

## DRILLING SEARS TO DEEPER SAND

Many Visitors here this week. Leases and Royalties Changing hands every day

While there is not a great deal to say this week regarding the situation in the Merkel field, we have had many new visitors to our city and the oil field this week, and many leases and royalties has changed hands according to reports.

Work we are informed, of drilling the Sears well to the deeper sands was begun Tuesday of this week, and it is also stated that the drilling is going on, the well continues to flow by heads in the 2590 foot sand. We understand the Company feels confident over what they will find in the deeper sands, but would this prove non productive will likely return to the low sand and shoot the well and in which event a good sealer may be brought in.

## DRILLING ON TRENT WELL WELL ABOUT FEB. 1.

H. Brock whose home is in Morgantown, W. Va., but who of late been operating extensively in the Oklahoma field, and who it is expected that he will arrive about the first of this month. Drilling have started much sooner than test but the company has been unable to secure the necessary casing.

Cargill who resides some miles south west, was in the first of the week, and dropped in to have his Merkel Mail marked up another year. Cargill, states that gathered bales of cotton to date with ten more in the field to be. He was accompanied by Cordill, another Mail reader, who also about ten bales yet to pick.

## JOHNSON GOES TO COLEMAN BANK

A. Johnson is to leave Merkel has a host of friends here who are sorry to see him retire from the business world some go, but they all expected to become connected again in some way as a business man, that he is to leave, his many friends greatly regret. He is an admirer here. His influence has been felt in the financial and business world here as has the influence of few other men. Few have stood for the development of the town and country as he has. For many years he was a member of the school board, delegating much of his time to the carrying of that worthy institution. He was a member during the building of the present structure which stands as a monument to him and to the other members of the board, as a man active in business, church and lodge circles, an enterprising citizen, whose name is keenly felt to the town community. He is commended by the city of Coleman, where a recent meeting of the stockholders of the Coleman National Bank was unanimously chosen director and Cashier of that one of the strongest and best banking institutions in the state, and in which city he

has chosen to cast his lot. As a banker Mr. Johnson is well known as one of the most capable, conservative, and thorough men in the state. As a citizen, he is ever found on the side of right and for the progressive upbuilding of his home town and county, and in fact is ever and always loyal to his country and friends alike. We congratulate that city upon gaining the citizenship of Mr. Johnson and his estimable family. It will doubtless be some time before his family will follow him, but they intend to join him at no distant date. We congratulate Mr. Johnson upon his successful connections in that progressive city and shall watch his ever ascending star with pride and interest. We wish him well in his future business career.

### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our many and loving friends, for their kindness and help during the illness and death of beloved Father also thank the Presbyterian Sunday school and other friends for the beautiful floral offerings, and we pray the Lord to always deal gently with the good people of Merkel who responded so nobly to us in the hour of our sorrow.

Walter L. Douglas  
James F. Douglas  
Tom R. Douglas

## NEW HARDWARE & GROCERY STORE

Among the new enterprises coming and to come to Merkel, is the Liberty Hardware Company, which has been formed by Messrs Robert Hicks, A. E. Brown, A. H. Hutchens and H. R. Hicks. Mr. Robert Hicks is to be the manager, assisted by Mr. Brown. We understand these gentlemen know the hardware business thoroughly, both having had many years experience, and which will more surely insure their success.

These men are all well and favorably known in and around the Merkel country, and we bespeak for them much success.

Fixtures and etc., have been placed and the stock beginning to arrive for the new grocery store to be opened on Front St., by Bradshaw & Sublett, and they state that within the next few days they will have a complete stock of nice fresh groceries.

They are home men, well and favorably known, state that they expect to maintain one of the nicest and most up-to-date grocery stores in the country. They also say that they expect to make good use of Printer's Ink in letting the people know of their splendid stock of goods. We predict for them a splendid business.

## HERE FROM IOWA INTERESTED IN OIL

S. E. Bentley of Waterloo, Iowa, was here last week looking after his oil interests in this vicinity. He is a large stockholder in the Security Banking & Investment Oil Company now known as the Texas Houghton Oil Co., and besides considerable individual leases over the country.

He was very much enthused over the way the Sears no. 1 was "cutting up" and went away feeling fine over the matter.

We are indeed thankful to Gen. J. Jones for the renewal of his subscription to the Mail for a couple of years.

L. L. Huddleston was a visitor to Wichita Falls this week.

## W. B. OLIVER FOR THE COUNTY JUDGE

In this issue of the Mail will be found the name of W. B. Oliver, one among the leading attorneys of the city of Abilene, as a candidate for the important office of County Judge of Taylor County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary.

Judge Oliver is too well and favorably known throughout Taylor County, to need commendation from us. But suffice it to say, that he is a member of the law firm of Sayles, Sayles & Oliver, and is of unquestionable character, thoroughly qualified in every particular to fill the position of County Judge of this county with honor to himself and satisfaction to his constituents over the county.

We call your attention to his statement to the voters which will be found in another column of this paper, in which he sets forth his platform and promises if elected.

### To The Voters Of Taylor Co.

In announcing my candidacy for the office of County Judge of Taylor County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary, I wish to state that I am strongly in favor of keeping taxes as low as possible and that it is the duty of the County Judge as presiding officer of the Commissioners' Court to see that the affairs of the County are administered efficiently and as economically as is consistent with sound business principles.

In view of the fact, however, that the progress and development of any county is measured to a large extent by the development of its public roads, everything consistent with good business should be done that would aid in security and maintaining a first class system of public roads. Good roads are necessary for the development of public schools and all other interests of the County and the improvements now being made in the roads should be continued and a definite system of maintaining them should be adopted.

The law has very wisely and justly provided that each county shall maintain and furnish proper assistance to its unfortunates and its needy. The law further authorizes each county to establish and maintain hospitals for the purpose of caring for its sick, to cooperate with city authorities in the establishment and maintenance of such hospitals, or to contract with some established institution for the purpose of caring for its sick. Humanity demands that these unfortunates be given proper consideration and attention, and good business judgement requires that we exercise that caution which is in keeping with the proper care of these unfortunates in the expenditure of public funds.

In matters pertaining to delinquent children, great care should be exercised, the sole object being to develop such children into useful, patriotic citizens.

Common decency requires that male and female prisoners be kept separate, and action should be taken to see that this is done.

The court house yard should be made attractive, well lighted and seats provided for the accommodation of all who visit the court house.

If elected, I shall use every effort to advance the interests of the County. In all legal matters coming before me, I shall administer justice fairly and impartially alike to all to the extent of my ability. More than this no honest, conscientious man can promise.

Respectfully,  
W. B. OLIVER.

## MISS TIPPET IS OUT FOR RE-ELECTION

In the proper announcement of the Merkel Mail will be found the name of Miss Fannie Tippet as a candidate for re-election to the office of County Clerk of Taylor County. Miss Tippet is now serving her first term in this important position, and her splendid record for efficient, service and courteous treatment to one and all is well known. That with her past experience in the office will enable her to even render better service is reasonable. She is making the race for reelection strictly upon the merits of her past record and qualifications, and will appreciate your careful and fair consideration of her claim before casting your vote for County Clerk in the Primary election.

### TO THE VOTERS OF TAYLOR COUNTY

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In making my announcement for reelection to this office of County Clerk of Taylor County, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary.

First: I want to thank you for one year of pleasure and enjoyment and for the hearty co-operation and encouragement that I have received from everyone for whom I have transacted business or talked with. I have made every effort to conduct the affairs of the office in an efficient manner, whether I have succeeded or not is for you to say also I have employed at all times a sufficient number of capable deputies to assist me in trying to render the best service possible to every one, all of which I shall continue to do for that reason it will be impossible for me to make a campaign, therefore I adopt this means of asking you for your vote and influence, and of telling you how very much I appreciate same, for which I again promise my entire and undivided attention at all times to the deputies of the office, again thanking you, I am  
Most sincerely  
(Miss) Fannie Tippet

### CHURCH NEWS

At The Baptist Church Sunday School 10 am.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by the pastor. Morning Subject, "Modern Heroes". Evening subject, Destruction of Sodom.

Jr. Union at 3:30 and Srs. at 5 p. m. Teachers meeting Monday at 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m.

Ladies meet in their various circles Tuesday afternoon at 3.

All who come will find a cordial welcome. Especially do we urge that all Baptist and their families and their friends to make this your church home  
Ira L. Parrack pastor.

### North Side Church Notice

W. G. Cypert will preach next Sunday Morning at 11 o'clock and 7 p. m. All are invited to be there.

Elder Price Billinsley will preach at the North Side church Thursday night and W. D. Black will preach Friday night, and will remain over Sunday with us  
W. G. Cypert

### Methodist Church Notice

Sunday School at 10. 185 Present last Sunday, let's reach the goal next Sunday—200. Preaching at 11. Subject, The Churches Greatest Need This year. Song service at 7, and preaching at 7:30. We are working on our stove this week and will try and have our church comfortable on Sunday. Come and worship with us.  
W. M. Murrell, pastor

### Presbyterian Auxiliary

The ladies of the Presbyterian church had their regular meeting Monday afternoon with Mrs. William Elliott with a good attendance considering the bad weather.

The ladies are planning to have a spring bazar in May. The studies they are taking are quite interesting and we would be glad for every lady in the church to take them.

The next meeting will be in two weeks, with Mrs. Houghton. After all business was dispensed with, a social hour was enjoyed and refreshments were served.

### The Kings Daughters Meet

The home of Mrs. Geo. Brown was thrown open Tuesday afternoon to welcome the Kings Daughters. The hostess was ably assisted by Mrs. N. D. Cobb and Mrs. Brooks Patterson. The business was carried out in the usual manner, after which a social hour was enjoyed by all. Delicious refreshments were served. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Geo. Houghton.

Mr. Joe Dillard and Jack Walker two progressive farmers of Lamar County were in Merkel community last week looking after their land interest in this country.

## MERRITT TO STAY WITH MERKEL MAIL

We are pleased to announce to the many friends of Mr. Merritt, that he has been employed to remain with the paper, and which will insure them the best to be found in up to date printing of every kind. He will be glad to have you call on him at any time.

### NEW YEAR'S DINNER

One of the largest and most delightful social functions, of the holidays, was the New Year's dinner given by the Seniors in their class room at the High School building Thursday.

This dinner was looked forward to with joyous anticipation and pleasure by the Juniors, but there must have been a shadow over their gloomy faces when the Senior President came to the door and invited only the High School Teachers.

The table loaded with all kinds of good things to eat, was tastily decorated.

Mr. Burgess and Mr. Cary proved to be the champions in after dinner-story tellers.

As a fitting close for such an enjoyable noon hour, the Seniors were given a part holiday which they used to enjoy riding, kodaking, and general merriment, all thought that this was one proper way to start a New Year. —Senior Press Reporter

## ANOTHER IOWA MAN LOOKS OVER FIELD

W. W. Kuehl, another wealthy and influential citizen of the state of Iowa was here last week looking over the oil situation in the Merkel field. He talked very optimistic over his findings here and dropped in and had the Mail sent to his address for a year, saying that he would like to keep in close watch with the developments which he felt sure were soon to come.

John White, formerly of this city but now making his headquarters in Oklahoma, was here last Saturday enroute to the state of Arizona.

## MAY BUILD BIG OIL MILL HERE

Local Capitalist Mentions the Idea others Become Interested in the Movement

Merkel may secure big Oil Mill, Laundry etc. Why not? The country surrounding Merkel for many miles each direction is absolutely the finest cotton growing lands in the world, and the population of the city is certainly sufficiently large to make the Laundry a paying proposition. Then why not our citizens and farmers get together and build these needed enterprises. This was the suggestion of Mr. J. C. Mason, one of our foremost and best citizens, one day this week. And while he only mentioned it to but a few citizens, among them bankers, farmers and professional men, and to say the least of it, not one to whom he mentioned the matter but who was highly in favor of such a move, and stated that they would take stock in same.

Mr. Mason while not now actively engaged in any kind of business other than to look after his large property interests, but he bears the distinction of promoting and establishing the first oil mill ever built, in an inland town, in the United States, and which was at Deport, Texas. And the mill is still in operation, and has always been a success. Mr. Mason has great confidence in the fact that a mill of the proper capacity here would be a paying business from the beginning and is not only willing to put money into the project, but give his time to helping put it transaction over.

Why not a Mass Meeting of the business men, farmers and other citizens for the purpose of taking such steps as is necessary to properly put the matter on foot? There is plenty of money in the country and considering the many thousands of tons of seed which comes with the cotton crops of the Merkel community, there is no reason why such an enterprise could not be made to go here.

## ADDITIONAL LIGHTS FOR MERKEL STS.

At a recent meeting of the City Council we are informed an order was passed authorizing the Merkel Power & Light Company to place fifteen new and additional street lights out through the residence section of the City.

Our progressive and enterprising city officials are to be commended upon this needed civic improvement, and which we are sure will be enjoyed and appreciated by our citizens at large.

### MARRIED AT BROWNWOOD

Melvin F. Carey, of this community very quietly stole away from his friends here, during the holidays, and was married on Christmas day to Miss Millie Teague, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Teague of that city. The reverend Joe Talley, pastor of the Baptist church in his usual appropriate and pleasing manner spoke the solemn words which bound the happy young couple in the bonds of holy wedlock.

We join a host of friends in extending congratulations and best wishes to the happy young couple.

Rem... and sa...  
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STATEMENT  
**Farmers State Bank**  
 MERKEL, TEXAS

Close of Business Dec. 31, 1919

RESOURCES

|                                       |                               |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Commercial Paper.....                 | \$246,800.00                  |
| Other Loans.....                      | 200,946.07—\$447,746.07       |
| U. S. Certificates of Deposit.....    | 25,000.00                     |
| Banking House.....                    | 7,850.00                      |
| Other Real Estate.....                | 706.16                        |
| Furniture and Fixtures.....           | 4,500.00                      |
| Stocks, Stamps and Liberty Bonds..... | 7,163.67                      |
| Interest in Guaranty Fund.....        | 3,445.73                      |
| <b>CASH AND EXCHANGE.....</b>         | <b>\$460,200.20</b>           |
| Bills of Ex.—Cotton.....              | 282,075.45— <b>742,275.65</b> |
|                                       | \$1,238,687.28                |

LIABILITIES

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Capital Stock.....         | \$ 35,000.00        |
| Surplus funds, earned..... | 35,000.00           |
| Dividends unpaid.....      | 10,500.00           |
| Reserved for taxes.....    | 1,438.67            |
| <b>DEPOSITS.....</b>       | <b>1,156,748.61</b> |
|                            | \$1,238,687.28      |

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

We solicit your Account on  
 the merits of this statement

The Guaranty Fund Bank

"Ask our Customers"

**INCOME TAX BE MADE RETURNS MUST BE MADE WITH COMPLETE ACCURACY**

Washington, D. C. Jan. 2—In filing their income tax returns for 1919, taxpayers will be given the aid and advice of thousands of employes of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, trained in the intricacies of the internal Revenue laws and regulations by correspondence school methods. There has been established in the Bureau a correspondence-study department," through which is being issued to 3,000 field deputies and as many office deputies and clerks courses of instruction in the income and miscellaneous tax sections of the law. Each written lecture contains a careful discussion of the topic involved, such as personal exemption, depreciation bad debts, losses, gross and net income, etc. Attached is a quiz to be answered by the pupils and returned to the correspondence-study department at Washington, where it is carefully graded. Corrections of errors are sent with the next lecture on the same subject.

The course is not confined to questions of law, "Ethics" is the subject of one of the lectures. The Bureau's representatives are advised to be careful of their personal appearance, to be at all times and under all circumstances, courteous, and not to forget to inform the taxpayers of all his rights.

"Whether your interviewer be rich or poor, you should be thoughtful to give the same care and attention to both the instructions say. "The man who pays a small tax is entitled to as much respect as the man who pays a large tax."

Revenue officers will be sent into every county in the United States to assist taxpayers in making out their returns. The date of their arrival and the location of their offices will be announced through the press, or may be learned on inquiry at offices of collectors of internal revenue, post offices and banks. The period for filing is from January 1, to March 15, 1920.

The exemptions are the same as for the year 1918, \$1,000 for single persons and \$2,000 for married persons and heads of families, plus \$200 additional for each person dependent upon the taxpayers, if under eighteen years of age or incapable of self support. Every person whose net income for 1919 equalled or exceeded these amounts according to their status, must file a return.

The normal rate of tax for the year 1919 and subsequent years, as provided by the Revenue Act of 1918, is 4 per cent on the first 1,000 of net income in excess of the exemption, and 8 per cent on the remaining net income. The rates for 1918 were 6 and 12 per cent respectively.

Born to Mr and Mrs J. S. Hughes a fine baby girl the past week. The mother and baby are doing nicely. The father is the proudest man in all that community.

The Arcade gives service.

**You Do More Work.**

You are more ambitious and you get more enjoyment out of everything when your blood is in good condition. Impurities in the blood have a very depressing effect on the system, causing weakness, laziness, nervousness and sickness.

**GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC** restores Energy and Vitality by Purifying and Enriching the Blood. When you feel its strengthening, invigorating effect, see how it brings color to the cheeks and how it improves the appetite, you will then appreciate its true tonic value.

**GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC** is not a patent medicine, it is simply IRON and QUININE suspended in Syrup. So pleasant even children like it. The blood needs Quinine to Purify it and IRON to Enrich it. These reliable tonic properties never fail to drive out impurities in the blood.

The Strength-Creating Power of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC has made it the favorite tonic in thousands of homes. More than thirty-five years ago, folks would ride a long distance to get GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC when a member of their family had Malaria or needed a body-building, strength-giving tonic. The formula is just the same today, and you can get it from any drug store. 60c per bottle.

CONDENSED STATEMENT  
**Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK**  
 MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business December 31, 1919

RESOURCES

|                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Loans, Time and Demand.....        | \$468,269.05      |
| Cotton Loans.....                  | 90,541.51         |
| Stock in Federal Reserve.....      | 1,500.00          |
| Other Real Estate.....             | 10,000.00         |
| Furniture and Fixtures.....        | 4,500.00          |
| United States Securities.....      | 25,441.49         |
| Five Per Cent Redemption Fund..... | 312.50            |
| <b>CASH AND IN BANKS.....</b>      | <b>433,363.69</b> |
| Total.....                         | \$1,024,928.24    |

LIABILITIES

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Capital Stock.....       | \$ 25,000.00      |
| Surplus and Profits..... | 48,396.59         |
| Circulation.....         | 6,250.00          |
| <b>DEPOSITS.....</b>     | <b>945,281.65</b> |
| Total.....               | \$1,024,928.24    |

I certify the above statement is correct.

L. R. Thompson, Active Vice President

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, President G. F. West, Vice President  
 L. R. Thompson, Vice President  
 J. T. Warren C. P. Warren Henry James  
 G. F. West L. R. Thompson

**LOCAL NEWS**

Yates Brown is spending his vacation at San Antonio.

Dr Johnson, Dentist has offices with Dr M Armstrong.

Miss Irene Swann was a welcome visitor home during the holidays.

Cotton seed meal at G M Sharps

Misses Geneva Brown and Ruby Teaff returned to Belton where they are in school.

Eat at the Arcade.

S G Houston visited his daughter and family here this week.

You are invited to become sharers in the fine service offered by the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

Austin Fitts, Taylor County's clever and splendid Treasurer, was over Monday to attend the funeral of his friend Postmaster, H C Williams, and was incidentally mixing with his many friends

The Farmers & Merchant National Bank have applied for permission to increase their capital from \$25000. to \$50000.

Mrs Bob Reed of Abilene was a visitor in the home of Mr and Mrs Angus the past week.

Cow Feed at G M. Sharps.

Mr Cauthen is expected here this week where he will join his wife, who has been spending xmas with her parents. They will remain several week longer

**No Great Act of Heroism Required.**

If some great act of heroism was necessary to protect a child from croup, no mother would hesitate to protect her offspring, but when it is only necessary to keep at hand a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and give it as soon as the first indication of croup appears, there are many who neglect to obtain Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the time of all

**Sincere and Hearty Thanks**

We ask You to Accept, for patronage and confidence given us during  
**Good Old Nineteen and Nineteen**

**FOR NINETEEN AND TWENTY**

we pledge you our best service in every transaction

**Quality, Style and Price**

will be brought together with our cash and offered to you at one price and will be our true aim to make you like us better and better as the year glides by

We are making some Cut Prices on Ladies Coats and Suits and Mens Suits

Happiness and Prosperity  
 we wish you throughout  
 1920

**The Brown Dry Goods Co.**

Banker Anderson was a those of the city having business in Abilene first of the week.

The Arcade gives service.

With the extraordinary season in the ground th prosp for another bumper crop in 1 is indeed flattering.

Come in and talk it over v the Officers of the Farmers Merchants National Bank. T will be glad to get better acqu ted with you.

Where's the "guy" who sa would take the West ten year come back after the drouth. one year it came back stron than ever Yes, its a greater wealthier West today than e

**Colds Cause Grip and Influenza**  
 LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets remove cause. There is only one "Bromo Quin E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 30c.

Arthur Browning spent the holidays with his pare Mr and Mrs. W P Browning

The Farmers & Merchan tional Bank have applied for mission to increase their cap from \$25000. to \$50000.

Mr and Mrs L Angus of F Worth returned home Mon after spending xmas with and Mrs Mac Angus of this ci

Put your funds in a Natio Bank.

Mrs Austin Boyd of Abil was the guest of Mrs Mac Ang the past week.

**The Best Cough Medicine**  
 When a druggist finds th his customers all speak well certain preparation, he form good opinion of it and when need of such a medicine is alm certain to use it himself and his family This is why so m druggists use and recomm Chamberlain's Cough Rem J. B. Jones, a well known d gist of Cubrun, Ky., says, have used Chamberlain's Co Remedy in my family the seven years, and have found be the best cough medic have ever known."

**BUILDING BOTH  
CITY AND COUNTRY**

(By R. Kenneth Evans)  
Team work that's it. There must be team work in community, accompanied by cooperation in order that that community may realize the most cooperation of its industries the development of its resources. When all pull together accomplishment is certain in any line of endeavor.

Here you have the history of a thing that has put Merkel on the map as the "Biggest city" in the biggest state in the union.

Merkel has transformed wonderfully within the last several months; the only way one can realize this is to stay in Merkel a few days; one cannot get a realization of the change unless one has been there before and

what will Merkel be a few years hence—yea—a few months? It is reasonable to suppose that it will be intensely improved; with a much larger population. It is a great pleasure to have a pioneer and to have had a part in the building of a new town and country; but it is a greater privilege to see the fruits of the past materialize in the hands of the pioneers of Merkel about right on the verge of their realizations.

Building for better Merkel and surrounding country stands out as one of the significant things in the dawning of the new era.

and Merkel has caught the spirit of the time; fully awake to the possibilities of the right exploitation of her resources. Despite the possibilities of the golden fluid under these prairies, Merkel is waiting she is enjoying the fruits of the farming section of the surrounding country.

With a five million dollar crop-top to be, and being marketed in her streets today; besides a abundant crop of feed stuffs are going to an abnormal price in the real estate lines.

Persons close to the city limit are using big money for their farms; real estate in the city is being sold every day and has been for some months; when home is full, it is a serious endeavor to get a house in the city.

A little real building is being done in the little city because of the scarcity of time for body is busy with the crop. But as soon as the crop is marketed, say the first of February build going to take the nature boom still it will not be a but just the filling of a sary and natural demand. It is stated that more than per cent of the people in own their own homes, is an exceedingly high rate in this southwestern country.



**MR. RENTER:--**

How much more is the house you live in today worth, than it was 1, 2 or 3 years ago? Quite a Sum isn't it? This is just what you have lost by not building then. But—

**HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF**

The same good opportunity is knocking at your door to-day.

**BUILD A HOME**

and pay the Loan Company in place of the Landlord and YOU keep the profits of increased values.

COME IN AND TALK IT OVER WITH US

**Burton-Lingo Co.**  
L. D. LEVY, Mgr. Merkel, Texas

But one should realize that Merkel does not have the marks of a southwestern town. The inhabitants are settled people; it is a settled town. So much different from the continual moving population of the great majority of western towns and cities.

A good four room house in Merkel now rents for \$12.50 to \$15.00.

The building of the farming

section is above the average of other sections. In fact for the past several months most of the lumber that goes out of the yards, and there are two well stocked yards in Merkel, are hauling to the farms for farm improvements.

More houses must be built in Merkel and will be built.

And one must not think that this is a Big Boom for Merkel it is just the natural result of the general prosperity of the community helped along by the big crops and good prices for the farming products.

The farmers of this community are a home-loving, thrifty people; and now that they have paid off back indebtedness and have money in the banks to their credit they are going to think of more and better home comforts; better sheding facilities and more of them.

The lumber yards and hardware stores are making ample preparations to take care of the looked for and destined increase which they expect to start soon after the first of the new year.

It makes an industrial writer get all enthused when he visits and "covers" a town with the pep and ginger of Merkel; something really big is happening; things are humming; prosperity is on every hand; stores are full farmers are jollying back and forth and talking of their profits you can talk about the oil fields but there is more real pleasure; real honest to goodness, hearty welcome in a town like Merkel; more genuine scattered prosperity than in the oil fields where the gushers are pouring forth their liquid gold.

M. D. Burrus who for many years has been a splendid citizen of this section, was in the city first of the week and informed us that he was preparing to move to Munday Knox county, to reside, having rented out his farm near Merkel. He will keep posted on the happenings here by reading the Mail. We wish him success.

Eat at the Arcade.

**How's This?**

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Medicine. Hall's Catarrh Medicine has been taken by catarrh sufferers for the past thirty-five years, and has become known as the most reliable remedy for Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Medicine acts thru the Blood on the Mucous surfaces, expelling the Poison from the Blood and healing the diseased portions.

After you have taken Hall's Catarrh Medicine for a short time you will see a great improvement in your general health. Start taking Hall's Catarrh Medicine at once and get rid of catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all Druggists. 7c.

**DOUBTS DISAPPEARS**

No One in Merkel Who has a Bad Back Should Ignore This Double Proof

Does your back ever ache? Have you suspected your kidneys?

Backache is sometimes kidney ache.

With it may come dizzy spells. Sleepless nights, tired, dull days, Distressing urinary disorders. Doan's Kidney Pills have been endorsed by thousands.

Are recommended here home.

You have read Merkel proof. Read now the Merkel sequel.

Renewed testimony; tested by time.

H. W. Derstine, retired Postmaster, Kent St., gave the following statement May 27, 1905: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills and always recommend them as I know they are splendid. Doan's relieved me of backaches which had troubled me off and on for several years."

Nearly Fourteen Years Later on May 5, 1919, Mr. Derstine added: "I recommend Doan's Kidney Pills as highly as ever for they are a fine remedy. Doan's always help me if my kidneys get a little out of order."

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

W. H. Stevenson, who some months ago purchased considerable valuable property in and around Merkel, has our thanks for his subscription to the Mail.

You are invited to become sharers in the fine service offered by the Farmers and Merchants National Bank.

B. P. Middleton, temporary Rural Route Carrier, has our thanks for his subscription to the Mail.

Fresh car Peace Maker flour G. M. Sharps.

**Life Was a Misery**

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

**TAKE CARDUI**  
The Woman's Tonic

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

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

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

All Druggists

**A TEXAS WONDER**

For kidney and bladder troubles, gravel, diabetes, weak and lame back, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder. Regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, by mail \$1.25. Small bottle is two month's treatment, and often perfects a cure. Send for testimonials from this and other states. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis Mo., Sold by druggists.

J. R. Baze and family of Denton for the past three years, have recently moved back to Merkel from which place they moved to Denton. They have property here and will be welcomed by their many friends.

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. GLOVE'S signature.

**Are Your Eyes Over-Worked?**

Have you never paused to consider? Have you not at times had cause to doubt the perfect safety of your eyes? Do they ever feel sore after a spell of close work, aching or smarting, or maby feeling as if some sand was behind the lids? Do you not in reading find that the print suddenly "goes misty" and confused but becomes clear again after closing the eyes for a moment? Is it necessary for you to hold the book or newspaper further from the eyes than formally, or do you need a stronger light? Do you find that reading or sewing for an extra hour or so per day causes headache? Does shiny paper or keen light hurt your eyes?

**ANSWER CANDIDLY**

for your future good vision is a stake. If you have noticed one or more of these peculiarities in connection with your own eyes, you should have them properly tested. The sooner you do this the better your chance of good vision in future years, and you cannot afford to let this slip, no man or woman of today can afford to rest content with anything short of the best possible vision. Conditions of labor are so exacting and the demand for efficiency so insistent, that a handicap like bad vision bids fair to overwhelm those whom it affects.

**These Defects Can be Corrected**

Thousands of people are today being kept out of their rightful sphere by bad vision. Their natural ability is spoiled by bad vision and often they do not realize it. Defective sight is insidious because it never leaves you it is always limiting your understanding, and injures your work unless it is corrected.

**BY MEANS OF SUITABLE GLASSES**

Short sight, long sight, and old sight affect the eyes of an enormous number of people confusing their vision and muddling their work. Astigmatism is another common trouble which is probably the cause of more than half the headaches with which civilized man kind is affected.

**DON'T REMAIN IN DOUBT**

As to the needs of your eyes waste no time in wondering, but come straight to Dr. McGuire who will be at Dr. Smith's office two days, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY Jan. 14 & 15 and let our experience guide you.

If glasses are unnecessary we will tell you so, and you will be under no obligation, but if they should prove to be needed this course will save your good vision from harm: Prices Moderate.

**Merkel---2 Days Only This Trip**

Wednesday, January 14 Thursday, January 15

At Dr. Smith's Office

REGISTERED MARK



It is a powerful and scientific combination of sulphur and other acting agents for the relief and cure of diseases of the skin. It is especially effective in the following VARIETIES; giving instant relief from the itching smarting sensations and by germ-destroying properties it eliminates the microbe which he cause of the eruption, thus curing the disease completely. It is used in all cases of Eczema, Tetter, Barber's Itch, Psoriasis, Herpes, Rash, Oak and Poisoning, also for relieving annoyance caused by chig and mosquito bites. It is the treatment of ECZEMA most painful and obstinate skin diseases—it is one of most successful remedies.

Small bottle, Large size \$1.00  
ALLAM, Prop. St. Louis, MO.

# The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by  
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.  
THOMAS DURHAM, 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.

Although it is dead of winter there are perhaps thousands of holes of cotton yet in the fields this section. It will be spring before the gathering is finished.

Many farms in this community paid their owners the purchase price of the land this year in rent alone. Then tell us that the price of this land will not advance.

With the great season now in the ground it is doubtful if the crop prospects in this section of the country were ever so good, at this time of year. Old timers state that when there is a good bottom season such as we now have, there is almost sure to be fine crops.

In days gone by a fellow tried to see how much work he could do in a day, with the hope that by such efficient service he might secure a nice raise in his salary. But now its demand all your conscience will allow and do as little work as possible.

"Present crop prospects could not well be improved upon and at least a goodly per cent of the thousands of holes being put down over the territory are going to find either oil or gas, or both," says the Southwest Plain sman. "New settlers are coming here in large numbers and West Texas is really coming into its own. What more can we wish for?"

Among the many who have renewed and subscribed for the Mail since our taking charge of same, are many old time citizens among them Mr. S. A. Derstine, who states that he has been reading the Mail ever since its first issue. Mr. Derstine is one of our most substantial and best fixed citizens, who recently moved with his family to town where his children could have the opportunities of attending our splendid school.

Hundreds of new families have moved into the Merkel country this fall and winter. Hundreds more will follow ere another year shall have passed.

In no other way perhaps is the prosperity of the Merkel country so plainly visible than to take glance at the Statements of the two banks of the city, which will be found in their advertisements in this issue. We challenge any town in the state the size of Merkel to even come up with the condition of these two splendid institutions.

Good times prevail in this city and property values are up as compared to a year ago. In fact we understand farm land is possibly higher than at any previous date. And yet, there are some people who will tell you that this land is too high and that it will sell for less in the future. It may sell for less in the future. But let us warn you now, never that it will sell in the future to come for more money is bringing today. Take notice and buy land in Merkel and city property in the future. They will prove a

Those Who Have Used Them Will  
Tell You Why

## Garden Court

Toilet Preparations

are fast becoming the favorites all  
over the country.

Discriminating women choose  
these preparations because they  
have learned by experience that  
they represent the best money can  
buy. We want an opportunity to  
show you this line. May we suggest  
an early visit.

**SANDERS DRUG STORE**

We call attention of our subscribers to the fine statements made by our two banks which is complimentary not only to the banks but to the thrift and prosperity of this community. In an interview with L R Thompson, Vice-President of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank, he informs us that he has offered every stockholder of the bank, living out of Merkel, the same price for the stock paid Mr Johnson and others with an additional ten per cent, and without exception they have refused to sell.

Mr. Thompson regards this as a fine tribute to Mr. Johnson for keeping the securities of the bank in such fine condition as to make the stock especially attractive to any investor whether he be an active officer or not.

The bank will increase the capital from \$25,000. to \$50,000. this month and while Mr Thompson said it was the intention of the present holders to retain all of their stock, both the old and new issue, he stated that should he or any other stock holder consent to part with any stock, it would be placed locally among the loyal friends of the institution.

When asked what he thought of Merkel, he said the best answer I can give to that question is that, I have bought property here and will make this my permanent home and I am meeting people every day whose acquaintance makes me glad to have located among them.

Henry Ford presented \$8,000.000 in cash bonuses and an opportunity to invest in the company's business as a New Year's gift to his thousands of employees in the United States. He also continued his \$6 a day minimum wage and a profit system established in 1914. This is the announcement that Ford made. "The distribution of profits is made because of the demands of simple economic justice that a larger portion of the earnings should go to the employees and to enlarging the industry. The idea underlying the Ford plan is that "justice is greater than charity" His critics may damn Henry Ford for his lack of education, his lack of general information, his lack of appreciation of the fine arts, his dense ignorance of history, but they will be unable to get away from his slogan, "JUSTICE IS... GREATER THAN CHARITY."—Ft Worth Record.

Tanlac for sale at Lowry & Gambel's.  
**CUPID WAS BUSY**

**ABELINE, Jan. 4.**—Cupid did a rushing business in Taylor county during the year 1919, as the records in the office of the county clerk, (Miss Fannie Tippett, show. During the past year 407 marriage licenses were issued, as compared with 206 for 1918. One explanation is the return of the boys from France, while influx of many new citizens is another.

# C. & C. MARKET

**NEW MEAT SERVICE**

To the good people of Merkel we wish to Announce that we are now prepared to deliver your meet to your homes. The price is the same as before and the meat is the best that money can buy. We will appreciate your business and are prepared to take care of your orders on 30 days time.

**Crouch & Sons**

Phone : 25

## TO THE PEOPLE OF THE MERKEL COUNTRY

It seems that the time is drawing near when I must say good-bye. Twenty years ago I came to Merkel. Many changes have been wrought in that time. In the cycles of time, 20 years is but a little while; in the history of a nation it is but a day, but in the life of an individual it is a long, long time. It measures the period from infancy to maturity, from maturity to middle life and from middle life with all of its activity to the tottering scenes of old age. The years spent in your midst have been years of activity and I have come in close contact in a business way with almost every man, woman and child that has been in this splendid community. I have been with you in the hay-day of your prosperity and happiness and I have been with you in the days of despondency and adversity. I do not know what part I have played in the important progress that this town and community has made since I have been here. I am satisfied to know that it has progressed and that it will continue to make progress when I leave it.

It is needless for me to say that I leave Merkel with many regrets. I feel that I have many friends in this community and I know that I shall never forget them. In the years to come, wherever I may be, I shall always look back upon the years spent in Merkel as very happy and profitable ones. I am not vain enough to think that I shall not miss you in my new field of labor. I shall not only miss you many times but I shall need you many times. I know this people as I know no other people in the world and they know me as no other people knows me. This knowledge of each other has enabled us to solve some of the great problems of life that could not have been solved otherwise.

A few years after coming to Merkel I assisted in the organization of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank and for 15 years to a day I was its cashier. I do not claim credit for all of the success of that splendid institution for my associates and my customers have been of the most loyal kind. Since Dec. 1st when my official connection with that institution ceased, I have been unable to see many of my old friends and customers, but I desire at this time to thank every one of them for the business given to me during all the years and for all the kindnesses shown me in every way. I also have many good friends who never transacted their financial affairs with me but who were appreciated friends nevertheless. Last fall I sold my interest in the F & M National Bank to Mr. L R Thompson, whom most of you have met and know. I have found Mr. Thompson to be a very fine gentleman in every way and I commend him unreservedly as my successor and as a safe and accommodating banker. I have recently been elected a director and Cashier of the Coleman National Bank of Coleman, Texas, and expect to assume my duties there on January 12. My splendid home in Merkel is for sale; also two of my farms. After next Monday all parties may address me at Coleman, Texas, care of Coleman National Bank. For the present my family will remain in Merkel. I hope to see you all often in the future. Good-bye.

THOS. JOHNSON.

### BLAIR SCHOOL BEGINS

Miss Mary Campbell, one of the splendid teachers in the Blair school, came in last Saturday to spend the day with the home folks. She reported the school there started out nicely with a full attendance.

Buy your Tanlac at Lowry & Gambel, Drug Store.

### NOTICE

Progressive farmers have their cotton seed culled for planting purposes. We are now running our caller so bring in your seed and have them culled.

Mason & Ragan 2t

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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

WANTED—A man to cut cord wood at \$2.00 per cord Sam Butman, Sr., 5tf

FOR SALE—75 head of good cows, suitable for the farm. Prices right, See Will Butnam. 1t

FOR SALE—Good milk cow well freshen not later than Jan. 15 price \$100.00 would like to sell soon. See Julia Popham R. R. No. 2, Box 4, Trent, Texas.

See our Pathe Phonograph Indestructible Records. Lowry & Gambel's

FOR SALE—Three seeder attachment for Disk Harrow Earl Lassiter 2t pd.

FOR SALE—A Shetland Pony See Earl Lassiter. 2t pd.

SYRUP—The best East Texas Ribbon Cane syrup that money will buy at W T Daniels Confectionary. 9t3p

75 RED COWS FOR SALE—Many good milkers, will sell any amount wanted by farmers. This is your chance to stock up and eat out your fields. See Will Butman.

FOR SALE—One pair of seven year old mules, and one pair of mares. Sam Butman.

Rural orders appreciated and promptly filled by Lowry & Gambel.

Well, "hello" to everybody, I just wanted to let you know that the Quick Service Mattress Factory is now ready to make your old beds over. We will be here for just a few days. Call 189 and let us tell you about the Quick Service Mattress Factory in Merkel Texas. . . . .

Mrs. R. E. Smith of Arlington, Texas, was here last week for a visit to friends and relatives. Before leaving she came in and had the Mail sent to her address in order that she might keep better posted on the happenings in this thriving city.

FOR SALE—Oliver typewri in good shape for \$25 dollars. Apply at The Merkel Mail Office

### FORDS FOR SALE

I have plenty of them Br New 1920 Model, with and without starters. I receive from 5 car loads a week and can deliver you one any time you come. See Pickens Burton 1415 P erson Ave. Dallas Texas 12t

FOR SERVICE—Full blood Jersey bull, \$2.00. Tell your neighbors. J H Craig. 1t

WANTED—To rent on half 100 acres of land. Prefer most in cotton. Apply at Mer Mail. 2t

COAL AND WOOD—Have limited quantity wood, dry or green. Expecting supply of coal. T J Swafford. Phone 219 9t

FOR SALE—Wagon and team T J R Swafford. Phone 291.

WANTED—Man with some family to work on farm a ranch by the month. Sam Butman

C. & C. Market, Phone No. 1 for your meat. It will be delivered to your home. See my adv in the paper.

NOTICE—Parties owning shares in Ford place are requested make payment at once. Wal Jackson. 9

Buy your Tanlac at Lowry & Gambel, Drug Store.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements are made subject to the action of the Democratic Primary July, 1920.

District Offices . . . . . \$1.  
County Offices . . . . . \$12.  
Precinct Offices . . . . . \$8.

For County Judge:  
W B. Oliver.  
For County Clerk:  
(Miss) Fannie T  
For Tax Collector:  
D. T. Harkrider

## Best Investment in The World

- There is but one crop of land. That is being rapidly harvested. Land offers the best investment today. Tomorrow it will be worth many times as much money.
- Land don't burn up, it rarely ever depreciates in value, but every year it usually increases in value.
- You have money to invest. You want it invested in a safe proposition. Buy land.
- We have 100 acres at \$35 an acre, not rented, near school and church, good community, at good terms.
- See that 180 acres, with all lease and royalty, even acre good tillable land. This is an exceptional bargain.
- 80-acre tract near Merkel. Not rented. Can give possession. Small payment and easy terms.
- We have several other attractive buys. If you can't template buying, see us. We can save you money.

## Merkel Realty Co.

W. O. BONEY WALTER JACKS

### DOCTOR PUE

## Massage Treatment

Scientific Dieting  
Over City Barber Shop

MERKEL :: TEXAS

We will be Permanently Located Here After  
January 15th

## WILLIS & COCKRELI

Practical Painters and Paper Hangers  
High-Class Signs

**A. J. Douglass Passed Away**

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. A. J. Douglass, one of the splendid citizens residing near Merkel, and which occurred at the family residence at 5:30 Sunday morning, January 4.

Deceased was born June 14, 1843 in the state of Tennessee, and had lived to the ripe old age of 76 years, five months and two days. He leaves to mourn his going away, three boys, Walter, James and Thomas.

Deceased had been an active church member for more than fifty years, was a kind father and made friends of all with whom he became acquainted.

We join a host of friends in extending deepest sympathy to the bereaved sons and other relatives?

**MEAT MARKET NOTICE**

We take great pleasure in announcing to our friends and the public in general, that we have purchased the W. H. Laney Meat Market and will appreciate a share of your business. We expect to furnish you the BEST there is to be had in everything carried in a First Class Meat Market. We will also buy your fat hogs and cattle, and pay you all the market will afford.

PATTERSON BROS.

**District Court In Session**

The Honorable District Court of Taylor County convened for the January term at Abilene on Monday of this week. We notice several citizens on the list of grand jurors from Merkel and the surrounding country as follows: E. Comegy, J. T. Browning, H. Cordell, M. Meeks, H. A. Leppard and R. M. Beasley.

Rev. C. C. Dooley has been recalled this week.

**Stockholders Notice**

Notice is hereby given that the regular stockholders meeting of the stockholders of the Farm State Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held in the directors room said bank on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock January 13, at Tompa cawit huun Mueb&

C. & C. Market, Phone No. 25, for your meat. It will be delivered to your home. See my advertisement in this paper.

# COZY THEATRE

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**Friday January 9**

**A FOX FEATURE**

WITH  
**Madlaine Travers**

IN  
**The Rose of the West**

AND A  
**2 REEL SUNSHINE COMEDY**

**Saturday, January 10**

**WM. S. HART**

IN  
**"The Money Coral"**

AND  
**The Sennett Fun Makers**

IN A  
**2-Reel Paramount Comedy**

---

**Monday, January 12**

**Smashing Barriers No. 6**

ALSO  
**"Trials of Texas Thompson"**

A 2-Reel O. Henry Story of West  
and  
**Mutt & Jeff, Fox News**

**Big "V" Comedy**

**Tuesday, January 13**

**LILA LEE**

IN THE  
**"Cruise of the Make Believes"**

ALSO  
**2-Reel Paramount Comedy**

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**Wednesday, January 14**

**EARL WILLIAMS**

IN  
**"The Usurper"**

ALSO  
**Big "V" Comedy**

**Thursday, January 15**

**Metro Special Feature**

AND A  
**Fox Comedy**

Buy your Tanlac at Lowry & Gambel, Drug Store.

**NOTICE**

Will ask the party who took the two discs off my Pulverizer to please return same at once. Dr M Armstrong.

**Richie-Casey Wedding**

On December 21, 1919 at the home of the brides parents, Mr. T. U. Richie and Miss Eva Mae Casey were united in marriage, Rev. W. M. Murrell officiating. These young people are of the Nubia Community, and their many friends wish for them a most happy prosperous married life.

**Teaff-Ely Wedding**

On December 21, 1919 at the home of the brides parents, Mr. Walter Teaff and Miss Laura May Ely were married. Rev. W. M. Murrell officiating. They are both of the Tye Community and will continue to make their home there. The best wishes of their many friends go with them through life.

**Wheeler-Tweedy Wedding**

On December 22 1919 at the Methodist Parsonage, Mr. Bruce Wheeler and Miss Lois Tweedy were united in the Holy Bond of matrimony by Rev. W. M. Murrell. Miss Tweedy is a Merkel girl and has many friends who wish for her many joys in her new life.

Mr. Wheeler is from Tulia and is loved and respected by all who know him.

**Nicholson-Bicknell Wedding**

On December 24, 1919, Mr. Nicholson and Miss Bicknell of the Noodle Community were married at the Methodist Parsonage. Rev. W. M. Murrell officiating.

This young couple have the best wishes of the many friends for a most happy journey through life together.

C. & C. Market, Phone No. 25, for your meat. It will be delivered to your home. See my adv in this paper.

Rural orders ap and

**NOTICE**

Burn coal oil in your coal or wood stoves. I am demonstrating the Oliver oil-gas burner at Sublett & Bradshaw's new grocery store in the Rust & McCaulley building. The burner makes the range red hot. Guaranteed. You are invited to see this demonstrated Friday and Saturday of this week. Cleveland Baker.

C. & C. Market, Phone No. 25, for your meat. It will be delivered to your home. See my adv in this paper.

Mr and Mrs J S Swann had the pleasure of having all their children at home during xmas week and celebrated the home coming with at big dinner.

Tanlac for sale at Lowry & Gambel's.

**Merkel Mail Subscription to Advance February 1.**

In his issue of December 19, Mr. Jackson announced that the Subscription price of the Merkel Mail would advance on January 1st to \$1.50 per year, but upon finding that we have sufficient print paper for about two more issues, we have decided to postpone making the subscription advance until February one, and any one desiring to renew for one or two years can do so before February 1st, at \$1.00 per year.

The cause of advance in advertising and subscription is made because it was either do this or go out of business. The price of material for printing purposes has advanced one hundred per cent during the last thirty days. We expect to make the Mail a first class news paper, one which the citizenship of Merkel will be proud to refer to as their home paper, and in order to do this must keep up with the advances which every business concern in the land is experiencing today.

Tanlac for sale at Lowry &

**Epworth League Program**

6 p. m. at The Church  
Subject: "The Quiet Hour Covenant."

Leader, Chester Hutcheson.  
Song, Prayer, Song.  
Iniquity must be removed from the Heart, Loyce Dry.  
Be Willing to Forgive if we Seek to be Forgiven, Howard Laney.

Special Music, Ruth Holloway  
Let the Spirit Make Intercession for us, Iva Landreth.

Reading, Lorena Dry.  
We must Ask for an increase of Faith, Maurine Cobb.  
Pray in Faith, Not Wavering, Elmer Nelson.

Pray in Secret, Joe Reidenbach  
Song, Business, Benediction.  
The Epworth League need every young man and young woman of the entire Merkel vicinity, and extends to all an invitation to visit and become a member.

We need you, you Need us—  
Our membership motto.

**Golden Anniversary Celebrated**

The home of Mr and Mrs J P Hutchins was a scene of unusual pleasure on Dec. 15th. The occasion being their Golden Wedding Anniversary. The children present were: Mrs Lizzie Archer and daughter, Elaine of Coleman Mrs Stellar Williams and son, Samuel, of Stamford; Mr and Mrs Geo Hutchins, and daughter and son, of Loraine; Mrs Effie Rider and daughters, Lillian and Florence, of Merkel; Rev and Mrs Murrell, Mr and Mrs Wm. O'Briant; Mrs Hull of Merkel.

A number of wedding presents suitable for the occasion were presented to this honored couple.

Mrs O'Briant gave the cake and Mr Thompson of the F & M Bank gave the couple \$2.50.

A most delicious dinner was spread and all the guests paid their tribute to it. The guests departed wishing many happy returns of the day.

Mrs. Effie Rider.

We now have a good supply of Refined Oil and Gasoline.

We have quite a few cars of coal now in transit and sincerely hope that we will soon be able to give better service.

H. M Rose & Son.

Rural orders appreciated and promptly filled by Lowry & Gambel.

# Fords-Dodges - Buicks -

Car load of Fords here inside of 5 days. They were shipped out of Detroit on Dec. 16th.

Also can make quick delivery on Dodges and Buicks, within 48 hours notice.

Have on hand 2 Buick and 2 Dodge cars at a bargain, slightly used.

For Quick Service see us

## PROPST & FERRIER

# Gem Theatre

The House of Good Pictures

**Program for Week Beginning Friday, Jan. 9**

**FRIDAY—**

Marie Walcamp in one of the Famous "Spur and Saddle" western stories. Also Hoot Gibson and Universal Western players in a thrilling western drama. Extra, a comedy and Hearst News.

**SATURDAY—**

Creighton Hale in "The Thirteenth Chair", a special mystery drama in 6 parts. Extra, a Mack Sennett Keystone Comedy.

**MONDAY—**

June Elvidge in "Me and Captain Kidd" a comedy drama of romance and adventure. Extra, a Mutual Strand Comedy.

**TUESDAY—**

Florence Vidor and Sazu Pitts in "Poor Relations" a Brentwood special feature in 6 acts, a real picture of common every day life. Extra, a Pathe Comedy.

**WEDNESDAY—**

"Bound and Gagged" Also a Western picture and Spaulth's Bodaire.

**THURSDAY—**

"A Big Little Person". A Universal Special 6 acts. Extra, a delightful Christie Comedy.

**THE COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE LAW**

As quite a number of questions are arising in regard to the Compulsory School Attendance Law, a brief summary of the law as set fourth by the Texas Legislature is given below.

The law requires that every child in this State who was eight years of age and not over fourteen years of age on September 1 1919, shall be required to attend school for 100 days. The age of the child on the first day of September is the school age of the child for the entire year.

The following children are exempt from the requirements of the law:

(a) Any child in attendance upon a private school or who is being properly instructed by a private teacher.

(A) Any child who is physical or mentally disabled, deaf dumb or blind or who holds a definite certificate from a reputable physician specifying the condition and covering the period of absence.

(c) Any child living more than two and one half miles from school by direct and traveled road.

(d) Any child more than twelve years of age who has completed the fourth grade, and whose services are needed in support of a parent. (In this case exemption certificate must be secured).

Any child residing in this country, whether this be its permanent home or not is subject to the provisions of this law.

Any parent or person standing in parental relation to the child who wilfully violates the provisions of this law is subject to a fine of five dollars for the first offense; ten dollars for the second offense, and for each subsequent offense twenty five dollars.

Many people may regard it as unjust to deprive them of their children when their services are needed in the fields. In answer to this I will say that the average farmer in this section is in better condition financially by far than he has ever been before. Practically all of them out of debt and have a substantial bank account; and even though there are a few bales of cotton yet un-picked, I feel that the average farmer has already realized enough from his crop to hire the remainder gathered. Labor is not as scarce as it has been in the past, and it can be secured if looked for diligently.

As Americans, We boast of being the leading nation of the world and our high degree of civilization, yet statistics show that the literary attainments of the average American citizen is only equal to that of a fifth grade pupil in our standard high schools. What this nation is to the world in the future depends upon the boys and girls of today and what they are to be, they are now becoming. Then, is it the sensible thing to do to allow them to be robbed of that which justly belongs to them; a thing that is owed to them free by the state, and paid for by the people?

Shall we allow our public school system to be crippled by our own neglect; hampered by our selfishness and greed and gain? Shall we usher the rising generation upon the area of life unprepared to fight the battles that are sure to come, or shall we do our present duty toward them and let not only them but the entire world receive the reward for our pains?

Children must have their rights, and the compulsory attendance law in Taylor County will be enforced.

Respectfully,  
C. E. Sims.

**No Worms in a Healthy Child**  
If children troubled with worms have an unhealthy color, which indicates poor blood, and as a result are more or less stomach disturbance, TASTELESS CHILL TONIC given regularly three weeks will enrich the blood, improve digestion, and act as a General Strengthening to the whole system. Nature will then dispel the worms, and the child will be healthy. Pleasant to take. 60c per bottle.

Mrs Geo. Houghton returned Tuesday after spending the day with their daughter in Oklahoma City.

# Coffee Coffee Coffee

If you will use the Star Store Blend just one time you will use no other. It has nothing but the best coffee. We grind or sell in the full grain

**Only 50c Per Pound**

others charge you 75c for coffee not so good

**See us for Your Groceries  
We have them for Less**

**No Wood or Coal**

but lots of warm underwear, outing and canton flannel. Better buy now, as the goods are hard to get delivered.

Men's unionall, overalls, caps, hats, sox and the best shirts and underwear. See us.

See us for your Xmas ties. We have 1000 to select from.

## THE STAR STORE

The Place for Bargains

## WRIGLEYS



After a hearty meal, you'll avoid that stuffy feeling if you chew a stick of

### WRIGLEYS

Other benefits: to teeth, breath, appetite, nerves. That's a good deal to get for 5 cents!

Sealed Tight—Kept Right



→ The Flavor Lasts ←

**Resolutions for H C Williams**

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Merkel Lodge, No. 710, A. F. and A. M.

We your committee appointed to draft resolutions in memory of brother H C Williams, beg to submit the following:

Whereas it has pleased the Grand Master of the Universe in his infinite wisdom to remove from among us our dear brother, H. C. Williams, and to transplant him as a member of that Celestial Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides: Therefore, be it resolved by Merkel Lodge, A. F. and A. M. that in the death of our brother, this Lodge has lost a worthy member one who lived and practiced the true principals of our order, and in his every day life was a living example of those great tenets, Faith, Hope, and Charity; having Faith in God, Hope in immortality and Charity toward all man-kind.

While we drop a sympathetic tear for his bereaved ones, we bow in humbel submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, and leave in his hands the soul of our deceased brother:

Be it Further Resolved, that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this lodge, a copy delivered to the family of our deceased brother, and a copy handed to the Merkel Mail for publication, and that the members wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

(Committee.)  
J J Stallings  
G W Boyce  
B C. Gaither.

**Don't You Forget It.**

Bear in mind that Chamberlain's Tablets not only move the bowels but improve the appetite and strengthen the digestion. They contain no pepsin of other digestive ferment but strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally.

Mrs J W. Moore of San Angelo, was here recently for a visit to her parents, Mr and Mrs Lee Carter. Mr. Carter is one of the pioneers of this section, having moved to this section forty years ago. He paid the sum of \$1.25 per acre for some of the land he now owns, and which is so fertile and valuable now.

**FROSTPROOF CABBAGE PLANTS FOR SALE**

Cabbage plants postpaid, at \$2.50 per 1000. Cabbage plants express collect, \$2.00 per 1000. Ask price large quantity, all varieties. Georgia-Texas Plant Company, Dallas, Texas.

**PROFESSIONAL**

**DR. GAMBILL**

—D-e-n-t-i-s-t—

Office Hours 8—12 a.m.; 1—5 p.m.  
Over Woodroof-Bragg Co.  
Office Phone 116

**DR. MILLER**

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

**DR N. J. SMITH**

Physician and Surgeon  
Hours 10 to 12 a. m. 2 to 5 p. m.  
Phone Office 93 Res. 237.

**G. W. JOHNSON**

Insurance—Notary Public  
Over Woodroof—Bragg's Store.  
Merkel —:— Texas

**W. W. WHEELER**

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and  
Tornado Insurance Agent.  
Notary Public.  
Office over City Barber Shop.  
Merkel —:— Texas

**W. P. MAHAFFEY**

Attorney at Law  
Merkel and Abilene, Texas  
Merkel Office in rear Farmer  
State Bank. 22Sept1

**CITY TAILOR SHOP**

Ladies and Gents Work.  
All Work Guaranteed  
Will call for and deliver work.  
Phone 189 Kent St

**DOCTOR R I GRIMES**

Announces his return from  
Miliary service and the open-  
ing of Offices for practice  
of medicine and surgery  
Merkel Realy Building  
—Merkel Texas  
Phones. Res. 165. Bus. 163-10.

**DR. S W. JOHNSON.**

Surgeon Dentist  
Office over Farmers State Bank  
Office Phone 306

**E. D. COATS**

Real Estate, Oil Stock, And  
Notary Public  
Represent Pochahuntas Lease and  
Royalty Co. of Dallas  
Office Front St. over Geo West  
Building

Come in and talk it over with  
the Officers of the Farmers an  
Merchants National Bank. They  
will be glad to get better acquaint-  
ed with you.

**Habitual Constipation Cured**

in 14 to 21 Days  
"LAX-FOS WITH PEPsin" is a specially  
prepared Syrup Tonic-Laxative for Habitua  
Constipation. It relieves promptly but  
should be taken regularly for 14 to 21 da-  
to induce regular action. It Stimulates ar  
Regulates. Very Pleasant to Take. 60  
per bottle.

## HUDSON - ESSEX - PACKARD

IN STOCK READY FOR DELIVERY

☛ We are agents for the above cars in Taylor County and can make immediate delivery.

WIRE, PHONE or WRITE

## S. S. S. MOTOR COMPANY

Abilene, Texas.

## McDONALD MOTOR CO.

G. H. McDonald—W. E. Lowe  
Just opposite old Express office

Agents for **DODGE AND STUDEBAKER CARS**, Case Tractors  
International Trucks. Full line Automobile Accessories

### McFARLAND GARAGE Frank C. McFarland, Mgr.

Expert Mechanics paying special attention to  
**DODGE AND STUDEBAKES**  
Portage Tubes and Casings

Honest merchandise with all the sting of H. C. L. taken out

### Men and Ladies Ready-to-Wear

If it's real honest-to-goodness goods you want, come in,  
you'll be surprised at our values.

## ECONOMY STORE

E. SIEGEL & COMPANY

## THE MERKEL BAKERY

At the New Stand

Is well prepared to give the public their wants in

### Bakery Goods

Watch our show cases for  
Xmas Candies, Nuts, Fruits, Etc., Etc.  
**Fresh Home-Made Candies**

**N. Hancock, Proprietor**

## IF IT'S FURNITURE

Our stock is an exposition of the best at reasonable prices—Furniture you will be proud of in the home.

Paints Picture Framing Wall Paper  
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinets — Macey Book Cases

**The Barrow Furniture Company**  
of Merkel, Texas

A. T. SHEPPARD, Local General Mgr.

## MERKEL MOTOR COMPN'Y

L. B. SCOTT, Manager

### Authorized Ford Agents

For Ford Cars and Ford Parts

**Better Let us Book You for that Ford Now**

Fordson Truck — Fordson Tractor  
Firestone Tires and Tubes

The Store with a Conscience

The Big General Store of Merkel

☐ The store that has been here and been ☐  
☐ the friend of all thru prosperity or ad- ☐  
☐ versity for twenty-one years. ☐

**Come in when you need anything in our line**

## THE STAR STORE

G. E. COMEGYS, Proprietor

— If you are Contemplating the Purchase of —

**Lumber, Builders' Hardware, Brick  
Sand, Gravel, Nails—anything  
in our line—may be we**

would both make money if you would talk it over with  
— U S —

### Merkel Lumber Company

Owned and operated by Wm. P. Carey Co., not Inc.  
N. D. COBB, Manager

## THE HUDSON-ESSEX MOTOR CO.

(By R. Kenneth Evans)

There are cars—and when there are cars—  
real automobiles—and the Hudson and the  
Essex answers to the last mentioned.

And the Hudson and the Essex people have  
good live representatives at Merkel in J. D.  
Beasley and Booth Warren, the owners or  
the company who started the agency some  
six weeks or so ago.

Mr. Beasley the street manager, is an old  
timer in these parts. He came here some  
ten years since and along with his partner,  
Mr. Warren who is assistant cashier of the  
Farmers and Merchants bank of Merkel, are  
always in the front ranks for the best  
things in progress and prosperity, and that is  
one particular reason, too, that they are representing the Hudson and Essex motor cars in this section.

When one chooses a motor car one should  
insist on performance and appearance; never  
in the history of the Hudson people have  
they built a car that did not further add prestige to the to the Hudson name. Hudson owners know that from the factory to the smallest dealers a farreaching, adequate organization is at their service. The organization here owned by Beasley and Warren are a sample of the reliability of the firm.

Each year has seen the empasis of some  
new quality in the Hudson super-six, and of  
an advancement in perfection over previous  
models. Have you seen the new models? Beasley and Warren will be glad to give you a demonstration; and if you ever before knew the Hudson, you will say that it's greater range of power and performance has been surpassed; that new standards of beauty have been created.

Today there is a Hudson for each six miles  
of improved roadway in the United States.  
There is not a city blocy, not a village not a  
country cross road that does not know it.

But then the Hudson is probably a bit higher priced car than some people can afford to own. The Hudson people were forced to admit this: there was an insistent demand for a four cylinder car from the Hudson factory; made by the people that make and stand back of the famous Hudson.

And within the past few months there has come the Essex automobile; a Hudson 4 and in the labguage of the street: "it's some car". A car that has made a tremendous hit a sensation in motordom.

Have you seen the Essex; not just seen it in passing, but the really fine points of this Essex—Hudson Four. It stands a careful study; an exacting demonstration will convince the most fastidious that this is "some car".

And now since the great prosperity this year has come to this section better cars are going to be used, its a safe bet that it will be only a short time before many new Hudson and Essex automobiles will be seen on the roadways of this section. They are so made that they need little repair because they have the Hudson quality in them. Constant investigation and use have proven this fact.

So when you buy that new car take a look at the Essex or the Hudson, the super six, or the speedster. Either one would be a wise investment and Beasley and Warren are ready to make the demonstrations.

## FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Established in 1904

Put it in a National Bank

(The Only Guaranty Fund Bank in Merkel)  
ALWAYS ABLE & WILLING to HELP the FARMER

### The Farmers State Bank

Capital Stock \$35,000.00

Surplus and Earnings over \$40,000.00

Managed by men you know and have confidence  
in their conservative banking methods

J. S. Swann, President R. O. Anderson, Cashier  
Jno. Sears, Vice Pres. F. Y. Gaither, Asst. Cash  
Sam Swann, Asst. Cashier

It's just what your Druggist Ordered if it is from

## LOWRY & GAMBLE

Prescription Druggists

"THE NYAL STORE"

CUT GLASS JEWELRY  
IVORY GOODS CIGARS  
EASTMAN KODAKS

We are just adding to our line Pathe Phonographs

GARDEN COURT

Face Powder as pictured  
and described in the November  
Ladies Home Journal  
and Cosmopolitan, can be  
had at the

SANDERS DRUG STORE

It is the finest face powder  
known of—Come and see it.

## COZY THEATRE and STUDIO

## DO IT ELECTRICALLY

If you are not, talk it over with us.  
Our Commercial Department is full of  
modern Labor-Saving Devices. Let  
us figure on your next job of wiring.

### Merkel Power Co.

W. A. McSpadden, Local Mgr.

Do You Know About—

## Our "Ye Planery" System ?

☐ The services of the best architects of the  
world are at your services thru connection  
with us. ☐ If you are thinking of building,  
come in and talk it over with us.

### BURTON - LINGO COMPANY

L. D. LEVY, Manager

# OAKLAND

THE SENSIBLE SIX

**\$1225.00**

DELIVERED

WARREN & BEASLEY

Miss Iola May spent Tuesday and Wednesday in Colorado.

Best eats at the Arcade.

Miss Louise Warren returned to school at Baylor University.

Miss Ona Faye Bland left the past week for Waxhacha where she is attending school.

Mr S F Haynes and daughter, Gladys spent Tuesday in Abilene.

Remember the 10th and save your discount by paying your Electric accounts.

Mr Thompson has returned to Merkel after spending the holidays with his family in Dallas.

Care for your child's eyes. Good school work demands good vision and if you have any doubt about your child's eyes call on Dr McGuire, at Dr Smith's office on Wednesday or Thursday, Jan 14 or 15. 1t2c.

Mrs. R. T. Pence left Monday for her home accompanied by her mother Mrs. H. C. Williams, who will be away a few weeks.

**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.

Mr. Otho Williams and oldest daughter returned to their home in Fort Worth Monday, but his wife and other children will remain a few weeks.

Best eats at the Arcade.

E. W. Perminter has been real sick for the past three or four weeks. His condition is very serious and his friends wish for his recovery.

Misses Lucy Tracy, Julia Martin, Annie Mae Swann, Lola Armstrong, Selena Teaff and Mr Holland Teaff have returned to Simmons College.

For Tax Assessor Of Jones Co.

While it is my desire to make the race for tax assessor of Jones county, if there is, however, any young man in the county who gave his service in the recent World war, who intends to make this race, I will gladly surrender my ambitions in this respect, if he will so notify me not later than Jan. 17 1920.

Very truly,

W. G. Thomas, Anson, Texas

# We Thank You

We are grateful to our many good customers and friends whose splendid patronage made it possible for us to close the last pages of 1919 with satisfaction.

Encouraged with the prospects ahead, we have already made plans for a bigger business and better service in 1920.

We ask for a continuance of your liberal patronage, and together with our co-workers, offer you better service and the best merchandise for your money.

Again we thank you and wish that the year 1920 will bring happiness and prosperity to all.

Sincerely yours to command

## Woodroof-Bragg Dry Goods Company

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

Clyde Bearings left this week for Waco.

Tom Brown of Sweetwater spent Sunday with his parents, Mr and Mrs E N Brown.

Remember the 10th and save your discount by paying your Electric accounts.

Mrs Jack Barnes and son, Billie of Eastland, spent several day xmas week with Mr and Mrs T G Bragg.

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

Mesdames Fred Latham and John Morgan left Tuesday night for Austin where Mrs Morgan makes her home. After a short visit there Mrs Latham will go on to Harrisburg where she will join her husband.

Dr McGuire, the graduate optician will be in Merkel again on Wednesday and Thursday, Jan. 14 and 15. Read his ad on another page in this paper. Prices moderate if you need glasses. 1t2c

H L May and family of Westbrook spent the holidays with Mrs Annie May and family of this city.

The Arcade gives service.

Mrs Nannie Causseaux and son, Paul have returned from an extended visit to relatives in San Antonio.

Mr and Mrs Sam Swan spent xmas week with Mr Swann's parents, Mr and Mrs J. N Powell at Leonard, Texas

Mrs O M Sharp who spent holidays in Merkel with her parents, Mr and Mrs A L Jones returned to her home in Fort Worth.

Mr. T A. Johnson was a business visitor to Coleman, Texas last week.

Davis Beasley returned Tuesday from a business trip to Dallas.

**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 contract guarantees position. Catalogue F

Mr and Mrs L B Scott have returned from Arlington, where they visited relatives during the holidays.

Miss Irene Swann left the past week for her school work in Rosewell N. M.

Best eats at the Arcade.

### Correspondents Wanted

We want to make the Merkel Mail a real live, newsy weekly paper, one that will interest every person in the town and surrounding country. In order to do this we must do our best to publish as near all the news of the whole community. Therefore we want a good, live capable correspondent in each school community surrounding the city. We invite each and every one to come in and get acquainted with us, and when you see us tell us the news.

I have opened up a fresh line of groceries in the new building next to Geo. Woodrum's Garage. Will appreciate your patronage. Very respectfully  
W F. Hamblet

Miss Lynn Thompson after an enjoyable vacation with her parents, Mr and Mrs L R Thompson, returned to Lincoln, Nebraska, Friday to resume her work in the University.

G M Byrom, of Trent neighborhood, was transacting business in Merkel, Tuesday.

### To the Dyspeptic

Would you not like to feel that your stomach trouble are over, that you can eat any kind of food that you crave? Consider then the fact that Chamberlain's Tablet have cured others—why not you. There are many who have been restored to health by taking these tablets and can now eat any kind of food that they crave.

### \$125 A MONTH

**MEN and WOMEN** Fill out and mail this to-day  
Drbaughon's Business College, Abilene, Texas:  
Send FREE book about your NEW, EASY, quick METHOD for training me, at my home or at college, for guaranteed position, as bookkeeper or stenographer, at \$65 to \$125 a month, and tell me why your home-training courses are better than courses at other colleges and why business men prefer to employ those you train. I prefer training at..... [state "home" or "college"]

[Your name]

[Your address]

### NOTICE TO PUBLIC

I am preparing to take care of your building needs, have plenty of first class carpenters. Come and see me and let me figure your work. Estimates free  
P. L. McClary Contractor.  
Phone 19.

Mrs Jones and children left Saturday night for their home in Tulia, after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr and Mrs J S Swann.

Mr Taylor Davis has been assisting the force at the F. & M. National Bank.

## We Have a Good SUPPLY

Of Refined Oil and Gasoline.

We also have quite a few cars of COAL now in transit, and sincerely hope that we will soon be able to give better service in this line.

**H. M. ROSE & SON**

## ANNOUNCEMENT

# New Hardware Store

We take pleasure in announcing to our friends and the public in general, that along about the 15th of this month we expect to open in this city a complete, new and up-to-date

## HARDWARE AND IMPLEMENT BUSINESS

in the Rust & McCauley building on Front St. and we take this method of soliciting a share of your business in this line. We expect to handle the best there is to be had in Hardware.

Come to see us

**The Liberty Hardware Co.**