



THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 30—NO. 37

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1918

8 PAGES

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German resistance is stiffening between these two points, the southern end of the eighty mile line from Valenciennes to the Dutch frontier. The British armies, however, continue to progress. Orca, within less than a mile of Tournai on the west, has been captured and the British hold La Sentinelle, one mile west of Valenciennes.

North of Tournai, the British are along the Scheldt on a front of five miles and north and south of this sector rapidly are gaining the western bank of the river. Between Valenciennes and Le Cateau the British maintain their pressure and have reached the Ecaillon River at Thiant, southwest of Valenciennes.

French forces continued their pressure on the front from the junction of the Oise and the Serre eastward to Vouziers. On the extreme left they have advanced north of the Serre. East of the Aisen, at Vouziers, the Germans have ceased their violent efforts to dislodge the French from important hill positions. French here are in a position to outflank the Germans facing the Americans on the sector west of the Meuse, which accounts for the strong German effort to drive the French back. General Gou-

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MR FARMER

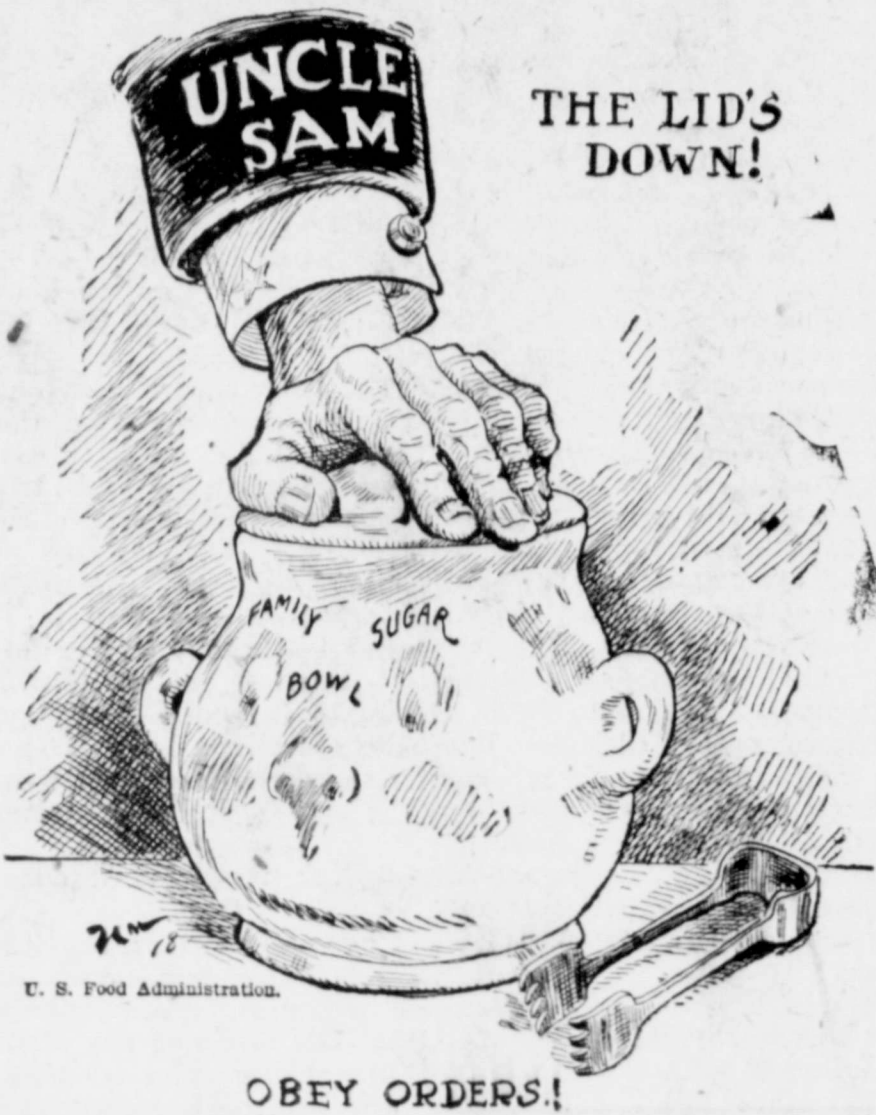
THE FEDERAL LAND BANK

Will loan 50 per cent of the Appraised value of your land at 5 1/2 per cent on 35 years time, with the privilege of taking it up after 5 years. You can take up indebtedness on your land or buy land. If your land is in Taylor County you can get a loan here. You should put in your application now and have the loan ready by the time your notes are due.

This loan acts like life insurance on your home, and if you can get one you are doing yourself an injustice to not take one. Talk to your wife about it. Then see W. W. Wheeler of Merkel or R. E. L. Norwood of Abilene or W. C. Lasley of Buffalo Gap and do it now.—adv 114c.

DO NOT

Buy any new electrical appliances if your old ones can be repaired. Conserve the material and you will help our government. Bring your old appliances to our office and we will repair them free of labor charges. The government indorses the uses of electrical appliances for the fact it is a big saving in fuel. MERKEL POWER CO.



U. S. Food Administration.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

SEWING WANTED—By Mrs. J. C. Carpenter at her home. Phone 70.

FOR SALE—Three big bone male Poland China pigs nine weeks old. Subject to registration. Price \$10 each. See Walter Jackson.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

FOR TRADE—Fine 6-passenger auto. Worth \$2165 to trade on farm worth the money. See The Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE—Span of good work mules three miles north of Stith. J. H. Highsmith, Merkel Rt 4. z 25t2p.

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Two explosions occurred in dugouts in Chatel Chenery today from mines left behind by the Germans when they were driven out of the town two weeks ago.

Prisoners captured yesterday were from all divisions known to be opposite the American lines. The Twenty-eighth German or "flying shock division," apparently is no longer being used against the Americans on the sector. ereaob

THE NEW ECONOMY

Money is daily becoming less valuable, hence we must practice economy with things. The proper cleansing of woolen garments means the same to them as proper lubrication means to an automobile, or proper cleansing to a watch. Yet millions of garments are discarded every year simply because the art of cleansing and caring for them is so little understood. I know how to clean your clothes properly, and it is economy for you to bring them in and let me do your work.—adv.

MRS. C. L. CASH.

Plenty of oats at Bob Martin's

THE STATE-WIDE DRY LAW HELD INVALID

Austin, Oct. 23.—The Court of Criminal Appeals in a majority opinion held the State-wide prohibition law unconstitutional. The opinion is by Judge Morrow, who holds that this law is in conflict with the local option feature of the Constitution.

Judge Prendergast dissented in the opinion.

The written opinion delivered by the court, declaring that the statewide prohibition law is in conflict with Section 20, Article 16 of the local option law, says in part:

"The local option prohibition law provides that it shall continue in force until such time as qualified voters therein may, at a legal election held for the purpose, by a majority vote, decided otherwise." The law in question puts no limitation upon the time it shall continue in force, and affords the voters in the locality no option to discontinue it. In these respects the people of the locality are deprived of the right which, according to the construction of the Constitution the Legislature has no right or power to deprive them. Such right, giving effect to the decisions mentioned could be exercised only in the event that the law in question should be construed as repealing the local option prohibition existing in the various localities in which it has been adopted, and this it has been repeatedly declared is beyond the power of the Legislature."

The case involving today's decision on the constitutionality of the statewide prohibition law is that of F. Meyer of San Antonio, who was arrested in Bexar County on a charge of selling intoxicants after the law went into effect. The case was never tried in District Court as Meyer came to the Court of Criminal

Appeals with a writ of habeas corpus and was allowed bond by this court. On July 19, 1918, the case was submitted on brief and oral argument to the Court of Criminal Appeals. Since that time it has been under the advisement of the court.

Attorney General Looney stated today that a motion for rehearing in the State-wide prohibition case would be filed before the Court of Criminal Appeals. "Until that is acted upon the whole matter will remain as it is, I presume," he concluded.

GERMANY'S PEACE NOTE RECEIVED

Germany's note has been received. It is significant that Germany considers her situation grave but not desperate. She is a long way from accepting terms that will be satisfactory to the allies. She has left the door open for compromise, when in the eyes of the world there can be no compromise. In London it is conceded that "Germany is still impenitent." In Paris there is little hope for an early peace. The force of arms alone will make a lasting peace, and now, if never before, is the time to throw every ounce of energy against a tottering foe. There is no compromise. Why bother about these notes? Let Germany make an unconditional surrender and the allies will do the rest.

CAR WHEAT RECEIVED

The car of wheat ordered last week came in on last Sunday. Early Monday morning business was rushing. There were 1600 bushels in the car and it was nearly all gone before night and about 500 additional bushels were wanted.

Many people will be unable to rent all their land and are sowing a considerable acreage in wheat. A large quantity was kept over from last year and was put in the ground a couple of weeks ago. It is now up and looking fine, and with the rains of this week will make pasture rapidly.

There is a general feeling that the drought is broken and wheat sowing will doubtless continue until the middle or last of November. Many growers claim that if there is a season and wheat is in the ground by December 1st it will make all right.

TO THE PUBLIC

The Fourth Liberty Loan has passed into history and the people of Merkel have again demonstrated their patriotism by oversubscribing the quota. The quota assigned to us was \$43,000.00 and the subscription sent in amounted to \$45,200.00 This includes \$1000.00 subscribed for by the Texas & Pacific Railway Co. and its employees at this place and was handled by them direct but Merkel is permitted to count this in the assigned quota. I take this method of thanking all who in anyway assisted in the campaign either by subscription or personal effort. For a time it seemed that it could not be done, but on the last day the public resolved that it must be done and it was done. I want this same committee to remain in tact and be ready for the next loan which is sure to come. We thank the public for their courtesy to the members of the committee while engaged in this work, and your patriotism and fidelity to duty will always be remembered.

Respectfully,
Thos Johnson,
Local Chairman.

Change your time pieces back one hour Saturday night. We have rather enjoyed the change forward and now welcome the change backward. It conserves daylight and we believe the people have benefitted on account of the change. If any one is heard to refer to the old or new time, just fine him a quarter. There is and can be but one time

OIL DRILLING IS EXPECTED SOON

The oil people are not quite ready to authorize a statement for publication. They are figuring with parties on drilling, several of whom were here the past week and looked over the field. Their headquarters are in Oklahoma and they will have to hold a meeting in Lawton Saturday before arriving at a decision. The company is doing everything within its power to close a drilling contract. If this is not done shortly, the company expects to do its own drilling. Mr. Garrison authorizes the statement that the sixty-day contract will not expire without drilling operations being started, and a little over half the time is gone. The people are urged to be patient. Of course we are all anxious to see something started, but this is a big deal; the company has up several thousand dollars on leases in our local banks, and there is little question about things taking the right turn. And the people have the utmost confidence in the oil field being developed. It makes no difference if they say they are not, and if you want to see whether they are telling the truth just make them an offer on their holdings and see how that sets with them. Lots of people just talk with their mouths, you know. Entirely too often we disconnect the power line from the brain to the tongue. Why we had an old place listed for sale at twice its value, and the owner says he has little confidence in the oil proposition, and he is a fine fellow, too, but it is remarkable what soil that old red hill has. Thirty days will run by quickly and we ought to stand by the proposition until it is by, and then if nothing turns up, why then we are privileged to talk as we please. The oil men have a perfect right to wait until the last minute is up and then comply with the contract, and if they do, we will all feel good, and if they don't their position will be greatly weakened and they will be minus some mighty good leases.

They are now housed in swell offices and all indications point right.

CAR WHEAT COMING

The Commercial Club has ordered another car of wheat. As we go to press only about 400 or 500 bushels have been sold. Order quick as it will be taken up in a short time. The price will be \$2.55 in bulk. This was the best that could be done. To get it sacked would have delayed it a week, and the farmers want it just as soon as it can be shipped. The shippers promised to reclean it. It will come from Wichita Falls. It will doubtless roll into Merkel Monday. Phone your order to the Commercial Club, H. F. Groene, secretary, phone 10. The first to order will be the first served. Next to the oil well is wheat so it is highly important that wheat be sowed.

Be sure to bring your sacks as the wheat comes in bulk.

School Opened Thursday.

"To books again" was the order of the day Thursday, and the school marms with rule and rod diligently began plying the three "R's" in an effort to make up for the time lost. There is little fear of the "Flu" in the school room. At a recent meeting of the medical profession of Texas, it was given out as their opinion that children would be better taken care of in a well ventilated school room than turned loose upon the streets. We trust the interruption will in no way materially hamper the year's work.

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

One Reason For Free Text Books

The fact that through the compulsory education law all children of scholastic age are compelled to attend school, makes it logical and necessary that the State should supply those children with textbooks free. Otherwise, the State is in the position of forcing the children to buy those textbooks, whether they choose to do so or not, and whether their parents can afford to pay for them or not. The State, of course, has that power, and in most States that is precisely what is being done. But it is more than an open question whether that is the proper way to go about it.

Let us suppose that we had no free schools, that all schools were privately owned and operated for profit, and that therefore all schools required the payment of tuition. Could it be regarded as proper under such circumstances for the State to pass a compulsory education law? The need of compulsory education would be just as great—it would still be to the State's highest interest to compel every child to obtain a certain amount of education. But no one, we think, would propose compulsory education unless the State also provided the means of obtaining it—a public free school system. Why, then, should not the same rule apply to textbooks?

The textbook is just as essential a part of a school system as a teacher or a school house. Why

More Than Enough is Too Much maintain health, a mature man or woman needs enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by all dealers.

should it be improper for the State to compel all children to attend school without supplying school houses, and teachers, and yet be proper to compel them to use textbooks without supplying those textbooks? There is no essential difference between them as parts of a free school system.

From this standpoint, the constitutional amendment providing for free textbooks in the Texas public schools, which is to be voted on in the general election, Nov. 5, is seen to be a proposal to complete our free school system.

That is precisely what we think it is, and that is why we believe it should be adopted.—The Star-Telegram.

BIG SURPRISE TO MANY IN MERKEL

People are surprised at the instant action of simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-i-ka. One spoonful flushes the entire bowel tract 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. It removes foul matter which poisoned your stomach for months. Sanders Drug Store, adv 5.

Mrs. J. L. Daniel and Grandbaby Dead

The little year old grandchild of J. L. Daniel died and was buried in Rose Hill cemetery on the 18th. The following day Mrs. J. L. Daniel died and was buried.

The departed are survived by the husband and grandfather and eight children, all of whom were sick and unable to attend either funeral.

Under the conditions these deaths were particularly sad. Only a few neighbors attended the funerals which took place without religious rites.

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.



PAY
W. S. S.

Pledge Week
OCT. 24-31

☛ It's your time to charge the Hun lines. That W. S. S. pledge you made is due and payable to the United States government

OCTOBER 24-31

☛ We have the War Savings Stamps here for you. Our services are yours in Uncle Sam's service.

This Govt. Advt. Patriotically contributed by

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

CHANGE OF TIME EFFECTIVE OCT. 27

In accord with an act of Congress of March 19, 1918, entitled "an act to save daylight and to provide standard time," the clocks and watches will be set back one hour on Oct. 27, at 2 a. m. It is recommended that the clocks in business houses be set back at the close of business on Saturday night, and those at the homes be set back at bedtime.

The act designated the Saturday before the last Sunday in March as the time for setting the clocks forward one hour, and the Saturday before the last Sunday in October as the date for setting them back. The time between the date of setting the clocks up, in March, and the date of setting them back in October is designated in the act as summer time, and the time as kept by the timepieces from October to March is designated standard time.

The chronometers of the country will be regulated by this act until such time as Congress may repeal or change the law.

The manner in which a change in time will be made by the railroads when the clock is set back an hour was announced yesterday by J. L. Lancaster, Federal Manager of the Southwestern Region.

"All trains will be held at the terminals for one hour," Mr. Lancaster said. "This becomes effective at 2 o'clock Sunday morning of Oct. 27, which is 12 o'clock, Eastern time. This should adjust the change with little difficulty."

A Beautiful Woman.

Do you know that a beautiful woman always has a good digestion? If your digestion is faulty, eat lightly of meats, and take an occasional dose of Chamberlain's Tablets to strengthen your digestion. Price 25c.

We want to list your vacant lots, your houses, in fact whatever you have to sell. The Merkel Realty Company.

NO PROFITEERING HERE

☛ Every call and request made upon us by the Government for the winning of the war has been complied with in the letter and in the spirit — complied with gladly and willingly.

☛ In our entire stock of Fall and Winter merchandise there is not a single garment which violates in any way the rules of the United States War Industries Board for the saving of wool.

☛ Neither is there any one in this store, contrary to the spirit of the selective service laws laid down by Provost Marshal General Crowder.

☛ Costs of woollens and tailoring are higher—that there is no escaping. But in the making of Kirschbaum Clothes great economies are effected by modern, efficient methods and those benefits we pass along, complete and untouched, to you. Our prices represent full value in materials and workmanship — no gouging, no profiteering anywhere along the line.

Kirschbaum Clothes \$16, \$20 and \$25

The Brown D. G. Company

Farmer Who Refused Liberty Bond Jailed.

San Angelo, Oct. 21.—Charged with violating the espionage act, Frank Glass, 60-years old Runnels County farmer, was remanded to jail here today. Complaint was filed at the instance of the County Council of Defense and alleges that Glass when asked to buy a Liberty Bond made disparaging remarks about the war. Bond was set at \$25,000, in default of which he was held in custody.

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.

Roscoe Sharp, somewhere in France, has been made first-class private and then corporal. He belongs to the signal staff of the artillery department.

Mrs. R. M. Parker, who arrived in Merkel last Friday, from Bonham, has been on the sick list this week.

Can Now Eat and Sleep in Comfort

If troubled with indigestion or sleeplessness you should read what Miss Agnes Turner, Chicago, Ill., has to say: "Overwork, irregular meals and carelessness regarding the ordinary rules of health, gradually undermined it until last fall I became a wreck of my former self. I suffered from continual headache, was unable to digest my food, which seemed to lay as a dead weight on my stomach. I was very constipated and my complexion became dark, yellow and muddy as I felt. Sleeplessness was added to my misery, and I would awake as tired as when I went to sleep. I heard of Chamberlain's Tablets and found such relief after taking them that I kept up the treatment for nearly two months. They cleansed my stomach, invigorated my system, and since that time I can eat and sleep in comfort. I am today entirely well."



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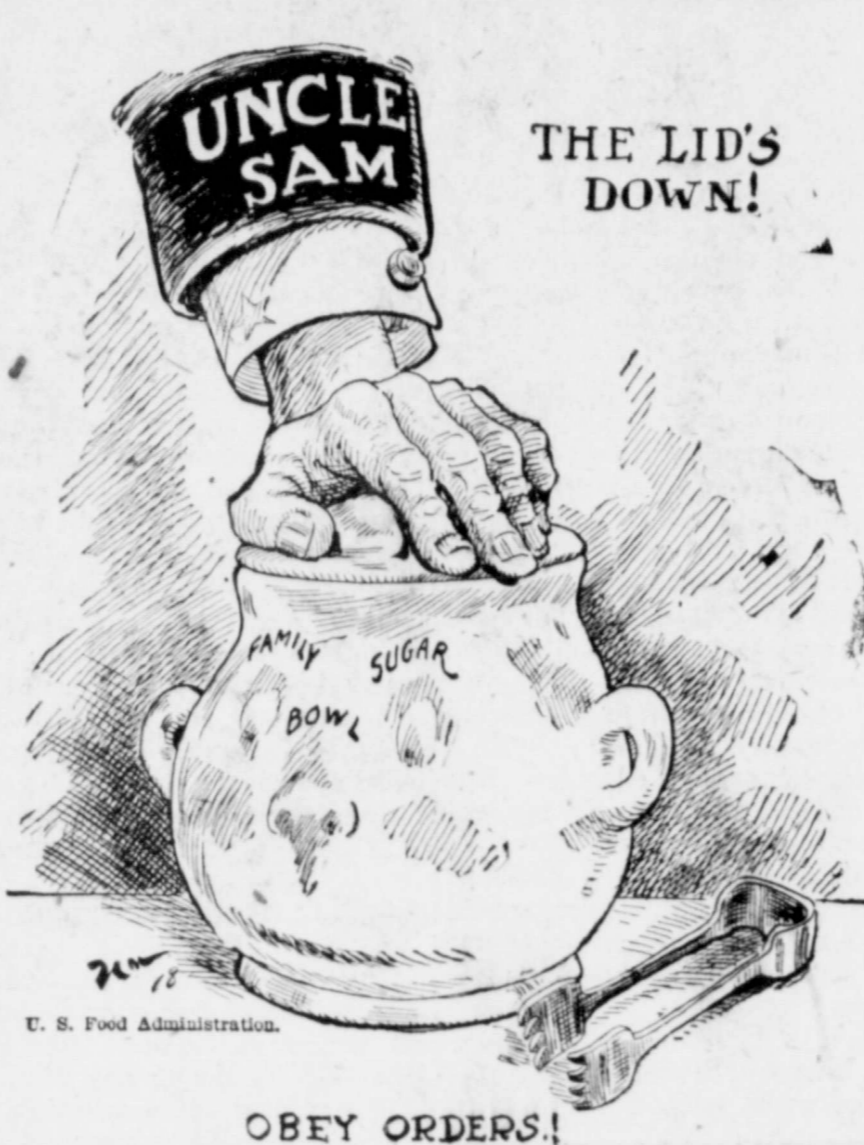
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This loan acts like life insurance on your home, and if you can get one you are doing yourself an injustice to not take one. Talk to your wife about it. Then see W. W. Wheeler of Merkel or R. E. L. Norwood of Abilene or W. C. Lasley of Buffalo Gap and do it now.—adv 114c.

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Austin, Oct. 23.—The Court of Criminal Appeals in a majority opinion held the Statewide prohibition law unconstitutional. The opinion is by Judge Morrow, who holds that this law is in conflict with the local option feature of the Constitution.

Judge Prendergast dissented in the opinion.

The written opinion delivered by the court, declaring that the statewide prohibition law is in conflict with Section 20, Article 16 of the local option law, says in part:

"The local option prohibition law provides that it shall continue in force until such time as qualified voters therein may, at a legal election held for the purpose, by a majority vote, decide otherwise." The law in question puts no limitation upon the time it shall continue in force, and affords the voters in the locality no option to discontinue it. In these respects the people of the locality are deprived of the right which, according to the construction of the Constitution of the Legislature has no right or power to deprive them. Such right, giving effect to the decisions mentioned could be exercised only in the event that the law in question should be construed as repealing the local option prohibition existing in the various localities in which it has been adopted, and this it has been repeatedly declared is beyond the power of the Legislature."

The case involving today's decision on the constitutionality of the statewide prohibition law is that of F. Meyer of San Antonio, who was arrested in Bexar County on a charge of selling intoxicants after the law went into effect. The case was never tried in District Court as Meyer came to the Court of Criminal

Appeals with a writ of habeas corpus and was allowed bond by this court. On July 19, 1918, the case was submitted on brief and oral argument to the Court of Criminal Appeals. Since that time it has been under the advisement of the court.

Attorney General Looney stated today that a motion for rehearing in the Statewide prohibition case would be filed before the Court of Criminal Appeals. "Until that is acted upon the whole matter will remain as it is, I presume," he concluded.

GERMANY'S PEACE NOTE RECEIVED

Germany's note has been received. It is significant that Germany considers her situation grave but not desperate. She is a long way from accepting terms that will be satisfactory to the allies. She has left the door open for compromise, when in the eyes of the world there can be no compromise. In London it is conceded that "Germany is still impenitent." In Paris there is little hope for an early peace. The force of arms alone will make a lasting peace, and now, if never before, is the time to throw every ounce of energy against a tottering foe. There is no compromise. Why bother about these notes? Let Germany make an unconditional surrender and the allies will do the rest.

CAR WHEAT RECEIVED

The car of wheat ordered last week came in on last Sunday. Early Monday morning business was rushing. There were 1600 bushels in the car and it was nearly all gone before night and about 500 additional bushels were wanted.

Many people will be unable to rent all their land and are sowing a considerable acreage in wheat. A large quantity was kept over from last year and was put in the ground a couple of weeks ago. It is now up and looking fine, and with the rains of this week will make pasture rapidly.

There is a general feeling that the drought is broken and wheat sowing will doubtless continue until the middle or last of November. Many growers claim that if there is a season and wheat is in the ground by December 1st it will make all right.

TO THE PUBLIC

The Fourth Liberty Loan has passed into history and the people of Merkel have again demonstrated their patriotism by over-subscribing the quota. The quota assigned to us was \$43,000.00 and the subscription sent in amounted to \$45,200.00 This includes \$1000.00 subscribed for by the Texas & Pacific Railway Co. and its employees at this place and was handled by them direct but Merkel is permitted to count this in the assigned quota. I take this method of thanking all who in anyway assisted in the campaign either by subscription or personal effort. For a time it seemed that it could not be done, but on the last day the public resolved that it must be done and it was done. I want this same committee to remain in tact and be ready for the next loan which is sure to come. We thank the public for their courtesy to the members of the committee while engaged in this work, and your patriotism and fidelity to duty will always be remembered.

Respectfully,
Thos Johnson,
Local Chairman.

Change your time pieces back one hour Saturday night. We have rather enjoyed the change forward and now welcome the change backward. It conserves daylight and we believe the people have benefitted on account of the change. If any one is heard to refer to the old or new time, just fine him a quarter. There is and can be but one time

OIL DRILLING IS EXPECTED SOON

The oil people are not quite ready to authorize a statement for publication. They are figuring with parties on drilling, several of whom were here the past week and looked over the field. Their headquarters are in Oklahoma and they will have to hold a meeting in Lawton Saturday before arriving at a decision. The company is doing everything within its power to close a drilling contract. If this is not done shortly, the company expects to do its own drilling. Mr. Garrison authorizes the statement that the sixty-day contract will not expire without drilling operations being started, and a little over half the time is gone. The people are urged to be patient. Of course we are all anxious to see something started, but this is a big deal; the company has up several thousand dollars on leases in our local banks, and there is little question about things taking the right turn. And the people have the utmost confidence in the oil field being developed. It makes no difference if they say they are not, and if you want to see whether they are telling the truth just make them an offer on their holdings and see how that sets with them. Lots of people just talk with their mouths, you know. Entirely too often we disconnect the power line from the brain to the tongue. Why we had an old place listed for sale at twice its value, and the owner says he has little confidence in the oil proposition, and he is a fine fellow, too, but it is remarkable what soil that old red hill has. Thirty days will run by quickly and we ought to stand by the proposition until it is by, and then if nothing turns up, why then we are privileged to talk as we please. The oil men have a perfect right to wait until the last minute is up and then comply with the contract, and if they do, we will all feel good, and if they don't their position will be greatly weakened and they will be minus some mighty good leases.

They are now housed in swell offices and all indications point right.

CAR WHEAT COMING

The Commercial Club has ordered another car of wheat. As we go to press only about 400 or 500 bushels have been sold. Order quick as it will be taken up in a short time. The price will be \$2.55 in bulk. This was the best that could be done. To get it sacked would have delayed it a week, and the farmers want it just as soon as it can be shipped. The shippers promised to reclean it. It will come from Wichita Falls. It will doubtless roll into Merkel Monday. Phone your order to the Commercial Club, H. F. Groene, secretary, phone 10. The first to order will be the first served. Next to the oil well is wheat so it is highly important that wheat be sowed.

Be sure to bring your sacks as the wheat comes in bulk.

School Opened Thursday.

"To books again" was the order of the day Thursday, and the school marms with rule and rod diligently began plying the three "R's" in an effort to make up for the time lost. There is little fear of the "Flu" in the school room. At a recent meeting of the medical profession of Texas, it was given out as their opinion that children would be better taken care of in a well ventilated school room than turned loose upon the streets. We trust the interruption will in no way materially hamper the year's work.

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

One Reason For Free Text Books

The fact that through the compulsory education law all children of scholastic age are compelled to attend school, makes it logical and necessary that the State should supply those children with textbooks free. Otherwise, the State is in the position of forcing the children to buy those textbooks, whether they choose to do so or not, and whether their parents can afford to pay for them or not. The State, of course, has that power, and in most States that is precisely what is being done. But it is more than an open question whether that is the proper way to go about it.

Let us suppose that we had no free schools, that all schools were privately owned and operated for profit, and that therefore all schools required the payment of tuition. Could it be regarded as proper under such circumstances for the State to pass a compulsory education law? The need of compulsory education would be just as great—it would still be to the State's highest interest to compel every child to obtain a certain amount of education. But no one, we think, would propose compulsory education unless the State also provided the means of obtaining it—a public free school system. Why, then, should not the same rule apply to textbooks?

The textbook is just as essential a part of a school system as a teacher or a school house. Why

More Than Enough is Too Much

maintain health, a mature man or woman needs enough food to repair the waste and supply energy and body heat. The habitual consumption of more food than is necessary for these purposes is the prime cause of stomach troubles, rheumatism and disorders of the kidneys. If troubled with indigestion, revise your diet, let reason and not appetite control and take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be all right again. For sale by all dealers.

should it be improper for the State to compel all children to attend school without supplying school houses, and teachers, and yet be proper to compel them to use textbooks without supplying those textbooks? There is no essential difference between them as parts of a free school system.

From this standpoint, the constitutional amendment providing for free textbooks in the Texas public schools, which is to be voted on in the general election, Nov. 5, is seen to be a proposal to complete our free school system. That is precisely what we think it is, and that is why we believe it should be adopted.—The Star-Telegram.

BIG SURPRISE TO MANY IN MERKEL

People are surprised at the instant action of simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-i-ka. One spoonful flushes the entire bowel tract so completely it relieves any case of stomach, gas or constipation and prevents appendicitis. The instant, pleasant action of Adler-i-ka surprises both doctors and patients. It removes foul matter which poisoned your stomach for months. Sanders Drug Store, adv 5.

Mrs. J. L. Daniel and Grandbaby Dead

The little year old grandchild of J. L. Daniel died and was buried in Rose Hill cemetery on the 18th. The following day Mrs. J. L. Daniel died and was buried.

The departed are survived by the husband and grandfather and eight children, all of whom were sick and unable to attend either funeral.

Under the conditions these deaths were particularly sad. Only a few neighbors attended the funerals which took place without religious rites.

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.



PAY
W. S. S.

Pledge Week
OCT. 24-31

☛ It's your time to charge the Hun lines. That W. S. S. pledge you made is due and payable to the United States government

OCTOBER 24-31

☛ We have the War Savings Stamps here for you. Our services are yours in Uncle Sam's service.

This Govt. Advt. Patriotically contributed by

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

CHANGE OF TIME EFFECTIVE OCT. 27

In accord with an act of Congress of March 19, 1918, entitled "an act to save daylight and to provide standard time," the clocks and watches will be set back one hour on Oct. 27, at 2 a. m. It is recommended that the clocks in business houses be set back at the close of business on Saturday night, and those at the homes be set back at bedtime.

The act designated the Saturday before the last Sunday in March as the time for setting the clocks forward one hour, and the Saturday before the last Sunday in October as the date for setting them back. The time between the date of setting the clocks up, in March, and the date of setting them back in October is designated in the act as summer time, and the time as kept by the timepieces from October to March is designated standard time.

The chronometers of the country will be regulated by this act until such time as Congress may repeal or change the law.

The manner in which a change in time will be made by the railroads when the clock is set back an hour was announced yesterday by J. L. Lancaster, Federal Manager of the Southwestern Region.

"All trains will be held at the terminals for one hour," Mr. Lancaster said. "This becomes effective at 2 o'clock Sunday morning of Oct. 27, which is 12 o'clock, Eastern time. This should adjust the change with little difficulty."

A Beautiful Woman.

Do you know that a beautiful woman always has a good digestion? If your digestion is faulty, eat lightly of meats, and take an occasional dose of Chamberlain's Tablets to strengthen your digestion. Price 25c.

We want to list your vacant lots, your houses, in fact whatever you have to sell. The Merkel Realty Company.

NO PROFITEERING HERE

☛ Every call and request made upon us by the Government for the winning of the war has been complied with in the letter and in the spirit—complied with gladly and willingly.

☛ In our entire stock of Fall and Winter merchandise there is not a single garment which violates in any way the rules of the United States War Industries Board for the saving of wool.

☛ Neither is there any one in this store, contrary to the spirit of the selective service laws laid down by Provost Marshal General Crowder.

☛ Costs of wools and tailoring are higher—that there is no escaping. But in the making of Kirschbaum Clothes great economies are effected by modern, efficient methods and those benefits we pass along, complete and untouched, to you. Our prices represent full value in materials and workmanship—no gouging, no profiteering anywhere along the line.

Kirschbaum Clothes \$16, \$20 and \$25

The Brown D. G. Company

Farmer Who Refused Liberty Bond Jailed.

San Angelo, Oct. 21.—Charged with violating the espionage act, Frank Glass, 60-years old Runnels County farmer, was remanded to jail here today. Complaint was filed at the instance of the County Council of Defense and alleges that Glass when asked to buy a Liberty Bond made disparaging remarks about the war. Bond was set at \$25,000, in default of which he was held in custody.

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.

Roscoe Sharp, somewhere in France, has been made first-class private and then corporal. He belongs to the signal staff of the artillery department.

Mrs. R. M. Parker, who arrived in Merkel last Friday, from Bonham, has been on the sick list this week.

Can Now Eat and Sleep in Comfort

If troubled with indigestion or sleeplessness you should read what Miss Agnes Turner, Chicago, Ill., has to say: "Overwork, irregular meals and carelessness regarding the ordinary rules of health, gradually undermined it until last fall I became a wreck of my former self. I suffered from continual headache, was unable to digest my food, which seemed to lay as a dead weight on my stomach. I was very constipated and my complexion became dark, yellow and muddy as I felt. Sleeplessness was added to my misery, and I would awake as tired as when I went to sleep. I heard of Chamberlain's Tablets and found such relief after taking them that I kept up the treatment for nearly two months. They cleansed my stomach, invigorated my system, and since that time I can eat and sleep in comfort. I am today entirely well."

LIVER DIDN'T ACT DIGESTION WAS BAD

Says 65 year Old Kentucky Lady, Who Tells How She Was Relieved After a Few Doses of Black-Draught.

Meadorsville, Ky.—Mrs. Cynthia Higginbotham, of this town, says: "At my age, which is 65, the liver does not act so well as when young. A few years ago, my stomach was all out of fix. I was constipated, my liver didn't act. My digestion was bad, and it took so little to upset me. My appetite was gone. I was very weak. . . I decided I would give Black-Draught a thorough trial as I knew it was highly recommended for this trouble. I began taking it. I felt better after a few doses. My appetite improved and I became stronger. My bowels acted naturally and the least trouble was soon righted with a few

doses of Black-Draught." Seventy years of successful use has made Theford's Black-Draught a standard, household remedy. Every member, of every family, at times, need the help that Black-Draught can give in cleansing the system and relieving the troubles that come from constipation, indigestion, lazy liver, etc. You cannot keep well unless your stomach, liver and bowels are in good working order. Keep them that way. Try Black-Draught. It acts promptly, gently and in a natural way. If you feel sluggish, take a dose tonight. You will feel fresh tomorrow. Price 25c. a package—One cent a dose All druggists. J. 69

THE STOREKEEPER UP TO DATE



Gas masks are indispensable articles near the front. This Y. M. C. A. canteen manager has been forced to don his "muzzle," but he is still holding his position behind the counter. He was later wounded while on duty. Y. M. C. A. men at the front not only see that the boys are furnished refreshments, but they often help in the care of the wounded. Several Red Triangle workers have been wounded by shell and gas, while a number have lost their lives in this service. The sign just over the "Y" man's shoulder reads: "Our Slogan—Best for the Man in the Mud."

WOMEN'S ARMY TO BUILD MORALE

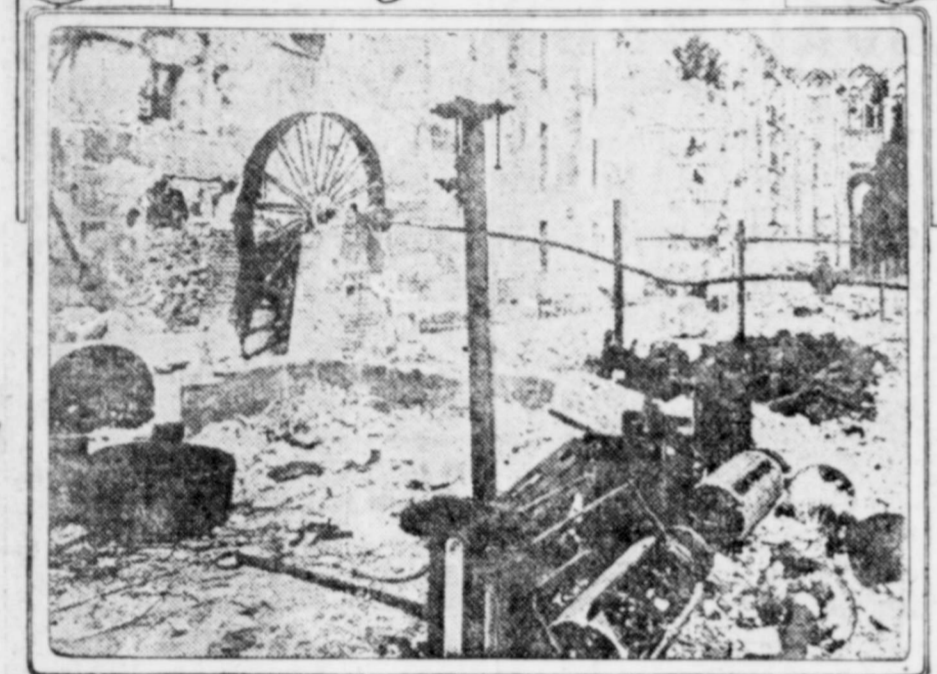
Happy Idea Meeting Hearty Response Among Patriotic Women.

A new "army" has been born. It is called the "Sunshine Division," and it is made up of women—mostly young women—who are eager to become a part of definite organized effort to help win the war. The soldiers will not bear arms and court death like their sisters among the Russians. Instead, their line of duty will have to do with service that will strengthen morale, and help win the war by promoting life among the American and allied soldiers, rather than death among the enemy—the final result, according to

military authorities, being equally as effective in its relation to victory.

The "women soldiers" of the Sunshine Division will enjoy a definiteness of war work which they have not had before unless they have become members of the leading war work agencies, such as the Red Cross. The plan, which had its inception with a group which composed the concert party headed by Miss Wilson, the president's daughter, which gave concerts in all the army camps, suggests a happy and suitable disposal of the available time and talent of patriotic young women not engaged in definite war activity. Interested persons are being referred to Maj. A. P. Oakes, at offices of the United War Work Activities, Dallas, Tex.

French Sugar Mills Destroyed



France must import sugar today, most of it from this side of the ocean, because the largest portion of French sugar beet land is in German hands. As a result, the French people have been placed on a sugar ration of about 18 pounds a year for domestic use; 750,000 tons of sugar and had some left over for export.

troops destroyed French sugar mills. Thanks to the French rationing system the annual consumption has been cut to 600,000 tons, according to reports reaching the United States Food Administration. Before the war France had an average sugar crop of about 1,500,000 tons of sugar and had some left over for export.

List your property with the Merkel Realty Company, if you want it sold.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Druggists refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure Itching, Burning, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Instantly relieves Itching Piles, and you can get restful sleep after the first application. Price 60c.



We have it and guarantee it

We have recently secured the agency for the famous

DEVOE Lead and Zinc Paint

The Guaranteed
Fever Gallons—Wears Longer
This paint is absolutely pure—100% paint and nothing else—paint to the last drop in the can. The guarantee formula on every can tells just what the contents are. It proves that Devoe contains no whitening, no china clay, no silica or other worthless stuff.

That's why we guarantee that Devoe will take fewer gallons and wear longer than any other paint. Come in and let us show you the economy of painting Devoe. Ask for helpful painting booklet—"Keep Appearances Up and Expenses Down."

MERKEL LUMBER COMPANY
COMPLETE LINES—ASK US
MERKEL, TEXAS
PAINT DEVOE PAINT

TELL THE KAISER

(J. C. Dionne in Gulf Coast Lumberman)

Germany wants to know what the United States is fighting for. She thinks the sinking of neutral ships without warning isn't enough to bring us in.

All right! Let's tell her!
We're going to fight for outraged women!
We're going to fight for crucified nuns!
We are going to fight for little children with hands and arms missing!
We're going to fight for namelessly mutilated soldiers!
We're going to fight for innocent thousands strewn upon the bottom of the sea!

We're going to fight for Belgium—outraged and desecrated as no nation in the previous history of the world has even been!

We're going to fight for France—that magnificent nation of heroes—bled white defending civilization against the Power of the Beast!

We're going to fight for England—which chose the path of honor blighted with despair—when the little nation she had sworn to defend was set upon as by a wild beast!

We're going to fight for Italy—which took up the cause of Right against the power of Wrong—terrible though she knew the cost must be!

We're going to fight in defense of those principles of human liberty which were laid down nineteen centuries ago by that first great teacher and preacher of human rights—the MAN OF GALILEE!

Every iota of the philosophy and creed of HATE, and BLOOD, and VIOLENCE, and BESTIALITY, and diabolic CRUELTY, and the human EN-SLAVEMENT that mark every footstep of the Kaiser and his cohorts of Hell—are in direct and damnable opposition to every thought, word, and deed, of the MAN OF GALILEE!

This is therefore no fight of DEMOCRACY against AUTOCRACY!
It is no battle of NATION against NATION!
It is no contest of MAN against MAN!

It is a titanic struggle between RIGHT and WRONG; between the philosophy of JESUS CHRIST and the powers of EVIL, through the earthly defenders of each!

And we're going to FIGHT—FIGHT—FIGHT side by side with our fellows in the cause of HUMANITY, until there is no vestige left on all this great earth of the power that—defying God and man—precipitated this cataclysm of blood and tears.

There is only one sentiment in this whole broad land today, and the man who does not recognize it must indeed be deaf, dumb, and blind; and that sentiment is a dogged determination deep down in the very bowels of every man THAT WE ARE GOING TO FIGHT UNTIL WE HAVE JUSTIFIED ITALY; SAVED ENGLAND! SWEPT IMMORTAL FRANCE FREE OF THE HUN; LIBERATED BELGIUM; AVENGED SO FAR AS IS WITHIN HUMAN POWER THE COUNTLESS CRIMES OF GERMANY AGAINST CIVILIZATION; BROKEN THE HINDENBURG LINE AND SWEPT THE ARMY OF THE BEAST AS CHAFF BEFORE THE WIND; HUMBLED THE EMPIRE OF HELL; AND—PLEASE GOD—RID THE EARTH OF THE KAISER AND ALL HIS FELL BREED!

If anyone asks you, tell them THAT is what we're going to fight for!

Those of us who can't fight can help our fighters by supporting the SALVATION ARMY WAR FUND DRIVE.

DO IT TODAY!

The _____ Committee

(Insert Name Here)

This advertising space paid for by

Bronchial Trouble.

Mrs. A. E. Sidenberder, Rockfield, Ind., states: "For an attack of bronchial trouble which usually assails me in the spring I find Chamberlain's Cough Remedy the only thing that gives me relief. After using it for a few days all signs of bronchial trouble disappeared."

Why not take a business education and be of some help in winning the war. The Merkel Business College can give you the very best training in shorthand and typewriting to be had. A new class is just starting.

If we haven't what you want we'll get it. The Merkel Realty Company.

Say, Brother!

Look at The Prices We are making on Groceries

The list below is only a few of the many we are making special prices on

- 1 dozen cans hominy, No. 3.....\$1.50
- 1 dozen cans corn, No. 2.....\$1.50
- 1 dozen cans tomatoes, No. 2.....\$1.50
- 1 dozen cans kraut, No. 3.....\$1.50
- 6 bars dandy soap.....25c
- Navy beans per pound.....10c
- 1 small bucket sorghum.....40c
- 1 large bucket sorghum.....70c
- 1 large bucket cane syrup.....95c
- 1 pound good coffee.....20c
- 1 pound best peaberry.....25c
- Small bucket lard.....90c
- Large bucket cooking oil.....\$1.80
- Large bucket peanut oil.....\$1.90
- Spuds per pound.....4c
- Sweet potatoes per pound.....5c

Come in and see us for that bill you are going to buy. It'll pay you to investigate

Anchor Mercantile Co.

TEXAS COTTON PALACE Exposition

In addition to the immense "WIN THE WAR PROGRAM" which the Government will present at the Texas Cotton Palace Exposition, the management has secured the greatest collection of International Vaudeville Artists who will be presented in the Coliseum each afternoon and night, and there will be no extra charge for any Coliseum attraction.

Automobile Races, Aeroplanes and Special Animal Acts before the Grandstand

together with War Exhibitions by Uncle Sam's men from Camp MacArthur, both night and day.

Special Rates on all Railroads by order of the United States Government.



WACO

NOV. 2 TO 17, 1918

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.

Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the management.

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of the Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

PATRONS OF THE MAIL who do not receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon the management by reporting the fact. You should also watch the label of your paper to ascertain when your time is out and renew before your name automatically leaves our list, as all papers stop when the term of subscription expires.



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

All indications point to the fact that some of our boys are making things count around Metz.

As our little city and surrounding Country are battling with life and death against the epidemic of Spanish Influenza, that has proven fatal in many, many cases, and is sweeping the State, showing parshality to none, and in the great effort that is being put forth to check its savage onrush, we are reminded of that old time song, "Just Play in Your Own Backyard." If this was carried out to a letter it would aid greatly in helping to stamp out this dreaded disease. Our schools were suspended in order to keep the children from coming in contact with families that are sick, and yet mothers will turn their children loose to play with other children, and some of whom are either sick or just recovering from influenza. In this way the disease is rapidly spreading, when on the other hand if every mother would at this time see that their child or children were kept out of other homes and away from other children, the number of cases would be greatly deminished.

No one believes Germany is really wanting the armistice, she only wants to get her army out of way of the allies and to have time to reorganize her forces, as she realizes they are badly disorganized since they have been on the run. If Germany is beaten, let her say so and throw up her arms and make a complete surrender. If she is unwilling to do this then she does not believe she is defeated. President Wilson made it very plain to them that nothing but unconditional surrender will do. The Kaiser has failed, let his take the consequences. Of course it will be a bitter pill for him to have to admit to the people he has deceived so long, and to the world that his forty years of preparation for war has come to naught, and now his own people despise him and look at him with contempt, yet can not say so lest he heaps vengeance upon them. We believe the end of his days are in view.

The Huns are on the run. Never before in the world's history was there a battle of such wonderful moment. More men are engaged in fighting than ever before, more nations are involved, the battle line is larger, and history is being written in greater effect. The past six months have changed the prospects of the world, and the American nation was the power that turned the trick. We went into this war at a time when it seemed that we would have to finish up the job alone. So quickly were our soldiers and our materials

gathered together that it staggered the allies, much less the enemies of freedom. Our fingers were in the pie just one year before they were expected to be there. And now the war is won. The boys are going over the top. And better than all, there is no let up. We are still sending forward the wherewith. Our Fourth Liberty Loan went over the top, just as if we intended to fight forever. A new courage is born. The allies are going forward with leaps and bounds. The coast of Belgium is now clear, France is almost evacuated and Belgium is rapidly being reclaimed. The towns that are being relieved of the oppressors are wild with joy. We can hardly think of them without shedding tears of joy. It is great. Peace! What do we care about peace! It is Berlin we are after. Peace will take care of itself. Nothing but an unconditional surrender will satisfy the freedom loving people of the world. A republic built upon the ashes of Kaiserism might lead to the point where this peace talk might be listened to. Until then, hurrah for the boys as they go over the top!

Don't forget the man that buys most everything. Go to see him when you have any thing to sell. The first letter of his name is W. P. Duckett.

W. O. Boney can get you a loan on that farm mighty quick. Better see him now.

RED CROSS OFFICERS ELECTED

The following Red Cross officers elected to serve the following year at a meeting at the Red Cross rooms last Friday afternoon:

Mrs. H. C. Williams, Chairman. Mrs. R.L. Bland, Vice, Chairman. Miss Mossie Sears, Secretary. Mrs. M. Armstrong, Treasurer. Mrs. Groene, Chr. War Relief. Mrs. Jno Sears, Chr. Civilian Relief.

Better see W. O. Boney and let him make you a loan on that farm while you can get it.

A Costly Gift.

Writing from Commerce, Okla. Orr says: "Don't think Taylor County should accept a penny gift from East Texas people. All we want is a chance. We need credit and not a gift." Mr. Orr doubtless referred to the \$1000 sent Taylor County to be loaned to the people in need. We contend this is the most expensive gift Taylor County ever accepted. Had our commissioners thought seriously about the matter, they would have spurned the gift and sent it back post haste. We don't need it. It will hurt us for the next twenty-five years.

Mr. Orr writes that a number of people back there are talking of coming this way.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

SHILOH NEWS

People are busy sowing wheat in this community.

Lots of sickness is reported this week.

Mrs. W. K. Kirk and children are real sick with influenza.

Ernest McCright and wife are visiting at Golan this week.

E. C. Brown was in Merkel Saturday.

Will Johnson is at home from Ft. Worth recuperating from an attack of influenza.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis of Merkel were the guests of Mr. J.H. Grayson and family Sunday.

Wilber Woods and wife returned from Ft. Worth last week. Mr Woods is quite sick.

Mrs. J. W. Green visited Mrs. E. L. Stone of Merkel Saturday.

Mrs. Frank Williams is real sick at present.

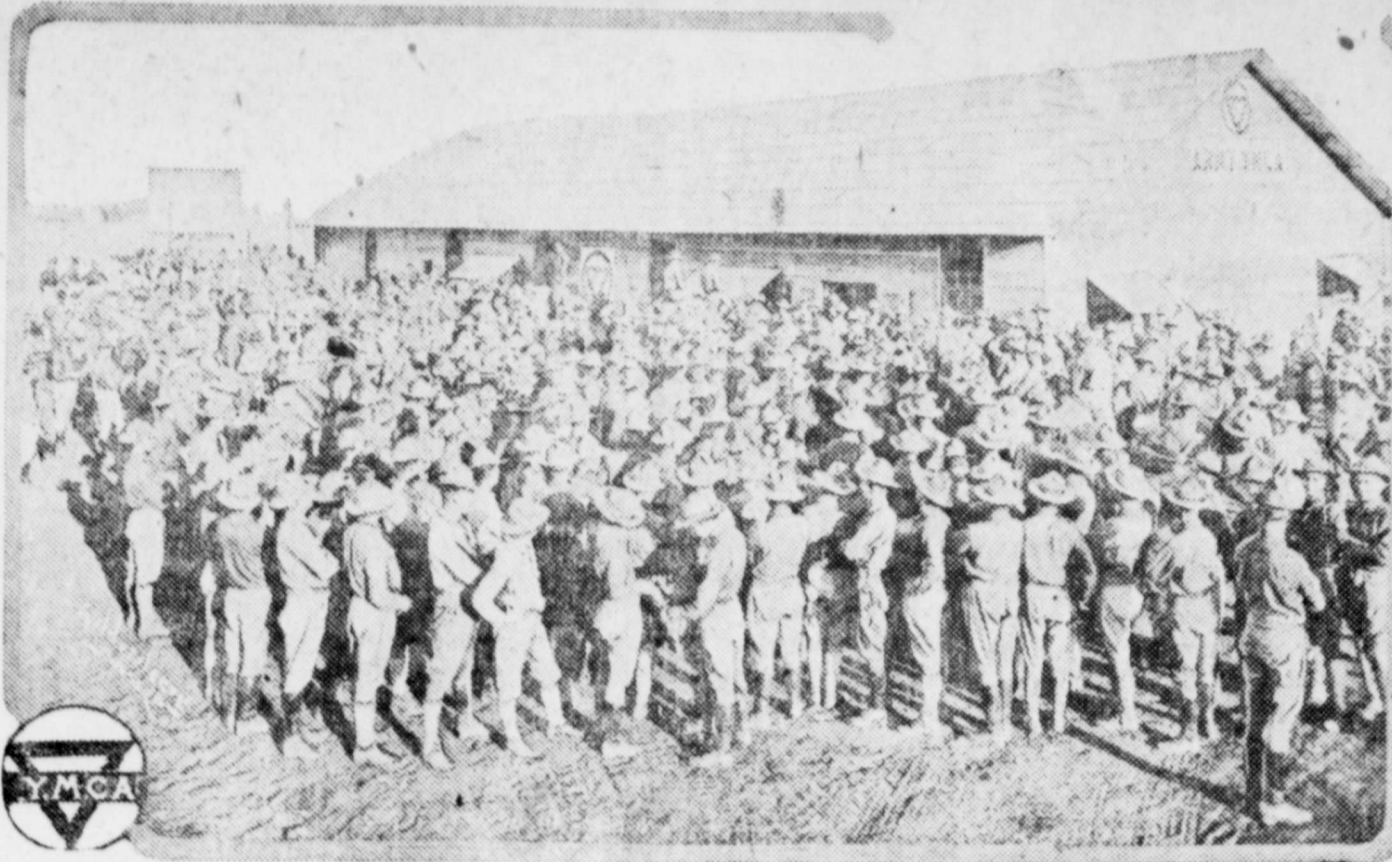
Mrs. P. O. Green and daughter were in Merkel Monday shopping.

About an inch rain fell here on Tuesday Morning.

W. O. Boney is still making farm loans, better hurry.

The government is paying high salaries for competent stenographers and typists. Take a course now at the Merkel Business College.

"STANDING ROOM ONLY"



This is simply an overflow crowd at a concert given at a Y. M. C. A. building in Camp MacArthur, Waco, Texas. There is plenty of standing room—outside the building. Apparently good singers and entertainers do not need to fear a slim crowd at their performances before the soldiers. Some of the best musical, dramatic and athletic talent of the country is at the disposal of the army Y. M. C. A. for the benefit of the soldiers. Entertainers who volunteer their services are "booked" by the "Y" secretaries for "circuits" throughout the different camps and several buildings of each. A week's program of an average "Y" building in camp provides at least one of these entertainments, as well as moving pictures, boxing and wrestling contests, an illustrated lecture on a topic of interest to soldiers, and a midweek religious service.

O. A. HORTON WRITES

Walter Reed Hospital, Washington D.C. Oct. 19, 1918

Dear Sister: I am getting along fine, but not quite well yet, but will be soon. It has now been three months since I went over the top, and was wounded. I have had a long hard old time in these three months, but I thank God that I was lucky enough to even get back alive, to the dear old U. S. A.

I guess you want me to tell you a little about my trip to France and back.

Little did I ever think about the great war over there, until I landed overseas, and had some experience in it, and believe me it is something I'll never forget. I was over there just fifteen months, and was with the first Infantry that went over. After we reached France it didn't take us long to get trained in the drills of the latest warfare. Well when the time came for us to go in the trenches I sure was proud of all my experience that I had had in the army, which is seven years. It is great sport to be in the trenches, as there is so much excitement going on all time, that a person has some real experience in war. I would not take anything in the world for my experiences.

It was on the morning of July 18th that we started over the top after the Hun's, and believe me it was the most glorious time of my life. I always did want to be in a great battle and see some real service, and you bet I had some real fighting, and I am sure proud of it. But what hurts me, is to think I could not get to stay over there and help finish it up over there. I sure do pity the slackers that went fight for his country, and went buy Bonds to help some one else to fight. Well we see these kind of people every day.

When I was wounded we had gone about three miles from the place we started over at, and the German machine gun bullets were passing by me at the rate of a thousand a minute, it seemed like, and just as we had started over a little high piece of the ground, they began to shoot point blank at us with the artillery, and that is when I had the misfortune of get knocked down by a large high explosive shell, which prevented me going any farther. This all happened about 6:30 o'clock in the morning and I was picked up about 8 o'clock that night. While I was at the first aid station, the big shells were falling all around me. Then they sent me to a hospital behind the lines and it was at this place that I was first operated on. While I was being sent to Paris, the Hun airplanes dropped booms all around our train. I began to think they were going to get me anyway.

While I was in Paris the long range shells were coming over us nearly every day. I was there three weeks and the night before I left the Germans came over and dropped several bombs in the town. I was then sent to the

Southern part of France, out of the war zone, and this was the first time I had been out of the war zone in over twelve months, so you know that I felt very much relieved to be where I could get a little rest.

I would like to tell you all of my experiences in France, but it would take me too long. Your brother, O. A. Horton.

LINE SHORTENING BENEFITS THE ENEMY

With the French Army in France and Belgium, Oct. 21. The retreat of the Germans to the line of the Meuse, if such a retreat can be accomplished successfully, will, without taking account of prisoners they may still lose in the operation, enable them to economize about one-third of their total forces in line, according to the best information obtainable as to the strength and disposition of the German forces over the entire front. The retreat will shorten the line about seventy miles whether it be prolonged from the frontier of France to Antwerp by the way of Brussels, or to the Holland front or along the line of the Meuse in Belgium. (The line has already been shortened 108 miles since July 18, 1918.)

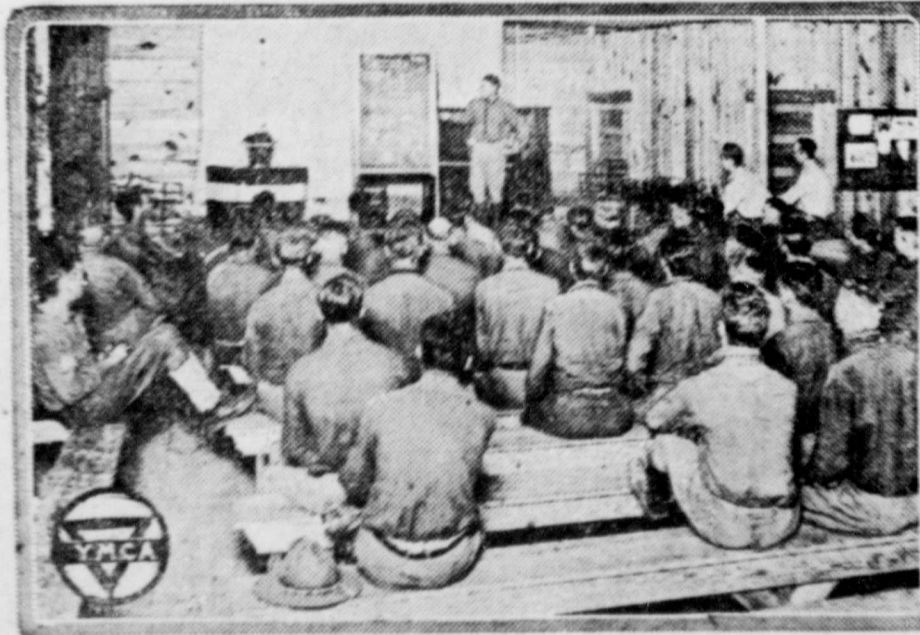
Hotel at Sweetwater Burned

Sweetwater, Texas, Oct. 22. Fire starting at 11:45 o'clock tonight destroyed the Grogan Hotel, together with contents. The loss is approximately \$5,000. No loss of life is reported.

AMMONIA EXPLOSION

Fort Smith, Ark., Oct. 22.—Explosion of an ammonia tank in the four-story building of the Fort Smith Commission Company at 2 o'clock today resulted in collapse of every floor. It is be-

A SOLDIER "TRIG" CLASS



Educational classes at the Army Y. M. C. A. huts are proving popular with the soldiers. Thousands of young men who left school to go into the service are continuing their studies and classes while in the army. Many educational institutions are arranging to give credit for the work done in this way, so that students may not lose anything while serving their country, and can resume their studies on their return, with credit toward degrees and graduation for the class-room work in the army. The picture shows a group of college men continuing their study of trigonometry at one of the Y. M. C. A. schools. It will make them better artillerymen.

In addition to advanced classes, the Y. M. C. A. conducts classes for illiterates and foreigners, teaching them to read, write and speak the English language. The War Department is giving the Army Y. M. C. A. hearty cooperation in this work.

The "trig" class shown in the picture is one of the many educational classes conducted by the Y. M. C. A. at Camp MacArthur, Texas.

LETTER FROM OUR BOYS

San Pedro Cal. Oct. 18, 1918

Editor of Merkel Mail: Again, we come with more news from the Navy; as we Merkelites enjoy reading the home news in the "Mail". We thought perhaps a little of our "history" would be enjoyed by friends of the "city of clover."

Take it from us, Merkel is the place, and we are Merkel bound as soon as possible. Let us hope for the best, but first we must complete our mission, that of helping destroy Prussian Autocracy, and handing the Kaiser his pill.

The letter from Lewis Swann was read with pleasant anticipations, let us hear from him again soon as it sounds like he too is in the same class as we are.

The oil prospects are good, so let the good work proceed, and maybe we all will reap the good there of the coin.

Naval life is as usual expecting every day to be our last one in camp, the sooner we are shipped the better, we are "rearing for some kind of action."

Our camp has been under quarantine for the past three weeks, on account of Spanish Influenza, but as to yet, hasn't proven very serious, and we sincerely hope will not prove fatal in Merkel either.

We will end our epistle by sending our best regards to you all, and let us hear from you in any form, masd, or fashion.

Sincerely yours,
T. L. HAMBLETT
C. B. SMITH,
U. S. N. San Pedro Cal.

Editors note: The Merkel Mail is always glad to have any of our boys in service write, for in this way even the boys oversea, hear from each other. Come again boys and remember us when you go across.

H. A. Brackeen Writes.

Newport News Va., Oct. 14th 1918.

Dear Mother and Father:

There is lots of sickness here, but I think it will only be a few days before everybody will be back to work again. Quite a few deaths have resulted from influenza, as it real bad here. All the Barber shops, Pool halls, picture shows, churches, schools, and every place of amusement closed and they have taken the School buildings and turned them into hospitals. So there is no place to go, only back and forth to work.

I am well and well taken care of and think I have a good opportunity here.

Your son,
H. A. Brackeen, Jr.,

DISCOVERING A FRIEND

If sorrow never happened and never came

The only thing you'd know about your neighbor is his name; If all your days were bright and fair and certain was your place,

You'd only know a fellow by the features of his face.

Acquaintances upon the earth are all you'd ever own

If care had always passed you by and grief you never knew.

Time was I used to nod to one who lived across the way,

I knew his name, he knew mine; we passed the time of day,

But nothing did he mean to me and nothing I to him

Until one morning sorrow came and all my world was grim

I saw his face, I felt his hand and knew he'd come to lend

The strength I needed, and right then I found I had a friend

'Tis not in sunshine friends are made, but when our skies are gray.

The splendid souls that men possess are never on display.

We can not tell what lies behind the hasty nod or smile,

Nor what of worth will come from it in just a little while

We only know that when we face the cares that life must send

We realize the passer by has changed into a friend.

—Edgar A. Guest in the Detroit Free Press.

LOCAL NEWS

Peanut oil at G. M. Sharps.
Miss Bonnie Melton of Blair is visiting Mrs. Melton of Merkel this week.

Corn, chops and oats at Bob Martin's.

There is always something new and fresh at Rogers. Come

Miss Lillian Fitzgould has returned to her home after a few days visit with Mrs. Melton.

W. O. Boney wants to make you that Loan on your farm.

D. L. Brackeen of the training camp at Bonham is enjoying a twenty day furlough with his mother, Mrs. H. A. Brackeen.

If you are going to want a loan on that farm you had better see W. O. Boney at once.

Asa Sheppard has purchased the residence of P. L. McClary, known as the old Parton home and will move in at once.

Rogers has everything you could want, fresh or canned. Come get our prices.

Mrs. C. L. Cash has purchased the McMillen home and will move in at once. The sale was made by the Merkel Realty Co.

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

Asa Sheppard has been on the sick list for the past few days. Even an underaker can not escape the "Flu," it seems.

I will buy anything I can use or find a market for. So bring along what you have to sell. W. P. Duckett.

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

W. C. Matthews left a few days ago to accept a position in California. His family will remain here, at least for the present. Mr. Matthews was formerly employed by G. F. West & Co.

Expected 500 bushels Texas Red seed oats next week at G. M. Sharps.

P. L. McClary purchased the home of Dr. J. F. Hendricks in the Taylor addition, the sale being perfected by the Merkel Realty Company. Dr. Hendricks expects to leave in a few days for California. We dislike very much to see this splendid family leave and count it a distinct loss to Merkel, but there is a hope all ways within us that they will all come back.

Plenty of corn and corn chops at G. M. Sharps.

Mesdames Manda Lennox, Dannie Winters, and son and daughter, Mrs. Gimore and Madison Yates were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp the past week.

L. E. Perkins, Jr., Dead.
Another soldier boy has gone to his reward. L. E. Perkins, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Perkins of the Canyon, died at Camp Travis and the body arrived at the home on Thursday. Burial takes place in Rose Hill cemetery Thursday afternoon, too late to report details in this issue. The body is accompanied by fellow soldiers.

It is heartrending to thus give up our boys, but bend to the will of the Almighty and cast our sympathy with the bereaved, feeling that he has joined others that liberty might be preserved to the world. He has gone as a sacrifice for us, and his going reminds us that it is our duty to live more devotedly to the cause of mankind and in so doing in a measure carry out the work that he might have performed had he lived. Honor be to his name!

To the bereaved ones we offer our sympathy in this dark hour.

Shoulders All Baking Cares

When CALUMET comes in, all baking troubles take quick leave. You go right ahead and mix up baking materials, for biscuits—cakes—anything without fear of uncertainty. Calumet makes you forget failure.

CALUMET BAKING POWDER

is the most popular because it does give the most perfect results. It has the biggest demand because it is the most dependable. The fact that it is the biggest seller proves that it is the best. A trial will convince you that there is none just as good. Buy a can—if you are not satisfied take it back and get your money back.

Calumet contains only such ingredients as have been approved officially by the U. S. Food Authorities.

You save when you buy it. You save when you use it.

HIGHEST QUALITY HIGHEST AWARDS

CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

We predict a small attendance at church services Sunday. For two Sundays the people have spent the time at home leisurely with no thought of rush. We further predict that more than one old sleepy head will bob up an hour late and then try to find an excuse for his laziness. This will be his excuse: "I was afraid to get in a crowd for fear of the Flu." Needn't be afraid, brother, for you will not be alone. Just remember if there was a dog fight down town you would not think of a crowd.

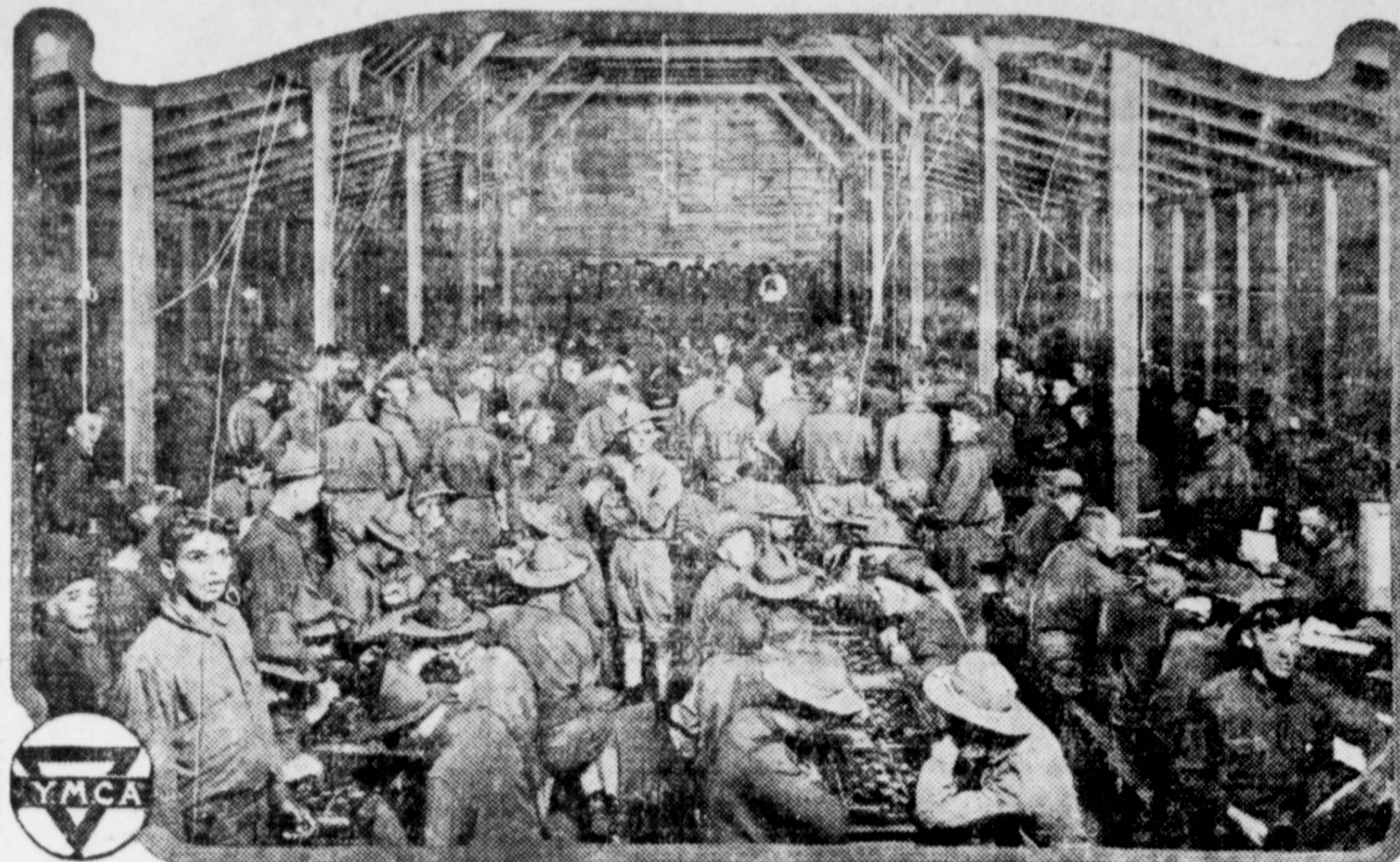
At The Baptist Church
On again!
Our regular services will be held next Sunday.
And remember that the time changes back one hour Saturday night. You can get off easier to Sunday school than before.
Sunday School 10 A. M.
Preaching 11 A. M.
Juniors 3 p. m.
B. Y. P. U. 4 p. m.
Preaching 7 p. m.
Everybody is welcome to any and all of our services. We are for ministry: to the greater number of people the better.
E. E. Dawson, pastor.

Methodist Announcements.
The 4th Quarterly Conference of the Tye circuit will meet with the church at Union Ridge Monday Oct. 28 at 2.30. Let all the Tye officers be present. Important matters will be there.
C. S. Cameron
Merkel Conference.
The last quarterly conference of Merkel station will convene in Methodist church on Monday night the 28th at 8 o'clock. Let all our church officials attend, business of importance awaits you.
C. S. Cameron.

Methodist Church News.
Now that the epidemic is subsiding, let our folks give attention to the church again. It would seem that everybody who is well enough would want to attend now, and they do. So let the folks rally next Sunday. Preaching at 11 o'clock, followed by the Sunday School, which will meet promptly at 9.45. Jr. League at 3 and Senior League at 7. Preaching again at 8 o'clock. Everybody, including all strangers in the city, cordially invited to attend our church.
C. S. Cameron

Cowfeed at G. M. Sharp's

PLENTY TO DO AND EVERYBODY DOING IT



Every man for himself and devil take the loneliest, is, apparently, the philosophy of Uncle Sam's soldier boys in the great military camps where they are undergoing intensive training for the real thing "over there." Here is a typical scene in an army Y. M. C. A. building an hour or two before the formal entertainment begins. On the stage one of the boys in khaki is leading an informal "sing song." About two score of the fellows are up there with him, and it must be a pretty good song, for it can be seen that about half the crowd in the building is facing the music. But this doesn't disturb the nine or ten checker games, seen in the foreground, in the least, nor does it get the goat of the scores of fellows who are grabbing a few minutes in which to write to the folks at home. The man in the extreme right front of the picture has received a newspaper from "the little old town back there," while the boy seen standing in the very center of the picture plainly admits himself to be either on a "point" or on a "pose"—it's nobody's business which. The Y. M. C. A. huts are the soldiers' clubs, churches, homes and whatever else they want to make them. The principal cantonments of the country contain from ten to twenty large "Y" buildings, to say nothing of the huts overseas and outposts on the Mexican border.

Mrs. Eula Brown Dead

One of the most pathetic deaths that has visited our little city in quite a while came early Monday morning when Mrs. Eula Brown succumbed to an attack of pneumonia. She was residing at the home of her husband's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Brown. Her husband, Wm., was in training at Camp Travis.

Mrs. Brown was born November 12, 1893. In September of 1915 she made a bright profession and joined the Baptist Church at Mount Pleasant. She was married to William Leroy Brown April 10, 1918. After an illness of one week she quietly passed away at 2:25 a.m. October 21, 1918. She is survived by her husband, father and stepmother, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Campbell. She was 22 years of age and grew up in this country. This young couple was married last April and he left soon after for the encampment.

Mrs. Brown had a lovable disposition, and sterling christian character. She had been a consistent member of the Baptist church for several years. Mr. Brown reached here on Wednesday night and the funeral was held at 11 o'clock Thursday morning, interment taking place in Rose Hill cemetery, Rev. Scott of Trent officiating.

To the young husband we can but say that we sorrow in this great calamity and offer supplement to the great and just God to give him strength to undergo this his great trial, and further our sympathy must go to the other sorrowing friends and loved ones.

Nell and Louise Lomax Dead.

Miss Nell Lomax, who recently resided here, died at her home in Fort Worth on the 13th day of October. She first had influenza, which soon developed into pneumonia of which she died. Then on the 19th her sister, Miss Louise, also died, with the same disease. Hard indeed it must have been to part with both sisters so soon. To their brother, Mr. Lomax, with whom they lived, we extend our heart of sympathy. Mr. Lomax was Manager of the Telephone Company of this place for some time and the family has many friends here who are grieved at the sad news.

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

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas
Why not look at that 160-acre farm 15 miles north of Merkel. It is a big bargain at \$26.50 per acre. See The Merkel Realty Company.

Spot cash saves you money at Rogers.

NEWS FROM W. L. DILTZ

Hq., 315 Sn. Th.
Sept. 27, 1918
Dear Father and Mother:

I'm well and feeling fine, but it's a hard job to keep warm. It is dry and as long as it stays dry we will get along fine.

I got a card from Choc yesterday, he said he and Rosco were having a wonderful time. I don't think they have been in the fight yet. Luther was over to see us last night, he is O. K. We expect to be together again soon. I think I will be transferred to Div. Gas. Hosp., in the next few days, if I do I will be with the Major I was under when I was in Travis working on the T. B. Board, he is one of the finest men I have ever known.

They have been very busy on this front for the last day or two. I went down to the hospital last night to help them a while but it didn't take me long to get my fill, there was entirely too much blood for me.

Please remember me in your prayers and write when you have time.

With a heart full of love, I am
Your son,
W. L. Diltz, Hq. 315th Sn. Train. Amer. E. F. A. P. O. 770.

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

Card of Thanks

We take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks for the many kindnesses shown us during the recent illness and death of our beloved wife, daughter and sister, Mrs. R. S. Palmer. The sympathy shown us have greatly helped to sustain us in this dark hour. We miss her so and our hearts are heavy, but you have remained close, dear friends, and we feel truly grateful, and pray that God's richest blessings may always abide with you.

R. S. Palmer.
W. J. Shannon
and family.

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.

Rev. Geo. Crane Dead.

Word reached friends in Merkel Tuesday from Chillicothe stating that Rev. Geo. Crane had just died. The news came as a distinct shock to his many acquaintance. He was formerly pastor of the Presbyterian church here and was one of the most beloved pastors that ever held a pastorate here. He just recently visited Merkel. He was a noble christian gentleman and died in the very prime of a useful life.

Touch typewriting and Pitman shorthand taught at the Merkel Business College in the shortest time possible.

Red Cross Reclamation Items

To save our soldiers from German Gas poisoning the Red Cross has been asked by Brig. General H. S. Johnson, Director of Purchase and Supplies, Office of the Chief of Staff, War Dept. to collect certain fruit seeds and nut shells. A Nation-wide campaign for the collection of these should be carried on immediately and with the utmost vigor. These materials are urgently needed to make carbon which is to protect our men overseas from German poison gas.

Following are the materials to be collected:

Peach, apricot, prune, olive, date, cherry seeds and Brazil nuts shells, walnut shells Hickory nut shells and Butter nut shells.

It is not necessary to separate the various materials listed. They may all be mixed together. Any of these materials, if sound, no matter how old, will be accepted. Care must be taken, however to exclude all materials not listed above.

All pits and nuts must be thoroughly dried in ovens or the sun before they are delivered to the Red Cross rooms. This is extremely important.

The Red Cross will be the organization in every city or town which will accept collections of shells and seeds.

Remember your saving these seeds and shells will directly aid in the saving of our own soldiers. It is a glorious privilege to be serving in so great a cause.

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.

Advertised Letters.

These can be redeemed upon payment of one cent.
Elkins Mrs. Stellar
Foster, Mrs. Mable
Parnum, H. L.
Peddey, Harvey.
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on Nov 6th.
H. C. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head
Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c

Why do you want to pay out several hundred dollars for a business course when you can take shorthand and typewriting at home by an experienced teacher and at a nominal cost? See The Merkel Business College.

REPARATION PROMISED TO LIBERATED PEOPLE

French Senate Invites Government To Continue Steps to That End.

(By Casper Whitney.)
Copyright, 1918, by the Tribune Association (The New York Tribune.)

Paris, Oct. 21.—The following is the text of a Senate resolution:

"The Senate confirming its former deliberations, resolves to assure to the population liberated by the magnificent victories of the allied armies all reparation for damages, for devastation and for attempts upon the rights of man committed by the enemy, now approves of the Government for having clearly signified its decision to impose the necessary penalties, and invites it to continue to this end with the allied Governments and to pursue its inquests in view of arriving at a condemnation of the authors responsible for these misdeeds, justice being above all the first condition of peace."

The following is a declaration by Pinchon: "The Government strongly adheres to the resolution which has just been presented. It will adhere more voluntarily in that manifestation of the Senate and will give it new force to insist that it is in accord with and has not wanted for the invitation which is addressed to it to make known to Germany that she will be held fully responsible for crimes which she has committed or will commit on our territory, the ignominy of which is an object of horror for the whole civilized world."

"We have informed her in solemn warning that she will not escape an inexorable expiation. This warning I repeat to her today from the high tribune of the Senate. It has been given besides in the decision of President Wilson, in his admirable reply to the proposition for an armistice which he received from Berlin. The illustrious President of the United States, in whose resolution we always had entire confidence, has signified that he refuses, like us, to negotiate for a suspension of arms with a State whose armies continue to dishonor themselves by acts of desolation, of devastation and of savagery that are violations of the fundamental laws of human society."

"This is the first act of placing responsibility incurred by authors of crimes from which France has so cruelly suffered, but for which chastisement approaches. It will not be with impunity that our unhappy compatriots of invaded territory, to whom I send the salute of a nation united and decided to avenge them, have been martyred, that their properties have been destroyed, that their cities and villages have been devastated, that their monuments and churches have been reduced to dust, that their trees have been cut down and their fields ravaged, that they have been torn from their homes and deported as hostages in defiance of written engagements contracted by these butchers themselves."

"For all these abominable misdeeds there will be other penalties than the moral condemnation already pronounced. There will be material justice. We will not permit that the responsibility under which they labor shall be impudently evaded as they would now seek, they who in the blind rage of their defeat do not calculate the results of their acts and their retreat is multiplying their atrocities before the victorious liberating march of our armies."

"We, with our allies, will take care that to the end the work of justice is accomplished in order that there shall forever disappear from a world built upon right all possibility of a return to similar monstrosities."

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

Grimes Drug Store

A QUIET PLACE TO READ



This Red Triangle man has charge of a "Y" hut near the front in an old chateau. When Fritz takes a notion to drop shells in, around, near by and over the chateau the place is not very well patronized by the soldiers. Then it gets lonesome for the "Y" man and he decides it is a good time to read a chapter from his Bible. So he seeks out some quiet (?) place—a dugout—where he can read in peace. A "Y" man has to have his rest like anyone else. Then who can blame him for finding a secluded, comfy dugout where he can hang up his tin hat and take a fifteen minutes' vacation?

**"THE SUNSHINE DIVISION"—
WOMEN'S ARMY**

The "Sunshine Division" is the name of a newly organized "army," made up of women who want to help win the war. The idea originated during the recent concert tour of army camps made by Margaret Woodrow Wilson, the president's daughter. As the name indicates, the new army has a special responsibility for strengthening the

morale of the soldiers at home and overseas, thereby contributing directly to the success of the American and allied arms. A plan is being evolved to enlist women in every community to become soldiers in the "Sunshine Division," their services not necessarily taking them away from home. Particulars may be had from one of the sponsors of the idea, Maj. A. P. Oakes, now stationed at Southwestern Life building, Dallas, Tex.

**CHRISTMAS BUYING TO COVER
THREE MONTHS**

Defense Council Proposes New Plan To Make Great Economic Saving. Special to The Mail.

New York, Oct. 17.—The Old slogan, "Do Your Christmas Shopping Early," has this year a new meaning for merchants, for newspapers carrying their advertisements and for the buying public, says a recent issue of Editor and Publisher.

The National Council of Defense rules that gift-buying shall be spread over a period of three months, instead of being concentrated within a few weeks; that useful articles shall be purchased instead of luxuries or nonessential things; that shipments of gifts to distant points shall be made far in advance of Christmas, and that merchants shall not utilize extra help, as has been customary, for the accommodation of those neglecting to buy until the last moment.

That a complete revolution in the gift-buying habits of the people shall be accomplished thru these rulings at once is hardly to be hoped; but that great economic advantages will result from a loyal co-operation in this movement of all parties concerned is certain.

Merchants will start their Christmas advertising campaigns in October, rather than in early December. They will use educational copy, setting forth the need for advance buying. They will thus build for their stores an asset of enduring value—the habit among their customers of forethought in buying.

Everybody knows that in the old-fashioned last-hour rushes of gift-buyers little discrimination has been shown in selecting merchandise. Choice has been a matter of necessity, emphasized by a time-limit. Nonadvertising merchants have been the real beneficiaries under the old order—for buyers have been compelled to trade at stores which, under normal conditions, would not attract them at all.

Under the new plan there will be no lessening of the volume of Christmas advertising—but it will cover a wider period than formerly. Newspapers should cooperate with their local merchants in making popular display work, and better program of gift-buying. It is a common-sense program, and is in the national interest.

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

HAS A BIG JOB



G. S. Bilheimer.

G. S. Bilheimer of Denver, Colo., has been appointed Southern department campaign director for the next big drive for funds to continue the war work being done by the Red Triangle forces in the army camps of the United States and overseas, army Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the War Camp Community Service, the Salvation Army, the National Catholic War Council, the American Library association and the Jewish Welfare board.

Mr. Bilheimer is one of the foremost men in the Y. M. C. A. movement. He is a member of the international committee of the organization, a member of the National War Work Council and a master organizer and executive. He successfully directed the last army Y. M. C. A. drive for the Southern department, comprised of Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arizona and New Mexico, and was unanimously chosen for the larger responsibility of the approaching campaign, during which the country will be called upon to support the Y. M. C. A. and other important war work agencies.

Mr. Bilheimer will be located at Dallas during the campaign period. He will have an able corps of assistants and specialists on his staff to carry out the various activities connected with a campaign of the magnitude of the forthcoming financial drive.

Mr. Bilheimer was chosen to direct the entire United War Work campaign for funds to finance the work of the seven war work agencies because of his successful experience and his unusual ability. His selection came direct from the New York headquarters of the consolidated campaign, with the solid approval of the people of the six Southwestern states, who are under his leadership, to furnish their part of the \$170,500,000 which the nation will be called on to contribute between November 11 and 18.

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.

That 190-acre farm near Trent is an exceptional bargain at \$35 per acre. See The Merkel Realty Company.



**Do You Think There is
No Competition?**

If anyone thinks there is no competition amongst the big packers he ought to go through a day's work with Swift & Company.

Let him begin at the pens when the live stock comes in; let him try to buy a nice bunch of fat steers quietly and at his own price without somebody's bidding against him.

Let him realize the scrupulous care taken at the plant that not one thing is lost or wasted in order that costs may be held to a minimum.

Let him go up into the office where market reports are coming in,—and reports of what other concerns are doing.

Let him watch the director of the Swift Refrigerator fleet, maneuvering it over the face of the country like a fleet of battleships at sea.

Let him take a trip with a Swift & Company salesman and try to sell a few orders of meat.

Let him stay at a branch house for an hour or two and see the retail meat dealers drive their bargains to the last penny as they shop around among the packers' branch houses, the wholesale dealers, and the local packing plants.

And then, when the day is over, let him have half an hour in the accounting department, where he can see for himself on what small profits the business is done. (Less than 4 cents on each dollar of sales.)

If he still thinks there is no competition in the meat business it will be because he wants to think so.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.



**WOMEN ENLIST IN
BATTALION OF LIFE**

Sunshine Division of Home Service Rivals Battalion of Death in Real War Work.

Russia's Battalion of Death made its women immortal by death-defying action at the front. America's Battalion of Life bids fair to merit immortality by its life and strength giving action in the home trenches, connecting directly with the men who go over the top.

A new kind of women's army has come into being. It is called the "Sunshine Division." It started under unusual circumstances. Margaret Woodrow Wilson, the president's daughter, known for her patriotic war service; her aide, Major Oakes, and a small group of friends, including Miss Marjorie Brown of Atlanta, Ga., daughter of one of the leading men of the south, and a relative of the president, were discussing women's part in the war and the importance of enlisting the effort, talent, and activity of every woman in the country. The need of organization and direction of that time and talent not already devoted to definite war work was recognized, and out of the discussion came plans for conserving the patriotic effort of every patriotic woman, and more especially the young women of the country. The "army" to be recruited was designated the "Sunshine Division." Its scope of service is limited only by the ability of the enlisted women to serve, and there is no woman ineligible for service except she who is already doing her utmost to help win the war. Particulars are available from Maj. A. P. Oakes, now stationed at United War Work headquarters, Dallas, Tex.

Sincere Gratitude.

Mrs. William Bell, Logansport, Ind., writes: "I deem it my duty to express my gratitude for the good Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy did me when I had a severe attack of diarrhoea three years ago. It was the only medicine that relieved me."

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.
- Z. T. Lamar.
- Jas. Coleman Wasson, Noodle.
- Oran Edwards

- Ulric Forrester.
- Andrew Archer.
- Roy Adams.
- Britt Baker.
- Fauss Banner.
- Edgar Breeze.
- W. B. Brown.
- Arthur Derrington.
- Frank J. Ferrer.
- De Gorcus.
- Wm. R. Green.
- James F. Holloway.
- B. Jobe.
- Pete Meek.
- F. O'Brien.
- Herbert Ricker.
- Paul Stamford.
- Bill Sheppard.
- Paul Turner.
- George White.
- L. B. Wells.
- Riley White.

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. The Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

- L. Powers.
- Emzi Burroughs.
- Thos Bearden.
- Jas. Brown.
- Emmitt Grimes.
- L. M. Hutchins.
- Chester A. Duncan, Trent.
- John T. Morris, Trent.
- Joe L. Evans, Trent.
- W. W. McElmurray, Trent.
- Hurbert J. Swan, Trent.
- John Moore, Merkel.
- Lieut B. B. Brown
- Chester Hall.
- Stuart Grimes.
- Jas. Clyde White.
- Lloyd Shepard.
- L. A. Dudley.
- Robert Vernon Boring.
- Sherley King.
- O. A. Horton.
- Ira Huss.
- Archie Rose.
- Fred Harrell.
- Chas. C. Jones.
- Glen Thompson
- Roscoe Sharp.
- John Ware.
- John D. Dudley.
- John Edward Hunter.
- E. M. Harris.
- George Smith.
- Geo. N. Reynolds.
- J. H. Rister, Tye.
- Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
- H. W. Beckham, Trent
- Dee H. Donnell, Trent
- Hollis Brown, Trent.
- Royce Dowdy, Trent.
- Robt. B. Parker.
- Frank E. Smith
- Luther Grimes.
- W. L. Diltz, Jr.
- William B. Tarpley.
- Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
- James O. Dulin.
- Kirby L. Vidrine.
- Leonard Morrison.
- Joseph A. McMurray.
- 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.
- O. R. Burns.
- Joe Thomas Hartley.
- John Robert West.
- Robert Grady Collins
- Jim F. Winters.
- Arthur McMurray.
- Charlie Clifton Smith, Trent.
- Fred Pribble, Trent.
- Ernest Massey, Trent.
- Fred Massey, Trent.
- Hosea Winn, Trent.
- Skyler Dunn, Trent.
- Elmer Dunn, Trent.
- Will E. Smith, Trent.
- Leldon Goode, Noodle
- Jas. Harmon Peterson.
- W. Clarence Melton.
- Dalton Blackmon, Trent.
- Otto Blackmon, Trent
- John W. Hassey, Trent
- Roy Stevens, Trent.
- Spurgeon Scott, Trent
- Robert W. Kelly.
- Jno. Earnest Costephens.
- Wm. Roy Costephens.
- Jake Eason, Noodle.
- Henery Eason, Noodle
- Guy Bradley, Stith.
- Guy Sibley, Trent.
- Wm. Wills.
- Sam H. Rosson, Trent.
- Claude Rosson, Trent.
- Alfred Wesley Costephens.
- Ulyses McNeas.
- W. Clarence Cameron
- Vessie E. Browning.
- Clyde Garrett.
- Bailey Frazier.
- John Coomer.
- Bailey Frazier.
- Leo Shepard.
- Frank Millican.
- Dem Rusk.
- Q Rusk.
- Tucker
- Horton.
- John Tucker.
- Wilba Whitaker
- Rufus McLean.
- Dillard Snow.
- Vernon Simpson.
- Dr. Robert I. Grimes.
- Floyd Dean
- Guy Brady.
- Cecil McRee, Trent
- Clayton Hall, Trent.
- Samuel D. Swann.
- Lee Harrell.

- W. P. Banner.
- M. G. Russell.
- J. M. Tucker.
- David M. Floyd.
- Dee Ash.
- Lake J. Renfro.
- H. B. Strode.
- Dr. Wm. M. Gambill.
- Vernon Sublett.
- Yates Brown.
- Dean Robinson, Trent.
- Orville Foster.
- Clyde Foster.
- Jodie Bright, Trent
- Barney A. Garrett.
- P. M. Hutchins.
- Roger F. Haynes.
- O. S. Burns.
- Roger V. Wells.
- Jas. Parker Sharp.
- Will Brown.
- Judson McRee.
- Frank Hart.
- Albert Vessell, Trent
- Jim Skillern, Trent.
- Denzil Cox.
- Lee Tipton.
- Jim Burfind
- Homer Tye.
- Roy R. Coats.
- Denzie Cox.
- Lee Tipton.
- Jas. Dent Gibson.
- Roy R. Coats.
- Sydney B. Coats.
- Chas. F. Thornton.
- Albert Vessell.
- Jim Skillern.
- Fred B. Deutschman, Noodle
- Will Merritt.
- Louis Swann.
- Arl Sharp.
- John T. Morgan.
- Frank Cook.
- Will Brown.
- Joel Counts.
- Homer Laney.
- Mason Pee.
- Sam J. Gafford.
- Joe Owen.
- Wm. Cox.
- Owen Ellis.
- Stanley King.
- J. O. McMurray.
- Joe Gunn.
- Bowie H. Floyd.
- Martin Gold Riggans.
- Nall Perkins.
- Ralph Bigham.
- DeWitt T. Johnson
- Russell T. Johnson.
- B. Martin.
- Homer L. Easterwood.
- Bourdon Smith.
- Loring Hamblet
- Allen Eason
- Houston Parker.

PROFESSIONAL

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Office Hours 8—12 AM; 1—5 PM
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
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Attorney at Law
Merkel and Abilene, Texas
Merkel Office in rear Farmers
State Bank. 22Sept17

PATE BARBER SHOP

Skillful Operators—The Very
Best Service.
PATE & SON
Anchor Building, Next to P. O.
Merkel, Texas.

**SHAVING AND BATH
PARLORS**

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
CHAS WEST Proprietor

DO NOT LIST WITH US UNLESS YOU WANT TO SELL

If you do not mean business, then don't waste our time, for we must be about the other fellows business.

Exclusive Listings Only

Not a week passes but that we close up more deals than any other real estate firm in Taylor county. Bargains go first

IF YOU HAVE A REAL BARGAIN, SEE US

☐ If you want to buy, why not go to a firm that has the inside on bargain listings and who can deal with you squarely in the open. You know that now is the time to buy. The protracted drouth has kept prices on real estate down. There is land not one whit better than we have listed that is selling for \$200 an acre and up in counties not many hundred miles east of here. The very land that can now be bought at a bargain will bring twice the money after the first good crop.

☐ And then—OIL—just remember that, please.

☐ Suppose you had a little acreage in or adjacent to the oil property, wouldn't you go to bed with a sweeter dream, knowing that the possibilities of profit, success, riches were in your hands? Investigate some of our "Pots" in which the reputable citizens have taken shares. You can invest \$50, \$100, \$500, or any amount you wish, with us and we will place it in land worth the money for farm purposes, and then if oil is found you are on velvet. What other proposition will guarantee the return of your investment like this? We have land from \$25 an acre up to \$50. The minute the drill starts it will be worth \$100 an acre and up. Any party wishing to invest will please call or write. We wouldn't misrepresent any feature for the sake of the commission. We had rather have good will than the pittance of a commission. We are in business to stay, and openly and above board refer any one to any business man or other party in Merkel or surrounding country.

☐ Procrastination will silently steal away the opportunity that is yours. Now is the accepted time. Be wise and conquer now the obstacles that will later stand between you and the coveted success that may be yours. Only a small investment may bring you fabulous returns.

No. 326
160-ACRE FARM—About 6 miles southeast of Merkel, 30 acres in cultivation, 80 per cent good tillable land, 5-room frame bungalow and new small out building. Price \$27.50 per acre. Good terms.

No. 327
1120 ACRES—The very best big farm proposition in all the country. 640 acres in one body, all prairie, with about 350 acres in cultivation, only about 60 acres not tillable. Black hog-wallow land. Four ordinary box rent houses and numerous out buildings, well and good windmill, fine water, concrete tank holding about 500 barrels with trough in connection and float valves. Another tract contains 320 acres, 176 in cultivation, with good house and first-class improvements. Two other tracts of 80 acres each. Any of these tracts are for sale, with exception of the 320 acre tract, which is for sale provided the balance is sold. Price of this land is \$22.50 an acre with the most liberal terms. If entire tract is purchased, less price will be considered. Land is owned by early settlers who picked it years ago. Hardly a better place can be found. It lies about 14 miles southwest of Merkel.

No. 325
WELL IMPROVED FARM—323 9-10 acres, 136 in cultivation and balance in pasture, all good tillable land, dark sandy soil, located on rural route about 2½ miles southeast of Merkel. 4-room bungalow, 2 porches, 2 small barns, concrete floor in barn, water piped into lot, 1 windmill, 2 wells, fine water, good new fences of 3 and 4 wires. All improvements made in 1916. Will take \$35 an acre, \$3500 cash and time on balance. Notes against place amount to \$4700, eight annual payments at 6 per cent interest. Will take second lien against place at 6 per cent interest. Improvements include wash house, smoke house, building for blacksmith shop, etc.

No. 312
UNEQUALED BARGAIN—320 acres, 180 in cultivation; 6-room house, 3-room house and out buildings. \$1100 loan on place for 5 years. Three-quarters of a mile to good school and Methodist and Baptist churches; 16 miles north of Merkel, and about 11 miles of Sylvester on Sweetwater creek. There is some rough land, but this is an exceptional bargain, as the owner will take \$17.50 per acre for quick sale. This place must be turned

within 60 days. This land is not many miles from the leased district, and just as soon as a derrick goes in, it will be worth double the price asked.

No. 313
A FINE FARM—190 acres, 15 miles north of Merkel, almost midway between Sylvester and Trent; 135 acres in cultivation, practically every acre the very best of farming land; 4-room house and 3-room house, good well, creek water, 3 separate fields, 3 pastures. \$35 per acre. There are many desirable advantages to this farm. Exceptionally easy terms. Must be sold at once.

No. 314
NICE SMALL PLACE—Must go at once. Fifty acres, 3-room boxed house and weatherboarded, near Blair. Within two miles of railroad station and only a few miles from Merkel. Price is \$2250, with little over half cash, and balance on reasonable terms.

No. 315
160 ACRES NEAR TRENT—Well improved farm 1¼ miles west of Trent. This is a good buy. In a well settled community of farm owners, adjacent to the very best school and churches in the country. Price is very reasonable. Lenient terms given. Same party also owns a couple of splendid residences in Merkel at reasonable prices. Royalty alone in 60 days may be worth twice the price of the farm.

No. 316
TWO FARMS—340 acres and 240 acres, owned by same party. Will sell either or both. Of the 340 acres, 120 are in cultivation, balance in pasture, of which about 100 acres are rough. Property fronts on rural route, has two sets of improvements. The price of this land is only \$17.50 an acre. Some trade will be considered. One third must be paid down and the balance will have terms at your own making. This property is 17 miles northwest of Merkel and 11 miles of Sylvester. Good schools and good churches near. The 240 acres can all be cultivated, except about 5 acres. 100 acres of this plot is in cultivation. The price of this plot is \$20 per acre, and a cash payment of \$2000 will be accepted, the balance to be paid at your own terms. Both these places make an exceptionally good buy. Possession can be given at any time.

No. 317
147½ ACRES NORTHEAST OF MERKEL—This

farm is four miles northeast of Merkel. 100 acres are in a high state of cultivation, lying in a valley, and is one of the most productive farms in all this country. The place fronts on public road, where a nice elevated gravel plot forms a noll for the residence, a box house containing 7 rooms and two galleries. There is a good well and windmill, fine water, fair out buildings. This place is listed for quick sale at \$30 an acre and is well worth the money. See us at once.

No. 318
A HOME—324 acres in the best part of French Pasture, 136 acres in cultivation, balance in pasture. The soil is a dark sandy loam. Located on Route 4, 5 miles out of Merkel. All improvements are new. Cash payment required is \$3500, balance on easy terms at 6 per cent interest. Improvements include modern bungalow, smokehouse, blacksmith shop building, barn with cement floors, etc.

No. 321
HOUSE AND LOT—Modern 5-room house. Frontage about 133 feet on corner. Windmill, hydrants, shed. No better bargain in Merkel.

No. 323
MUST SELL QUICK—120 acres about 6 miles southeast of Merkel at \$25 an acre. 50 acres in cultivation, balance in pasture; all good land. Not leased but adjacent to leased territory. All cash.

No. 324
800-ACRE FARM & RANCH—Over 300 acres in cultivation, balance pasture; about 100 acres rough land. 5-room house, 4 good rent houses 1 windmill, 4 wells and hand pumps, fenced and cross fenced. Land very best in country, about 15 miles south of Merkel. Price \$25.00 an acre; cash payment of \$5000, with terms on balance to suit convenience of purchaser. On rural route, phone line and near church and school.

No. 311
160-ACRE FARM—This land lies 15 miles north of Merkel. 100 acres are in cultivation; all good land, except a little rough land which is in pasture. Two good wells, plenty of wood, good 5-room house with hall and porch. Church and school within 1½ miles, and 11 miles of Sylvester and Trent, on Sweetwater creek. This land can be turned at \$27.50 per acre for quick sale.

MERKEL REALTY CO.

W. O. BONEY

J. T. BROWNING

WALTER JACKSON

MERKEL TEXAS

BIGGER OCTOBER BARGAINS

AT WOODROOF-BRAGG'S

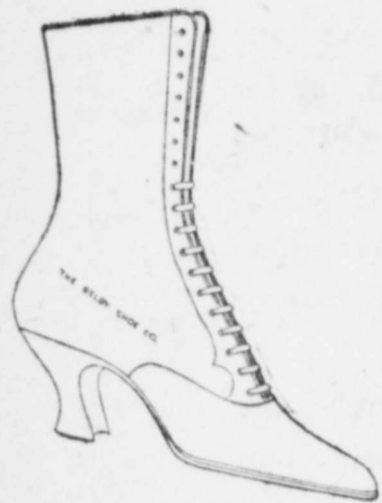
Common sense in buying is dollars and cents to you. The scarcity of dependable merchandise and the steadily advancing prices make it advisable for you to take advantage of this opportunity to buy your Dry Goods, Shoes, Underwear, Clothing, Ladies Ready-to-Wear and Millinery at

LESS THAN WHOLESALE COST OF TO-DAY

EXTRA SPECIALS UP STAIRS

We offer our entire stock of Ladies Suits, Coats, Skirts, Dresses and all Trimmed Hats at a big reduction to close our October business.

Misses and children's Coats, Trimmed Hats and Tams are priced at a Big Saving



Selby's High-Grade Shoes Reduced

\$11.00 Grey Kid Boots	.....	\$9.95
9.50 Grey Kid Boots, cloth top	.....	7.95
8.00 Grey Kid Boots, low heel	.....	6.45
8.50 Brown kid boots, cloth top	.....	6.95
8.00 Brown calf boots, low heel	.....	6.45
7.50 Brown cloth top boots, low heel	.....	5.95



The Woodroof = Bragg Company

STORE OF DEPENDABLE MERCHANDISE

ALL OK.

An Atlantic Port, Oct. 6.—Abe Flesher's spirit goes marching on. It took Apremont Wood, conquered at Chateau Thierry, and smashed through to victory at St. Mihiel. It is the spirit that animates Jew, Catholic and Protestant. In the United States it has found its expression in the union of seven welfare agencies, the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Knights of Columbus, War Camp Community Service, Jewish Welfare Board, Salvation Army, and American Library Association, whose business is to foster the spirit of Abe Flesher.

Abe was recruited in the first draft, and was sent to France. He was in the thickest of the fighting at Apremont Wood. A few weeks afterward his parents in Springfield, Mass., received a letter from his telling them that he lost his right arm and left eye. "But I'm O. K. just the same!" Abe concluded.

Abe was invalided home. He arrived on the Jewish New Year. An immense crowd met him at the station. They cheered him and praised him, at the same time pitying his empty sleeve. Abe met their questions with a laughing response.

"I'm the luckiest Jew in the army! If another man had been in my place, he'd have been killed. But I only lost an arm and an eye, so I'm glad I was there! It's a shame I can't go back to the boys, isn't it?"

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.

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. 1684 Goldsmith Bldg., Opp. Post Office, Milwaukee, Wis. Aug 23/20.

IF WOMEN ONLY KNEW

What a Heap of Happiness It Would Bring to Merkel Homes

Hard to do housework with an aching back.

Brings you hours of misery at leisure or at work.

If women only knew the cause that

Backache pains often come from weak kidneys.

'Twould save much needless woe Doan's Kidney Pills are for weak kidneys.

Many residents of this vicinity endorse them.

Mrs. W. C. Cutrell, Anson, Texas, says: "My doctor told me I had too much uric acid in my system, due to weak kidneys. Most of the time I felt dull and drowsy and was very nervous. My back bothered me and I was hardly ever free from a dull ache across my kidneys which broke my rest at night. Different medicines didn't seem to do any good until I finally got Doan's Kidney Pills. Doan's reduced the uric acid in my system and gradually the other ailments left. I used four boxes and have had no return of the complaint."

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

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. Hamm returned Saturday from a four months visit to relatives at Denison, Tex Granite Rosedale, Okla., and Ben Franklin, Texas. She reports a delightful trip; but says she is glad to get back home.

For Chapped Skin

Chapped skin whether on the hands of face may be cured in one night by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It is also unequalled for sore nipples, burns and scalds. For sale by all dealers.

KEEPING THE HOME FIRES BURNING



Here is a little bit of home which may be found in any Army Y. M. C. A. building in the Southern Department. The big open fireplace, the curtained windows, the cozy corner, and the little feminine touches which have been added by friends of the "Y," all contribute to the comfort and morale of the soldier away from home.

Here the soldier will find a happy substitute for the home fireside, with music if he prefers it—the home paper—good magazines—a game of checkers with his chum, and a lot of other things that help to make life interesting for the soldier. This is the social room which may be found in nearly every Army Y. M. C. A. hut. This particular one is enjoyed by soldiers from the Southwestern states at a Texas camp.

The headquarters offices of the Southern Department, Army Y. M. C. A., are at San Antonio, Texas. William E. Adams is the executive secretary.

A MEAN TRICK

Some one came to the home of Merrett Bland unawares a few days, or nights, ago and maliciously cut up a horse collar for him and another belonging to his father, J. W. Bland. That was a terribly mean trick. It was malicious. It was done by a coward who has not the courage to make his grievances known, if he has any, face to face. He belongs to the same class as the fellow who would stab another in the back in the dark. He is a desperately cowardly character. We surely thought the drouth had driven all such type from our midst, but once in a while old downright deviltry breaks out, even in the best of communities.

Some young fellows, and some not so young, think it is terribly smart to cut up harness, buggy whips and steal laprobes and the like. Such a man is not to be trusted. He will even steal from his grandmother. He is a beast. A man is not made that way. He is a coward and an ingrate. If confronted with the facts he would enter a denial, he would

not commit such an act before the eyes of the owner and he maliciously destroys that which does him no good but harms a neighbor.

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 expectation in the morning. Made and sold in America for fifty-two years. A wonderful prescription, assisting nature in building up your general health and throwing off the disease. Especially useful in lung trouble, asthma, croup, bronchitis, etc. For sale by Grimes Drug Store.

When New Year's Day rolls around in 1923 are you going to be well-off in self-respect and money? If you buy War Saving Stamps now the future will have no regrets for you. Every time you purchase a War Saving Stamp you are laying aside for the future.

LET ME LIST YOUR

REAL ESTATE, LEASES AND ROYALTIES

Will give you the best of service

T. E. RAGAN Merkel, Texas

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.

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure

Prevent Influenza by purchasing your preventives from us.

MERKEL DRUG CO.