

THE MERKEL MAIL

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8 PAGES

LUNCHEON CLUB HAS FINE MEETING

While at every meeting of the Merkel Luncheon Club there has been much enthusiasm and constructive work done with the view of improving and bettering the town and the general welfare of its citizenship, there has probably never been a more enthusiastic and successful meeting than the last one held on last Tuesday evening.

And while it was regretted very much that Mr. Robert Hicks, who had been designated as "Toastmaster" for the meeting was unable to be present, the meeting made rapid progress with the president, Mr. L. R. Thompson, in charge. He first took up the matter of reports from standing committees, calling for a report of the progress being made on the roads now being built by the new Tractor-Grader, and to which Commissioner W. H. Frazier replied, saying that the work on the 4 miles of road known as the West Noodle Road was about completed, and that as soon as this was done, the Tractor-Grader would be moved to the East Noodle road, known as the Largent road and this road would be graded up and made a first class dirt road.

And at this juncture of the meeting a motion was made that the chairman appoint a committee for the purpose of seeing the property owners along the above mentioned east road, in regard to widening the road. This committee was appointed and was composed of the following: Dr. M. Armstrong, T. G. Bragg, J. A. Buford, A. T. Sheppard and Thos. Durham. And we are glad to here report that the committee immediately got busy and the next day saw property owners along the road, and made satisfactory arrangements for the road to be widened where necessary, which will make this a fifty-foot road, and which will make it possible to have same graded with a 24-foot crown, making the road forty feet from ditch to ditch. But when such men as Dr. Armstrong, T. G. Bragg, J. A. Buford and A. T. Sheppard are placed on a committee they can be counted on to get results, especially in regard to making better roads leading to Merkel.

And among the business matters, the chairman announced that Merkel's quota in the work of helping to push the Bankhead highway on through the state and helping to make it a paved or hardsurfaced road from one end to the other, was \$50.00 and that this amount had been underwritten by our worthy secretary, Mr. R. L. Grimes, and nine other business men and citizens. A motion was made and carried that the Luncheon Club members chip in a dollar amount to reimburse the ten men for the money.

And a motion was also made and carried that the Club pay its quota of \$20.00 for the purpose of defraying the campaign for Texas Centennial to be held in the state some time in the future.

Next came the question of making our city a "Cleaner City" and Mr. H. C. West, our very efficient and progressive Mayor, was called on, who made a splendid talk regarding a general cleaning of the town. A motion was passed that the Mayor issue a "Clean-up Proclamation", which he will do through the Merkel Mail in the near future. He also stated to this paper that in order to help the matter along and for the benefit of any one who desires to start a clean-up

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BIG TRADE TRIP TO NOODLE JUNE 6TH

We understand that arrangements are being made through the following gentlemen, Messrs. T. G. Bragg, H. L. Propst, E. Yates Brown, Eli Case, Bob Denniss and Jas. A. Patterson, appointed by the Luncheon Club Chairman last Tuesday night, to arrange the place and time for the first Trade Trip, to go to Noodle on next Friday night, June 6th and there, render the first Trade Trip program for the season.

These occasions are indeed very fine, in that they foster and create a closer and finer feeling among the citizenship of the town and country, and it is hoped by the members of the Luncheon Club that every business or professional man, and every one in the city who feels that they would like to go on these trips to do so.

And it is also hoped that the entire citizenship of the Noodle community will feel welcome to come out on this occasion and enjoy same.

SGHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED

At the graduation exercises of the Merkel High School on Monday evening, May 26, the following honors were awarded:

The following scholarships were awarded to Johnny Sears, the Valedictorian of the class of 1924:

1. Abilene Christian College, Abilene.
2. Simmons College, Abilene.
3. Baylor College, Belton.
4. Baylor University, Waco.
5. Southwestern University, Georgetown.
6. Sul Ross State Teachers College, Alpine.
7. South West Texas State Teachers College, San Marcos.
8. Southern Methodist University, Dallas.
9. Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth.
10. Texas Woman's College, Fort Worth.
11. West Texas State Teachers College, Canyon.
12. John Tarleton Agricultural College, Stephenville.
13. Trinity University, Waxahachie.
14. University of Texas, Austin.

The following scholarships were awarded to Merrill Collins, the boy making the highest grade among the boys of the Class:

1. Southwestern University, Georgetown.
2. Sul Ross State Teachers College, Alpine.
3. Southwest Texas State Teachers College, San Marcos.
4. Southern Methodist University, Dallas.
5. Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.
6. West Texas State Teachers College, Canyon.
7. John Tarleton Agricultural College, Stephenville.
8. Austin College, Sherman.
9. Trinity University, Waxahachie.
10. Texas University, Austin.

MIDLAND TO BUILD NEW SEWAGE PLANT

Midland, Texas, May 23.—Construction will start on a new sewer system here not later than June 21. Citizens of Midland voted \$69,000 in bonds to lay mains and build a disposal plant. The issue carried by more than two to one. The taxpayers also voted \$7,000 to extend the water mains, the vote on this issue being 178 to 76.

Two other propositions in Midland's growth to receive attention in the near future are the construction of a new high school building and the paving of the principal business street.

BIG MEMORIAL DAY AT ABILENE SUNDAY

A salute of twenty-one guns will be fired by Company E, 132nd Field Artillery, Texas National Guard as a mark of honor to the dead of all wars on next Sunday afternoon, according to John N. Hodge, heading the committee on arrangements for the observance of Memorial Day appointed by Parramore Post of the American Legion. Mr. Hodge added that to the best of his knowledge this is the first time in the history of the state of Texas or the nation that the national salute has been fired over the graves of the dead of various wars in a city the size of Abilene.

"We are very anxious to make this a country wide tribute to the men who gave their lives for their country", Mr. Hodge said today. "We are asking everybody in the county to participate with us in observing Memorial Day next Sunday afternoon at 4:30. We of the Legion especially invite the citizens of Merkel to meet with us and show that our patriotism is not dead and to honor those who fought the good fight."

Other numbers on the program will include an address and band selections of a patriotic and religious character.

BEASLEYS BUY BIG TRACT LAND

This paper is informed that a deal has recently been consummated through the Anderson Land Company of Austin whereby Messrs. J. D. and R. J. Beasley have purchased the fine 2,500 acre tract of land, located about ten miles north of Merkel, on which tract they have resided for the past ten of twelve years.

This is without doubt one of the best and most fertile farms in all Merkel trade territory, and the Messrs. Beasley have made the operation of same very profitable especially during the last five years. It is known, we believe, as the Gunn ranch, and is located in Jones county.

ILL HEALTH MAY FORCE CLUB PRES. TO RESIGN

While in conversation with Mr. L. R. Thompson, president of the Luncheon Club, the Mail regrets to learn that owing to the fact that on account of ill health for some weeks past, Mr. Thompson may be forced to resign his position with the club, as the duties of same, together with his strenuous bank and business duties, may prove too much for him.

This his friends and the members of the Club would regret very much, as that organization has just really began to function and prove of great value toward promoting matters of importance in the upbuilding of the city, and owing to the further fact that Mr. Thompson is highly capable and qualified to head this organization, always taking his stand in the interest of progress and the upbuilding of the city. And this paper joins his many friends in the hope that he will, at least for the present, forego the thought of resigning this position, with the hope that his health will soon be regained, which would enable him to continue as the head of this very useful organization.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bland and family of Abilene were here Sunday visiting with relatives.

TRAIN HITS TRUCK RAY GARRET HURT

On last Wednesday morning as young Ray Garrett and Harold Cash were returning from a trip to Capps, where they had been after the fender for the former's father, Mr. J. M. Garrett, local feed and coal man, the truck which they were driving was struck by the east bound Sunshine Special as they started across the track at Tye.

But fortunately only young Garret sustained any injury, and he is not thought to be seriously hurt, there being no bones broken, only bodily bruised and shaken up. Harold Cash it seems jumped from the truck when he saw that the train was going to hit the truck and was not injured at all.

The front part of the truck was badly damaged and will cost considerable to have same repaired.

PUPILS AWARDED HONOR CERTIFICATE

The following pupils of the Merkel Public School have attended the Merkel School for the entire school year and during the entire year have been neither tardy nor absent. They are therefore awarded these "Certificates of Award."

High First (Mrs. Johnson): Jim Chaney.

Third Grade (Miss Martin): Burrell Chaney, Dorothy Deuschman.

Fourth Grade (Miss Scott): Terrel Mashburn, Roy Robbins.

Fourth Grade (Miss Scott): Eris Ash, Fred A. Baker, Harold Chaney, Harold Childress, Alton Davis, Bill Hamm, Fannie Booth, Beth Hamm, Fannie V. Jones, Mattilou Largent.

Fourth Grade (Miss Joiner): Kathleen Mashburn, Ola Smith, Leo Tucker.

Fifth Grade (Miss Ellis): Missie Dye, Tracy Campbell.

Fifth Grade (Miss Compere): Nadine Tippett.

Sixth Grade (Miss Conoway): Raymond Earthman, Imogene Agnew, Marza Chaney, Francis Collins, Dorothy Daniels, Lorene Dixon, Lois Leslie.

Sixth Grade (Miss Duke): Norma Shannon, Elsie Mae Richie.

Ninth Grade (Mrs. Jackson): W. P. Jones, Durwood Owens, Sterling Sheppard, Burnis Tucker, Mildred Hamm, Elizabeth Harkrider, Lucille Owens, Irene Perry, Deshazo Simpson, Rubye Walton.

Seventh grade (Mrs. Sublett): Monetta Adcock, Fannie Belle Boaz, Nell Brown, Mary Cole, Gladys Deutschman, Iris Garret.

Eighth Grade (Miss Weeden): Joe Ben Ashby, Joe Cypert, Elmer Adcock, Clyde Mayfield, Floy Ash, Hazel Coats, Dorothy Higgins, Gladys Milliken.

Ninth Grade (Miss Bird): Leonard Bailey, T. J. Beidleman, Juanita Beene, Hazel Bell, Flossie Campbell, Eva Mae Johnson, Ruth Jones.

Tenth Grade (Miss Pearce): W. L. Harkrider, Clyde Matthew Mary Butman, Lucille Guitar, Hazel Rainbolt, Stella Wilson.

Eleventh Grade (Seniors): Miss Williamson:—Merrill Collins, Harry McCandless, Grace Lee Cranston, Myrtle Daniels, Allyne Riley, Maurine Tipton.

Very truly,
Roger A. Burgess, Supt.

Fred Latham returned Friday from a short business trip to Dallas.

SEVERAL BOYS ARE CHARGED STEALING

We understand that for some time, infact for several years, there has been a lot of "little petty stealing" going on in Merkel, and the officers have been working on the matter in a quiet but persistent manner, and we learn that City Marshal Jinks Winter this week arrested some boys by the name of Williams and possibly others who we understand pled guilty and paid fines in the sum of \$49.50 in several cases for stealing.

As above stated, there has been entirely too much stealing such things as casings, gasoline, and other automobile accessories in and about Merkel, and the citizens and officers have gotten tired of it and have planned a drive to put a stop to it. There is also indications that others, some older and more seasoned, possibly, in the art, who are thought to be aiding and possibly directly implicated in this wholesale stealing, and in all probability they too will be apprehended and brought to justice.

ANOTHER CANDIDATE ANNOUNCES SHERIFF

Mr. R. G. (Bob) Anderson, for many years a prominent and well known business man and citizen of Abilene, authorizes the Mail to place his name in our announcement column this week as a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Taylor county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary in July.

Since Mr. Anderson has been a citizen of Taylor county for many years, having been in business in both Merkel and Abilene, he is without doubt too well known to need but little mention at our hands.

However, suffice it to say, that Mr. Anderson has been a very successful business man, which would indicate that from that point he would look well to the business affairs of the Sheriff's office, and he states that if he is elected, he will to the best of his ability, enforce all laws, with special privileges to none, but with fairness to one and all, be he friend or foe.

This paper would ask that the voters give Mr. Anderson's claims as a candidate for the office of Sheriff due and careful consideration before casting their vote in the coming July primary.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS AND NEWS SENDERS

We frequently receive splendid communications and news items from people in and about Merkel which we would like to publish but cannot do so on account of the fact that there is no name signed to the articles or the news items.

So we urge all who send in items, country correspondence, or write-ups and news items, to please sign your name at the bottom, not necessarily for publication, but for the protection of the paper, as we must have such items signed by some one before we can publish them. We appreciate such items but must know who writes them before we can publish same.

Mr. Herschel Lamar of Ranger is here for a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lamar.

COMMENCEMENT CLOSES SCHOOL

The school year of 1923-24 of the Merkel High School closed with the presentation of diplomas to the twenty-eight graduates at the Methodist church on last Monday evening.

The play, "All-of-Sudden Peggy", given by the Senior Class on Thursday evening at the Cozy Theatre was a marked success. The play was well rendered and well received, the house was packed, and the financial returns to the class were very satisfactory. The gross receipts were \$165.05. After paying some small expenses, the net proceeds will be used to replenish the ever needy High School Library.

The Grammar School had their graduation on Friday evening at the Methodist Church. Fifty-eight received their certificates entitling them to enter High School on next September. Bro. W. H. Albertson, pastor of the local Baptist Church, delivered to the class a very interesting address.

On Sunday evening at the Methodist Church, Rev. J. W. Hunt, president of McMurry College, delivered his famous cow-boy lecture on purity of heart. Despite the terrific thunder storm and rain that continued throughout the service and fifteen minutes of darkness right in the middle of his sermon, Bro. Hunt showed his ability as an orator by holding the attention of the large audience through darkness and all. It was indeed a great inspirational sermon, and the class of 1924 are indeed fortunate to have had him deliver their commencement sermon.

Then on Monday evening came the climax of the year when the twenty-eight graduates received their diplomas. Dr. P. W. Horn, president of Texas Technological College, located at Lubbock, delivered the commencement address. His was a very interesting discussion of what a liberal education is—what is to be gained from books and what from the material world. His talk was listened to attentively by one of the largest audiences ever assembled in Merkel, many being turned away from the church for lack of room. The class of 1924 is very fortunate in having had two very able college presidents on their commencement program.

Johnny Sears was valedictorian of the class, having made for the year a general average of 95 per cent; Imogene Hays was the salutatorian of the class having made for the year a general average of 94 per cent. Merrill Collins made the highest average among the boys of the class, having made 93.3 per cent for the year.

Those receiving diplomas on the evening of May 26, 1924 as graduates of the Merkel High school were:

Brannic Bailey, Lucy Mae Stubblefield, Lois Christopher, Kenneth Sharp, Grace Lee Cranston, Fairy Orr, Mildred Swafford, Myrtle Daniels, Weston West, Dorothy Senders, Allyne Riley, Alma Patterson, Spencer Bird, Gladys Middleton, Opal Patterson, Exa Cole, Imogene Hayes, Salutatorian, Harry L. McCandless, Maurine Tipton, Billie Cobb, Irene Henderson, Jack Anderson, Nell Swann, Merrill Collins, Honor boy, Boog Sears, Johnny Sears, valedictorian, Mae Wilkins, Willard Reeves. 1924.

Jim West and family left via auto Tuesday morning for various points in south Texas. They will spend some time at Kerrville, Texas.

As The Farmer Sows

With another season at hand, with a new determination to gain greater returns from the soil and toil, the farmers again are taking the center stage.

Last year's gain in farm production helped this nation to prosperity. The country now is watching the farmers—the men who hold the key to this year's success. Prosperity on the farm means prosperity for all.

This strong progressive, institution, alive to the farmer's needs stands ready to help again as we have helped in the past to make prosperity come to those on the farm.

Farmers State Bank
Merkel, Texas
A Guaranty Fund Bank

THE OLD TIMER'S VIEW

It used to be somewhat common in newspaper offices, to send the cub reporters out to interview the old timers of the city. They would get their reminiscences, and their views of present conditions. In those days the addresses of these older people at old folks reunions, family association meetings, etc., used to figure prominently in the newspapers.

That kind of thing seems less prominent now. The world has been so full of thrills that the past has largely dropped out of sight. The old folks are largely crowded off the stage, and their opinions do not seem to count so much.

The world is very much stirred about flappers and the doings and views of the young crowd, who occupy the spotlight quite fully.

The old timers find it hard to keep up with the modern generation. Some of them are distressed over modern developments. "It seems to me the world has gone crazy" remarked one of them, and there are many who should echo his point of view. The extravagance of these times in money matters troubles them particularly. They were brought up in times when people considered every small coin, every copper even, and they are disturbed at the way people sling around money in these times.

The world needs the points of view of age and youth combined. It has generally been the case in the past, after people have spent money extravagantly, that periods of depression have set in. So the cautionary signals of age should not be ignored. But the world will never return to the very limited life that the old timers had to live. Yet the tremendous industry of these old timers was the force that built up the country. If there is not a good degree of willingness to work in these times, we shall all suffer for it.

The Sheriff of Dallas has declared war on indecent dancing, drunkenness and roadside petting parties. The sheriff can't stop any of those evils. There is only one power on earth that can stop them. That power is paternal control. When Pa and Ma take sufficient interest in the welfare of their children to find out where, how and why they spend their evenings, the evils inveighed against by the Dallas sheriff will be stopped. But the well-meaning sheriff of Dallas will have to get after Pa and Ma first.—Abilene Daily Reporter.

The above position is our position. Discipline must first begin in the home. Mothers must first quit petting other women's husbands and visa versa if we expect to do away with like conditions among the children. We can not place home discipline under the law for the reason that the law can not take the place of home training. We cannot legislate people moral but we can teach them to be moral. Before we will see much change in social conditions discipline must again be established in the home. The proper example must be set before the young people. We need not expect to see our boys and girls make any better citizens than their parents before them. Our children are truly walking in our footsteps, and the trouble is we are making too many tracks in the wrong direction for the good of both.—Snyder Times-Signal.

Mr. R. L. Grimes, clever Cashier of the Farmers State Bank, returned last Friday from attending the State Bankers Convention, which convened in Austin last week. Mr. Grimes reports a very pleasant trip, a good attendance of bankers at the convention, and the most of whom seemed to feel optimistic over the financial condition of the country.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Americans Are Largest Chair Users of World

Americans are becoming the biggest chair users among nations, says a bulletin of the national foreign trade council.

Like its user, the American chair is constantly on the move, and to make it strong enough to withstand his setting, this chair now passes through 80 operations in its building. More care is taken with it than any other piece of furniture we make.

The chair, commonly regarded as stationary, may travel thousands of miles and meet many adventures in its lifetime, according to the national foreign trade council, which has taken the chair as an astonishing illustration of the international character of trade.

Two chairs that do not travel are St. Peter's chair at Rome, dating from the Sixth century, the most famous of ancient chairs; and the world's largest chair, placed as a monument near the railway station at Gardner, Mass.

The number of old and new chairs in the United States is estimated at upwards of 700,000,000, with three to four million annually manufactured. We are more favored than the European peoples of before the Sixteenth century; until that time chairs were used only by kings or the nobility, and common people stood or sat on the floor.

The ancient chair was built of heavy carved and gilded woods, and covered with costly stuffs. The Egyptian chairs were often made of ebony and ivory. Little used or proved, they lasted.

Taking its average life at ten years, and considering its daily shiftings by a lively people, the travels of the American chair in the home or office have been counted at a minimum of 136 miles. Its movings to other houses or offices, or to other vicinities, add many more miles. The travels of an American rocking chair have been placed at 442 miles. The lazy rocker, however, is passing out of use.

Wood "Wool" House Lining

Household fuel bills can be cut from a quarter to a third, it is claimed, by insulating the walls of the home with a fireproof "wool" made from waste lumber. The material is said to be almost as effective an insulator as pure wool, which, of course, is too costly for building purposes.

The insulator is a flexible blanket made of spruce lumber waste cemented together and packed between two sheets of asphalt-lined, tough waterproof paper. The waste is chemically fireproofed first, and then dried by fans and steam pipes. Next it is ground by machines, cemented, and, after drying, is packed between the paper sheets. The finished product is said to be light, flexible, and easy to apply and to accommodate itself to shrinkage or vibration of the building.—Popular Science Monthly.

Swallowing Exhibit A

In "Anecdotes of Bench and Bar" Mr. A. H. Engelbach tells the following story of an attorney's unfortunate juggling with the evidence:

Peter Burrows, a well known member of the Irish bar, was on one occasion counsel for the prosecution at an important trial for murder. Burrows had a severe cold and opened his speech with a box of lozenges in one hand and in the other the small pistol bullet by which the man had met his death. Between the pauses of his address he kept supplying himself with a lozenge. But at last in the middle of a highfluting period he stopped. His chest heaved; his eyes seemed starting from his head, and in a voice tremulous with fright he exclaimed:

"Oh! Gentlemen! Gentlemen! I've swallowed the bullet!"

"Prince Rupert's Drops"

"Prince Rupert's Drops" is the name given to tadpole-shaped pieces of glass, formed by melting the glass and allowing it to drop into cold water. If the point of the tail of one of these be broken off, the whole will at once shiver to pieces with a loud report.

Owing to the sudden cooling, the particles have not had sufficient time to arrange themselves in a stable manner, and hence they fly asunder as soon as the structure is broken. These curious drops are commonly supposed to have been discovered by Prince Rupert, the grandson of James I of England, but Faraday says that they were simply brought by him into England in 1600.—Detroit News.

Idolized

"It says here, 'One of the idols most revered by heathen is a figure of a woman, seated, resting her chin in her hands,'" said Mrs. Farr, reading from a book.

"Which proves they are about the wisest people on earth," suggested her husband.

"How so, Orrin?"

"Well," said Mr. Farr, with emphasis, "because they make a deity of a woman who has sense enough to give her chin a rest."—Pathfinder.

Reminded Him of the Song

A pun perpetrated by Conyns Carr is so bad that it is good. He was dozing on a train between Southampton and Waterloo when, as they passed through a town of jerry-built monstrosities, he suddenly sat up and exclaimed: "Good heavens, what is this?"

A friend replied mournfully, "Working."

Carr lay back again and shut his eyes, murmuring: "If this be Working, let me dream again."

CON AMORE

By IDA M. GOULD

(Copyright, 1922, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

ELINOR GAGE fastened her boat and wandered through a path she had dearly longed to explore. A narrow path led irregularly to Nowhere.

She rested on a fallen tree trunk, listening to the humming of insects. She let her eyes search the bypath, and they fell on a glittering small object, which proved to be a ring. A large amethyst, bearing the words "Con Amore," set in diamonds. Brushing the moss particles from the trinket, she slipped it on her finger.

When the old routine of school teaching was resumed the ring adorned her slim finger.

As the next summer vacation ended she planned to spend a few days in Boston sight-seeing. On one of her jaunts she lost the ring. How she missed it! She inserted a description and promise of reward in the lost and found columns of the newspapers.

Returning from her pilgrimages next day, she found a tall, middle-aged gentleman awaiting her.

"I am Mr. Linn Childs," he announced, stiffly. "You are the advertiser of a ring, Miss—"

"Gage," faltered Elinor. "Miss Gage, is this the ring you lost?"

Carefully holding the ring so that it might be seen on all sides, he noted the joyous expression of the girl's eyes as they identified her lost property.

"Yes—oh—yes," gasped Elinor, reaching for the ring, which the man still held.

"This is my ring," he began, with his unsympathetic manner. "Where did you find it?"

"At Beechwood."

"I thought so. I lost it there last summer. It was a gift from my wife." The stern eyes softened.

"Miss Gage, why not accept a duplicate ring from me? I owe you that much for restoring a cherished keepsake."

"I cannot agree to such an arrangement."

"It seems fair to me," smilingly said the owner of the ring. "May I ask if you are in Boston permanently this winter?"

"Oh—no. I start tomorrow for the West, where I teach school." Elinor looked frankly into the man's honest eyes.

"At least, Miss Gage, the ring having been the vehicle by which we have met, may I hope to see you soon again?"

"I think not. I leave here for my home tonight." And Elinor Gage extended her hand.

"Au revoir, then; perhaps at Beechwood next summer."

"Perhaps," Elinor watched him disappear past the crowds in the lobby.

"No more adventures until I find another keepsake," thought Elinor.

At Beechwood the following season Elinor went, as usual, walking, boating through familiar scenes with revived memories of the beautiful ring she had so unexpectedly found. Nothing was further from her thoughts than the man she found awaiting her one day, after a long tramp in the woods. Her face was aglow with her walk. Her hands full of pine branches; so, greetings exchanged, she disappeared until tea time.

Few guests remained on the porch, for the air became chilly early.

Mr. Childs asked Elinor if she would go for a constitutional stroll.

When he said good-night he placed a package in her hand, saying it was a trifle he had picked up in Boston and asked her judgment on it.

Elinor found the package to be a ring, almost a duplicate of the lost one, differing only in the omission of the words "Con Amore."

Next morning, intercepting the giver as he was about to start on one of his daily walks, she protested that he should not have offered her the gift.

Fearing to create comment from bystanders, she walked slowly down the road, trying to appear unconcerned, he keeping step, until they reached a turnstile.

"Take care!" he warned, too late, however, for she had twisted her ankle in stepping back too quickly.

"Lean on me, until we get to the house, Elinor."

White with pain from exertion, she had to submit.

The nearest doctor was called. He prescribed perfect rest for ten days.

Chapters could be written narrating the daily talks and readings and Mr. Childs' tender ministrations to distract Elinor from her painful condition.

When Elinor was able to limp to the hammock under the apple tree, her devoted attendant ceased his readings and began to plead his own suit.

Once more he placed the package in her hands.

"Is it just like the one you offered me before my accident?" queried the girl.

"No. Look for yourself, Elinor."

"Oh—how lovely!" exclaimed the girl, coloring as she met the earnest eyes near her.

"Accept it with the inscription, 'Con Amore,' which has been added. Does the phrase find an echo in your heart, dear?"

"Con Amore," whispered Elinor, as he kissed her.

Snappy Comeback. He—Pardon me, but haven't I seen your face before?

She—I don't doubt it. This is the one I always wear.

The Farmers and Merchants Natl. Bank of Merkel

Has provided every facility to give its customers the VERY BEST in Banking Service.

We have a Savings Department for those who wish to lay aside something every month, or for those who wish to leave a part of their deposit for six or twelve months. On such deposits we pay 4 per cent.

We have provided for the use of our customers three Nests of the Latest Model Two-Lock Safety Deposit Boxes in which to keep Deeds, Abstracts, Wills and other important papers.

We have ordered, and shortly expect to receive a large MOSLER, screw door, burglar proof-safe the last word in safe construction.

We buy and sell Liberty Bonds. Purchase Government or other Securities for our customers.

J. T. WARREN, President.
Geo. F. WEST, Vice President.
HENRY JAMES, Vice President.



L. R. THOMPSON, Cashier.
BOOTH WARREN, Ass't Cashier.
OWE NELLIS, Ass't Cashier.

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

Methodist Sunday School Notes

On last Sunday we had another good day in our Sunday School, there being 336 present during the Sunday School hour.

We are taking special pains in arranging the opening programs so as to make them interesting and instructive.

While the summer months are considered hard on the Sunday school workers, yet we have some great opportunities.

So if you happen to have some one visiting in your home, be sure and invite them to come to Sunday school, and let's try to make this a school which serves and is served, giving each one a place to work and a place to study. L. W. Cox, Supt.

Senior League Program

Subject: "How Jesus faced duty."

Leader, Tom Allday.

Song service. Prayer.

Scripture: Matt. 3:13-15, Jno. 9:4-5. Song.

Quotations, by leader.

Christ's Loyalty, Adrian Rea.

Obedience to the Father's will, Brannic Bailey.

Doing God's will, Bettye Rogers.

Doing Duty brings the Master, Jack Durham.

In memoriam, Jno. F. Caperton, Cyrus Pee, Harry L. Hughes, Murphy Thomas.

Prayer, song, announcements.

Benediction.

Messrs. L. A. Arrington,

Booth Warren, F. Y. Gaither,

Willie Sheppard, Chas. Jones,

Geo. Woodrum left Saturday

for a fishing trip to San Antonio and Corpus Christi.

Just what you are looking for in the way of a gift is the fashionable Stationery at the Merkel Mail Office. Come and see the samples.

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE

ITS YOUR BUSINESS

You alone know how much of hard work, of sacrifice and of enthusiasm have gone into making it what it is today.

You alone have the real vision of its future success.

Your alone can realize what it would mean to have to start all over again.

Fire, accident, the force of nature, can wipe out in a few minutes the work of years. Insurance is your one unflinching protection.

Have you enough insurance? Have you the right kind.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.



"Headquarters"

there are many places in which women can buy hardware, but—the one place to go is where standard commodities are sold by experienced, dependable men—your hardware store.

MILLER LOCKS

afford your home that protection which is as indispensable as your insurance policy. Use them on coal bins, cellar doors and windows—wherever protection is necessary. Get them at "Headquarters"—your hardware store.

WEST COMPANY

MR. GRAYSON WRITES FROM PALMER COUNTY

To let you know of some of the things we have seen and been enjoying since we left our home in Jones county about May first, will drop a few lines to the Merkel Mail.

We are in Palmer County, near Friona, and this is a pretty country, but crops are late and needing rain.

While in Briscoe county, we had the pleasure of accompanying a crowd who took with them their dinner and visited the Lanquish Falls, and went thru the narrows. The narrows are about one-half mile long and about one hundred to two hundred feet deep. They are cut in solid rock and at one place you have to crawl through a small opening in a rock and one place you go straight up for ten feet.

I would advise any one who has a chance to go through the narrows, for you have to actually see them to appreciate the interesting curiosities.

In crossing the breaks we came to a place about two hundred feet high, and it seemed almost impossible to cross it.

In our visit among the many different homes in this section, we have found that most every one reads the Merkel Mail, and the first thing is to look for the Shiloh Happenings, and the paper seems like a letter from

home to all. Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson.

THE STREAM OF BOOKS

"Fewer books and better ones" was the advice handed out to book publishers at the annual convention of the American Booksellers Association at New York. It was urged that publishing too many books that lack merit discourages people from owning and reading books. It was noted that the great majority of books published are practically dead in three months, and can only be disposed of thru some bargain sale.

Wonder is often expressed as to who reads all the vast volume of fiction that is being ground out in one continuous stream. Even a well read person who looks through a catalogue of the books published through a season, will probably find that the great majority of the authors are unfamiliar to him.

There is a tremendous demand for light fiction, and a lot of folks will snap up greedily the latest products of the press and forget all about the same soon. This continuous reading of stories, many of them of a frivolous description, many which depend on unhealthy sex sentiment, must have a weakening effect on a person's mind, and indispose people for lines of reading that shall prepare them for better citizenship or success in their occupations.

It is claimed by some that in these days when libraries are common, people will not buy many books. Yet there are thousands of good sized towns that have no libraries. And as people grow in intelligence, they will like the atmosphere of books in their homes. Probably there never was a time when so many books were given as gifts as now. There is a market for every book that is well written and communicates ideas.

Books need to be well advertised. If good ones were advertised as thoroughly as automobiles are, there would be a market for them. The reading habit would be promoted, and the book trade would flourish.

—NOTICE—

After June 1, the County will pay no more bounties on Wolf and Cat scalps. W. H. Frazier, county Commissioner. tf

"FEVERS LEAVE COLON AFFECTED,"—PHYSICIAN

Typhoid Fever, Dingle, Influenza, Scarlet Fever, etc., often leave the patient with some form of Colitis, which if neglected results in kidney trouble, high blood pressure, rheumatism and even tuberculosis.

A physician discovered a preparation which will dissolve the food wastes in the Colon, heal the mucus lining where broken down and eliminate the accumulated poisons. It also aids digestion, keeps the kidneys regular and is absolutely harmless. It proved successful with hundreds of his patients and now FERRASAL can be purchased at your druggist's.

Take FERRASAL regularly night and morning for a month. It will do the work for YOU or your money refunded.

"Fever Left Me an Invalid."

"Dingle Fever left me with partial paralysis of my digestive and alimentary tract. I suffered greatly the past year and tried everything without relief. I was persuaded to try FERRASAL and got results from the first box. I can now eat anything and my general health is excellent. JOHN A. WOOD. 207 Slaughter Bldg., Dallas, Texas."

THE FREIGHT RATE QUESTION

It is claimed that the present level of freight rates absorbs a big part, and sometimes about all, of the return that the farmers get for their products, and that the farms can not be prosperous until these rates are reduced. It is claimed that these rates are based on valuations of railroad property that are much in excess of what the railroads ever cost.

The opposite point of view urges that the railroads are not making much money, their average return being less rather than more than six per cent, and that to secure the capital necessary to keep these roads running well, they must be permitted to earn more than they earn now rather than less. It is pointed out that if the roads are not profitable, they will not provide adequate equipment. The farmer who can't get his produce to market on time owing to inadequate equipment, is in a worse hole than if he merely has to pay too high a rate.

EXTRA SPECIALS

IN OUR READY-TO-WEAR AND MILLINERY DEPARTMENTS

<p>Three dozen Canton Crepe Dresses Values up to \$37.50 Only \$15.95</p> <p>One Lot Ladies' Coat Suits, values from \$22.50 to \$37.50 only \$19.75</p> <p>One Lot Linen and Voile Dresses, Regular \$5.95 values only \$4.49</p>	<p>One lot Ladies' Hats values up to \$7.95 end of season Sale only \$1.98</p> <p>One lot Ladies' Gold Medal and Quaker pattern Hats, values up to \$9.75 end of season sale only \$3.95</p> <p>One lot Gold Medal Pattern Hats, values up to \$14.50 end season sale only \$4.95</p>
---	--

Special prices on all Childrens Voile and Linen Dresses

20 PER CENT DISCOUNT ON ALL MID-SUMMER-HATS

A. C. ROSE,

Dry Goods

Also it is pointed out that the valuation on which the roads are basing their rates are not as a rule found to be excessive by the interstate commerce commission.

There is one way in which these diverging views could be compromised, and that is by a general readjustment of the rates, by which the charges for carrying bulky stuff like farm products could be reduced, while the revenue should be kept up to the present level by higher charges on certain luxuries and manufactured products.

The Senate has passed a resolution directing the interstate commerce commission to re-adjust freight rates to relieve any basic industry suffering from depression, particularly agriculture. Such a readjustment may be the only way to solve this problem. Other products could probably bear the burden of high freight rates better than farm stuff, which is the most basic essential of life.

HOTEL FOR SALE

The Woodrum Hotel is for sale or trade for good farm. For particulars see G. W. Boyce. tf

Baraca-Philathea Picnic

Tuesday afternoon at six-thirty the members of the Baraca and Philathea classes gathered at the Methodist church to go on a picnic. The picnic was given by these two classes honoring the members who were teachers in the public school and who were leaving the next day for their respective homes.

After all had arrived at a pretty place on Mulberry, the picnic supper, consisting of every thing one could think of good to eat, was spread. Many games were enjoyed after the feast and a pleasant time in general was had.

Measuring Party.

Miss Lois Leslie entertained the members of the Intermediate League at her home last Tuesday evening with a measuring party. As the guests arrived, Miss Leslie measured their height, charging two pennies for every foot and a penny for every inch over a foot. The money is to go to the treasury of the League.

Outdoor games of various kinds were enjoyed for a time, after which refreshments of sandwiches, ice tea, and cake were served.

Those attending this party were: Inice Brown, Tommie Durham, Sallie Brown, Ermalee Rea Juanita Beene, Anna Lou Russel, Gladys Milliken, Intha Bird, Eva Mae Johnson, Stella Wilson, T. J. Beidleman, Mamie Coats, Mary Hutcheson, Gladys Watts, Orpah Patterson, Pauline Chinn W. L. Harkrider, Alfred Tittle, Lois Leslie, hostess.

Dodges! A 32x3½ new, fresh, first quality Vacuum Cup Fabric Tire \$13.50. West Co. tf

Dodges! Buicks! A 33x4 new, fresh, first quality Vacuum Cup Fabric Tire for \$14.00. West Company. tf

The Weekly Prayermeeting

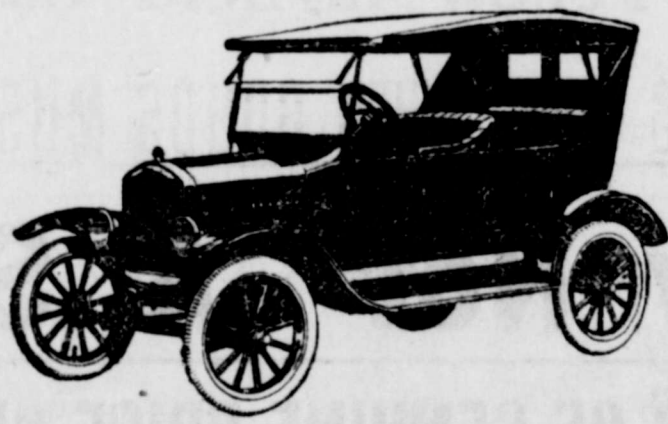
The prayermeeting will meet with Mrs. Mack Busbee, Wednesday at three o'clock.

Song, How Firm a Foundation. Prayer, Mrs. Joe Harris. Scripture, Ezekiel 34:11-16; 25: 26, Mrs. Busbee. Lesson, Ezekiel encourages the Exiles.

1. Fales Sheppard, Mrs. Lamar.
2. The Flock of God, Mrs. King.
3. Showers of blessing, Mrs. Elliott.
4. The Watchman of Israel Mrs. Sears.
5. Gracious blessings promised, Mrs. Allday
6. A sign to the nations, Mrs. Estes.
7. The good Sheppard, by Mrs. Causseaux. Prayer, Mrs. Mack Busbee. Song, Blessed Assurance. 14th chapter 1st. Cor., Mrs. Meeks. Prayer, Mrs. Causseaux. Song, He included me. Lesson in Exodus, Mrs. Allday. Prayer, Mrs. Tatum. Song, Gathering Home. Dismissed with the Lords Prayer.

Ford Trucks! A new, fresh, first quality 32x4½ Vacuum Cup Cord Tire for \$16.00. West Company. tf

Quite a lot of damage has been done by Hail to crops. Better have W. O. Boney write you Hail Insurance. 28t2



Every Motoring Need At Lowest Cost

The Ford Touring Car meets every motoring requirement at the lowest possible cost. It is sturdy, dependable, long lived; easy to drive; convenient to park—and possesses the highest resale value in proportion to list price, of any car built.

Ford Motor Company
Detroit, Michigan

Runabout \$265 Coupe \$325 Tudor Sedan \$390
Fordor Sedan \$685 All prices f. o. b. Detroit

SEE THE NEAREST AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER

Ford
THE UNIVERSAL CAR

The Touring Car

\$295

F. O. B. Detroit
Demountable Rims
and Starter \$85 extra

You can buy any model by making a small down-payment and arranging easy terms for the balance. Or you can buy on the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan. The Ford dealer in your neighborhood will gladly explain both plans in detail.

CITY FURNITURE COMPANY

HIGH GRADE PIANOS, NEW AND USED FURNITURE BOUGHT AND SOLD AND EXCHANGED.

Cross Street From Post Office

JOE GARLAND, MGR.

MERKEL, TEXAS.

The Merkel Mail

Published on Friday Morning by
The Merkel Mail Printing Co.
Thos. Durham, Editor-Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 YEAR.
In Advance

TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Mer-
kel, Texas as second class mail.

The women folks may not see
the political information very
thoroughly, but they could pass
an examination on the fashion
news.

While many men can't tell
whether the tax bill has passed
or not, they know who is lead-
ing the major leagues.

One of the motorists are as-
sisting the highway marking
movement by running into trees
and making deep scars thereon.

The people are warned to
keep their feet on the ground,
but the aviators and fox trot-
ters don't seem to heed this in-
junction very well.

Individual ability makes great
men shining lights, but it is
mass cooperation of energetic
men of civic spirit, home pride
and community enterprise that
builds a town's progress and
prosperity.

It is claimed that the schools
cost too much, but not many
people are found who know any
too much.

Better Homes Week is being
celebrated, while the sports
seem determined to celebrate
Wetter Homes Week.

If the householder's grass
grows slowly, he curses the poor
soil. And if it grows fast, he
curses the necessity of having
to mow frequently.

The irreverent young people
who refer to Dad as "Old Bean"
will pretty soon be calling him
Old Cabbage.

The poultry situation is be-
ing carefully studied by the
chicken thieves who are investi-
gating the location of the chick-
en houses.

A man was struck by lighten-
ing on a Cleveland golf links
while carrying iron golf clubs.
This won't deter anyone from
playing golf, but it may suggest
to some that it is dangerous to
handle a hoe.

If the average American
man and woman would only
think a little more what a dif-
ference there would be in this
old world. Most of the ailments
and troubles is the cause of un-
thoughtfulness.

The citizens of Midland on
last Wednesday voted \$69,000
with which to install in that
thriving West Texas town a
modern sewer system. At the
same election they also voted
\$25,000.00 for water extension
bonds. The vote for these two
issues were more than two to
one in favor of the bonds.

A genuine feeling of fellow-
ship and friendliness was man-
ifested in the meeting of the
Merkel Luncheon Club on last
Tuesday evening. Those present
seemed to enjoy the opportunity
of meeting and mingling with
their competitors and other
business associates in a way that
means cooperation, and by co-
operation people build cities.

Slaton on last Saturday voted
\$50,000.00 in sewer extension
bonds. To vote such a large sum
of money for the extension of
sewers undoubtedly means that
those heretofore having such
conveniences are pleased with
same, and that a sewer is a suc-
cess, or those who have not had
such connection would not have
voted to have such extensions
made.

Merkel will be just as good a
town, just as clean and inviting
as the citizenship make it. No
better, no worse.

President Coolidge is
shown in a picture carrying a
large cane. It might accomplish
useful results if knocked on the
heads of the congressmen.

The meeting of the Merkel
Luncheon Club on last Tuesday
evening marked one of the most
successful and enthusiastic ever
held by the citizenship of Mer-
kel. There was every assurance
and sign of cooperation mani-
fested by those present.

The schools have closed and
now the parents have the prob-
lem of what to do with the boys
and girls during vacation. And
parents should give the question
serious thought, for the welfare
of the boys and girls are en-
titled to their serious thought.

Taxes are high, maybe too
high. But many men who fif-
teen years ago paid some fifteen
dollars in taxes, and at that
time their income was possibly
from \$500.00 to \$1,000, where-
as today they pay \$100.00 in
taxes, but their income for the
last few years averages from
\$5,000 to \$10,000. And still they
are not satisfied.

If you have never attended a
meeting of th Merkel Luncheon
Club you have been missing
some real treats in the way of
good talks along lines of making
this a better town in which to
live, as well as the best ways of
bringing to this city a larger
volume of trade, all of which will
in the end help to advance the
value of every man's home and
business property.

There are several things that
must be done by the city as a
whole or possibly by voluntary
effort of property owners, in
order to brighten up one's home
city. And one is adequate tree
planting along the streets. If a
street has handsome homes and
no trees, it will not present so
winning an appearance as a
street with much less expensive
homes, but which has softened
its angles and brought in a bit
of romantic nature by planting
trees.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Some people give more
thought, time and attention to
the care and protection of their
stock than to their boys and
girls. They are willing to spend
money in the care of thir stock,
because they expect to reap a
profit from the investment,
whereas to spend something to-
ward equipping and preparing
their boys and girls for the fu-
ture trials of life, they seldom
figure there will be a financial
return. Then they wonder why
the boys and girls are going to
the eternal bow-wows.

Anson, the County Seat of
Jones county, for the last ten
years considered one of the
deadest towns in this section of
the country, is now said to be
one of the fastest growing lit-
tle cities in the west. They
have during the last year added
sewer and paving in the city,
and the business men have been
looking wisely and persistently
toward building into that city
good roads from every direc-
tion. And the result is that today
many new and beautiful brick
business houses as well as hand-
some homes are being built.
Good towns do not grow by hap-
pen so; they are built and made
good towns by the progressive
and cooperative spirit of the
citizenship making up the pop-
ulation.

Samuel Yancey, of Rock Is-
land, Ill, visited his sister, Mrs.
Cynthia Pinckley and Uncles,
Messrs. J. B. and W. F. Hamblet
this week. He had not seen his
sister in twenty years and his
Uncles in forty years, and his
visit was indeed very pleasant
and agreeable to all concerned.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

\$125 SCHOLARSHIP FREE

For Name and address of any
graduate of our \$125 course
that we cannot place in \$125 a
month position within ten days.
Ten times as many calls as grad-
uates. Position contract and cat-
alogue No. 7 free. Write today.
**Draughon's Practical Business
College, Abilene, Texas.**

Mrs. L. B. Scott, accompanied
by her son, Burneal, and Ross
Ferrier Jr., left first of the week
for a visit with relatives at Ar-
lington.

Mr. John R. Covey of Lovin-
ton, New Mexico, formerly a
teacher in the Merkel schools
stopped here for a few days visit
first of the week.

Roy Brown is home this week
from Arlington, where he has
been attending the North Texas
Agricultural College the past
term.

Mrs. J. B. Steele and children
of Devol, Oklahoma, were here
last week guests of the former's
parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P.
Browning.

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher of
Lamesa are here this week to
attend the graduation exercises
and to visit their daughter, Mrs.
Len Sublett.

We are glad to learn that Mr.
T. R. Lassiter, who has been
quite ill at his home near the
city for some time, is now im-
proving nicely, and will soon be
up and about again.

C. N. Stubblefield and family
left this week for their new
home in the southern part of
Mitchell county. They are indeed
fine folks and the Mail regrets
that they have decided to leave
the community.

W. O. Boney writes Hail In-
surance on growing crops. 2342

RAGS WANTED

Clean, white, cotton RAGS
wanted NOW at Merkel Mail
Office.



50c per box at Merkel Drug Co.

Believed in Books

Even at an early age Andrew Car-
negie believed in books. The im-
pulse to found libraries—so we learn
from Mr. A. B. Farquhar in the "First
Million the Hardest"—came to him
when he was only a messenger boy.
Early one morning, says Mr. Far-
quhar, Carnegie was sent with a dis-
patch to Mr. Anderson, the steel mas-
ter of Allegheny, with instructions to
wait for an answer. Mr. Anderson had
returned late the night before, and the
butler said he could not wake him.
Young Carnegie walked into the li-
brary, and became immersed in a vol-
ume on steel making and the tremen-
dous advantages of steel over iron.
When Mr. Anderson finally came down
with his answer the boy turned and
apologized for having taken the book.
Mr. Anderson asked whether he was
interested in steel. "Oh, yes, it is
fascinating to me," Carnegie replied.
"Take the book home and read it, and
return it when you are through with
it," said Mr. Anderson. Carnegie did
so, and was told to take another; then
Mr. Anderson said he might have ac-
cess to the library. Carnegie then and
there made up his mind that if he ever
became wealthy he would found li-
braries, and give young men the same
opportunity that he was enjoying.

Ripening

It is one of the charms of art that
it is not to be completely understood.
In an age in which so high a value is
put upon facts, information, positive
knowledge, it is a relief to have still
reserved to us a place apart where it
is not necessary to know all. . . .
The truth of art . . . does not seem
to be all known, finished and finally
stated, but on the contrary to be ever
growing, more rich in significance,
more profound in substance, disclosing
heaven over heaven and depth under
depth. The greatest books share our
lives, and grow old with us; we read
them over and over, and at each decade
it is a new book that we find there,
so much has it gained in meaning
from experience of life, from ripening
judgment, from the change of seasons
in the soul.—George E. Woodberry, in
"The Heart of Man and Other Papers."

PERSONALS

Judge N. D. Cobb left last Fri-
day for Waco on a business trip.

Miss Hattie Conoway return-
ed to her home at Colorado Tues-
day.

Mason Pee and wife of Lawn
were here last week end visit-
ing relatives.

Mr. Zedic Johnson returned
Sunday from a brief stay in
Dallas.

G. R. Holloway and family
left via car for a visit to Honey
Grove, Tenn., last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Thomas an-
nounce the birth of a baby
daughter born last Thursday.

FOR RENT—Good five-room
house. See P. C. Jones for par-
ticulars. 1tp

Mrs. Robert N. Campbell visit-
ed in Eastland, Ranger and Fort
Worth this week.

Mrs. F. A. Polly returned Sun-
day night from a weeks visit to
relatives at Dallas, Texas.

Attorney Frank E. Smith and
wife were here Monday visiting
Mr. Smith's father.

Misses Compere, Harrison and
Scott returned to their homes at
Abilene Monday.

Mrs. Earl Thornton and child-
ren of Lamesa are here this
week to visit relatives.

Mrs. S. F. Annis returned re-
cently from a visit to relatives
at Roscoe.

Mr. Jud Sheppard of Brown-
field, Texas, is here this week
to visit with his family.

M. E. Witt, formerly a teach-
er in the Merkel schools, now
of Lubbock, was here a few days
visiting with relatives last week.

Mrs. W. L. Harkrider is hav-
ing put down in front of her
home this week nice concrete
sidewalks and burbing, which
adds much to the already splen-
did appearance of this fine
home.

S. S. Harris, formerly in the
lumber business here, but now
of Fort Stockton, is visiting his
friends here.

Miss Bonnie Duke left for her
home Tuesday at Abilene. She
was one of the teachers in the
Merkel Schools.

Messrs. A. T. Sheppard, Judge
Cummings and Judge W. W.
Wheeler attended court at Abi-
lene Monday.

Mr. Dick Cypert of Port Ar-
thur is here for a brief visit to
his parents, Rev. and Mrs. W.
G. Cypert.

Judge N. D. Cobb returned
first of the week from Waco,
where he had been on legal busi-
ness.

Carlos D. Speck and wife of
Abilene were here Monday night
to hear Dr. P. W. Horn speak at
the Methodist church.

Mrs. Twyman Collins left last
week for east Texas where she
will visit relatives for some
time.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Roby,
were here the first part of the
week visiting in the M. D. Dan-
iel home.

Miss Hattie Marie Harris of
Abilene, formerly of Merkel, was
visiting in Merkel first of this
week.

Mr. John Sears and family
left Tuesday via auto for a visit
to relatives at Dallas, Sherman
and Whitewright, Texas.

Miss Mae Collins returned
home first of the week from Big
Spring, Texas where she taught
school the past year.

Mr. Charlie Christopher and
wife of Lamesa, Texas, are here
this week visiting in the home
of Mrs. Len Sublett.

Miss Josie Smith will leave
soon for Denton, where she will
attend the summer school at
C. I. A.

B. F. Cox and family of Abi-
lene were here Sunday the
guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E.
Boaz.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

**COZY
THEATRE**

Friday and Saturday
May 30th and 31st.



A vivid, Relastic Drama of life
and, adventure and love among
hard fighting sea men. It is the
greatest story ever screened.

ALSO—

"ROARING LIONS"

A William Fox sunshine comedy
in two reels.

S. A. Derstine and family
have this week moved out to
their fine farm near town, the
schools having closed last week.

Miss Audie Ripley of Coman-
che, Texas, spent the week end
with her friend, Miss Ella Mur-
len Weed of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jameson
of Abilene spent the week end
with Mrs. Jameson's brother,
Mr. W. E. Weed.

Mr. Ed. Ash returned last
Saturday from Dallas, where he
has been under treatment of
specialists.

Misses Annie Bickley and Ga-
nevra Middleton will leave on
Thursday for San Marcos, where
they will attend summer school
at the San Marcos Normal.

Eld W. G. Cypert will go to
Rotan this week where on Sun-
day he will fill his regular ap-
pointment with the church of
Christ in that city.

"That Fellow Mayfield" Says---

THE TIME HAS COME WHEN GOODS MUST BE SOLD

"Why Not" A Sale?

15 DAYS OF GENUINE PRICE CUTTING

From Thursday, May 29, To Saturday, June

14, Inclusive

\$300. In Gold Absolutely Free

\$20.00 GIVEN AWAY EACH DAY OF SALE

(Read Circulars for full Details)

To See Is to Buy—COME!

"WHY NOT?"

HUBBARD'S

SWEETWATER, TEXAS

LUNCHEON CLUB MEET GROWS IN ENTHUSIASM

(Continued from page One)

about their premises before the big general town clean-up, that the city's wagons would make a tour of the city beginning on next week, and would haul off any rubbish and trash that may be piled out near or in the alleys where same could be easily reached by the teams.

And the Mayor also stressed the value and importance of a general house to house clean-up, paint-up etc., and stated that he would like to see every home in the city clean-up and paint-up, and that where people were able he hoped that they would go ahead immediately and do so. "It was also urged that there be a "Buy a Bucket of Paint" move started and those citizens who are able are urged to put in sidewalks and curbing about their homes.

The next question discussed was the value of the "Trade Trips" wherein the business people go out to the different school communities and mix and mingle with the people of each community, putting on interesting programs. Mr. Bragg very ably presented this question, after which a committee composed of Messrs T. G. Bragg, E. Yates Brown, H. L. Propst, Eli Case, Bob Dennis and Jas. A. Patterson, was appointed to arrange and plan the first trade trip.

There were also present several influential citizens from Noodle, among whom we noticed Messrs. C. T. Derrick, T. C. Jenkins, W. J. Bicknell, Gene Spurgin and Mr. Byrd, as well as County Commissioner Baker, from the Noodle precinct, who discussed the question of better roads leading to Merkel from Noodle, and which is expected to be worked out between the Noodle citizens and members of the Luncheon Club.

The Club also had as guests Messrs Judge E. R. Cockrell, J. N. Hodges and J. M. Stevenson, all of Abilene, and all of whom made interesting talks.

And the last, but by no means least, was the splendid songs by a quartet composed of Messrs. R. L. Grimes, L. B. Scott, E. Yates Brown and Mr. McLeod, which were highly appreciated by all.

Mrs. S. F. Annis returned last week from a pleasant visit with friends and relatives at Roscoe.

W. O. McCrary and wife of Spurr were here last week, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. L. B. Scott.

THE ATTACK ON WEALTH

Many people who have acquired wealth are feeling uncomfortable nowadays, as they hear the constant attack made on people who have money. The rich are accused of various offences. They are said to live in lavish ease, while the masses of the people toil and strive for a bare living, carrying heavy burdens without prospect of relief.

Also it is charged that the wealthy people are largely responsible for wars, that they get the country into these troubles as the result of striving after commercial expansion in foreign lands.

Many people have acquired bitter feeling against persons of wealth, and their prejudice stands out in all that they say and write. They overlook the generous acts of many kind hearted people of wealth, who are doing a great deal to relieve misfortune. They also overlook the heavy responsibilities carried by business men, many of whom are working harder than their employes in their effort to maintain their business and pay good wages.

The best way to remove such prejudices is to demonstrate that they are wrong by generous and far sighted policies.

The time has gone by when a man should say in regard to his business, "This is my business and I have a right to do with it just as I choose". The community has given him certain opportunities, feeling that this chance to accumulate wealth will work for the public advantage. If in any case it is not so handled as to work for the good of the community, the holder of the wealth in that case has not lived up to his end of the tacit agreement. Unless he acts so generously and kindly that his operations are beneficial to the community, he is likely to arouse so much antagonism as to menace his material prosperity.

Misses Madge Pierce and Marie Williamson, for the past two years very capable teachers in the Merkel High School, left Wednesday for their respective homes. The former to Houston and the latter to Victoria. These young ladies were not only capable and popular in their school work, but had become quite popular throughout the church and social life of the community, and by their splendid traits of character, won a large circle of loving friends who regret that they will not return to Merkel next year to teach in our schools because of the fact that they have been offered positions at greatly increased salaries.

TEACHING PATRIOTISM

The annual Memorial day for the commemoration of the soldiers has had a wonderful effect on the national life, thru the opportunity it has given for the teaching of patriotism. For many years the veterans of the Civil war have done a great piece of work, in visiting the schools at this time. They won the interest of the children by telling their personal experiences in the war, and then went on to say words that few youngsters ever forget, expressing their feeling for their country.

They have appealed with success to the sentiment of youth that admires the daring and devotion of the soldier. The veterans of the World war will no doubt take up this task of patriotic instruction which the Civil war veterans have conducted so well for many years.

An Outing and Fish Fry

On last Friday evening, at about six-thirty, a party of young people met and enjoyed a very delightful evening on the beautiful and picturesque little stream, Mulberry, by having a fish fry.

Just as the evening rays of the sun were sinking on the western horizon, and the beautiful rays were putting the finishing colorful touches to the azure blue sky, a fire was built, and an old time fish fry was enjoyed by the following:

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Cox, Mrs. Milliken, J. S. Thomas, Rosie Laney, Murphy Thomas, Ethel Wilson, Tom Allday, Wilbur Thomas and Dick Coleman.

After every one enjoyed the evening dinner, all were again back in town. Every one seemed to enjoy the occasion very much, at least, all were asking, "when are we to have another feast?"

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Brundon and little son of Brownwood were guests at Mrs. L. A. Blackburn's residence last Sunday. Claude Brundon is a son of Mrs. Effie Atwood. Mr. and Mrs. Houston Martin served dinner and ice cream for the guests. Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Joans family, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Reynolds and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cargill and family, Mrs. Will Butman, Miss Lottie Butman were guests at the Houston Martin residence last Sunday and all had an enjoyable time.

Judge E. S. Cummings returned Thursday from a trip to Gorman, Eastland and Cisco, where he had been in the interest of clients.

**--BARROWS--
— Big Rug Sale —**

- 9x12 Axminster (seamed) - - \$24.75
- 9x12 Axminster (seamless) - - \$26.75
- 9x12 Winter (Velvet) - - - \$39.25
- 9x12 Tapestry (seamless) - - \$19.85
- 9x12 Brussels (seamless) - - \$18.45

SEE THESE RUGS IN OUR SHOW WINDOW

BARRGW Furniture Co.

A FINAL ARGUMENT

A customer of a big New York bank had renewed his note twice and upon the last occasion had promised the banker positively that he would pay it when the term expired. However, when the day of payment was drawing near, the customer came in and asked that it be renewed again. The banker told him that it was impossible to grant his request and reminded him of his promise to pay.

"For how long is it you have been in the banking beezness?" inquired the borrower.

"I have been a banker for over twenty years," replied the president.

"Sure; but before that you was in some utter beezness, yes?"

"I have never been in any other business," said the banker with dignity.

"Vell," observed the applicant for a renewal, "ef you kennot renew dot note you vill be tomorrow morning in der retail clothing beezness."

Mrs. T. M. Peppins of Mabank was a guest of her niece, Mrs. E. L. Turner last Sunday, while enroute to Coahoma for a visit with other relatives.

Mr. D. O. Huddleston left first of the week for a business trip to Bell county.

Mr. G. F. Ryner, of route two, was here recently and reported fine rains, crops up and growing nicely. Mr. Ryner has been residing in this community for the past four years, and states that he is well pleased and has enjoyed good health and a fair share of prosperity since coming here.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Schindler, who have been here for some time guests of their son, Mr. J. W. Schindler, racket store dealer, left this week for their home at Shiner, Texas.

THE LEFT TURN

One of the causes of automobile accidents in city and town centers is the habit of cutting corners in making a turn to the left. A motorist coming to an intersection often thinks that if he can slip over to the left hand side and avoid going around the central intersecting point, he will not have to reduce speed so much. Many hurrying drivers thus avoid the correct turn because it is a bit slower.

But the result is that other drivers and pedestrians do not know what to depend on. They were not looking for that car at the place where it suddenly appears, often going far too fast for that situation.

Automobile drivers should learn to follow the rules of safe operation because then other people will know what they are going to do, and can avoid them more easily. Then seconds gained in cutting a corner may mean 10 days for some one in a hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Case and son, Milton, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Richardson and children, Thos. Durham and family, and Sie Hamm enjoyed a picnic on Mulberry on Wednesday evening.

The Mail is in receipt of a letter from J. Pierce Horton of Plainview, enclosing the price of a subscription to the paper and among other things states that he is well pleased with the Plainview country, but just could not get along without the Mail, his "old home paper." Thanks Mr. Horton.

Judge E. R. Cockrell and Judge J. M. Stevenson, both of Abilene, the former one of the pioneers of the West, and the latter a candidate for County Judge of Taylor county, were visitors at the Luncheon Club meeting in Merkel last Tuesday evening. Both the gentlemen made interesting and appreciated talks before the club.

BANKS TO CLOSE

The two splendid banks of this city announce that their doors will be closed today (Friday) also next Tuesday, both days being legal holidays. Their patrons are asked to take note of same and be governed accordingly.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Semi-Finish or Family washing, everything included except silk and woolen material. Ten pound minimum at 10c per lb. Eighty per cent ready to wear.

Finished work and cleaning and pressing our specialty. One day service on cleaning six days out of every week. Leave at West's, Petty's of City, Barber Shop, or phone 218. Alfred H. Ligon, agent Abilene Laundry Company. tf

FOR CAR OWNERS

An advantageous purchase of new, fresh, first quality Vacuum Cup Tires enables us to offer certain popular sizes at prices about one half what others ask. Look over the list, if you can use any of the sizes, come in and let us show you.

32x4 1/2 Vacuum Cup Cord \$16.00
32x3 1/2 Vacuum Cup fabric 13.50
33x4 Vacuum Cup fabric 14.00
WEST COMPANY tf

HOTEL FOR SALE

The Woodrum Hotel is for sale or trade for good farm. For particulars see G. W. Boyce. tf

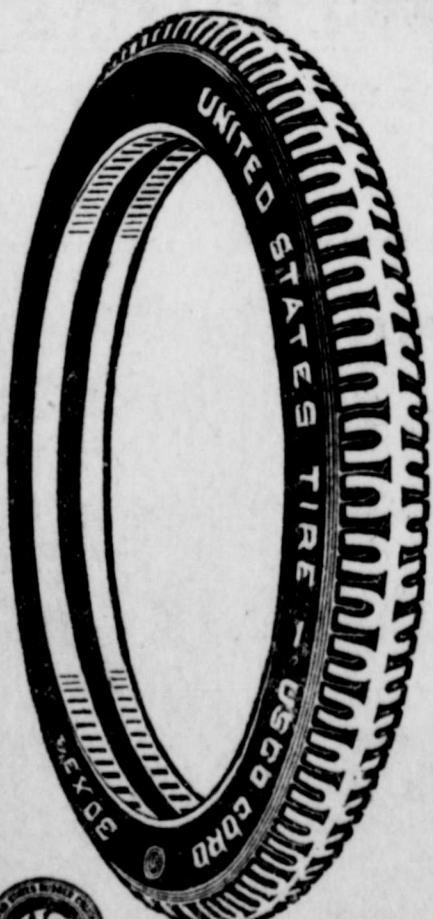
FIELD SEED

All kinds of field seed, Hay, Hulls, and all kinds of grain. Also improved Spurr Fetireta seed. Gazzaway & Polly Feed Store. Phone 161. tf

Stationery with your name and address or Monogram printed on both envelopes and paper. See Blanche Durham at Merkel Mail Office. tf

UNITED STATES TIRES ARE GOOD TIRES

USCO CORD



USCO Cords have established a new standard in high-value tire equipment at a medium price.

The new patented latex treatment of the cords gives them strength and wearing qualities that mean many added miles of service.

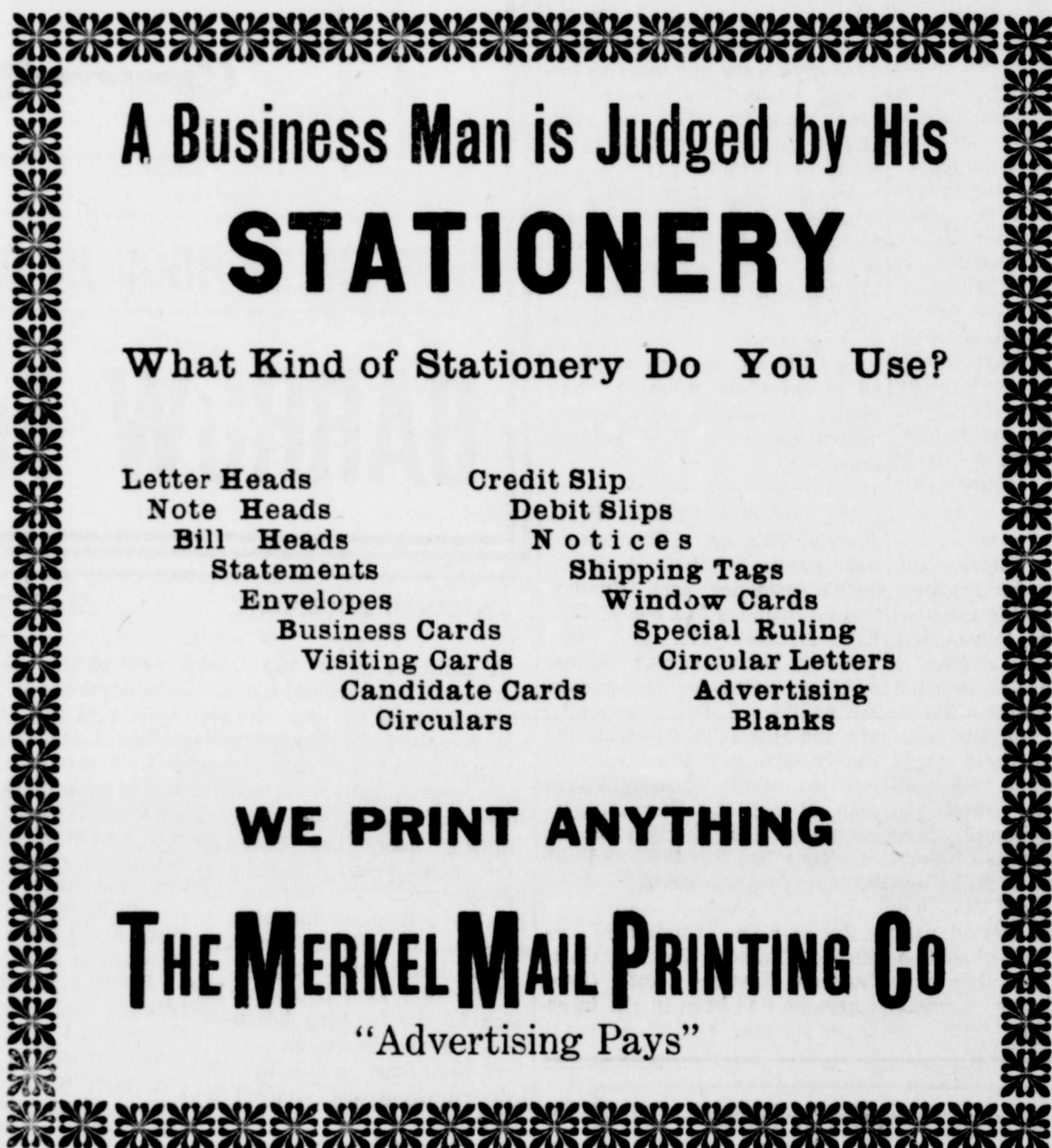
The easy steering, yet sure gripping non-skid tread, means ease of handling—traction safety.

Made in 30 x 3 as well as 30 x 3 1/2 inch clincher and in all straight-side sizes.

U. S. Tires are the only tires in the world made of cords solutioned in raw rubber latex

Buy USCO Cords from

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION
MERKEL, TEXAS



A Business Man is Judged by His **STATIONERY**

What Kind of Stationery Do You Use?

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Letter Heads | Credit Slip |
| Note Heads | Debit Slips |
| Bill Heads | Notices |
| Statements | Shipping Tags |
| Envelopes | Window Cards |
| Business Cards | Special Ruling |
| Visiting Cards | Circular Letters |
| Candidate Cards | Advertising |
| Circulars | Blanks |

WE PRINT ANYTHING

THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING CO

"Advertising Pays"

Announcements

For State Representative:
JOHN N. HODGE
 For District Clerk:
J. K. FULLER,
Mrs. LAURA COOK MITCHELL
J. E. McPHERSON
 For County Judge:
CARLOS D. SPECK,
J. M. STEVENSON
 For County Treasurer:
AUSTIN FITZ
 County Attorney
FRANK E. SMITH
T. M. WILLIS
ROY L. DUKE
 For Tax Collector:
D. T. HARKRIDER,
ED. DICKERSON,
R. A. McCLAIN
 For Tax Assessor:
J. T. HOWARD
JOE T. PERRY
(MRS) FLORENCE VANCE
 For County Clerk:
W. E. BEASLEY
 For Sheriff:
H. T. O'BAR
JOHN S. BOND
R. G. (Bob) ANDERSON
 For County School Supt.
M. A. WILLIAMS
 (Re-election)
 For Commissioner:
T. R. LASSITER
CHARLES P. STEVENS
PHILLIP A. DILTZ
HENRY R. HICKS
JOHN S. HUGHES
 For Public Weigher:
C. L. TUCKER
 (Re-election)
JONES COUNTY AN-
NOUNCEMENTS
 For County Commissioner, Pre.4
SAM L. GRAYSON

NOTICE

My place and Martin place I have leased is Posted. No boys are allowed to hunt or go in the tank, and will be prosecuted if trespassing. S. G. Russell. tf



FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR TRADE—90 1/2 acre farm in Hamilton county, to sell or trade for Merkel property, or exchange for small farm near Merkel. See W. S. Telford, Merkel Tex. 9t4

HOTEL FOR SALE

The Woodrum Hotel is for sale or trade for good farm. For particulars see G. W. Boyce. tf

FOR SALE—The Taylor County Farm is for sale. See W. F. Frazier Commissioner from this precinct. tf

Scholarship for Sale

Miss Ouida Campbell has for sale an \$80.00 Scholarship in the Draughon's Business College of Abilene, and any one who is in need of a scholarship now, or anticipate attending this or any other Business College, will do well to see Miss Ouida Campbell at once. It will pay you to see her. tf

FOR SALE—Beautiful and in- expensive Stationery with either your name and address or your Monogram printed on both envelopes and paper. A box containing 200 sheets of paper and 100 envelopes makes an excellent gift for a graduate, for a birthday, for Christmas, for Easter, or for wedding present. Let Blanche Durham show you the samples of this wonderful Stationery at the Merkel Mail Office. tf

FOR SALE—Nearly new, Lloyd Baby Carriage, at a bargain. Phone 146 for particulars. 1tp

FOR SALE—Will have plenty of Berries after this week at my farm one and one-half miles of Clyde. We pick Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Wesley Hardy. 30t2

The people are laboring under deep emotion may merely have been partaking or home brew.

PROFESSIONAL

PILES CURED
 No Knife, No Pain, No detention from work.
DR. E. E. COCKRELL
 Rectal and Skin Specialist
 Phone 359 Abilene, Texas
 139 Chestnut Street

THOS. C. WILSON
 The Jeweler
 Watches, Clocks and Jewelry Repaired
 All Work Guaranteed
 Located at Merkel Drug Co.

DR. R. I. GRIMES
 Physician and Surgeon
 Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m.
 Phones 105-163 Res. 165

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

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

W. W. WHEELER
 Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent.
 Notary Public.
 Office over Crown Hardware Co.
 Merkel —:— Texas

BRS. LEGGETT & MATHEWS
 Practice Limited to
EYE, EAR, NOSE & THROAT
 Lurline Bldg., Abilene, Texas

FOR SALE—A course in Ty- ler Commercial College. Worth \$60.00, but if sold at once, will go at a bargain. This is absolutely one of the best Commercial Colleges in the south. For particulars, about this scholarship see the Merkel Mail or Mr. C. W. Seago, Trent, Rt.2. 16t4p

New Hay—Have baled wheat now—Expect to cut Johnson and Oats about 10 days. Swafford, south side, phone 44. 1t

WANTED
RAGS. No ducking, cotton bagging, or the sort accepted. Good Price. Merkel Mail Press Room.

FOR RENT
FOR RENT—Furnished rooms for rent. See Mrs. W. A. McSpadden. 1t

LOST
\$10.00 REWARD—For Avery Harrow, brand new, painted green, draw bar painted red, stolen out of my field night of May 26th, 2 1/2 miles southeast of Noodle. See R. L. Crick. 1tp

WANTED
WANTED—A large family chop cotton and hoe feed. Have a good house to furnish. See Roy Harrell, Rt. 4. 1tp

WANTED—Clean, white Cotton Lee Meeks' Home Laundry—Enemy of Dirt. All work guaranteed. Give us a trial. Telephone No. 101. 16t3p

MISCELLANEOUS

New Hay—Have baled wheat now—Expect to cut Johnson and Oats about 10 days. Swafford southside, phone 44. 1t

Intermediate League Program
 Subject: Summer Religion.
 Leader: Robert Mayfield.
 Song service.
 Scripture: Gal. 6:9-10; 1 Cor. 15:58. Prayer.
 Duet: Anna Lou Russell and Stella Wilson.
 Vacation religion, W. L. Harkrider.
 What vacation should mean, by Gladys Milliken.
 Reading, Juanita Beene.
 Keeping the League going in the summer time, Mamie Coats.
 Business; Benediction.

Dawson Fancy Egg Coal— Best Colorado Lump—McAlester Lump—give us your summer orders and save money. Swafford South side, phone 44. 9t4.



John & Truett
 MY TWO JACKS

Will make the season at my barn on Bitter Creek, four and one half miles north of Merkel.

TERMS \$10.00
 When colt stands up and sucks. I take the risk. If mare is sold or parted with or removed from neighborhood where bred, fee is due at once.

Lee Baker

Merkel, route 1 Phone 9004-R2

THE COMPETITIVE SYSTEM

The United States should adhere to the traditional policy of competitive private enterprise, said Mr. Barnes, head of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, in outlining the ideals of that organization at the opening of its annual meeting.

Many advanced philosophers will dissent from his statement. They feel that the competitive system is harsh on those who are beaten in the race, and that it must be succeeded by cooperation. Also they claim that as a matter of fact, competition has largely ceased to exist in many industries controlled by trusts or price agreements.

Up to a recent time, not many people denied the benefits of competition. Most people can recall cases where a single concern or a small group of people would have a monopoly of trade in a certain line in a certain locality, and where under those conditions this small group became too indifferent and too independent, inclined to charge too much or give poor service. But when competitors came in and began to bid for trade, then the old timers on the ground felt the need of waking up, and they did so. The result was beneficial all around.

Competition is one of the inevitable laws of the world, and the race seems to make progress in that way. The scientists say that it was struggle that produced evolution, and that same principle to-day works for the survival of the fittest in the business world. Those who give the best service are successful.

Even where monopolies have been established, there is usually some competition. Prices may be the same, but sellers compete to see which shall give the best goods. This principle of competition stirs people to their maximum of efficiency. It is hard to see how the community could thrive without it.

SIGNS BY THE WAYSIDE

The Eastland Chamber of Commerce has taken a leading part in the removal of signs from highways, according to the Texas Highway Bulletin. The business men of the town agreed to erect no more signs and to authorize the removal of those already along the roadside. The Highway Bulletin prints pictures of an Eastland County highway as it appeared with the signs and as it looks without these nuisances. It takes no artist's eye to decide for the removal as an improvement.

Other portions of the State are showing an interest in the abolition of signboards along the traveled ways. Local institutions are beginning to realize that the absence of the signs is more likely to appeal to the tourist than the presence of them. The man whose approach to a city is unobstructed by an intermittent wall of commercial appeal is likely to be much more in the mood of kindness toward that city than if he were treated to a sort of billboard alley all the way. No merchant would think of picketing the highway with personal representatives hired to molest the passers-by in the attempt to solicit their patronage. And yet that sort of picketing through impersonal representatives lines most of our roads leading into cities which otherwise cultivate an atmosphere of hospitality and courtesy toward wayfarers.

In Dallas County truckload after truckload of signs which were unlawfully erected on the right of way of county roads have been removed under the direction of State Highway Department officials. That is a form of relief which is of value, although it can not touch the posting of signs on private property with the consent of the owner. The intelligent cooperation of the signboard advertiser, therefore, must be enlisted if our lines of travel are to retain the beauties which the beneficence of the Almighty has provided them with. The action

of the Eastland merchants comes to us as a needed and timely encouragement in the effort to leave the comelines of the countryside uncluttered with the intrusions of commercialism.—Dallas News.

SHILOH HAPPENINGS

Farmers are all very busy planting. Some had to replant on account of the hail.

Mr. J. W. Pomroy is real sick. We hope he will soon be up again.

There was a large crowd from Shiloh attended the Mother's day program and singing at Golan Sunday.

Miss Irene Stanley visited Misses Vada and Alma Naron Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. Marshal Naron visited his brother, Mr. Henry Naron, Sunday.

W. R. Grayson and family spent Saturday night with C. J. W. Seago and family.

Mr. M. T. Rutledge, wife and baby were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Rutledge Sunday.

Mr. J. W. Hardy from Clyde has moved into our midst. We are sure glad to have him and his daughter, Miss Mollie, with us. Mr. Hardy several years ago lived in the Salt Branch community and he has many friends in that section.

Mrs. J. D. Barnes who some time ago got her arm broken, is still suffering with it. We trust it will soon be well.

The social held at the church on Saturday night the 17th, was attended by a large crowd, and a good time was had by all.

There will be Sunday School next Sunday. Every body come.

The Shiloh church only likes a few dollars being paid out, we sure thank each and every one who helped so willingly. Especially do we thank the good people of Merkel. We extend a welcome to all to come and be with us in our services.
 Brownie.

UNION RIDGE ITEMS

Health of this community is very good at present.

The farmers were delayed with their field work on account of the rain Sunday night.

Mr. Joe Suggs and wife, Mr. Harry Barnett and family spent

Sunday with Mr. H. C. Barnett and family.

Some few from Merkel came to Union Ridge Sunday to hear Bro. Pike preach.

Misses Nina McAninch and Mattie Lee Leon who are attending McMurry College spent the week end with Mr. Tom McAninch and family, Nina's parents.

Miss Pearl Skidmore spent the week end with Mr. E. C. Douglas and family on Sweetwater creek.

Mr. Lige Harris and family visited Mr. N. W. Blackwell and family Sunday.

Miss Mabel McRee and Miss Grace Bynum went to Abilene last Saturday to attend the Epworth League meeting.

Miss Lola Shelton spent Sunday night with Miss Mary Sue Newberry.

Messrs. Robert and Jesse Dows visited Messrs. James and Thomas Harris Sunday.

W. J. Douglas spent the week end with Philip and R. L. Skidmore.

There will be a children's program next Sunday night. Every one is invited to attend.

Mr. Walter Dubree and two sisters, Lillie and Minnie, visited Mr. Edward Blackwell and wife Sunday. Blue Bonnet

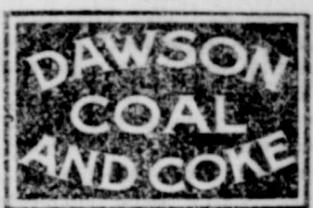
MATTRESS FACTORY

I now have my Mattress Factory located at my home two blocks due west of Guitar's Gin, and am ready to do your work in first class order. New beds made and old beds made new. J. T. Biggs. 30t2pd

NEW SHOE SHOP

A new Shoe Shop has been opened in the rear of the W. F. Hamblett Grocery Store, where your work will be well done and appreciated. 1tp

Mrs. Amy Sears and daughter, Boog, accompanied by Mrs. Geo. Brown left Tuesday morning for Denton, where they will visit for a few days. Mrs. Sears with her daughters, Boog and Mary Eulla, will visit in Dallas and Waco before coming home. Mrs. Brown will visit at Arlington before returning home.



Store Dawson Fancy Egg Coal and save \$1.00 per ton.

3x5 inches just the right size—Less slack—less soot. High in heat

SWAFFORD

South Side Phone 44

Silvertown means—highest quality, low cost, long service, —and finally— Tremendous satisfaction.

Goodrich Silvertown CORD

Woodrum Filling Station
 "BEST IN THE LONG RUN"

To cure constiveness the medicine must be more than a purgative; it must contain tonic, alterative and cathartic properties.

Tutt's Pills

possess these qualities, and speedily restore to the bowels their natural function.

Len Sublett

Water well Driller, all work guaranteed first-class.

Merkel, Texas

For All the Family

"WE have used Black-Draught ever since we have had a family and that was shortly after 1874," says Mr. E. A. Branstetter, of St. James, Mo. "It is my first remedy when any of us gets sick. . . . We use Black-Draught for torpid liver and stomach complaints.

"When I get sluggish and don't feel so good, I take Black-Draught—and you have to show me that there is a better medicine in Missouri. I think it is fine for indigestion or for headache. It is a splendid family remedy. My wife uses it for any stomach ailment, indigestion and biliousness. We never let the house be without it if I know it. We also give it to the children for children's complaints, colds or fever."

Keep a package of Black-Draught in the house for all the family.

Your dealer will sell you a mammoth package, containing five of the regular-size packages. It's cheaper.

Remember
 If It's Not Thedford's, It's Not

BLACK-DRAUGHT
 Vegetable Liver Medicine

HER EXILE

By JANE JORDAN

(Copyright, 1923, Western Newspaper Union.)

SHE came among them in strange reticence; tactfully aimed questions met with no success. There was a kind of haughtiness about the new resident which forbade intimacy. Later it was the exacting townsfolk who encouraged the coldness. Mrs. Gay was not desirable, they decided. True, her frocks in their modish good taste were superior, and the bungalow she had taken the finest in town.

There was craning of necks on Sunday when the remote neighbor attended service at the beautiful stone church, whose ancient date was registered on the doorpost. The organ was the pride of all. It was the gift of a now great musician who had come from Plainsville in his boyhood.

Rupert Rolf had repeatedly promised to return to his old home town to give an exhibition of his skill. The promise had been unrealized.

One day printed placards announced that the musician was to arrive that week in Plainsville; the following Sabbath he would play upon the gift organ in the beautiful church.

The placard in the store window seemed to scream at her with its red letters—Rupert Rolf! Rupert Rolf! And next Sabbath he was to play at the church she attended. Well, might she not still attend?

"Good-by," said the little girl; "my mamma would not want me to stop. Oh, Mrs. Gay, your eyes are wet."

Mrs. Gay laughed shakily. "Why, so they are," she said.

She wore a dark dress the day of Rupert Rolf's church recital. She went early to take her seat in the gallery, and sat palpitating throughout the preliminary opening of the service.

The minister explained that he was waiting, with little hope, the appearance of Rupert Rolf. The musician had not arrived in the town as expected, detained by engagements, but he had sent a letter, assuring his presence if possible, at the morning service.

The allotted time of waiting passed. The minister looked, smiling, over his people. "Our usual organist is out of town," he said. "I wonder if some one will not volunteer to play for us this morning? Please," he begged—and paused. There was no response; again the request was given.

"This is an unusual circumstance," the minister explained, troubled. "Will not some one kindly help in this manner?"

Again no response. Some one arose in the gallery—signified her willingness.

The audience could not see the volunteer organist who went swiftly to take her place before the keys. They saw a dark-clothed back, an enveloping small hat.

The music poured forth. It was an offertory. This was a musician indeed who played for them; untrained ears recognized the sympathetic skill, the beautiful rendering of a great composition.

She stood a moment, finding her way—the volunteer organist was the disapproved Mrs. Gay. Her face shone white and sweet beneath the drooping brim of the prim black hat—then she was seated beyond their sight. The minister came down the pulpit stair hurriedly afterward that he might not miss her, to extend his thanks. Many lingered, looking back curiously. A man arose in the rear of the building—a distinguished-looking blonde man. He, too, pressed hurriedly forward until he stood with the minister, and the one who had come to his assistance. But the man's hand went out first to the woman—"Gay," he murmured chokily; "Gay!"

The little woman smiled; a smile which set her blue eyes all at once ashine. "Rupert!" she answered him; the minister waited. Suddenly his hand went out to the man, "Rupert Rolf," cried Reverend Roberts. "Here and I did not see you."

"I arrived very late," the musician replied. "My substitute was already at her post filling acceptably my place." He whirled about. "Mr. Roberts," said Rupert Rolf, "let me present to you—my wife."

The minister hesitated—"Mrs. Gay." "Gay," said the musician, "is my wife's given name. To you I may as well now explain. My wife and I were rival musicians. We met abroad, upon a musical tour. After our marriage we traveled together giving recitals. I had lived but for my music before I met her. You know, my life was so ordered. And—in an artist's madness of pride—I found myself humiliated one night, the very night I had so wished to excel—by my wife's superior performance. I and my loud attempt was lost, in her glory; can you understand a man's bitter jealousy? Now—I am overwhelmed at that madness. I know not what reproaches I brought to my wife—I know that next day she left me secretly, and my most absorbing effort to find her was unavailing. In order to place me first in the musical world which she thought my all—she had effaced herself completely. And—the musician's eyes, filled with remorseful tears, met those of his wife—and broke my heart," he finished.

She met the townspeople gracefully, the gifted wife of the famous musician.

"Such a charming pair!" the residents said. "No doubt it was Mr. Rolf's wish that his wife remain unknown among us until he himself might present her."

Another Cost Sale

AT BRAGG DRY GOODS CO.

We have twelve (12) pure Linen Dresses left--
These will be sold at actual cost.

YOUR ALTERATIONS DONE FREE

Fifty Ladies' and Misses Hats values to \$6.95
On sale at \$1.95
75c Normandy dotted voiles at 59c
\$1.50 Printed Silks and Crepes at \$1.19

EXTRA SPECIAL PRICES ON SHOES

We guarantee to save you money on QUALITY MERCHANDISE.

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

Place Most People Trade

At The Methodist Church

Sunday School 9:45. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 8:15 p.m.

Sunday is communion day and this should cause every Methodist to come.

A month ago we had the greatest communion that I have witnessed. Be on hand next Sunday.

H. F. Myer says there are three words to success. The 1st is "Go on", the second is "Go on", and the third is "Go on."

Our word to our Methodists who are not in attendance is to "Come on."

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Matthews and son, Clyde, and daughter, Mildred, left Monday for Plainview, where they will visit relatives. Miss Mildred will remain during the summer months to attend the summer school.

Baptist Church

Sunday school 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. B. Y. P. U.'s at 7 p.m.

Just a month now until our revival meeting begins. Let us begin planning now for a great meeting.

Come Sunday. There will be a baptizing service Sunday night. W. H. Albertson.

Hon. John N. Hodge, candidate for the state Legislature from Taylor county, spent a short time in the city, Tuesday attending the Luncheon Club meeting that night, where he made a short but appreciated address to the members present.

Miss Bessie Lou Yates returned to her home at McCauley after the closing of the schools here Monday.

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: Why Should I pray? Leader; Nell Swann.

1. Prayer the soul's sincere desire, Stella Wilson.
2. The model Prayer, Floyd Dowell.
3. Pray because Bible commands Gylrie Howard.
4. God Hears and answers, Yates Brown.
5. Pray to know God's will, Mr. Stevens.
6. A habit that helps, Ruth Boden.

M. A. Ledbetter, Waxahachie, will read the Mail for the next six months, the Mail being ordered to him by Mr. J. T. Vantrees, who has lately returned from the coast country where he spent several months enjoying the fine climate during the winter months.

SOME FINE ONIONS

The Mail is very grateful to Mrs. C. E. Connor for some of the largest and finest onions we have ever seen grow in this country.

The onions are of the big, white, silver skin, Bermuda variety, and are indeed very fine. Mrs. Connor informs me that the onions were planted last November, and have been grown in her own garden, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Connor being located on Rose street in the south part of the city. They were grown without any irrigation whatever.

Mrs. W. A. Worley and children left Wednesday for a visit with relatives at Ranger and Fort Worth. They will go from there to Houston to make their home.

DANCE WITH DORIS

By DOROTHY DOUGLAS

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TOMMY WEBSTER called himself every known kind of an idiot, but it didn't help matters in the least.

He was in love with a girl whom he had not met and never expected to meet, for she was a girl who danced in one of the famous "Revue." It was called dancing, but it was in reality just floating about the stage like an exquisite bit of thistledown.

Tommy hated the audience for their wild and noisy applause that clamored for Doris until she slipped out time and time again to bow her pretty thanks and kiss her snow-white fingers. He knew she must be weary and it annoyed Tommy that she must stand there with that sparkling smile on her lips and in her eyes the joy of great conquest for that noisy public to admire.

If Doris Deene had been a little nonentity on the stage he might have made an effort to become acquainted with her and win her away from her profession, but to one who seemed destined to reach the height of her profession Tommy felt the odds too much against him.

So he had decided that the best thing for him to do was to forget Doris.

It was not going to be easy. Tommy was not the kind of man who loves often and lightly. And Doris, the fluffy bit of white thistledown, with her fair curls and laughing blue eyes, drifted through all his dreams, clinging, beautifully appealing.

So, before taking up his office career in the great steel business of his father, Tommy started on a six months' travel cure and made up his mind that he would return to New York heart and fancy free.

Tommy reached England during the month of June. The days were a bit dull, but the change to glorious sunshine made Ascot, the Derby and the river life a thing of joy. He learned to punt up and down the river quite like an old hand and met many a charming, gaily-decked damsel with whom he passed sundry and varied hours.

It was Ethel Danvers who, while reclining gracefully among various hued cushions at the other end of his punt, who asked him if he was going to the theatrical garden party.

"Sure. I have to see everything I can in the next month and then work, endless, but interesting, work for me. I'll take you and we'll do all the stunts they have to offer. Is it a go?"

"Sure!" laughed Ethel, mocking his American expression.

So it was that Tommy found himself in the Royal hospital grounds at Chelsea enjoying himself immensely. Every type of girl, in every type of garb, from modern Eve to ancient Turkey and all the stars and minor constellations of the stage were there.

Ethel was beginning to think she might spend the rest of her days at Tommy's side, when, standing in front of a dance club which they were about to enter, she felt his arm tighten against his side.

He was reading over the list of stage favorites with whom one could have a fox trot for half a crown, but only one name stood out to Tommy in bold relief—Doris Deene.

He tried to make his voice sound natural as he turned to Ethel.

"Are these names all famous over here? I—I don't know many of your English stars by name."

Ethel read the list. "All pretty much in the public eye. That Doris Deene is from your part of the world and has taken us quite by storm with her dancing. Come on, let's go in. I'd just love to dance once with Jack Buchanan and you try for Doris. I fancy she'd love to chat with some one from home."

So together they went in. Ethel was out on the floor with the tall Jack before Tommy could make his way to Doris.

It was she who began to talk. "I am from New York," said Tommy, feeling like a first-class fool for the shake in his voice. "I used to watch you dance nearly three nights out of the week—a bit soft, wasn't it?"

Doris looked up and smiled straight into Tommy's eyes.

"Oh, I am glad to meet you," she said wistfully. "I'm so homesick for New York and home folks that I could just cry about it." She shyly glanced again at the big, honest boy and knew she liked him—liked him very, very much. "I wonder—I wonder if you would come out to see me some time and just take me out on a bus or up the river or—er, just any place away from theaters? I don't like dancing, but I have to earn my living some way. Could you?"

"Doris Deene," said Tommy, softly, with all his awkwardness gone, "I could do anything on the face of the earth that you ask. We'll have a picnic up the river Sunday—all to ourselves, and every day that you spare me we will lunch together. I am sailing for home on the 27th, and if I can manage to tell you heaps of things that I have wanted to tell you long before this—perhaps you will sail back too."

Tommy Webster had never expected to have his picture in the London papers, but when he sailed away with the famous little dancer—Doris Deene—as his wife it was no wonder that the newspaper photographers were busy while the happy couple stood on deck.

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