



THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 30—NO. 29

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1918

4 PAGES

OIL DEVELOPMENTS IN BALANCES

The oil situation at Merkel is like the luscious fruit that hangs just beyond the human touch. We see it, we want it, we are striving for it, and yet there are just enough men holding out, thinking they are driving a shrewd bargain, to defer operations. The north block is nearly closed; the middle block is all shot to pieces and the south block is anything but satisfactory. Mr. George Houghton, who will have charge of drilling, came in Sunday and looked the field over. He was very favorably impressed with the prospects, but was sadly disappointed at the number who were holding off. Speaking in regard to the situation, he said: "I will say that we will drill just as far as we possibly can from the parties who refuse to lease. I am ready to go to work, but finding so much stuff held out, decided to do nothing until something else was done."

The company has nine months in which to begin work. They are to drill four test wells, each to be 3000 feet, which will cost approximately \$160,000. Mr. Houghton said he had many other contracts waiting and they perhaps would be forced to go to other fields for the time being. At Menard they have more acreage than here, already signed up. Conditions are such that it is necessary for them to know within the next few days. Mr. Houghton said that the money they had up was not sufficient to insure drilling. He said this was the company's business to develop fields, and related an instance at Earlsboro, Ok., where he had invested \$4500. He urged that the acreage be completed, but the land owners said he would never drill, that when he started to drill they would lease. To prove his good faith he shipped his materials, machinery and pipe and started to work. When down about 500 feet, he called the parties together to get the leases. They only laughed, saying that he would have to drill. He immediately ordered drilling stopped, the derrick taken down, the pipe pulled and every stick loaded on the train and billed out. Just in the nick of time a banker in the town got the parties who would not lease together and put it up to them. They then decided he meant business and leased immediately. After much impatience he agreed to unload his stuff and go back to work.

A. D. Boggs said the company had never offered one individual one cent more than another. Every lease must be made on the same basis. He cited the fact that a drilling contract was equal to \$4.00 an acre. Some people think they are offered more when outside parties make an offer of a dollar an acre without a drilling contract.

Mr. Houghton said he had an offer now of 10,000 acres and \$5000 cash for a 2400 foot well. Men of the great Merkel country, today you are confronted with the greatest opportunity that ever confronted this country. The possibilities of a great oil field stretches underneath us. It will take thousands of dollars to reach the fluid. All the reports about high priced leases and high priced land would vanish in a night if this company was to pull its stakes and leave. Oil indications are no better here today than they were 1000 years ago. The land owners didn't buy their land with the prospect of oil. No one had offered to drill here before. Our people are suffering from the drouth. A dozen men could have drilling operations started within sixty days. It would help the banks, it would take the country

out of the pauper class, it would make business thrive, it would hold the people in the country, it would work marvelous good to this section, and yet for the paltry sum of a little lease money, men who want to get rich because the other fellow has leased and he don't want to carry his part of the singletree, we must defer operations. Is it right and just? Some fellows say that the other fellow wont lease and "I wont lease until he does." We have to say that practically every business man in Merkel has favored the proposition and appointed a committee to take and hold the leases in eschew until every one leased and until the company actually got busy and if they did not do so within 60 days their leases would be returned. These business men are acting without one cent's remuneration, all for the good of the country. Let us live up to the broadminded principles of live an let live, be a blessing to the country that we love, come out of our selfish shells and be a man foursquare.

SCHOOL TO OPEN THE 9th.

Arrangements are being perfected to begin school on the 9th of September. It is feared that the attendance will be cut short on account of so many people leaving, but a good school is assured, and it is hoped that every scholar will start in the first day, as that will help greatly towards perfecting a school of the greatest efficiency.

On account of the war and the new draft regulations, the high school will be hampered greatly from the boys standpoint. Some of our high school boys will take advantage of the government's arrangement to attend college. Others have already enlisted in the service and some are now in France.

Our people have been standing by our schools in a noble way for the past few years. Times are a little harder, but let us not give up, but rather stand by the schools a little closer. There we have the hope of the future; there our children develop largely their character; there they gain their visions of life, and while we may be unable to leave them a heritage of wealth, let us not neglect to bestow upon them knowledge, inculcate within them principles and bid them God-speed to a life worth while in this world of varying vicissitudes.

We are profoundly thankful that we have a school, when we consider that all over the west many buildings will be unable doubtless to open their doors. Our school is a priceless possession and we should stand by it with a tenacity that will not be downed.

NOTICE TO PATRONS

I have been here 13 years and the people of Merkel have always favored me with a good practice; and I have appreciated it and have tried to give them good honest work in return.

Our crops are a failure this year, and its going to be a struggle on us all to get through, therefore I am not going to be hard on any one and yet will have to ask that one and all do all that you can for me and I will be here at the same old stand ready to serve you in that same prompt willing way as before. Don't put me off till the last but divide up as you go and we will all get by. Be as prompt with me as I am with you and I will be satisfied.

Come in and see me or Miss Warren and let us know what you can do and when you can do it.

Yours truly,
Dr. M. Armstrong.

B. F. Cox, who has been down with typhoid fever for some time is up and about, to the delight of his many friends.

BIG OIL MEETING FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

If the oil fields of Merkel are to be developed quickly, something must be done and done now. The business men have come together and stand solidly for development. Every one is urged to be present Friday night at 8:30, August 30, and take an inventory of the situation. Every party who has leased and those who have not, and any one else who is interested, and every one ought to be, are urged to come out. The meeting will be held in the Commercial Club rooms. The oil people are ready to do something right now. If it means anything to the banking world, to business, to the farmers, to the individuals who will have to leave their homes and loved ones and seek employment elsewhere, then it surely means enough for every one to come out and do what he can for furthering the proposition. The building of a derrick will bring an era of prosperity here that will surprise the most optimistic. Come out and help arrange some plan to put it up to the oil people to get busy at once.

CLASSIFIED ADS

1 cent a word for each insertion. No ad. taken for less than 15c.

LOST—One red cow, with white face, marked half circle over 4HK or QT, range cow, inclined to be wild. Mac Castles, Noodle, Route 1. 9tf

FOR SALE—Second hand furniture. See Miss Genevieve Rust. 2612c.

FOR SALE—New blood, the best investment for chicken raisers. Barred Rock baby cockrels, April hatch at \$1.00. Mrs. B. N. Billingsley 23t2c.

LOST—Two horses, blue horse branded, bar, half circle bar, on left thigh; bay horse, branded AJ, connected - on left shoulder and H on left jaw. Reasonable reward. Notify H. H. Bilberry, Buffalo Gap. 30t1p

ANNOUNCES FOR COMMISSIONER IN 1920.

I trust I will not be considered too late in expressing my thanks to the good people of this Precinct who found it within their hearts to cast their vote for me in the recent primary. Though beaten, it was my own fault. Conditions were such that I could not get around like a candidate ought. I was beaten squarely and fairly. I have no word of censure towards any one, and those who voted for me and those who voted against me are all my friends.

It is with a feeling of pleasure that I here and now announce my candidacy for July 31, 1920. It is a little unusual to announce so far in advance, but I do not want it to be said of me that for the second time I failed to meet my friends and place my aspirations before them. Doubtless two years hence the political situation will be cleared up and other influences will be such that a man may run on his own merits and on the principles to which he adheres.

Again I wish to thank my friends for their liberal support and trust they will keep me in mind as their succeeding commissioner.

SAM BUTMAN, Jr.

If you are going to want a loan on your land, from The Federal Land Bank, at any time from now until next January, you should make your application now. See W. W. Wheeler of Merkel or R. E. L. Norwood of Abilene, or W. C. Lasley of Buffalo Gap. 23t2c

Melons, fruit, candies. You'll find them at Boney's. 29t2c

FOR SALE—About 500 bundles of maize, near Noodle. See G. F. Holland.

WANTED—I am in the market for scrap iron for the next 20 days at the same old stand. T. E. Reagan. 16t3c.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

WANTED—A woman to do light house keeping for two. Old lady preferred. See A. L. Jobe. 23t2c.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Good wagon for sale cheap, or will trade for cows or hogs. Jas Patterson, Jr.

DALLAS IS TO TRY FELIX JONES IT IS REPORTED

Dallas, Aug. 15.—Felix Jones will be brought from El Paso next month to stand trial for the murder of Miss Florence Brown. This was the first announcement made by Mike T. Lively, District Attorney, upon going into his office Wednesday after a vacation of two weeks.

Jones has been under indictment since last summer. He was arrested by El Paso officers in connection with the murder of a cattleman. Following that officers of Dallas County offered evidence that led to the indictment here. But officers of El Paso refused to turn over the man until recently.

The Brown murder furnished a mystery that officers had failed to solve. The body of the young woman was found in an office on Field street shortly after she arrived there for work one morning in 1915. Her throat had been slashed.

The case drew Nation-wide attention. Several arrests were made and grand juries spent much time over it.

LASSITER RE-ELECTED COMMISSIONER

After a short but active campaign, one that would do credit to politicians of years and years of experience, Mr. Lassiter won out over Mr. Coats by 34 votes. Interest seemed to center in Merkel, where the vote reached near 500. In other boxes the votes were very short. The light vote was due largely to the number of people who have left the country and, too, the vote of the women was generally light.

John Bond left Thursday for Ft. Worth with a couple cars of hogs and cattle.

STUDENTS ARMY TRAINING CORPS

Prof. R. M. Parker is in receipt of the following interpretation of the steps to be taken to enter the Students, Army Training Corps, which will likely be of much interest to many parties:

Austin, Tex. Aug. 23.—President R. E. Vinson of the University, Regional Director of the Committee on College Training of War Department, this afternoon received a telegram from R. C. McLaurin, director of the committee, advising him that it had been decided to allow all young men, 18 to 21 years old, who may be voluntarily inducted in the students' army training corps of the University and other educational institutions \$30 a month. The students will also be provided with uniforms and equipment by the War Department. They are required, however, to pay for their own subsistence and quarters.

President Vinson's territory embraces the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico.

President Vinson outlined the following steps to be taken by young men between the ages of 18 and 21 to enter the Students' Army Training Corps:

1. All men 18 years of age and upward will on Sept. 10 register for service in the United States Army under the new draft law.
2. All men qualified to enter standard colleges will register in the college of their choice on the respective opening date of these institutions.

3. In all institutions doing two years or more of standard college work, physically fit students 18 years old and upward may enter the Students' Army Training Corps on or about Oct. 1 by voluntary induction. Such students will then be put on the basis of privates in the United States Army on furlough for training, and the probabilities are that they will receive pay from the War Department, though the amount of this pay and the certainty of it have not been definitely fixed. Uniforms and all equipments necessary will be furnished by the War Department to all institutions maintaining Students' Army Training Corps units.

4. Students who are in institutions maintaining Students' Army Training Corps units will be left in those institutions to pursue the course of study outlined by the War Department until their draft numbers are reached. At that time those who are qualified will be sent to a limited number of institutions where special courses of intensive training will be given. At these latter institutions, as rapidly as the men qualify they will be selected and sent to the officers' training camps.

5. Students who do not qualify for selected institutions when their draft numbers are reached will be sent either to training camps for noncommissioned officers or to depot brigades in the National Army cantonments for immediate military service.

The wise young man will make arrangements to enter college without further delay. It may be that it will be found necessary to fix a limit later.

DENTAL NOTICE

This is to inform the public that I make a specialty in the treatment of Pyorrhea (which is diseased gums). If the gums are properly cared for, there is no occasion for false teeth.

I have had three years of successful practice and have been thoroughly convinced that bad gums are the direct cause of numerous systemic ailments, such as stomach trouble, rheumatism, etc.

I will be glad to consult with any one at any time on any subject pertaining to the oral cavity. Office over Woodroof-Bragg Company.

Yours very truly,
F. N. REYNOLDS, D.D.S.

100 MEXICANS AND 2 AMERICANS KILLED

Nogales, Ariz., Aug. 27.—Two Americans were killed and twenty-nine were wounded and more than 900 Americans were engaged from one to one and one half hours on the border today in a skirmish between American troops and Mexicans.

Hundred Mexicans Killed While the casualties on the Mexican side of the border were not known tonight, it was estimated that 100 had been killed by fire from the American side while at least twice this number, including a number of civilians were wounded. It was reported tonight that Mayor of Nogales, Sonora, was killed, but this was not confirmed.

The fighting followed the alleged efforts of a Mexican customs official to smuggle fellow-countrymen across the border into the United States. An American sentry attempted to stop him. Two Mexicans fired at the sentry across the street, striking him in the right arm. The fire was returned by American patrols and after Mexicans had rusher from near-by buildings and started shooting across the line from behind buildings and walls the firing became general.

NICE RAIN AT LAST

With courage fast fading, with faith hanging in the balances, with despair and discouragement weighing heavily upon the citizens, Jupiter Pluvius took pity and parted with 1.92 inches of rain on last Thursday and Friday. It was glorious rain. We doubt if many people could sleep through it. The music of the "Rain upon the roof" in West Texas after such a prolonged drouth was of that entrancing nature to make one think of a eternal bliss.

It will take many more inches to thoroughly wet the ground, but the rain will do worlds of good, especially if we can get an other precipitation within a short while. Cotton that was green in the low places is looking better and will put on more crop, feed is greening up, and there is nodoubt but the rain will be worth thousands of dollars. The extreme hot weather has moderated, and every one is very thankful for the change.

CAMP FIRE GIRLS TO GIVE PLAY AT COZY

The Camp Fire girls will give a play at the Cozy, Thursday night, Sept. 5, the proceeds to be given to charity. This is a splendid institution, worthy of the encouragement of the people and the development of home talent. A large crowd is looked for. The Camp Fire girls is just as beneficial an institution for the girls as the Boy Scouts is for the boys, and maybe better.

SCOUTS TO GIVE SHOW

The Boy Scouts will give a 5-reel show at the Cozy Tuesday night, beginning at 9 o'clock. Special music will be given. The proceeds will go to the benefit of the Scouts. Popular prices of 10 and 25 cents will prevail.

TO THE VOTERS OF COMMISSIONERS PRECINCT NO. 2.

Through the columns of this paper I wish to express my thanks for your splendid support in the late election. To those who supported me will say I am very thankful and to those who supported my opponent, there is nothing but the kindest of feeling. Now it is all over and I wish to have your cooperation in things that pertain to the office and the betterment of conditions in every part of the work. Respectedly,
T. R. Lassiter.

CALL OF THE WOHELO

By Camp Fire Girls

Thursday Night Sept. 5

Admission 10 and 25

Proceeds will be donated to charity

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

You insure your Home and your Life; why not your Money?

This Bank is a Guaranty Fund Bank and offers you the protection afforded by the State Guaranty Fund of Texas.

We Pay The Premium

Capital and Surplus Fund
\$65,000.00

LESLIE WELLS IN FRANCE. BRAVE SOLDIER WOUNDED

The following letter came to homefolks from France.

We are in a Country where civilization began many years before it did in America, but we're very much ahead of them now. The women do the transportation around in towns, and in immediate locality with the wheel barrows and two wheel carts.

They have't any autos, or street cars, but walk, or ride on bicycles. Men and women, old and young alike ride them.

They have a kind of a hack or buggy that they work two horses to, that is used by the wealthier class. They have a few two wheel carts to haul the heavier stuff.

The railroads are very small and the cars are very comical by the side of ours. They haul the soldiers in stock cars. They will hold eight head of stock or about twenty soldiers. They make ten miles per hour.

We have barracks to live in, and are made of the very cheapest materials, and most of them are covered with American roofing material. The French houses are all of a quaint nature. They look very clean and have flowers growing around them, and a hedge fence covered with vines of some kind of berries.

We have to have our money changed into French money before we spend it. We get most everything from the Y. M. C. A. and Q. M. C. sales commissaries.

We cannot go to town yet. We haven't drilled any, but are very busy getting our clothes and equipment cleaned up.

I have not been sick since I left Camp Bowie, but am feeling fine, and eating all we can get.

I cannot tell much about our movements and don't be surprised if the Censor cuts out part of this.

Leslie B. Wells, Hdq Co. 142 Infantry 36th. Division. 5th Corps. A. E. F. France.

J. S. Bonds of Westbrook is visiting relatives in the city.

A short time ago we gave an account of where Capt. L. H. Nixon had shot four German soldiers from behind a woodpile and then left just in time to avoid the demolition of the pile. Being in the front line and daily subjected to the hardest part of the fighting, he failed to avoid being a target, and finally the part of a shell hit him in the head, making a very dangerous and painful wound. This was in the battle of Mars, on the 16th day of July. His wife, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Haynes of French Pasture, did not learn of his condition for about a month after it occurred. At that time his eyesight was entirely gone, and he thought that he would shortly be able to return to the State, where every effort will be made for him to regain his sight. He is now in a Red Cross hospital, and says he receives every attention needed. His nurse wrote that they could do nothing for his eyes until his head was healed. A later telegram to Mrs. Nixon stated that he expected to be home in a short time. For a time it was feared he would not survive the wound, but being of a strong constitution, in robust health and always full of hope, he is getting along nicely, the wound healing satisfactory, and Mrs. Nixon is now counting the days when she hopes to welcome his return.

The hardest part of the proposition with Capt. Nixon is the fact of his leaving the service. It was his one great desire to see the war through and be with the boys when they marched proudly down the streets of Berlin. He has made his time count, however, while there, and heaps honors in abundance upon himself and upon his beloved country, and we join Mrs. Nixon in giving him a most hearty welcome home.

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic destroys the malarial germs which are transmitted to the blood by the Malaria Mosquito. Price 60c.

STRENGTH

SERVICE

No. 7481



U. S. Depository for Postal Savings

Member Bank in Federal Reserve System

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS
\$50,000.00

Organized 1904

Under One Continuous Management Since Organization

We Invite Your Account

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Booth Warren, Asst. Cashier
DeVerle Johnson, Asst. Cashier

The Merkel Mail

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TELEPHONE No. 61

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

W. J. Leach and family has just returned from 30 days visit to Kentucky. He states that we have by no means got a corner on the dry weather. The drouth is about as bad there as here and all between here and there.

Economize now while everybody is doing it by digging up those old clothes and having them cleaned and pressed by Mrs. C. L. Cash.

John T. Morgan, formerly with the Merkel Mail, left a few days ago for Camp Travis to enter military service. He leaves his young wife at the home of her mother, Mrs. J. C. Calvert.

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

Mrs. Fred Latham of Harrisburg is visiting her mother, Mrs. J. C. Calvert.

Cure for Dysentery

"While I was in Ashland, Kansas, a gentleman overheard me speaking of Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy," writes William Whitelaw, of Des Moines, Iowa. "He told me in detail of what it had done for his family, but more especially his daughter who was lying at the point of death with a violent attack of dysentery, and had been given up by the family physician. Some of his neighbors advised him to give Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy, which he did, and fully believes that by doing so saved the life of his child. He stated that he had also used this remedy himself with equally gratifying results."

GOODS OF MERIT

Our Untiring Effort is to Keep
Goods of Real Merit

**Good Goods are Cheap
Cheap Goods are High**

Our Motto---:---Square Deal

The Brown D. G. Company

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Mc... less and children of Route 3 left Tuesday for Arson, where they will remain about six weeks.

Go to the Rogers grocery and see how the spot cash saves you money.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pilcher and family moved to Abilene the past week.

Looking for a car of loose oats. Call and put in your order. G. M. Sharp.

Take your clothes to Mrs. C. L. Cash and have them cleaned and pressed.

Gen J. Jones has gone into the plumbing and windmill business, with headquarters at the Crown Hardware Company. He is a hustler and we wish him success in his new undertaking.

SUNDAY ICE

Unless you bring your coupons or cash on Sunday morning, we can't let you have your ICE.
Merkel Ice Company

Mrs. H. R. Hicks and family left a few days ago for Hurley, N. M., where they will join Mr. Hicks, who is employed at a lumber yard at that place. This family has lived in Merkel for thirteen years and have a host of friends here who hate to see them go.

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.

Mrs. Sandlin Dies.
Just as we go to press announcement is made of the death of Mrs. Mary Nelson Sandlin, burial to take place this afternoon at 6 o'clock in Rose Hill cemetery. Elder Price bankhead will conduct the services. We expect to be able to obtain full details next week.

Mrs. Sanders Dead.
In the early afternoon of Tuesday, death came to relieve the sufferings of Mrs. Minnie Orr Sanders, wife of F. A. Sanders. Mrs. Sanders was born in Carroll county, Tenn., and was 37 years of age at the time of her death. She was married to Mr. Sanders, December 23, 1898. She was a consistent member of the Christian church, having joined when quite young. Surviving her are her husband, two daughters, mother, two sisters and six brothers. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have resided in Merkel about 18 years. Interment took place in Rose Hill cemetery, Elder Holton of Abilene officiating.

To our minds a family could hardly suffer a greater loss than to give up a loving wife and devoted mother even in the years before age had left its cares and before natural ambitions had run their course, but somehow we must believe it was best. In the home her life was queenly, with a circle of friends measured by her acquaintances, loving and true, she will be missed, sadly missed. To the bereaved ones we can only lend our sympathy, and trust that their hope in the great beyond will cause them to sustain their crushing sorrow in the beautiful anticipation of the meeting that is to take place when time has solved its purposes.

RED CROSS
STONE ROOT AND BUCHU COMPOUND.
Of unexcelled value for the treatment of kidney diseases. Pains in the back and burning sensations are symptoms of kidney troubles, which are quickly overcome by use of this remedy. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies sold and guaranteed only by

Grimes Drug Store

Mrs. Sandefer Dead.
A thrill of sadness spread over the city Wednesday afternoon when it was announced that death had claimed as its reward Mrs. Sandefer, wife of Rev. Sandefer, pastor of the Presbyterian church. She underwent an operation shortly after their arrival here and was never able to leave the sanitarium in Abilene. Doubly sad is this death, in a section where time forbids the making of personal friendships and leaving a devoted husband away from kindred and old time friends to mourn her departure. It is one of the cruelties of fate, yet surmounted by faith, for she only lies sleeping in the arms of eternity, to rise forth again in the revealing of those mysteries so far from the understanding of mortals.

We are unable to obtain details as we go to press, as burial will take place elsewhere and we were unable to interview Rev. Sandefer.

GLYCERINE MIXTURE FOR APPENDICITIS

Merkel people can prevent appendicitis with simple buchu bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-i-ka. One spoonful flushes the entire bowel tracts so completely it relieves any case sour stomach, gas or constipation and prevents appendicitis. The instant, pleasant action of Adler-i-ka surprises both doctors and patients. Leaves stomach clean and strong. Sanders Drug Store. adv. 2.

WM. L. DILTZ WRITES

Dear Father and Mother:—Your letters of June 25 and 30 came today, it was the first I had gotten from you since I left Texas, June 11, so you can guess how glad I was to hear from you.

All is well with me, I'm still enjoying pleasures of good health and the many new, beautiful and exciting things of this new life and entirely new country.

The people there have made me sacrifice I will admit, but tell you the truth if they

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

could see just one tenth of what I've seen they would never say a word, but would go to work and do something to help win this awful war, for the most fortunate people on earth.

The people here are very strange, but very friendly and seem to be very glad to see us, they give us wine and flowers and stop in the streets to talk to us. We are camped in the mountains in an old mill. We have a good place to stay, plenty of good spring water to drink and a nice large river to bathe in, it is a beautiful place and we have enough to do to keep us from thinking so much about America.

To be sure, I get lonesome and homesick and "frankly" blue. Who wouldn't? I'll personalize home, America and every cherished memory connected there, with many times a day—a privilege I'll keep wherever I may go. But at the same time I'm mindful of my task "over here" and like-wise its magnitude and the purpose for which I'm here and not there. With such thoughts I can combat lonesomeness and homesickness to a great extent, I'm sure, and if I can only hear from you often and know you are well, I will be O. K., for it won't take us long.

July 26th.—I'm still fine and dandy just a little tired. Our ration truck failed to come yesterday so we didn't have any bread for supper or breakfast and we took a ten mile hike this morning and when we got back at 11:30 a.m. the truck hadn't come so we didn't have much for dinner, but it came about two this afternoon, so we had a big supper.

Pray for me, and give my love to all and write as often as you can. William L. Diltz, Amb Co. No. 360 315th San Tr. A. E. F.

RED CROSS AMRICO TOOTH PASTE
An antiseptic refreshing paste, that leaves a delightful after-taste. Cleanses the teeth without injuring the enamel. The antiseptic properties aid in keeping the teeth and gums in a healthy condition. This and more than one hundred other Red Cross Remedies and Toilet Preparations sold and guaranteed only by

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Report.

	Attendance	Col
Methodist	170	\$4.10
Baptist	145	3.25
Presbyterian	37	1.14

At The Methodist Church.

Interest is increasing in our church work in all the departments. In church attendance, in Sunday School work, interest in our work has not been better this year. Our boy superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. Ralph Henson, with his corps of teachers, are pushing ahead, despite untoward conditions. Obstacles do not seem to be in their way. Oh, there are a few who do not see that the church needs them, and who do not seem to need the church, but surely they will awake. Just what will their answer be, when asked up "yonder what have you done? My friends; Come up to the help of the Lord's friends."

Let all who are of us, be present with us next Sunday both in Sunday School and in our preaching services. All strangers specially invited to worship with us. Come and forget your troubles, come and be refreshed.

Yours to serve,
C. S. Cameron.

Over At The Baptist Church

If the world holds together in the right way the pastor expects to fill the pulpit at both hours next Sunday. It is Labor Sunday and the service will be in keeping with the significance of the day.

Every one is urged to be present for the Sunday School service at 10 o'clock. The attendance has been holding up splendidly during the summer and it is hoped that at least 200 will be present on Labor Sunday.

E. E. Dawson, Pastor.

The Conferences September 8

The Pastors Association desires to keep everlastingly before the community the Conference of Fathers at the M. E. Church on the Second Sunday evening at 7 o'clock, and the Conference of Mothers at the Presbyterian Church at the same hour. Speakers have been engaged for these meetings whose messages will interest and inform everybody. Mayor Cobb will preside at one of the meetings and the Red Cross chairman (or chair-woman) will preside at the other. County Supt. Elect, Mr. Sims, is to be one of the speakers, the County Health Physician will be another. The others will be of equal interest.

Put it on your program and leave off the out-of-town visit for that day. This is of community interest. The welfare of the town is involved.

E. E. Dawson, Secretary Pastors Assn.

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

Individual Responsibility.

This war is to be won not by one man or one thousand men or one million men or one million people. It is to be won by the united efforts of the individuals of many nations.

Every American citizen has an individual duty to perform. The more powerful and effective the American forces are the shorter the war the fewer lives lost, the greater the number of American soldiers who will return.

Every American who economizes in consumption of material, who increases production, and saves and lends to the Government, does something to help win the war.

After Measles Whooping Cough or Scarlet Fever

the extreme weakness often results in impaired hearing, weakened eyesight, bronchitis and other troubles, but if Scott's Emulsion is given promptly, it carries strength to the organs and creates rich blood to build up the depleted forces.
Children thrive on Scott's Emulsion. It is Free from Alcohol.

AJAX TIRES

GUARANTEED IN WRITING 5000 MILES

"More Tread on the Road"

HERE is the Ajax Road King—master mile-maker of them all. The tire for endurance and abuse on all roads in any weather. Made doubly strong where the road strain comes. It has more tread on the road—more rubber where it should be—more grip to grip with—because of the special patented feature—

Ajax Shoulders of Strength

These rugged supporting shoulders of the tread mean longer wear. They cushion against shocks. Shoulders of Strength distribute road wear evenly. It cannot come in one spot and quickly grind through to the fabric.

97% Owners' Choice

This big percentage of all Ajax Tires goes to individual motorists who select them to take the place of tires that came with their cars. See them here at the Ajax Tire Supply Depot, headquarters for Ajax Tires and Tubes.

AJAX ROAD KING

MERKEL GARAGE

Merkel, Texas.

"While Others Are Claiming Quality, We Are Guaranteeing It"



List YOUR PROPERTY With THE MERKEL MAIL

Farm Lands, Ranches, City Property, Lots, Etc., for sale or trade.

Eastern Connections.

Special attention given to listed property

The Star Store Wants to Buy YOUR COTTON

We want to sell you your DRY GOODS, SHOES AND GROCERIES

Special Prices on Shoes for Next 10 Days

Be sure to see us for your Bill of Groceries

See our Saturday Specials

THE STAR STORE

PLUMBING AND WINDMILL WORK

Will answer calls day or night, anywhere and Guarantee my Work

GEN. J. JONES :: At Crown Hardware Company

Card of Thanks.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the doctors for their patience and untiring efforts, the Boy Scouts for their thoughtful kindness on many occasions and all our dear friends for their constant assistance during the illness and at the death of our dearly beloved wife and mother; also are we gratefully thankful for the many floral offerings. You, dear friends, are helping us bear our great affliction, and may the blessings of heaven be upon you always.

F. A. Sanders and children.

THIS IS CERTAIN

The Proof That Merkel Readers Cannot Deny.

What could furnish stronger evidence of the efficiency of any remedy than the test of time. Thousands of people testify that Doan's Kidney Pills have brought lasting results.

Grateful endorsements should prove undoubtedly the merits of this remedy. Years ago people right in this locality testified to the relief they had derived from the use of Doan's Kidney Pills. They now confirm their testimonials. They say that time has completed the test.

Mrs. W. C. Shaw, 773 Locust St., Abilene, Tex., says: "My back was so lame I could hardly get up in the morning and my kidneys acted irregularly. This trouble had bothered me for years. I finally got Doan's Kidney Pills and they quickly cured me. One box was all I needed and I felt better in every way."

Over three years later Mrs. Shaw added: "I still have great confidence in Doan's Kidney Pills, for the cure they gave me has been permanent."

Price 60c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Shaw had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y. Aug 30

Advertised Letters.

These can be redeemed upon payment of one cent.

Cloe, Olina
Stewart, G. W.
Delgado, L.
Periz, L.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on September 11th.

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

For Indigestion, Constipation or Biliousness

Just try one 50-cent bottle of LAX-FO'S 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.

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Johnson and family returned Monday from a two weeks visit to Mineral Wells. Since leaving here, Mr. Johnson says he has seen first hand the suffering caused by people pulling up and leaving West Texas with their families. He is of the opinion that it is far better to leave their families at home and let the men folk go off and work. They can live cheaper at home. Poor teams and hungry families make a sad combination in a section that can render little assistance.

Dr. F. N. Reynolds left last Friday for Canadian for a few days visit and will return at once with his family. The doctor recently purchased the dental business of Dr. McMaster.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Mrs. A. C. Rose received a telegram a few days ago stating that her brother, Wm. A. Bourn, had been injured in France.

Spot cash saves you money at Rogers.

Wm. C. Black, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Black, has safely landed in France.

SUNDAY ICE
Unless you bring your coupons or cash on Sunday morning, we can't let you have your ICE.
Merkel Ice Company

Mrs. W. L. Johnson, and three children, who have been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler, left for their home in El Paso Sunday.

Raymond Meeks, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Meeks, writes from France, stating that he is getting along splendidly.

Bring your fresh eggs and butter to E. L. Rogers. Best prices paid.

Miss Over Hurst of Lockhart, who has been visiting her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff, and family for the past three months has returned to her home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker of Dallas visited Mrs. Walker's uncle, J. T. Howard, this week. Mr. Walker returned Monday but she will remain some time yet.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Druggists refund money if FAZO OINTMENT fails to cure itching, blind, bleeding or protruding piles. Instantly relieves itching Piles, and you can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 60c.

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Easterwood of Abilene were home visitors the forepart of the week.

Go to Rogers where the dollar buys most.

J. N. Shelton left Monday for Fort Worth and Austin to be gone a week or ten days, visiting relatives and friends.

No Worms in a Healthy Child
All children troubled with worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a rule, there is more or less stomach disturbance. GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC given regularly for two or three weeks will enrich the blood, improve the digestion, and act as a General Strengthening Tonic to the whole system. Nature will then throw off or dispel the worms, and the child will be in perfect health. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

Prof. R. M. Parker returned a few days ago from Austin, where he has been attending a meeting of the State Board of Examiners. He is now ready for business.

Mr. and Mrs. Bartley Smith and children of Stanton are visiting Mrs. Smith's father, G. W. Johnson and sisters, Misses Pauline and Oona.

Miss Elma Sheppard is visiting Mrs. Lige Gambell in Fort Worth this week. Miss Maude Martin is holding down her job at the Star Store.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Rister returned Sunday from a five week's visit to El Paso. They report a delightful trip.

Granulated Sore Eyes Cured.
"For twenty years I suffered from a bad case of granulated sore eyes, says Martin Boyd of Henretta, Ky. "In February, 1903, a gentleman asked me to try Chamberlain's Salve. I bought one box and used about two-thirds of it and my eyes had not given me any trouble since." This salve is for sale by all dealers.

NEW REAL ESTATE BUSINESS

Wish to announce that I have opened up an office in the Commercial Club rooms and am listing all kinds of property, especially farm lands and city property. Am also prepared to handle oil leases and royalties. Am arranging connections to make Farm Loans.

Those who list their property with me will receive a square deal and I assure them that no labor nor expense will be spared to turn their property.

T. E. RAGAN MERKEL, TEXAS

J. A. Brown, who has been at work in Ranger for some time happened to a very painful accident there a few days ago. A plank fell on his foot, crushing it badly. Mr. Brown is at home.

Miss Irene Swann leaves Thursday night for Roswell, N. M., where she has accepted a position as instructor of drawing in the public schools of that city. Miss Swann taught art here last year, and her going is a distinct loss to the educational sphere of Merkel. We hope, when conditions change for the better, she will find it to her interest to return and teach art as heretofore.

Mrs. Rufus Grisham and daughter returned home after a visit with her father, L.B. Howard and family.

Expecting a car of bulk oats any day. I will sell them at 91¢ at the car. See E. L. Ash. 1tp.

H. C. Burroughs, Sr. and family, formerly of Amarillo, recently moved to Fort Worth, where Mr. Burroughs has accepted a position with the Twentieth St., Drug Company. Their residence is at 1416 Homan Ave., where they will be glad to receive a letter or visit from any of their Merkel friends.

Miss Nellie Swann, who has been spending the summer with her sister and family at Tulia, returned home Tuesday.

The Strong Withstand the Heat of Summer Better Than the Weak

Old people who are feeble and younger people who are weak, will be strengthened and enabled to go through the depressing heat of summer by taking GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC. It purifies and enriches the blood and builds up the whole system. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. 60c.

Alvis Wilkins, who has just completed a course in the Merkel Business College, left recently for Virginia to accept a position.

Minor Burns, who was a visitor in the city this week, left on Tuesday for Dallas, accompanied by Wade Ensminger, both having a view to joining the Marines.

Mrs. Ollie Dye and children left Wednesday for Ranger, where she joins her husband and where they will make their home for the present.

Expecting a car of bulk oats any day. I will sell them at 91¢ at the car. See E. L. Ash. 1tp.

Miss Charlie Bell Thomas left Wednesday for Dallas, where she will visit her sister. She will doubtless accept a position and remain there for some time. She has just completed a course in shorthand and typewriting at the Merkel Business College. For some months she has been acting secretary of the Commercial Club, filling the place with credit.

WE BUY OLD FALSE TEETH

We will pay up to \$21.50 per set (broken or not). Send now. Cash sent by return mail. Package held 10 to 15 days subject to sender's approval of our offer. Highest prices paid for Old Gold Jewelry, Gold Crowns, Bridges, Platinum and Silver.
United States Smelting Works, Inc. 1084 Goldsmith Bldg., Opp. Post Office, Milwaukee, Wis.

Merkel Drug Co.
For Your Drug Wants.
We carry a complete line of Drugs and Sundries.
Let us serve you

Specialty in Farm Loans
Inspector on the ground—Quick Service
Real Estate and Fire Insurance
W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

NR Tonight—Tomorrow Feel Right
Get a 25¢ Box
T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

Those leaving for government work at Nashville the past week from the great Merkel country are as follows:
T. H. Brackeen, T. F. Compton, J. A. Williams, M. L. Estes and J. T. Pitcock of Merkel; J. W. Thomas, Hawley; J. W. Smith and W. W. McDaniel, Tye; Cadmus Brown, Sylvester; and I. S. Simpson, Trent.

A Billious Attack.
When you have a billious attack your liver fails to perform its functions. You become constipated. The food you eat ferments in your stomach instead of digesting. This inflames the stomach and causes nausea, vomiting and a terrible headache. Take three of Chamberlain's Tablets. They will tone up your liver, clean out your stomach and you will soon be as well as ever. They only cost a quarter.

Melons, fruit, candies. You'll find them at Boney's. 29t2c

The Best Plaster.
A piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Liniment and bound on over the seat of pain is often more effectual for a lame back than a plaster and does not cost anything like as much.

Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic
restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its strengthening, invigorating effect. Price 60c.

Government Says Buy Coal Now
A coal famine will follow this fall. Our ships are to be supplied at any cost. You save money and insure your coal supply by buying now.
WARREN BROS. All Orders C.O.D.

Loans To Our Allies.
The United States has now loaned to our allies \$6, 091, 590, 000. The advances average about \$400, 000,000 a month. These loans to our allies are analogous to lending weapons to friends who are aiding you in the defense of your own home. The money is being used to defeat our enemy, to maintain armies fighting side by side with our soldiers, and fleets patrolling the same oceans with our sailors.

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

HOME AND THE CHILDREN
What is home for, any way. If it's not for children's play? What's the use of rugs and chairs If they cannot call them theirs? Why are rooms and floors and halls, Banisters and papered walls. If they do not furnish joy For some little girl or boy?

Who would keep his house or flat Echoing with "don't do that"? Who would make his home a tomb, Icy cold and filled with gloom Sending little ones away, Stilling all their laughter gay Just to keep in good repair Parlor floor or couch or chair?

Seems to me that home's a place Where the youngsters ought to race; Where the toys should lie about Strewn in childhood happy rout, And the walls should, here and there, Show some smudgy symbol where Sticky little hands had been. Home should never be too clean for these.

Home should never be too neat. Better far the marks of feet On the varnished rungs of chair And the scratches on the stair And the glad disorder which Prove the home with joys is rich, Than the mansion's stiff brocade Where no child has ever played.
(Copyright, 1918, by Edgar A. Guest).

To Improve Your Digestion
"For years my digestion was so poor that I could only eat the lightest foods. I tried everything that I heard of to get relief, but not until about a year ago when I saw Chamberlain's Tablets advertised and got a bottle of them did I find the right treatment. Since taking them my digestion is fine."—Mrs. Blanche Bowers, Indiana, Pa.

WHAT WE FIGHT FOR.
The high aims of American and her allies are well expressed in President Wilson's greetings to France on Basile day:
"As France celebrated our Fourth of July, so do we celebrate her Fourteenth, keenly conscious of a comradeship of arms and of purpose of which we are deeply proud. The sea seems very narrow to-day, France is so close neighbor to our hearts. The war is being fought to save ourselves from intolerable things, but it is also being fought to save mankind. We extend our hands to each other, to the great peoples with whom we are associated; and to the peoples everywhere who love right and prize justice as a thing beyond price, and consecrate ourselves once more to the noble enterprise of peace and justice, realizing the great conceptions that have lifted France and America high among the free peoples of the world. The French flag flies to-day from the staff of the White House, and America is happy to do honor to that flag."

Nature's Remedy
DR. TABLETS DR. Better than Pills GET A For Liver Ills. 25c Box

F. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas
PROFESSIONAL
—D-E-N-T-I-S-T—
Dr. F. N. Reynolds
Office Hours 8—12 AM; 1—6PM
Over Woodroof-Bragg's Store.

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.
Merkel —:— Texas

G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance—Notary Public
Over Woodroof—Bragg's 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

PATE BARBER SHOP
Skillful Operators—The Very Best Service.
PATE & SON
Merkel, Texas. Kent Street.

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

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 sizes, 25c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent postpaid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.
BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING CO. DALLAS, TEXAS