

MERKEL MAIL

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1921

6 PAGES

BASKET BALL BOYS WORKING TO WIN

The Merkel High School basketball machine is pressing forth at rapid speed. All have returned from Christmas holidays and are right down to work, beginning their regular work Monday. The clover City boys are going through some important points on goal shooting which will no doubt strengthen their plays. Coach Stevens is working and preparing for the next scheduled game Friday with Roscoe.

It is requested that all who will and can help escort the team over report to Bill Stevens at once. The Clover City will take the journey in cars some time Friday. Then Friday afternoon they meet the Roscoe high school. Neither team has lost a game. Word has been received that Roscoe has a very fast team, and that is the kind we like to battle with. This game puts Merkel or Roscoe one or the other out of the race. So let us go and go strong. We must win but the boys must have support to encourage them. Coach Stevens says "We are still in the race." So let every Basket Ball fan who wants to see a good game and support his home team be present at Roscoe Friday afternoon, January 7th.

CHURCH

A regular service with the Sunning promptly teaching at 11 y the pastor morning hour ment of a Suce at the evening We had a very fine day last Sunday, our Centenary being with us at both hours. Especially was the Stereopticon Lecture interesting as it showed photographs taken from life in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia less than two years ago by our Centenary agents, and the deplorable condition under which some people are living in our own country.

By way of contrast he showed our mission schools in this same country and the splendid young men and women who have so gallantly responded to the awful hand that has been extended to them through our conference Board of Missions, it was enough to inspire every man and every woman who loves God and their fellow man to greater effort to help those who have waited a long time for some one to tell them the story of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. Come to church. W. M. Murrell, pastor.

EPWORTH LEAGUE PROGRAM

January 9, 1921. Subject—"The Staff that sustains the Epworth League." Leader, Vivian Hutcheson. Song. Lord's Prayer in concert. Song. Talk on Scripture by Leader. Debate—Resolved that the printed pages were more powerful in influence than the pulpit or platform. Special music by Lillian Craig. "The Staff that Sustains" by Blanche Durham. Taking of subscriptions for Epworth Era. Business. League Benediction.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Sellow, of Shreveport, La., gave the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burns, a surprise Tuesday morning for a few days visit.

J. N. Shelton left Thursday for Lexington, Oklahoma, where he was called by a message announcing the serious illness of his sister who was reported to be on her last legs.

CURFEW BELL TO RING IN MERKEL

Mayor J. J. Stallings informs the Merkel Mail that the City Council has passed a Curfew law for Merkel, which will go into effect on January 15, and which will mean that all boys and girls under the age of 16 years, unless accompanied by their parents, or a proper guardian authorized to look after them, must cease loafing and running around on the streets of this city after 8:30 in the evening. The Mayor states that the law has been passed with the intention of protecting the coming young men and women of the city, and to stop if possible, the growing wave of crime which for some time has been committed by young boys. So our advice is, stay off the streets boys and girls, unless you have the proper authority. The hour is 8:30.

MASONIC LODGE ORGANIZED AT TRENT WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday evening about twenty-five Masons from Merkel Lodge went up to Trent and assisted in the organization of a Masonic Lodge at that place.

The organization at that place was set to work with the following officers: Worshipful Master, W. J. Armour; Homer L. Easterwood, Senior Warden; R. T. Hassell, Treasurer; L. M. Martin, Secretary; Joe B. Hassell, Senior Deacon; J. M. Jones Junior Deacon; and J. L. Rosson Tyler.

We understand the new lodge is registered at Trent Lodge No. 1145.

A general good time with a regular "old time" Masonic love feast is reported by those attending from this city.

KIDD-WALKER

At high noon on Thursday December 23rd., at the Baptist parsonage, Mr. J. W. Kidd and Miss Bennie Walker, were united in Marriage by the pastor, Rev. Ira L. Parrack.

We understand both parties reside near here and are among our best and most substantial citizens.

WINTER-TABOR

We are informed that Mr. Roy Winter and Miss Bertie Tabor, both prominent young people of the Noodle community were happily united in marriage on Christmas day, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Slater, in this city, by Rev. Parrack, pastor of the Baptist church.

OFFICE MOVED

I wish to announce to my friends and patrons that I have moved my office from over the Crown Hardware Company to the Merkel Drug Company, and will be glad to have you call on me there. H. C. Floyd, Optician.

COTTON MAN HERE NEXT SATURDAY

I will be in Merkel next Saturday afternoon at about 2:30, and will explain to the farmers of this community the matter of handling, in one and two hundred bale lots, their cotton direct to the exporter, which will enable them to receive a much better price for same. J. M. FERRELL.

Mr. and Mrs. Minor Burns and little daughter Ina Mae, of Canton, Texas, spent the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burns and family.

MOORE -- DITTY

The marriage of Maizie M. Moore of Merkel Texas and Cecil A. Ditty of Pomona, California were solemnized at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Amos Ditty, parents of the bridegroom, at Cucamonga and Laurel Ave., on the 24th of December by Rev. W. C. Buckner, pastor of the first Methodist church officiated. Only a few of the closest friends and relatives were present.

Miss Moore is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Willie Moore of Merkel, Texas. For the last two or three years she has been connected with the bank at Fort Worth, Texas, coming from there to Pomona during the summer months. The wedding came as a big surprise to many of her Fort Worth, and Dallas friends and a few at Merkel.

Cecil Ditty has lived in Pomona for a number of years, having attended public schools and high school there and graduated at the University of California in 1917. During the war he was a lieutenant in the aviation corps and was stationed in New York and Philadelphia. After his release from the service he spent several months in Texas and there he became acquainted with Miss Moore. He is now connected with the 1st National Bank in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Ditty will make their home in Pomona following their return from a wedding trip to Northern California.

The best of luck and wishes for a happy future follows Mr. and Mrs. Ditty from their many friends in Southern California, where Mrs. Ditty has become very popular.

HAYNES -- FERGUSON

On Monday, December 27, Mr. R. L. Ferguson of Temple and Miss Gladys Haynes of Merkel were married at Grace Presbyterian Church.

The ceremony was at high noon and witnessed only by the relatives and a few close friends of the young couple.

The first herald of the wedding party was the singing of "I love you Truly" by Miss Eva Williams accompanied by Miss Edith Brown and immediately after as Miss Brown played Mendelssohn's wedding march with Mrs. C. A. Miller playing the violon obligato the bridal couple entered the East door of the church unattended and came to meet Rev. C. C. Dooley who awaited them at the altar steps. There amidst a mass of ferns with trailings of Christmas evergreen and poinsettias the ring ceremony was read which united these two lives.

Miss Gladys is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Haynes and has lived in Merkel most of her years where she is loved by young and old alike. In her wedding gown of brown velvet with hat and shoes of blending tones and a corsage bouquet of American beauty roses Miss Haynes was a winsome sweet picture and one that will linger in the minds of her friends.

Mr. Ferguson came to Merkel wooing as a stranger but during his recent visits here has made many friends who believe him a young man of sterling qualities and worthy of one of Merkel's fairest girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson left over the afternoon Santa Fe for Temple near where they will make their home and if good wishes of interested friends could soothe the pathos of those of these two their future years be brightened by much happiness and cheer.

Ben T. Merritt, Cashier of the First State Bank, of Hanley, accompanied by his brother, Harry L. Merritt, were here during the holidays to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Merritt.

SCHOOL REOPENS GREATLY CROWDED

The Merkel Public School has reopened after the holidays with increased enrollment and interest. In all grades and departments the interest and work seem to be much improved over what it was before the holidays. The attendance, due partly to the compulsory attendance law, is remarkably regular.

Some of the rooms are very crowded and should by all means be relieved if the school funds would allow it, and if there was room to put additional teachers. Several rooms have in them between fifty and sixty pupils, one having sixtyone now in school. It goes without saying that with such a crowded room, the instruction must be more or less superficial. The teacher is overtaxed and cannot give the individual attention so necessary for the right sort of progress and thoroughness. This is especially true when a lower grade is crowded. Merkel should plan to provide more room and teachers in the near future if the efficiency of the school is not to be seriously impaired.

The state Inspector of High Schools visited the school this week. He was especially pleased with the organization and character of teaching done in Merkel, the discipline and upkeep of the building; but said the crowded conditions in some of the grades was simply intolerable.

All teachers reported back for duty promptly after the holidays. They spent the holidays in their various homes throughout the state. They are much refreshed by their vacation, and are back ready for the hard work that awaits them. They need your fullest cooperation to cope with the crowded condition of their rooms.

PRESBYTERIAN SERVICES

Preaching at 11 a.m. Sunday School at 10 a.m. At night there will be a special musical program. At the morning a communion service will be held. To all these services we cordially welcome all who will to worship with us.

The pastor wishes in this connection to give another expression of appreciation of himself and family for the splendid pouding received during the holidays. It was great and we wish many blessed returns to those so thoughtfully kind.

C. C. Dooley, pastor.

HUSS-FREEMON

On December 22nd, Mr. Ira L. Huss and Miss Bernadine Freemon were happily united in marriage, at the Methodist parsonage, Pastor Rev. W. M. Murrell pronouncing the words that made them man and wife.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. L. A. Freemon; has been reared in Merkel and is one of the city's most charming and estimable young ladies. The groom, has for several years been in the employe of the Merkel Power Company, and by his industrious spirit, honesty and integrity, demands the utmost confidence and good will of all with whom he has become acquainted. We join a large circle of friends in extending congratulations and best wishes for future happiness.

This happy couple have handsomely furnished rooms at the splendid new home of Judge and Mrs. N. D. Cobb.

Mr. and Mrs. V. Burkburn were here during the holidays to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Burkburn.

Much of the crime that is committed," Judge Ely concluded, "is being done by young men. The loose way in which suspended sentence law is used out may have something to do with it. Clemency is extended too much through the law. I trust that the petit jurors at this term of the district court will be more discreet in regard to the suspended sentence law than some previous juries have been."

The following constitute the grand jury, which went into session immediately after being charged by judge Ely: J. S. Alredge, Abilene, foreman; M. C. Cope, Abilene; R. E. Davis, Abilene; E. W. Whittle, Lawn; E. H. Cordill, Merkel; J. T. Archer, Trent; F. F. Hodges, Tuscola; H. R. Roberts, Ovalo; I. C. Cox, Abilene; T. L. Grimes, Merkel; T. M. Hayhew, Bradshaw; C. B. Hurt—Abilene Reporter.

ENTERTAINMENT

Monday afternoon December 27, Mrs. E. Spurgin delightfully entertained sixteen children at her home near Compere, in honor of her nieces Myrtle and Myrtle. Eans of Anson.

The evening was spent in games and kodacking. Then to the delight of all, whipped cream and popcorn were served.

Those sent were: Mildred Estes, Hampton, Gracie Lee Cran, Alice Allred, Eva Lou All Lovella Palmer, Norma Shaw, Myrtle and Myrtle Evans, Lola Moore, Perry Shannon, Arlie Eugene, and Clyde Al, Eteyl and Lawrence Sun.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hill and family of Ford spent the holidays with the latter's parents Mr. and S. F. Haynes.

Mr. E. Parrack and family from Liza were here on a visit to former's brother Rev. Ira Parrack.

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A BIRTHDAY PARTY

Imagine the excitement in town when fifty of little Missie Dye's friends were invited to help her celebrate her eighth birthday at Grandma Woodrum.

The house was decorated in real Christmas attire for Santa Clause was to be there.

At the appointed hour the little ones began coming, each bringing a pretty gift for their little hostess.

In spite of the wind and flying dirt the little ones enjoyed outdoor games until it was noised abroad that it was the hour for Santa to appear. True to rumor he came and shook hands with eager children who piled him with questions as to whether he got their letter, "would he come again at Christmas time" etc.

Good Old Santa led them to the dining room where they had refreshments of icecream and little Missie passed her birthday

cake which Good Old Santa succeeded in cutting into enough for each hungry child.

As they left the dining room with a promise to Santa that they would be good boys and girls, he presented each one with a stocking full of good things to eat.

Then it was time to go home so they said good-by to Santa and their hostess and ran home with a hop and a skip declaring they had a most wonderful time.

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MT. PLEASANT ITEMS

It has been quite a while since this community has been recognized in the columns of our great paper, The Merkel Mail, of which we love so well to read. We are now entering upon a new year and the things said and done in 1920 shall ever more be ours to mourn. But we hope that the sweet smile of the Almighty shall be ours through out this year. That he will bless our efforts put forth to a bountiful supply, and permit us a reasonable price for our products.

Well Santa was good to us this time, the young people enjoyed several parties during Christmas days. The Theme of Christmas day was horse races a horse from Nubia being winner, and also a noted gray mule known as bucking gravy was ridden by Chock Greene of Hale Center Texas.

Miss Jessie Sargent was the guest of Miss Etta and Zetta Jones Sunday afternoon.

Mr. J. F. Alexander has returned to his home at Hale Center after spending Christmas with his relatives.

Mr and Mrs. Lee Campbell spent Saturday night with her parents Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Roland.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Logan went to church at Nubia Sunday. Dr. Frier of Simmons College made some fine lectures at Nubia last Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Rev. W. H. Hughes preaches the 4th Sunday.

Mr. A. H. Barnes has returned from a visit to his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Redding visited her parents Sunday.

J. G. Alexander ate dinner with C. E. Brabbin Sunday.

Mr. Masseys family spent the day with Wash McGanagill Sunday.

Rev. Bostic will fill his appointment the third Sunday.

Rooms to rent, furnished or unfurnished on Oak street three blocks west. Mrs. F. K.

The Brown D. G. Company

Merkel, Texas, January 5, 1921

TO YOU—

☞ We wish to extend our sincere greetings, gratitude and best wishes. And especially do we want to thank you from the depths of our hearts for whatever service you have rendered us, whether it was in word or patronage, great or small. We thank you and pledge anew, to render a better service for 1921 than ever before.

A WORD—

☞ Can we join hands, hearts, "as one man" in seeing to it that we put all of our troubles behind us and pull together with such cheer as to make pessimism get a black eye that can't be opened again. Keep Dr. Optimism employed and Pessimism will die. What say you?

☞ We live in a great country! Let's make it greater. If we do not, then we will grow smaller and pessimism will get us.

Sincerely

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Quality Goods at extra special prices.

Mrs. Ethel... cousin Intha Bird of Merkel. Mr. Edgar Smart and son Harlow are visiting the former's brother Orien Smart of Santo.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Thomas and children of Merkel spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Milton Walsh.

Mrs. R. A. Forbes of Raven-den Arkansas is visiting her daughters, Mrs. S. D. Martin and Mrs. B. N. Billingsley.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Thomson and Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Barker spent Sunday with Mrs. Jesse Higgins.

Charlie Walsh Dewey Thomas and B. N. Billingsley were guest of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Guin Sunday.

Mrs. D. W. Martin and Mrs. Aron Horton and family attended a dinner given by Mr. and Mrs. Mack Herod of Tye Sunday. The occasion being the twentieth anniversary of their wedding.

Mrs. R. B. Watts who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Alexander Sanitarium at Abilene returned home Wednesday. Mr. Well who was operated upon for appendicitis also is improving.

Misses Frankie and Maggie Lee Chancey visited their cousin Coloway Chancey and family Sunday. Miss Frankie drove her new Ford. She filled the radiator but left the out let open and made the trip home without water. A little thing like that could nevenge a Ford.

A TEXAS WOER

For kidney and bladder troubles, gravel, weak spine back, rheumatism and all ailments of the kidneys and bladder. If not sold by your druggist, by mail \$1.25 Small box. Send for testimonials to D. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis Mo. Sold by druggists.

Mr. T. Caswell Georgetown and other lives were here on a short visit with pastor Parrack.

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JNO. C. REINHARD, MGR.

RE-UNION

Union long to be re those present was me of Mr. and Mrs Christmas day. All and grandchildren together with Mr. Tucker and fami delicious dinner they had pictures spent the rest of the rry-making. Present were: Mr. and Coats and eight and Mrs. J. T. children. Mr. Daniels and 7 and Mrs. L. W. idren, Mr. and Mr. and Mrs. two children, of Coats, John and Mrs. J. C. y, Mr. and Mrs. and Mrs. Dew Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Tucker hostess.

MR. and MRS. T. H. CHRISTOPHER HAVE RE-UNION

Among the many Christmas home comings in Abilene this week was that at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Christopher on Eighth and Grape Streets. The children and grandchildren began arriving Thursday evening of last week and the weekend was one continuous round of pleasure.

Friday evening the usual Christmas festivities were enjoyed. This was followed on Saturday evening by a family reception. Quite a number of games and contests furnished amusement for old and young alike. Music furnished by Miss Mona T. Christopher, pianist, Mr. B. A. Clark, violinist, Mrs. R. A. Stuart, Soprano and Mr. F. S. Christopher, baritone, played no small part in the pleasures of the evening.

Many Abilene and out of town visitors were entertained Sunday. Four generations were represented by the following who were present: Mrs. M. E. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Chris-

topher, Misses Mona, Lois and Christine Christopher all of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Len Sublett of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Christopher and little son, Simpson Gevers of Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Stuart and son, R. A. Jr., of Lamesa, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Clark and son, Thomas Hollis of Merkel. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Christopher and children of Burkburnett were unable to attend on account of sickness in the family.—Abilene Reporter.

NOTICE

Merkel, Texas, Dec. 5th 1920. The regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, will be held at the bank's office, Wednesday Jan 5th, at 3 p. m for the purpose of electing directors and transacting such other business as shall come before the meeting.

L. R. Thompson, Cashier. 1713.

Lewis Swann of Abilene was here during Christmas visiting his parents and friends a few days.

LIQUOR. ADI EXPECTED MARCH 4

Bootleggers are Moving Supplies to National Capital

Washington, Jan. 2.—Rain or shine, President-Elect Harding's inauguration is going to be wet and exceedingly wet, at that with the moisture selling at twenty iron men per quart.

The brazen bootleggers boldly bringing booze into Mr. Volstead's first-line trench are sitting back waiting for what promises to be the greatest of all inaugurations. They are holding their liquor until the hundreds of thousands of guests flock through the portals of Union Station in the first week of March.

As evidence of what is happening, the liquor mart here has already felt an upward trend in price, the \$12 variety having jumped two points over the week end. New Year's cheer sold at \$11 a quart instead of the even dozen.

Engage Whole Floor

Prohibition enforcement agent have headquarters in Washington. So have the bootleggers, within a stones throw of offices occupied by Dean Kramer and his crew of cork confiscators. At any rate, an entire floor in one big building here houses the headquarters of one outfit engaged in illicit liquor traffic. These people are posing as manufacturers' agents.

The king of Washington bootleggers is rapidly acquiring a corner on the real estate market here, having put his savings into the land. He is well known to everybody save the prohibition enforcement officers, who, seemingly, can not cultivate his acquaintance.

Every morning the king motors downtown in a handsomely appointed limousine, a chauffeur and footman giving the equipage an appearance of state.

It is this gentleman who will regulate the booze supply for president-Elect Harding's inauguration, and it is hinted he will probably retire after March 4, taking his winnings and leading a life of ease. Not that he is overworked now, though there are many problems to be solved in this gigantic business. He has a crop of lieutenants and under-secretaries who attend to all the ramifications, of which the principal one is transportation.

Runners Well Paid

Rum-runners receive \$100 a throw for every truckload of liquor dynamite they bring into Washington. If all the rum-runners in Washington alone pay their income taxes this year Congress will have no difficulty whatsoever in declaring a soldier bonus and the Treasury will be able to avoid financial embarrassment. But—anyway, the roads that lead into Washington are literally cluttered with motor lorries laden with cork-capped containers of the oil of joy. They call these vehicles rattlers the name being derived from the peculiar sound that comes only from the rubbing and bouncing of bottle against bottle.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish in this way to express our sincere appreciation of the kindness and sympathy shown us by friends and neighbors at the time of our mother's death. We will always remember the many acts of kindness and words of sympathy by the large number of friends in Merkel, and wish in this way to publicly express our gratitude for them.

Mrs. L. L. Huddleston, J. T. Mason, Fred M. Mason, G. M. Mason, and Mrs. J. C. Baker. pd

AFTER JAN. 1, 1921

On and after Jan. 1, 1921 we will conduct our business strictly on a cash basis, and kindly ask that our patrons and the public be governed accordingly.

We appreciate all business given us, but we are compelled to pay cash for all our goods and are not able to sell on time, to a

for the labor unions are indignant at the passage in the senate, without a record vote, of the Poindexter anti-strike bill, designed to prohibit strikes in railroad or other common-carrier services. The vote was unexpected, and some known opponents of the measure were absent when it was eased through by the steering committee.

Anger is justified not less by the manner of passing the bill than by the real objects of the measure. It is fair notification to workmen that an administration that for eight years has uniformly sought to deal with them in a spirit of utmost fairness and conciliation is, so far as congress is concerned, already a thing of the past.

But what did they expect? Most of them voted for a change and they are getting it—the familiar old statutes of privilege they wanted a return to normalcy and must take their medicine.—New York World.

There may be "no birds in last years nest," but the trite remarks of the World should be taken home by American laborers. Woodrow Wilson did all in his power for the toilers of America—this for seven long years. Eighty per cent showed their appreciation of his administration by voting for its repudiation. It is well to tell the truth at intervals and the World it telling it.—Ft. Worth Record

NOTICE

This add is to notify my friends and customers that I have not left town or quit business, but have moved my office in my ware house at the rear of my old stand, now occupied by the Hamblet Grocery Co. I will still buy your chickens, Turkeys, Eggs and Hides and will pay you all the market will bring. Bring your produce to me and get the cash.

I am grateful to you for all favors and wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year.

I am yours to Serve, W. P. Duckett tf

Flour \$2.82, Ray at Blair. tf

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KING'S DAUGHTERS MEETING

The King's Daughters held their regular monthly meeting on last Tuesday afternoon at the cozy home of Mrs Charley Russel on Oak street. This being an ideal sunny January afternoon a large number of the class was present to enjoy the well known hospitality of Mrs. Russel. The meeting was opened with a song, the class singing in chorus with Mrs. Beene at the piano. The president, Mrs. Hutchison, read the scripture lesson after which prayer was offered by Mrs. Sanders. Then followed the roll call and reading of the minutes. The president then entered into the business session. The class committee was instructed to meet with the committee from the missionary society to finish the selection and purchasing of new seats for the choir. So we hope in the very near future to have the choir filled with beautiful new seats. Other business of minor importance was transacted after which the meeting was turned over to the program committee who had planned some very fascinating contests. The first one, "A cap contest," proved to be very interesting as well as "brainracking," for the answer to each question began with cap. This was a very "captivating" game and much enjoyed though no cheating was allowed. We were next shown a small vial about 6 inches tall filled with some white beans and asked to guess the number. After much speculation and guessing it was found that Mrs. Beene had guessed the exact number of beans (and why not). For her efforts she was awarded a lovely little picture. Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Jones tried for the booby and in a cut Mrs. Jones was winner. She also received a picture—a rabbit foot for good luck.

We were then served with delicious refreshments of Angel food cake and boiled custard. After the refreshments our Hostess announced we would have an old fashioned spelling match. Mrs. Murrel and Mrs. Calvert chose sides and Mrs. Hutchison pronounced the words. It was indeed gratifying to find what excellent spellers we all proved to be. Just at this time every one decided the time was growing late so disbanded without a decision as to who was the best speller. We certainly appreciated the efforts of our hostess and also the program committee.

The next meeting will be with Mrs. Murrel with Mrs. Pat Jones assistant hostess and Mrs. Henson and Mrs. Durham program committee. Reporter.

Bill O'Brian returned this week from a few days visit with friends in Bellview.

COZY THEATRE

Special Matinee Saturday 2 to 5:30

Friday Jan. 7

Douglas Fairbanks **Bill Sampson**
in "American Aristocracy" "Village Cutups"
Bray Comics

Mon. Jan. 10

The Last Chapter **Hoot Gibson**
of "Hidden Dangers" in "Cinders"
Universal Comedians in a "One Cylinder Riot"

Wed. Jan. 12

Constance Binney **Harold Loyd**
in "39 East" in "Hand to Mouth"

COMING—

Chas. Ray
in "Red Hot Dollars"

COMING—

Mary Miles Minter
in "Judy of Rogues Harbor"

COMING—

Allen Dwan's Special
"The Forbidden Thing"

Saturday Jan. 8

Mitchell Lewis **Charlie Chaplin**
in "King Spruce" in "Work"
Mutt & Jeff in "Napoleon"

Tues. Jan. 11

"A Thousand to One"
An Associated Producers Special, from the book by Max Brand, featuring Hobart Bosworth, who will be remembered for his splendid portrayal of the "American" in "Behind the Door"
The Gumps Pathe Review

Thurs. Jan. 13

Marguerite Clark **Snub Pollard**
in "Let's Elope" in "Roughing It"

COMPULSORY SCHOOL LAW NOW EFFECTIVE

Lest there were some who did not see the notice before Christmas that the compulsory attendance law would become effective on January 3rd, 1921, I am repeating the main provisions of the law again now. It should be especially noticed that no child in the compulsory age can be exempt from attendance required unless the parent of the child has secured proper exemption certificate from the County Superintendent at Abilene. Until such exemption is secured, the parent is subject to the penalties of the law for allowing to remain out of school any child within the compulsory age, even though the child be mentally or bodily unable to attend school. Of course, for temporary absences due to illness or other legitimate cause, an excuse blank may be secured by the child from its teacher in Merkel. Below is repeated the announcement that appeared in The Merkel Mail before Christmas.

Beginning Monday, January 3rd, all children, with certain legal exemptions, who are eight years of age and who have not yet reached their fourteenth birthday will be compelled to attend school five school months of twenty days each. Whether or not they have gone to school

any this year makes no difference; they must attend for five months beginning January 3rd anyway.

If proper exemption certificate is secured, a child may be excused from the attendance required by this law if the child

1. Is attending a private school.
2. Is bodily or mentally unable to attend school.
3. Is blind, deaf, dumb or feeble minded.
4. Is twelve years old, completed the fourth grade, and is needed at home for the support of the family.
5. Is more than two and one-half miles from the nearest school of his district.

"Any child not exempted from the provisions of this act may be excused for temporary absence due to personal sickness or death in the family, quarantine, severe storm which has made travel dangerous, or for other unusual causes acceptable to the teacher—provided the excuses are in writing and signed by the parent or guardian of said child." This is a quotation from the law and is self-explanatory.

The law provides penalties for failure or refusal to comply with its provisions. When parent or guardian fails to send exempted child to school he is subject to fine of \$5 for the first day of child's absence, \$10 for the second and \$25 for each day thereafter, each day constituting

a separate offense. Any person or firm employing during school hours, a child subject to the provisions of this act is also subject to a fine. The fine is \$10 a day, each day constituting a separate offense.

The local board of trustees, the teachers and the county Superintendent are all required under the law to see that its provisions are enforced. The peace officers of the city and county are also required under the law to aid in the enforcement of its provisions. It is hoped that all

understand the law and comply cheerfully with its requirements. No trouble or evasions are expected in Merkel.

Very Respectfully,
Roger A. Burgess,
Superintendent Merkel School.

Country Made Syrup \$1.25,
Ray at Blair.

Mrs. T. L. Hollaway and children left Wednesday for Fort Worth where they will spend some time with friends and relatives.

DIE!

S. J. Grattan, Wednesday Deceased, home of his grandfather Antonio, after bronchial pneumonia.

At the time the S. J. was ten days old. This expressible sorrow and bereavement that had come.

We extend the sorrowing that we too have. The funeral at the home of Mr. and Mrs. day afternoon made in Rose.

G. Fiske, former owner of the Abilene and late of the Cisco, week purchased charge of the Times, at Abilene is a good newspaper business man and christian gentleman give the people of weekly paper, one their patronage in if they will but at patronage.

Prince Albert 7 for at Blair.

J. N. Shelton chased a residence east part of the Dutschman.

NOTICE TO TAYLOR

I will be at Merchants Bank Saturday the 8th ary 1921 for collecting the 1921 ty Taxes, of the pectfully, D. I. Collector, Taylor.

Mr. E. D. Coats learn, is on the week.



IMPLEMENTS

☐ We have just received a car of John Deere implements, and now have on hand Disc Plows, rows, Walking Plows, Busters, double and s Cultivators and Planters, and will appreciate opportunity to show you these goods.

☐ When you need Hardware call and see us. line is complete in Leather Goods, Stoves, Sh Goods, etc.

GROCERIES

☐ We also have a full stock of the best be had, and at right prices.

CROWN HARDWARE

We Have Moved

☐ We are pleased to announce to our patrons and friends that we have moved to the Gaither Building in the center of the block on Edwards street, where we are permanently located, and better prepared to serve you in our line.

☐ We absolutely boast to have in our employ the best cook to be found in this part of the country. And we are always glad to serve you with what you want and in the manner you wish it. ☐ We also invite the closest inspection of our kitchen, because we keep it clean and sanitary at all times.

☐ We appreciate the fine business we have enjoyed and will be glad to have your future trade

e Bu Bee Cafe

of the automobile owners who have made a big saving under a new buying system
 Batteries and other supplies, regardless of the marks of car, acting through the GIANT
 PLY COMPANY.

STATE BANK
 Tuscola, Texas, 11-2-20
 ABILENE, TEXAS.

thanks for the battery for
 ve saved me \$20 on this
 the casing and tube

I have ever
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 esident.
 0-29-20

0-29-20

three
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excel-
 ly,

MRS. E. L. WILLS.

T. W. McCORMICK,
 Drugs and Drug Sundries

Tuscola, Texas, 10-26-20
 GIANT MOTOR SUPPLY CO.,
 ABILENE, TEXAS.

Gentlemen— Accept my
 thanks for the four casings
 and four tubes, on which you
 saved me more than sixty dol-
 lars.

I shall be glad to endorse
 your plan to any of my friends.

Yours truly,
 T. W. McCORMICK.

G. A. CHRANE, CATTLE AND FARMING

Potosi, Texas, Nov. 3, 1920.

GIANT MOTOR SUPPLY CO., ABILENE, TEXAS.

Gentlemen— Am today in receipt of battery for my Dodge
 car, bought through your company, and I desire to thank you
 for same, especially in view of the fact that I secured the bat-
 tery at a saving of about \$25.

It is my opinion that a company operated along the line of
 the Giant Motor Supply Co., can save the automobile owners con-
 siderable money on supplies.

Thanking you for the battery, I am,

Yours truly,
 G. A. CHRANE.

J. R. KEELING, GRAIN DEALER

Ovalo, Texas, 10-11-20

GIANT MOTOR SUPPLY CO., ABILENE, TEXAS.

Gentlemen— I received my casing today for which accept
 my thanks. You have saved me more than \$12.50 on this
 casing which is very satisfactory.

Your plan is good and I assure you that I can heartily en-
 dorse it to any one.

Yours truly,
 J. R. KEELING

a number of your home people in Merkel and immediately around Merkel who have bought supplies through us
 system. ¶ You may also share these benefits by being interested with us in our new plan.

request full information will gladly be sent you.

ry offices until Jan. 8—224½ Pine St. (over the Emporium). After that date we will be in one of the new Radford Buildings, 932 N. 2nd Street

all information see E. D. COATS, Merkel, Texas.

Giant Motor Supply Company

ABILENE, TEXAS

H. CRIST, President

CHAS. E. SCOTT, Vice President

J. N. MOON, Sec'y-Treas.

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

Foreign Advertising Representative
 THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Any erroneous reflection on the char-
 acter, 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 man-
 agement.

PATRONS OF THE MAIL, who do
 not receive their paper regularly will
 favor upon the management
 reporting the fact. You should also
 the label of your paper to ascer-
 tain when your time is out and re-
 ceive your name automatically leaves
 our list, as all papers stop when the
 term of subscription expires.

If you wish 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 mes-
 sage to that effect. Or, if an occur-
 rence of unusual interest transpires a
 reporter will be promptly sent to get
 the full particulars.

Daily papers in the cities are
 from \$2.50 to \$4.00
 or advertising," says
 don News. "They are
 white paper by the
 at several cents per
 less than the weekly
 are able to produce
 from twelve to sixteen pages
 per thousand circulation for the
 same or less than the weekly
 paper can print six or eight pages.
 On the other hand the
 weeklies are receiving from 25
 to 40 cents per inch for their
 space. Printers' wages are high
 er now than in the history of
 the country and will continue to
 be so, for there is a shortage.
 During the war many printers
 joined the colors
 of those
 who lived
 many drifted
 work. For
 there has
 business
 lected to
 tices, n
 the lo

cident to their training. Thus
 weekly publishers find them-
 selves in a worse plight than at
 any time in the memory of the
 oldest veteran. Not one single
 item entering into their coats
 has dropped in cost, nor is there
 any signs in the heavens which
 give promise of near relief.
 There is just one thing for the
 publisher to do—act like any
 other business man in the same
 circumstances and hold his over-
 head expenses as low as possi-
 ble while he sells his products—
 space, subscription and job print-
 ing—for a fair profit. By this
 means he may hold the respect
 of his banker, his business con-
 nections and his own self re-
 spect."—Fort Worth Record.

BLAIR NEWS

Every one is rejoicing over
 the beautiful things Santa
 brought.

The farmers are expecting a
 prosperous new year and we
 hope they will not be disappoint-
 ed.

Mr. Sam Reeves and family
 visited relatives here last week.
 The party given by Mr. and
 Mrs. John Hughes was enjoyed
 by all present.

Mr. Earl Hughes is speaking
 a few days with home folks.
 The home of Mr. and Mrs. J.
 M. Reeves was saddened Thurs-
 day evening when they receiv-
 ed a Telegram that Mr. Sam
 Patterson was dying. Mr. and
 Mrs. Reeves left immediately
 and went down there. Mr. Pat-
 terson lives at Valley Mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Chalmer Patter-
 son has been spending a few
 days with Mr. Tom Maloan near
 Abilene.

Miss Alpha Williams spent a
 few days in Wichita Falls last
 week.

Miss Mary Hughes stayed all
 night with Misses Fae and Lena
 Blackburn Saturday night.

Misses Fannie and Annie Ree-
 ves called on Misses Violet and
 Velma Frazier Saturday even-
 ing.

All the school children are
 again wearing smiles as school

started Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bird Hughes
 and Grandma Hughes spent Sat-
 urday with Mr. and Mrs. George
 Reeves.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cross and
 Daughter of Newman spent Sun-
 day with Mrs. Cross' parents,
 Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Reeves.

Price Melton and Elmer Pat-
 terson called on Mr. Jesse Reeve
 Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Myron Spear spent a
 while with Mr. Jesse Reeves
 Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes
 spent Sunday with Mrs. Hughes
 parents, Mr. and Mrs. Snow.
 MUTT and Jeff

Miss Pauline Johnson who
 was the efficient bookkeeper for
 the Crown Hardware gave up
 her position the first on account
 of the heavy work in her father's
 office, where she is now work-
 ing.

Dr. Miller left last week for
 the Pacific Coast to attend Clin-
 ics at the Medical Department
 of the University of California.
 Mrs. Miller and Clara Louise ac-
 companied him. They will re-
 turn about February 1.

Farm Land for Rent, against
 town of Merkel, no house on
 place. Terms 1-3 and 1-4—See
 E. N. Brown of the Brown Dry
 Goods Co. 712

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp of
 Fort Worth, spent the holidays
 with their parents, Mr. and
 Mrs. A. L. Jobe and Mr. and
 Mrs. J. P. Sharp.

Miss Annie Mae Swann has
 returned to Simmons College
 where she has been attending
 school.

Mrs. Newberry is back again
 with the Star Store.

MANAGER L. E. STONE OF MERKEL EXCHANGE SAYS

That on January 1, 1921 The
 Telephone Company will change
 the practice in regard to the
 pronunciation of the figure "O"
 in repeating telephone numbers.
 Heretofore in Texas we have
 called this "Naught." We are
 going to change it to "Oh."

The figure "O" in a telephone
 number is, correctly speaking,
 a figure; and as such, it is, as
 Texas calls it, "Naught", but all
 the rest of the country is now
 considering it the letter "O" and
 calling it "Oh".

Because all the rest of the
 states, in their business langu-
 ages, call O "Oh", Texas pro-
 poses to do the same thing, be-
 cause our business, our associa-
 tion, our influence and our
 communication certainly extend
 in every direction, far beyond
 the borders of this state, great
 though she may be.

The telephone authorities in
 Texas have been reluctant to ask
 the people of Texas to abandon
 their correct practice for this
 up-to-date business method,
 which has business expediency
 rather than right to recommend
 it. However, the business life of
 Texas, being to a very great ex-
 tent an interstate existence
 now justifies, at least in the op-
 inion of the Telephone Company,
 the adoption of this universal
 business practice in our tele-
 phone language, in Texas. Ow-
 ing to the rapid development of
 Texas there is a constant influx
 of people from without our bor-
 ders. They are accustomed to
 the telephone customs of other
 states and for us to differ from
 these other states in so essential
 a particular leads to confusion
 in the use of telephone service.

Rapid development sometimes
 is accompanied by error through
 careless, haste or ignorance, but
 in this matter of pronunciation,
 Texas, although the heart of the
 most rapid developing part of
 our country, has tenaciously
 clung to that which is correct,
 while the rest of the states have

one after another, abandoned ac-
 curacy for the sake of expedi-
 ency and perhaps, in some cases,
 for the safe of uniformity, uni-
 formity in this case being ex-
 pedient.

Much as we would like to be
 correct, even at the expense of
 exclusiveness and peculiarity,
 still reason prevails rather than
 likes or dislikes, and for that
 reason Texas will, on January 1
 1921, when speaking telephone
 numbers, discontinue the use of
 the figure "naught" and substi-
 tute in its place the letter pro-
 nunciation "oh."

The arguments for and a-
 gainst the two pronunciations of
 the symbol O, as used in a tele-
 phone number, are long and te-
 dious, and it takes an expert ju-
 dicial mind to make a decision
 after all the arguments have
 been heard.

On the other hand, there is
 not much room for discussion
 as to what is best from the
 standpoint of business expedi-
 ency. It

Prices are right on Groceries
 at A. L. Jobes. It

We desire to call the atten-
 tion of our readers to advertise-
 ment in this issue of the Mail,
 by the Brown Dry Goods Com-
 pany, which company after hav-
 ing taken their enormous loss,
 like all other business firms af-
 fected by the recent
 starts the New Year's
 ing campaign with mo-
 stic and appropriate
 tions of facts which w-
 doubt bring success to this
 as time goes on. This prog-
 sive firm has carried an adv-
 tisement in every issue of th
 Merkel Mail for several years,
 believing that their patrons are
 a reading public, looking
 watching for bargains, and
 things they may need from time
 to time. And they have evi-
 dently made it pay or else they
 would not keep it up.

Don't buy Coal until you see
 A. L. Jobes. 712c

Burton - Lingo Co.

The Building Store

Where we offer you

Service and Satisfaction

Phone us your wants

CHRISTMAS HAS COME AND GONE

And the New Year is with us with its many changes, but the Merkel Garage has made but few changes, all of which are calculated to render our patrons better service. We have turned our mechanical department over to Messrs. Joe Reidenbach and Len Sublett, both of whom are well known to be among the best mechanics in West Texas. They are amply able to care for all your mechanical wants. They make a specialty of Electrical and Generator work. Infact, they propose to give you good and efficient work on a

STRICTLY CASH BASIS

Mr. C. B. Barnes has charge of the front end, such as Oils, Gas, Accessories, in fact, anything in the Automobile line.

We are running all of our business on an absolutely CASH BASIS.

If you are looking for SERVICE and SATISFACTION come to see us. We are open early and late—Sunday and all. If you need service, such as "pulling in," starting car, etc., phone 123.

Remember our watch word—"Service and Satisfaction."

MERKEL GARAGE

ROSS FERRIER

H. L. PROPST

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED—To rent 50 or 75 acres on the halves. Address G. L. Bishop, Merkel, Texas 7t3p

STOVE WOOD—Have 20 to 25 loads Stove Wood at cost; also a few loads heater blocks all thoroughly dry. T. J. R. Swafford, Kent Street. 7t2

FOR RENT—A farm of 150 acres, two houses, wood and pasture. Will rent third and fourth. G. F. Holland. 1tpd

FOR SALE—Jersey Cow five years old with young calf. J. S. Hutson. 1tp

Seed Oats for sale
550 bushels of extra heavy Texas Red Oats free from Johnson grass. Price 85 cents. R. B. Wells. 23t2p

Truck Driver wants job driving. Can handle any kind of Truck. Phone or write M. R. Sherman, Trent, Texas. 7t3p

FOR SALE or TRADE—One 5 passenger Paige, 1 five passenger Dodge, one 5 passenger Ford, and one Ford Roadster. See Davis Beasley. 1t

Farm land for rent, against town of Merkel, no house on the place. Terms 1-3 and 1-4—See E. N. Brown of the Brown D. G. Co. 7t2

WANTED—A family to pick cotton. Also good farm to rent. S. F. Haynes. 1t

LOST or Stolen—A white, feist like dog. Left ear a little dropped and left eye slightly red. Home Saturday December 15. Anyone knowing of such dog will please notify R. E. Cole, phone 9034F3, or the Merkel Mail office. R. E. Cole. 1tp

WANTED A good span of Mules Wagon and Harness. See H. F. Groene. 1t

Corn ten cents, Ray at Blair. 1t

FOR SALE—A fine German Coach Stallion, weighing about 1,300 pounds, five years old. Will sell worth the money. G. W. Moore Merkel, Texas. 17t3.

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished bed-room, close in, with stove. Telephone 145. 7t2

FOR SALE—14 head of Mules. Will sell for cash or 1921 fall time. At my barn in Merkel. C. E. Jacobs. 1t

FOR SALE—1000 bushels of red rust proof seed oats. See A. B. Cranston. Rt. 1 Merkel, Texas. 17t3

FARM FOR SALE—120 acres 80 acres in cultivation, well located, cheap and on easy terms. Will cut off 70 acres with all improvements to suit purchaser. See S. L. Grayson, at Shiloh. 17t3p.

Brand and Shorts at G. M. Sharp's.

PLENTY of COAL

Dawson Fancy Egg Domestic Lump And Swastika Coal

H. M. ROSE & SON

Cecil W. Jobe and wife who have been visiting home folks for some time, have moved to Eastland, where C. W. Has accepted a position with the Martin Drug Co.

Corn and Corn Chops, at G. M. Sharp's

Mr. Levy the manager of Burton Lingo Lumber Co., is out of town this week on business.

Peace Maker Flour, at G. M. Sharp's

EVER BILIOUS?

Charleston, Miss.—Mrs. R. V. Heins, of this place, says: "I have never had to use very much medicine, because if I felt headache, dizziness, or colds, bad taste in the mouth, which comes from torpid liver, I would take a dose or more of Black-Draught, and it would straighten me out and make me feel as good as new. We have used in our family for years

THEDFORD'S

BLACK-DRAUGHT

and it certainly is the best liver medicine I ever saw. It has not only saved me money, it has helped keep my system in shape, and has never weakened me as so many physics do. I recommend it to my friends and am glad to do so." Black-Draught is the old, reliable liver medicine which you have doubtless heard much about. When you feel badly all over, stomach not right, bad taste in your mouth, bilious, or have a headache, try Thedford's Black-Draught. At all Druggists.

Always Insist on the Genuine!

1.77

able-talk on the streets that a man by the name of John Childress, living some six miles northeast of Merkel, had been shot six times and was not expected to live. Rumor has it that a man named Billingsley and another neighbor, are being held for the shooting.

The Mail is unable to obtain any of the particulars leading to the cause of the shooting.

J. C. Mason returned first of the week from a visit to his former home near Paris, and also his boyhood home in the state of Tennessee. He says that he found the people in that country very downhearted and dispondent, yet with plenty, infact with an abundance of everything needed to live on. However, J. C. said he was glad to get back to Merkel and West Texas, and his host of friends welcome his return.

C. C. Blocher, of Abilene arrived January 1st., to take the Management of the Merkel Lumber Company's business in this city, succeeding Judge N. D. Cob resigned.

J. A. Buford was over this week from Haskell, shaking hands with his many friends.

W. D. Swann, a substantial and influential citizen of Tyler was here last week the guest of his brother J. S. Swann and family. The former Mr. Swann stated that he had been coming to Merkel most every year for more than 30 years.

W. A. Thornton has recently purchased a residence on the north side from B. M. Black and is moving to same with his family. We welcome them as citizens of our city.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hutchens spent Christmas with their son, who is a prosperous druggist at Loraine.

Frank Armstrong left Saturday for New Orleans where he is attending Tulane University.

Mrs. L. D. Gaither, of San Antonio, was here to spend the holidays with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Cranford.

We understand the upper part of the building damaged some time ago by fire belonging to Messrs Boney & Jackson, has been repaired, and that the offices of Dr. R. I. Grimes have been handsomely refitted and that the doctor is again prepared to receive his patients there.

W. P. Duckett and wife were happy Christmas over the fact that they had with them their son S. A. Duckett, wife and daughter from Tulia, their daughter, Mrs. Mate Young and husband, from Strawn, and their youngest daughter, Mrs. Glenn Jones and husband from Dallas, were all with them and enjoyed the holidays.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to sincerely thank our friends who so kindly assisted us in laying to rest our little babe, S. J. Junior. May the richest blessings be with you all Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Graford, and Grand Parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Collins, and R. G. Collins.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. C. L. McNeese who has been very low from pneumonia for several days is resting some better at this time (Thursday Morning.)

NOTICE

Merkel, Texas, Jan. 1, 1921.
The regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Farmers State Bank of Merkel, will be held at the bank's office, Tuesday Jan. 11th, at 3 p. m. for the purpose of electing directors and transacting such other business as shall come before the meeting.
R. O. Anderson, Cashier.



You have to
ed and in pro
can make

Blanche Durham returned last week from a visit to friends in Snyder.

Miss Mary Thompson of Abilene was here during Christmas week visiting friends.

Miss Ruby Hamm left last week for Dallas where she will attend Draughon's Business College.

Miss Ona Fae Bland returned to school at Trinity University, Waxahachie, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Giles were proud to have with them during the holidays, all their children.

Miss Maurine Cobb left last week for Dallas where she will finish her course in Draughon's Business College.

Meal 74 cents, Ray at Blair. 1t

We are sorry to learn that Mr. E. D. Coats is quite sick at his home in the southwest part of the city.

Miss Lillie Pratt Sears has returned to school at Kid-Key, Sherman.

Preston Guthrie left Sunday for Midland to return to school at Midland College for the rest of the term.

Wallace Bragg left last week for Austin, where he will enter the State University.

Miss Julia Martin returned to Simmons College this week where she has been in school.

Bring your Eggs to A. L. Jobe

R. O. Anderson, Cashier of the Farmers State Bank, in company with Sam Swann, Cashier of the Guaranty State Bank of Abilene, returned Wednesday from a business trip to Houston and other points in South Texas.

M. E. Canon of the Commercial Motor Company is here this week from Corsicana, and after a return to that city it is likely that he will return here with his wife to make their home.

J. A. Patterson, we are informed recently purchased an 80 acre farm from Geo. Thompson, located 12 miles northeast of Merkel, and a 160 acre farm known as the Keeman farm near Shiloh. The latter was purchased thru the Merkel Realty Co.

C. R. Tittle and family moved this week from their splendid home in this city to their farm two miles south of Trent. We regret to lose these good people from our midst, but wish them unbounded success on their fine farm.

Monday is at

Spencer and Wines and Dairies

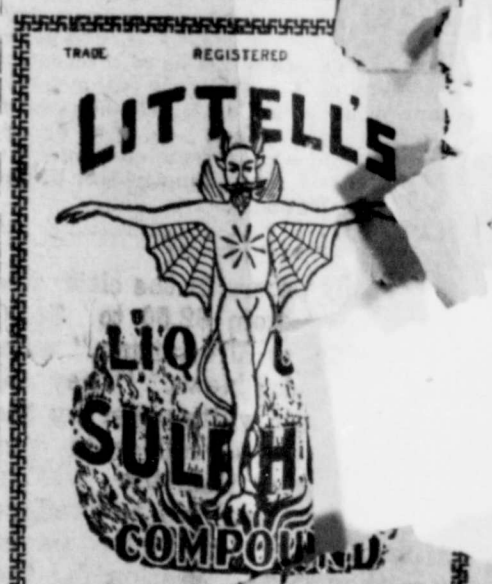
From place. E. N. Brown of Goods Co.

The Hicks Weather B

This famous and unique book is now ready. The 1921 edition is the best yet; contains all the old popular and many new features. It is worth its weight in gold to those whose occupations or pleasure trips, are affected by the weather. The predictions of storms, tornadoes, blizzards, floods and earthquakes are a marvel of accuracy.

Price by mail, 5 cents. Some publishers also issue monthly magazine, World Work, a family magazine with the weather forecast as a leading feature. Subscription price of word and Works is \$1.50 a year with the Hicks Almanac to each subscriber. Send orders to The Hicks Almanac and Publishing Co., 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

The Mail \$1.50 year in adv



It is a powerful and scientific combination of sulphur and other healing agents for the relief and cure of diseases of the skin. It is especially effective in the ITCHING VARIETIES; giving instant relief from the itching and smarting sensations and by its germ-destroying properties it exterminates the microbe which is the cause of the eruption, thus curing the disease completely. Little's Liquid Sulphur Compound is used in all cases of Eczema, Barber's Itch, Psoriasis, Itchy Pruritus, and for relieving itching caused by chiggers. In the treatment of all the numerous small skin diseases. ECZEMA is one of the most obstinate of the skin diseases. It is a powerful and scientific combination of sulphur and other healing agents for the relief and cure of diseases of the skin. 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A LEGISLATORS VIEWS ON EDUCATORS SALARIES

The following is a letter to the Tyler Courier-Times, from Representative W. D. Swann, who also lives at Tyler, in which that gentleman states his position with regard to the cut in salaries of the faculty of the Texas State University. Representative Swann is a brother of Mr. J. S. Swann of Merkel.

I am in receipt of a telegram from the Rotary Club at Tyler to vote against any cut in appropriations for Education.

I have no means at hand to know who the men are that compose the Rotary Club at Tyler, but I am persuaded to believe they are men who toil not neither do they spin, but are arrayed in purple and fine linen and fare sumptuously every day.

I shall preface what I shall say that I am heartily in favor of education, but I think the money collected from the tax payers of this state ought to be equitably divided amongst all the institutions of learning in the state. I think every boy and girl should receive a common school education at the expense of the state. The only way to accomplish this great object is to cut the salaries of the teachers of the higher institutions and appropriate the money to the rural schools. This is our only change to aid the rural schools as we have gone to the constitutional limit on Taxation already.

Having heard a full investigation of conditions as they exist in the University, I think I am

better position to know how I could vote on questions that come up in the house than my people at home who know but little of the question at issue.

In 1919 the 35th. Legislature raised the salaries of the teachers in the University, A. & M. college. Approximately 20 per cent in 1920. They come back to the 36th Legislature and made a plea for another raise on account of the extreme high cost of living and emergency appropriation was made to raise their salaries 20 per cent more with an understanding among the members that when the cost of living came down that the salaries were to be placed back where they were before the emergency raise in 1920. Which the brutal majority, as we are turned, think is but just and right to the Tax payers of Texas.

I will mention a few items in the budget made up by the Appropriation Committee to pay teachers in the law Department of the University \$53,800 per annum. While Lawyers may be necessary evil I think it is wrong to pay the Tax payers of Texas so much money to manufacture

Another item in the budget \$22,840 for janitors at \$1.50 per month which is more than 100 per cent of the farmers are making would emit. Some money is given to the Legislature I am going to stand my convictions of what I conceive to be right and just to all the people, and all the Angels in Heaven or devils in Hell can't

EARLY SHOWING OF FALL MILLINERY

It's not too early to think about your new Fall Hat
Indeed, if you will but come in and look at our new Fall Models,
just arrived you will find no alternative but to
make your selection NOW.

New things arriving daily.

When may we look for a visit from you?

Come in, whether you are ready to buy or not.

And along with new fall hats, we are receiving some attractive ready-to-wear for early Fall.

New Goods New Colors New Styles
COME IN AND SEE THEM

Our milliner Miss Willie swan has just returned from the whole sale houses where she studied the latest designs in Fall Millinery A visit to our store is always appreciated.

Woodroof - Bragg Company

PREPARE TO HANDLE MILLIONS OF COTTON

This year's crop will be at least seven millions of bales. Prepare to help handle this enormous crop. It will take four to six weeks of instruction to become familiar with the handling of this important product of our country. Act quickly you will.

We have the latest equipped sample room, with a south and north to afford the best light. This room was especially for tea work.

With the ever increasing demand for help along with the young men and women prepare themselves immediately. A number of them are taking our cotton classing course because they realize what a opportunity is open to the farmer on cotton. Regardless of the price of cotton, the buyer makes his profit. The farmer who makes much more than he if he could grade and staple his product, because he is completely at the mercy of the buyer when he does not know one grade from another.

A special summer course is given for \$53.00, including tuition, samples and materials for Cotton Grading.

In order to complete your course in time to prepare for the coming cotton season, write, wire or phone for information and our free catalogue.

Tyler Commercial College
Tyler, Texas

If you want it cleaned, pressed right, and returned same day with no gas, phone Ligon the laundryman.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lassiter and children spent the week end with R. E. Burns and family on the latter's ranch, near Albany.

Emmitt D. Boring, one of the old home town boys will be with the Al Pierce Show who open their engagement here Thursday, August 4th, in the tent. Emmitt will be glad to welcome all his old friends the front door.

Try a sack of Seal Flour, fully guaranteed and none better. At Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Miss Mona Bearden of Colorado, is a guest of Mrs. T. Bearden of this city this week.

Swafford and Leslie will have two cars N. M. Coal on the next week, or probably Friday. One car Lump and one Grate Egg Coal. See this Coal.

Can make immediate delivery on Ford Touring cars with spare tires. If you are thinking of buying better see us at once we can make delivery. Used Touring car, one used by a star at a bargain. Merkel Company.

I think the time has come to call a halt, take our bearings and see where we are unless our law making bodies in Congress and out State Legislators cease to make so many extravagant appropriations we are sure to go on the rocks and the worst financial crisis in the history of this country ever known inevitably follow. My conclusion of the whole matter is that there must be a general readjustment of conditions and we should begin at the top and cut to the quick in all national State business and private affairs. I think the time is now at hand that we must go back to the habit customs of our fathers when a 10x12 patch on the seat of a man's trousers was regarded as a badge of honor.

As long as I am a member of the Legislature I am going to stand my convictions of what I conceive to be right and just to all the people, and all the Angels in Heaven or devils in Hell can't

change me.

I request you to publish this letter in full that all the people may know how I stand,
Respectfully,
W. D. Swann.

We want to do a part of your hauling any where to anywhere. Call phone 122, or apply at the Smokehouse. J. R. Hardy and Son.

R. E. Burns accompanied by his daughter, Miss Exa, and grand children, all of Albany, are guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff.

The Plays are New, They make you laugh, A treat for you, Better than others by half. The Al Pierce Show, In the big Show Tent, The best place to go. All those who're amusement bent, Thursday night August 4.

Can supply your needs in a home in Merkel, Call 122.

NOTICE

The Quick Tire and Radiator Shop has moved one door east of former location. We are now prepared to give you better service in our line, such as Vulcanizing, Welding and Radiator repairing. We also do tire changing in or out of town.

H. H. HAND, prop. 5t2

For quick Service and guaranteed satisfaction on all laundry, cleaning and pressing, dye work and hat work, Knife, Box and Accordion pleated work phone 218, Ligon the laundryman. I call for and deliver.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Brown are the happy parents of a bouncing baby girl, born on 2nd.

See for yourself that the Al Pierce Show offers only clean moral entertainment. They do not have to revert to profanity or vulgarity to make you laugh.

THURSDAY CLUB NOTES

The Thursday Club was very delightfully entertained last week by Mrs. Earl Lassiter and Mrs. T. E. Collins in the beautiful home of R. H. Collins.

Several games of Mock Bridge was played then the guests were given a Tree contest. Mrs. J. L. Winters being awarded the prize an attractive sandwich tray. We were then served with a lovely salad course.

Mrs. James L. Winters and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones entertained the members of the Thursday Club with several visitors in the latter's home on Oak Street.

After several games of 42 the guests were handed a snappy little ice contest written on a fan (to keep cool) Mrs. Rogers for knowing the most Ices was given a dainty linen kerchief.

After some lovely music was rendered by Mrs. Howard and Mrs. Mims every one was served with a delightful salad course.

NEW GOODS ARRIVING DAILY

and complete stock of Early Fall and Winter Goods are coming in on almost every train, and not only are the goods the latest and newest weaves and designs, but they carry with them the latest, which means

THE LOWEST PRICE ALSO

Especially do we call your attention to our new line of Ladies and Gents ready-to-wear.

Absolutely up to the Standard in every particular.

Remember---Our entire stock of Spring and Summer goods are all on the Bargain Counter

THE FAIR

MISCELLANEOUS

PLENTY COW FEED—Hulls, Meal, Bran, Shorts, Hay. Phone number 203.

FOR LEASE—3,432 acre ranch, located 16 miles north of Sierra Blanco, in Hudspeth county. Fenced and cross fenced in three pastures, Good House, corals, plenty of water, good cistern, also fine grass. Would lease from one to five years, at \$600 per year. See Pat Jones, Merkel for particulars. 15t4

A TEXAS WONDER

For kidney and bladder troubles, gravel, weak and lame back, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder. If not sold by your druggist, by mail \$1.25 Small bottle. Send for testimonials to D. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis Mo. Sold by druggists.

BUY COAL NOW

Buy at least a portion of your winter's needs now. We cannot tell what will happen this winter. There is practically no coal stored and all our requirements have got to be shipped yet. Better be safe than sorry. We have a few cars rolling. Better talk to us now and we will give you the best possible service and the BEST goods that money will buy. Yours to Serve. H. M. ROSE & SONS.

We can save you money on your summer, fall and winter wardrobe. If you will let us clean and press or dye it—repair, alteration and make over work done by workmen who know how. Ligon the laundryman, phone 218.

Forty years of constant use is the best proof of the effectiveness of White's Cream Vermifuge for expelling worms in children or adults. Price, 35c. Sold by Sanders Drug Store. Au

LAND TO TRADE FOR OIL STOCK

The Rio Grande Cotton and Sugar Company, of San Antonio Texas has fine land at \$3.00 to \$3.50 per acre to trade for your oil stock. So if you want to dispose of your oil stock worth the money and get good land for it see. E. D. Coats.

You are sure to be highly entertained by attending the Al Pierce show in the big tent Thursday, August 4th.

Miss Maurine Angus left last week for Fort Worth where she will visit her Uncle and family, and join them there on a trip to Tennessee.

Maize Headers at Bob Martin Grocery Company.

Capt. G. W. Johnson, one of Merkel's most prominent and best liked pioneer citizens, recently returned from a long visit to friends and relatives in his old home state, Tennessee. Mr. Johnson says that, although the changes have been many in the old states he greatly enjoyed his visit.

Ask those who have tried our dyeing, cleaning and pressing we can please you like we are hundreds of others in Merkel. Ligon the laundryman, phone 218. One day service, no gas odor.

Geo. S. Dunning formerly of Merkel but for several years a citizen of Abilene has recently moved back to Merkel, and dropped in one day this week and had us put him on our mailing.

ITCH! Money back without question if HUNT'S GUARANTEED SKIN DISEASE REMEDIES (Hunt's Salve and Soap), fail in the treatment of Itch, Eczema, Ringworm, Tetter or other itching skin diseases. Try this treatment at our risk. SANDERS DRUG STORE

LOOK! Who will be among us IN THE BIG TENT THE AL PIERCE SHOW

WITH Sylvia Summers, Al Pierce, Emmitt Boring, Russell Murdock and Company.

Bright, Snappy, Delightful, New Plays Full of good clean comedy and interesting Situations

Thursday Night— A 3 act Comedy "Polecat Perkins Plays Prodigal" Has Broken all non-stop laugh records.

Special Feature Crazy Singing Jazz Orchestra Entire change of program each night. DON'T MISS THIS OPENING PROGRAM Prices 10-20-30c

CONTENTED COWS GIVE MORE MILK

FLY pestered are not contented. Keep 'em contented and free from FLIES with "Martin's Fly Spray" Money back if you don't like it. Ask Sanders Drug Store Sep6

If you did not get some of our cakes, pies and dressed chicken last Saturday come again this Saturday and you'll be sure to find what you want.

J. M. Johnson and wife returned last week from a visit with relatives at Westbrook and Big Spring. They with their relatives and some friends also enjoyed a fishing and outing trip to the Menard river. Our friend Johnson reports a big time all the way round.

The Mail \$1.50 year in advance

The Al Pierce Show will open an engagement here Thursday August 4 in the big tent and expect a record crowd the opening night.

L.O.O.F. Special Attention regular meeting each Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Drill practice. Int. Work. All members urged to attend. H. M. Rose, Secty.

Peace Maker Flour, at G. M. Sharp's

Don't fail to see Emmitt D. Boring in that funny 3 act comedy "Polecat Perkins Plays Prodigal" in the big tent Thursday, August 4th.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sparlin of Collingsworth county were here this week for a visit with their grand daughter, Mrs. A. Morton. They left Wednesday for their home.

IS YOUR HEALTH GRADUALLY SLIPPING?

Interesting Experience of a Texas Lady Who Declares That if More Women Knew About Cardui They Would Be Spared Much Sickness and Worry.

Navasota, Texas.—Mrs. W. M. Peden, of this place, relates the following interesting account of how she recovered her strength, having realized that she was actually losing her health:

"Health is the greatest thing in the world, and when you feel that gradually slipping away from you, you certainly sit up and take notice. It is what I did some time ago when I found myself in a very nervous, run-down condition of health. I was so tired I could hardly go to work. I was just no account. I would get a bucket of water before I felt like I could

I couldn't rest well at night and was just lifeless.

"I heard of Cardui and after reading I decided I had some female trouble that was pulling me down. I sent for Cardui and began it. . .

"In a very short while after I began the Cardui Home Treatment I saw an improvement and it wasn't long until I was all right—good appetite, splendid rest, and much stronger so that I easily did my house work.

"Later I took a bottle of Cardui as a tonic. I can recommend Cardui and gladly do so, for if more women knew about it they would have a great deal of worry

PROFESSIONAL

DR. GAMBILL —D-e-n-t-i-s-t— Office Hours 8—12 a.m. ; 1—5 pm Over Woodroof-Bragg Co. Office Phone 116

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

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 Crown Hardware Co. Merkel —:— Texas

W. P. MAHAFFEY Attorney at Law Merkel and Abilene, Texas Merkel Office in rear Farmers State Bank. 22Sept17

CITY TAILOR SHOP Ladies and Gents Work. All Work Guaranteed Will call for and deliver work. Phone 189 Front Street

DR. R. I. GRIMES Physician and Surgeon Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m. Phones 105-163 Res.

DR. S W. JOHNSON. Surgeon Dentist Office over Farmers State Bank Office Phone 306

DR. CHAS. F. WILLIAMS Chronic Diseases a Specialty. General Practice Office Phone 280, 105 Res. 270

V. B. SUBLETT Watch and Jewelry repairing All Work First-class Located at Merkel Drug Co.

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

E. L. WILSON The Jeweler Watches, Clocks and Jewels Repaired. Glasses fitted days Free Trial.

Through error my number was left out of Call me at No. 210 for Carpentering, Papering.

T.W. COLLINS, C Near High School

Counting Your Money

NO FUMES NO FLAMES NO DIRT



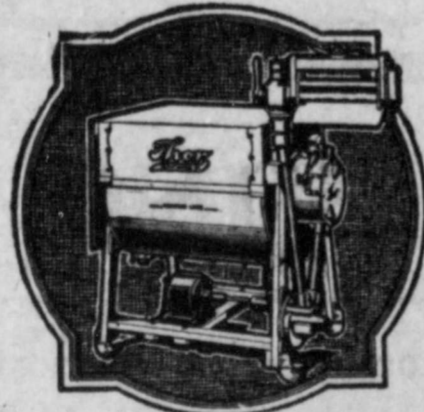
COOKING ELECTRICALLY

IS ALWAYS A PLEASURE

- Convenient Economical Clean Scientific Cool Modern

LET THE THOR START YOUR WASHING WHILE YOU PREPARE BREAKFAST

You can do your washing and get breakfast at the same time with the Thor Washing Machine. Just put the clothes and the suds into it and press the button. Off it will go with no further attention until you get ready to stop it.



We are selling our ranges and washing machines regardless of price, and on your own terms.

Let us give you a demonstration.

CALL 202

POWER COMPANY