

MIMS WILL OPEN STORE IN ABILENE

As per announcement in the Abilene Reporter, some few weeks ago, Mr. Ernest M. Mims of Merkel, with other associates, will open in the building formerly occupied by the Jones Dry Goods Company, in Abilene a new up-to-date stock of new dry goods.

Mr. Mims with his wife, who is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. S. W. Johnson, of Merkel, have resided in Merkel for the past two years; he being the traveling representative for West Texas during this time, for the Higginbotham-Logan Wholesale Dry Goods Company of Dallas, and during their stay in this city have made hosts of warm friends, who wish for Mr. Mims unlimited success in his new undertaking.

The building for this new store is being especially prepared for making this store one of the most attractive and up-to-date, not only in Abilene, but throughout all West Texas.

For some time Mr. Mims, who has had many years of actual experience in dry goods, has been in St. Louis buying a large and complete stock of Spring Dry Goods, ladies ready-to-wear, Millinery, men's furnishings etc. which will soon arrive for the opening of this big, new store.

The store, Mr. Mims announces will be equipped with the latest fixtures and furniture to be found in fashionable stores of the larger cities.

He also stated that he expected to make good use of the printers ink in the conduct of his business; being a strong believer in same, and that our readers may look to the Mail for his opening announcement.

HISTORY OF THE 142nd INFNT

Mr. J. L. Banner is in receipt of a letter from Ex. Chaplain C. H. Barnes, of the 142nd Inf't., announcing that he will be in Merkel within a few days with his book, "The History of the Inf't., during the World War, and would like to meet all the boys who were in same and show his book to them.

The Mail is glad to make this announcement.

"TOGETHER WE STAND"

If you are in good health, join our association, composed of healthy people within 50 miles of your home, who pay \$1.00 each, when a member dies, 1000 members pay \$1000, we collect \$1 each 6 months, dues, to run the association. The total cost of Mutual insurance usually averages \$5 to \$7 per year for \$1000, payable only \$1 at a time (each death or dues). Every assessment is payable in advance which enables us to pay all death claims, same day death occurs. While there is a friendly neighboring feeling, there is no lodge or other side issues, or other costs. Simply Cold Cash protection, at Cost and no changes in rates. If a member dies, we positively owe \$1 each, no more, no less. We carry each others protection, and altogether finance our own company. But this is not worth a cent to you until you join, give your application to a member or to our membership solicitor. Write for Blank, or call to see us. You can join No. 1 and No. 2 which means \$1000 each when completed. Citizens Mutual Life Insurance Association, F. & M. Bldg. Abilene Texas. It

H. D. Simpson, we are informed had business in Fort Worth the first of the week.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS

All regular services Sunday and through the week. Another communication from Judge Caldwell encourages us to look for him Sunday if it is a good day.

Attendance last Sunday was fine, considering the cold and mud.

Our prayer meetings are especially fine now as they are being led by the deacons and other local members of the church.

It is inspiring and helpful to have these men direct the prayer-meeting and call attention to the things they think we are in need of. Come to the prayer-meeting Wednesday evening and stay for Choir practice. You will get a blessing no doubt and your coming will help others.

Should we hear definitely, that Judge Caldwell will be with us Sunday, we will try to announce it on the streets Saturday. Come find a place to work and worship. Ira L. Parrack.

TRENT COUPLE MARRY HERE

Mr. A. R. Archer and Miss Mary Jane Elmore, both popular young people of Trent, were happily united in marriage on Tuesday evening of this week, by Eld. W. G. Cypert, at the latter's home in this city. They were accompanied by a number of young friends from their home city. The Mail joins their host of friends in extending congratulations and good wishes.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Walker, residing north of town a son on the 5th.

LOCAL D. G. FOLKS TO EASTERN MARKET

Mr. A. C. Rose, proprietor and manager of the Merkel Dry Goods company of this city left first of the week for St. Louis, accompanied by Miss Evorie Clark, who has charge of the Millinery department for this firm, where they will select the large and complete stock of spring and summer dry goods, clothing, millinery goods and etc for the coming season.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg of the Woodroof Bragg Co and Miss Willie Swann, Milliner, also left last Saturday for St. Louis where they too will buy the large and complete line of spring and summer goods, including dry goods, millinery etc.

Since there was ever hardly a time when buyers going to market could leave Merkel with such fine prospects for coming crops as exists here today, the Mail predicts that the buyers of both the above firms will be apt to buy the heaviest stocks they have bought in several years; hence the local trade may rest assured of being able to buy in Merkel anything they may want in the dry goods line.

LADIES—We have just received the right new line of Beautiful Spring Suits, Dresses and Skirts. Very modestly priced. The Brown D. G. Co. It

Mrs. F. Y. Gaither was called to Mineral Wells first of the week in response to a message announcing that her father, Mr. J. D. McCarty, was quite sick from the flu. Mr. and Mrs. McCarty, who reside at Carter, Okla., had gone to that city to spend the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Bright, who have been visiting S. D. Olive and family returned to their home in Trent Tuesday—Sweetwater Reporter.

MERKEL FOLKS IN BIG RADIO PROGRAM

The West Texas Radio Company of Abilene will on Friday evening, February 9th, from 8 to 9 o'clock broadcast a musical program given under the auspices of the Music Department of the Merkel High school. The program will be under the direction of Miss Roberta Gay, head of the Music Department of the Merkel schools. On Friday evening at eight o'clock, tune in on Station WQAQ on 360 meters and listen to a good musical program by Merkelites. The following program will be given:—

Program

1. Trombone Solo—"Lassus" presented by Fred Harrell; Lillian Craig at the Piano.
2. Tenor Solo—"Don't bring me Posies"—Delma Compton; accompanied by Miss Roberta Gay, piano; Fred Harrell, Trombone; Lynn Thompson, Violin.
3. Merkel High school Quartet—"When de Banjo Plays" by Belle McDonald, Nina Miller, Cyrus Pee and Ray Garrett.
4. Tenor Solo—"Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses" by Paul (Jack) West; Miss Gay at the Piano.
5. Instrumental Duett—"Perfect Day"—Violin, Miss Lynn Thompson; Trombone, Fred Harrell; Miss Gay, Piano.
6. Vocal Solo—"Smilin' Thru" by Christine Collins; Miss Gay at the Piano.
7. Vocal Solo—"Why Should I Cry over You," presented by Delma Compton; Miss Gay at the Piano.
8. Trombone Solo—"Teddy", by Fred Harrell; Miss Lillian Craig at the Piano.
9. Vocal Solo—"The World is Waiting for the Sunrise" by Paul (Jack) West; Miss Gay at the Piano.
10. Violin Solo—"The Rosary" presented by Miss Lynn Thompson; Miss Gay at the piano.
11. Vocal Trio—Old Time Favorites—Delma Compton, Paul West and Charlie Jones.

Intermediate B. Y. P. P.

1. Introduction, Eva Mae Johnson.
 2. Bible not written in English first, Lela Brown.
 3. The old Testament in Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek, by Wylie Elliott.
 4. First Translation, Ray Garrett.
 5. First Translation into English, Delbert Polly.
 6. First Printed Bible, Ella M. Weed.
 7. The King James Bible, Winnie Teaff.
 8. The revised version, Mary E. Smith.
- When in need of anything in the grocery line, Phone 106 W. F. Hamblett. It.

Presbyterian Auxiliary

The Auxiliary of the Presbyterian church met with Mrs. Fred S. Rogers, on last Monday afternoon with a good attendance. Mrs. Rogers led the devotional. An interesting paper on India was read by Mrs. Bland. The president passed interesting slips of facts on foreign missions, which were read by the members. The next meeting will be announced later.

Elder W. G. Cypert returned Monday evening from Rotan, where he had been to preach the dedicatory sermon for the new Church of Christ house of worship, just completed at that place.

A new firm, "The Merkel Produce Company, has been launched in Merkel, with I. S. Simpson as manager.

WORD TO METHODIST

The writer would say to you Methodist in Merkel, who love your church; who want to see it grow and prosper in the Masters work, that without doubt you are missing some of the deepest and most able Bible messages at the Mid-week prayer meetings, delivered by the pastor that you ever had an opportunity of hearing. Brother Hays talked last Wednesday evening on, "The Incarnation and Divinity of Christ", and that he ably defended the same according to Scripture can be attested to by every one present. It was a treat indeed to all Christians.

Next Wednesday evening he will discuss the "Divinity and Work of the Holy Spirit," and it is urged that every member of the church, who can be present and enjoy same.

A welcome is also extended to visitors and strangers who may wish to attend.

MEETING AT NUBIA

Brother Meadors, of Abilene Conference evangelist, will begin a series of meetings at Nubia on next Friday night, lasting through the following week. Bro. Meadors is well known for his earnestness and effective preaching. He is a man of power and one who will give you something worth while.

As this is the idle season of the year, there is no reason why we cannot all put our hands to the plow for God. U. S. Bird, Pastor, Merkel Circuit.

Thos. L. Grimes was a business visitor to Abilene Tuesday.

BAND CONCERT FOR SUNDAY AFTERNOON

The Mail has been informed that on next Sunday afternoon the Merkel Concert Band will render an excellent program at the Band Stand.

The public is cordially invited to attend and enjoy this splendid program, which the Mail feels sure will be a treat to one and all, for our band is surely coming. Let's get behind our band, for a good band is a fine investment for any town or city.

Junior B. Y. P. U.

- Song; Prayer, Song Business and records Sword drill; Song Group No. 2 in charge.
1. Introduction, by Roy Giles.
 2. Chalk Talk
 3. Bible not written first in English, Nell Brown.
 4. The old Testament in Hebrew and the new Testament in Greek, Marie Brown.
 5. The First Translation into English, Alvie Elliott.
 6. The first Printed Bible, Gladys Hardy.
 7. The King James Bible, by Helen Booth
 8. The Revised version by Hoyt Davis
- Special reading, Gladys Deuschman. Song, Prayer.

MASONIC NOTICE

There will be a call meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M. at 7:30 p. m. Saturday February 10. Important business. R. I. Grimes, W. M. H. R. Hicks, Secretary.

Rev. J. S. Moore, who has just recently gotten up from a spell of the flu, left first of the week for his pastoral work of the Stamford charge of the Methodist church south. His many friends here sincerely trust that he will continue to improve in health.

MR. BUTMAN MAKES PUBLIC STATEMENT

There was an article of Feb. 4th in the Abilene Reporter in reference to the damage suit against me which might be misleading to some of your readers and in order that they might know the exact conditions of the matter, I am sending you this article.

In 1916, I was compelled to build a dipping vat on my ranch under the laws of Texas and before building it, I sent to the Government at Washington and got their instructions and specifications in regard to building vats and built it according to the specifications and instructions of the pamphlet sent me.

The last cattle that were dipped in this vat, was early in 1918, being dipped in a light solution to rid them of lice. Consequently, there has been no solution placed in this vat since early in 1918. The vat has been practically dry for four years with the exception of when it was filled by rains.

The well, as stated in the article, is about twenty-one feet from the vat, and water has been used out of the well during all the time that the vat was built, both by myself and family and others who passed there at different times.

I believe that I am well enough known in this community for everyone to believe that had I the least suspicion in the world that there was anything wrong with the well, that I would have immediately posted notices to that effect.

No one more than myself, regrets the sickness and death in this family, but I have never believed that I was in anyway, directly or indirectly responsible for it, and the jury were of the same belief, as indicated by the verdict. Very Truly yours, Sam Butman, Sr.

LADIES—We have just received the right new line of Beautiful Spring Suits, Dresses and Skirts. Very modestly priced. The Brown Dry Goods Co. It

Epworth League Program

- Songs; Prayer. Announcements. Subject—Eternal Life thru faith in Jesus Christ the son of God.
- Leader—Sie Hamm. Scripture—John 20 30-31. Belief in the son essential, John 3, 36—Lorena Frazier. The Testimony of Jesus, Jno. 6, 40—Joe Ridenbauch. The only Real life, 1 Thim. 6 17-19—Ruth Pike. Suppose there was no future life. What effect would this have on society—Russell Pike. Things to Think over,—Blanche Durham. Song Business League Benediction.

TO GO TO TRAINING SCHOOL

Judge Wm. H. Atwell in Federal court at Dallas, this week sentenced Edwin Rice, a boy of this city, to four years in the Government's Training school for Boys at Washington. The case against Rice charged theft of mail matter and forgery of money orders, which occurred at the mail office in the Abilene Christian College.—Abilene Reporter.

The many friends of Mrs. W. C. Calvert, a former citizen of Merkel will be pleased to learn that she is slowly recovering from a severe case of pneumonia, at her home in Sweetwater.

PROGRAM FOR THE PARENT-TEACHER CLUB

1. Song by High school Choral Club.
2. Devotional, led by Fred S. Rogers.
3. Song by Fifth Grade Pupils
4. Reading, Mildred Smith.
5. "State Presidents Message", Mrs. Thos Durham.

Round Table Discussion—Topic, "What can We do for the Welfare of the Children of our community."

a. For their Health, Mrs. R. I. Grimes. (b) For School improvement, Mrs. Guy Tabor. (c) For Proper Recreation, Mrs. D. Briggs.

Reading, David Gambill.

WILL PREACH AT HOPE

Eld. W. G. Cypert announces that on next Sunday he will fill his regular appointment at Hope.

Brother Cypert will have an able and interesting message for all who hear him, and extends a royal welcome to every one.

BUSINESS HOUSES TO CLOSE SIX P. M.

We, the undersigned business men & Firms of Merkel agree to close our places of Business at 6 o'clock except on Saturdays beginning Monday February 12, and running until September 1, 1923. Liberty Hardware Co. Bob Martin; Merkel Dry Goods, Crown Hardware Co. G. M. Sharp, Garrett & Co. C. L. Tucker, Mrs. J. M. Dry, T. C. Wilson, H. M. Rose, West Texas Utilities Co. Mrs C. L. Cash, Barrow Co. A. T. Lyle, Merkel Lumber Co., W. W. Campbell, Rose & O'Briant, Max Mellinger, Watkins Bros., V. B. Sublett, J. T. Dennis, Woodroof-Bragg Co., West Co., Burton-Lingo Co., West Barber shop, Brown D. G. Co. E. L. Ash, Hamilton and Case, Patterson Bros., Jno. S. Hughes Grocery, City Barber Shop, L. Renfro, Tailor, Jno. B. Bell and Son, Clifford Rose, Merkel Ice & Coal Co., J. T. Darsey.

Intermediate Epworth League

Subject—Forks in the Road. Leader—Emma Toombs. Announcements. Song. The Fork in the Road, Godie Richie. The Companion on the way, Lewis Tucker. Special song, Lois Dixon True to the Path, Alma Patterson. Closing talk by the Superintendent. Song; Benediction.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason Pee returned last week from a business trip to Oklahoma, as well as a pleasant visit with Mrs. Pee's father, who is one of the prominent and wealthy citizens of that state.

R. L. Bland made a business trip to the capital city of Taylor Tuesday.

THIS BANK IS A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Our Officers and Directors are all Merkel people and are interested in the up-building of this community.

This Bank is a Guaranty Fund Bank and gives you the maximum of safety for your savings.

Help build an institution that is founded upon Honesty, Safety and Service.

Farmers State Bank

deleston in pouring tea. This was indeed an afternoon of pleasure as well as profit and we hope to have more of these teas in the near future. Com.

I. X. L. School Notes

Miss Hettye Randolph spent Sunday at Mr. Jim Moores.

Misses Mina Reynolds, Lillian Blair and Nola Neill spent Sunday at Misses Flois and Ruby Caseys.

Some of the girls seem as though they might be going to housekeeping because they have been crocheting and making handkerchiefs at the school house.

Every day Happenings:—Velma Conley Curling her hair. Dolly Toombs, Thelma Fuqua, Irene Keith, painting their cheeks.

Odie Latimer, Thaxton Neill painting their lips.

Miss Flois Casey visiting our school.

Earl Palmer chewing gum, during school hours.

Gale Toombs, Willie Blair, and Annie Lee Reynolds getting into their larger sisters powder and paint.

Lillian Balir getting hurt.

Opal Neill trying to fix her ear bob on straight.

Ray Reynolds fighting or fussing.

Bud Lilly blushing because all the girls wink at him.

Miss Hettye trying to teach the 6th grade to multiply.

Thaxton Neill getting so cold on warm days he can build a fire.

Can you imagine Miss Hettye trying to teach the 9th grade geometry?

Dolly Toombs trying to act cute.

Miss Alma Powdering her nose.

Miss Hettye losing her temper.

Mr. McLean and Mr. Palmer came and put us some window shades and put some door locks on and oiled our floors, all of which makes our building look like a new one.

The I. X. L. Girls basket ball team are practicing ball to try to beat Eutman team Friday, Feb. 2. The line up is as follows: Forwards, Nina Reynolds, Garrie McLean; Centers, Lillian Blair, Ruby Casey; Guards, Flois Casey, Dolly Toombs. yell for us.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

By Roberta Hughes

Monday afternoon from 3:20 until 4:00 the High school was entertained by Bro. Dallas and Bro. Haley, of the first Christian church, of Abilene.

Mr. Dallas gave an interesting talk, and Mr. Haley entertained us with slight of-hand tricks and a drawing.

We are very glad that Mr. Haley has promised to come again this week, and give us a musical program.

The Arithmetic 10 class had their final exam. Tuesday morning, and all are anxious to hear their grades.

We were glad to have Bro. Rogers with us again last Thursday morning for chapel services.

The Merkel boys played Stith Thursday afternoon, and Salt Branch Friday afternoon. They were only practice games, but we were glad that the score ended in our favor.

The parent-Teachers Association has requested each pupil to bring a penny on each Friday. This money will go to the benefit of the school.

We are proud that so far this year, no one from the Junior or Senior class has been on the "stay-in squad". (But some of them had better knock on wood.)

The High School is enjoying the two hundred new books which were added to the library some time ago.

The latest fad is having one's fortune told, however some of them say they are to be rather unfortunate.

Miss Iva Bragg is at Breckenridge on a visit to Mrs. Dee Grimes.

Almost every day some good customer comes in and remarks

"WE HAVE TRANSACTED ALL OF OUR BUSINESS THROUGH THIS BANK FOR 18 YEARS"

This makes us very proud of the customers and very proud of the record made by the bank as a safe conservative **DEPOSITORY** of the funds of its customers.

We have never missed a **DIVIDEND** and we have never failed to supply the needs of our customers.

Mr. West, Mr. Warren and Mr. James were original directors named and are now serving in that capacity.

We pay the same rate of interest on time or **SAVINGS DEPOSITS** to all alike. We charge the same rate of interest to every one.

We will grant every favor and accommodation to our customers that is warranted by sound, conservative banking—but we will do no more than this.

We feel that the **REPUTATION** of this Bank is a guarantee of **SAFETY** unexcelled by any bank in Texas.

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

J. T. Warren, President L. R. Thompson, Cashier

PARENT-TEACHER CLUB

The Parent-Teacher Club will have their next regular meeting next Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 4, at the School building at 3:30. A nice program has been arranged for the meeting, and a special invitation is given to all parents of Merkel to attend. We now have about 60 members in the Parent-Teachers Club and all are working with a will. Our teas have been quite successful although the weather man has failed to smile on us on these occasions. Our last Saturday afternoon tea at the home of Mrs. Luke Huddlestons' was quite a success in spite of the dreadfully cold weather which prevailed.

Our hostess, and her assistants had decorated the house very beautifully with red hearts to carry out the Valentine spirit. The shades were drawn and the brilliant lights from the chandeliers, which were beautifully decorated with small red hearts, together with a roaring fire, which burned in the grate, gave the rooms an air of warm hospitality. In the tea room were four small tables, covered with snowy linen and in the center of each table were cut glass bud vases filled with roses. The Valentine spirit was also carried out in this room by the use of red hearts on the linens and curtains. An excellent program of music and readings by different pupils and teachers of our school completed this afternoon's entertainment.

Mrs. Johnson received the guests at the door and gave each one as guest favors, small red hearts, tied in white ribbon bearing this inscription, "Parent-Teacher Club, Feb. 3, 1923."

To Mrs. Fred S. Rogers, we are indebted for the arranging of the program and on this program we are indebted to Misses Travis, Gay, Sears, Rose, Proctor, West, and little Misses Flora Frances Anderson and Louise Rose.

Mrs. Booth assisted Mrs. Hud

Fordson

You will want your Fordson Tractor Early

Everything points to the greatest shortage of Ford products this year that has ever existed.

Never before has the demand been so great.

You will want a Fordson Tractor early—here is one product you cannot wait for—when the weather opens up you will need it.

You will want it for plowing, seeding, cultivating—and all your other work. Already it has proved the greatest help to profitable farming that has ever been offered to you. And at \$395 f. o. b. Detroit, the price is so low that you lose money every day you are without a Fordson. To get deliveries you must order early.

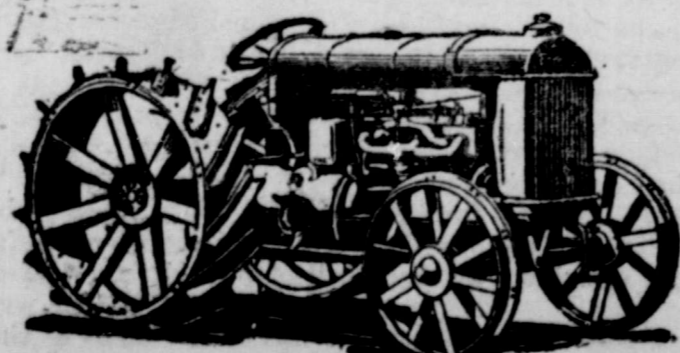
There are no reserve stocks among our dealers—our production capacity, great as it is, will not enable us to build up a reserve.

It must be a case of "first come, first served" and the only way in which you can protect yourself is to list your order with a Ford Dealer immediately.

By taking advantage of our dealer's first opportunity to make delivery, you will be assured of having your Fordson when you need it.

Ford Motor Company

DETROIT, MICHIGAN



\$395

f. o. b.

DETROIT

MERKEL MOTOR COMPANY

BLAIR NEWS

Quite a bunch of Blairites motored over to Merkel Monday night to hear the Klan lecture. All returned fully convinced that the Klan was here to stay.

Everyone is happy on account of the many showers putting the ground in condition for a big crop.

Sante Fe Paint gang have been here for ten days, painting the Depot and other property of the company's, which adds to the beauty of this fast growing town.

John Ray has just finished another Brick Building on the north of his dry goods store, which adds much to Blair. The building has been rented to Reeves & Reeves, who have opened up a first class garage.

Mr. Howard Brown will move to Blair this week and will be employed by Mr. Ray in his grocery store. Mr. Ray was very lucky in getting this young man who is so well known in the Canyon territory.

Luck to the Merkel Mail—(Slim.)

PUBLIC SALES

We have purchased 122,000 pair U. S. Army Munson last shoes, sizes 5½ to 12 which was the entire surplus stock of one of the largest U. S. Government shoe contractors.

This Shoe is guaranteed one hundred percent solid leather, color dark tan, bellows tongue, dirt and waterproof. The actual value of this shoe is \$6.00. Owing to this tremendous buy we can offer same to the public at \$2.95.

Send correct size. Pay postman on delivery or send money order. If shoes are not as represented, we will cheerfully refund your money promptly upon request. National Bay State Shoe Company, 296 Broadway, New York, N. Y. tf.

Jasper McCoy made a business trip to the southern part of the county Thursday.

TRENT QUINT IS CHAMP OF COUNTY IN BASKETBALL

By defeating the Guion high school basketball team at the Abilene Christian College court Friday afternoon, 30 to 17, the Trent high school becomes the county champion. Trent defeated the Abilene high school team here several days ago. Trent and Guion had played a tie game previous to last week's game.

Just when the next game will be played by Trent is not known here, but it is expected to be within the near future. An effort will be made to have the bi-district games played in this city on account of the fact that there is much interest in record of the Trent team and on account of the fact that there are two excellent courts here, one at A. C. C. and the other at Simmons College.—Abilene Reporter.

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OUR SPRING INVITATION

It makes no difference to us as to whether you are in the market for a new suit or not. We want you to come in at your earliest possible moment and look over our new spring sample lines. They are far the best and most beautiful we have ever shown. And we feel sure that the collection, style and prices are all so complete and reasonable that you can not afford to pass the opportunity up. Cash Tailor Shop Mrs. C. L. Cash Prop.

PREVENTION
better than cure. Tutt's Pills taken in time, are not only a remedy for but prevent **SICK HEADACHE** biliousness, constipation and indigestion.
Tutt's Pills

ORDINANCE NO. 1

An Ordinance Entitled An Ordinance Prohibiting Gaming Within The Corporate Limits Of The City Of Merkel And Prescribing a Penalty For Its Violation.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL:

Section 1. Playing cards in a public place.—If any person shall play at any game of cards at any house for retailing spirituous liquors, store house, tavern, inn, or other public house, or in any street, highway or other public place, or in any outhouse where people resort, or at any place except a private residence occupied by a family; or, if any person shall bet, wager any money or other thing of value, or representative of either, at any game of cards, except in a private residence occupied by a family and the provisions of the act that permits gaming in a private residence shall not apply in case such residence is one commonly resorted to for the purpose of gaming, he shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars.

Section 2. What included in preceding article.—All houses commonly known as public, and all gaming houses are included within the meaning of the preceding article. Any room attached to such public house and commonly used for gaming, is also included, whether the same be kept closed or open. A private room of an inn or tavern is not within the meaning of the public places, unless such room is commonly used for gaming; nor is a private business office or private residence to be construed as within the meaning of a public house or place; provided, said private residence shall not be a house for retailing spirituous liquors.

Section 3. Offense complete without betting.—In prosecutions under the two preceding articles, it shall not be necessary for the state to prove that any money or article of value, or the representative of either, was bet at such game, when the prosecution is for playing cards at a house for retailing spirituous liquors, store house, tavern, inn or any other public place, or in any street, highway or other public place, or in any outhouse where people resort, or at any place except a private residence occupied by a family; provided, that nothing in this title shall be so construed as to prevent the playing of any game for amusement at a private residence occupied by a family.

Section 4. Persons going in gaming house.—If any person shall go into or remain in any gambling house, knowing that same to be such, or shall remain in any place where any of the games prohibited by this act, or, within his knowledge, being played, dealt or exhibited, he shall be punished by fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than fifty dollars. Gambling house and gaming house, as used in this law, is meant any place where people resort for the purpose of gaming, betting or wagering.

Section 5. Betting at base ball or foot ball.—It shall be unlawful for any person in this state to enter into an agreement with another, either orally, written, or implied, whereby either one or both shall bet or wager money, or anything of value, or otherwise become a party to any gambling scheme based upon the final result or outcome, or any play or portion thereof of a game of baseball, or football; provided, that nothing here in shall prohibit contesting baseball or football teams, or their duly authorized agents or managers from entering into an agreement as to the manner of disposition of gate receipts derived from such games.

Section 6. Punishment for.—Any person found guilty of violating this law shall be subject to a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars.

Section 7. If any person within this city shall bet or wager at any gaming table, or bank, or pigeonhole, or jenny lind table, or nine or ten pin alley, or shall bet or wager any money or other thing of value, at any of the following games viz: poker, poker-dice, jack-pot, high-dice, high-die, low-dice, low-die, dominoes, eucure with dominoes, poker with dominos, muggins, crack loo, or any other game of any character whatever that can be played with dice or dominos, or on any table, bank or alley, by whatever name, the same may be known, and without reference to how the same may be construed or operated, he shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars, provided, no person shall be prosecuted under this section for playing of any said games with dice or dominos at a private residence occupied by a family.

Section 8. The fact that there is no ordinance now covering the above subject creates an emergency, and the rule requiring the reading of this ordinance at three several meetings is hereby dispensed with and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication.

Passed February 5, A. D. 1923.

H. C. West, Mayor
Attest: G. W. Johnson, Sec.
(SEAL)

ORDINANCE NO. 2

An ordinance entitled an ordinance prohibiting fast driving and riding within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel, and prescribing a penalty for its violation.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL:

Section 1. That hereafter, who ever, within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel, shall ride or drive any beast of burden, in or through any street, alley, road, highway or other public place, in a gait faster than ordinary, unless in a case of urgent necessity, or shall drive any dray or heavy wagon through any such public place, in a gait faster than a walk when loaded, or faster than a trot when empty, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than one nor more than fifty dollars.

Section 2. When any person within the corporate limits of the city of Merkel, shall ride or drive any beast of burden in any public place in such a manner as to come in collision with any vehicle, animal or person, or shall ride or drive any animal usually driven with reins without holding the reins in hand, or shall ride or drive any beast of burden in any public place with a bell or bells attached thereto, or shall ride, drive, lead or place any beast of burden or vehicle on any sidewalk, or pavement, otherwise than going in or out of premises, owned or controlled by him or her or by his or her employer, or shall leave any horse or beast of burden standing in any public place with out the same is securely tied, or shall turn any horses, mules or cattle loose on any public place, street or alley, or drive any such animals upon any sidewalk, or shall leave any team or beast of burden attached to a vehicle in any street, alley, or public place, without being securely tied, or shall stop any beast of burden or vehicle on any street or alley, so as to obstruct the street or passways shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in any sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

Section 3. Operation of motor vehicles without number and seal; false seal or number; disposition of fines:—Any person

operating a motor vehicle within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel after the taking effect of this ordinance, without the number plates displayed thereon, in accordance with the requirements of this ordinance, or any one owning and operating a motor vehicle or motorcycle, with the distinguishing seal provided by the Department for each year, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars for each violation, and each day such motor vehicle or motorcycle is operated upon the highways and streets within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel in violation of the provisions of this ordinance, shall constitute a separate offense. Any person obtaining a distinguishing seal, as provided by the State Laws of this state, from any source other than the State Highway Department or its authorized agents, or except as herein before provided, or any person not authorized by the state Highway Department, who sells or offers to sell any seal or number in imitation of those furnished by the State Highway Department, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than twenty-five dollars; provided that all sums arising from the imposition and collection of fines under this Ordinance, shall constitute a special maintenance fund to be expended upon the streets of the City of Merkel.

Section 4. Operation of motor vehicles without numbers displayed; false or fictitious plate; motorcycles; plates to be kept clean and distinct.—No person shall operate or drive a motor vehicle on the public streets of the city of Merkel unless such vehicle shall have at all times displayed on the front and the other on the back thereof, number plates, corresponding to the distinctive number assigned to such motor vehicle by the said department and such number plate to be in conformity with other requirements of said department.

No person shall attach to or display on such motor vehicle any number plate assigned to it, under any other motor vehicle law other than by the Highway department of this State, or any registration number other than that assigned for the current year, or a fictitious number plate; provided, however, that but one number plate shall be required upon motor cycles and that such number plate upon motorcycles shall be attached to the rear thereof.

All letters, numbers and other identification marks shall be kept clear and distinct and free from grease or other blurring matter so that they shall be plainly seen at all times during day light.

Section 5. Operation of motor vehicle with out seal displayed; fictitious seal.—No person shall operate or drive a motor vehicle within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel unless such vehicle shall have at all times conspicuously displayed on the front end thereof the seal for the current year assigned to the said motor vehicle by the Highway Department, and no person shall attach to or display on such vehicle any seal assigned to it under any motor vehicle law, or a fictitious seal or a seal not of the current year, provided that the seal assigned a motorcycle shall be attached conspicuously to the rear thereof.

Section 6. Equipment with signal device; sounding.—Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a bell, gong, horn, whistle or other device in good working order, capable of emitting an abrupt sound adequate in quality and volume to give warning of the approach of such motor vehicle to pedestrians and to the rider, or driver of animals, or of other vehicles and to pedestrians on the streets.

Section 7. Lights on motor vehicles, motorcycles, and bicycles. (a) Every motor vehicle other than a motorcycle while on the streets within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel, when in operation, during the period of one-half hour after sunset one-half hour before sunrise, and at all times when fog or other atmospheric conditions render the operation of such vehicles unusually dangerous to traffic and the use of the streets, shall carry at the front at least two well lighted lamps showing the white lights visible under normal atmospheric conditions at least five hundred feet in the direction toward which such motor vehicle is facing, and shall also carry at the rear a well lighted lamp exhibiting one red light plainly visible for a distance of five hundred feet to the rear.

(b) At the times and under the conditions herein before specified in this ordinance, every motorcycle or bicycle, while on the streets of the City of Merkel, and when in operation, shall carry on its front one lighted lamp showing a white light visible under normal atmospheric conditions at least two hundred feet in the direction toward which such motorcycle or bicycle is facing and shall also carry at the rear of such motorcycle or bicycle one red light, plainly visible from the rear.

Section 8. Brakes.—All motor vehicles must be provided at all times when being operated on the public highways with adequate brakes kept in good working order.

Section 9. Intoxicated persons not to drive vehicles.—No intoxicated person shall operate or drive a motor or any other vehicle within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel.

Section 10. Standing in street without setting brakes.—No person having control or charge of a motor vehicle shall allow such vehicle to stand in any public street or public within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel unattended without first effectively setting the brakes thereon and stopping the motor of said vehicle.

Section 11. Racing prohibited.—No race or contest for speed shall be held upon any public highway in the corporate limits of the city of Merkel.

Section 12. Rate of Speed.—Every person operating or driving a motor or other vehicle on the streets within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel, shall operate or drive the same in a careful and prudent manner, and at a rate of speed not greater than is reasonable and proper, having regard to the traffic and use of the streets, and no person shall operate or pass a motor or other vehicle on the streets at such rate of speed as to endanger the life or limb of any person or the safety of any pedestrian, or persons in another vehicle or vehicles or the safety of any property; provided it shall be unlawful to drive at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen miles per hour.

Section 13. Hereafter it shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor or other vehicle on any public highway or street or any place within the corporate limits of the City of Merkel at a greater rate of speed than eighteen miles per hour.

Section 14. It shall be unlawful for any person to drive at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen miles per hour within the business section of the City of Merkel or within one block of the boundary lines of any public school building.

Section 15. The business section as herein above mentioned is defined to be any part of the City wherein there is a business house, within the block.

Section 16. Penalty for violation of this ordinance.—The violation of any of the provisions or requirements contained in this ordinance shall constitute a misdemeanor, punishable by

fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars and for the second or any subsequent offence, not less than ten nor more than two hundred dollars.

Section 17. The fact that there is no ordinance now covering the above subjects creates an emergency and the rule requiring the reading of this ordinance at three several meetings is here by dispensed with and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication.

Passed February 5, A.D. 1923.

H. C. West, Mayor.
Attest G. W. Johnson, Sec.
(SEAL)

PROFESSIONAL

DR. R. I. GRIMES
Physician and Surgeon

Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m.
Phones 105-163 Res. 165

COMMINGS & SANDERS
Attorneys At-Law

OFFICE Up-stairs over
Bradshaw & Sublett Grocery

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

DR. S. W. JOHNSON.
Surgeon Dentist

Office over Farmers State Bank
Office Phone 306

THOS. C. WILSON
The Jeweler
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry
Repaired.
All work guaranteed.

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

Mrs. George Smith returned
Saturday night from a short
visit with relatives at Sweet-
water.



DO YOU know of anyone who is old enough to read, who has not seen that sign at a railroad crossing?

If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why doesn't the railroad let the sign rot away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing? Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise." Your store and your goods need more advertising than the railroads need to warn people to "Look Out for the Cars." Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world. The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business. If it pays to run a few ads round about Christmas time, it certainly will pay you to run advertisements about all the time. It's just business, that's all, to **ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER**

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

BIRD FEASTS ON LIVE SHEEP

Species of Parrot is the Most Formidable Enemy of the New Zealand Farmer.

There is no other parrot like the kea. The power centered in its neck, beak and talons is so great that the kea is the most formidable pest with which the New Zealand sheep farmer has to contend. While soaring overhead it selects its prey, and, swooping downwards, settles on the sheep's back and proceeds to tear away the wool with its beak, then, digging deep into the flesh, holds on to the wool with its talons until thoroughly gorged.

When the first settlers came to New Zealand the kea was mainly a vegetarian, the animal part of its diet being confined to insects and grubs. It has been suggested that it acquired its taste for sheep flesh from the offal which the farmers left exposed after slaughtering a sheep.

And speaking of sheep in New Zealand, in the mountain districts there flourishes a plant known as the Raoullia, or vegetable sheep—a mass of closely packed twigs thickly covered with white, woolly leaves. Seen from a distance the Raoullia so closely resembles a sheep, or a group of sheep, resting on the hillsides that shepherds are often led to make a long trek in its direction, mistaking it for lost members of their flock.

WERE BARBER AND SURGEON

Centuries Ago, Members of the Present-Day Guild Embraced the Two Avocations.

A reminder of the survival of the ancient trade guilds in London, long after their members have ceased to have any connection with trades they ostensibly represent, is provided by the recent election of a chairman of the Company of Barbers.

The new chairman never was a barber, and if any of his ancestors were he has forgotten it. And the same is true of all the members of the company. But they are very proud of the old traditions of the company and get together on stated occasions to eat a generous dinner, washed down with good wine, and listen to speeches about the good old times.

The company was incorporated in 1441 and fifty years later an act was passed which prevented any persons not members of the company from practicing surgery within seven miles of the city of London, unless they had been licensed by the bishop of London.

Barbers were versatile folk in those times, combining the avocations of surgeon and dentist with the work of trimming hair and beards.—From a London Letter to the New York Evening Post.

Owl Preys by Night.

The habits of animals are developed and regulated chiefly by their surroundings and by the sort of prey on which they live. Sea-gulls, for example, can dive a considerable distance under water and catch the fish which form their principal article of diet, while a chicken would starve to death if forced to depend upon this method of securing food. So it is with owls, which generally make their appearance only after dark. This species of birds feeds mainly upon mice and other small creatures which are active at night. Therefore, the owl, which has developed a soft plumage that makes its flight almost noiseless, comes out after sunset in search of its food. It is also because of this habit that the owl's eyes, like the cat's, are so made that the pupil can be dilated until the bird is able to make use of every particle of light available and, while owls cannot see in absolute darkness, they are able to utilize the faintest of light rays to such an extent that they can spot and catch their prey unerringly.

Wholesale Human Mutilation.

Forty thousand pairs of ears and 40,000 noses, the war trophies of that famous and painfully thorough Japanese General Hideoyoshi, lie beneath the plain stone marker and grass-grown mound of the "Mimi-Zuka," or Ear tomb, a short distance from one of Kioto's main streets.

They were deposited there as evidence of the valor and success of Hideoyoshi's expert carvers, and also to serve as emphatic warning of the fate all who crossed that determined warrior might expect.

The ears and noses are not, however, the bounty of any recent exploit. Hideoyoshi was the strong man of Japan more than three centuries ago, and his gruesome trophies were once the valued property of 40,000 Koreans who had foolishly resisted the Japanese general's invasion of their native land.

The Quality Shop

Bakes Fresh
Bread
Pies
Cookies
and
Good Pastry
Every Day.

When ordering your groceries don't forget to say, a loaf of Quality Bread.

Sold by all Groceries Meat Markets and Cafes

Fresh, Crisp
and
Delicious

"The Quality Loaf"

S. L. Ensminger, returned yesterday from a trip to Oklahoma. While on his trip there, Mr. Ensminger suffered a severe spell from the flu, and when he came in was just able to get about. He reports that disease raging in that country, with many fatalities.

We are very thankful to our good friend and excellent fellow citizen, Mr. J. P. Frederickson for the renewal of his subscription for himself as well as one which he sends to his daughter, in Arizona. Mr. Frederickson first came to this country in the year 1882, and is among those who have seen same develop from the then thinly settled cattle country to now one of the best agricultural and stock raising country in the south.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Dry have moved to Abilene, where Mr. Dry has a position with a drug store in that city.

Don't Take It For Granted

that just because you are in business, everybody is aware of the fact. Your goods may be the finest in the market but they will remain on your shelves unless the people are told about them.

ADVERTISE

if you want to move your merchandise. Reach the buyers in their homes through the columns of THIS PAPER and on every dollar expended you'll reap a handsome dividend.

LET ME BE YOUR WASHWOMAN

Even if you are doing your own washing and ironing at home. A trial will convince you that my service is not only cheaper and better, but eliminates worry and drudgery. My Semi Finish Service, includes—Sheets, Pillowslips, Towels, Table Clothes, Napkins, Kitchen Towels, Counterpanes, Cotton Blankets, Shirts, Soft Collars, house dresses, Underwear, Socks, Stockings, Childrens Clothes, Handkerchiefs, Overalls etc. Nothing excluded except stiff collars, silk and wool. The customer must have 10 lbs or over. Guaranteed against broken buttons, fading and shortage. Put an itemized list with bundle.

My Cleaning and Pressing also Dying service is endorsed just as highly as my special family washing and ironing service.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning calls, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. If its cheaper and better, I have helped you, a trial will convince you.

Yours for business

LIGON THE LAUNDRYMAN

Phone 218

TRENT NEWS

By Lillian Tedford

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Black, who have just moved from Merkel have rooms at Mrs. Douglass's. Mr. Black is connected with the Burton Lingo Company of Trent.

We are glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Black and baby to our community and hope them much success.

Titus Hearn and John Deason who worked in Trent last fall are back in Trent for a visit.

Rev. McGregor of Simmons College filled Rev. Riddle's regular appointment. On account of Mrs. Riddle having the flu. Mr. Riddle could not be here.

Elder G. W. Cypert filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

Mr. M. G. Scott's two children Dorene and the baby have been very sick with the flu but we are glad that they are rapidly improving.

Miss Nell Holloway of Merkel was in Trent Monday to get a music class. We hope that she succeeds in her efforts.

Mr. W. Y. Stein's father is on the sick list this week. We hope that he is soon well again.

Miss Willie Dorris Archer has the flu. She is reported to be doing nicely.

Mrs. G. T. Walker and daughter returned to their home in Big Spring last week after a visit to Mrs. Walker's son and other relatives.

Miss Reta Adrian who is attending Abilene Christian College spent the week-end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Welch of Quanah and Judge Welch of Medicine Mound and A. W. Welch's son, Mr. W. A. Buford of Trent.

Miss Ethel Riley of Coleman is visiting her sisters, Mrs. Herbert West, and Mrs. Arthur Goode.

Mr. John Skillern of Sweetwater was in Trent one day last week.

Mr. John Reynolds who is teaching school in the White Church community spent the week end at home.

Miss Ethel McLeod who is teaching at Newman, spent the week end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Massey motored to Merkel Sunday and stayed until Monday with Mrs. Massey's sister, Mrs. T. E. Collins.

Miss Juanita Shouse who is attending Simmon College spent the week end at home.

Mr. Shields Sipe and little son of Ardmore, Oklahoma, are visiting Mr. Sipe's parents.

Mr. Charlie Hutchinson was in Abilene Saturday on business.

Miss Ora Vessels has returned home after a month visit to Lubbock and other points on the plains.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowers and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Baltree of White Flat.

Mrs. Ross Baker has just returned from Travis County where she has spent the past

Tires Tires Tires

If it's tires you need come around and let us fit you up. We have a Big Line of Cord Tires that are good and the price is Right. We will make all adjustments right here at home, on all Kokomo Cords and Crusader Cords Satisfaction guaranteed on these tires.

We sell Magnolia Gas, Oil and Cup grease. Also Amala Oils. All good.

McFarland & Co.

F. C. McFarland Mgr.

several months with friends and relatives.

Last week while Messrs W. J. Hassel and Lewis Johnston were after a cow, the horse which W. J. Hassel was riding fell and threw W. J. into a wire fence, cutting one of his legs severely. Several stitches were taken and he is reported doing nicely.

Mr. Zant Scott spent the week end with his uncle, Mr. M. G. Scott. He has now gone to Abilene to spend a few days with an Aunt.

Mr. and Mrs. Clay Causseaux spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Causseaux of Tuscola.

Mr. Yates Harwell, who has been visiting his sister, who lives in Rotan, has returned home.

Miss Bessie English who is attending Simmons College spent the week end at home.

Mr. Erwin Reneau left Tuesday afternoon for the Plains.

Mr. O. A. Smith went to Abilene Tuesday on business.

The father of Miss Odessa Moon passed away at his home near Breckenridge last week. Miss Moon was formerly of Trent.

Mr. Hubert Beckham and Mrs. Alec Williamson attended the funeral services and returned home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Baccus, who live south of Merkel spent the week end with Mrs. Baccus brother, Rev. and Mrs. E. D. Landreth.

Mrs. L. E. Adrian, has been quiet sick for the past few days. We hope Mrs. Adrian is soon able to be up again.

Mrs. Anna Bray left for Hale Center to join her husband. They will make their home there.

Methodist Church Directory

Sunday School every Sunday 10a. m., Mr. Lee Keyes, Supt. Preaching every Sunday morning and night.

Junior Epworth League, Sunday 5:15 p. m., Mrs. Landreth, and Dagmah Rawlins, Supts. Senior Epworth League every

Sunday, 6:00, following the Junior League, Jakey Reid, Pres.

Woman's Missionary Society, Monday after each second and fourth Sunday at 3:00 p. m., Mrs. R. B. McRee, pres.

Prayer meeting Tuesday night followed by Young Men's prayer meeting.

White Flat

Preaching on Fourth Sunday afternoon.

—oo—

Escota

Preaching second Sunday afternoon.

Junior Epworth League every Sunday 10 a. m., Miss Bertha Utley, Supt.

Senior Epworth League every Sunday after Sunday school in the afternoon. Herbert Johnson Pres.

Elmer Landreth, P. C.

—oo—

Baptist Church Directory

Preaching each second and fourth Sundays and Saturday night before.

Conference Saturday before 2nd Sunday in each month.

Sunday school each Sunday, 10 a. m., J. E. Bowers, Supt.

B. Y. P. U. each Sunday afternoon

Junior. B. Y. P. U., 4 p. m., with Miss Winnie Brown pres.

Senior B. Y. P. U. 6:30 p. m. Mr. Johnnie B. Winn, President

Ladies Meeting—Wednesday afternoon at 3. Mrs. J. B. Winn president.

Prayer meeting each Wednesday evening.

Come thou with us and we will do thee good.

—oo—

Christian Church Directory

Bible study every Sunday at 10:30 a. m., preaching every second and 4th Sunday after Bible study. Elder Leg Falkner preacher on second Sunday, Elder G. W. Cypert, preacher on 4th Sunday. Prayer meeting every Thursday night. Every one invited to attend.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

ABOUT PEOPLE YOU KNOW

J. A. Buford and wife to R. E. Lee, lots 7 and 8 block 33, original town of Haskell, consideration, \$500.00—Haskell Free Press.

Mr. and Mrs. Buford resided some time in Haskell, but are now citizens of Merkel, their former home.

L. R. Cypert and wife from the Crosbyton Dry Goods Co., will leave for the Eastern Markets to buy spring goods, Saturday.—Crosbyton Review.

Mr. and Mrs. Cypert are well known in Merkel, both having formerly been citizens of our town and were at different times employed as salesman in some of our leading dry goods establishments.

Mrs. C. R. Simmons left Friday for Georgetown where she will visit with relatives the coming week.—Sweetwater Reporter.

Mrs. Simmons has many friends in Merkel, having formerly lived here before moving to Coleman and Sweetwater. Mr. Simmons operated and owned the first steam laundry in Merkel, and associated with him was his brother-in-law, W. C. Clark.

Lester Ellis, of this city, will leave tonight for Dallas, where he goes to buy the stock and fixtures for a new drug store, which he will open on North First street about March 1st.

The new store will be known as the Ellis Drug company. Mr. Ellis has been associated in the drug business for many years and is well known here, also at Merkel where he formerly made his home before coming to Abilene.—Abilene Reporter.

The many friends of Lester here offer congratulations upon his good fortune in launching out in business for himself and feel sure that the venture will be a success.

□□□□□□

THE VALUE of well-printed neat-appearing stationery as a means of getting and holding desirable business has been amply demonstrated. Consult us before going elsewhere

□□□□□□



Protect Your Porch Floors

It's strange but true that some people think any old paint will do for the porch floor.

But it won't! The porch floor gets much harder wear than any other surface around the house. That's why it should be protected with a paint that will stand that wear.

Low Brothers Porch Floor paint is made especially for porch floors.

We have it in all the popular colors.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Low Brothers Paints - Varnishes

G. P. Love, splendid citizen of route two, Trent, was here last Saturday, mixing with friends and incidentally attending the big Free Drawing, while here he had us place his name on the Merkel Mail's mailing list for the next year.

J. T. Coats and family have moved into their new and handsome home, just recently completed on the site of the old Baptist church. This is without doubt among the best and most beautiful homes in the city.

Mrs. Bob Martin has returned from Sweetwater where she has been at the bed side of her sister-in-law, Mrs. W. C. Calvert for the past ten days, who has had a severe attack of pneumonia. She left her somewhat improved.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail.

Don't Overlook

that subscription. If you are in arrears remember that we can always find good use for

the MONEY

The Right Way is

He does Our Weighing.

Ring 155
And get our
Prices
Garrett & Co.
North Side

To Weigh With the

Public Weigher any way

CHAS. SCOTT NEWMAN CHIROPRACTOR

Invites you to consult with him about your case.

Office hours each day at

COLLINS HOTEL

MERKEL

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.

**ALL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST
BE IN THIS OFFICE BY SIX
O'CLOCK P. M. WEDNESDAY
FOR INSERTION IN THAT
WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE MAIL**

Foreign Advertising Representatives
THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Why not a general clean up in this town folks? Don't you think it is needed? But then every good citizen should be interested in a cleaner town to the extent that he will clean up his own premises and if all would do that our town would look fine. Let's try it.

The man whose business does not occupy his time sufficient to keep him from running up and down the main streets saying dirty mean, slandering things about his neighbors and even his friends, is about the most contemptible and worthless man in any community. And then such men are seldom half so popular and influential as they might think they are.

Some people refuse to attend church because old so and so happened to push his way to the front. However, the man who refuses to attend church and stand by the same because things are not run by those he likes, or done just as he would do them, is not much of a church member anyway, and is seldom considered as one of the pillars.

May the Lord deliver us from one of these habitual and constant "holier than thou" critics and fault finders. But every town it seems has to have one or two of them.

"If he could not say something good about his fellow man and neighbor, he did not say anything. He was a good man"—that was the comment made regarding the life of a deceased citizen of Merkel.

Yes, a man can work his head off in the interest of his town, community, and friends, and then make a slight mistake or two, and there will be found those who are ready to condemn him to the lowest pits of perdition for the one or two mistakes he might make; overlooking the many good deeds rendered. No man is perfect, but of all the mean low down sneaks on earth the slanderer has them all backed on the siding.

Mr. J. T. Coats has about completed the erection on the site of the old Baptist church, one of the most substantial and beautiful homes in the city, and which when completed will be among the best homes in the city. Mr. Coats and family will occupy this splendid home when same is completed.

Our good friend and most excellent citizen, Mr. W. A. Hunter, who is yet residing on the splendid section of land which he settled on when he came to this country in the year 1886, was in the city last Saturday, to be present at the big free drawing as well as to look after business matters. Mr. Hunter also dropped in to have us place a "For Sale" advertisement in the Mail which our readers will find elsewhere in this paper.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

Uncle Tom Toombs, who is all ways found in the fore front of all progressive moves for the upbuilding and betterment of the city, has recently had placed around his excellent home sidewalks and curbing which adds much to the already handsome appearance of same.

For one to have the ability to see and understand what is beautiful and attractive in nature and in human heart is no mean accomplishment. It was a distinguished characteristic of Christ. It is found in some lives of his followers. It could be cultivated in more. Living in the realm of the mean, the little, the sordid, the sorrowful, gives a tone and color to life that is neither hopeful nor helpful. But to live with the thought of seeing and giving expression to the things which are beautiful in nature and in the moral realm is to start into life's best year.

It is said the world is a little better and a little finer for humanity when the idea of being a blessing and a help gets hold of some one. There is not much in store for the person who lives with the thought of getting all possible from the world and giving as little as possible in return. Do good now, for it may not be yours to do so tomorrow. A flower in a living hand is worth more than one on a dead breast.

If the husband is considerate of his wife, and the wife is considerate of her husband, and both endeavor to promote the happiness and contentment of the children, it will lead on to an ideal home, though it be with out gold, with the sun always shining and no clouds to chill the warmth of its rays.

Open the door of your heart, and let the sun shine in—Roscoe Times.

This from the editor of the San Saba News is to the point: "Bud, if you don't like this town the decent thing for you to do is to take a walk and find a town that you can like and be loyal to."—Coleman Democrat Voice.

And it is a fact that a man who cannot be loyal to the town he lives in, ought not to live there, for the reason that there are many hundreds of places in which he may live. Of course it is not possible to run out of town every person who lives in the town and does not like it, nor should it be done, because you might not have enough people left to make a town after that. But the fact remains nevertheless that every citizen ought to be loyal to his town, not so much because it is expected of him to be so, but because by being loyal he will help his town grow and his influence will have the effect of making someone else who perhaps did not like the place they live in before, like it to the point of being willing to make some one else sacrifice in order that the town, might grow and prosper. Undoubtedly, that is the correct attitude to go into in regard to your town.—Abilene Reporter.

Day by day in every way, will Merkel grow smaller as the surrounding towns grow larger unless her citizens day by day and in every way boost and work for a larger and better Merkel.—Merkel Mail.

Day by Day in every way, those words are truth, spoken in wisdom and soberness. If towns situated like Merkel and Lockney don't look after their own day by day, in every way, business will get away from us.

COZY THEATRE

Matinee Saturday From 2 to 5:30

Friday
Elsie Ferguson
IN
"Footlights"
Also— PATHE COMEDY
And— TRAVEL REVIEW

Saturday
Franklin Farnum
IN
"Smilin' Jim"
Also— PATHE COMEDY
And— INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 13 } **"The Great Impersonation"**
ONE NIGHT ONLY } A George Melford Production
From the book by E. Phillip Oppenheim — Featuring James Kirkwood
Admission and War Tax 10-20-30c

No one is going to build us towns these days and hand them to us on silver platters. Day by Day, in every way, we must contend for our own, we must build our towns ourselves, or else they will not be built. This is an age of automobiles, when distance don't cut any ice, when it comes to going to town to trade. People will spend two dollars worth of gas to buy one dollar worth of goods. They don't figure they are losers, but get peeved because they can't buy goods as cheap in one town as another. That's their business. They have a right to do so. They ought not to be forced to this kind of reasoning. Lockney and Merkel doubtless sell goods as cheap as competitive towns, but the people don't know it. It takes prices to convince people these days. You have got to show them. They are all from Missouri. We have been trying to teach our merchants for more than a year to quote prices. Prices talk. Bull don't convince people. And again, the merchants of Lockney and Merkel are short on advertising. They don't invest in advertising as merchants do in other towns. We haven't seen a page ad in so long that we would faint if one was sent to the office. Too many merchants look at advertising as an expense to their business, when they should, day by day in every way, look at it as an investment. Every merchant that sells goods regardless of volume, should set apart a per cent his gross business, based on preceding year and estimate on what he thinks he will do this or present year for advertising. Three percent has been proven as low as a merchant should invest in advertising. Large concerns adopt this plan. Advertising is not an expense to your business, but an investment. Advertising is indirect. You can't expect to advertise today and reap all the benefits tomorrow. Advertising is like good deeds of individuals, they will follow him for years. Town building and advertisement go hand in hand. Towns are judged these days by their advertising. Your advertising must be honest statements. Your advertising must be backed by honest, truthful reputation. To advertise a bargain, and people come and buy it, and it fails to stand up by wear or consumption, the merchant loses a permanent customer.—Lockney Beacon.

DEATHS

Rufus G. Hamilton, 76 years of age, died at a surgical insti-

tution in Abilene Saturday morning, and was buried in a local cemetery there, under the auspices of the Masonic Lodge. Mr. Hamilton is survived by a son, Guy, who resides at Wilson, Okla., and a daughter, who resides at Houston. His wife preceded him to the grave several years ago.
Leslie Davis, the 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davis, died at the home of his parents near Caps Friday afternoon and was buried in the local cemetery there.
Word has been received by friends in Abilene of the death at Hopkinsville, Ky. of Capt. J. Eubanks, a former citizen of Abilene, in his eightieth year. He was an officer in the Confederate army under Gen. Foster. He is survived by a widow and five children.
The funeral of John Elmer Brown, prominent Abilene business man, vice-president of Ed. S. Hughes company and formerly of the Duggan-Brown Overland company, who died last Friday morning, burial took place Monday from St. Paul's Meth-

odist church.—Abilene.
W. H. Houser died at his home in El Reno, Okla. He was a pioneer settler of Taylor county, coming here in the 80's and will be remembered by many citizens of Taylor county. Mr. Houser is survived by six children, two daughters and four sons, and three sisters, Mesdames W. P. Crow, M. J. Hill, of Abilene and S. W. Crutcher of Sweetwater.
Capt. Jennings, father of Will and Walter Jennings of Abilene died in Birmingham, Ala., where he was visiting a daughter. His home was in Franklin Tenn. He was eighty-three years of age.
Mrs. Mollie Morgan, who resides at 9th and Cherry street, Abilene, died Monday at the age of seventy-three years, burial taking place in local cemetery there.
Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE
FOR SALE—Good Mesquite Wood at \$2.50 per cord. W. W. Haynes, in French Pasture. Phone 9032 F1-3. 4t4.
FOR SALE—Work Horses and Mules, for cash or approved notes. Dr. M. Armstrong. 9t2
FOR SALE—Wood. See R. L. Bland. tf.
FOR SALE—1000 bushels Texas Red Oats. Free from Johnson grass. Price 75c per bushel. Walter Hammond. (Near Sam Rister. 4t2pd
FOR SALE OR TRADE—A Maxwell car in good running condition. See N. A. Dowell, the Top Man, on Kent Street. 1t
FOR SALE—Extra good maize heads. Also one grain drill. M. L. Estes, Merkel. 1tp
FOR SALE—Span of good young work mules. Cash or approved note. Liberty Hardware Company. tf.
FOR SALE—A good work team Ready to do hard work now. See Joe Higgins, Route 1. 1t
WANTED
WANTED—Five or six setting hens at once. H. M. Rose. 1t.
LOST
LOST—Saturday night Ford size casing, on demountable rim, between Merkel and Stith. Reward. Dr. Miller. 1tp
LOST—Two 33x4 Mud Chains on route 2. Finder please leave at Noodle or Merkel Post office. J. Ben Campbell. 1tp

PATHWAYS OF POWER

Along the principally travelled roads of Taylor, Eastland, Callahan, Shackelford, Jones, Fisher and Haskell Counties, there run the high-voltage transmission lines of this Company

These pathways of power carry electric energy to thousands of buildings and factories and homes in seven counties. The part is inestimable that these lines play in the growth and development of the West Texas Empire.

PATHWAYS OF POWER!

They are something more than inanimate objects of wood and wire, standing the same in darkness and in light, in wind and in rain and in snow; they are unsleeping, untiring sentinels, with but one loyalty and one duty.

They are consecrated to the faithful service at all times of West Texas, her industries and her people.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY

COAL

Phone 265
CLIFFORD ROSE

11
cigarettes
TURKISH VIRGINIA BURLEY
15
for
10c

TIME TO PAINT

Now is an ideal time to paint. Neither too cold nor too hot, neither too wet nor too dry.

The price is cheaper now than it will be a little later. Paint has already advanced in the market, and prospects are very good for another advance. You had better buy now while the price is reasonable. Sherwin Williams paint can't be beat for quality.

It covers more, lasts longer, looks better. We have a full assortment of all colors now on hand, let us figure your paint bill.

See our new arrivals in Rugs, bed room suits, beds, springs and mattresses. We can save you money on furniture. Pay us a visit and we will convince you. We have the goods at the right price.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

game between Trent and Guion. The game ended seventeen to thirty in favor of Trent.

Trent has a fine ball team and they are playing a number of good games, winning all so far.

Mr. and Mrs. Mangum who have been visiting Mrs. Mangum's mother, Mrs. Stroud, have returned to their home in Louisiana.

Mr. Titus Hearn and Mr. John Deaton, who have been visiting in Trent returned to their home at Enloe, last week.

Mrs. Cecil Murdock and baby are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Worthy of Cottonwood while Messrs Cecil and Marvin Murdock and Joe English are at Roscoe with a well drill. Mr. J. C. Murdock Sr. will join them soon.

Mr. Ed Bowers is sick and not able to be at town. We hope Mr. Bowers is soon able to be up.

Mr. O. Leerstang of Sweetwater was in Trent Monday.

Rev. and Mrs. E. D Landreth motored to Merkel last Wednesday.

Mrs. Burnie Dowdy returned last week from Fort Worth where she has been visiting her brothers.

Mr. Noble Forester, who is attending Abilene Christian College spent last week end at home.

Mr. Walter Blackburn of Port Arthur visited his sister, Mrs. N. L. McLeod a few hours last Friday.

Mrs. Carl Black and baby are visiting her parents who live at Merkel.

Mr. Homer Easterwood was in Abilene on business Monday.

Mr. T. L. Stevens was on the petit jury last week.

Mr. eGorge West went to Abilene on business Monday.

Last Wednesday afternoon, while unloading a barrel of water at Armour's Garage, a motorcycle scared Mr. Murdock's team, causing them to run away. When they started they turned over the water and threw Mr. urdock off th wagon. Mr. Ernest Massey caught the

team about one and one half miles east of Trent on the pike and before he could stop them they hit the concrete banister of a small bridge, breaking the axle of the float, this being the only damage done.

The good rain we had, will make the small grain grow and help to put a season in the ground. A number of the farmers are through plowing and others are almost through.

A heavy snow began falling early Monday morning and fell until about two o'clock Monday afternoon.

The boys had a lot of fun snow balling as the snow was about three inches deep. Mr. Mangum dodged the balls very well until he lost his hat and had to stop and pick it up. Mr. Adrian got back to the bank by going thru a volley of balls.

We think the cold weather will make every one feel better and perhaps cause the flu to stop raging.

Mr. Marvin Murdock and Joe English spent Sunday at home but returned to Roscoe, where they will work with the well drill.

Senior League Program

Subject—The Psalm of Life.
Leader—Lee Keyes.
Scripture Reading—Psalm 40:1-10—Ruby Stein.

Prayer—Nora Graham.
Song
Address—Lee Keyes

Roll Call—Answered by a verse of Scripture or testimony.
Music—Dagmah Rawlings.
Benediction.

The Merkel Produce Company is now ready for business. Bring us your poultry, eggs etc. We are located in the rear of W. F. Hamblett's grocery store. I. S. Simpson, manager.

The many friends of J. V. West will be glad to learn that he is greatly improved this week, and the Mail joins them in wishing for him rapid and continued recovery.



"HISTORY WILL LITTLE NOTE NOR LONG REMEMBER--"

What we SAY here. It's what we DO that counts.

We offer this week our humble tribute to a great American, and in our store we strive to observe one at least of his principles—to DO things worth while for our fellow men.

We have just received a shipment of the celebrated Selby pumps and oxfords for Ladies. You will find just what you want in this assortment.

WOODROOF-BRAGG D.G.CO.
MERKEL, TEXAS
THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRAIL

TO THE PUBLIC

I have purchased the Manhattan Cafe on Front Street, and have opened same for business. Come and see what I have to offer you in the way of good eats. W. T. Daniel. It

NOTICE

My entire holdings in Merkel for sale, including my produce business. See me at once or write me at Merkel Texas. W P. Duckett. It

HORN NEWS

Well every one is wearing a smile now over the excellent prospects for crops the coming year. Had plenty of snow and good rains to put good season in ground.

The health of the community is fair. A few have had colds. Fred Deutschman made a business trip to Dallas and Fort Worth last week.

Mr. Sam Daniel made a business trip to Abilene last week. We did not have Sunday school last Sunday. It was too cold.

We are planning a big rabbit drive soon. Will give notice in the Mail. We want every one to plan to come. Blue Bell

Mrs. George Smith returned Saturday night from a short visit with relatives at Sweetwater.

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

We regret to learn that Mr. Ben Pilcher has been quite sick for several days, but it thought to be improving at this time, Thursday.

R. B. JOHNSON
Prescription Druggist
Everything found in a First Class Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Phone 49

LADIES—We have just received the right new line of Beautiful Spring Suits, Dresses and Skirts. Very modestly priced. The Brown D. G. Co. It

Will buy your cream on Saturday's and Wednesday's of each week. See me at Duckett's Produce house. Johnny Dunn. It

TRENT NEWS

By Lillian Tedford

Miss Cora Scott has been visiting friends in Abilene.

The little daughters, Evelyn, and Helen, of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hogue, have had the flu but are now able to be up.

Mr. W. H. Riley of Coleman, who was formerly of Trent, visited his daughters, Mrs. Herbert West and Mrs. Arthur Goode last week.

Mr. Tom Rosson, who recently accepted a position with the Burton-Lingo Co. of Santa Anna Texas, spent the week end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rosson, of Trents.

Mr. Frank Sipe, Shields Sipe, and Walter Massey, motored to Longworth last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Massey and family left last Saturday for Sweetwater, where they will spend about three weeks. Mr. Massey will work at the planing mill.

Mrs. Strouds daughter from Texarkana is visiting her.

Misses Cora and Mattie Scott returned last Sunday from Anson where they attended the funeral of a little nephew, the son of Mr. George Scott.

Mr. C. H. Lester of Merkel was in Trent Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker and baby of Abilene spent the week end with Mrs. Baker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kelso.

Mr. Johnnie B. Winn has been quite sick, we hope Mr. Winn is soon able to be in town again.

Miss eBa Billings and Miss Violet Waddie motored to Merkel one day last week.

Mrs. W. J. Reynolds left for Blair Monday to visit her daughter, who is sick.

Mr. Brewer, our telephone operator has been quite sick. We hope she will soon be able to be at the board, for we miss her very much.

Mr. Lon Martin's folks have all had the flu. We hope that they are soon able to be up.

A number of Trent people motored to Abilene Friday afternoon to see the Basket Ball

Real Estate, Farm Loans and Insurance

INSURE SUCCESS

If you have made a success in Business—

If you have acquired property or own your home—

If you are fortunate in Possession of valuables—

You should assure yourself that you will not lose these blessings through misfortunes by fire or theft.

We will insure your past success and make more sure your future success.

To be sure—ASK US TODAY

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer or Doctor.

Beautiful Spring Patterns

We have just received many beautiful dress patterns in gingham---including all the fast colors, priced in accord with conditions and the times. Drop in and look them over.

Big Shipment of Shoes

One of the largest and best assortments of Shoes and Low Quarters ever brought to Merkel. They are "nifty" and "up-to-date." Come in, we would like to show them to you.

Also a nice line of Men's and Boys Caps for Spring and Summer wear.

Expecting many other items in spring wearing apparel every day; infact our spring stock of merchandise will soon be complete, and with the great seasons now prevailing--which means prosperity and good times, we expect to enjoy the best Spring business this year that has ever come to us.

MAX MELLINGER

The Store on the Corner