is often the case. A united citizenship stands behind the bonds, every one feeling that a great forward stride has been made.

CITY OFFICERS ELECTED.

Last Tuesday an election was held in the city to fill three positions of alderman. There were 61 votes polled, three or four of which were incorrect and had to be thrown out. Following are the results:

- H. L. Propst, 53
T. G. Bragg, 46
J. P. Sharp, 44
D. G. Barrow, 21
Geo. Boyce, 3
M. Armstrong, 1
G. F. West, 1

No one is accusing the two last named of voting for themselves, though in the case of Dr. Arm strong, who is already a member of the board, it was a joke or else somebody knows very little about our city officers. Guess this ought to be credited to him on the next election.

The election crept upon the voters without due notice. Usually the fact is published a month in advance. However, the vote was entirely too light. It is said that some of the candidates in the July primary failed to vote. The ones in this race are terribly mad on this account and may not vote in the July primary. The moral is: A fellow that is afraid to vote his convictions ought to be beaten to a frazzle.

SENIOR PLAY

On April 12 the Seniors will give a play at the Cozy. They are deserving of our patronage and a full house is confidently expected. The Seniors have been working mighty hard on this play and are said to have it in splendid shape.

LIBERTY LOAN PLAN

The third liberty loan sales starts Saturday, April 6. The speeches will be made all over the county. Dates for the meetings in this part of the county are as follows:

- Merkel, Saturday afternoon, 2 p. m.—J. D. Sandefer.
Trent, Sunday afternoon, 2 p. m. Harry Tom King and B.A. Box.
Blair, Sunday at 2 p. m.—H.N. Hickman.
Tye, Sunday, 2 p. m.—Prof. Munden.
Nubia, Sunday, 2 p. m.—R. W. Haynie.

ICE CREAM

Or anything else in the confectionery line at A. C. Boney's.

Statement of Condition  
**The Farmers State Bank**  
 Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business March 4, 1918

RESOURCES

Loans .....	\$235,867.77
Banking House .....	9,200.00
Furniture and Fixtures ..	3,950.00
Bonds, Cert. and Stamps ..	3,004.26
Interest in Guar. Fund....	3,003.57
CASH & EXCHANGE.....	<b>88,388.02</b>
Total .....	\$343,413.62

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock .....	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits.....	31,660.25
DEPOSITS .....	<b>269,547.37</b>
Rediscounts .....	7,206.00
Total .....	\$343,413.62

The above statement is correct.  
 R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier.

MULBERRY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Daniel made a flying trip to Abilene Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rogers of Clyde have moved on C. L. Brittons farm.

Mrs. Ruby Moore returned home Tuesday after a few days visit with her mother, Mrs. D. W. Martin of Tye.

B. N. Billingsley and S. T. Martin went to Abilene Wednesday.

Aron Horton, Callaway Cheney, Jim Burns, Hamilton Chaney accompanied John Burns to the Sanatorium Friday.

Lason Childers who has been sick for some time is improving.

Mrs. Lavinia Horton spent Friday with her mother in Tye.

Harry Bird is prospecting in the Ranger country.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Price were Merkel visitors Monday.

Misses Martha Bird and Goldie Anderson of Abilene spent Sunday with the homefolks.

The many friends of John Burns are glad to hear that he is doing splendidly since undergoing an operation at Abilene.

Mr. Henry Prather returned home from eastern parts Sunday.

Out here in the West. We are tired of rest.

For the skies have been blue For an aeon or two

And a day of sunshine No longer looks fine.

There is one little phrase That we have on all days And its every day use Not to mention abuse.

**Catarrhal Deafness Cannot Be Cured**  
 by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure catarrhal deafness, and that is by a constitutional remedy. Catarrhal Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result. Unless the inflammation can be reduced and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Many cases of deafness are caused by catarrh, which is an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the blood on the mucous surfaces of the system. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Catarrhal Deafness that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Circulars free. All Druggists, 75c.

THE GREAT WAR HAS MADE CIGARETTES A NECESSITY.

"Our boys must have their smokes. Send them cigarettes!" This is a familiar appeal now to all of us.

Among those most in demand is the now famous "toasted" cigarette—LUCKY STRIKE. Thousands of this favorite brand have been shipped to France. There is something home-like and friendly to the boys in the sight of the familiar green packages with the red circle.

This home-like, appetizing quality of the LUCKY STRIKE cigarette is largely due to the fact that the Burley tobacco used in making it has been toasted. "It's toasted" was the "slogan" that made a great success of LUCKY STRIKE in less than a year. Now the American Tobacco Co. is making 15 million LUCKY STRIKE Cigarettes a day.

A good part of this immense production is making its way across the water to cheer our boys.

Till its really a sin,  
 Makes it threadbare and thin  
 But it never "Goes dead,"  
 Tho' said and re-said,  
 For the interest we feel  
 Is so really real,  
 Its importance don't pale,  
 And it never gets stale,  
 So I say it again,  
 "Do you think it will rain?"  
 Juanita.

We echo in pain  
 As a modest refrain,  
 "No never, no never again!"  
 Editor.

**Do You Sleep Well?**  
 To be at his best a man must have sound, refreshing sleep. When wakeful and restless at night he is in no condition for work or business during the day. Wakefulness is often caused by indigestion and constipation, and is quickly relieved by Chamberlain's Tablets. Try a dose of these tablets and see how much better you feel with a clear head and good digestion.

**HOW TO HELP WIN THE WAR**  
 While the war is on, the active work in support of the boys at the front will be shouldered cheerfully and men and women a little too old for acrobatic ser-

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

will observe the new schedule and beginning April 1 will set the clock up one hour

At that time we will begin opening at 9 o'clock a. m. and will close promptly at 4 p. m. according to the new time

Great Liberty Bond sale begins on the 6th of April. War Saving Stamps for sale at all times. Let us take your subscription.

We invite your banking business, promising the best of service. Call and see us

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

Bob Hicks has resigned his position with the Anchor Mercantile Company and accepted a position with a firm in Sweetwater. He and Mrs. Hicks are leaving the city as residents. There is hardly a more popular young couple in Merkel and their many friends greatly regret to see them leave. We wish them every success in their new field of endeavor.

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

Want a man with small family to do farm and ranch work. C. M. Largent.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Smith of Meinda, visited Mr. and Chas. Stevens last Saturday and Sunday.

Hooverize and keep your clothes cleaned and pressed. Best service by Mrs. C. L. Cash.

J. E. Bryson, a prosperous farmer of Noodle called last Monday and renewing his subscription to the Merkel Mail. He says they are mighty anxious to see a rain.

**If I were A Farmer.**  
 If I were a farmer I would keep at hand a few reliable medicines for minor ailments that are not so serious as to require the attention of a physician, such as Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy for the bowel complaints.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for coughs, colds and croup.

Chamberlain's Liniment for sprains, bruises and rheumatic pains.

Chamberlain's Tablets for stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation.

By having these articles at hand it would often save the trouble of a trip to town in the busiest season or in the night, and would enable me to treat slight ailments as soon as they appear, and thereby avoid the more serious diseases that so often follow.

**Better Buy Quickly Next Week or Two will be Higher**

Boys Blue Overall \$1.00---in ages 10 to 18 years

**SEE OUR \$1.45 OVERALLS**

Best made \$1.75 and \$1.85 Overall you can buy

**Ladies Middies, Skirts and Dresses**  
 Prices are low for Make and Quality

**Good Assortment of Gingham**  
 at 15c, 22½c and 25c per yard

**BIG SAINT LOUIS MILLINERY MOUSE**

**Sends their Ladies and Childrens Hats to us exclusively for Merkel**

Prices are made in St. Louis by them and range from \$1.40 to \$4.50

COME AND LOOK THEM OVER

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

vice, but not yet frosted at the temples.

They will supply part of the money and most of the "pep" needed to supply and encourage a huge army in the field.

It is for them to realize that we have passed the period of doubting and question answering.

We have come to the days when hustling must supplant conversation.

It was all right six months ago to spare an hour a day in trying to convince some one with a vacant eye and a dark mind that we were really justified in accepting the insolent challenge thrown at us by Germany.

You are to be forgiven if, even four months ago, you spent valuable time trying to convince a sluggish minority that—

First—Government bonds are a safe investment.

Second—Pro German propaganda are to be hit in the head.

Third—The Allies are to be trusted.

Fourth—The Red Cross is above suspicion and does not obtain either money or knitted goods under false pretenses.

Fifth—All taxes which have been levied are justified by extraordinary and unprecedented conditions.

Sixth—This is not a rich man's war; it was not precipitated by any Wall Street influence; it is not concerned over private investments; it is not a grand benefit for munition makers.

**For Bilious Troubles**  
 To promote a healthy action of the liver and correct the disorders caused by biliousness Chamberlain's Tablets are excellent. Try them and see how quickly they give you a relish for your food and banish that dull and stupid feeling.

**For Indigestion, Constipation or Biliousness**  
 Just try one 50-cent bottle of LAX-FOS WITH PEP-SIN. 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.

## HER AWAKENING

By MARTHA MITCHELL.

After a tiresome trip up the White river, Ralph Sanders pushed the prow of his canoe into the bank and then began making a home in the edge of the Ozark country. After getting a patch of mountain and valley into some semblance of a home, he was stricken and died. Sanders was an unmarried man, and the one whom he named as heir to the little speck of a mountain home was Grace Milton, then in her early teens. It was with no little degree of surprise that young Miss Milton received the announcement at her home in Virginia that she was the heir to a certain tract of land in the Ozark mountain country.

The months stretched into years during the time that the little place had no tenant, and the space that Ralph Sanders had cleared there in the forest became a wild jumble of young pine, sassafras and bamboo. And before long the low house that he had built was completely hidden from the river.

Meanwhile Grace Milton was growing up in the society of her surroundings, forgetful of the little wilderness that was passing from her possession because of unpaid taxes.

Spring had come again and Virgil Ferris, one of the boys who had romped over the place, now a stalwart man, began clearing away the young growth, little thinking that this very act would restore to him the sweetheart with whom he had quarreled.

About this time Grace Milton was seeking vainly for some refuge, some place where the memory of her bitter words would cease to burn like a hot iron in her soul. For she too had quarreled with the man whom she loved, and all because he refused to have his wife independent of him and his fortune, while she desired independence for the sake of maintaining her so-called "woman's rights."

She had sought forgetfulness in suffrage meetings, in society, in charities, church work and travel. But the pain at her heart grew and would not be eased. Then a solitary camping and tramping trip to her Ozark estate, which had long been a source of merriment among her friends, suggested itself.

After she alighted from the train in the village of Runkle she learned, by dint of much questioning of the sleepy agent, that the Sanders estate was "where ye see them young pine saplins", that's it. About a mile down the river."

Many paths crossed and recrossed among the slender trees, but none of them seemed to lead anywhere. She was about to despair of ever finding the log cabin, of which she had heard little and spoken much, when she heard a sigh—almost a sob—not far away. Holding her breath and listening, fearing she knew not what, she heard a man's voice, deep and rich and all untrained, singing an old ballad. He was evidently using an ax, for now she heard the even blows on a log. A girl's form darted down one of the paths and, without thinking, Grace followed. She halted when she came in view of the young man swinging the ax, for the girl was running toward him now, frankly crying. Grace stepped back among the trees, but still within earshot.

The man exclaimed, "Oh, you!" Then no more was said until the girl's voice broke out:

"Jack! Jack! I'm so sorry I ever said I wouldn't marry you and be a farmer's wife. I will, I will; but why have you begun planting here? Don't you know how you always said it was a sort of fairy place and its owner a fairy far away, who didn't want it disturbed?"

"Yes, I know," said the man, "but I just decided that fixing up the old log house and seedling the cleared ground wouldn't be disturbing even a fairy's place; and anyway, I'm doing it for the fairy."

"Who owns it now?" asked the girl. "I do," came the answer. "It was sold for taxes two months ago and I bought it in for us."

The girl laughed softly. "How did you know—"

"Oh, I just knew you couldn't help knowing how I wanted you, and that you would really rather live with me on a farm instead of in one of those cheap, gaudy cottages in the Center. They are not real, dear," he said, softly. "Nobody wants a place that isn't a home."

Tears stood in Grace's eyes now. A home! "Nobody wants a place that isn't a home." The words pounded themselves into her brain. This was a home for these two, and hers was far away.

"Good-by, young lovers! Good-by, Ozark estate, I'm going home." (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

### Valuable War Dogs.

The duties of dogs in war are varied. Some are trained for dispatch bearing; others show a greater aptitude for patrol duty, while others make excellent ambulance dogs. Besides these there are search dogs, watch dogs, post dogs, draft dogs, etc.

The dispatch bearers keep two bodies of soldiers in touch with each other. Messages are put in small pouches that are secured carefully to a collar about the dog's neck. Very frequently these animals are compelled to make trips under heavy shell fire. They are dogs of bravery and daring, and there is more than one case on record when they have managed to cover the distance necessary in spite of freshly acquired wounds.

Send for

# Swift & Company's 1918 Year Book

It shows that Swift & Company sells the meat from a steer for *less money* than the live steer cost!

Proceeds from the sale of the hide, fat, and other by-products covered all expense of dressing, refrigeration, freight, selling expense and the profit of \$1.29 per steer as shown by Swift & Company's 1917 figures as follows:

Average price paid for live cattle per steer	\$84.45
Average price received for meat	68.97
Average price received for by-products	24.09
Total received	93.06
This leaves for expenses and profit	8.61
Of which the profit per steer was	1.29

There are many other interesting and instructive facts and figures in the Year Book.


We want to send our 1918 Year Book, to anyone, anywhere — free for the asking. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.

## Is Your Money Fighting for Your Country

## —or Is It Fighting for the Kaiser?

### United States Thrift Stamps Save Lives and Shorten the War!!!



## Start Buying Them at Your Post-office Today

THIS SPACE CONTRIBUTED BY SWEET DREAMS

Uncle Bob Hanah of Blair says that since he has been eating corn bread for supper his dreams have been nice and pleasant, but while he ate biscuit he would continue to dream of being in battle, with bullets hitting him on one side and coming out on the other. Corn bread is not so bad after all, is it, Uncle Bob?

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's.

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

## AT YOUR HOME You Will Find A Sample Like This

TRY IT TONIGHT  
Before you go to bed take one NR Tablet; simply place the tablet on your tongue and drink a full glass of water.



How Different You Will Feel In The Morning—

You'll get up feeling brighter and better than you have for many a day. The reason—Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is different in action from pills, salts, calomel, oils and ordinary laxatives. It is milder, yet more thorough, because of its beneficial action on the digestive and eliminative organs—the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels. That is how it relieves and eliminates such troubles as Rheumatism, Indigestion and Constipation—it corrects the causes that produce the trouble.

THIS SAMPLE IS A CONVINCER. It is given you to prove our claims. When you are convinced, get a 25c. box from your druggist.

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

**Nature's Remedy Better Than Pills For Liver Ills. Get a 25c Box**

### Employment Service Plan To Supply Farm Workers

A special farm service division is being established in most of the 100 offices of the United States Employment Service as one of the plans for meeting the labor requirements of the farmers. Special field agents are being sent into districts where acute farm labor shortage exists or where usually large numbers will be needed. A weekly bulletin will be issued in which opportunities for farm employment and the needs of certain districts will be listed. Posters announcing the location of Federal and State employment offices are being hung in post offices, railway stations and other public places.

All third and fourth class post offices, of which there are 55,000, are now authorized farm-labor employment offices. During the harvest season in certain States temporary offices will be opened in a number of cities for the purpose of furnishing accurate information as to where harvest hands are needed.

A weekly report of farm-labor conditions is being sent to the main offices at Washington by all the branch offices and by many State employment offices.

### FOR CONSTIPATION

Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent druggist of Spirit Lake Iowa, says: "Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly the best thing on the market for constipation. Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable and pleasant in effect. Price, 10c. For sale by all Dealers. A Healing Salve for Burns,

**TUESDAY MEATLESS ONE MEAL WHEATLESS**


## STAMPS SHOULD BE IN ALL TEX. CASH DRAWERS

The Government wants thrift and war savings stamps sold in every store, in every bank and in all places frequented by the public. To become an agent it is only necessary to obtain an application blank from the County Chairman or State Director of the National War Savings Committee, sign it and mail to the State Director at Dallas, Tex. Stamps may be obtained from the Federal Reserve Bank or through the local bank or postoffice. In becoming an agent there is no loss liability as the thrift stamps are always convertible into War Savings Stamps which are worth more every month and can be cashed at the postoffice at any time at what they cost plus interest.

### "GINGER CARS" CARRY UNCLE SAM'S MESSAGE

"Ginger cars," decorated with war savings signs, carrying literature and a flying squadron speaker, are now being sent to every town, community and schoolhouse in their counties by the chairmen of several South Texas subdivisions. At each place visited literature is distributed, agencies are designated, posters are hung up in the stores and public places and the speaker addresses the people and the school children.

### \$910,000 Saved By December 31st.



**\$200 from every Person in Texas**

—w.s.s.—

Every War Savings Stamp you buy brings the end of the war that much nearer.

—w.s.s.—

Is your county going to make its quota of War Savings Stamps? Help push it over the top.

—w.s.s.—

A Thrift Card in your pocket beats a dozen flags on your coat lapel.

—w.s.s.—

If we win our fight at home our soldiers will win theirs in France. Save wisely, not miserly, and invest in Thrift and War Savings Stamps and you are serving your country in one way that is effective.

## DIMES LENT TO TREASURY SOON MAKE DOLLARS

MONEY INVESTED IN WAR SAVINGS STAMPS FATTENS—COMES BACK WITH GOOD INTEREST.



This little bag of money represents the cost of a War Savings Stamp. It is the price of the smallest interest-bearing bond issued by the United States Government. The money in this bag, if lent to the Government, will aid materially in winning the war. Every time a War Savings Stamp is purchased the Government is lent enough money to buy one hundred rifle or machine gun cartridges, a pair of soldier's shoes—hundreds of things American fighters must have if we win the war and for which they look to the Government and the folks at home to supply them. They must have those things or lose.



This big bag of silver and gold represents the money that the postmaster will give for every War Savings Stamp brought to the postoffice on January 1, 1923. War Savings Stamps pay their owner four per cent interest compounded quarterly; they commence bearing interest the very day they are sold. During March a War Savings Stamp can be bought for \$4.14. On January 1, 1923, the Government will take it back and give the owner a crisp five-dollar bill or five shiny silver dollars for it. In March 200 War Savings Stamps, the greatest number that the Government will permit one person to own, cost \$828.00. On January 1, 1923, the Government will redeem them for \$1,000.00.

Every month adds a cent more to the purchase price of a War Savings Stamp. In April they will cost \$4.15; in May \$4.16 and so on until in December the buyer of a War Savings Stamp will have to pay \$4.23 to get one. After December 31, 1918, no more of the War Savings Stamps of this issue can be bought. The little Government bonds are on the bargain counter for one year only.

By purchasing War Savings Stamps, Texans are saving money; they are making money; they are helping materially to win the war; they are doing a necessary patriotic duty; they are laying foundations for their own prosperity—putting away a protecting umbrella which will rob the rainy day of its discomforts. By investing regularly in War Savings Stamps and Thrift Stamps, the little twenty-five-cent brothers of the War Savings Stamps, and refraining from the use of non-essentials, so that goods and service needed to win the war may be released, Texans are mastering the basic principles of thrift which will bring to them prosperity and plenty.

Money invested in these little Government bonds is not given to the Government; it is lent to the Government and every stamp buyer is given a mortgage on the United States of America. It is no sacrifice to buy War Savings and Thrift Stamps. The person who buys them shows long-headed financial judgment and has the satisfaction of knowing that he is helping his country to win a war upon which his own safety and happiness depend.

—w.s.s.—

The time to talk patriotism has passed. It should be practiced now. Get a War Savings Stamp.

—w.s.s.—

Your dimes will grow into dollars if invested in War Savings Stamps.

—w.s.s.—

Are the children in your town getting a square deal? Are they being allowed to learn the principles of thrift?

## The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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



--- This paper has existed with the government in the cause of America for the period of the war ---

The water situation in many parts of this country is becoming more and more serious each day. The end of the supply in our sister city, Abilene, is in sight. Other places are suffering even worse. All over the country God-fearing people are praying for rain. While Merkel is suffering from drouth the same as other places in this section, yet she has a bountiful water supply, even sufficient for irrigation purposes, and now the gardens are looking fine. There are some vacant houses here, the rent is very reasonable, and if it becomes necessary for a family anywhere to move on account of the water, Merkel will receive them with open arms. It is to be hoped, however, that a good rain will break the drouth in a short while.

The clocks have been moved up and the people have accepted the new time as a matter of fact. There was some discussion among our local merchants as to whether this applied to them. They argued that they might be of some benefit to the farmers if they stayed open a little later. On the other hand, it has been suggested that the farmers were about as patriotic as other people, therefore they are always not only willing but anxious to comply with every wish of our great President in this stressing war time. Some of the merchants are closing at the same time, believing that it is the patriotic thing to do and that the people will uphold them in their decision. The change was made in order to allow every individual some time for gardening and helping along production at home. It was further made to utilize all the daylight and preserve fuel of all kinds. A still further and better reason is to eliminate late hours at night and bring the people to a full realization of the fact of war. For a long time the people have been going mad for the want of sleep. In our cities, even in our town and country our young folks, and old folks, too, are shortening their lives from the lack of sleep. We are rapidly becoming a nervous race. We are prone to go on with our pleasures, while our brothers and sons are bleeding in the trenches that we may be preserved from such fate as was visited upon the beautiful little country of Belgium. We are unmindful of the boys who are giving their lives that we might live in security.

Yes, if the President wants us to close earlier and go to work earlier, we are glad to do so. If we can contribute our mite in any way, then let us comply quickly and readily. How thankful we ought to be that we have an opportunity to fight this mighty conflict on the other side. We are willing to close up and do anything that will keep our boys in as much comfort as is possible. We belong to the conscript brigade, and if it falls to our lot to enter upon any line of production that will help the boys then we do duty.

### Statement of Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc.

April 1, 1918

Of Merkel Mail, published weekly at Merkel, Texas, required by the act of August 24 1912.

Editor and manager, Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas.

Publisher, Merkel Mail Printing Company, Inc., Merkel Tex.

Owners: Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas; Mrs. M. M. Jackson, Merkel, Texas; F. S. House, Abilene, Texas.

Walter Jackson.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 2nd day of April 1918.

(Seal) W. O. Boney  
Notary Public, Taylor County.  
(My commission expires on June 1st, 1919.)

We are at war. In our over enthusiastic moments we are led to send our boys at the front quantities of tobacco. This measure has been urged by the tobacco companies and the people, in misapplied patriotism, fall into line. The same kind of patriotism a few years ago would have sent them quantities of rum. The cigarette is hurtful. Many parents do not want to see their boys become a victim of the habit. If they must have it, let them arrange for their own supply. If the people at home stand back of the Red Cross and see that the boys are as comfortable as they can be made, then they have done their duty. It has not been so long ago since some of our news papers were raising cigarette funds. Who knows but that the big tobacco houses were paying for this form of publicity?

A man and his wife walked into a store one day. Both had worked hard and still very little was left. She walked to the gingham counter and looked longingly at a dress pattern. She knew she needed a new dress, and so did every one else who saw her. She timidly suggested to her husband that he buy the pattern, as it would cost only a dollar (that was some time ago). He said: No "Times are too hard," then turning to a clerk said: "Give me a dollar's worth of tobacco."

The women are not attending the Red Cross work as heretofore. They should not grow negligent. In Germany this is fully one-third of the army's fighting strength. Let us not belittle the work. There are many women who have never yet become aligned with the work. Come out and help. The boys will need everything you can do for them, and for some of them, we fear, you will have to do now, if you do at all. Any day may witness the departure of hundreds of thousands of our American boys for the great war center.

The women can vote. At last they have received a heritage as glorious as liberty. Let them be sure that they measure up to it in true womanhood. Show some of these old doubters of woman's ability to vote that they don't know what they are talking about. We heard a man say recently that a woman ought to be in the kitchen. That is a heathen belief. One-third of the world does not believe woman has a soul. Another third keeps her housed in a harem, forbidding that she show her face outside the portals of her home. In many countries she is nothing more than a beast of burden. Whatever her attainment she owes to Christianity. Some women don't think it is right to vote. Some Chinese women believe they do not have a soul; some Turkish women think it would be a disgrace to show their face; many thousands of women almost worship man as a god. Let our American women march to the polls with all the dignity of love and virtue and register her

# 22 Million Families in the United States

## 4 CUPS OF WHEAT FLOUR TO THE POUND

If each family used 4 cups of flour less per week, the saving would be 22 million pounds or 112,244 barrels every week.

The greatest help housekeepers can give to win the war is to make this saving and *it can be done* by using this recipe in place of white flour bread.

### Corn Meal Biscuits

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup scalded milk       $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon salt  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup corn meal      1 cup white flour  
2 tablespoons shortening      4 teaspoons Dr. Price's Baking Powder

Save  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of the measured flour for board. Pour milk over corn meal, add shortening and salt. When cold, add sifted flour and baking powder. Roll out lightly on floured board. Cut with biscuit cutter and bake in greased pan fifteen to twenty minutes.

New Red, White and Blue booklet, "Best War Time Recipes," containing many other recipes for making delicious and wholesome wheat saving foods, mailed free.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER, 1011 Independence Boulevard, Chicago

## FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR

will in the making of the laws of the land. Let us accept her into the folds of the most blessed liberty this world knows.

It is reported that there are a few cases of diphtheria in town and further that full respect is not being given in the quarantine law. If this is a fact, it ought to be reported to the city health officer, and if that will not straighten out matters, then to the county health officer. A person who is willfully negligent and permits a dangerous disease to go out of his family,

perhaps causing a death, ought to be guilty of murder. It is no small things. Better that a person undergo all sorts of discomfort than to endanger the health and lives of his neighbor.

Be sure to see Jerry the Outcast on April 12.

Whooping Cough.  
Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to keep the cough loose and expectoration easy. It is excellent.

Cream Meal, at G. M. Sharps

On April 29 another Red Cross play will be given at the Cozy by home talent.

Everything in feed and seed line. G. M. Sharp.

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.

Expecting car of bran and oats, Bob Martins Grocery Company.

# BREEDERS NOTICE

## PERCHERON STALLION

### "Black Jack"

Reg. No. 10551. Weight 1950 pounds

Would be glad if you can see this horse before you breed. You can't find a better animal west of Fort Worth, and I don't believe you will find a better one in the state.



## FINE BLACK JACK "Jack Johnson"

Subject to Registration. Weight about 1000 Pounds

Sired by "Napoleon" No. 910, his dam by "Midnight" No. 3855. This jack has made three seasons at my barn and has mules all over the country, which I would be glad you could see before breeding.

My terms for either horse or jack is \$10.00 when the mare is served, and I give you the following note to secure you against any loss:

\$10.00

Trent, Texas

19

One year after date for value received I promise to pay to the order of \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of ten dollars with interest from date at the rate of ten per cent per annum. This is a conditional note and is to be void if the mare described below, which has been served by my horse—jack—is with foal and bears a colt which is able to stand and suck. If said mare is not with foal this note is to be in full force and effect.

Payable at Trent, Texas. Non-negotiable.  
Description of mare: Color \_\_\_\_\_ age \_\_\_\_\_ years, height \_\_\_\_\_ hands, name \_\_\_\_\_ brand \_\_\_\_\_

As to my ability to pay above note, please refer to The First State Bank, Trent, Texas

Will not be responsible for accidents

# L. W. ROSS

Located 4 miles west of Trent.

Follow T. & P. railroad from Trent

# 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

### 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 Bank  
Phones: Office, 306, Res. 103.

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

DR. MILLER

Over Woodroof-Bragg Company  
Physician and Surgeon  
Eyes Tested and Glasses General Practice

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

### A TEXAS WONDER.

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

The 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.

## 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, 25c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

Place Your Order Now For

# That Spring Suit

Cleaning and Pressing  
Altering a Specialty

# L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop  
Merkel, Texas



**HONOR ROLL**

Following is a list of our boys who are in Uncle Sam's service.

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. McMurray, 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  
Euleus McNeas.  
John P. Gibson.  
Leonard Wills  
Winslow J. Beckham, Trent.  
John Rex McClain.  
Clanance Melton.  
O. R. Burns.  
Joe Thomas Hartley.

# Our Grocery Department

We kindly ask that you compare the following prices with those you will find elsewhere

25 oz. Health Club Baking Powders.....	20c	Doz. cans No.2 Std. Tomatos	\$1.60
1 Peck Good Coffee.....	\$1.00	Doz. cans Standard Corn.....	\$1.60
Good Spuds, 15 lb. peck.....	35c	One kind yellow Soap, 6 bars.....	25c

Come see us or phone your orders. You will find the best quality of everything here and our prices are always in line

Fresh Vegetables Each Wednesday and Saturday

We sell the best Bakers Bread in the world  
Krauters Victory Bread

ALSO  
STONE'S CAKES  
always sold fresh

If our Delivery Service is not the best, tell us and we will fix it

## Anchor Mercantile Company

### Life Was a Misery

Mrs. F. M. Jones, of Palmer, Okla., writes:  
"From the time I entered into womanhood . . . I looked with dread from one month to the next. I suffered with my back and bearing-down pain, until life to me was a misery. I would think I could not endure the pain any longer, and I gradually got worse. . . Nothing seemed to help me until, one day, . . . I decided to

TAKE

## CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

"I took four bottles," Mrs. Jones goes on to say, "and was not only greatly relieved, but can truthfully say that I have not a pain. . ."

"It has now been two years since I took Cardui, and I am still in good health. . . I would advise any woman or girl to use Cardui who is a sufferer from any female trouble."

If you suffer pain caused from womanly trouble, or if you feel the need of a good strengthening tonic to build up your run-down system, take the advice of Mrs. Jones. Try Cardui. It helped her. We believe it will help you.

All Druggists

### What You Want How You Want It When You Want It

For anything in the line of printing come to us and we'll guarantee you satisfactory work at prices that are right

Everybody who reads magazines buys newspapers, but everybody who reads newspapers doesn't buy magazines. Catch the Drift? Here's the medium to reach the people of this community.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

Entertains Sunday School Class  
Mrs. J. S. Swann entertained her Sunday School class at her beautiful home last Friday afternoon from 4 to 6 with an Easter egg hunt. A large crowd of babies, some accompanied by their mothers, were on hand promptly to start the hunt at 4 o'clock. After the egg hunt had been enjoyed for some time the little folks were ushered into the dining room, where fruit and eggs were served. Various games, reading and songs were enjoyed. Each child returned home carrying an egg a trophy.

Mrs. Swann proved herself a most excellent hostess. She was assisted in entertaining by her daughters, Misses Irene and Anna Mae.

#### CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Report

Attendance	Collection
Baptist 126	\$10
Rock Crossing M. E. 68	1.03
Rock Crossing M. E.	68 1.03

C. E. Program April 7th.

Leader, Willie Stevens

Topic, Christian Duty and Privilege.

Bible Study Acts. 17:10-15

Ruby Hamm.

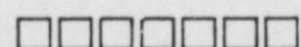
Memory Work, Clifford Rose

Meditation, Louise Warren.

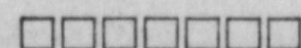
Aim of the Bible, Wallace Bragg.

The Word in the Heart, Dimple Counts.

Obedience, Frank Armstrong.



THE VALUE of well-printed neat-appearing stationery as a means of getting and holding desirable business has been amply demonstrated. Consult us before going elsewhere



#### Empire Styles in Lingerie



Crepe de chine has proven as durable and as dainty as fine batiste, nainsook, or the finest muslins, for making lingerie. All undergarments are to be had in silk or cotton, in exquisite weaves of both. Choice between them is to be settled according to individual taste for they are equally well made and beautifully trimmed with hand-embroidery and lace.

Just now the graceful empire styles are having a special vogue for negligees, nightgowns and chemise. In the last garment the envelope pattern is at least as popular as the older plain chemise and is likely to gain the lead as it is never inconvenient to walk in. Sometimes the plain garment will gather up about the knees and have to be straightened out. For this same reason bloomers are preferred to short underskirts, and silk makes the best petticoats for walking.

A lovely night dress of crepe de chine is shown in the picture above with an envelope chemise to match. It is laid in flat box plaits across the front and back, fastened down on the underside to a line below the bust. Slashes in the material, buttonhole stitched about their edges, allow a narrow satin ribbon sash to be run through. It is tied loosely with long loops and ends at the side. The gown may be made without the slashes for those who would dispense with the ribbon girdle.

There is a narrow lace edging above a small beading about the neck, carrying baby ribbon. Tabs of val lace insertion are set in the silk all about the top of the gown and sleeves. The sleeves are merely short puffs, but in many models they are longer, reaching to the elbows and loose at the bottom. The chemise has no sleeves but is supported by satin ribbon like that used as a girdle, over the shoulders.

Undergarments for women have reached the limit of fineness and daintiness of materials. There is little difference in price between the cotton and the silk ones and even in the most expensive things, as in the case of blouses, fine cottons vie with silk, equally sure of favor with the most exacting people.

Julia Bottomley

#### Hat Crowns High.

The high crowned hat, trimmed solely with a "swirled" rosette, is one of the most practical and, with the addition of a veil's soft drapery, is generally becoming. Mercury wings set at each side are being worn for this shape with good results.

These large, loosely made rosettes are among the new trimmings and are to be seen in either silk or ribbon "changeant;" should, however, the hat itself be made in a "mat" silk, the rosette will then be in a metal tissue, more often tarnished gold, which may be shot with green.

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.

Buy your groceries and grain from G. M. Sharp and save enough to buy war saving stamps

Remember the 10th and pay your Electric bills.

Remember your Electric bills. Don't forget to pay them. Buy everything you need from G. M. Sharp's.

Remember your Electric bills.

Don't forget to pay them. Buy everything you need from G. M. Sharp's.

Best Peaberry M. Sharps.

Another home will be given at the interest of the Red Cross.

Expecting car of oats, Bob Martins Grocery Company.

For hay and oats see Bland & Jones.

L. C. Scott, and son, Dewey, of Lamesa, visited his grandson, Beryl Scott, and family last Tuesday and Wednesday, making the trip in his car. He is 84 years of age and hale and hearty.

Send in those spring clothes and have them cleaned and pressed to look like new ones. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

See Bland & Jones for hay and oats.

Little Isabel Propts has been very low for several days with a complications of diseases. The little fellow is now some improved. Her little brother, Roy, was given antitoxine of offset the disease. He said "It made him sore as a dog."

Take anything you have to sell to W. P. Duckett. He will buy it.

SACKS WANTED Will pay 10 cents for two bushel sacks and 15 cents for five bushel sacks. E. L. Ash.

Guy Swann of San Angelo visited his sister, Miss Edna, and uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swann, and family last Saturday and Sunday.

If you want good bran see G. M. Sharp.

Expecting car of bran and oats, Bob Martins Grocery Company.

Mrs. J. C. Burkett is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. L. B. Howard, for a few days to recuperate from a recent spell of sickness.

Plenty corn at G. M. Sharps.

See "The Noble Outcast" given by the Senior Class of Merkel High School April 12, at the Cozy, for the benefit of School Library.

Bring your hats to me for cleaning and reblocking. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

See Bland & Jones for Hay and Oats.

Clyde Garrett who is in the aviation department of the army, and temporarily stationed at Dallas, is a visitor to the homefolks and friends for a few days.

F. S. House of Abilene, was a visitor in Merkel Thursday.

R. S. Palmer called in at the Merkel Mail office and had the paper sent to his brother-in-law Urbin Shannon, who is at Camp Travis

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Mrs. R. O. Duff and Miss Cleve Duff have returned home after a few days visit with friends.

We will buy your sacks. G. M. Sharp.

SACKS WANTED Will pay 10 cents for two bushel sacks and 15 cents for five bushel sacks. E. L. Ash.

## It Cost the Average Family Less Than 10c Per Week for Packer's Profit in 1917.

The Meat Bill is one of the large items in the family budget

but

less than 10 cents per week of it goes to the packer in profits.

In converting live stock into meat and getting it into the hands of the retail dealer, the packer performs a complex and essential service with the maximum of efficiency.

The above statement is based on Swift & Company's 1917 figures and Federal Census data:

Swift & Company's total output (Meat and by-products)	-	5,570,000,000 Pounds
Swift & Company's total Profit	-	\$34,650,000.00
Profit per pound	-	\$.0062
U. S. Meat Consumption	-	170 pounds per person per year
170 pounds at \$.0062	=	\$1.05 per person per year
The average family 4½ persons	=	\$4.72 per family per year

1918 year book of interesting and instructive facts sent on request.  
Address Swift & Company,  
Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Illinois



Swift & Company  
U. S. A.

Shortly after this Mrs. Clay in the course of a morning call asked: "Well, have you had any bad luck?"

"No, nothing except some dishes getting broke. Rita's some careless about breaking things. I did feel real bad about that china sugar-bowl that was mother's."

"I told you so!" was the comforting answer. "Didn't I say she was a furrier?"

"I suppose some real dyed-in-the-wool, native-born Americans have broke sugar bowls before now," snapped Mrs. Briscoe.

"Yes, but you'll see there's more to follow. You'd better get rid of that girl while you've got a house over your head."

"She wants to learn to play the fiddle and I must say that would be more than I could stand!"

"Mercy to me!" cried Mrs. Clay. "You just put a stop to that!"

The next time Mrs. Clay called, she looked at the mirror on the dressing bureau, and gave a shriek. "Caroline Briscoe! Your bureau glass is cracked clean across! Well, your bad luck has come sure enough, and it'll last seven years! Of course that girl done it. Now are you going to let her go?"

"I don't know what to do," said Mrs. Briscoe in an utterly helpless tone. "I ain't ever superstitious except about one thing, and that's breaking a looking glass; but I never knew that to fall. But I must say I don't want to send Rita away."

The girl, starting to come in from the kitchen had heard what Mrs. Briscoe had said. After the visitor left, she came in.

"Mrs. Briscoe," she said timidly, "if you'll just let me take that glass down to Bentley's, I'll get a new one put in, so's you won't have to be seeing it all the time. Please do! I've got money enough to pay for it."

"My! Rita! You've got to have that money for shoes. That glass can wait."

"No, please," begged the girl, "I don't mind about the shoes. I want to do it. I'll go away afterwards—if—if you say so—but I want to stay."

### GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER

has been a household remedy all over the civilized world for more than half a century for constipation, intestinal troubles, torpid liver and the generally depressed feeling that accompanies such disorders. It is a most valuable remedy for indigestion or nervous dyspepsia and liver trouble, bringing on headache, coming up of food, palpitation of heart, and many

As Mrs. Briscoe said nothing, Rita took the mirror from it's fastening



"I Call It Marino," snorted Mrs. Clay, and brought it out, tears shining in her eyes.

"I guess it would be best to take the broken glass out," she said, and she turned it over and began to extract the tacks that held the board in the back. As she lifted it off Mrs. Briscoe made a sudden dash for some folded papers at one side. She opened them and nearly fell into the nearest chair.

"Rita!" she cried. "Here's the bonds! Fifteen thousand dollars!"

She caught the girl in her arms, kissing her, and crying: "We're rich, Rita! We're rich! You ain't ever going away! You're going to have the best vill'n money can buy. We're going to the city to buy it."

other symptoms. A few doses of August Flower will relieve you. It is a gentle laxative. Sold by Grimes Drug Store. 30 and 90 cent bottles.

**DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE**

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.

### OLD ST. AUGUSTINE

By A. M'GAFFEY.

St. Augustine en fete presents the prettiest picture imaginable, and one need not be surprised to meet a romance at any turn of its quaint old streets. And the cathedral on the plaza, with its ancient Spanish belfry, would seem to be one of the most likely places in the city for a story, or, at least, for the beginning of one. So must have thought the fate that watches over our mundane affairs when on Easter Sunday the bells began to ring out their joyous invitation to the world.

As the orderly crowds thronged into church two young men crossed the Plaza and entered. One was in naval uniform; the other dressed as a tourists' guide, and both were bronzed as if from long sea service.

The services were half over when a lady and a gentleman came in at the great door and passed down the aisle toward the altar. The gentleman was stout and middle aged, the lady in the bloom of twenty years.

As they passed, looking neither to the right nor to the left, one of the young men touched the other on the arm with a glance at the pair. He was answered by a nod, and presently both left the church, slipping out by a side door. In a narrow street running at right angles to the plaza, they hailed a cab, into which he of the uniform stepped, drew the door to and sat down to wait.

The other, sauntering over to the plaza, took his station near the group of palms, in the shade of which two or three carriages were grouped. And soon the old bells boomed and the people streamed out. Among them were the two for whom our amateur detective was lying in wait, and as they entered one of the carriages he managed to get near enough to hear the order to "Fort San Marco."

By three o'clock in the afternoon the fort was crowded with people. Walking through this animated scene, a part of it, and yet foreign to it, were the young lady and the stout gentleman. There was a third person in the party now, a stranger with a distinguished air.

"There's a fine view for you, senior," remarked Mr. Maynall, the stout gentleman.

Don Miguel nodded a smiling assent; he was far too happy for words. But a cry of rage from Mr. Maynall broke in on his trance. Right under the sea wall, at the foot of the eastern glacis, a four-oared boat, rocked on the incoming tide, and as Marian Maynall caught sight of it, she turned to her father and said, with a sparkle in her eyes: "They are waiting for someone down there; I wonder who it can be."

"Yes, they belong to that gunboat yonder. I suppose some young naval sprig out for a lark, curse him."

"Father!" exclaimed the girl angrily.

"I mean what I say," rejoined the other. "I hate the whole service because of that impudent jackanapes with whom you have been fancying yourself in love. What have you to say, Miguel?"

"Oh! oh! What is it, senior?" replied Miguel.

"I say we will laugh at a certain person after vesper," answered Mr. Maynall testily.

The Don's response was a scowl. As the three moved away a tourists' guide stepped out from an embrasure and walked leisurely down the stairway. He wrote something in a memorandum book in his hand, then went into the corridor below and waited. The three came down presently. The guide nimbly opened a door on the right, and before the two gentlemen knew what had happened, they found themselves in a small room with a table in the center. An obsequious salesman took them in hand, while the guide, saying: "I will find a seat for the young lady outside," slipped back into the corridor.

Marian Maynall, divining that something unusual was on the tapis, was standing flushed and trembling when the audacious guide put the paper in her hand on which he had written:

"Lieutenant Westville waits for you at the foot of the eastern glacis. Lose no time."

And Marian Maynall lost no time. She flew out of the dark portal with swift step. A young man in naval uniform met her half way, and clasping hands they ran together down the slope to the boat. They were in it in a trice, but had not gone many lengths from the wall when a couple of gentlemen bounced out upon the esplanade waving their hands and shouting like mad.

Something must be done, however. Don Miguel set off below the fort, where he could hire a boat, and Mr. Maynall, pressing a cab into his service, hurried after, the crowd streaming down the road to see the fun.

It was a fine sight which now greeted the throngs on the pier. Each boat's crew did its best. The situation was intensified when, a moment later, a group appeared on the forward deck, and it became apparent that a marriage ceremony was taking place there. There was a general clapping of hands and loud cries of "bravo!" along the pier as the ceremony ended.

A warning shout of "stand off down there!" from the deck arrested the Don and Mr. Maynall in the frantic endeavors to board the vessel which had already begun to move. And soon a wide lane of blue water lay between the Don and the retreating vessel.

(Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.)

# WRIGLEYS



Helps teeth, breath, appetite, digestion.

"Give it to me, please, Grand-daddy."

"Why Bobby, if you wait a bit for it you'll have it to enjoy longer!"

"Poo-poo! That's no argument with WRIGLEYS 'cause the flavor lasts, anyway!"

—After every meal



# I-C-E

The Greatest Food Preserver. No article can help you to better comply with the spirit of war time food regulations. DO NOT WASTE—Ice saves every ounce of food, saves your butter and milk, and lessens kitchen drudgery. BUY AN ICE BOOK TODAY—and let our wagon stop at your door every day.

THE MERKEL ICE CO.

## VULCANIZING

Casings and Inner Tubes. Also Retread Casings. Prices Right. Work Strictly Guaranteed

H. H. HAND

First door west of Merkel Garage

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

## Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

## TOUCHSTONE IN CHINA

Soochow, Province of Kiangsu, China, Feb. 11, 1918.—Dear Mamma: Just nine weeks ago today since I landed in Soochow. It seems like a long, long time, for in a way a great deal has happened, and I have done many things. The week after I came there was a meeting of nearly all the men in our mission to plan a campaign and send home requests for donations for the great Centenary of Methodist Missions which will be celebrated next year in both the Northern and Southern Methodist Churches—because there was just one Methodist Church when the first foreign Missionary was sent out a hundred years ago. In fact it was several years later that the first organized among the Methodist in New York City at the time, which sent its first missionaries to the Indians. Then last week we had our annual meeting of all the missionaries, men and women. There are something like sixty of us, and with a few missionary wives we had a pretty lively meeting. I have made two trips to Shanghai since my arrival, and I must not forget to mention the many good dinners I have been out to eat since I came. I have had a meal in almost every Methodist missionary home in Soochow, some of them I have been in twice, and there are fifteen of them, if I have counted right. And you may be sure that has helped to make life pleasant for me since I came.

Today is the first day of the first moon of the Chinese year. In other words, China New Year Day. It is by far the most important holiday that China has since as a nation they have no great religious holiday like Christmas and pay less attention to China New Year, but they are as yet, very much in the minority. I said they have no day that corresponds to our Christmas, but New Year Day is largely a religious holiday. There is more ceremony connected with ancestor worship at that time than any other time of the year. I don't know enough about that yet to tell you about it, but I hope to by and by. The schools dismiss for two and three weeks, the boats on the canals stop for four or five days, the railroad trains stop except one or two express trains (usually we have seven trains each way) and today no train at all is being run. But it is not as it used to be. On account of foreign influence the holiday season is just about half as long as it formerly was. Before I leave this subject I should perhaps explain that the old Chinese year was reckoned by the moon, and consequently some years are not so long as others and New Year Day comes some times earlier and sometimes later. Next year it will be about February 1. They of course had no such measure of time as a week, that having originated with the Jews, and having been adopted by various countries as they accept Christianity.

But I have told you nothing as yet of Shanghai, and I am sorry to say that I do not know as much about it as I might. Shanghai is to use a little slang "in a class by itself." It is not a Chinese city at all, although several hundred thousand Chinese live there. It stands on land which was ceded by the Chinese government to the foreigners and is governed by a "Municipal Council," the exact organization of which I am not familiar with. The United States, Great Britain, Russia, France, (and before the war Germany) each has its officials and its court. If an American gets into trouble in Shanghai he is tried in the United States Court, and so for citizens of other countries. There is probably not a more cosmopolitan city in the world than Shanghai. It has as good water works as good streets and street car service, as good electric lights, etc. as the average American city of a half million inhabitants.

# SEE HOW CASH TALKS AT E. L. ROGERS

## The Spot-Cash Grocer Who Sells for Less

Unheard of Bargains---You Hooverize by saving  
The more you buy, the more you save

They are all coming here. Our fame is being spread abroad. The time has come when E. L. Rogers sets the price of Groceries in Merkel

COME AND SEE

# WHY NOT NOW?

## Learn Typewriting and Stenography. They Prove Assets in Any Line of Business or Industrial Endeavor

Young men and young women must step into the business and industrial 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.

You prepare for years to teach---any occupation usually requires years of time. What other line of work can you engage in that will lead to such quick results?

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.

APPLY FOR TERMS

# Merkel Business College

WALTER JACKSON, PROP.

tion. It is just completing a Municipal Building costing over something like \$200,000. Some of the largest banking corporations in the world are doing business there, and other business is conducted on almost as large scale. There are many large cotton mills, iron foundries, and other manufacturing plants. There are thousands of Chinese who live on boats on the river and canals.

Nine weeks ago this morning I boarded the train for Soochow. It is fifty three miles just a little north of west from Shanghai. The country between is just as level as any part of West Texas. I do not suppose it will average twenty feet above sea level. Every foot is intensively cultivated, except in numerous graveyards and an occasional small grove of bamboo, or rather thicket. Bamboo is much like the cane that is used for fishing poles, except that it grows to be six and eight inches in diameter, and is proportionately taller than the cane. It is used for everything that light lumber is used for in America. The poorer people frame huts with it and cover them with straw matting, sometimes plastering it over with clay. The joints are bored out and a good water pipe is made. The tender shoots when they first come out of the ground make a favorite table delicacy.

When I arrived at the station one of the professors from the University was waiting for me. He said he had a boat there for my baggage and a donkey for me, that it was almost noon and the donkey would get me there much quicker than the boat. When he said donkey I at once thought of a Mexican burro and told him I believed I preferred to walk, as I thought I could get there quicker. But he said I did not know what I was talking about, so I mounted the donkey. I had thought up till then that riding in a ricksha was the most novel experience I had ever had, but I must say that my first donkey ride in Soochow beats it. Said donkey was about the size of the smallest burro you ever saw, and if I had stretched out my legs they would have been with in six inches of the ground. I was much surprised to see that beast wore a collar, or necklace of sleigh bells, and wondered why. However, I soon solved that question. A donkey wears bells for the same reason that a train has a whistle, or a Ford a "tooter," that is to clear the track ahead. I have wished every time I see a donkey that I could send you a moving picture of that ride through the narrow I mean six or eight feet and sometimes less---for in I walked two blocks in a little alley known among the foreign-

## ARE YOU NERVOUS?

Maybe There is a cause for it That You can correct.

Many who suffer from backache and weak kidneys are naturally irritable, fretful and nervous. Not only does constant backache "get on the nerves," but bad kidneys fail to eliminate all the uric acid from the system, and uric acid irritates the nerves, keeping one "on edge," and causing rheumatic, neuralgic pains. When suffering so, try Doan's Kidney Pills, the medicine so well recommended by Merkel people.

Read this Merkey resident's statement:

Mrs. M. A. Warren, El Paso St., says: "I, and others in my family have used Doan's Kidney Pills with benefit. I had a great deal of trouble with my back and could hardly turn without a sharp catch across my kidneys. I felt worn out and languid nearly all the time and become very nervous. Another in the family had found Doan's Kidney Pills fine, so I started to use them. They helped me and I continued until I was cured."

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

ners as "dog bite alley" which was too narrow in places to keep my umbrella open, which was very necessary as it was snowing. However I did not ride my donkey in any quite so narrow. The owner of the donkey "drives" on foot, and keeps right up no matter how fast the donkey goes, sometimes as much as eight miles an hour.

There were two of us and my donkey was not lazy, my "driver" ran ahead crying "Hey, Hey," the other driver was behind Prof. Smart's donkey shouting at the top of his voice two necklaces of sleigh bells were jingling, occasionally a dog would bark at us—here we went through the surging crowds of people just like old "Harry" himself was after us and nobody paying us the least attention whatever except to keep out of the way. I just kept my seat and laughed as I thought what a sight I would make racing down the streets of Dallas or Nashville like that, or even a little piece like Merkel. The donkey is the taxicab of Soochow, that is of the old walled city. The streets are too narrow and bridges over canals too frequent and too steep for even rickshas. Outside the wall in the new part of the city there is a broad street known as the "horse-road" where they run both rickshas and one horse carriages.

President Cline gave me a royal welcome, and so did every body else just as fast as I got a chance to meet them, and as I have already indicated, they have been treating me royally ever since. So far as my immediate surroundings, my associates and my work are concerned, I was never more pleasantly situated in my life. Missionaries who go to interior towns where there are no other foreigners fare quite differently to what we do here. Besides the University with nine of its foreigners (all married except me) and 20 some advanced students who are assistants, there is a Girls' School just across the street, a Woman's Hospital and Medical School, and a General Hospital just down the street, and another community over in the heart of the city where there are a Boys' School and a Girls' School and an institutional church. The Baptists, Presbyterians and Episcopalians all have missions here too, but in a city of half a million or more inhabitants there is plenty for all to do.

This afternoon I am going with Mr. Chao, my Chinese schoolmate, to one of the larger temples to see something of the worship, and later in the week we are going to the "Temple of the Five Hundred Gods" just outside the city, so in my next letter I may have some interesting things to tell. It is twelve o'clock (Su Nyi Dti Tsong) so good-bye (Tsay Way) for this time.

CARY

### Chapped Hands and Sore Nipples.

As a healing salve for burns, sores, sore nipples and chapped hands Chamberlain's Salve is most excellent. It always allays the pain of a burn almost instantly, and unless the injury is very severe, heals the parts without leaving a scar. Price 25 cents. For sale by all Dealers.

### WORK GUANANTEED

To The People Who Have Pianos:  
If you would have your piano cleaned and the loss motion taken out of them, they would not need so much tuning. After 12 years of experience in the piano business, I know just how to put them in first class shape and I will do the work reasonable. You pay if satisfied. I can also make your old sewing machine run like a new one. I need the work and will give service. Phone No. 7. E. D. Coats, Merkel, Texas.

### Seed on Hand.

The Commercial Club has red cane, hand threshed ferit red top mdium milo maize, at once.

**Out Malaria, Builds Up System**  
Standard general strengthening tonic. TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out malarial poisons, builds up the system. For adults and children. 50c

## Believing It To Be In Keeping

with the wishes of our Government and at the same time meeting the desires of our customers, we are closing our place of business at 6 o'clock p. m. except on Saturday, and opening at 7:30 a. m. as heretofore.

Early shopping is urged

We will have some special showings in Millinery Saturday

**WOODROOF - BRAGG CO.**

### ROCK CROSSING

There's a time in each year that we always hold dear, and it seems that time is coming soon when you look out across the green country. We can now say to our town friends, come out and refresh yourselves.

We will have to admit that the social activities of the community are on the go for we understand some of the young people are planning their programs a head for the week to any of their engagements. Some parts of the program calls for an early start in the day for they go long ways to fulfill them. Another main item is to get a start sleeping at any moment possible as they may be scarce.

We have another epidemic that has arisen in our neighborhood as a result of the coming election, to be held Saturday. There is enthusiasm over who might receive the election of School trustee. Several seem to be in pursuit and seem anxious to give their ideas as to how to run the school in their electioneering. We think two of them will be elected, whether they all be the right ones or not, somebody will not. Most of them will say yes.

The lady teachers are working energetically trying to find out which one of the candidates will promise the school to them for next term, before they make up their minds who to vote for.

In speaking of schools we are reminded that we should not neglect the education of our youths who make the leaders and citizens of other years when we have turned our selves by. In our struggles in patriotism for right and justice, which is Democracy we should remember what our great countryman said: "A cultivated mind is the guardian genius of Democracy." When we were young we walked sometimes several miles to school and thought ourselves lucky to have the school that near. We wanted improvements and got them as times demanded them. Times are ripening fast to demand something to be imposed in the way of a school house here. Literally speaking the walls will not hold the pupils soon, because of the openings called cracks. We can not have recognition of any importance as a school, no encouragement to offer pupils to attend school as to surroundings, reading matter, etc. The people are at a real and active spot cash loss of from \$300. to \$500. per year from state aid because the State says if you will show us that you are interested enough in your own children to offer them pleasant comfortable, and encouraging facilities for teaching them in the way of buildings and equipment they will donate, with out one dollar more cost to you, money to the amount of \$500. That much each year will pay out your

modern school house in a short while and give you extra money to either pay your teachers more or extend the term two months without an other thin dime out of any of our pockets than we now pay. You have got to build any way. Why not save money or rather actually make money by building the right kind. Why not invite our neighbor school district, Castlepeak, to join in with us on some good project? They are anxious to make money as well as you are. think it over quickly if not sooner.

We have good roads out here as evidenced by several tourists from other parts of the country passing over our pikes. It may be through results from the invitation given outsiders last week to visit our sacred domains. If they were looking for our young ladies they would have found some more of them down the other road also. Thank you come again. It has been rumored that we would have still more pikes if the election laws could be changed so as to allow the two highest candidates in the primary school as officers until the general election at which time we could vote on them again.

We are still farming.

### NOODLE NEWS

Health generally good. Mrs. W. C. Thompson and children spent Saturday night and Sunday with D. C. Herring and family.

The singing Sunday evening was enjoyed by a large crowd. We had a fine singing. We had singers from Merkel, Anson and Trent.

The Noodle Singing Class will meet every first and third Sunday evenings.

The program rendered by the Junior Sunday School class last Sunday night was enjoyed by a large crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Jaynes are the proud parents of a baby boy who made its appearance March 29.

The Noodle School spent Monday on Red Bluff.

Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Eoff were dinner guests of Mrs. R. W. Green Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bickwell, and Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Herring took supper with Mrs. E. L. Eason Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Horton and granddaughter, Lois Tweedy of Merkel visited relatives Sunday.

There was a singing at the Methodist church Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Bacon of Abilene visited Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hendrix Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. John Bryson is on the sick list.

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

### THY NEIGHBOR

By LOIS WOOD.

Linnelle moved into his bachelor apartments on the 19th of the month. He had had a suite down at the exclusive Waltermore, on Washington square, when Alston & Co. gave him the order for a book. It was to deal with New York life on the group system, showing how the city was divided into little neighborhood villages, especially among the poor.

Young Alston had suggested that he move over to the East side and study conditions among the submerged tenth at first hand. It had not appealed to Linnelle. He was not of the tramp variety. Even while he liked to be a denizen of the old Greenwich village, still his quarters were on the north side of the square. But it came to pass that he became an inmate—he would not call it resident—of the Diggs apartments.

At some time Mr. Diggs had felt the weight of millions preying upon his mind and had placed model apartments for the deserving poor in their midst on the East side.

After the third day in his new lodgings the monotony palled on him. He had prowled around the neighborhood and made the alarming discovery that instead of being in the midst of thugs and night hawks he was in the midst of highly respectable old settlers. Instead of their being peculiar to their kind, they regarded him as a rara avis.

He was buying green peppers and fresh tomatoes from the little Greek Mario at the corner and answering his questions idly, when he became aware of another customer who seemed highly amused at his inquisition. "You stay very long?" asked Mario. "For awhile."

"What do you do for a living? Write? Play the music? Paint? Sculpt? No? Just professor, huh?" Linnelle felt his face redden as the girl smiled.

"Must one give an excuse for being here?" he asked.

And Mario let it pass. Hearing the girl give her address for the delivery of goods, Linnelle realized that he had a neighbor. He caught one swift glance from big gray eyes that smiled at him as he passed on. When his own goods were delivered via the dumb-waiter there was another basket thereon. Just as he was starting to write down a new idea, his telephone bell started to ring. It was his neighbor, Mario had told her he had left her goods with Mr. Linnelle, apartment 12. Would he be kind enough to let her have them?

Linnelle smoked savagely on his return. She had been smiling at him again in that cool, appraising, amused way. He plunged at his work with avidity, trying to banish the memory of a slim young person in a rose linen smock with curly, dark hair.

He made the discovery the next morning that from his windows on the inner court he could look over at her windows. Quite against his instinct of good taste he found himself doing so constantly. She had window boxes where spring bulbs bloomed profusely. She came twice a day to water her plants. Then she would stand for a long while looking steadfastly up at the square patch of sky five stories above. He used to wonder if she could be a sunworshiper. The shaft of sunlight just struck her windows as it shone slant down the court, and she drank it in even as her flowers did. So passed the weeks and their acquaintance ripened.

His book was nearing completion toward the middle of the summer. He had dinner at a little Turkish restaurant on Twenty-sixth street. It was nearly nine when he put his passkey in the lock of his own door.

"Oh! Mr. Linnelle." It was Marjorie Fraser, her face pale and anxious. "I wonder if I could ask you to come and look at my window. I just got home myself, and it looks as if someone had entered the apartment." Linnelle followed her down the hall.

In her little living room the scrim curtains and daffodil valance lay in a crumpled heap on the floor, the upper window pane had a round hole through its center.

"Do you think anyone is here?" she asked, standing in the doorway. For answer Linnelle glanced around quickly and picked up a baseball that had rolled under the steam heater.

"There's your burglar," he laughed and laid it on the table.

"I'll be so glad when this is over," she said. "I've soaked in local atmosphere until I'm sick and tired of it, and I want to go home. You see, Mr. Linnelle, I'm an actress and I have a perfectly dandy part in Carruthers' new production, 'Children of Clay.' I only came down here to live and catch the spirit of the East side. If it hadn't been for you living so near to me I'd have been scared to death."

"If it hadn't been for you living so near to me I'd have been bored to death," returned Linnelle. "Come up to the roof. I want to tell you there." And they went on up the five flights of stairs together.

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### Seized Farms for Tillage.

A representative of the Irish department of agriculture visited a number of farms in County Roscommon recently and took possession of them on behalf of the department on the ground that the owners had not complied with the tillage order. In all, 1,682 acres in the occupation of six persons, were seized.—London Times.

## Are Your Lungs Strong?

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