



THE MERKEL MAIL



VOL. 30—NO. 42

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1918

8 PAGES

OIL SITUATION DEVELOPING RAPIDLY

Are our people asleep as regards the oil situation here? Some of them talk in a pessimistic manner. But that cuts little ice. Localism may soon die in this field develops in accordance with the report of the geologist, no individual opinion is going to count for anything. The knocker then had just as well back up against a brick wall and kick and butt and rave to his heart's content.

Here is the proposition we have to face. We have Mr. Kennard's report, which we published last week. Now who is Mr. Kennard? We don't know, except that he is a geologist. But this we do know that the publicity of his report has started something beyond the limits of Merkel. We know that there are men in the oil game who say they are willing to spend money where Mr. Kennard says indications are good. We know that Merkel is being talked about in the oil districts.

Now as to drilling: Harry Underwood of Cleveland, Ohio, and partners have the contract to drill down the well on the Sears ranch. Timbers were hauled out last week, the pit dug and theerrick iron has been enroute two weeks. Mr. Underwood is here and has the wires and nails for rushing the rig and other necessities to drill to any desired depth. Mr. Underwood is a big drilling contractor and has a number of rigs at work in different parts of the country. He says positively there will be no delay.

Mr. Niblo of Oklahoma City is here and is enthusiastic over the field. He has wired his associates to meet him here Saturday. They are amply able and are figuring on drilling a well on each of the other four blocks. If his associates approve the plan he says there will likely be active drilling operations started on all the blocks within sixty days. Messrs Boggs and Garrison are enthusiastic over the prospects.

To summarize, we can but feel enthusiastic over the prospects. One well is located with a rush of activity in sight, and prospects are fine for further activity. Remember this is a big deal and can not be but over like swapping jack knives.

SUNDAY IS A MAN'S MAN

Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 23.—Fort Worth greeted Billy Sunday enthusiastically and with noise. He responded with pep in his sandals and attitudes. A large crowd met the evangelist at the station at 3 o'clock and a considerable procession, led by mounted police, escorted the party to the hotel.

Billy Sunday and Mrs. Sunday, who is already known here as "Aunt Sunday"—and others of the party were taken from the station in the car of Major W. D. Davis, who was at the head of the reception committee.

All along the route to the hotel the evangelist was greeted by salutations, most of them being simply "Hello, Billy." He responded by waving his hand or in kind. When the train carrying the Sunday party drew to the railroad station a great many locomotive whistles blew friendly greetings. As the party merged from the train shed many people in the station waiting-room cheered and hurrahed for Billy Sunday. Among the members of the reception committee at the station were May Davis, A. B. Case, W. H. Baggett, W. B. Paddock and Hubbs. Mr. Case delivered a welcome message from J. Ozden

Armour sent from Chicago.

Other members of the executive committee and reception committee met the Sunday party in the lobby of the hotel and immediately a reception was held in one of the parlors. Many persons were introduced to Mr. Sunday and members of his party and the conversation became general at once through the initiative of the evangelist who is not formal even at his hotel. The Rev. F. P. Culver, chairman of the committee, was one of the first to greet Mr. Sunday. He introduced many other citizens and members of the committee.

The reception was brief. It was followed by an automobile ride to Panther Park, where rival army teams of football players from Barron and Carruthers Fields were beginning a game. Airships circled overhead and did stunts. Billy Sunday looked at the airships and at the football game alternately. He was obviously more interested in the former.

"I like football," he said in reply to a question, "but have never become as much interested in it as in baseball."

During his stay at the football game—which was brief—Mr. Sunday walked about the sidelines and shook hands with cadets and officers of the Flying Corps, asking each where he was from and making some remark about that particular place, most of which places he seemed to have visited. After a while the party returned to the hotel and Mr. Sunday retired to his room to rest. He was to hear the Paris orchestra in the evening.

KING ALBERT ENTERS THE CAPITAL OF BELGIUM

Brussels in Gala Dress Welcome Royal Party With Ecstasy Of Fervor

Brussels, Nov. 22.—King Albert entered Brussels this morning at 10:30 o'clock. He was accompanied by Queen Elizabeth, Princes Leopold and Charles and Princess Marie Jose.

The royal party entered at the Porte de Flanders and proceeded to the Place de la Nation, receiving a tremendous ovation along the streets. Entering the Parliament house, King Albert and his family listened to an address of welcome. Then followed a review of allied troops which formed a line ten miles long.

Flowers were thrown in the path of King Albert as the procession made its way along boulevards lined for miles with dense throngs. As this dispatch is being written the noise of cheering rolls continuously like thunder across the city.

King Albert and his two sons were on horseback. The Crown Prince was on his right and dressed in Khaki, while his younger brother was dressed in the uniform of a midshipman. The city is wearing its gala dress and the influx of thousands during recent days has made it impossible for all to obtain lodgings. Many are sleeping in public halls and shelters.

The return of King Albert to his capital recalls the King's prophecy in an interview with the Associated Press only a few months after the Belgians, having checked the first rush of the Germans, had been driven from their country. In the dispatch reporting this interview, given on Dec. 20, 1914, at the King's headquarters in West Flanders, the following passage occurred: "Your Majesty, it has been predicted that you will re-enter your capital within about three months," the correspondent said.

The King shook his head sadly, saying: "Not so soon, but some day I shall ride into Brussels at the head of the Belgian Army."

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

MOTHER

Dear mother, when I read each tender phrase
Each throbbing line of love you write to me,
My heart grows sad, and oft I count the days
Until at last I shall sail o'er the sea
Back, back to you and home and all I love,
And once I cursed the fate that placed me here.
But, lo! I caught a vision from above
That steeled my heart with patience, mother dear,
Before my thoughts were dark with fancied wrongs,
Of plans miscarried and of work undone,
I heard faint echoes of the old home songs
And glimpsed your loving faces one by one.
I knew your troubles—that I could not ease—
I suffered at the worry in your heart.
I longed to rest my head upon your knees
And feel my bitter loneliness depart.
To me the war had brought out bitterness;
Brought discipline—that cut me to the raw—
And act unjust that promised no redress
Beneath the changeless military law
All through the days I heard the homing-call;
I saw your pleading eyes and heard your voice.
I prayed to come, I prayed to cheer you all
And in reunion let our hearts rejoice,
All useless seemed the changeless game we played
Of endless labor, unremitting drill.
It seemed 'twould be far better had I stayed
At home with you, who love and need me still.

And then I caught a vision from the skies
Of why we fight and suffer and are sad!
I saw the reason for our sacrifice,
And, seeing, lo! my heart grew strong and glad;
That I was in the ranks to fight and die,
If need be, for the millions yet unborn!
I saw the Belgian women as they lie,
The spoils of Hunnish lust, undone and torn!
Their children lifting mutilated arms
And babies caught upon the bayonet;
Their aged mothers, slaving on the farms
To feed the German hordes unconquered yet;
I saw the helpless sinking in the waves,
While German sailors laughed to see them die;
I saw a row of new-made baby graves
And distant aircraft slinking in the sky;
I saw the towns of desolated France,
The fruiting trees destroyed in senseless hate;
Oh, mother, these I saw as in a trance,
And others that my lips dare not relate!
Oh, think if we had lived in Belgium then!
If France had been our home! Oh, God on High,
To picture You the toy of brutish men,
Our home destroyed, my loved ones left to die!
I see—I see at last—the reason why
We must forget the little things of life
And dry our tears and stifle every cry,
Whatever pain may issue from the strife!
Why we must battle on, with ne'er a thought
But Victory, nor stop to count the cost,
Until a sweeter Liberty is wrought
From out the old, which was so nearly lost!

My mother, cheer your heart and dry your tears,
For afterwhile, God willing, I'll return.
We sacrifice to-day that, through the years,
We may enjoy the peace for which we yearn.
Forget all cares, forget all minor things;
To-day we labor and to-morrow rest!
We fight for every mother as she sings
Her babe to sleep upon her throbbing breast!
We battle for the Womanhood of Earth,
For Liberty, for Honor and for Right!
Be proud, oh, mother dear, that you gave birth
To one who lived to enter such a fight!—By J. W.

The above poem was received from Bill Sheppard, who is at the front, and says these lines express his and every other boy's sentiment. And, too, they express our.—New York Herald, printed in Paris.

SOME THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS

The hearts of mankind are made tender through tribulation. War and drouth have dealt bitterly with our beloved land, but at this glorious dawn of another Thanksgiving Day we rejoice in a peace that bears on its bosom the emblem of victory, and at the same time we are thankful that the drouth that has withered hopes and diminished fortunes so long has given place to pleasant showers and our people may now look forward with hope to an era of peace and prosperity.

It takes calamity sometimes to awaken the tender cords that lie dormant in the deep recesses of nearly every human heart. Our sufferings have been mutual, and everywhere there is that mutual and sympathetic understanding that brings the whole people together as one person. We have stood shoulder to shoulder in every patriotic endeavor. We have weighed our own shortcomings and frankly feel our littleness in the sight of monster events that have taken place about us; and we have seen illumined in others a more courageous spirit than we thought was enthroned there, so more and more we find the fraternity of the world gathering together with the veils of fanaticism and misunderstanding, cut asunder

Continued on page eight

A HEART AND A DOLLAR

Having been appointed Chairman of the Red Cross membership drive for 1919 members, better known as Christmas drive I ask your co-operation.

Our Quota is 100 per cent, meaning that every man, woman and child is asked to become a member of this great work.

The work of the Red Cross is just as important now, or perhaps more so than before the boys quit fighting. The call on the Red Cross is to see the boys back home, to help France, Belgium and our allied Nations, mothers and children.

Our President, Woodrow Wilson, who is the President of the American Red Cross, has asked a 100 per cent membership, and those who are not financially able, are not to be denied the privilege of becoming members of this great humane organization, the greatest mother on earth.

This local branch will finance such memberships. One-half of the membership proceeds will go to the local branch to be used for civilian work at home, and no doubt there will be quite a call on this branch of the work, as soon as the boys begin to come back.

This drive will be from December 16 to 23. During these dates you will be called on to join—all it takes is a HEART AND A DOLLAR.

If a solicitor don't happen to find you, call at any Bank, Drug Store or the Red Cross rooms, at the Commercial Club, as they will be special booths and they will list your name.

You will greatly facilitate matters if when called on, to not delay the workers, as they will have many others to see, and that their time is given to this great work, not one cent is given to any individual. You will see many faces at this work that you have seen before at this and similar work. Do not think they are getting paid for this, for they are not.

This drive is the biggest we have had and requires a larger committee, as every man woman and child is to be seen, which means from 4000 to 5000 people.

We especially ask that when you become a 1919 member that you wear your button until at least the last day of the drive, December 23. This will save us time and you annoyance.

Remember all it takes is a HEART AND A DOLLAR.
Yours for 100 per cent.
W. A. McSpadden.

A GLORIOUS SNOW

A finer fall could not have been ordered. Good rains have fallen and a considerable quantity of feedstuff was made. The top crop of cotton is still a speculative matter. Winter wheat is doing fine and will save the great Merkel country thousands of dollars in feed bills.

And now a glorious snow has fallen. It began falling last Sunday night and has made reasonable good time since. It is worth a great deal to the country.

The snow was preceded by a cold spell that caused many a fine fat hog to bite the dust. Why aren't some of our people really getting sassy as the result of a square meal of spare ribs, backbones and "sassage."

A number of letters were received from our boys at the front this week. The uneasiness that has been hanging like a cloud about the battle line is gradually being lifted. In a few days the casualty lists will all be in, and it is the prayer of every one that they will be brought safely home. The boys are much reserved in all their writing, so we will have to be content to await their return to tell us the big things of the war, and their many close escapes.

AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN GREAT WAR

Washington, Nov. 23.—The total casualties in the American expeditionary forces up to the signing of the armistice were 235,117, divided as follows:

Killed in action and died of wounds, 36,154.
Died of disease 13,811.
Died from other causes, 2,204.
Wounded, 179,625.
Prisoners, 2,163.
Missing, 1,160.

Chief of Staff General Peyton C. March made this announcement today. The American forces in France have taken 44,000 German prisoners and 1,400 guns. The casualties of the American forces in Northern Russia are not severe. The movement of troops from France will be expedited in every way, he added, and "they will not sneak into the country either."

Demobilization of the American expeditionary forces already in progress while the movement homeward of sick and wounded will be hastened by the return at an early date of eight divisions of national guards and national army corps, eight regiments of coast artillery and two brigades of field artillery. This announcement was made today by General March, on receipt of dispatches from General Pershing. The divisions which General March said had been designated by General Pershing to return as soon as the sick and wounded have been removed to the United States are:

National Guards: 31st Georgia, Alabama and Florida; 34th Nebraska, Iowa South Dakota and Minnesota; 38th Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia; 39th Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

National Army: 76th New England; 84th Kentucky, Indiana, and Southern Illinois; 86th Northern Illinois, including Chicago; 87th Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Southern Alabama.

The coast artillery regiments to be returned as soon as possible were announced as the 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 73rd, 74th and 75th. The two field artillery brigades to be brought home are the 65th and the 163rd.

Fifty-two aerial squadrons, 11 construction companies and special units in England will be returned home as soon as possible.

SECRETARY McADOO RESIGNS

The country as a whole was greatly surprised to learn of Secretary McAdoo's resignation. Possibly no man, save the President, had stood in the limelight more than Mr. McAdoo, the past two years. And then again just as peace is established he relinquishes his portfolio to enter the ranks of private business.

Even at this date it is apparent that there is no better individual to aspire to succeed his illustrious father-in-law to the presidency of this great nation. He has already been mentioned prominently in this regard. His executive ability is unquestioned and his worth to his country in her most trying hours must be recognized by every patriotic American.

I have ordered one car of Mebane Triumph cotton seed. If you need seed you had better call at once and give me your order, as this is the only car I will order this season. Price \$2.75 per bushel. This car will be here January 1st. R. O. Anderson at Farmers State Bank. 22t2c

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

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

PERSHING MENTIONED FOR THE PRESIDENCY

Former Governor O. B. Colquitt is reported as favoring General Pershing for president. Even that might be enough to defeat the general's ambition, should he entertain such. We doubt not however, of his being pushed forward in this regard.

General Pershing has greatly endeared himself to the hearts of the people and they will doubtless be willing to heap upon him any honors within their power. Since coming into the limelight of one of America's foremost men, not a breath of just criticism has been spoken against him. He is one of America's noblemen and will have a following along any line of political preference to which he aspires.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

Do not imagine that because other cough medicines failed to give you relief that it will be the same with Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Bear in mind that from a small beginning this remedy has gained a world wide reputation and immense sale. A medicine must have exceptional merit to win esteem wherever it becomes known.

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.

Cotton seed meal at G. M. Sharps

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and for years it was supposed to be incurable. Doctors prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is a constitutional remedy, is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. One Hundred Dollars reward is offered for any case that Hall's Catarrh Medicine fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials.
F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

TEXAS PROS CALLED TO MEET

Plans to be Formulated For Constitutional Prohibition Campaign

Houston, Texas, Nov. 23.—The following call for a meeting of prohibitionists was given to the press today:

To Texas Prohibitionists: With the world war ended, the present and prospective conditions of State and Nation liquor legislation demand the earliest possible adoption of constitutional prohibition in Texas.

The signers hereby call a conference of prohibition friends to meet in Austin on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 9:30., for the dual purpose of agreeing upon a proposed amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the sale of all alcoholic liquor in Texas, except for medical, scientific and sacramental purposes; and to perfect a preliminary organization of Texas "pro" for the adoption thereof by popular vote as soon as an election can be legally called after submission by the Legislature, which ought to be had within a few days after the session in January convenes.

The amendment agreed upon should be self-executing as far as possible, and so framed as to allow future legislation to make it more effective without impairment of its fundamental purpose and as to be in harmony with the national act when that becomes effective.

A representative attendance from every section of Texas should come and begin the work of organizing to conduct a short and successful campaign to rid Texas of the liquor menace to its people and politics.

The Star Store expects to carry a stock of feed.

Baptist Convention to Meet.
The general Baptist Convention will meet December 5. The Baptist Women Missionary Workers will meet December 3 and 4.

STATEMENT

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

As Made to Comptroller of Currency at Close of Business November 1, 1918

RESOURCES

Time Loans	\$149,549.04
Stock in Fed. Res. Bank	1,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Other Real Estate	3,132.00

CASH RESOURCES

On hand and in other Banks	\$82,508.33
Cotton Exchange ..	13,263.33
Demand Loans	12,282.65
War Saving Stamps ..	503.81
U. S. Cert. of Ind. ..	27,000.00
Liberty Bonds	7,295.54
Other U. S. Bonds ..	9,750.00
With U. S. Treas. ...	312.50
Total Cash Resources	152,915.96
Total	\$310,697.00

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	35,148.88
Circulation	6,250.00
Rediscounts	None
Bills Payable	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
Deposits	244,298.12
Total	\$310,697.00

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

The family of J. W. Childress has been sick for some weeks. One of his little girls had to undergo an operation as the result of pneumonia, but was able to be carried home Sunday evening. They are all improving now.

E. L. Rogers has plenty of corn chops, oats, barley chops and corn. Figure with him for your feed bill.

Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic restores vitality and energy by purifying and enriching the blood. You can soon feel its Strengthening, Invigorating Effect. Price 50c.

G. W. Johnson is still on the sick list, though is much improved.

Cold weather is coming. Better bring in your clothers and have them cleaned up. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

Peace Maker flour is the best. G. M. Sharp.

CHRISTMAX LABELS

If you did not get a label for a Christmas box from your boy "Over there" you may procure one from the Post Master here. Remember all boxes must be mailed not later than Nov. 30th.

E. L. Rogers has plenty of corn chops, oats, barley chops and corn. Figure with him for your feed bill.

Greatly Benefited by Chamberlain's Tablets.

"I am thankful for the good I have received by using Chamberlain's Tablets. About two years ago when I began taking them I was suffering a great deal from distress after eating, and from headache and a tired, languid feeling due to indigestion and a torpid liver. Chamberlain's Tablets corrected these disorders in a short time, and since taking two bottles of them my health, has been good" writes Mrs. M.P. Harwood, Auburn, N.Y.

Drop in And See These!

YOU WILL HAVE TO ADMIT

That we are doing things for you when a comparison is made with the other fellow's stuff

MEN! See the undergarments we sell 62½ each
Also our union suits at \$1.90 and \$2.15

LADIES! The under garment you like is here and is at less price

Our suits for men and boys are the unsurpassable kind because they have the Quality, Workmanship and Price just so adjusted as to smash most of competition. We are in dead earnest what we say.

Good yard-wide Bleaching 22½c
Good line of outings 29c, 33½c and 35c
Our Percal at 19c is a big value

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

LOCAL NEWS

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

Don Wright of Bellevue, brother of Mrs. Ernest Woodroff has accepted a position with Woodroff-Bragg Dry Good Company.

For Sunday dinner, get cherr and pumpkin pies with other good assortments of pies and cakes and doughnuts. Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Just received car of flour. Bob Martin.

Notice To Taxpayers Of Taylor County

I will be in Merkel next Saturday, November 30, for the purpose of collecting 1918 State and County taxes.

Respectfully,
G. B. Tittle, State and County Tax Collector.

Call on us for heaters and stove pipe. Crown Hardware Company.

Loyalty at Union Ridge.
The school children at Union Ridge went over the top in fashion for the War Camp Fund. They made a splendid showing. Misses Garoutte Hall are the teachers.

GREEN'S AUGUST FLOW

has been a household remedy all over the civilized world more than half a century for constipation, intestinal troubles, torpid liver and the generally depressed feeling that accompanies such disorders. It is a most valuable remedy for indigestion or nervous dyspepsia and liver trouble, bringing on headache, coming up of food, palpitation of heart, and many other symptoms. A few doses of August Flower will relieve you. It is a gentle laxative. Sold by Grimes Drug Store. 30 or 90 cent bottles.

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.

Abilene is short of gas. Wonder why they don't attach a pipe line to their Commercial Club.

The derrick irons arrived Wednesday. They weigh 11,000 lbs. They will be hauled out Friday and construction will start Saturday or Monday. This is another Thanksgiving item.

Since peace has been declared Pancho Villa has again broken in on the front pages of the dailies. We got good and tired of him a long time ago, and as a matter of diversion, would suggest it as good sport if some of our boys from the front would return by way of Mexico and go a hunting expedition.

We notice where a Republican League has been formed in Ohio for the purpose of promoting the candidacy of General Pershing for the Presidency. Democrats have also been working for his candidacy. Don't the idiots know to which party he belongs? McAdoo is good enough for us. We know where he stands.

Merkel is without a park. The Commercial Club talked of arranging for one some time ago, but the drought prevented. Some months ago, while our honor flag was being planned, a suggestion was made to start a movement to build a monument in honor of the boys. We would like to see this plan put into effect. On the stone we would like to see the name of every local boy inscribed that belonged to Uncle Sam's army with a place set apart for the Honor Roll—The boys killed and wounded. And further we would like to see the stone placed in the center of a nice, clean, convenient park. What think ye?

See the Star Store for corn, corn chops, oats and barley feed.

The sale is still on at Jobe's Store. Doing well. Better get your part, come and see.

Highest prices paid for good fresh eggs. Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

Cakes suitable to send your soldier boy in France. Metropolitan Bakery and Cafe.

Plenty of cowfeed and cotton seed meal. Crown Hardware Company.

CHURCH NEWS

At The Baptist Church
Everything will be on Sunday—as for as the weather and the "Flu" will permit. The house will be warm and cozy for those who attend and all services will be shortened.
Hope you can come . . .
E. E. Dawson, pastor.

Epworth League Program
Subject, All For Christ.
Leader, Annie Mae Costephens
Scripture, I Cor. X 23, 24, 31.
Song, Prayer, Song
Scripture Reading.
Talk by Leader.
The High Standard, Earl Thornton.
League Opportunities, C. E. Connor.

Topics for Discussion Entire Chapter.
Star Store is expecting a car of feed.

Plenty of oats and cowfeed at Bob Martin's

Let us sell you your groceries. Full stock at all times. Crown Hardware Company.

Plenty of oats and cowfeed at Bob Martin's

Cow feed at G. M. Sharp's.

Guaranteed flour at A. L. Jobe's. Prices the lowest. Don't pass this up. A. L. Jobe.

BILL SHEPPARD WRITES
Relatives of Bill Sheppard received several letters from him this week, and we are pleased to quote extracts from them:

I have had some wonderful experiences and have seen many wonderful things since I saw you all last and certainly, would enjoy telling you of them but the censor is just the least bit particular as to what we write.

I am in an old building that looks like it is 100 years old and everybody had gone to bed and I guess I would get lonesome if it wasn't for those beer kegs loaded with dynamite that Fritz sends over every few minutes.

I had a chance to go to an officers training camp a few days ago, but turned it down. I will get another chance in a few weeks and I think I will try it out.

This is the wettest country in the world I guess. It has rained every day since we have been over here it seems like.

I slept in an old church last night, and they have the grave yards around the church, and we were talking this morning as to how different things are over here than they are at home. In civilian life you couldn't have tied me that close to a graveyard. I slept like a log until about 3 this morning when Fritz dropped one of his beer kegs loaded with

WRIGLEY'S

The Government wants tin

So hereafter all three brands of WRIGLEYS will be wrapped in pink paper and hermetically sealed in wax.

Look for WRIGLEYS in the pink-end package and take your choice of the same three popular flavors.

Be sure to get

WRIGLEYS for quality and because

The Flavor Lasts!



dynamite right beside it and knocked all the window glass out and the glass falling on me waked me up. The nearest I have come to being hurt was when I fell down in the mud the other night. It didn't hurt me but made me mad as the dickens. I have always said it would be my luck to go through this war without an accident and then get run over by a Ford after I got back home. I have often read of religion in the trenches and I don't believe a man has very much of the real stuff until he goes over. When Fritz starts dropping those big shells that make a hole big enough to run a wagon and team in, you sure do get next to your God and believe me you will call on Him for help. I don't know whether to feel sorry for the boys who will not get to come over or to say they are lucky to be at home.

I would give a month's pay for all the chocolate candy I could eat.

If you could see the towns all torn up, the old women and cripples working the fields, it would make you say, "To hell with the Kaiser and his peace notes."

Roy Adams was made a sergeant today, and I sure was glad for he has soldiered faithfully since he has been over here.

Got a Merkel Mail this morning and liked to have had to fight to get away with it for all the boys wanted to read it. It was the first one we had received, also containing W. L. Diltz letter.

I believe that one time at the front will do more to make a man religious than going to church for years.

Merkel Herds Always Win
The C. M. Largent cattle took first prize on the young herd and second on calf herd in the American Royal Live Stock Show in Kansas City a few days ago. This was about the strongest competition this herd has gone up against. Other winnings were also made by this herd.

Try a sack of Peace Maker flour. G. M. Sharp.

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

Miss Emma Houston is spending the week end with her parents in Abilene.

Just received car cow feed and cotton seed meal. Bob Martin.

Plenty corn and corn chops at G. M. Sharpe's

Miss Minnie Graham took sick the past week and had to go to her home at Escota.

Hooverize, and get your children's winter underwear at A.L. Jobe's. Save half.

School is out until Monday.

Feed oats at G. M. Sharp's

P. L. McClary of Ranger visited homefolks during the cold spell.

WRECK ON THE T & P

A wreck occurred on the T. & P. early Thursday morning delaying traffic for no telling how long. As we go to press we are unable to learn any particulars. It was somewhere between Escota and Sweetwater.

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.
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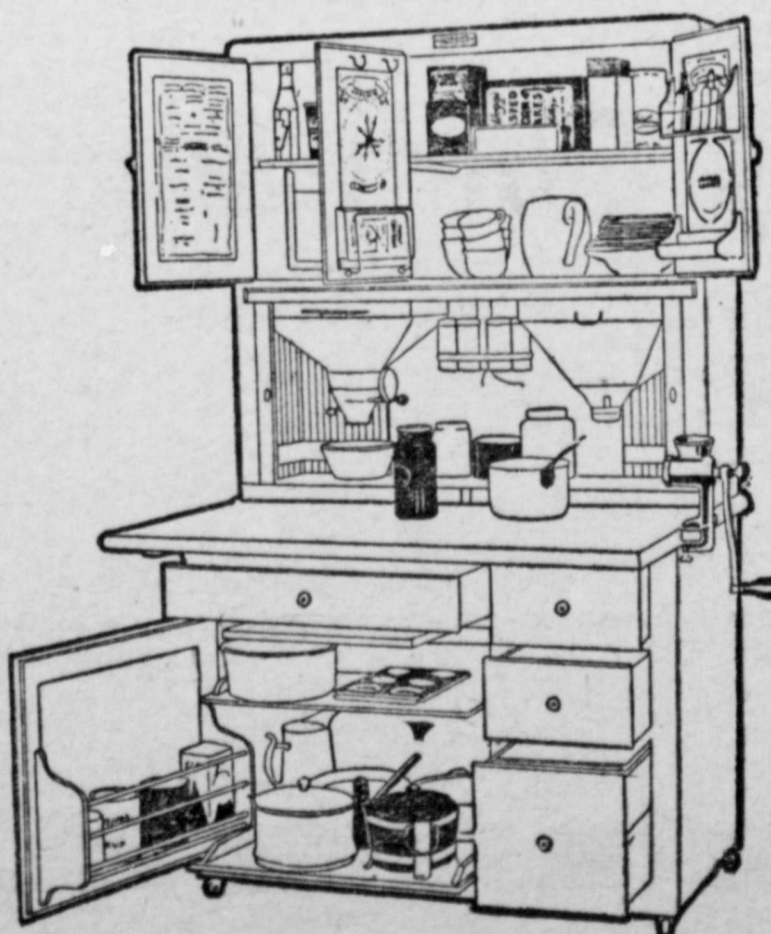
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