

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 35—NO. 49

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1924

8 PAGES

HIGH SCHOOL BONDS OF \$40,000 APP'RV'D

Judge E. S. Cummings returned the latter part of last week from a trip to Austin, where he had been with the necessary papers to secure the approval of the issuance of \$40,000.00 in High School bonds recently voted by the Merkel Independent school. And we are glad to report that the Judge came back with the good word that the Attorney General Department had approved the bonds and that same was turned to the printers hands for printing.

Next Monday it is expected that the bonds will likely be sold, as that is the day the school board has set to receive bids for the sale of same, and after which the contract will be let for the construction of the new High School building that is so badly needed in this city.

Also on last Saturday, Superintendent Roger A Burgess and Thos Durham had a trip to Munday where they went to inspect the handsome new High School building recently built in that city, as the board here is thinking of building one similar to the one at Munday. These men report finding the building at Munday a very beautiful, substantial and modern one.

CASING ARRIVES FOR THE STITH WELL

The five inch casing for the Stith Well arrived last week and was hauled out by the C. K. Russell transfer, and it is presumed that work on the well has already begun or will immediately

PAID \$10 A SHARE FOR STOCK WORTH 75 CENTS

"Withing the past month," says the editor of an exchange, "two farmers have come to us with their troubles. In both cases a smooth-tongued salesman had induced them to invest hard earned money in stock of a gear company. In each case they had paid the full par value of \$10 per share. An investigation shows that the salesman purchased the stock at \$2.50 per share. The broker who sold it to the salesman got it for 75 cents a share. In other words, the stock is practically worthless."

Such swindles are now being perpetuated all over the rural South where farmers have surplus money. Ask your banker before you make any investment in stocks or bonds. The Progressive Farmer's "Service Bureau" will also be glad to serve readers so far as possible.

Any company promising more than 8 per cent advertises itself as risky. The bigger the promises, the greater the certainty of fraud. If Southern farmers had today all the money they have invested in fraudulent stock oil stock, mining stocks, and promoted fertilizer companies, phosphate companies, fisheries, mercantile corporations, etc.—it would probably be enough to put a fresh coat of paint on every farm house in the South. This rule is well worth remembering: Any stock that has to be sold by traveling agents is always a good one to let alone. The highest class securities are never, never offered in this way.—The Progressive Farmer.

The Merkel High School Choral Club gave a number of selections at the Vesper services held at the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon. Miss Ona Fae Bland is the Choral Club director this year.

WILSON MEMORIAL SERVICE HERE SUN.

This service will be held at the Methodist church next Sunday evening, February the tenth beginning at 7:30.

Song, America, Congregation standing. Invocation by Rev. O. B. Tatum. Chorus by the choir. Address, Dr. R. I. Grimes (10 mi. Address Rev. Fred S. Rogers, (10 minutes). Special song to be arranged by the music committee.

Sermon, Rev. W. H. Albertson. Song "Onward Christian Soldiers" (Congregation standing) Benediction, Rev. E. S. Tucker.

The public is cordially invited to attend this service in honor of this great tree of the forest that has so recently fallen.

URGES KILLING RATTLE SNAKES

Merkel Mail:

Please remind your readers that the warm days in February is the time to look up the rattle snake den and have a snake killing. This is much better than to have the snakes scatter over the country and bite some child man or woman who may be working in the field or pasture. Not only this, but from every matured female rattle snake there are born in the neighborhood of twenty little snakes that soon become very active and poisonous. I would like for every man who kills rattle snakes this spring to report to the Merkel Mail for publication the number of snakes killed and the party name who did the killing. This is a good work, so let us all join in and see what we can accomplish. Sam Butman, Sr.

We are glad to have the above from our good friend and most excellent citizen, Mr Sam Butman, Sr., who is one of the pioneer citizens, has spent many years in successful farming and ranching, and we feel sure that he is right in his desire to arouse the citizenship to the need of killing out the deadly and very much dreaded rattle snake, for as he states, we know not when during the warm days to come throughout the year, that one of these monsters will crawl out over the country and bite some person or valuable animal, and of course NOW is the time to hunt these snakes in their winter quarters while they are not so active, and kill them.

This paper urges this importance upon the public in general and will be glad to announce a day and date when the citizenship will meet and organize in groups or parties and go out and make a wholesale killing. Who will make the call?

Miss Lucille Russell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell, who for several months has held a position with the City National Bank of Sweetwater, returned home last week, and has gone to Abilene, where she again entered the Draughtons Business College for the purpose of finishing her work in that good school.

Mr Sam Foster, who was injured last summer in a motor cycle accident between here and Sweetwater, and who has been confined to his bed almost continuously since, was again this week sent to a Fort Worth Sanitarium for treatment.

NEXT LYCEUM HERE THURS. FEBRUARY 21

A whole company of capable and resourceful players is combined in the magnetic personality of Emma Dee Randle, who is to be heard on Thursday, February 21st, at the Cozy Theatre, in a program of interpretative recital. Whether the dramatic selection be from the magic pen of Shakespeare or simply from "Pollyana," or something quite as in keeping with our times, this real artist of the platform creates living characters with a straightforward and simple art. Freshness and rythm are interwoven in her work. She unites vivid dramatic power and wholesome humor, and awakens keen interest and sympathy in her appreciative audiences.

Critics declare Miss Randle's voice to be like a wonderful musical instrument which responds vibrates, throbs and echoes to every spiritual emotion, and by its magnetic dramatic power inspires the same deep felling, whether of pathos or humor in the hearts of her hearers.

In "Pollyana," Emma Dee Randle is at her best. Critics have proclaimed her work in this sweet wholesome play as being unsurpassed from the standpoint of real dramatic art. The announcement of her coming here insures a capacity audience for this gifted lady.

MORE D. G. FOLKS OFF BUYING GOODS

Mr. E. N. Brown and his daughter, Mrs. Ergeal Meador, of the Brown Dry Goods Company, left first of the week for the Eastern markets, where they will select the large and complete stock of dry goods for their firm.

Also, as stated last week, Mr and Mrs. T. G. Bragg, accompanied by Miss Swann, Milliner, all of the Bragg Dry Goods Company, left first of the week for the Eastern markets where they, too, will make selections for the big spring and summer stocks for this firm.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m.

No preaching srvice in the evening on account of the Wilson Memorial service at the Methodist church.

All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 6:30.

The theme for the morning sermon will be "Looking Beyond". Are we seeing ahead? Are we looking beyond the first hill? Will tomorrow be a better day than this?

There were 248 in S.S. last Sunday. Good for the day. There is still lots of room for more. The intermediates had three perfect classes. Will some other department beat them next time "You're always welcome here" W H. Albertson, pastor.

Miss Lora Joiner, splendid teacher in the Merkel Public schools was called to her home at Tye last Saturday by the serious illness of her brother, who we regret to learn died on Wednesday of this week. This paper joins many friends in extending sympathy.

Mr. G. B. Brown and family moved their household things to their new home in Abilene Saturday.

MINISTERS OF CITY ORGANIZE ASSOCI'N.

Last Monday afternoon Rev. T. J. Rea, pastor of the Methodist church, Rev. Fred S. Rogers, pastor of the Presbyterian church, and Rev. W. H. Albertson, pastor of the Baptist church met and organized a Ministerial Association. Rev. T. J. Rea was elected president and Rev. W H Albertson, Secretary. Their plan is to keep in touch with the general moral welfare of the town and with the needs of the general church life in the town and community. At this meeting a Memorial service in honor of the late Woodrow Wilson was planned to be held at the Methodist church next Sunday night. The program for this service appears in another place in this paper. Mr. Yates Brown of the Baptist church, Miss Williamson from the Methodist church, and Mr. James West from the Presbyterian church were appointed as a music committee to arrange music for the occasion. Everyone of whatever faith or political organization, is urged to be on hand and take part in this service.

W.O.W. NOTICE

Our District Manager of this district will be here Friday, Feb. 8th. Every member be present and hear him. W.M. Elliott, C.C., T. F. Lasater, Clerk.

BURNS & BANNER BUY CITY CAFE

Messrs O. R. Burns and W. P. Banner, both experienced and well known cafe men of his city, purchased the City Cafe owned and conducted by Mr. Bruce Hancock, which is conducted in the Gaither Building on Main street.

We understand that Mr. and Mrs. Hancock will return to Ranger from which city they came to Merkel. We would also call your attention to the advertisement in this paper by Messrs Burns and Banner.

BANKS TO CLOSE

Notice is given that on next Tuesday, February 12, the banks in Merkel will be closed on account of same being a legal holiday, Lincoln's Birth day. The public will please take notice of same and be governed accordingly. Feb. 12th.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A treat is in store for all who attend Vesper services at the Presbyterian church on Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. Rev. Hal F. Smith, pastor at Winters will speak. Also Bro. Smith will be accompanied by a number of his congregation, including the Presbyterian Male quartette. Come and hear them sing.

A letter from Mr. Wesley Hardy, at Baird, has been received by the Merkel Mail, in which he extends thanks to the persons sending the Mail to him, and which he says he appreciates very much, as he was for sixteen years a citizen of the Merkel community, and has many old friends here.

Mrs. O. R. Douglas returned home Saturday night from Big Spring where she spent a week with her sister, Mrs. F. B. Williams, who for the past few weeks has been very low.

W. M. BODEN BUYS A BRICK BUILDING

A contract has been entered into and a forfeit put up for the sale of the brick building now occupied by the Quality Bakery from Mr. W. S. Smelser to W. M. Boden of this city.

This is a nice, new building, and is bringing good returns upon the investment. The consideration we are told is around \$3,500, and while no doubt a good investment to the new owner, the sale price gives Mr. Smelser a handsome profit over the price he paid for same.

Mr. Smelser, as is well known, owns several other business houses in Merkel, and from the way he talks we would not be surprised to learn that he had made still other such investments in the near future.

P-T CLUB MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 13TH

An interesting program is being arranged for the next meeting of the Parent-Teachers Club on February 13, at 3:30. February 17th is national Child Welfare Day, and we will commemorate the day at our next meeting.

Rev. Albertson will have charge of the devotional and the "High School Choral Club" will favor us with two numbers. Come out and hear them. There will also be other interesting numbers on the program.

A library will be given to the room who has the most people present to vote for it. Help your child get the next library. The Parent - Teacher Association seeks only to build up a bigger and better school and needs the help of all those who love childhood, and who want to help make Merkel safer for her boys and girls.

"The man who says nothing and saws wood soon gets a wood pile that takes a long time to burn up, but some times he never sees the fire."

FARM BUREAU MEETING

The Mail is asked to announce that on Saturday night, February 9, there will be a meeting of the Farm Bureau, and all members are urged to be present as there is some important business to be transacted. Don't forget the date, Saturday night February 9th.

"THE HOODOED COON"

Will be the big attraction at Salt Branch school February the 15th. Admission free.

Mr. S. C. Gentry, one of the very fine citizens of a few miles north of Stith, just over in Jones county, accompanied by his son, made this office a pleasant and appreciated call yesterday, enrolling his name for the Merkel Mail again this year.

Rev. T. J. Rea, pastor of the First Methodist church in this city, in his usual pleasing and appropriate manner pronounced the words that made man and wife Mr. Roy Hale and Miss Pearl Hightower, both of Sylvester, on last Sunday, February 3, at 10:30 a.m.

The many friends of Mr. Seth Hamilton will be glad to learn that he is improving nicely at present from an illness of several days.

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL IN RADIO PROGRAM

On Friday evening, February 8th, at eight o'clock, station WQAQ of Abilene will broadcast on 360 meters a program given under the auspices of the Music and Expression Departments of the Merkel High School. Those responsible for the program are Miss Fae Bland, teacher of voice Miss Roberta Gay, teacher of piano; and Miss Lucy Tracy, teacher of expression.

Through the courtesy of Ross Ferrier of the Merkel Garage, who is lending his Westinghouse Loud Speaker for the occasion, a large crowd of Merkel listeners will be enabled to hear the concert at the High School Auditorium. To pay for some recent repairs made on the school radio set a small admission charge of ten cents for school children and twenty cents for others will be charged at the door. Listeners elsewhere wishing to hear the program can do so by tuning in at eight o'clock Friday evening. The following program will be rendered:

Program

1 (a) Send out Thy Light by Gounod (b) My Sunshine, Capua by High School Choral Club, Miss Fae Bland Directing, and Miss Roberta Gay, accompanist.

2. (a) A Memory, Park. (b) April, My April, Milligan. By Miss Fae Bland, Miss Gay accompanying.

3. (a) The Highwayman, a reading, Alfred Noyles. (b) Nothing to Laugh at, Guest. By Miss Lucy Tracy.

4. (a) Sweet and Low, Barnby; (b) The Invitation of the Bells, Planquette. By High School Chorus, Miss Bland and Miss Gay at the piano.

5. (a) At Dawning, Cadman; (b) I love a little Cottage, O'Hara. By Miss Christene Collins, Miss Gay accompanying.

6. (a) The world is Waiting for the Sunrise, Seitz; (b) When Clouds Have vanquished and Skies are Blue, Johnson. By Mr. Delma Compton.

7. (a) Marcheta, Schertzingler. By High School Chorus.

Personnel of Chorus

The Merkel High School Choral Club under the direction of Miss Fae Bland now consists of the following pupils of the Merkel High School:

Edith Baker, Hazel Bell, Helen Booth, Jewell Burns, Evelyn Curb, Gracie Lee Cranston, Myrtle Daniels, Lola Dennis, Leon Drake, Doris Durham, Lucille Guitart, Mae Helman, Mona Margaret Jones, Minnie Maude Lamar, Mildred Matthews, Gladys Middleton, Alma Patterson, Allyn Riley, Fae Rose, Doris Russell, Boog Sears, Lucy Mae Stubblefield, Ruth Watts, Melba West, Hazel Rainbolt, and Miss Roberta Gay, accompanist.

Mr. J. A. Stanford, who some time ago sold his splendid farm in the Shiloh community, was in the city first of the week, and while here had us change the address of his Merke Mail from Trent, route two, to Mission, Texas, to which place he and family are moving.

Eld. W. G. Cypert returned last Friday from a trip to Winters where he had been called to preach the funeral of Mrs. Dale, formerly residing in Merkel.

Mr. Ray Hall and Miss Pearl Hightower, both of the Sylvester community were united in marriage at the Methodist parsonage Sunday morning at 10:30 by Rev. T. J. Rea.

Pay BY CHECK

When you have a checking account in this bank, it is made safe by sound banking methods and doubly safe by our membership in the Guaranty Fund System of Texas.

The Guaranty Fund System of Texas has a membership of 948 Banks with resources of more than third of a billion dollars.

And no Non-interest bearing or unsecured depositor has ever lost a dollar through the failure of a Texas Guaranty Fund Bank.

Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS INCOME TAX INDIVIDUALS

Question. Who must file a return?

Answer. Unmarried individuals whose net income for the taxable year equals or exceeds \$1,000.00. Married individuals living with wife, (or husband) whose net income amounts to \$2,000.00 or more and all individuals whose gross income is \$5,000.00 or more, regardless of net income must file a return.

Question. My net income is \$2200.00. My personal exemption because of my wife and two dependent children is \$3300.00 showing that I have no tax to pay. Must I file a return?

Answer. Yes, as a married man living with wife you must file a return because your net income equals or exceeds \$2,000.

Individual returns \$2.50. Partnership \$5.00 Office in rear of Merkel Drug Co. Consultation free. R. O. Anderson. 1t

A Shower for The Bride

On Thursday afternoon at 4 o'clock the members of the Blue Bird Class of the Methodist church met at the home of Miss Dorris Pike in honor of the recent bride, Mrs. Otto Steele, who is a member of the Blue Bird class.

Games and music were greatly enjoyed during the evening. The bride was the recipient of many nice gifts. A refreshment of punch and cake was served.

The local Odd Fellows enjoyed a rousing big time at their lodge hall on last Tuesday evening; the same being a regular meeting night. There were several initiations and regular routine work, after which all present were served with just lots of "good eats", as one prominent and influential member stated to this reporter.

We regret to learn that Mr. Harry Barnett, splendid employee of the West Company has been quite sick this week.

Having It Both Ways.

The head of a girl with red hair, painted with charm and great dexterity, caught my eye. The picture was in that interesting gallery, the Rue de la Boetie, and I was tempted to enter the shop and asked the price. The price was so high that I remarked on it.

The dealer smiled in agreement. "But you see," he explained, "the painter is dead. Finished. There can be no more of his work, and therefore it costs much."

I made a tour of the walls and found another picture, this time a landscape, very simple but true and beautifully composed. It was signed "Grosjean." I asked the price of it also, and as with the other the price was so high that I remarked on it.

The dealer smiled in agreement. "But you see," he explained, "the painter is alive, and living is expensive. It is necessary therefore to charge much."—Punch.

Rival to Monte Carlo.

Heligoland, the little island in the North sea, seeks the laurels and income of Monte Carlo.

The island resort is about to build a gambling casino, which, it is hoped, will bring sufficient earnings to the local government to make all the island folks free from taxation, just as the residents of Monaco, the principality where the Monte Carlo casino is located, are free from taxes.

This is to all intents and purposes a declaration of war by Germany against France, so far as getting the tourist gambling business of Europe is concerned.

Heligoland has always been a favorite resort, largely patronized because of its beach. Now, in addition, the local government plans to erect a casino which will draw a new and wealthier class to its shores.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

A Difficult Task.

"You know Wombat, the author?"
"We are acquainted."
"That baby of his has some cute expressions."

"Yes. Wombat confided to me the other day that Mrs. Wombat wanted it so."

"Hub?"
"So Wombat taught 'em to the baby, and he says he had a deuce of a time doing it, too."

Contradiction of Terms.

"You say our friend has a queer record?"

"Rather," replied Senator Sorghum. "Can't we put him across as a dark horse?"

"Perhaps. But you'll have to white wash him first."

D. T. HARKRIDER IS FOR TAX ASSESSOR

In this issue of the Merkel Mail will be found in the announcement column the name of Mr. D. T. Harkrider, of Abilene, as a candidate for re-election to the office of Tax Collector of Taylor County, Texas, subject to the action of the Democratic primary next July.

Mr. Harkrider's many years citizenship and his efficient and untiring services in this capacity give him too wide an acquaintance among the voters of the entire county for it to be necessary for us to make much comment upon his candidacy. However, we will say that, according to all reports coming to us, Mr. Harkrider has at all times, and in all cases been as accommodating in the discharge of his duties as it is humanly possible to do so and track the letter of the laws governing same. And which he will always do, being an honest, Christian gentleman.

Mr. Harkrider promises that if again elected, to serve the people of Taylor county in this capacity, will continue to render to one and all the same courteous, fair and honest service in the future as has been given them heretofore. And not only that, but he also feels that his past experience in the office will enable him to serve even more efficiently.

This paper urges that the voters over the county give Mr. Harkrider's claims fair and careful consideration before casting their vote for this office.

NOTICE

Merkel Rebekah Lodge has changed its meeting time from Thursday night to 2:30 in the evening. All members are asked to attend. Lula Land Secty.

We wish to especially call the attention of the public to the following

CONDENSED STATEMENT

of

The Old Reliable THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

Merkel, Texas

Close of business December 31, 1923

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand	\$367,992.62
Loans, Cotton	10,775.9
U. S. Securities	188,200.00
Other Bonds & War. (School)	15,827.35
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co.	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,860.00
Other Real Estate	3,000.00
Five per cent Red. Fund	312.50
Overdrafts	1,743.05
Cash & Sight Ex.	235,466.97

Total.....\$830,018.42

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	6,914.55
Circulation Acct.	6,250.00
BILLS PAYABLE	NONE
REDISCOUNTS	NONE
BORROWED MONEY	NONE
DEPOSITS	751,853.87

Total.....\$830,018.42

J. T. WARREN, Pres. L. R. THOMPSON, Cash.

DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, L. R. Thompson,
Sam Butman Sr. Henry James

Never Missed a Dividend Never Assessed a Shareholder

Did you get one of our 1924 Art
Calendars? We have a few left.

GLEANERS CLASS

Mrs. Tom Largent and Mrs. Robert Hicks entertained the Gleaners Class on last Tuesday afternoon at the home of the latter.

During the business session with Mrs. W. M. Gambill presiding, several plans for the up-building of the class were discussed and adopted. It was decided to have another edition of the Gleaner's Cook Book printed also the class decided to put on an attendance and membership campaign. All members are urged to be present next Sunday to hear the details of this plan.

During the social hour an interesting contest was enjoyed. Delightful refreshments were served to the following ladies of the class. Mesdames L. R. Thompson, Fred Latham, Eli Case, Len Sublett, W. M. Gambill, Verner Sublett, Duncan Briggs, Grimes, Tom Toombs, H. M. Rainbolt, Fred Guitar, Tom Largent, and Robert Hicks.

The next monthly meeting of the class will be with Mrs. Fred Guitar, with Mrs. Guitar and Mrs. Tom Toombs as hostesses.

ELD. CYPERT TO PREACH HERE NEXT SUNDAY

Announcement is made that Eld. W. G. Cypert will preach in this city on next Sunday morning and evening, at the North Side Christian church.

Brother Cypert extends a cordial welcome to the entire membership of the church as well as to the general public to attend either or both services of the day. He also states that in the afternoon at 3 o'clock he will preach at Noodle, where he also invites everyone to hear him.

FIRST CLASS LAUNDRY SERVICE

If you want first class Laundry service we do it. Any and all kinds of it. Cleaning and pressing, dyeing at reasonable prices. Semi-Finish, or family washing everything included except Silk goods, at 10 lb. minimum, 10 cents per pound. Phone 218 or leave at Petty's or West's or City Barber Shop. 1t

Classified ads get the result.

Elliot Audit Company

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R. C. WINTERS, Manager

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—Being in West Texas, we can give more efficient service and save you traveling expenses which Dallas or Fort Worth firms must charge. We solicit your Income Tax work on the basis of equal efficiency with other firms, and the fact that we are more accessible to you as our office is in West Texas.

BIG SALE of WALL PAPER

33 1-3 Per Cent Discount on Papers 33 1-3

In order to make room for our Spring Shipment of Wall Paper we are offering one-third off on all 18-inch double roll paper---any pattern in the house. Come early and make your selection.

Last week we advertised 25 rooms of paper for one-half price. We have only three rooms left, better hurry if you want them.

A FULL LINE OF PAINTS AND OILS

Sherwin Williams Paint goes further, lasts longer, looks better and costs no more than the ordinary paint.

SEE US FOR YOUR PAINT BILL.

Barrow Furniture Co.

B.Y.P.U. Program

Group II, Feb. 10, 1924.

Introduction, Miss Althea Boden. 1. The book of nature, Miss Joiner. 2. The book of Scripture, by Selma Teaff. 3. Converting the soul, Mr. Deutschman. 4. Growing in wisdom, Mr. Melton Deavers. 5. God's Book a guide book Miss Ola Sharp. 6. Conquering Secret and insidious sin, by Miss Valerie Dye.

Everybody please by present and have your part that on the program, and be sure to do your daily Bible reading.

Mr. Joe Alexander of Trent was here Saturday.

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Merkel — Texas

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Tornado Insurance Agent.
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Office over Crown Hardware Co.
Merkel — Texas

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS HAVE INSTITUTE

Starting at three o'clock Sunday afternoon, Feb. 10th, we will have Sunday School Institute at the Methodist church for the benefit of teachers and prospective teachers in the study of "The Organization and Administration of Sunday school." We have about twenty-five in this class and extend an invitation to others who are interested in this great work to join us. We also extend invitation to the churches around us to join in and help us to make this a great movement for our entire territory.

Following is the schedule of the class meeting and the lecturer who will have charge of each meeting.

Sunday, Feb. 10th, at three o'clock, Chapter 1 and 2, Rev. T. J. Rea.

Monday evening at seven thirty o'clock, Chapter 3 and 4, Mrs. Seth Hamilton.

Tuesday evening at seven-thirty o'clock, Chapter 5 and 6, Rev. W. M. Lane of Abilene.

Wednesday evening at seven-thirty o'clock Mr. L. R. Thompson, chapters 7 and 8.

Thursday evening at seven-thirty o'clock, Chapters 9 and ten, Rev. W. M. Pearce, Abilene.

Friday evening a seven-thirty, chapters 11 and 12, Rev. W. M. Pearce, Abilene.

Following this examination, questions will be distributed and the class will be given until 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17th to prepare their papers and return them to Mrs. Seth Hamilton who is the Supt. of Teacher Training in our church.

We are hoping that every one will take advantage of this splendid opportunity to take this important work.

Mrs. Seth Hamilton, Supt.
Rev. T. J. Rea, pastor

PARENT-TEACHERS CLUB MEETING NOTES

The Parent-Teachers Club will have their regular monthly meeting next Wednesday afternoon, February 13, at 3:30. This program will be on Child Welfare because February 17 has been designated as Child welfare day. We hope to have a good attendance at this meeting. Another library will be given to the room having the most votes.

MISSES BRAGG AND COLLINS ENTERTAIN

On Wednesday evening Misses Iva Bragg and Christene Collins entertained their friends with a Leap Year party. Forty-two was the chief diversion of the evening and much fun was had and much enthusiasm manifested.

To carry out the leap year idea, the boys were asked to make candy and pop corn.

Those enjoying this evening of pleasure were: Misses Hamm, Durham, Bragg, Hamm and Collins; Messrs. Durham, Hamm Darsey, Compton and West.

Mr R A Burgess and Thos. Durham made a business trip to Munday, Texas Saturday.

LOCAL PASTORS ORGANIZE MINISTERIAL ASN.

On Monday afternoon the local pastors gathered at the study of Rev. Fred S. Rogers where they organized an association to be known as the Ministerial Association of Merkel. The duties of this organization will be to look after the spiritual needs and civic improvements. Regular meetings will be held once a month. The following officers were elected: Rev. T. J. Rea, pastor of the Methodist church, chairman; Rev. W. H. Albertson, Baptist pastor, Secretary.

The pastors were of a unanimous opinion that Memorial services should be held for ex-president Woodrow Wilson. They decided that this service should be held Sunday night at the Methodist church.

When you order a suit from us, you are assured of it being strictly made to your personal requirements. We sell made to measure only. This means that from your own choice of model and fabric, your suit is specially designed and cut and tailored carefully to comply with your own measurements and physical characteristics. So come in and look over our samples. The best to be had for the money. Cash Tailor Shop. 115

B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: Philip, the Evangelist.

Leader, W. L. Harkrider Introduction by leader.

Philip, the Deacon, preaches, by Agnes Sanders.

Evangelism, by Lila Mae Bird.

Philip, the Home missionary to the Samaritans, by Durwood Owens.

What came of it, by Thelma Condor.

Philip, the missionary to the Ethiopians, by Clyde Mayfield.

Every Convert a missionary, by Cullen Toombs.

A hearty welcome is extended to all Sunday at six.

TYE CIRCUIT

There will be preaching at Stith next Sunday morning and night, and at Compere in the afternoon. A cordial invitation extended to all to worship with us. B. Y. Dickenson, pastor of Methodist church.

A new electric siren has been installed on top of the fire bell.

SAIL OVER THE MOUNTAINS

Few Persons Know Ocean Liners Actually Travel Over Submarine Peaks.

The main feature of some parts of the bottom of the sea are, in many instances, as familiar to scientists as are those of the land on which we live, although no complete maps of the ocean bed have as yet been made.

Of the oceans, the Atlantic has been more thoroughly surveyed than any other.

Probably not one in a thousand persons who traverse the Atlantic knows that at various stages of the trip liners actually sail over mountains. Fewer still realize that in some instances the peaks of these mountains are almost uncomfortably close to the surface.

The biggest of these submarine mountains is known to science as Mt. Laura Ethel. It lies roughly midway between Liverpool and New York, and is at least 12,000 feet in height, its summit being less than 100 feet from the surface.

Another mountain, Placencia, in the South Atlantic, is almost an island, for its peak is less than 20 feet from the surface!

The Faraday hills, in the North Atlantic, have been the subject of much exploration by means of soundings. Recent investigations show that the currents have deposited at the base of the biggest of the group the wreckage of over 5,000 vessels of all kinds.

It seems, therefore, that the distinction of being the real "Davy Jones' Locker" can with good reason be ascribed, as it has been, to this eerie under-sea locality.

W. O. W. NOTICE

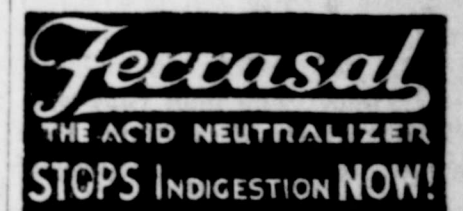
Woodmen members, be present at our next regular meeting February 8th. You may miss something if you don't come. Watch next weeks paper.

W. M. Elliott, C. C.
T. F. Lasater, Clerk.

"FERRASAL SAVED MY LIFE"

"Two doctors said I had Bright's disease and it would be necessary to remove one of my kidneys. I was sick for over five years and was often unable to even turn over in bed. I started taking FERRASAL when I wasn't able to walk across the street. I showed marked improvement from the second box and have never had a doctor since. FERRASAL saved my life and to-day I am in wonderful health I am only too glad to tell people what FERRASAL has done for me."

Mrs. Winnie Watkins.
3816 Second Ave., Dallas, Tex
Excess acid is the primary cause of many dread diseases, such as cancer, kidney trouble chronic indigestion, rheumatism etc. FERRASAL gets at the source of the trouble by neutralizing the excess in the stomach and eliminating it from the system. Don't allow your condition to become chronic. TAKE FERRASAL NOW. 50c per box. It will benefit you or your druggist will refund your money.



R. L. Bland of Abilene was a business visitor in Merkel Saturday.

SERVICE FIRST SERVICE LAST

THE SAME GOOD SERVICE TO ALL.

We have that special Ford Oil which reduces the vibration in your Ford car when

Starting, Stopping or Backing

It also reduces carbon formation and oil consumption. We drain your crank case free. Each time you pass the Magnolia Filling Station be sure to stop and let us test your tires. We have plenty of that real Magnolia Gasoline. A good line of Tires Tubes and Accessories.

Your business will be appreciated.

Magnolia Filling Station

Stanley B. King.

Trent, Tex.

New Dodge For Sale

We have secured the agency for the noted Dodge Bros. Car, absolutely the best and most durable car on the market for a low priced car.

We are still agents for Goodyear Tires and Tubes. We never change brand, but watch and see how many times the other fellow changes, some times two or three times in twelve months. Why this change? Because the brand wont stand up—so when in the market for first class tires come to see us.

Batteries of all types, guaranteed twelve months.

Second hand Dodges, Buicks and Fords for sale. Hurry.

The Merkel Garage

ROSS FERRIER

Phone 123

H. L. PROPST

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**

The habitual "Knocker" was never known to have accomplished much of anything for himself or herself, or for the good of the public in general.

Gossiper—the old tattling gossiper is the most dangerous human being any community may claim as an inhabitant. But most every community has to have in its midst a few such cattle.

To those who are forever and eternally cussing those in authority for the way in which they manage the affairs of the city, county, state and nation, we would say before cussing them why not offer a better way in which to handle the affairs of city, county and state.

Miss Eunice Russell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Russell, who this and last year taught school in the Plainview High school, was called home last week on account of the illness of her mother. We trust that Mrs. Russell will soon regain her former good health.

Of course it grieves the soul of any proper editor to have one of their patrons all peeved and provoked and swear that he will never spend another cent with the "insignificant sheet." But one consolation is that the same fellow will read it if he has to steal it from his neighbor.—Ward County News.

How often does one hear some low down man or woman speak disrespectfully or make slanderous remarks regarding some one and often times if the matter was just traced down to the reason why such remarks or statements the facts would reveal that such were made only because of some little petty spite held by the person making the talk.

A town that never has anything to do in a public way is on the road to the cemetery. Any citizen who will do nothing for his town is helping to dig the grave. A man that curses the town furnishes the coffin. The man who is so selfish as to have no time from his business to give to civic affairs is making the shroud. The man who will not advertise is driving the hearse. The man who is always

pulling back from any public enterprise throws bouquets on the grave. The man who is so stingy as to be howling hard times preaches the funeral, sings the doxology, and thus the town lies buried from all growth and progress.—Santa Anna News.

We hear people complaining about this or that cross they are called to bear. It is common with us all to lay blame somewhere and to complain if our crosses are a little heavy. However, every succeeding cross makes the next one easier to bear and less to be dreaded. The soldier dreads his first battle, but when the first gun is fired his nerve is studied, and the time comes when he fears not when battle rages about him. He becomes accustomed to the bursting of shells and the charge of the calvary. Thus it is with the soldier of the Cross—he becomes accustomed to the fiery darts of the wicked one, the temptations and inducements held out to him to turn from the path of righteousness. We have our cross bearing in this life, and the greatest of them all is the battle against self. He that conquers self learns to bear a cross uncomplainingly. We are taught that God will prepare a way for our escape and that we will not be tempted more than our endurance. This is so with the man that walks and talks with God—that is close to Him and is guided by His council and wisdom. Putting off the old man—Satan, requires the crucifixion of self, a constant sacrifice that others might be happy—"mortifying of the deeds done in the body." The world has lost sight of the individual cross bearing and as a result we have much selfishness in the world—great unrest. There are many crosses that we are called upon to bear, but the heaviest are those laid upon our shoulders by our friends. Unconsciously people are crucified by their friends,—the nails are driven through the hearts instead of the hands. If perchance we are called upon to bear this kind of a cross let us through Christian faith and fortitude be able to say with the martyr Stephens: "Lord lay not this sin at their feet." The one consoling thought is that for every cross there is also a resurrection; a resurrection to a higher state of spirituality than before; a resurrection that means a greater realization of the goodness to those who take up their crosses and follow Him daily. After a while, when those who have been tried and made perfect through suffering, they can look back to Golgotha in rapture, the glorious vision of Eternity's dawn: "For I reckon that the suffering of the present world are worthy to be compared to the glory which shall be revealed to us."—The Snyder Times.

Classified ads get the result.

DEFENDS THE NAME FATHER

Nicknames Such as "Old Man", "Pater", "Dad" and "Daddy" Do Not Express Affection.

What is in a name? Why, everything, of course. Get a bad name and you will find it out. Call a man a fall-bird and he is doomed. A great deal of time is consumed by parents in finding a name for a new baby which comes into a home. Much thought is given to the selection of a baby's name, because he is so precious and sweet, and because he will carry it through life. The baby has nothing to say as to the choice. It is, therefore, all the more important that a name be given him which he will be pleased with when he becomes a man. Unfortunately, few boys and girls are entirely pleased with their names, and in many cases they seek to change them.

There is another question which arises later on, and that is the question as to what a boy will call his father. A variety of designations have been assigned to the paternal head of the household. By some he has been called "the governor." This is an official term and smacks of rulership. It can scarcely be called a term of disrespect, but the objection to it is that it lacks affection.

"Pater" is another designation for father. It sounds classical, for it is the Latin name for father. It, however, seems cold and formal. Occasionally we hear a boy speaking of "the old man." This is, of course, the smart Alec who considers he is acting cleverly. There is a swagger about an attitude of this kind which is not admirable. Here is another lad who calls his father "dad." He means to be respectful and even affectionate, but this name is not dignified, to say the least of it. A good father deserves a better designation than that of "dad." "Daddy" is the term many girls employ, and it is much more tender and affectionate. But, what better name can we find in our Anglo-Saxon vocabulary to call our father than "Father"?

MILLIONS OF BOOKS PRINTED

On an Average of 200,000 Volumes Are Published Each Year Throughout the World.

Have you ever wondered how many books there are in existence? On the average 200,000 volumes are published each year throughout the world, and as 8,500,000 appeared last century, one can obtain a fairly good idea of the size of the world's bookshop.

Adding together the number of volumes published in each country since printing was invented, the astonishing total of 60,000,000 is reached. The amount of energy, time, paper and printers' ink which have gone to produce all these books is absolutely incalculable.

The three largest libraries in the world are the British Museum library, in London, which has 4,000,000 volumes; the Bibliotheque Nationale, in Paris, which has 3,000,000, and the Library of Congress, in Washington, with half a million less. Thus, between them alone, these three great institutions possess 9,500,000 books of all kinds.

She Skipped Trains.

In this fast-moving world, transportation takes new forms over night. The fair century of steam railroading in the United States has not yet passed. Young men remember the first motor car. We are just beginning to fly. There arrived in New York from Pennsylvania not long ago an elderly woman. Her home was on a farm near a city in the hard coal region. Her trip to New York was by automobile, and what makes it unusual was that she had never ridden in a steam train. She had skipped a generation of transportation, so quickly do things come. There are hundreds of small communities in the country which made the jump straight from oil lamps to electric lights without ever seeing gas. They had their water-made lights long before the cities, using coal for gas. They, too, skipped a generation.

Rainbow Trout Eat Mice.

A new fish story has come out of Alaska, where it has been discovered that large rainbow trout weighing from two to seven pounds eat mice in July, August, and the first half of September. The trout do not go prowling over the fields cattle, but lie among the cutbanks of rivers and lakes until mice come running along, then jump at them, and gulp down the delicacy.

While cleaning large fish for a camp of workers along the Alaskan railroad, kitchen helpers discovered mice and rats in various stages of digestion in the stomachs of many. Old woodsmen have long known of the trout's peculiar summer appetite.

A New Difficulty.

"I understand Crimson Gulch is going to have a baseball team."

"We tried it," said Cactus Joe, "but we couldn't get enough players. Most of the boys is naturally so scrappy they wanted to be umpire or nothin'."

Large Investment.

"My face is my fortune!" quoted the deliberate charmer.

"I can appreciate the fact," answered Miss Cayenne. "These beauty treatments are terribly expensive."

Location.

"Where is Ferdie spending his vacation?"

"From what he writes he seems to have landed in the Black Hole of Cal-

COZY THEATRE

Matinee Saturday from 2 to 5:30

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

THE CALIFORNIA SYNCOPATORS

Direct from the "Big-Time" vaudeville circuits in classy variety and musical specialties. Complete change each night.

Picture Program Friday Night
 BUCK JONES in "Ridin' With Death"
 Also Christie Comedy and Travelogue

Picture Program Saturday Night
 TOM MIX in "Chasin' the Moon"
 Also Al. St. John Comedy & Sport Review

Bargain Prices, 10, 20, 40c, including war tax.

MONDAY and TUESDAY **Ethel Clayton**
 FEBRUARY 11-12th

Also Paramount-Sennett
 Comedy.

—in—
"Exit the Vamp."

**"KEEPING BOOKS"
 WITH A BANK BOOK**

You can "keep books" pretty acceptably just by keeping a bank account, depositing all receipts and paying out everything by check. I do this with by own farm. On the inside cover of each check book I list (for the period covered by that book) the dates and amounts of all deposits and the source of the deposit—so many pounds of pork sold at so much per pound; so many bushels of peas at so much a bushel; cooperative marketing association payments on my cotton, etc.

If one adopts this plan, however, he should try to adhere strictly to it. When a Hilltop worker, for example, is making out his account, simply deducted \$5 for corn he had bought from me, then, in order to make my bookkeeping easier, I gave him a check for the whole amount due him, and let him pay me \$5.00 separately for the corn, thereby enabling me to enter it properly as a deposit.

Then at the end of the year I go over my check books and classify and summarize my expenditures and receipts. If properly managed, this is not a difficult job. Just take a red pencil or a blue one, and write on each stub an initial or word to indicate the class of expenditure it represents. For example, "W" may be used for wages, D for day labor, S for seeds, Fer for

fertilizer, I for implements and machinery, Ins for insurance, and son on with a Mis to cover miscellaneous items that are not easily classified. Then take your stubs and add together the amounts shown by W items, being careful as you list amounts to check off the W letter on each stub so as to make sure of missing nothing. Then take each other class of expenditures in order. The result will show you pretty clearly for what purposes you are spending your money.

Of course every farmer ought to have a good farmer's account book and keep a record of other important happenings in addition to those shown by receipts and expenditures: In the case of not a few matters on Hilltop Farm, however, I find it easier to make a memorandum of such matters on the back of a check or in connection with it. Suppose for example, I wish to remember how much fertilizer or nitrate of soda was used per acre; it is easy enough to put it on the stub of the check given in payment for the material. Or I buy soy bean seed, it is easy enough to add on the stub "For . . . acres; planting began on . . ." And so on.—Clarence Poe, in The Progressive Farmer.

PERFECT HEALTH

Tutt's Pills keep the system in perfect order. Regulate the bowels and produce **A VIGOROUS BODY**. A sovereign remedy for sick headache, constipation.

Tutt's Pills

Preaching at Hope

O. J. Adcock will preach at Hope Sunday at 11 o'clock a.m. and at 7:30 p.m. You are cordially invited to Hope for church Sunday.

Have your clothes made to measure by the Cash Tailor Shop, and get full value for the money you spend. It makes no difference what price you select, you get in return an all-wool fabric of a quality exceeding any bought elsewhere at a similar cost. 1t5

COAL—COAL COAL— Have plenty lump coal in yard. Car choice coal from McAlister field in transit. Also car Dawson Egg Swafford, phone 44, south side.

Persistent Coughing—

wastes your strength, makes the delicate throat tissues raw and sore, exposes you to more serious trouble. You can check coughing with Dr. King's New Discovery. Naturally and harmlessly it stimulates the mucous membranes to throw off clogging secretions. Has a pleasant taste. All druggists.



DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
 FIRE INSURANCE**

There is just one day when it is wise to insure. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow may be too late. Today, the day before you may suffer a loss by fire, or Theft, is the one wise day to cover yourself fully with insurance.

Today we can protect you from tomorrow's possible loss. Today is the only day you can be sure you are in time. Call on us today—be insured in time.

W. O. BONEY
 MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

Ford
 THE UNIVERSAL CAR

**Forecasting A Tremendous
 Spring Demand**

739,626

more Ford cars and trucks were produced last year than the previous year, an increase of over 50 per cent.

In spite of this tremendous increase in production, it was impossible to meet delivery requirements during the spring and summer months where orders for 350,000 Ford Cars and Trucks could not be filled.

This year winter buying for immediate delivery has been more active than ever before—and in addition 200,000 orders have already been booked through the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan for spring delivery.

These facts clearly indicate that the demand during this spring and summer will be far greater than ever, and that orders should be placed immediately with Ford Dealers as a means of protection against delay in securing your Ford Car or Truck or Fordson Tractor.

Ford Motor Company
 Detroit, Michigan

A small deposit down, with easy payments of the balance arranged, or your enrollment under the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan, will put your order on the preferred list for spring delivery.

**See the Nearest Authorized
 Ford Dealer**



If you haven't placed your name with us for Two-Row Planter and Cultivator and if you prefer the John Deere make, you had better place order soon, as it now looks like we will run out of Implements before the season is over, the same as we have done for the last three years.

If you are figuring on an Incubator we carry the SAFETY HATCH in several sizes. We have the chicken founts and chicken feed trays. Call and see this line of goods.

FOR THE GARDEN---As that time of year is now at hand, we have the Garden Plows, Garden Rakes, Water Hose, Garden Fence and various other supplies for the Garden. Our stock of Hardware in general is now in good shape. We would appreciate your coming to see us.

YOUR TRADE APPRECIATED.

CROWN HARDWARE CO.

Hate, malice, envy and slander are doing more to wreck and ruin this country than all the booze and other forces combined

Many a farmer has gone broke trying to get rich by the one-crop route, when he could easily have made money by diversifying—Miami Chief.

The one-crop idea has been demonstrated as wrong in principle and practice. The one-crop farmer gets further in debt. Diversification brings prosperity. The man that diversifies gets out of debt and stays out. Scurry county is diversifying in a degree and manner satisfactory to her people, but of course there could be more done along the lines of diversified farming. The sow, the cow and hen have done wonders in this section. The one-crop idea in favor of cotton in Scurry county will bring its toll of hardships in the future if not done away with. Within the past two years our farmers have been going too strong on cotton and gasoline and neglecting feed and the horse crop. Let us get back to balanced crops and balanced living.—The Scurry County Times.

SANDBURR PICK-UPS

After quite a number of cases of flu and measles in neighboring communities, we are glad to state that our school has escaped so far.

We are glad to state that Willie Lightsey of this community is attending High school at Abilene.

Mrs. Ossie Cook who has been quite sick with Acute indigestion has recovered.

Mr. Edgar Jones made a business trip to Merkel Saturday in the interest of the Sandburr school.

Mr. Emmet Patterson of Merkel and Miss Allie Finch of this community drove to Anson last Thursday evening where they were quietly married. We wish for them happiness and prosperity.

The Sandburr young folks enjoyed a musical attraction given by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sloan Saturday night.

Mr. Miles West's eye is in a serious condition caused from being hit with a cotton burr while he was cutting stalks.

Mr. R. O. Anderson returned first of the week from a business trip to Wichita Falls.

Mr Sam Smith who for many years resided in the Canyon, but who last fall moved to near Buffalo Gap, was up first of the week buying groceries and other family necessities. He states that it pays him to come to Merkel to trade as he could buy goods cheaper here than anywhere he had tried.

Trent high school and Union Ridge ball teams played ball in Merkel Friday. The scores were: Girls 19 to 12 in favor of Trent. Boys 24 to 4 in favor of Trent.

Every time we get to thinking a lot of Lieut. Gov. T. W. Davidson, who is a candidate for governor, he gets to serve a few days as acting governor and grants a bunch of pardons—and this knocks us clear out. It does seem that respect to the views of Gov. Neff would cause him to refuse all pardons while in office but several days.—Plain-view News.

It is always bad taste for an acting lieutenant governor to use the pardon power. There was never a convict case so urgent but that it could wait till the return of the Executive and the one responsible for these matters. It has always left a degree of suspicion when a lieutenant governor takes upon himself the liberty of pardoning people. It smacks of graft and corruption. While lieutenant governors may be innocent, yet the fact that they take advantage of temporary power to pardon people leaves room for suspicion that they have had the palms of their hands greased. We do not believe that we could bring ourselves to the point of voting for a lieutenant governor in promotion or for re-election who has availed himself of the pardon power.—Scurry County Times.

PERSONALS

Miss Mabel Toombs who attends McMurray College was at home this week end to visit her parents.

Mr. Robt. N. Campbell and wife visited at Miles, Texas last week end.

Mr and Mrs. Howell Brittain of Abilene were week end visitors in the H. M. Rainbolt home.

The Baptist and Methodist people are this week observing the week of prayer at each church. Services will be held on Monday Wednesday and Friday nights of this week.

Miss Bessie Yates visited friends in Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

Misses Compere, Harrison, Duke, and Scott were in Abilene Saturday and Sunday with home folks and friends.

Mr. G. J. Clinton from the Noodle community was in town Saturday. He reports many cases of measles in his community.

Mr. T. G. Bragg and wife left Sunday for St Louis and other places on a purchasing trip for their store.

Mr. Cris McGehee is now occupying the H. M. Rose residence.

Rev. R. E. L. Stutts, of Abilene preached at the Methodist church at both the morning and evening services. His sermons were very interesting.

Mr A. V. Dye is building a new garage at his home in north Merkel.

Mr and Mrs. Eli Case spent last Sunday with relatives in Winters.

Chills, & Stomach Trouble

MR. N. A. SMITH, of Shaw, Miss., says he can't remember being without Thedford's Black-Draught liver medicine since he and Mrs. Smith began keeping house, many years ago. "When we have chills," says Mr. Smith, "Black-Draught is what we use and we find it just splendid. I had a bad case of stomach trouble. I couldn't eat enough and was very weak. Everything I ate hurt me, formed gas and I spit up my food. I would feel stupid or staggery. I didn't feel like doing any work. I knew what Black-Draught had done in colds and I began taking small

doses. I certainly got relief. It did me lots of good. "When I go to town, I look first to see how near out of Black-Draught we are, and then get more. We are a good way from the doctor and keep our home remedies and the main one is Black-Draught." In hundreds of thousands of homes, housekeepers keep Black-Draught on the shelf, handy for use when needed, as a household remedy to relieve constipation, biliousness, indigestion, and many other simple ailments. "A dose in time saves nine." A dose of Black-Draught costs only one cent. It may save you a big bill for medicine later on. Keep it on your shelf. Buy it at your store. Get a package today.

BLACK-DRAUGHT

A Purely Vegetable Liver Medicine

QUEEN THEATRE ABILENE TEXAS

TWO DAYS FEBRUARY 18th and 19th
2:30 TWICE DAILY 8:30

ALL SEATS RESERVED
Prices: Matinee, 50-75c. Night, 50-75c, \$1.00, plus tax

THE SECOND BIG AMERICAN PICTURE "LITTLE OLD NEW YORK"

A Delightful Photoplay Romance of the Days When America Was Young.

WITH BIG SPECIAL ORCHESTRA.

NOTE.—This is the sister picture to the Covered Wagon.
Seat Sale Now Open. Mail Orders Received.

Miss Willie Swann left Saturday night for Dallas to shop for the Bragg Dry Goods Millinery Department.

Messrs Sam Swann and M. H. Izard, both prominent gin men of this city returned last week from an extended trip over the South Plains.

Max Mellinger of the Max Mellinger Dry Goods Store, was in Dallas this week on business.

Mr and Mrs. Robert N. Campbell returned first of the week from a trip to San Angelo, where they visited friends and relatives.

We are glad to learn that Mrs E. D. Coats who recently underwent an operation at Abilene, continues to improve.

J. W. Wheeler returned last week from a trip to Fort Worth with a car of cattle, which he sold on that market.

Eld. Cypert returned Monday from Rotan where he had been to fill his regular appointment with the church of Christ. Choice Prairie Hay, Baled Oats, Johnson Grass and Alfalfa. Full line sack feed, Hulls. Swafford, phone 44, south side.

Mr. B. C. Hancock went to Abilene on business Monday.

Davis Jones left Monday for Fort Worth on a business trip.

Misses Iva Bragg and Christene Collins returned home Tuesday from Abilene after spending several days with Miss Ona Fae Bland.

Y FORD MAKES 'EM
—WE SELL 'EM.

GENUINE
Ford
PARTS

FORD PRICES WERE NEVER LOWER,
OUR STOCK WAS NEVER MORE COMPLETE.

WEST COMPANY
"THE BUSY AUTO SUPPLY HOUSE."



Don't let that
cough run on

IT'S much easier to check it now than after serious complications develop. Nothing like Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar Honey to stop coughing quickly. Just those medicines that up-to-date doctors prescribe for loosening heavy phlegm and soothing throat tissues are in it—combined with the old reliable remedy—pine-tar honey. Keep it on hand for all the family.

All druggists. Be sure to get the genuine.

DR. BELL'S Pine-Tar Honey

REMEMBER



That we have every facility for turning out neat printing of all kinds. Letter heads, bill heads, office stationery, etc., furnished at the lowest prices first class work will permit.

WORLD FAMOUS PAINTING
"Christ on Calvary"

—BY—
FRANK A. LUNDAHL
Valued at \$85,000.00

Is now being shown in a special setting on our second floor, Feb. 4th to 16th.

G. W. Waldrop & Co.

"A STORE—AND MORE"
220 Cypress St. ABILENE, TEXAS Phone 306

METHODIST DAY AT
NUBIA SUNDAY 10th.

We will have the Sunday school hour beginning promptly at 10 o'clock until 11. Preaching services immediately following. Come out and be with us on Sunday at the respective hours. We wish you the best life that can be lived on this earth. Is not the life in Christ the best?

Will preach at three in the afternoon at Blair. Your presence is lending a helping hand in the kingdom. Come.
M. R. Pike

Three Thousand Fold.

Seventy ears were raised from one grain of wheat in an experiment at South Hornchurch, Essex, England. The seed was sown in March in a pit a yard wide and 18 inches deep. As soon as sprouts appeared they were lightly covered with earth, and from then all through the summer the sprouting grain was covered over and over again until the pit was full and its surface covered with a grass of wheat. The shoots remained quiescent during the winter, but in spring grew rapidly, and eventually, in the following autumn, 85 stalks were cut, of which no fewer than seventy had ripened ears. These seventy ears weighed over a quarter of a pound and averaged forty-four grains to the ear. Surely an amazing harvest from one seed.

India Introduced Diamonds.

India's ancient diamond workings were scattered over a wide area, but the distributing center or mart was the town of Golconda, a name which has always been highly suggestive of opulence.

As far back as that ancient epic, the "Mahabharata," diamonds have figured largely in the life and history of the Hindu, and it was from India that they were introduced into Europe. With the development of diamond cutting in Antwerp and Amsterdam in the Fifteenth century, diamonds began to be more widely used by the western nations. Such travelers as Jean Baptiste Tavernier brought back from the East stories of the magnificence of the diamonds owned by oriental potentates.

Unable to Prove It.

One afternoon a stranger debarked from a train at a bustling town in the West and headed up the street. Finally he met a man who looked like a native.

"Pardon me," said the stranger, "are you a resident of this town?"
"Yes, sir," was the ready rejoinder of the other. "I have been here something like fifty years. What can I do for you?"

"I am looking for a criminal lawyer," responded the stranger. "Have you one here?"
"Well," said the native, reflectively, "we think we have, but we can't prove it on him."

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—GREETING: You are hereby commanded Sel.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED, to cause to be published, once a week, for ten days, exclusive of the first day of publication, before the return day hereof, in some newspaper of general circulation published in said county, which has been continuously and regularly published in said county for a period of not less than one year; the following notice:

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To all persons interested in the Estate of H. A. King, Deceased. You are hereby notified that Wm. T. J. King has filed in the County Court of Taylor County, an application for the probate of the last Will and Testament of said H. A. King, deceased. Filed with said application, and for Letters Testamentary which will be heard at the next term of said Court, commencing on the third Monday in February, A. D. 1924, the same being the 18th day of February, 1924, at the Court House thereof, in Abilene, at which time all persons interested in said Estate may appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but have you before said Court on the first day thereof this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, this the 30th day of January, A.D. 1924.

W. E. Beasley, Clerk, County Court, Taylor County, Texas.
1t2c

POULTRY SUPPLIES

Just received shipment of Poultry Wire in different lengths and meshes.

See our Incubators, Feed Bags, Leg Bands, Fountains, Nest Eggs, Thermometers, Coops, Hoppers.

Rakes, Hoes, Shovels, Spades and other things too numerous to mention that are needed around chicken farms.

All kinds of Hardware and Implements galore.

COME TO SEE US

LIBERTY Hardware CO.

LOCATED IN HEART OF BUSINESS DISTRICT

FEER FEED

To those in need or who expect to need feed, we would urge you to call on us for your feed now, as we bought our large and complete stock of feed early, and you will find it cheaper than it will be any time soon.

We have plenty of Corn, corn chops, Oats, Bran, Hulls, Meal and Cake. Also expect a car of Hay soon. Gazzaway & Polly. Phone 161.
1t2p

LAYING HENS PAY

Make 'em Lay and Pay---Feed . MARTIN EGG PRODUCER . And get more Eggs or your money back
Martin's Roup Tablets, Blue Bug Remedy and Taroline Guaranteed by
SANDERS DRUG STORE

House painting Wanted—R. J. McHenry, at C. P. Stevens' home.
1t4p

Len Sublett

Water well Driller, all work guaranteed first-class.

Merkel, Texas

FREE

50 VISITING CARDS 50

To the first girl under 12 years old determining which of the top squares are the largest the Merkel Mail will present 50 visiting cards of the latest style.

25 VISITING CARDS

To the girl under 10 years old determining which of the lower squares is the largest we will give 25 cards of the best quality.

CANDIDATE AND VISITING CARDS A SPECIALTY

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—White Wyandotte Eggs \$1.50 per setting, Silver Spangled Hamburg Eggs, \$2.00. Bob McDonald, at Chas. West Barber Shop. 1t4

FOR SALE—Fine business lots close in. Call at the Merkel Mail office. tf

FOR SALE—Well improved Farm located six miles north of Merkel. See or write, Dan Matthews, Box 583. tf

FOR SALE—One slightly used 120-Egg OLD TRUSTY INCUBATOR. Practically new and ready for use, \$12.50. One Sol-Hot Brooder, \$6.00. Or Incubator and Brooder for \$16.50. 15 UTILITY Barred Rock Pullets, laying now, \$12.50. *See Booth Warren. 1t

FOR SALE—100 acre cotton farm, 65 in cultivation, plenty good water, average improvements. One-third cash, balance easy. Also 320 acre stock farm, plenty of water and new set of improvements. A. B. Cranston, Merkel, Texas. 8t2p

FOR SALE—One 3-year old mare and two 3-year old mules. Also Sanders pony disc plow in good condition. A bargain if taken at once. See G L Shuff, Merkel, Route five. 1tp

FOR SALE—One 3-year old Jersey Milk Cow, fresh with jersey heifer calf. Lee Baker. 1tpd

FOR SALE—Two spans of good young mules. Would sell on time or would let out to be broke for feed to the right parties. A. W Hunter, Merkel route five. 8t2p

FOR SALE—Wood, delivered at \$4.00 or on ground at \$2.75. Phone 214, Earl Lassiter. 8t2

FOR SALE—Silver Laced Wyandotte Eggs, per setting \$1.50. Mrs. V. N. Ellis, Merkel, Texas, route one. 8t2p

FOR SALE—Pair Mules, 4 and 5 years old, about 15 1-2 hands, \$300, \$100 cash, balance easy. J T Warren. 1tp

FOR SALE—Wood. If you want good wood see T. J. Amason, in the French pasture, Merkel, Rt. four. 8t4pd

WANTED

WANTED — Partner in the Transfer and Storage Business, Abilene, Texas. Good trucks and good trade. If you want a good business, I would be glad to figure with you. S. D. Jobe, Abilene, Texas. 1t2pd.

HELP WANTED—We will put you in business and show you how to become successful. You need little capital and no experience. Opportunity open to any one with good character, who has initiative and ambition. Full particulars free. Write E. B. Barnes. 1t4pd

WANTED—A man to make a small share crop. J. Ben Campbell. 1t2pd.

WANTED—Some one with good teams to plow 25 acres of sod land, at \$3.00 per acre. 8t2

LOST

STRAYED—One red, bull yearling from my place one mile north of Trent. Has no marks or brand. Will pay \$2.00 reward for information leading to return of same. J. W. Dowdy, Trent. 1t

FOR RENT—Nicely furnished rooms for light house keeping. See Mrs. M. D. Daniels, Oak Street. 1tpd

Announcements

For District Clerk:
J. K. FULLER,
MRS. LAURA C. MITCHELL

For County Judge:
CARLOS D. SPECK,
AUSTIN FITTS

County Attorney
FRANK E. SMITH

For Tax Collector:
D. T. HARKRIDER,

For Tax Assessor:
J. T. HOWARD
JOE T. PERRY

For County Clerk:
W. E. BEASLEY

For County School Supt.
M. A. WILLIAMS
(Re-election)

For Commissioner:
H. R. HICKS
T. R. LASSITER
CHARLES P. STEVENS
PHILLIP A. DILTZ

For Public Weigher:
C. L. TUCKER
(Re-election)

STRANGE WAYS OF SLEEPING

Every Kind of Animal Adopts Some Particular Posture in Which to Rest.

Every kind of animal, including man, seems to have adopted some particular posture in which to sleep. Long legged birds, such as storks and gulls, have been observed to sleep balanced on one leg. Most birds, however, sleep with their heads turned round over their backs. Often their beaks are hidden among the feathers between the wing and the body. Some curious exceptions to this rule is the owl which sleeps sitting on a branch, and certain Indian parrots and bats which sleep only when suspended from a tree. The duck is the most unconventional of all. This bird sleeps on the open water, and during its slumbers paddles itself with one foot in circles to avoid drifting to the shore.

Such a bulky animal as the sloth sleeps upside down, hanging by its four feet and with its head tucked between the forelegs. The posture of the domestic cat is typical of many other animals. Foxes and wolves sleep curled up with their noses and the soles of their feet all close together and often covered by their tails. Some animals sleep with their eyes open, others with them closed. A dog, especially an old one, occasionally sleeps while standing; a horse often does, while an elephant never lies down to sleep. Salmon and goldfish are said never to sleep.

BRULE PIONEER IN WILDS

Explorer is Now Credited With Discovery of Superior and the Other Lakes.

Although his name is not enshrined in history along with those of Champlain, LaSalle, Radisson, Marquette, Joliet, and many other explorers, Etienne Brule (with an acute accent on the initial E and on the final e of the surname) is said to have been the real discoverer of the Great Lakes of America, including Superior, the largest body of fresh water in the world. Brule antedates most of these great discoverers by many years. He is said to have discovered the Great Lakes more than 300 years ago.

Brule had no gift of writing, and no personal account remains of what must have been one of the outstanding careers of adventure this adventurous continent has produced. In late life Brule was denounced by Champlain as "abandoned," as one who "lived without religion." It is believed by some persons that the judgment of subsequent historical writers has been warped by Champlain's criticism of Brule's morals. They say that if Brule succumbed to the customs of the native Indians, it was because he was sent among them at a tender age by Champlain himself.

Junior B.Y.P.U.

Subject: How one mans sins divided a kingdom.

1. Introduction by Dorothy Deut schman.
2. God Speaks to Solomon, by Mary Catherine Cummings.
3. The Prophet Appears to Jeroboam, by Christene Rister.
4. The people ask Rehoboam to lighten their taxes, by Howard Albertson.
5. Rehoboam's reply by Louise Booth.
6. The tribes revolt, by Mabel Piicher.
7. Jeroboam makes His people sin, by Alton Davis.
- 8 The Closing song and prayer.

Dr Miller is having added to his home a new sleeping porch.

Intermediate League Program

Subject: The Beginning of Methodism.

- Leader Orpha Patterson.
Song Service.
Scripture Lesson: John 3:16 by leader.
Prayer
Wesley's passion, W. L. Harkrider.
Misunderstood by family and church, Intha Bird.
Constant travel and reading, by Mary Ellen Smith.
Special Music.
Attacked by mobs, Eva Mae Johnson.
The winning of our leaders, Leonal Bailey.
League Benediction.

Mrs. Geo Brown and children were in Abilene Friday.

NO POSITION NO PAY

New scholarship contains writ ten contract, made strong by 25 years' success, a national deputa tion, and an affiliated Employ ment Department in 18 states, that if good position is not se cured after completing prescrib ed training, your tuition costs you nothing. Write today for Guarantee Contract, finest cata log in the South and Special Of fer 10. Address Draughon's Practical Business College at either Abilene or Wichita Falls, Texas. 8t4

Call 180 and let us clean and press all those old clothes. No gas odor. And one days service when you wish. Cash Tailor Shop. 1t5



This Is Your Last Opportunity to Buy Delco-Light on the Co-operative Plan

THERE are only a few days left,—only a few days in which you can take advantage of this remarkable opportunity. I know that you have always wanted electric light and power. I know that many of your neighbors have Delco-Light and that they are strong in their praises of it. I know that you will gladly order Delco-Light now when I have completely explained the co-operative carload plan.

Here Is the Complete Plan

Save Half the Freight

By ordering a whole carload at one time and having it shipped direct to me I save just about half the ordinary freight charges. And you get the full advantage of this saving.

Wiring at Cost

I have made special arrangements for the wiring on this carload. And because they will come along one right after the other, I have decided to do these wiring jobs at actual cost. I can save by having my wiring crew busy continually. And I'm going to pass that saving along to you.

Free Installation

Furthermore, if you are one of the men who buy on my co-operative plan, you can get your Delco in stalled free. All I ask is that you

come to the car, get your plant and build the concrete base. My wiring crew will set it on the concrete base and connect it up to your wiring. There will be no charge for this.

Act Now—If You Want to Save

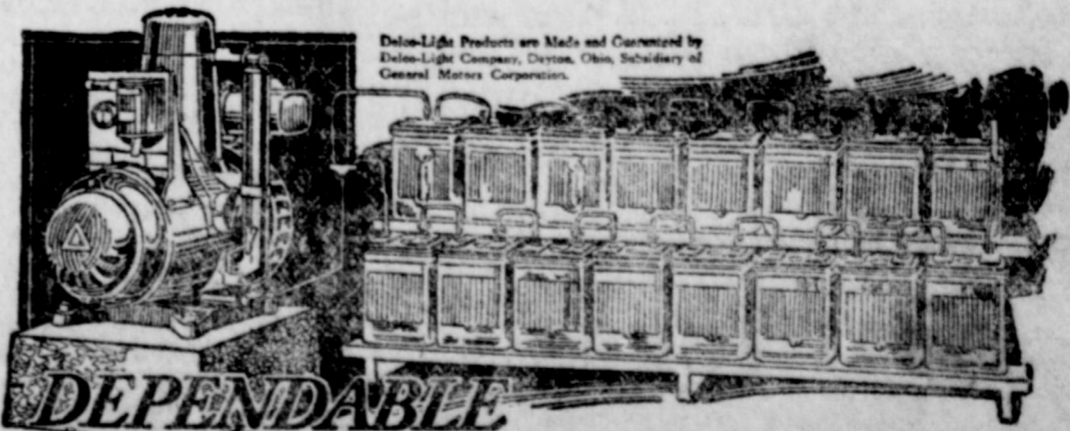
You know what Delco-Light is. You know that it is the world's standard farm electric plant. You know what the comfort, convenience, economy and labor-saving of electric light and power will mean to your home. And now, for the first time, you will have an opportunity to get all that Delco-Light means at the biggest saving ever offered.

Just write your name and address on a piece of paper and mail it to me. Or telephone, if you prefer. I am ready now to give you complete prices and figures—show you just how much you can save.

EDGAR HOLLY DEALER

WITH SUN ELECTRIC CO.

PINE STREET, ABILENE, TEXAS



DEPENDABLE
DELCO-LIGHT
More than 175,000 Satisfied Users

FREE!

2 lbs. Sugar with each 3 lb. can Elegant Coffee—Every Can Guaranteed.

Brer Rabbit or King Komas Syrup, while it lasts, gallon... **85c**

HAMS! HAMS! HAMS!
Wilson's Sugar Cured Hams while they last, lb. **23c**

We have a little more Corn Chops, Oats, Bran and Shorts going [at] cost. We thank you.

WE DELIVER

PHONE 25

J. N. Carson Grocery Co.

The Post Office is across the Street from Us.

Over 150 of the Halsell Farms Already Sold—to Farmers

OVER 150 good farmers—the kind who know good land and opportunity when they see it, are coming to the Halsell Farms in Lamb County, Texas—they have come here and investigated what we have and they have bought land—to farm—to make money.

A Great Cotton County—Raise one-fourth to one bale per acre—no boll weevil—easy to raise—bring top price. The rich chocolate loam soil, deep and fertile, is also wonderfully adapted to the raising of corn, wheat, feed grains, vegetables, garden truck and fruit.

\$25 an Acre—15 Years to Pay! Scores are coming to this land of opportunity and establishing homes. Pure water of fine quality and in abundance. Ideal climate—short, dry winters; long, temperate summers. Good transportation facilities.

On the Santa Fe Railroad—Amherst, an up-and-going town is now being built on the property. Schools and churches are being built. Halsell Farms is fast becoming a thriving farm community. Its citizens are the right class of people.

Investigate—Now! If you are seeking a real home in an ideal part of the country, where rich land and honest efforts will put you ahead, write at once for full particulars about Halsell Farms. Land is selling fast—write today! Remember this is one of the few remaining big tracts of good farming land that can be bought at these prices on terms.

The Halsell Farms Company General Offices: Abilene, Texas

AN OLD-FASHIONED MOTHER

Thank God some of us have, and others have had, an old-fashioned mother. Not a woman of the period, enameled and painted, an expert bridge player whose white-jewel hands have never felt a clasp of her baby's fingers, but a dear old-fashioned, sweet-voiced mother, with eyes in which the lovelight shone and brown hair threaded with silver, lying smooth upon her faded cheek. Those dear hands, worn with toil, gently guided our tottering steps to childhood and smoothed our pillow in sickness, even reaching out to us in yearning tenderness when her sweet spirit was passing through the cold, dark river. Blessed is the memory of an old-fashioned mother. It floats to us now like the beautiful perfume of some woodland blossom. The music of other voices may be lost, but the entrancing memory of her's will shine on until the light from heaven's portals shall glorify our own. When in the fitful pauses of busy life our feet wander back to the old homestead, and crossing the well-worn thresholds, standing once more in the low, quaint room, hallowed by her presence, how the feeling of childish innocence and dependence comes over us, and we kneel down in the mottled sunshine streaming through the windows—just where, long years ago, we knelt by mother's knee lisping "Now I lay me down to sleep." How many times, when the tempter lured us on, have the memory of those sacred hours, of mother's words, her faith and prayers, saved us from sin. Years have piled great drifts over between her and us, but they have not hidden from our sight the glory of her pure, unselfish love.—Chillicothe Valley News.

Mr. A. Morton has purchased a new light six Studebaker car.

NOTICE TO ALL IN-COME TAX PAYERS

On February 22nd and 23rd I will be in Merkel, Texas at the Farmers State Bank and will assist the Income Tax payers to file their returns for the year 1923, and at the same time will audit all past reports, securing refunds, filing claims for credit and handling all income tax matters that confuse the tax payer. I am not a government man, but work for the tax payer and you will find my years of experience to be a benefit to you in this work.

Don't forget the date and if you need a form for making your return a supply will be kept for the convenience of the public.

See me for 1923 changes. C.L. WEST, Auditor and Accountant, Federal income tax consultant. It

CAFE NOTICE

We take this method of announcing to our friends and the public that we have purchased the City Cafe from Mr. Hancock, located in the Gaither building on Main Street, and will appreciate any business that you may entrust to us in this line.

We will always strive to please you by serving you with the best to be had in the way of good eats, and at prices that are fair and just. Courteous treatment with good service shall be our slogan. Come to see us. Burns & Banner. It

COAL— COAL COAL— Have plenty lump Coal in yard. Car choice Coal from McAlister field in transit. Also car Dawson Egg Swafford, phone 44, South side.

Announcement has been received by relatives of the marriage of Miss Tommie Cobb and Mr. George Coker of Dallas. The bride is the daughter of Judge and Mrs. N D Cobb.

Big Shoe Sale

WHERE?

AT

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

The Boss has gone to market. In his absence we've decided to reduce our shoe stock—every pair of Men's, Women's and Children's Shoes will go on sale. We have no old stock to work off. You be the judge of quality and we'll make prices that will actually astonish you. We are going to sell shoes here for ten days. If you come in you'll buy a pair, whether you need them now or not. Money saved is money made—why not save it on shoes?

All kinds of new merchandise coming in every day.

Bragg Dry Goods Company

The Place Where Most People Trade

The Hoover

It BEATS
as it SWEEPS
as it CLEANS

Across the dingiest room the HOOVER beats, sweeps and cleans an immaculate pathway—it gets all the dirt. It cleans things clean. Won't you let the HOOVER help you do your work, and keep your home as it should be kept? It pays for itself over and over again in the added life it gives to rugs and carpetings, not to mention the time and energy it saves. Let us give you a home demonstration of the new model with its ten added features. You can afford the HOOVER. We sell on such easy terms that its purchase is no burden.

West Texas Utilities Company
Merkel, Texas.

Mr. S. D. Gambill is having many nice improvements made at his home.

Mr. J. C. Mason was an Abilene visitor Wednesday.

Miss Dota Garoutte returned Wednesday from San Angelo where she went to attend a church conference

Little Miss Louise Jones is here from Tulia, Texas, visiting her grandparents, Mr and Mrs. J. S. Swann.

Scott Johnson is here for a brief visit with his mother.

Judge N. D. Cobb, local attorney, returned first of the week from a trip to Lamesa, where he had been on legal business for a client.

Read the Classified Column.

Advertise

- IF YOU
- Want a Cook
- Want a Clerk
- Want a Partner
- Want a Situation
- Want a Servant Girl
- Want to Sell a Piano
- Want to Sell a Carriage
- Want to Sell Town Property
- Want to Sell Your Groceries
- Want to Sell Your Hardware
- Want Customers for Anything
- Advertise Weekly in This Paper.
- Advertising Is the Way to Success
- Advertising Brings Customers
- Advertising Keeps Customers
- Advertising Insures Success
- Advertising Shows Energy
- Advertising Shows Puck
- Advertising Is "Biz"
- Advertise or Bust
- Advertise Long
- ADVERTISE
- At Once

In This Paper

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County—GREETING:

You are hereby commanded SeL. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED, to cause to be published, once a week, for ten days, exclusive of the first day of publication, before the return day hereof, in some newspaper of general circulation published in said county, which has been continuously and regularly published in said county for a period of not less than one year; the following notice:

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To all persons interested in the Estate of H. A. King, Deceased. You are hereby notified that Wm. T. J. King has filed in the County Court of Taylor County, an application for the probate of the last Will and Testament of said H. A. King, deceased. Filed with said application, and for Letters Testamentary which will be heard at the next term of said Court, commencing on the third Monday in February, A. D. 1924, the same being the 18th day of February, 1924, at the Court House thereof, in Abilene, at which time all persons interested in said Estate may appear and contest said application, should they desire to do so.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but have you before said Court on the first day thereof this Writ, with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given under my hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, this the 30th day of January, A.D. 1924.

W. E. Beasley, Clerk, County Court, Taylor County, Texas. It2c

We regret to learn that Mr. Harry Barnett, splendid employee of the West Company has been quite sick this week.

The

Merkel Mail

Is prepared to do your Job Printing in a neat and tasty manner.

Give Us a Trial and Be Convinced.

Those making use of our advertising columns are evidently finding same to be a good investment, well worth the money.

THE MERKEL MAIL

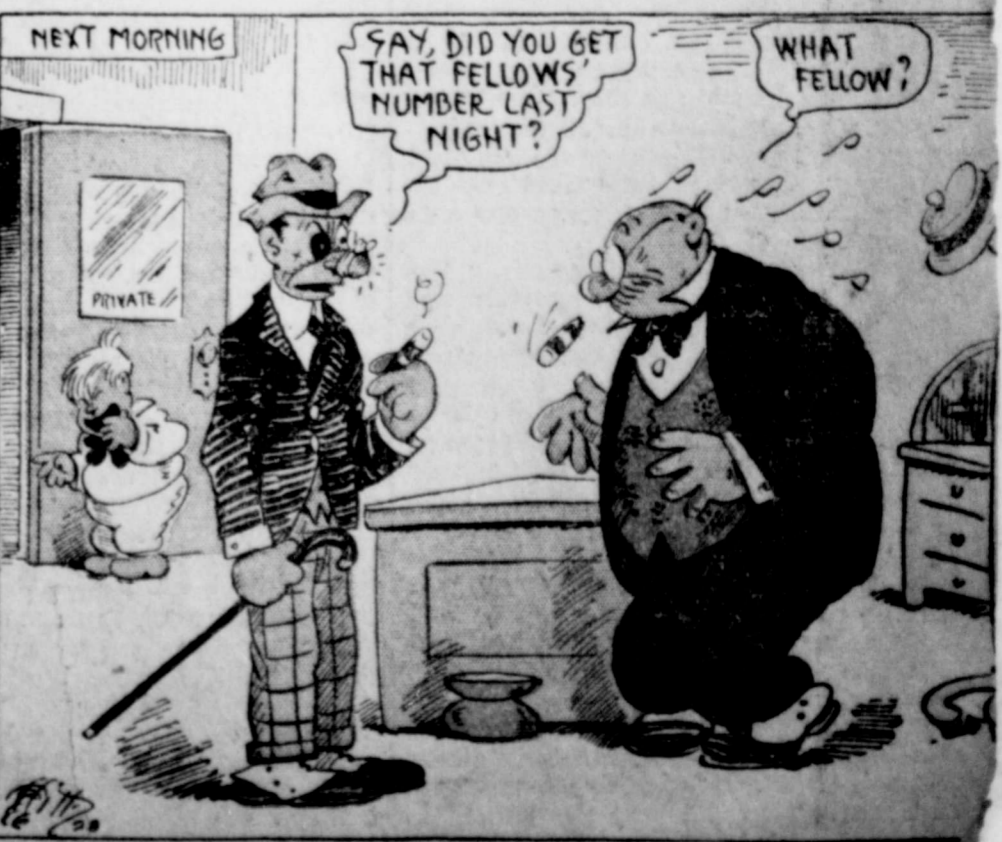
VOL. 35. NO. 50.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1924.

SEEZEM and SQEEZEM

By OSCAR HITT

Copyright, 1923, by The McClure Newspaper Syndicate



Kills Indian, Rescues Bride-to-Be

A Story of the Old Circuit-Riding Days in West Texas.
By AN OLD SETTLER.

The early preachers of West Texas rode horseback and carried their bibles in a pair of saddle-bags. They knew how to quote scripture when fighting the devil; could also shoot a carbine as straight as anyone, and, if need be, could kill an Indian when said Indian was on the warpath.

No history of the frontier, with a record of its valiant citizenship, would be complete unless there was a chapter dedicated to the grand old patriarchs of this type. They planted the flower of faith in the footsteps of the first pioneers and kept the flower perennial by personal sacrifice.

Parson Robertson was one of those pioneer preachers who looked after humanity's spiritual needs in that far distant day. His familiar figure, astride a long-necked, hide-bound and generally jaded horse, was so well known to the old settler that even little children would jump up and clap hands with joy whenever they saw him approach. This demonstration, however, was no evidence especially that children were any better at that time than they are now. It only meant that they knew there would be biscuits instead of corn-bread when the Parson stayed over night in their home.

A Life of Adventure.

The life of this one pioneer preacher would fill a book with thrilling stories of adventure. Parson Robertson had to battle his way through a band of savage red men several times in order to tell the frontier folks of "that peace which passeth understanding." And once when he was called into the wilderness, to bury a man, so far from any white settlement that there were no roads or friendly signs, he shot an Indian dead while on the way.

It was the winter of 1859, however, that this venerable knight of the cross had his most peculiar experience and one that perhaps no other man of his calling ever had. The incident here related occurred somewhere between Robertson Peak in Coleman county and Buffalo Gap in Taylor county. The Parson had been summoned to marry a couple. With a single attendant he made the trip to the bride's home, a ranch too remote to be safe from the attack of savages.

Upon reaching the bride's home a

desperate situation confronted him. A band of marauding Indians had passed only a short time before he arrived; all the men folks were absent except an old fellow who did chores about the house. The Indians had killed the old fellow and carried off the bride-to-be. Fortunately there were several horses on the ranch that had not been stolen by the Indians. A cowboy, who was with the Parson, drove two of the horses into a pen and saddles were quickly changed from the tired horses they had been riding to the fresher ones.

"What are we going to do?" asked Parson Robertson, willing to undertake anything that held out the least promise of being helpful.

"Follow the red devils as fast as we can ride," answered the cowboy. And then he asked: "Have you a good gun and plenty of ammunition?"

"Yes, both," said the Parson as he mounted. "A friend gave me 'Old Betsy' here and I had rather trust it in shooting buffalo than any other gun on the frontier."

"But this is not going to be a buffalo hunt," Parson Robertson, earnestly spoke the cowboy. "We're going on a far more dangerous chase than that. The madam says there were five of the savage devils in the party and there are only two of us, you know."

"Oh, well, that doesn't make any difference," smilingly answered the man of God who was absolutely without fear. "I'm to have five dollars for marrying Mary Ann and Bob and I can't marry them unless we get the bride back. Besides I believe this gun is just itching to be tried on an Indian."

Grimly Determined.

Nothing more was said as the two frontiersmen—one a reckless cow-puncher who had never given religion a

serious thought and the other a preacher—dashed away on one of those missions that bind men's hearts together. About two hours later the trail grew hot and both men were looking ahead with grim determination plainly written on their faces. At length the silence was broken by the cowboy who said: "I think we have the best horses, Parson." "Yes, and I know we have the best guns," was the quick response of the preacher. "And if my eyes did not fail me," he added, "I caught the glimpse of some feathered heads going over the ridge yonder."

"I saw them, too," declared the cow-

fleecy mantle which seemed to shut the world out. In front a vast white space—silent, mysterious and hazardous. Here the soul of saint and sinner were tested alike for a gleam of the old romantic fire. There was a moment's pause, a grim look upon the faces of the two horsemen, and an unspoken resolve to plunge ahead. Then, from out of the fleecy folds of Nature's shroud came savage voices—the clatter of horses' hoofs closer and closer, and—the scream of a woman.

Steady Nerve and True Aim.

The Parson and the cowboy understood, as they rode forward, impatient for the conflict. Directly the figure of a woman tied to a horse was seen dimly through the storm racing at full speed, and behind her the Indians. It was a tense moment, a moment that called for steady nerve and true aim. The men were equal to the task and when they fired each found his mark. Unfortunately, however, both had selected the same target and only one savage tumbled to the ground.

The cowboy's horse was shot from under him, and later the cowboy himself was so wounded in the right arm that he could not use his gun. This left the Parson at a great disadvantage. His mission in the West was to fight one invisible devil and here he was matched against four visible devils incarnate and he was very doubtful about getting that marriage fee. But just as the red skins were closing in around him, relief came.

It was the men from the ranch, headed by the bridegroom, and they had been joined a mile down the road by the bride who had escaped the Indians and was guiding them in the pursuit. As the relief party approached, the Indi-

ans wheeled and disappeared through the snowstorm. The savages were pursued for a short distance, but weather conditions were such that it was thought best to abandon the chase. There was the great danger of being led into ambush and overwhelmed by a superior force, for the Indians usually traveled in large numbers at that time.

As the entire party rode back toward the ranch, Parson Robertson declared that for a while it looked like there wasn't going to be a preacher to tie the nuptial knot.

"And for a while it looked to me like there wasn't going to be any need of one," answered the girl. "The snow surely came as a God-send. When it began falling so thick that you could hardly see your hand in front of you, the Indians stopped and commenced chattering. Then they got down from their horses, leaving me mounted. I saw the one chance to get away and quick as lightning I turned Red Bird's head homeward and spoke to him. He fairly flew, and how luckily it was that they had stolen my favorite horse when they got me."

After the ceremony had been performed that night, Parson Robertson was offered a dollar more than the accustomed fee by the bridegroom, but he wouldn't accept it. "Of course I was put to a little extra trouble," he said, "still I didn't know whether 'Old Betsy' had been trained for Indians or not. It was well worth the trouble I had to find that out."

Not every preacher who rode the plains and valleys of the West, in that distant day, had to fight Indians. Even Parson Robertson was not called upon but the one time to rescue a bride. The task of delivering a sermon was generally hazardous, however, and always there were trials and hardships and privations. It was a duty that called for brave and noble volunteers. One cannot help but admire the patience, courage and true loyalty of those pioneer men of God. If they didn't charm so much with their eloquence, or with the sheer power of a gifted personality they, with their faith and helpful kindness, adorned the rugged manhood of the old West with a touch that was divine.



The Parson and the Cowboy Understood as they Rode Forward, Impatient for the Conflict.

boy, "but it looked to me more like something flying—crows or buzzards. Maybe, though, we are about to overtake the red devils."

By the time the two horsemen had reached the crest of the ridge a darkening cloud lowered and it commenced to snow.

"This weather is against us," said the cowboy, as the crystal flakes flew thick and fast in every direction, quickly blotting out the trail that the two resolute frontiersmen were following. Yet onward they rode, faster and faster through the storm—into the valley ahead—then out of it and up to the top of another ridge.

All around them hung a white and

Adding Profit to Farm With Sheep

By AUSTIN CALLAN.

That ours is the greatest cotton growing state in the union, no one will deny; that cotton sometimes is king is another statement which will go unchallenged. This year several counties in Central Texas produced as much of the fleecy staple as will be gathered from every field east of the Mississippi river, and there are two Texas counties with a crop that will yield more than ten million dollars.

In spite of these facts, however, it is true that cotton growing has kept a millstone about the necks of the farmers of the South for more than half a century. The one crop idea is chiefly responsible for the Lone Star State, with possibilities far exceeding the possibilities of Ohio, North Carolina or Virginia, trooping along behind these three in per capita wealth and the general prosperity of the people.

Many remedies have been offered to offset the perils of over-production. Thousands of columns have been written preaching the good doctrine of diversification, and at times great strides are made in the matter of planting different kinds of crops. Yet one good year, with a fair cotton yield and a high price such as we have enjoyed this season, and all our conservatism is thrown to the winds. We go in strong for a bigger yield than ever and usually meet with a Waterloo, as we did in 1920.

What Ohio Has Done.

Some states have found it very profitable to produce sheep on farms, and some sections of Texas have profited by emulating what has been done elsewhere. Ohio leads all others in sheep production. With an area which represents only a fraction of the area of Texas and with agricultural and manufacturing as her chief industries, the fact still remains that in 1922 Ohio sold almost as much wool in value as our own state.

Now when we stop to consider the vastness of the live stock regions of Southwest Texas; when we remember that there are sheep in the thousands of valleys stretching away from the Colorado to the Pecos rivers and from the San Saba to the Rio Grande rivers, a territory devoted almost exclusively to grazing and far larger than the whole state of Ohio, we can hardly understand how it is possible for the above statement to be true. But Ohio grows her mutton and wool on her farms and those engaged in the enterprise have found it far more profitable than simply growing crops.

A study of what the farmers of that state have accomplished in this direction would be profitable to the farmers of Texas. It would help them to meet

a great problem which confronts them every few years—the problem of making both ends meet with a cotton crop which will not sell in the markets of the world for the cost of raising it. Ohio has never had to sweat blood on that account and the reason is that Ohio diversifies; that in addition to raising different kinds of crops her farmers raise sheep.

Agricultural conditions in Ohio are far less favorable than they are in Texas. For the most part, our soil is still virgin, the seasons down here are much longer, and labor cost no more here than in Ohio. Many advantages favor the Southerner, yet our prosperity, year by year, does not measure up to that of Ohio. There is a reason. If the Texas farmers would turn their attention to raising sheep on the farms and to a greater diversification of crops, no doubt we would rapidly take and maintain the lead of Ohio. Why should good conditions prevail year after year in rural Ohio, and distress part of the time in rural Texas? Could we not adopt some of their agricultural plans in this state to advantage? Here is food for thoughtful minds.

The writer recently put this question up to Ed Brewster, Jr., of Temple, who has been officially connected with the Central Texas wool growers for several years and who has made a study of raising sheep on the farm. His answer was that so far as he knew every citizen of his section who had combined sheep growing with agriculture had found it to be a good thing. "With wool and mutton at a fair price," declared Mr. Brewster, "there will never be any real distress among those farmers who have been wise enough to stock their places with a few sheep. Such stock will aid them wonderfully when there is an overproduction of cotton and their principal crop is selling at a ruinous figure." Continuing, he said, "I am certainly a strong advocate of this kind of diversification; it could easily be made the salvation of the rural dwellers of Texas. Fortunes have been made quicker in the sheep business, perhaps, than any other way, legitimately; a good animal will soon pay for itself in the yield of wool, to say nothing of the lambs."

Profit-Makers.

Col. P. L. Downs, president of the First National Bank of Temple, is another enthusiast for mixing milk cows, turkeys and sheep with profit-makers



Rams New in Service with Registered Flock of Rambouillet Ewes on Golden Hoof Stock Farm, Owned by J. R. Christal, Denton, Tex.

on the farm. He has made a life study of outside farming conditions in his county, although he has successfully operated a big business on the inside, and he sees no reason why untold wealth could not be added to the farming industry of our state by diversification along the lines suggested herewith.

If sheep growing on the farms can be made profitable in Ohio, where the seasons are much shorter, where it is far more expensive to raise feed for them and to give shelter through the long severe spells of winter, it can certainly be made profitable in this state. But even in Texas the matter is not wholly an experimental proposition. Many farmers have tried it out successfully; there are a number of Texas counties where you will find many sheep, assisting materially in "lifting mortgages," helping keep the automobile in gasoline and the boys and girls in college.

Texas surpasses every state in the union in the amount of rich agricultural lands. She is about as self-sustaining, in so far as agricultural possibilities are concerned, as the greatest nation of Europe. It does not take a dreamer to foresee the day when the products of her white fields will be converted at home into clothing for her people; when every specie of grain and vegetable will be grown on lands between the Red River and the Rio Grande; when her "magic valley" will decorate the breakfast tables of the Republic with the choicest grapefruits and oranges.

And let us hope that no opportunity will be overlooked by the Texas people; that they will study the charts of success from every angle and by following those routes most profitable win for us that economic independence to which we are entitled. Believing that growing sheep on the farms will materially aid in carrying out this prosperity

program, the idea is submitted for the careful study and consideration of those broad-minded men upon whom its execution depends.

No business, under favorable conditions, has proven better as a money maker than the sheep business. The past two years it has restored prosperity to a large portion of Southwest Texas. In the Rio Grande country the big and little wool growers alike are flourishing.

Successful Sheep Growers in Texas.

One of the greatest flocks of registered Rambouillet sheep in North Texas is owned by J. R. Christal of Denton, Texas. His farm is called "The Golden Hoof Stock Farm." Mr. Christal is a native of Denton county and has made sheep raising a profitable business. He raises all of his feed and takes pride in the statement "that nothing is ever marketed off the farm that cannot walk, except wool." Hard work and sticking to the job has built up Jim Christal's sheep business. During the year's of deflation and depression he held onto his flocks, while other breeders gave away their wool and sold off their sheep at ruinous prices. "If every farm in Texas," declares Mr. Christal, "had enough sheep to clean off the weeds in the pastures, the boll weevil would be shorn of half his terrors."

T. J. Coffman, of Val Verde county, is classed as one of the small growers of both sheep and goats and he says that he can make money, even with lower prices than prevail now. He raises Rambouillet sheep and Angora goats for mohair and the common Mexican goats for meat. The kid mohair sold this year at figures around eighty cents.

Rambouillet, Shropshires and Delaines are all raised in Southwest Texas. Some preferring the one and some the other breed.

Bob Martin, of Maverick county, is one of the biggest individual sheep raisers in the border country. In fact, he raised more lambs this season than any one man in America. The number was 10,000, and at prevailing prices it is easy to see that he has made a lot of money.

Hamilton & White are also extensive sheepmen of Southwest Texas. J. R. Hamilton, the senior member of the firm, has the distinction of handling more sheep than any man in America. During 1922 he fed 10,000 lambs near

Chicago and made money putting them on an early market.

Del Rio is one of the big concentrating points for wool, perhaps the biggest inland point in the United States. Several million pounds are stored there each season and held until the Boston buyers come along to bid for it.

Goats have proven profitable as well as sheep, in the live stock region. Mohair brings a better price than wool and a great effort has been made recently to popularize "chevon," the goat meat. The common breeds do not produce mohair but are used to eat. Most ranchmen have a small flock for this purpose. They are very prolific and under favorable conditions the increase is often above 100 per cent.

YOUR HOME TOWN.

EDITORS NOTE—This is the eighth of a series of talks on "Your Home Town." Other talks will follow. There is food for thought and profit to you if you will read carefully each one of these talks. The publisher of this newspaper is not finding any fault with his Home Town, but wants it to go forward at a pace that will be the envy of all towns in Texas—now the biggest and potentially the richest state in the Union.

In these monthly talks we hope to leave with you a thought for the larger and better development of your home town and community. It is not our intention to make this column over-critical or to arouse antagonism by assuming that some citizens are not doing their duty toward their home town. Broadly we want to be helpful and to bring out the essential facts that either make or mar the progress of towns and communities.

There are men in almost every town—good men at heart—who want to see their town go forward, but who seldom, by any word or act, do anything to help it go forward. Too many men of this type will kill a town so dead that grass will grow in its main streets and it will be a subject for ridicule by all progressive towns surrounding it.

On the other hand, there are men who work hard to push to the front their home town—who do so at much personal and financial sacrifice. Men of this type are worth millions to their town, but they should be encouraged by all the other good citizens. A few live men finally get tired of shouldering all the work and responsibilities incident to a town's growth and progress. And, in course of time, if some of the other good citizens do not share a part of the work and responsibility, the few live men, sooner or later, quit altogether. This marks a fatal step backward for any town and is generally the beginning of the end of that town's forward march.

Therefore, it is so essential and so necessary that all good citizens work

(Continued on Page 4, Column 5.)

CURRENT COMMENT

By J. H. LOWRY

POLL TAXES AND VOTING.



When this is read you will have paid your poll tax or you will have not, and you will be a voter or a mere person, without voice in the affairs of the country, for on January 31 the tax assessor sounded the last call for voting privileges and then closed the door of hope against all who had not paid for an official document conferring the right of suffrage on the holder thereof. Every country must have funds to meet its necessary expenses, and every government must levy taxes to raise the funds, but as I understand the scheme of our government, taxes should be levied on property, or the income derived from the possession of property, and not upon citizenship. Here let me say that I voted for the amendment to the state constitution making the payment of a poll tax prior to a certain date a prerequisite to voting, but I am even more anxious to vote for the repeal of the amendment now than I was to vote for its enactment more than twenty years ago. The law, as it stands, is nothing less than the sale and purchase of voting privileges, and does not fit the scheme of a free republic which has made loud claims of a free ballot. If the franchise is to be given in return for money, we should go further and sell a man or woman two, three or twenty votes, or as many as he or she cared to purchase and can rake up the money to pay for. By so doing no doubt sufficient revenue could be raised to pay all the expenses of government, and the poorer people would go tax free; but God pity the poor when the rich do all the voting. Understand, please, that I am not kicking on account of being left out in the cold. I have in my possession a receipt for money paid that will enable me to walk proudly to the polling place, mark a ballot, hand same to the election officers and demand that it be counted. In other words, I have purchased the right to vote for or against any man or measure my judgment or prejudice may dictate, and because I happened to have two dollars and six bits, I will have a voice in the selection of officials and the shaping of the policies of my country. To be perfectly frank with you, I hope to have three voices in the selection of officials and the shaping of policies, for my scant purse paid for two receipts.

I am by no means sure, however, that I can teach the two suffragans of the skirt sex how they should vote in order to please me before the July primaries, or that having been taught, they will not change their minds while on their way to the polls. But, while I will have one voice, and hope to have three, in the coming election, I happen to have in mind just now a man who is fully as intelligent and patriotic as I, and who, because of a series of misfortunes, didn't have the two dollars and six bits to pay for poll tax receipt, and so he must stand aside and let others, to whom fate has not been so unkind, elect the officers and shape the country's policies. If cruel war should be declared again, and the tocsin should call the flower and the chivalry of the country from their daily pursuits to a baptism of fire and blood, this man wouldn't be prohibited from joining the army, or sending his sons to the front to save his country from foreign foes because he had no money to purchase a permit to fight for his native land. It's a cruel, a shameful policy, as I now see it, to disfranchise a man for no other crime than being poor. I confess that it does not look good to me to see the poverty-stricken thrown into the lot with the felons and those guilty of treason on election day. Many are ready to say, and I have heard a great many say, that any man ought to be able to raise two dollars and six bits for poll tax receipts, but we must not forget that misfortune strikes crushing blows sometimes and buries its victims deep under the hammer of poverty. And, if a person of tender sympathies should tender a broke person a loan to enable him or her to register on the list of voters, he would violate the law of the land and subject himself to prosecution. Largely on account of this law, not more than thirty-five per cent of the people otherwise qualified to vote will go to the polls this year, which will not be a healthy condition for a republic, where the majority is supposed to rule. I have just heard of a young woman—a woman who works hard for very low wages, who said she would not pay her poll tax because she needed the money to buy a pair of silk stockings. You may say the young woman lacks patriotism, but she feels, and I am not sure that she is not right, that a pair of nice silk stockings will be worth more to her than a voting privilege. I hope to see the day when it will not be necessary for the poorest paid woman worker in the land to go without silk stockings in order to be a full-fledged citizen.

OTHER OLD FRIENDS WE MISS.

I mentioned not long since some of the old friends we modernists miss, and while the list was a long one, it was by no means complete, and with your kind permission I will make a few additions here. We miss the lightning rods from the better class of dwellings and barns. Forty years ago beautiful twisted rods adorned nearly every structure of pretensions or value and escorted the bolts of lightning that attempted to lay their iconoclastic hands thereon to the cold, cold ground. It was not merely for protection that buildings were rodded in those days, either. The rods had an aesthetic value, and were to the buildings of that day what beads are to the necks and breasts of women today. Even though the buildings possessed none of the glories of art or architecture, every passer-by stopped to admire and speak in praise of the silver balls, arrows, eagles and roosters with which the lightning rods were embellished. The lightning rod was also the line of demarcation between the well-to-do and the poor. Occupants of unrodded residences were seldom invited to parties or infares at rodded homes, and the distinction was rigidly recognized in the two classes of homes in the matter of borrowing flour, sugar and meal. Speaking of thrills, there never have been any to compare with those experienced by the boys, girls and women folks when their homes were rodded and they were automatically raised in the social scale to the highest class. It was with the lightning rods in that day as it is with automobiles and radios at the present time—many people bought rods when their neighbors couldn't understand how they were able to afford them, and so when a home was rodded neighbors who had no rods always got together and wondered where the money came from. I wouldn't tell then how our home got in the rodded class, but I don't mind telling you now. We sold a splendid milk cow that was badly needed and went short on milk and butter for several months. And, while our milk and butter supplies were drastically "Hooverized," I don't mind saying that I endured the hunger incident thereto with much better grace than I could have endured the taunts, slights and insults of the children of rodded homes had there been no twisted lightning conductors with their full complement of silver balls, eagles, arrows and roosters on our home.

We miss also the old hitching posts,

which in the old days were a part of every well-regulated home. The home without a hitching post then was as poorly equipped as the home of today without a garage or bath tub. Usually there were as many hitching posts in front of a home as there were young ladies in a home, and on Sunday afternoons the hitching posts told the story of whether or not the young ladies had beaux. Here again aesthetic taste and financial standing were shown. The poor in purse, and those without love for the beautiful, provided nothing better or prettier for hitching purposes than elm posts deeply imbedded in the ground and with holes bored near the top for the anchoring of hitching reins. But where there was wealth, accompanied by aesthetic development, there stood an iron jockey boy, with white breeches, blue jacket and red cap, and with arms extended. In each hand the mute jockey held a ring in which hitching reins were tied, the figure giving the appearance of a nimble, richly-clad jockey boy holding the horses. There were few of these, but few of the proletariat attempted to follow this big lead of opulence and aristocracy. There is no need of hitching posts now, and the few jockey-boy hitching devices that remain are hidden away in old barns or attics, and, like Little Boy Blue's tin soldier are "all covered with rust and dust."

Another old friend we miss is the fly brush. In the home of the poor this was nothing more than a leafy limb from a peach tree, which was wielded by a small boy of the family—when company came. When the diners were all home folks each made the best individual fight he or she could against the flies, or if too tired or lazy to give battle, sopped gravy or molasses from one side of the plate while the flies feasted on the other side. The wielder of the fly brush always received two whippings in connection with each dining—one to get him to the task, and the other at the close of the meal because he made ugly faces during the dining and performed his work so poorly. Inventive genius finally constructed ceiling fans in a few homes of the better class, which mother operated from the end of the table by pulling a string, when she wasn't engaged in pouring the coffee or urging the guests to submit to another "helping." But the crowning glory of the fly-shooting line was the big brush made from the long feathers from the peacock's tail. No richer colors were ever seen than

those which shone resplendent from this big brush, which even the laziest and meanest boy was glad to wield at the dining table when swell company was present. But evidence of caste and affluence was seen in only a few families, the percentage running considerably lower than the percentage of gold finger bowls and concert grand pianos in the families of the present day.

Another old device—I can't call it a friend—that we see no more is the side-saddle. It's race is virtually extinct and the world will see it no more forever. I saw one the other day, and probably it is the "last of the Mohicans." It was the real old side saddle of days gone by, with one straight horn, and one crooked horn to act as a brace and hold in position the right leg of the equestrienne. I studied the old relic and wondered how any woman ever managed to get on it, or stay "put" after she got on; but many did, and they were good to look at, too. No boy would permit his sister to ride his horse, for side saddles literally ruined horses' backs; but of course if some other fellow's good looking sister wanted to ride the horse, it was all right. The old side saddle, now extinct, is kindly remembered for the honors it conferred and the thrills it gave, even if it ruined so many horses' backs and was hard to "girt on" so it wouldn't turn the rider off. It was a great honor and a great privilege to assist an equestrienne into a side saddle. The honored escort merely held the horse while the lady jumped backward from the big horse block into the side saddle, but this done, it became his duty and glorious privilege to find her foot under the wealth of riding skirt and guide it into the stirrup. Yes, he had actually to take hold of her foot, and sometimes it took a long time to find the stirrup. But if it was great to assist the equestrienne into the side saddle, it was glorious to assist her in alighting therefrom. The rider had to literally turn all holds loose and fall into a fellow's arms. Delighted, indeed, are the memories that linger with many who helped cherry-lipped maidens from side saddles in the long, long ago; but with some the memories are not sweet to dwell upon. Sometimes the equestrienne was very large and fat, and sometimes her escort was very small and weak. In such cases there was always a large crowd on hand to watch the performance and giggle.

State Tuberculosis Sanatorium

By William Edwin Wilson, Jr.

The State Tuberculosis Sanatorium, located sixteen miles north of San Angelo, Texas, which is both sanatorium and college, was established by the Texas Legislature in 1911 and opened in 1912. Two dormitories, with a capacity of seventy-two patients each, have been recently added. It is controlled by the State Board of Control and is supported by state taxes. While patients who are able are expected to pay for treatment, indigents and others without sufficient funds are received without charge. The institution is under the immediate charge of Dr. J. B. McKnight, State Superintendent, and appointee of the Governor of Texas.

"Its purpose," as stated by the Bureau of Correspondence and Information, "is the treating of incipient and moderately advanced cases of tuberculosis, and the dissemination of knowledge of the disease."

"Tuberculosis is a problem of education, and the patients are given a thorough course of instruction by the medical staff that they may be able to retain their health, once regained. Patients are also instructed along lines that will prevent their being a menace to associates."

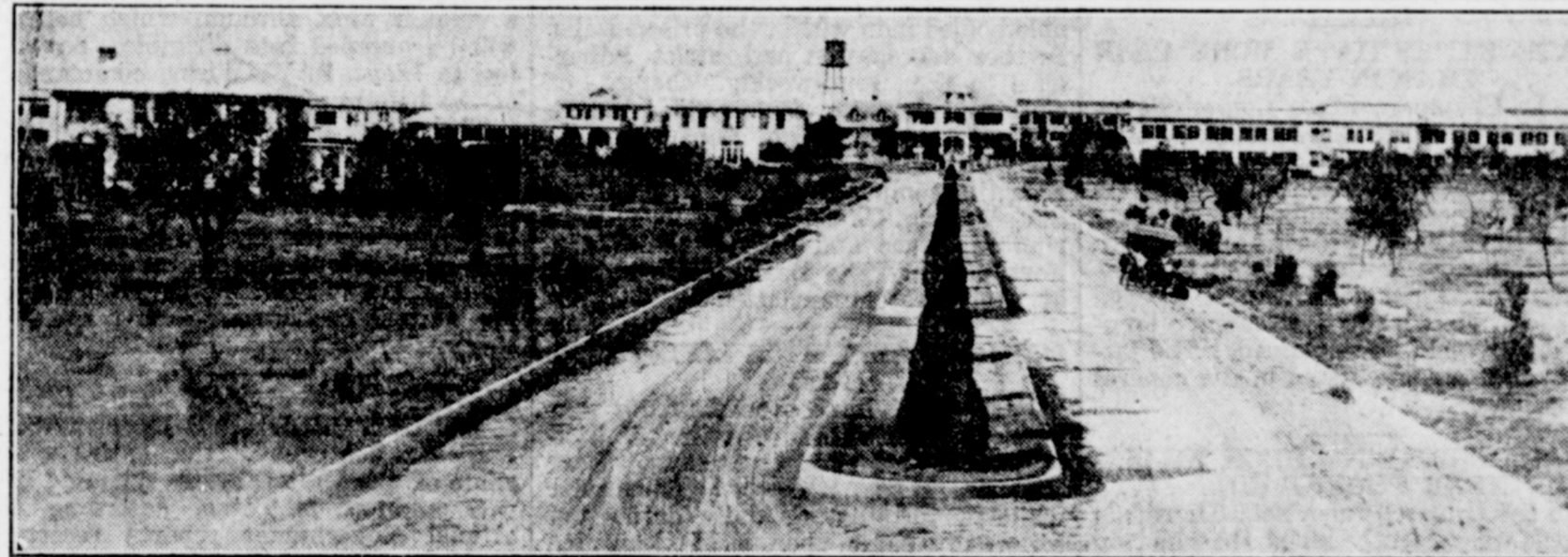
Three hundred and twenty-five adult patients—both men and women who are citizens of Texas, are being cared for continually. As the average length of treatment is seven months, this means that approximately six hundred patients are annually educated in the most approved methods of sanitation, prevention and cure of consumption.

To visitors daily frequenting the grounds the impression received is that of a large co-educational college rather than that of a sanatorium. Especially is this true of those arriving between five-thirty and seven in the afternoon when the up-for-exercise patients are on parade.

At this state institution strong friendships often spring up and endure—friendships between man and man, girl and boy, patient and nurse, and doctor and patient. "There are many Davids and Jonathans out here," a white-capped nurse smilingly explained as we watched the men pair off.

Location and Altitude.

Going north from San Angelo by train or automobile you can arrive at the Texas State Tuberculosis Sanatorium in



Frontal View of The State Tuberculosis Sanatorium, San Angelo, Texas, Showing Campus and Some of its Twelve Concrete Buildings.

forty-five minutes. Setting far back from the road on a grass-covered campus of flower-bordered walks and curved drives, its twelve to fifteen two-story concrete buildings might present to some persons a picture of an ancient feudal villa; while to others the buildings might suggest a modern manufacturing plant, all in white.

The selection of a location in Tom Green county was a wise one from a standpoint of health, climate and beauty. The immediate campus fronting the administration building approximates one hundred acres. A wide paved street leading from the main entrance divides it into two parts, one for men, the other for women. This high level tract is backed by an additional thousand acres of grass and woodland, where grazes the famous tuberculin tested dairy herd.

The altitude at the Sanatorium is 2,150 feet; the mean temperature 51 degrees Fahrenheit, and the average rainfall twenty-eight inches.

Recreation and Religious Exercises.

Those in authority at the sanatorium believe that a limited amount of recreation and social life is beneficial to treatment. In accordance with that theory, patients who are on exercise are permitted to have an occasional party. Special programs are arranged for Thanksgiving, Armistice day and other holidays—but perhaps the biggest event of the year is the annual Christmas tree. Probably at no other place or institution does the Christmas spirit predominate so completely. The whole institution

takes on a festive air; the tree is gaily decorated and hung with gifts for all, while the happy crowd waits with breathless anticipation the appearance of a real Santa Claus.

Once each week, usually on Thursday night, a feature-play, a comedy and an illustrated weekly news film furnish entertainment for an hour or more. On Sunday afternoons another hour is devoted to religious worship. To this service ministers, laymen and singers frequently come out from San Angelo. A union Sunday school, with classes meeting in the auditorium, is conducted by the patients themselves. Leaders for religious and social work are either discovered or developed. Many are getting their first lesson in public speaking while leading a service or teaching a class in this Sunday school.

At least once each spring or summer Dr. and Mrs. McKnight entertain with a real woods-picnic on the Concho. A basket lunch is spread on the green Bermuda where tall dark-leaved pecans and walnuts obscure the sun. For those who care to fish, a sparkling little stream affords perch, channel cat and small bass.

Instruction and Cure.

The basis of instruction given is the lecture system. The superintendent or one of the doctors, each of whom is a tuberculosis specialist, conducts the lectures to classes assembled in the auditorium. Patients are urged to take notes on these lectures, which cover every phase of the disease. They are also taught daily through example by

dormitory and hospital nurses.

A special course in nursing is offered for convalescent patients who care to enter the nursing profession. A score or more of girls take advantage of this course annually.

"Chasing the Cure," a term much used by tuberculosis patients, is still an inexplicable one. In truth, there is no "chasing"—at least not during the first part of the treatment. Upon arrival at the sanatorium, the new patient is put to bed and kept there until fever disappears. After he has rested down all signs of temperature he is allowed to be up for meals. If that much exertion does not cause a recurrence of fever, he may remain up till bedtime—nine o'clock sharp. If no bad results occur the patient is then assigned fifteen minutes exercises daily.

This consists of walking slowly about the campus; and may later be changed to some light work in or around the buildings. Exercise is gradually increased or decreased according to the doctor's verdict. A fast pulse or a slight rise in temperature is sufficient reason for decrease or removal of exercise.

The food consists of beef, pork, mutton, chicken, eggs, milk, butter, vegetables in season, cereals, and such desserts as are considered healthful. Special stress is laid upon the use of milk and eggs, not for their curative qualities but for nutrition.

All dormitories are so arranged that patients are enabled to sleep and rest in outside sleeping porches opposite

their rooms. One room is allotted to two patients, who are held responsible for its cleanliness and appearance. The fixtures in a room are two chairs, a lavatory and a metal clothes locker. Other furniture or furnishings are forbidden.

Admission of Patients.

Bonafide residents of Texas and only those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, whose disease has not reached an advanced condition, are eligible for admission into the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Applicants must secure an application blank from either their doctor, county judge, or direct from the Sanatorium. This must be properly filled out and returned to the superintendent, who advises applicant whether or not he is acceptable. This application is filed, and if accepted, patient must await his time. Patients are urged not to come to the sanatorium until advised to do so by the superintendent. There is always a long waiting list of both men and women, and to come to the institution before a vacancy occurs only works a hardship on the patient, as there are very few accommodations on the outside.

Three classes of patients are admitted in regard to fees; namely, fifty per cent are indigent, supported entirely by the state except for clothing; twenty five per cent are non-indigent who pay five dollars per week, and the balance are private pay patients who pay the sum of ten dollars per week. This is all determined by the county judge who makes out the application of the patient and is governed by the patient's financial condition. Those persons who have property are, by law, expected to reimburse the state.

"All patients," says Superintendent McKnight, "whether indigent, non-indigent or private pay, receive exactly the same care and treatment. No discrimination, partiality or favoritism is shown whatever."

Buildings and Equipment.

The institution is provided with an administration building, an auditorium, modern laundry, power plant, dairy barn of the most modern type, subsistence building, ice plant and cold storage rooms, nurses' home, pumping plant and a sewer system with a sewerage disposal plant.

In addition to this there is a modern laboratory equipped with X-ray, steriliz-

(Continued on Page 4, Column 5.)

ERECTS FACTORY FOR MANUFACTURING PLANTERS.

W. C. Catlett of Pritchett, Upshur county, has erected a factory at that place to manufacture a planter that he invented and patented many years ago.

CITIES SEEKING NEW SETTLERS.

The State Labor Department has arranged to co-operate with the cities of Amarillo and Plainview, Texas, in their campaign for new settlers in that section of Texas.

GALVESTON SHIPS 2,029,813 BALES OF COTTON.

Up to January 11, 1924, there had been shipped from Galveston, this season, 2,029,813 bales of cotton. Last season on the same date there had been shipped through the same port only 1,654,135 bales.

COUNTIES CONTEST HIGHWAY TAX.

Texas contains 253 counties and seven of them are now contesting the State Highway Tax and have refused to forward the State's share of motor vehicle license fees to the Highway Department.

ATTORNEY HOLDS COUNTIES CANNOT LEASE SCHOOL LAND FOR OIL AND GAS.

The Attorney General's Department of Texas has held that counties having school land are not authorized to lease such land for oil and gas development purposes.

CREAMERY FOR CLEBURNE

Cleburne is a progressive town and a town that is looking ahead. A new creamery has recently been established in Cleburne by the Starling Ice Cream Company and now its citizens propose to encourage dairy farms and general farm diversification.

FIG INDUSTRY AT EDNA.

Several thousand Magnolia fig trees are being set out at Edna, Texas, where that industry is now receiving a great deal of attention. So many figs are being planted that it is expected a preserving plant will be put in there in the near future.

TERRELL INAUGURATES COTTON-GROWING CONTEST.

The Chamber of Commerce of Terrell is offering \$1,000 in prizes to the person making the greatest number of pounds of lint cotton per acre grown in 1924 on five acres of ground or more. Cotton is to be classed strict low middling or better.

TEXAS PRODUCTION OF SILVER IS SHOWN.

Metal mines of Texas produced 800,000 fine ounces of silver in 1923, according to the Department of the Interior geological survey. The Presidio mine at Shafter, operated steadily since 1884, was the largest producer. Lead-silver ores were shipped from the Sierra-Blanca district.

TEXAS BOY PRODUCES BUMPER CORN CROP.

Dale Britton, a student in the Drake high school, Shelby county, Texas, has won a trip to Chicago and return with all expenses paid as a result of having raised 92 bushels of corn on a single acre of land in Shelby county. The trip was a prize offered by the Santa Fe Railway Company.

NEW HEAD FOR OIL AND GAS DIVISION OF RAILWAY COMMISSION.

Judge H. E. Bell, member of the Texas Legislature from Gatesville, Texas, has been elected head of the oil and gas division of the Texas Railroad Commission to succeed R. B. Walthall, of Corsicana, who has been appointed a member of the State Board of Control.

TEXAS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS STUDY BIBLE.

One hundred and seventy-six Texas University students are now studying the Bible. They are studying in the various denominational churches located near the campus, as follows: Methodist 75; Christian 50; Baptist 29; Presbyterian 12; Catholic 6, and for this Bible study they will receive credit toward a degree.

STATE OF TEXAS HAS LARGE GROSS TAX INCOME.

The total gross income of the State of Texas for the fiscal year 1923 ending September 30, 1923, from taxes of all kinds was \$4,114,280. In 1922 the gross income from taxes was \$3,574,486. Over \$2,000,000 of the 1923 tax income was derived from oil wells and this was an increase of nearly a million dollars over such income for 1922.

SPECIAL RAILROAD RATE ASKED FOR WEST TEXAS FAIRS.

Walter E. Yaggy of the San Angelo Fair, acting for a number of fair officials from West Texas has requested the Southwestern Passenger Association to grant special rates to the following West Texas Fairs: Childress, September 15-20; Amarillo, September 20-28; Lubbock, September 29-October 4; Abilene, September 22-27; San Angelo, October 6-11.

695-POUND HOG.

A farmer of Bertram, Texas, has raised a hog that was so large it could not be weighed on cotton scales. The hog weighed 695 pounds and from it 90 pounds of sausage were made and 26 gallons of lard rendered besides plenty of meat and large hams. This hog was raised by Mr. M. L. Ater who lives upon a farm a few miles from Bertram, Texas.

TEXAS TO HAVE TWO COAST GUARD STATIONS.

Announcement is made that new coast guard stations will be built at Aransas Pass and Saluria on the gulf coast between Galveston and the mouth of the Rio Grande river. The station at Aransas Pass is to be erected within a year and the station at Saluria is to be erected within two years.

TEXAS NEGRO ODD FELLOWS TO BUILD LARGE TEMPLE.

The negro Odd Fellows of Texas are arranging to build a State Temple, or lodge, at Houston, Texas. This Temple is to cost \$250,000.00 and is to be five stories high with a roof garden in addition. The plans were drawn by a negro architect and the building will be constructed by negro contractors. It will be, when completed, one of the finest lodge buildings in the world.

\$600,000.00 ROAD BOND ISSUE CARRIES.

The voters by a large majority carried the Baylor county good roads bond election providing for the issuance of \$550,000.00 good roads bonds. Since \$1,200,000.00 state aid is promised, there will be available nearly \$2,000,000.00 for the hard surfaced highway system in Baylor county, giving the county a system of good roads the equal of any in Texas.

ARTIFICIAL LIMB CONTRACT FOR DISABLED VETERANS.

A contract to supply claimants of the United States Veterans Bureau, fourteenth district, wounded in service during the World's War, with artificial arms, legs and other orthopedic appliances has again been awarded the Hedgecock Artificial Limb & Brace Company of Dallas. Jurisdiction of the fourteenth district include the states of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

NEW BRIDGE AT EL PASO PRACTICALLY ASSURED.

From Washington comes the news that the new bridge across the Rio Grande at El Paso is practically assured. Secretary of Agriculture Wallace said that the construction of this bridge will open up one of the principal gateway highways between the United States and Mexico. It will also be constructed to accommodate two electric railway systems between El Paso and Juarez.

STATE BANKS HAVE MORE CASH THAN IN YEARS.

J. L. Chapman, State Commissioner of Banking, announced January 14 that sufficient statements of conditions of Texas State banks as of December 31 had been received to show that State banks have more deposits and more cash than at any time during the last four years. Some of them have large amounts, while a few are feeling a long-standing pinch, he explained. The latter have not participated in the general prosperity.

MESSAGE-BEARING DUCK KILLED NEAR THORNDALE.

On the Unnash farm near Thorndale a duck was recently killed that had on a marker reading as follows: "205944 notify Biological Survey, Washington, D. C." It is thought this marker was placed on the migrating duck by the government Biological Survey Department to determine the destination and habits of such fowl. The hunter who killed the duck has complied with the instructions by notifying the proper authorities at Washington, D. C.

SELLS APPOINTS CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

February 12, an executive committee of forty prominent men and women of Texas will meet in Austin for the purpose of making plans for and creating a permanent organization for holding the Texas Centennial celebration. This executive committee is to be selected and appointed by Cato Sells of Fort Worth, chairman, and Lowry Martin of Corsicana, secretary of the celebration committee.

U. S. GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS TO STUDY WATER TROUBLES IN TEXAS OIL FIELDS.

Petroleum engineers from the Department of the Interior of the U. S. Government, according to a recent announcement, are to make a study of Texas oil fields with a view to saving oil wells by preventing them from being ruined by the underground flow of water that has been doing so much damage. It is believed a remedy can be found that will result in saving many oil wells and many barrels of oil now being flooded by underground streams. It is estimated that millions of barrels of oil are lost each year in Texas fields as a result of water trouble.

PROMINENT TEXAN EVOLVES OWN PLAN FOR REDUCING HIS WEIGHT.

Ezra McMullen, connected with the United States Customs Service at Brownsville, Texas, has evolved a plan of dieting whereby in a year he reduced his weight one hundred and two pounds. He states that as a result he gained energy, strength and health by simply eating correctly, whereas by not eating correctly he had gained fat with all its burdens and discomforts.

COTULLA SHIPS CABBAGE PLANTS BY THE MILLION.

Every day thousands of cabbage plants are being shipped out of Cotulla, La Salle county, Texas, to various Texas points. This indicates that the Texas gardener is getting out the old hoe and the rake and beginning to dig around in the garden to prepare for feeding the hungry multitudes. One Cotulla firm recently shipped 1,000,000 cabbage plants in one week.

NON-RESIDENT CORPORATIONS MUST OBTAIN STATE PERMIT TO SELL STOCK IN TEXAS.

The Attorney General of Texas has ruled in the case of the Plough Chemical Company of Delaware, that all out of the state corporations seeking to sell any of their stock in Texas must obtain a permit from the State of Texas to sell said stock and must comply with the Texas Blue-Sky Law, even though the corporation is not engaged in business in Texas and does not intend to do any other business in Texas.

CHILDRESS TO PLANT TREES.

Childress is to carry out a tree-planting campaign. The local Chamber of Commerce inaugurated the plan in January. Some day this tree planting will make Childress one of the beautiful cities of West Texas. Twenty years ago Roswell, New Mexico, planted trees along its business and residence streets and today many of these trees are two feet in diameter with wide-sweeping branches that lend a charm and restfulness to this little city.

LION'S CLUB FOSTERS SAFETY PROGRAM.

The Lion's Club of Temple, as part of its program for 1924, is sponsoring "careful driving." Co-operation of churches, schools, civic organizations and citizens generally will be enlisted. The safety program will take on the aspect of an educational instead of a dictatorial move, it was explained. A plan of organization will be worked out whereby the public will be aroused to the dangers of careless driving.

HONOR SYSTEM RECOMMENDED FOR TEXAS PRISONERS.

The establishment of the honor system for convicts, employment of all able-bodied men within the prison walls, further segregation and strict adherence to the semi-weekly change of clothing rule were recommended by the State Board of Prison Supervisors in their report to Governor Neff. The Board is composed of Mrs. J. E. King, San Antonio, Chairman; Dr. J. T. Harrington, Waco and Homer D. Wade, Fort Worth. The Board made a total of twelve recommendations.

MEXICAN LION EATS LIVE TEXAS DEER.

People who have been thinking that Mexican lions were now extinct in Texas have had a rude awakening. Near Victoria, Texas, a cowboy fence rider while performing his daily duties unexpectedly came upon a Mexican lion which had captured and was engaged in eating a young deer alive. The fence rider, whose name is Bernard Herra, tried to kill the lion but it escaped. He did succeed, however, in killing the deer in order to end its suffering. This incident took place on the A. M. Bruni ranch near Victoria.

TO URGE HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Members of the McLennan County Health Association, of Waco, have appointed a legislative committee, of which Dr. J. T. Harrington of Waco is chairman, to confer with the State authorities with the idea in mind of having an appropriation made for the erection of an institution for the care of incurable consumptives. It is claimed that no institution of this kind now is in existence in Texas.

STEAMSHIP LINE OPENS NEW TEXAS BRANCH OFFICE.

That Texas is fast becoming one of the principal gateways of commerce and that its ports are growing more and more in importance is demonstrated by the fact that the Mallory Steamship Lines have decided to open new branch offices in Beaumont, Texas. The company announces that the reason for opening this branch is because of the growing importance of Beaumont as a shipping point and because the Houston and Galveston offices are no longer capable of handling the Beaumont business.

ENDOWMENTS FOR SUL ROSS SCHOOL.

A. S. Gage, a capitalist of San Antonio, Texas, who is the owner of large bodies of land and other properties in Brewster County, Texas, has given Sul Ross Teacher's College of Alpine, Texas, \$200,000.00 cash to be used in making improvements to Berkeley Hall, a dormitory for girls, that now houses 42 girls. Mrs. W. W. Turney of El Paso, Texas, also has given \$100,000.00 recently to Sul Ross school for Berkeley Hall dormitory improvements.

PUTS BURIED TREASURE IN BANK.

T. M. Cook of Hughes Springs, Cass county, deposited \$5,380 in \$5, \$10 and \$20 gold pieces in the First National Bank of Linden that had been buried under his residence, he said, for thirty years. Mr. Cook is an old settler of Texas and was frightened into patronizing the bank when Green Jarrell and wife, near Hughes Springs. Figuring interest at four per cent, which Mr. Cook could have received from any bank in his county, his \$5,380 would have earned him in interest in thirty years \$6,456.00.

GRIMES COUNTY VOTES FOR GOOD ROADS.

Citizens of District No. 3, of Grimes county, Southeast Texas, embracing Apollonia, Erwin, Roans, Prairie, Carlos and Anderson, voted recently for road bonds of \$200,000.00. Navasota, Courtney and White Hall precincts have voted a bond issue of \$450,000; Plantersville for \$150,000; Bedias \$200,000, Iola \$200,000 and Shiro \$75,000. Richards recently voted a \$75,000 issue. With all these issues Grimes county soon will have good highways everywhere.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR THIS SUMMER'S CITIZENS MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS.

Word has been received from the officer in charge of the C. M. T. C. for the Eighth Corps Area, which includes the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, that elaborate plans are now under way for the continuance of the Government summer camps for young men, which proved so popular during the last three summers. According to the present plans, the camps for 1924 are to be held at the same Army Posts as those of 1923, they being considered the very best for the purpose in the Eighth Corps Area.

HELIUM PLANT TO HAVE PORTABLE MOORING MAST.

The mast to be erected at the United States helium plant at Fort Worth will be one of a portable type, consisting of a ten-inch steel pipe resting in a concrete foundation and having within it a smaller pipe, through which helium will be pumped into dirigibles, according to Lieut. Z. W. Wicks, commander of the helium plant.

The mast has been completed at Philadelphia, and preparations for erecting it immediately upon its arrival have been completed, Lieut. Wicks said. It is expected the mast will be in position long before the Shenandoah, dirigible, stops at Fort Worth for its supply of helium before starting for the North Pole.

ELEVEN PER CENT OF CROP VALUES PRODUCED IN TEXAS.

Eleven per cent of the entire crop value of the United States during 1923 was produced in Texas, according to official Government reports received by Roscoe Ady, industrial commissioner of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. The total value of the crops grown in the United States during the last year was valued at \$9,470,976,000, and the part produced in Texas was \$1,064,775,000. This is \$558,855,000 more than the next greatest State in crop production, Mr. Ady said. Iowa is the second State in the list with a total of \$475,920,000 and Illinois is third with a total of \$459,509,000. The 1923 crop value for Texas is about \$200,000,000 higher than during the highest previous year of 1919, when the war prices prevailed.

EDDIE McCARTY'S BUCKING HORSES AT FAT STOCK SHOW.

Ed R. Henry, secretary-manager of the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show, has announced that Eddie McCarty's string of bucking horses of Chug Water, near Cheyenne, Wyoming, will be used for the Rodeo at the Fat Stock Show, to be held in Fort Worth from March 8th to 15th, 1924.

McCarty horses, including "Highball," "Sundown," "Overall Bill," "Rolling Gray" and "Andy Gump," were used by Tex Richard in his Madison Square Garden, New York Rodeo.

Granting of the special railroad rate of a fare and one-third for round trip from points within 150 miles of Fort Worth and a fare and one-fifth for points outside of the 150-mile radius in Texas and Louisiana is expected to increase attendance at the Exposition.

First entries for livestock received indicate that many breeders who have shown in the past will be there this year with larger herds.

AVERAGE TEXAS MOTOR CAR FEE \$14.70.

J. F. Dupre, chief clerk of the State Highway Commission, has calculated that the average motor car fee to be paid for 1924 will be \$14.70.

Mr. Dupre estimates that the gross income for this year will be approximately \$10,000,000.00 and of that the Highway Commission is to get \$7,500,000. He thinks the cars registered in 1924 will reach 750,000 as against slightly under 7,000,000 for 1923. The estimated increase is approximately 50,000 cars, which Mr. Dupre considers conservative when the increase of 1923 over 1922 is about 140,000 cars.

The 1923 collections were slightly over \$5,000,000 gross. The new law doubles the tax on motor-driven vehicles.

HOUSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PLANS NOVEL STUNT TO ADVERTISE ALL TEXAS

The Houston Chamber of Commerce is a live wire organization. This is demonstrated by virtue of the fact that it has now chartered the steamship Lafayette, which is the largest steamer to enter a gulf port. It is planned to send this steamer on a cruise of the Caribbean Sea for a period of twenty-five days in order to demonstrate the steamship passenger service of Gulf ports and to advertise Houston and the State of Texas. This ship will sail from Houston February 25, 1924, and will return to that port March 20, 1924. It will call at all of the principal ports in the Caribbean waters, among the number being, Havana, Cuba, Puerto Plata, Santa Domingo, San Juan, Mayaguez, Santiago, Kingston, Jamaica, and the Pines. Stops of one day will be made at some ports and of five days at others. The capacity of the ship is 450 passengers and it has a gross tonnage of 12,665 tons. Its length is 563 feet, beam 64 feet and hold depth 38 feet. It has four passenger decks, carries a crew of 300 and includes a band of forty pieces that plays at two meals a day and all entertainments. This is the most unusual advertising stunt ever attempted by any city in Texas and it is believed it will result in bringing trade to Texas from many other ports.

YOUR HOME TOWN

(Continued from Page 2)
together for their home town's welfare and betterment. When this is the rule there is a better feeling all around, a consciousness that each and every man is trying to do his duty. You can't keep a town down when all the citizens are working in concert to put it over the top. Good team work will always win, even under the most adverse circumstances.

You do not have to possess the qualities of a leader to be of value to your home town, nor is it necessary that you have a fine education or a lot of money. Just be a willing worker, and keep up a fighting spirit and an unflinching optimism.

We know a certain little town in Texas that had no natural advantages in the way of railroads or industries; in fact, for a long while it had just one railroad, but it did have a live citizenship, and one day out of this live citizenship there sprang a real leader. He rallied the other citizens, and they stood solidly behind him, until now this once little town is "little" no longer. Its population years ago passed the 10,000 mark; it has paved and graded streets, electric lights, trolley lines, a splendid water system, good roads and bridges leading from it in all directions, up to date stores, modern churches and schools, creditable hotels and municipal buildings.

But it took days and nights of hard thinking and hard work to do all which brought this little town out of the darkness and into the light of civic beauty and commercial prosperity. However, "it can be done"—for your home town as well—that that was done by the public-spirited citizens of the once little town. The SPIRIT is what makes towns, more so, than advantageous locations or riches. Just get this spirit at work among a few courageous men and your home town will be your home pride, will be the center of all your hopes, ambitions and happiness.

STATE TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIUM.

(Continued From Page 3.)
ers, incubators, etc. A dental office, emergency operation room, and a barber shop are maintained for the use of the patients. A library is well filled with late fiction as well as the classics; also most of the state dailies and magazines of interest. The dining room, with a capacity of three hundred people, is large, airy and tastefully decorated.

A herd of seventy-five Jersey cattle assures an abundant supply of fresh, rich milk at all times. The institution raises its own feed and maintains a large irrigated garden under the supervision of an experienced truck farmer. In season fresh vegetables of all kinds are thus provided. A poultry farm is also maintained to insure a supply of fresh eggs. From time to time new improvements and equipment are being added.

Hotel Bender
HOUSTON, TEXAS
RATES \$1.50 UPWARD
EXCELLENT CAFE
J. E. DALEY, Manager.

Church Windows
Bent Opal Glass for lamp shades.
Celluloid hand mirrors repaired.
Chipped Glass Signs. Wind Shields.
Everything in Glass.
Dallas Art Glass Mfg. Co.
Dallas, Texas.

FREE
FAVORITE LIGHT CLASSICS
for
Saxophone with Piano
ACCOMPANIMENT
La Paloma.....Yradier
Son of India.....Rimsky
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O Sole Mio.....Di Capua
Angela Serenade.....Braga
Serenade.....Driga
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Each number playable as solo or
duet. Two Saxophones and Piano
(Alto, Melody and Tenor). CLIP
THIS AD. SEND IT IN WITH
\$1.00 FOR ANY FIVE OF THE
ABOVE. AND RECEIVE ONE
COPY FREE.
PARKER MUSIC CO.
808 Capitol Ave., Houston, Texas.

Breeches!
Tailored to Wear Longer
Higher in quality—yet no higher
in price—make these Riding, Hiking
and Hunting
Khaki Breeches
preferred by men
who want Quality
without extravagance.
At Your Dealers
Ask your dealers
for American
Made Breeches—
you'll find them
better made—you'll
find the Khaki of
higher quality. If
your dealer cannot
supply you—send
us his name and
your size. We'll
send that you're
supplied.
American Overall Co.
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS



WANTED: Tailor Shops and Cleaning
Establishments to Act as Agents
FOR THE BEST HAT SHOP IN TEXAS
CLEANING BLOCKING REMODELING
STANDARD HAT WORKS WACO, TEXAS

HAIL INSURANCE ON GROWING CROPS
—Written by—
The Citizens Insurance Company, of Missouri
—And Guaranteed by—
THE HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF HARTFORD, CONN.
HAIL INSURANCE on all kinds of growing crops, small grains, cotton, berries, orchards, vineyards, nursery stocks, garden truck, tomatoes, onions, melons, etc.
Reliable agents wanted in unoccupied territory.
K. T. MARTIN & COMPANY
Managers, Hail Department. Fort Worth, Texas.


Farm Motors, Threshing Engines—
SEPARATORS, RISE THRESHERS, ENGINE FLOWS, FULL LINE OF POWER MACHINERY.
Distributors—Garden City Feeder and Weigher. Write for Catalog.
Southern Minneapolis Farm Power Company
1115-15 Camp St. Dallas, Texas
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USE Martin's Egg Producer
A Tonic that furnishes the necessary chemicals to help produce eggs, satisfaction or your money back. 50c package, enough for 15 hens; \$1.00 package for 50 hens. ASK YOUR DEALER.



BUCKSKIN FELT HATS
ASK YOUR DEALER.
WILLARD HAT CO., DISTRIBUTORS
DALLAS, TEXAS.



100 Chick Brooder \$1
24 inches metal heater, bought in your town for 75c, placed together without tools. Two wood shoe boxes, saw and hammer all required. Works same as \$20.00 Brooder, top heat, no lamp fumes. Complete plans \$1.00. Circular for stamp. THE R. C. MOORE CO. Mobile, Ala., Dept. S.

BELTING Manufacturers of high-grade leather belting—both waterproof and regular. Also belt accessories. Fully equipped to do all kinds of repair work. No order too large or small for our capacity.
Pioneer Belting Co., Inc.
Fort Worth, Texas

Ditch Witch
Ditch Witch-Trencher-Grader
All mechanical, portable, easy to use. "Close all ditches, fills and restores. Great for water control, drainage, irrigation, etc."
Write for price. 10 DAYS FREE TRIAL. Ditch Witch-Grader-Trencher-Grader. Dealerships in all states.
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WILL YOUR SEEDS GROW?
Don't plant sterile seed or seed contaminated with weed seed. Tests require 3 to 10 days, depending on the kind of seed.
Germination Tests—\$2.00 Per Sample. Purity Tests—\$1.50 to \$3.00 Additional.
THE FORT WORTH LABORATORIES.
Box 1805, Fort Worth, Texas.



3,000 Mile Radio
TRESCO
REGENERATIVE RECEIVER
Licensed under Armstrong U. S. Patent No. 1113149. For resale to amateurs only. 30 customers report receiving Scotland during Radio Week. A complete 3,000-mile Armstrong Regenerative Tuner for \$25. Use it with any make bulb, W111 or 12, or dry battery operation as well as storage battery. Complete with bulb, batteries and complete with phones, etc. **\$37.50**
Circulars 2c. This set received the Chicago American regional prize of \$30.
TRESCO
Tri-City Radio Electrical Supply Co.
Box 148, Davenport, Iowa.

"Trublpruf Tires"
NO PUNCTURES—NO BLOWOUTS
50,000 miles not unusual. Not an experiment, thousands in use in Texas. Many Ford Sedans, Coupes, Touring, as well as all kinds of Commercial cars and Trucks are now supplied with Trublpruf. Largest laundries and bakeries affirm a saving of 53% over air tire equipment. We distribute through county agencies. Write us today regarding agency in your city and county.
Trublpruf Cushion Tire Co.
State Agency Houston, Texas



A LITTLE FUN Jokes to Make You Laugh

OBVIOUSNESS.
Aviator's Companion: "What city are we over now?"
Aviator: "Look down and tell me what you see."
"Two holdups."
"Chicago."

MYSTERIOUS STRANGERS.
"Seen any mysterious strangers around here lately?" casually inquired the detective from the city.
"Waal," answered Uncle Eben, "there was a feller over to town with the circus last week that took a pair o' rabbits out o' my whiskers."

KEPT HIS HEAD COOL.
Stonewall Jackson once found himself surrounded, with only one way to escape and this was over a bridge raked by a battery of the Federal Army. He calmly pulled his cape over his gray uniform, rode up to the battery and said: "Boys, you have this battery in the wrong place; move it to that eminence," pointing to a hill a short distance up, "limber up and be in a hurry." The order was obeyed and while the artillery was taking the new position Stonewall rode over the bridge and away.

THE "BRAVER MAN."
Perkins and Jessup had been having heated words as to which was the braver man. The outcome was an agreement to fight a duel after the old-time style. According to the rules, they were both to be put in a darkened room, each with a revolver in his hand. The first one to find the other was to fire once. After that no more shots were to be fired.
About three seconds after the lights were out was enough for Perkins. Thinking to end the agony, he crept into the fire-place and fired up the chimney. Jessup fell dead at his feet.

THE RAW RECRUIT.
A Regular Army lieutenant had been teaching a batch of recruits to shoot in four different positions—standing, kneeling, sitting and prone. The instructions had been subject to some interruption, and the officer was checking up to see that none of the men had been overlooked.
"Is there any man here who has not fired from all four positions?" he asked.
Up stood a small recruit, saluted awkwardly, and said:
"Sir—I ain't shot layin' nor settin' yet."

METHOD.
There was a certain man who had read that the easiest way to win a woman is to appear indifferent to her charms. This plan according to the writing chap, piques a woman's vanity and arouses her predatory instincts, and persuades her to run after the indifferent male until she captures him. So the man employed the system in an effort to win a woman he loved, but she turned her back upon him and married a chap who regaled her with cave-man stuff.
In due season the man fell in love with another woman, and determined to profit by his former experience. He pursued her with great violence and industry. He did not drag her away by the hair of the head, but he was upon the point of doing so when she foiled him by marrying a man who had piqued her by an indifference to her charms.
The moral is that sugar attracts flies and the trout will rise for a grasshopper; but he is a wise man who knows what he wishes to catch before he selects his bait.

UNCLE SI.
It was freezing outside and as Uncle Si piled more wood into the stove, several old timers shoved back their cane-bottomed chairs. Lem Frisby dryly remarked that "Si sure knew how to build a fire." The subject had changed from politics to weddings. A wedding was to be solemnized at the Baptist church that night and the prospective bride and groom were from two well-known and influential families.
"When ma an' me married," went on Uncle Si, "we didn't have much to start with. I had jest a dollar an' six bits in my jeans after payin' the preacher. Ma knew I was busted, but it made no difference to her. We got no presents an' no big blow outs like these young folks git now when they hitches up. We jest got down to work an' been workin' every since. Ain't never had no time to quarrel or git a divorce. We is still happy tendin' to our own business. Most young folks looks on marryin' as a gaysome affair, an' they don't want to put up with any hard knocks at all. They want to start housekeepin' in a fine house an' spend more money than they earn. Purty soon they quarrel, see a lawyer an' git a divorce. Young grass widders come in here to buy groceries every day who married less'n year ago. And they ain't ashamed 'bout it. When I married it was a disgrace to git a divorce. You stood by your bargain, fer better or worse, ap' that's all that was to it. The couple marryin' to-night is fine folks; I hope they'll be happy 'ever after.'"

AUTO HINTS

Clutch trouble can be avoided if oil is administered to the throwout collar on the clutch at least once a week.
Did you know that a gallon of motor oil lubricates 1,000,000 square feet of cylinder area in an automobile before it is completely burned?
Don't turn the steering wheel while your car is standing still. This puts unnecessary strain on all steering gear parts—and it's bad for your tires.
The importance of efficient spark plugs cannot be estimated says a well known automobile engineer. Never wait until they misfire and always buy the best quality obtainable.
New York City is building a city-owned repair shop and garage costing \$3,500,000. There are more than 5,000 automobiles and trucks in the street cleaning, police, fire and other departments.

Don't Throw Your Old Radiator Away—
Let us repair it—If beyond repair—let us recycle it. Save you half the price of new by installing complete new core. Our reference—Any dealer or garage in Texas or Oklahoma.
ECHOLS BROS. RADIATOR WORKS, Fort Worth, Tex.
Manufacturers of Quality Radiator Cores.


AUTO PARTS
We buy old cars and tear them up for the parts. We have parts for almost any make.
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DALLAS, TEXAS

BLUE TAG Scratch Feed
is balanced for egg production. All clean, whole grain, Wheat, Corn, Malt, Kaffir and Barley. Contains no grit. No waste nor expensive manufacturing cost. Let the hen do her own grinding.
Ask your dealer to include a trial lot in his next car.
TERMINAL GRAIN CO.
FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

Nursery Stock
SPECIAL—For \$3.00 I will ship well packed by Express, the following true to name, free from disease, well rooted fruit TREES, 2 to 4 feet:
APPLE
1 Transparent (earliest)
2 M. Blue (Summer)
2 Winesap (Winter)
PEACH
2 Mayflower (earliest Best)
2 Elberta (Medium)
2 H. Cling (Late Canner)
PLUM
1 Burbank (Best Bearer)
PEAR
1 Kieffer (Best Late Bearer)
This stock is all grown in my own Nurseries, and will be accompanied by State Entomologists Certificate, showing freedom of disease. Order early, also write for direct to planter, wholesale price list to be shipped by Freight. Express and Parcel Post. No agents, I wholesale direct to grower.
THOMAS BEAN
Station A. Leavenworth, Kansas

The name Neat-Foot sounds good for a shoe dressing doesn't it?
Because you have always known that Neat-Foot Oil was good for leather.
Neat-Foot Shoe Dressing is still better, because it is specially prepared, so that it not only preserves, but gives a quick lasting shine as well.
Ask for NEAT-FOOT Shoe Dressing.
Universal Polish Mfg. Co.
Dallas, Texas.

Fort Worth Well Machinery & Supply Co.
(Manufacturers)
FT. WORTH WELL DRILLING RIGS
9—SIZES—9
2,000 feet and less. Write for Bulletin.
Tools, Cable, Belt, Repairs, Engines, Tanks.
Fort Worth, Texas.



Coleman Quick-Lite Lamp
More Light Than 29 Old Style Oil Lamps
This is the light for you—the Coleman you—
Quick-Lite, most up-to-date of all lamps. Gives abundant, clear, steady light of 80 candle power, without glare or flicker. Burns on kerosene or gas. No wicks to trim, no chimney to wash, no dripping oil, no smoke, no smell.
Makes and Burns Its Own Gas From Common Motor Gasoline
Can't spill, can't explode, even if tipped over. Lasts for only 15 to 25 cents a week. Burns brightly without accumulation, inproved, tested and guaranteed.
If your dealer can't supply you, write us mentioning this ad.
Texas Quick-Lite Co.
Texas Distributors
409 N. Akard St., Dallas, Texas



LION Brand MACARONI
"It's made from the wheat field."
The Lion—King of Beasts—'Lion' Brand—King of Feasts.
At all Grocers
SAN ANTONIO MACARONI FACTORY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS




HULLS MEAL CAKE
MIXED FEED
STRAIGHT OR MIXED CARS
When You Want QUICK Movement PHONE or WIRE US.
AMERICAN OIL CAKE AND FEED COMPANY.
DALLAS, TEXAS. PHONE LD-433

For **LEATHER BELTING** Oil and Water Proof
Auto-Tractor and Air Compressor Belts Guaranteed Oil Proof
BELT REPAIR SERVICE AND BELT ACCESSORIES
Send Your Orders to
LONE STAR BELTING COMPANY, Manufacturers
703 ELM ST. DALLAS, TEXAS.

The COW Will Feed the SOW and the HEN,
and these, all together, will feed the family. This combination is a mortgage lifter and thousands of farmers in Texas find it so.
Sell cream to our local cream station or write us for further information.
MISTLETOE CREAMERIES
FORT WORTH.

SAVE MONEY
Demand
O.K. BATTERIES
LONG LIFE—LOW COST
1 YEAR WRITTEN GUARANTEE
Your Dealer Has Them in Stock
O.K. BATTERY CO.
Manufacturers
DALLAS, TEXAS.



MEXICAN SHEEP SELL AT \$8.00.

A consignment of 1,081 Mexican Delaine wethers on the Fort Worth market January 9th, shipped by Dr. F. M. Rose of Del Rio, Texas, made the top of the year's market. These were the first sheep to come out of Old Mexico to this market in over two years. They were good quality and strictly fat, which indicate that range conditions in Mexico are fine. They sold for 8c per pound and weighed an average of 90 pounds.

Dr. Rose is one of the oldest sheep men in Texas. He has large holdings in Old Mexico, but says that the \$2 per head import duty on sheep and lambs work a hardship on the producer.

FAYETTE COUNTY COTTON CROP LARGER

The last Government report shows that 43,118 bales of cotton had been ginned in Fayette county, Southeast Texas, this season, as against 29,436 bales for the last season at the same time. Many of the farmers are almost through breaking land in preparation for the next crop.

SETS A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Milam county sets a good example for road maintenance by voting an increase of 11c on the \$100 valuation for the road maintenance fund. There could be no greater waste than building a good highway and not setting aside a fund to keep up its repairs.

23,060 BALES GINNED IN HARRISON COUNTY.

Harrison, county, East Texas, has ginned a total of 23,060 bales of cotton from this season's crop up to January 1 as compared to 19,286 up to the same time last season, or an increase of 3,774 for the year of 1923.

WEBB COUNTY GAS WELL RUNS WILD.

The Carolina Texas No. 4 gas well in Webb County after having run wild for ten days and wasting nearly 800,000,000 cubic feet of gas has at last been brought under control and shut off. It made 72,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

BASTROP'S NEW BRIDGE COMPLETED.

The new bridge across the Colorado river at Bastrop is completed and has been opened for travel. It cost \$180,000 and is built of concrete and steel and is one of the prettiest and most substantial structures in Texas.

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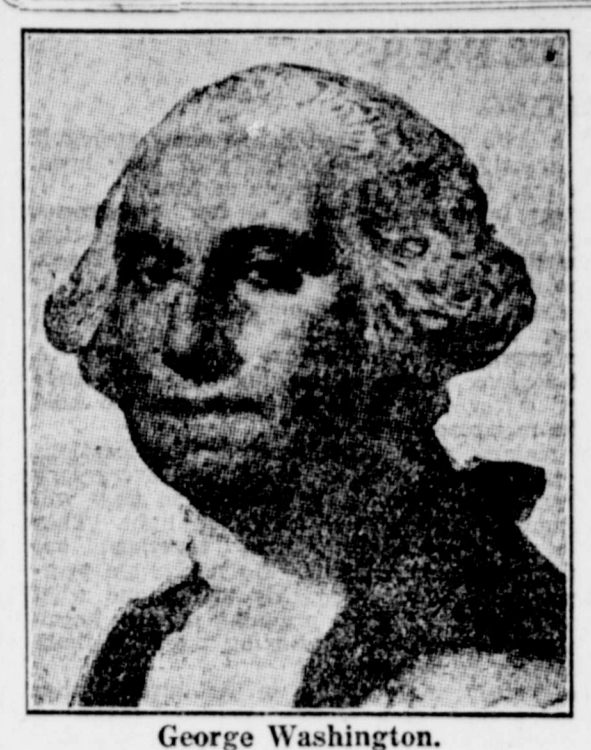
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For Our Boys and Girls

By AUNT MARY.



George Washington.

GREAT MEN AND WOMEN.
Life of Our First President, George Washington.
Many, many years ago, on the twenty-second day of February of the year of 1732, a little boy was born in Virginia. They gave him the name of George Washington. Then was the name little known. Now it is known the world around.

When George was a very small boy his father died and he was brought up by his mother on their plantation. George was a good boy and grew up to be honest, truthful, obedient, fearless and strong. He could jump the farthest, run the fastest, climb the highest, wrestle the best, ride the swiftest, swim the longest, of all the boys he played with. They all liked him for he was gentle, kind and brave; and always told the truth.

Many stories are told of his younger life. I am sure you have heard of the one where he rode his mother's colt until it burst a blood-vessel; and about the cherry tree.

While he was still quite a young man he was so brave when the French and Indian war broke out, that the Legislature of Virginia spoke in very great praise of his service. Washington was there and rose to thank them, but he was so confused that he blushed, stammered, blundered and could not speak.

Soon after this, Washington married a widow by the name of Martha Custis. They went to live on the banks of the Potomac River in Virginia. The place was called Mount Vernon, and yearly thousands visit it to see the home of our first President.

July 3, 1775, Washington took command of the American forces which had rebelled against the King of England. I cannot tell here the story about the long terrible war, nor even all Washington had to do with it. There was fighting seven years and through it all, he maintained his courage, and even when beaten at times did not give up hope.

Finally, after many bitter fights, which every good American girl and boy should know about, Washington was victorious. On the 19th of October in 1781, he captured the whole British army at a place called Yorktown.

You and I are today enjoying the fruits of his victory by being able to live in a free and independent country. Washington said, "Good-bye," to the soldiers and went back to his plantation. He hoped to spend the rest of his life in peace and quiet. But this was not to be, as when it came time to choose a leader the people clamored for the man to whom they felt they owed their liberty.

He was twice elected President of the United States. The American Capitol was first at New York and then at Philadelphia. Washington and his wife lived in simple but elegant style. They were a noble looking couple. When elected President the first time, he gave a big reception. He dressed in the prevailing style of his day and at the reception wore black velvet with silver knee and shoe buckles. His hair was powdered and tied up in what was called a "queue." A sword in a perfectly white leather sheath hung at his side, and he would bow to each one who was introduced to him. He had so good a memory, that if he heard a man's name and saw his face, at one introduction, he could remember and call him by name when he met him again. But though he was grand and noble he was simple in his taste and his talk, and desired to have no title except that of the President of the United States.

He was very successful through both terms of office. But the responsibility

of the great task had made him old before his time. When they wanted him to run a third time he declined and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, where he lived the active life of a farmer.

Once again he thought he would have to give up his quiet life; it looked as though there would be a war between France and the United States. The people wanted him for their leader. He was ready to serve but fortunately the war was averted and he returned home from Philadelphia again.

He did not live long to enjoy the peace and happiness he so richly deserved, for one December day, as he was riding over his farm, he caught a cold and developed croup. He had not the strength that most boys and girls have to carry him through such sickness. Age and responsibility had worn him out, and, though the doctors worked hard to save him, he died after two days illness on the twelfth day of December, 1799.

All the world had come to look upon General Washington as the greatest man of his day. Kings and nations put on mourning out of respect to his memory.

More than a hundred years have passed since he died, but he is still loved and honored, because no nobler or purer man than George Washington ever lived in America, and you can do no better than to read his life and try to emulate his many virtues.

George Washington was "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of the people."

LITTLE GIRL'S COOK BOOK.

This is the month we celebrate the birth of our first President so I thought perhaps you would like to celebrate by making my recipe of "George Washington Cookies." If you wish you can usually buy a cheap cookie cutter at the "five and ten cent store." If not, you can find a picture of a hatchet in a magazine or else draw one, cut it out and lay on the dough very lightly. Cut around this and you will be pleased with the results.

"GEORGE WASHINGTON COOKIES."
2 cups sugar 1 teaspoon soda
1 cup of butter 1½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sour cream 1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs 4½ cups sifted flour.

Mix liquids and add to sifted dry ingredients. Raisins, coconut or nuts may be added if desired. Roll out over slightly floured board and cut in desired shapes. Bake in a moderate oven on a well greased pan. If brushed on top with melted butter or milk they will brown better.

NURSERY RHYMES FOR BABY.

Every little boy and girl for hundreds of years have loved these "jingly" rhymes. I am going to tell you a few my mother told to me.

JUST LIKE ME.
"I went up one pair of stairs,"
"Just like me."
"I went into a room,"
"Just like me."
"I looked out of a window,"
"Just like me."
"And there I saw a monkey,"
"Just like me."

FOR EVERY EVIL.
For every evil under the sun,
There is a remedy or there is none.
If there be one, seek till you find it,
If there is none, never mind it.

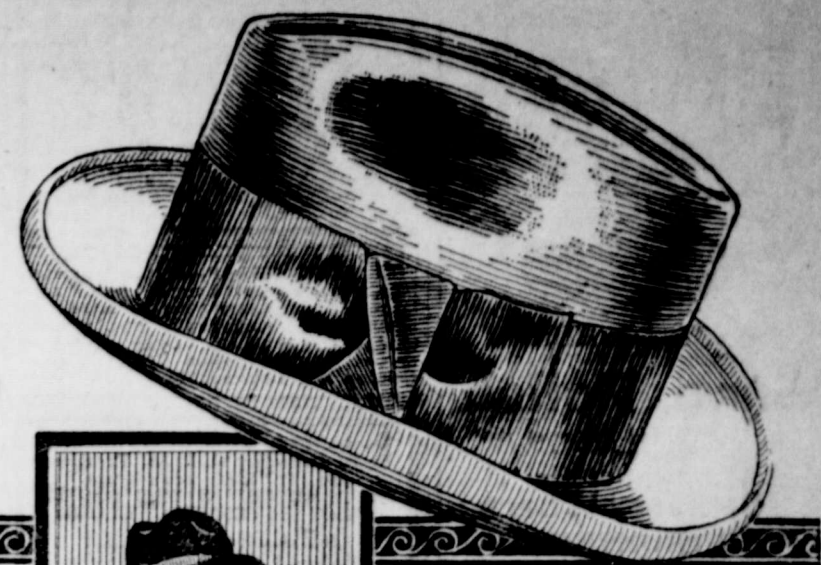
FIVE TOES.
This little pig went to market;
This little pig stayed home;
This little pig had roast beef;
This little pig had none;
This little pig said "Wee, Wee,
I can't find my way home."

A LOYAL FRIEND.

Would you believe it that in one of the ugliest creatures in the garden we have a staunch and loyal friend? Yes, indeed, we have; and it is no other than the humble toad. The toad is of great service too, in many ways. They eat bugs and insects that destroy our gardens. In color, they resemble the dirt and insects cannot detect them; this is one way in which they are able to capture insects. Toads can be handled, but care must be taken not to break the skin. They become very gentle and are capable of attachment for human beings, if treated kindly. They have been known to live to be thirty-five or forty years old. We must protect them in every way, as they are of great service to us in our gardens and fields. It would be very wicked to kill an animal so useful.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH.

"Boys flying kites haul in their white winged birds but we can't do that when we are flying words."



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LOCKHART TO HAVE TRADES DAY.

The Lockhart Chamber of Commerce has decided to hold a regular monthly trades day and the first trades day will be held in February.

NATIONAL GUARD PLAN RIFLE RANGE.

The Texas National Guard and the R. O. T. C. of Fort Worth and Dallas are planning a rifle range and it is thought it will probably be located on a site about three miles west of Arlington.

374,033 ACRES OF STATE LAND COMING ON MARKET.

State lands coming on the market on May 1, next, amount to 374,033 acres, State Land Commissioner Robinson has announced.

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WRITE AT ONCE!

TOOK FIRST PRIZE.

Fowls placed on exhibition by Dr. H. W. Duke and Earl J. Curry of Amarillo at the Oklahoma State Poultry show at Elk City, took first prize. Dr. Duke won first cock, second and fifth cock-crel, third and fifth pullet, third old hen and first young hen. Curry won first cock, first, second, third and fifth hen, first old hen, and sweepstakes on White Wyandottes, and second cock, first and third hen and first old hen on Patridge Wyandottes.

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WOMAN'S PAGE

MRS. MARGARET STUTE

HOME PROBLEMS. SPRING DECORATING.

At this time of year our thoughts naturally turn to "spring decorating." Nature, our greatest friend, and artist, is busily preparing all her beauties to show us as soon as old "sol" gives the word.

A few timely hints on how we can assist Nature in her wonderful work is not amiss at this time.

These days of early thaws and late freezes can play havoc with the perennials, shrubs, etc. The main idea of a mulch is to prevent thawing, to keep the ground around the roots frozen. The freezing itself does not do the damage but the alternate freezing and thawing. If the mulch is too thin or has blown away, replace it before a thaw comes. Clean straw, leaves or marsh grass can be used. The latter has no seeds and is much to be preferred.

One of the prettiest trees for ornamental purposes to be used in lawn planting is the Colorado Blue Spruce. The situation for planting should be carefully selected. Because of its slow growth, many people have come to look upon it as a dwarf. This is not true, however. In its natural habitat it grows to 150 feet. As it grows in size and age the lower limbs wither and must be pruned off. Therefore, it must be planted where it will have plenty of room.

Trees should be regarded as kind and useful friends, and we must be as careful in their selection as we would a friend. Trees well selected as to location and surroundings do more to beautify a home than any other factor. If one wishes a green lawn they must not plant directly on it, as grass needs sunshine to do well. A beautiful tree is a living monument to whoever plants it. Tall trees are best used as a background. Small dwarf trees can be used in many places, but study the habits and growth of a tree before planting it. The leaves of the red fir live for about ten years before falling.

Roses should be well mulched until all danger of killing frost is past. Not until then should they be pruned. Pruning during winter days may result in killing as it leaves the frost to travel down the pithy centers with great facility.

LATE FASHIONS.

When she wants to play or to help mother in kitchen this handy apron is easily slipped on over a good dress. If made up in calico bound with gray colors it is quite attractive. It is in one piece opening down center of back to waist-line where a narrow belt holds it on.



HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Don't neglect to set that early setting hen. The early pullets are the early layers and the early cockerels bring the top price at the market.

Saeking lightly laid over-seeds planted in the early spring will act as a mulch and is easier kept on than newspapers. Remove now and then to allow air to the plants.

If you have no hot water bottles at hand, you will find it an excellent substitute to try filling mason jars with hot water. Be sure they don't leak around the rubbers.

An empty spool fastened low enough on the outside screen door for the baby to reach will save you many a step.

An empty canned goods box that has been varnished with a walnut stain will provide an excellent place for nursery toys and teach the children neatness.

The hot bed should be made now. Plenty of manure should be placed in the pit under it and the walls rendered air tight by banking them on the outside with dirt.

This is a good time to make flower boxes, trellises, stakes for tomatoes, dahlias and other plants and pedestals for plants and lawn.

Test left over seeds from last year, using cigar boxes on blotting paper.

Plant food for your summer plants now. This can be done by using the correct fertilizers for each crop.

Pansies and sweet-peas must be started at once. They will then acquire a good root system.

It is the duty of every mother to teach her daughter to sew.

An old servant once said to me: "I plants the whites folks gardens in February and my own in April. Then I sell 'em vegetables."

FIRST AID TREATMENT and QUESTION BOX.

Last month I told you how to remove a foreign body from the eye and ear.

It is also necessary to know how to remove a foreign body from the nose, as it is very annoying.

The person afflicted should take a deep breath and then close the mouth, and, pressing on the free nostril, blow the nose. If this does not remove the foreign body, then compression should be made above the object and an attempt made to draw it out with a hair pin or bent wire. Care should be exercised so as not to push the object in farther.

If a person has something lodged in their throat strike him or her sharply on the back between the shoulders. It is sometimes necessary to invert the person while doing so; a child is usually held up by the legs, an adult is placed across a bed, couch or chair, with head and chest well over the edge.

If a person has accidentally swallowed a pin, nail, tack, coin, etc., do not give a purgative or try to cause vomiting. This is very dangerous especially with children. Feed the person on bread and milk, mush and potatoes for two or three days after the accident. Then give a mild laxative. Observe stools until object is passed. If not passed in a few days a physician must be consulted, even if no harmful effects are felt.

Any questions on First Aid Treatment will be answered through this page. Address Box 1012, Fort Worth, Texas.

FEBRUARY THOUGHTS.

With the advent of February the thrifty gardeners thoughts turn to pruning and spraying. A few timely hints, I am sure, will not be amiss here.

As we take our sharp knife a pair of pruning shears and a pruning saw in hand we first must survey our work. In order to proceed intelligently, we must know what we are about.

First, there are the cherry trees. These we must handle with care. Other pruning is not necessary other than cutting back a few new shoots, with perhaps the exception of dead or diseased branches and those that rub each other.

Apple trees must be pruned with moderation. Trim for low-headed and open trees. Cut back a bud or branch that runs up and up to a branch that terminates into a bud.

In pear trees cut out the dead or diseased wood and trim for a compact tree.

Peach trees are pruned heavily. They require more pruning than other fruit trees. Half the previous season's growth may be removed. Thin the branches out well. A peach bears on last year's shoots. Unless there is a good crop of shoots there will never be a good crop of peaches. In late winter take off a lot of wood.

Study the habits of your trees and you will then be able to prune more intelligently. Observe on what type of branches the fruit grows and where it is best to encourage growth. Apples grow on short crooked branches called "fruit spurs" and these should be protected.

Always use sharp tree cutting instruments free from rust.

If you are pruning a neglected tree, cut out a portion this winter and a little more during the summer, and then next winter you can finish the job. Don't try to do it all at once, as it is detrimental to the tree.

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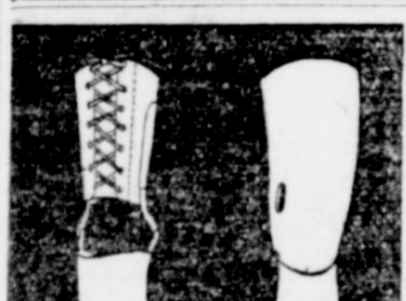


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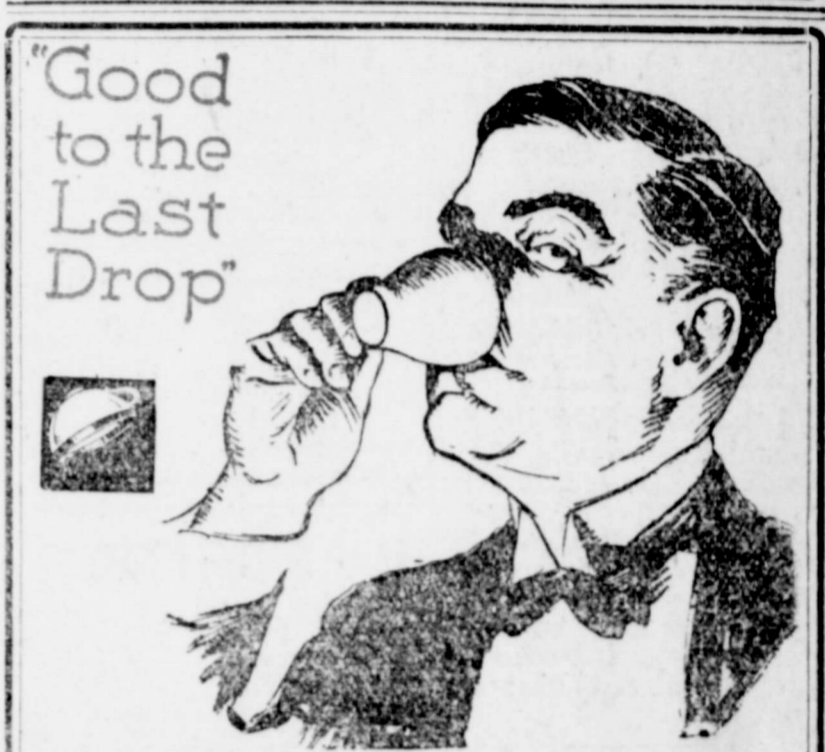


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