

**TONIGHT**  
Make your arrangements  
to go to Shiloh with the  
Trade Trippers Tonight.

# THE MERKEL MAIL

**ROADS**  
All roads lead to Merkel,  
the Largest Cotton Mar-  
ket West on the T. & P.

VOL. 36—NO. 22

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1924

6 PAGES

## ELECTION RETURNS THE ENTIRE COUNTY

In the Primary Election in Taylor county last Saturday, the total vote cast in the county showed to be a little less than 5000 votes. In the Governor's race Hon. Felix D. Robertson carried by a good plurality. Joe Burkett ran second with Mrs. Miriam Ferguson third.

In the Senatorial race, Harry Tom King will be in the run-off it seems now, with Jesse Smith. In this county, both Smith and Russell lead Mr. King.

In the race for state representative, Hon. E. S. Cummings, of Merkel, was elected over John N. Hodge of Abilene, by a majority of 335 votes. D. T. Harkrider for Tax Collector, received a majority over both his opponents, while in the race for County Judge, Carlos D. Speck defeated Judge Stevenson by 1178 votes.

In the race for Sheriff, County Attorney, District Clerk, Tax Assessor and County Commissioner in the Merkel precinct, there are majorities lacking, and a run off will likely be necessary in each case.

The total vote over the county as received by this paper follows:

<b>United States Senator</b>	
Morris Sheppard	3237
Fred W. Davis	790
John F. Maddox	414
<b>Governor</b>	
T. W. Davidson	256
Thomas D. Barton	434
George W. Dixon	22
Joe Burkett	889
W. E. Pope	163
V. A. Collins	153
Miriam A. Ferguson	817
Felix D. Robertson	1369
Lynch Davidson	651
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>	
Will C. Edwards	2431
Wallace Malone	482
Barry Miller	890
John D. McCall	406
<b>Attorney General</b>	
Edward B. Ward	1165
Dan Moody	1668
J. M. Melson	383
John C. Wall	836
<b>Comptroller</b>	
O. D. Baker	916
A. J. Smith	1568
Hom Bell	212
Pat Moulden	624
Don F. Smith	141
S. H. Terrell	603
<b>State Treasurer</b>	
C. V. Terrell	4607
<b>State Supt. Public Instruction</b>	
S. M. N. Marrs	4662
<b>Commissioner of Agriculture</b>	
Robert E. Sparkman	2526
George B. Terrell	1577
<b>Land Commissioner</b>	
Will L. Sargent	1463
J. T. Robison	1406
J. E. Binkley	1114
<b>Railroad Commissioner (Regular 6-Year Term.)</b>	
Clarence E. Gilmore	672
Ed E. Weaver	349
J. C. Mason	3005
<b>Railroad Commissioner (4-Year Unexpired Term.)</b>	
Robert E. Speer	1370
J. M. West	245
W. N. Nabors	1319
Lon A. Smith	1128
<b>Railroad Commissioner (2-Year Unexpired Term.)</b>	
Walter M. W. Splawn	4397
<b>Chief Justice Supreme Court</b>	
C. M. Cureton	1621
William Clayton Wear	1226
R. H. Buck	1274
<b>Associate Justice Court of Criminal Appeals</b>	
O. S. Lattimore	4680
<b>Associate Justice Court Civil Appeals—2nd Supreme Jud. Dist.</b>	
Irby Dunklin	4660
Ernest G. Albright	829
Thomas L. Blanton	3663
<b>Judge 42nd Judicial District</b>	
W. R. Ely	4796
<b>Attorney 42nd Judicial District</b>	
Milburn S. Long	4759

## ROBERTSON AND FERGUSON LEAD IN THE GOVERNOR'S RACE

According to the latest press reports, this Thursday evening, the following is the vote for Governor:

Robertson	184,845
Mrs. Ferguson	138,695
Lynch Davidson	133,482
Whit Davidson	117,060
Barton	28,044
Collins	25,222
Burkett	20,709
Pope	16,717
Dixon	4,165
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>	
Edwards	184,990
Miller	182,990

## THE WAY THEY VOTED IN MERKEL

For U. S. Senator: Sheppard 426, Davis 99, Maddox 56.

For Governor: T. W. Davidson 31, Barton 179, Dixon 4, Burkett 92, Pope 32, Collins 50, Ferguson 57, Robertson 124, Davidson 45.

For Lieut. Governor: Edwards 335, Malone 53, Miller 103, McCall 64.

For Congress: Albright 98, Blanton 484.

For Senator: King 143, Russell 176, Smith 270.

For Representative: Cummings 402, Hodge 192.

For District Clerk: Mitchell 191, Fuller 253, McPherson 160.

For Sheriff: Bond 261, O'Bar 323, Anderson 38.

For County Judge: Speck 403, Stevenson 188.

For County Attorney: Willis 55, Duke 207, Smith 353.

For Tax Assessor: Perry 37, Howard 517, Vance 66.

For Tax Collector: Harkrider 323, Dickerson 52, McClain 323.

For County Commissioner, precinct No. 2: Stevens 60, Lasiter 149, Hicks 79, Hughes 83, Diltz 250.

Robert Hicks, the genial manager of the Liberty Hardware Company, returned first of the week from his trip to Louisville, Ky., where he had been to attend the 100th anniversary and Jubilee of the Avery Implement Co.

Mr. Hicks states that it was one of the greatest trips of his life and that the Avery people gave the hundreds of local dealers from all over the nation the greatest time and finest entertainment they ever experienced.

<b>District Clerk</b>	
Laura Cook Mitchell	1551
J. K. Fuller	2302
J. E. McPherson	965
<b>Sheriff</b>	
John Bond	2341
H. T. O'Bar	1866
R. G. Anderson	743
<b>County Judge</b>	
Carlos D. Speck	2952
J. M. Stevenson	1784
<b>County Attorney</b>	
Thomas M. Willis	731
Roy L. Duke	1704
Frank E. Smith	2345
<b>County Clerk</b>	
W. E. Beasley	4795
<b>County Treasurer</b>	
Austin Fitts	4794
<b>Tax Assessor</b>	
Joe T. Perry	1364
J. T. Howard	1520
Mrs. Florence Vance	2015
<b>Tax Collector</b>	
D. T. Harkrider	2509
Ed Dickerson	558
R. A. McLain	1757
<b>County Supt. Public Instruction</b>	
M. A. Williams	4764
<b>County Commissioner Pre. No. 2</b>	
Chas. P. Stevens	80
T. R. Lassiter	202
Henry R. Hicks	93
John S. Hughes	89
Phillip A. Diltz	279

## MT. PLEASANT ROAD ABOUT COMPLETED

At the invitation of Mr. W. H. Frazier, the splendid and untiring county commissioner in this precinct, the Editor had the pleasure of a drive one evening this week out over the fine new road that is being constructed under the supervision of Mr. Frazier, leading from this city out into and beyond the Mt. Pleasant community for a total of eleven miles. And, let us say to begin with, that a fine dirt road, well graded and rounded up, forty feet in width in most places, is being constructed. In fact a mighty good road is being built where before one of the roughest and poorest roads one could think of had to be traveled by the farmers from a large territory of country. And to really realize the great task and immensity of the job of building the type of road that Mr. Frazier is having built, one must go out on the work and see just how same is done. And let us say here too, that Mr. Frazier is proving himself to be one of the best road builders in the state.

We are also glad to learn from the substantial citizens along throughout the community that is to be served by the new road, that the entire community appreciates the efforts of both Mr. Frazier and the Merkel Luncheon Club and asks that the Mail express their thanks and appreciation of same.

But the good roads movement in the Merkel community, according to members of the good roads committee of the Luncheon Club, has really just begun.

## SMITH AND KING IN RUN-OFF--SENATOR

According to the latest report from the Senatorial district, the returns from eleven of the twelve counties in the district, with only one complete, show Jesse Smith of Breckenridge in the lead with 8,696 votes, and Harry Tom King second with 6,841, while Ben L. Russell is third with 6,667 votes. Both Smith and Russell received more votes in Taylor county than King, while in their own home county they each received more votes than their opponent.

## REV. PARRACK AND FAMILY VISIT HERE

Rev. Ira L. Parrack and family, of Gorman, were here this week, guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Wheeler, as well as visiting their many other good friends in and about Merkel. For four years Rev. Parrack was the popular and successful pastor of the First Baptist church in this city and no minister was ever more popular or had more friends than did this good man and his fine family.

Mr. Stanley King who spent several years as clerk in the post office, under his brother, Shirley King, postmaster, has recently received appointment through the Civil Service department of the Post Office department, as one of the clerks in the local post office. Mr. King is an able and capable man for the position thoroughly honest, and will add much to the splendid service in the local office.

Mr. R. L. Grimes left first of the week for Mangum, Oklahoma, where he joined his family in their visit among relatives.

## TRADE TRIP TO SHILOH TONIGHT

As per announcement in last week's Mail, the business men and citizens of Merkel will go to Shiloh tonight, and there render a fine program, and mix and mingle and get acquainted with the fine people of that community.

Among the items mentioned for the program will be: Music by the orchestra. Address on the Purpose of the Trade Trip, by Mr. L. R. Thompson. More Music. Reading, Miss Tommie Durham. Address on Good Roads by Judge E. S. Cummings. Violin solo, Miss Lynn Thompson. Reading, Miss Lucille Guitard.

Everybody is invited and urged to attend this trade trip and help make same a success. It is also expected that all meet on main street at about 7:45 and go in a body to Shiloh.

## REVIVAL PROGRESSING AT TABERNACLE

The meeting progress at the Tabernacle under the direction of the Church of Christ is characterized by a spirit of reverence and devotion to the cause of Christ as it should be. Dr. Sewell is an earnest and forceful speaker and is greeted each evening by a large and attentive audience. He has been delivering some soul-stirring sermons and souls are being saved. If you are not attending these services you are missing a feast of good things. Come out; you will receive a hearty welcome.

The meeting will continue throughout the week and over Sunday night at least.

## MERKEL YOUNG MAN WEDS MISSOURI GIRL

Wedding announcements have been received in Merkel by friends and relatives of Mr. Hicks Swafford, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford, announcing the marriage of young Mr. Swafford. The announcement reads "Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Danner, of Palmyra, Missouri, announce the marriage of their daughter, Edna, to Mr. Ralph Hicks Swafford, on July 12, 1924. At home New Leeper Hotel, Chillicothe, Mo.

The groom is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford of this city, and for the past two years has been holding a traveling position with a firm in Kansas City. He is one of the finest young men reared in this community, and this paper joins a host of friends in extending congratulations and good wishes.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Warren, of Knox City were here this week for a visit with home folks and friends, and to look after the new filling station and tourist park that he is having put in and opened up in the west part of the city. He states that Mr. B. P. Middleton will have charge of the business when same is opened within the next fifteen days. A good selection. Mr. Middleton is one of the city's best citizens, and will prove the right man in the right place.

Mr. E. Yates Brown, accompanied by his mother, Mrs. E. N. Brown, and little Miss Joyce Meador, left first of the week for a visit with friends and relatives in Fort Worth and Dallas.

## ELMON HALL GETS ONE YEAR FOR STATUTORY OFFENSE

According to this afternoon's Abilene Reporter, Elmon Hall, of Abilene, charged with Statutory offense, was given a jail sentence of one year and a fine of \$500.00.

## LUNCHEON CLUB MEETS TUESDAY

Next Tuesday evening is the time for the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Merkel Luncheon Club, and since this meeting is to be known as an "Open House Meeting", when each member is invited and urged to bring his wife or sweetheart. And those who have already secured tickets will only be expected to pay an additional 75 cents for the wife, and all who wish to attend but have not as yet paid for any ticket, will be expected to pay \$1.50 for two.

It is also urged that every one who expects to bring along their wife or sweetheart, to make the same known to Mr. W. L. Diltz or Mr. R. L. Grimes at the Farmers State Bank, before Saturday morning.

A fine program is being arranged by the program committee and Mr. R. L. Grimes is to be the interesting and able toastmaster, and all who miss the occasion will have much cause to regret.

## PRECINCT CONVENTION IS HELD SAT.

The Democratic Precinct Convention held in this city last Saturday afternoon, was presided over by precinct Chairman W. O. Boney, as chairman, with Thos. Durham Secretary of the meeting and transacted the following business: Elected W. O. Boney chairman of this precinct, making him a member of the County Executive Committee for the next two years. And the following were elected delegates to the county convention, which meets in Abilene next Saturday: W. O. Boney, G. W. Johnson, Dave Shelton, J. A. Buford, A. W. Ely, Thos. Durham, W. A. Tittle, Sam Swann, W. D. Haynes, Earl Lassiter, Robert Hicks, T. G. Bragg, E. M. McDonald and J. C. Mason.

## MAKES DONATION TO LOCAL FIRE BOYS

Uncle Tom Toombs, known by all his friends for possessing a big heart and progressive spirit, this week mailed to the local fire boys a check for \$15.00, as a token for their splendid work some weeks ago when a small wash house in the rear yard of Mr. Toombs was destroyed by fire.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Buford, who since last fall have been residing in California, returned first of the week, and we are glad to learn will make Merkel their home again. Mr. Buford, who is a splendid barber, will be associated with the Chas. West Shop, where he worked before leaving for California. We join their many friends in welcoming them back to our city.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Telford, Mr. and Mrs. Longacre of Potosi and Mrs. J. P. Sharp of this city, returned this week from a trip to Round Rock and Austin.

## SCHOOL WILL OPEN SEPTEMBER 15TH

With the present progress upon the new High School building, the Board of Trustees decided in a recent meeting that all would be in readiness to open the Merkel Public Schools on Monday, September 15th. The Taylor county Teachers Institute will be held at Abilene during the week beginning September 8th. This will make it necessary for the teachers of the Merkel Schools to be on hand on Monday, September 8th. The teachers and superintendent will all be at Abilene during the week of September 8-12. This will make it necessary for entrance examinations, enrolling new students, returning of free textbooks, and so on to be done during the first week of September, September 1-5th.

The following is a list of the faculty for the Merkel Schools for the coming year:

High School Department: I. L. Jackson, Principal and Mathematics; Miss Marie Williamson, Science; Miss Madge Pierce, History; Miss Susie Belle Weeden, Spanish; Miss Martha Bird, English.

Grammar School Building:

Mrs. Len Sublett, Principal, 7th Grade; Mrs. I. L. Jackson, 7th Grade; 6th grade, Miss Mae Flannagan; 6th grade, Miss Mary Burke Blair; 5th grade, Miss Mamie Ellis; 5th grade, Miss Maurine Hearne; 4th grade, Miss Lora Joiner; 4th grade, Mrs. Nell Tracy-Teaff; 3rd grade, Miss Julia Martin; 3rd grade, Miss Minnie Coats; 2nd grade, Miss Alzada Pogue; 2nd grade, Miss Eleanor Harrison; High First, Miss Bessie Louise Yates; Low First, Miss Eunice Russell; Piano, Miss Roberta Gay; Expression, Miss Lucy Tracy. Roger A. Burgess, Superintendent.

## PROF. BURGESS WRITING HISTORY OF CROSBY CO.

Prof. Roger A. Burgess, Superintendent of Public Schools of Merkel, was here this week getting data on Crosby County for the purpose of writing a history of Crosby County for the files of the State University of Texas.

Mr. Burgess was sent here by the State University for this purpose, he said, for Crosby County contains some early history that will be of interest to the State it being one of the first settled counties of the Plains.

Mr. Burgess was busy Wednesday going through the files of the Review looking for matter that might be of help in writing this history.

He will also interview the old settlers of the county gathering such information that will aid in forming the history.

Prof. Burgess will be in and out of Crosby County for something like a month, he said, gathering data for the compilation of this history.—Crosbyton Review.

Our good friend Mr. Geo. D. Richey, who for the past forty years has been ranching and farming out in the Canyon, was here first of the week and has the Editor's thanks for a nice lot of fine wild plums. Thanks Mr. Richey.

Mr. M. L. Estes returned this week from a trip to the Plains and New Mexico, where he visited his son and daughter. Mr. Estes reports fine rains over that country with fine crop prospects. He says the people of that country have made a fine wheat crop.

## Twin Assets the State Bank's Customers Enjoy

One is the financial reserve which they are building--or have acquired and have entrusted to us for safe keeping.

The other is alert, close personal interest which this institution extends to every client. Of times through this corporation and the exceptional service we can render under our State charter, we have proved the second asset the means of increasing the first materially.

Our acquaintance with local conditions, the leeway which we have under our charter, the safety and strength of this bank; all can be of benefit to you.

**The Farmers State Bank**  
MERKEL, TEXAS  
THE HOME OF GUARANTEED DEPOSITS

### "TEN MILLION FORD" ON CROSS-CONTINENT TRIP

"Watch for the Ten Millionth Ford" has become a slogan along the Lincoln Highway.

The sturdy little car, crossing the continent from New York to San Francisco is performing in true Ford style, maintaining a schedule which will find it crossing Illinois and Iowa on the 3rd week's lap of its cross-country run.

It has become something of a sensation along the great national roadway and is being welcomed with enthusiastic demonstrations everywhere.

Accounts of the tour so far, during which the car traveled from New York down through New Jersey, and westward across the mountains in Pennsylvania and out over Ohio and Indiana, show that city, county and state officials are joining with residents of their communities in welcoming the ten millionth addition to the great Ford family. Particularly demonstrative were the receptions in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. At the latter city the parade drew up at the city hall where Mayor McGee and other city officials extended a hearty welcome.

Furthermore, the tour has become a continual procession, for Ford dealers along the way are joining in escorting the car from town to town, and parades are varied and unique in make-up.

A feature is the appearance of old Ford cars. In one Pennsylvania town Ford Model T No. 1004 an old "Tourabout" joined in the parade and another town turned out Model T No. 1054, both demonstrating Ford efficiency and endurance by running right along with their ten millionth brother.

Night stops are featured with motion pictures showing the assembly on June 4, of the Ten Millionth Ford Car in the great Highland Park Plant of the Ford Motor Company at Detroit. Motion pictures also are being taken along the route so that a

complete movie history of the tour will have been made by the time the car reaches the West Coast.

### GOOD CITIZEN OF NEAR STITH PASSES AWAY

J. T. Vantrees, a splendid citizen of near Stith, after an illness of several weeks, passed to his reward on Tuesday of this week. His death was brought about from a stroke of paralysis which he suffered some few weeks ago.

Deceased, who was 69 years of age, is survived by three sons, E. F. Vantrees, Hawley, T. W. Vantrees and L. V. Vantrees, Lawn, and four daughters, Mrs. T. Sloan, Merkel, Mrs. Effie Scott, Abilene, Mrs. Ada Law, Mart, and Mrs. S. E. Law, Winsboro, Texas. Funeral services were conducted at Hope Church of Christ, by Rev. E. A. Bedichek, of Abilene, Wednesday afternoon at 5:30 o'clock.

Deceased was preceded in death by his wife, who died in December 1920.

This paper joins the many friends of the deceased and his family in extending to the bereaved deepest sympathy in their sadness and sorrow.

### CLOSING OUT SALE

Right down at actual cost, all mens and boys pants, overalls, jumpers, gents and ladies hose, dishes, stoves, cookeryware, at cost and all groceries at a reduced price. And all my store fixtures goes at a bargain. Come see us.

All persons knowing themselves indebted to me, come in and settle at once. Closing out.  
A. L. JOBE. 1t2p

Messrs H. H. Toombs and Tobe Adams returned first of the week from a trip through South Texas and the coast country. Mr. Toombs reports a fine trip and stated that he liked that country fine, especially parts of it.

### BY THE SLEEPING SEINE

So Still It Lies Before Dawn That Its Course to the Sea Seems to Have Stopped.

You will have to stay out late or get up very early to catch the silver Seine 'asleep. And even then you might find it waking, wind-ruffled and restless, for the Seine seldom goes to sleep. But when, by some good fortune, you surprise it slumbering then you truly find a sleeping beauty. So still it lies sometimes in the hour before dawn that it would seem for once to have stayed its course to join the sea. Not the tiniest ripple disturbs its polished surface.

And sleeping, it would seem to be dream-haunted. It dreams of the city through which it flows. Above it hangs the starlit sky; tall buildings seem to peep into its depths, and the bridges stretch across it almost carelessly as though protecting a child that had gone to sleep.

And the dream of the river is of these same stars that shine above, of the tall buildings that are peeping down, of the bridges that stretch their arms above its bosom. For in the mirror of its shining surface you will see all these things more beautiful perhaps than their reality, and, looking down into this dream city, you will speak quite softly lest haply you might wake the sleeping Seine.—London Mail.

### MARIE GREAT HELP TO HER

Mother Could Do Washing for Eleven So Easy When Girl Played a Ukulele.

Unselfish mothers too often make or permit their daughters to be selfish, more's the pity. One such mother, according to a story that Booth Tarkington likes to tell, was bending industriously over the washtub when a neighbor said to her, "Hard at it as usual, ain't ye?"

"Yes," replied the mother cheerfully. "Yes, this is wash day, Mrs. O'Hoolahan, and washin' for eleven don't leave you much spare time on your hands."

"Is that Marie I hear singin' to the ukulele in the parlor?"

Marie, by the way, was in infancy christened Mary and in early youth was always known as Mollie. "Yes, Mrs. O'Hoolahan, that's her. The help she is to me! Oh, dear! Oh, dear! I don't know how I'd get along without that girl! Every Monday morning she gets out the ukulele or opens up the piano, and while I'm scrubbin' the clothes she sings the nicest, cheeriest pieces, like 'Mother's Day,' or 'Dear Mother, in Dreams I See You,' or 'Lighten Mother's Tasks With Love,' and the work just rolls off like play. I tell you, Mrs. O'Hoolahan, here ain't many girls like our Marie." —Youth's Companion.

### Laughter.

A low, musical voice is one of the greatest charms of woman. It sets her seal on her beauty. Without it she loses much of her power of attraction. But many a person has turned away from a pretty girl because of her laughter. There is laughter so loud that it ceases to be hearty and becomes vulgar, so shrill that it gets on the nerves, so strident that it suggests hysterics, and so inane and acrid that the listener concludes that only an empty-headed woman could laugh so.

Many girls do not realize the effect of their laughter, and continually laugh and giggle needlessly. Thus they destroy their chances of making a favorable impression upon people they meet.

Yet a low, musical laugh is a great attraction, the greater because it is so rare. Do you possess it? If not, with patience and perseverance you can achieve it. First listen to yourself whenever you laugh. You will probably be very disagreeably surprised, and realize how ugly laughter can be. You must lower the pitch of your voice. Practice laughing in your own room when you are alone. Banish the cackle on a single note; laughter is almost a scale—harmonious and attractive.

### Would Like Ye.

An absent-minded country vicar met the village postman trudging along a dusty road on a hot summer afternoon. The postman remarked that he had still a mile to walk just to deliver one newspaper.

"My goodness!" exclaimed the sympathetic clergyman, "I'd never walk all that distance for such a trifle. Why don't you send it by post?"

### Not Entirely Alone.

"Yes, your honor," said the aggrieved woman, as she dabbed her eyes, "he neglected me shamefully. Why, he never was at home."

"And I suppose you had to spend your evenings all by yourself, with no companionship whatever?"

"W-w-well," she sobbed, "I had two goldfish."

### Terrible Faux Pas.

"What caused the coolness between the De Golds and their country cousins?"

"Why, when she was visiting them she made a terrible blunder by asking if the family crest in the tablecloth was the laundry mark."

### Cause for Divorce.

In Turkey, during the Seventeenth century, to refuse or neglect to give coffee to one's wife was a cause for divorce. The men made promise when marrying never to let their wives be without coffee.

## MANIA FOR SPEED

French Drive Autos at Reckless Rate Down Mountains.

Writer Says Passengers Touring the Alps Sit Helpless and Trust to Luck and Skill

"The motor coach accidents which have occurred recently in the south of France do not surprise me in the least," writes a correspondent. "Having just returned from motoring over a number of mountain passes, I have had enough thrills to last me for a while.

"It was risky enough dodging the taxicabs in Paris, where apparently the speed limit is unknown, but on the steep gradients and zig-zags of the French Alps the danger becomes much more acute.

The pedestrian in Paris can, with some agility, escape with a whole skin, but a passenger in one of the motor coaches which make a feature of climbing several Alpine passes in the day can only sit helpless and trust to luck. The surprising thing is that accidents are not more frequent.

"French motor drivers have a passion for speed, and when two cars meet on a hairpin bend, with a very narrow road surface and a precipitous drop of some hundreds of feet on the one side, the situation is rather unpleasant for the car on the outside edge, and decidedly thrilling for the passengers. When taking such a curve at speed, as is often the case, it is simply a matter of nerve and steady steering that pulls one through, as a sudden application of the brakes might send the car skidding into space.

"French drivers take risks that would appall an English motorist. They rush down steep mountain roads, following each other in a dense cloud of dust, or dash out of brilliant sunshine into dark tunnels at a pace that makes one gasp.

"It all seems so reckless, and yet it is really perhaps the most expert driving in Europe. One's feelings of thankfulness at being landed whole at one's hotel door are mixed with a profound admiration of French skill in meeting road emergencies, but also with a distinct preference for the slower but safer driving to which we are accustomed at home."

### Suburban Life Not All Roses.

Most young married couples sooner or later get the desire for "a little place in the suburbs with a bit of ground around it." Sometimes their wishes are realized, sometimes they go to the end of their days with their dreams unfulfilled. Those who attain their goal generally find that suburban life is not all as they had pictured it.

It is usually friend husband who has his eyes opened more than friend wife. Friend husband lives and learns a great many things. Even if he has a little more money than the average he finds it's up to him to know how to do a lot of plumbing jobs, carpentry jobs and to learn something of electricity, for help in the suburbs along these lines is not always available.

Friend husband grumbles, especially to friend wife. But he learns and he does what's expected of him. He has his reward in turning patronizingly to his fellow worker who has not yet fallen for the country and saying, "You ought to live out of town, old man. Nothing like it in the world."—New York Sun and Globe.

### Mails Were Accommodating.

An Irishman was astonished to receive the following letter from his son in London:

"Dear Father—I am in a deuce of a hole. Kindly send me £10, and oblige—Your loving son, Pat.

"P. S.—After writing this letter I was so stricken with remorse that I ran after the postman and tried to get it back. I can only pray that it will not reach you."

But who could be more astonished than the son when he received this reply:

"Dear Son: Your prayers are answered. The letter did not reach me, Father."—London Tit-Bits.

### He Wan.

The recently announced engagement of a widely known man about town to a young woman who lives in Watts brings to light, if his closest friend can be believed, a new angle in successful courtship. Said friend gives the inside dope on the proposal as follows:

"If you would marry me, it would make me quite happy."

"My dear Bob, happiness is gained in the pursuit of something, not in the catching it."

"That's not so!" cried Bob. "You've never chased the last car out of this town on a rainy night!"—Los Angeles Times.

### Still Musical.

Two men who had been old school fellows met in a restaurant. After exchanging greetings, one said:

"By the way, old chap, when at school you used to be rather fond of music. Do you play any instrument now?"

"Yes," was the reply; "second fiddle at home."

His Idea of Substitutes.

"So the Lord has sent you a little sister instead of the brother you asked for?" said the kindly neighbor.

"Yes."

"I suppose you are just as pleased?"

"Just as pleased? I should say not. I suppose this Christmas if I ask for a jack knife they'll give me a doll buggy."

## 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

### MISS ARMSTRONG AND MR. LANE MARRIED AT MERKEL

A marriage which came as a surprise to many friends of the bride and groom in this city took place at Merkel Sunday evening at nine-fifteen when Miss Edna Armstrong became the bride of Mr. John Lane. The ceremony was said at the home of Rev. Albertson, pastor of the Baptist church of that city.

The bride is the charming and popular daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Armstrong, and has lived most of her life in Abilene where she has a host of admiring friends.

Mr. Lane is an employee of an electric company with headquarters in St. Louis. Mr. and Mrs. Lane will be at home at present at 248 Mulberry street.—Abilene Reporter.

News has been received in Merkel to the effect that Mrs. J. D. Boring, formerly of Merkel but now residing with a daughter at McKinney, is quite seriously ill at her daughter's home in that city. Her many friends here trust that she may soon take a turn for the better.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Clark expect to leave shortly for a visit with friends and relatives in Fannin county. They will be accompanied by Mr. Clark's brother on their trip.

### MR. O'BAR EXTENDS THANKS TO VOTERS

It is with great pleasure that I take this method of extending my thanks and appreciation to the good people of Merkel and surrounding country, for the very fine vote extended me in last Saturday's Primary. I appreciate your vote very much, and assure you that I am in the run-off August 23rd, and will appreciate your further support on that day. With the kindest feeling and regard for all, I am,

Most respectfully,  
H. T. O'BAR, Candidate for Sheriff. (Political Adv.) It

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Eoff expect to leave tonight for Yuma, Arizona, where they will make their home. We join their many friends in wishing for them much success.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Long of Abilene, were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter last Sunday.

H. Turner and family who have been here for a visit with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Turner, in the Stith Community, will leave this week for their home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. They are mighty fine folks and have many friends here who are always glad for them to visit here.

## DROP IN AT YE BEAUTY SALON

And get a bob that possesses that quality of distinction that everybody likes.

Our Hot Tishu Oil scalp treatments will cure your dandruff and oily hair.

We use imported Castile Soap for Shampooing.

Give us a trial and be Convinced.

MARY EULA SEARS LOYCE DRY

# WHY DO IT?

Why go to other towns to get wagons when your home merchant has them. We have a new car of wagons at the right price. Come around and investigate the quality and price before you go to another town. Your merchant helps you, then why not show him your appreciation by giving him a chance to serve you.

## WAGONS! WAGONS! WAGONS!

WE HAVE THEM

Also a Nice Line of Wagon Accessories

Hardware Galore, if you want hardware think of the Liberty then head this way.

# Liberty Hardware Co.

The Best for the Price

Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Cogburn and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cox left Wednesday for a visit with relatives at Fort Worth and Dallas.

Verdo Johnson of Navarro county, was here recently for a visit with his Uncle, Mr. J. M. Johnson.

1923 model Ford Roadster, 2 new tires, shock absorbers and in fine running order, \$250.00. Merkel Motor Co., (Authorized Ford Dealers. It

Messrs. T. G. Bragg, J. H. McDonald and L. W. Cox left first of the week for a fishing and outing trip on the Llano river. These men are generally successful fishermen, and will doubtless have good success on this beautiful and historic stream.

Would like to buy Partridge Game Crickets, or Eggs. Call at W. F. Hamblett's Grocery. It

W. B. Moore and family returned this week from an extended trip over the Plains. He says he found better crops in the Merkel community than at any other place on his trip.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Haynes left on the Sunshine Special Wednesday morning for Midland La. to visit their boys, DeWitt and Roger. While away they will visit their daughter, Mrs. R. L. Ferguson of Waco, and Mrs. Charles Hill of Milford.

Mrs. Lena Haskins of Eden, Texas, and Mrs. Mary Branscum and little daughter of Duncan, Oklahoma, are visiting in the home of Mr. W. E. Weed this week.

Miss Irene Swann is home from Los Vegas, New Mexico, for a visit with home folks and friends. Miss Swann has been teaching at Los Vegas.

### THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE

When the voters hear charges that corruption exists in this or that department of the government, they should reflect that in so far as such allegations are correct, these faults are due to the habits of our people. The government is not worse than the average of the people, usually it is better.

No sudden spurge of reform will ever cure such faults. There needs to be a radical change in the ideas and customs of the people, before a government can be developed in which every citizen can take pride as a model of public administration.

The faults in our government are no sudden development, but something deep rooted. They owe their existence to customs and practices handed down for many years, both in the conduct of politics and in the attitude of the voters.

As long as public offices are given to people as a reward for political service, a good many persons will creep into public positions who lack the essential qualifications for the same. This is a difficult matter to regulate. People who do political work are apt to look for some recognition of it. They aspire to careers in the public service, and it is a rather natural thing to give them a chance at some official position.

Yet this custom is greatly abused. For such reasons, official positions are often given to people who are unfit for them, just because they have done political work.

There are many temptations that come to those who hold public office, more than come in private business. A person who takes these positions needs to have exceptionally high character and inflexibility of purpose. The root of the difficulties with government is that the people fail to discriminate when they elect their officials. They are often misled by fluent talkers,

and will frequently pass by a man of substantial achievement and high worth.

### Look Out For Small Savings

It used to be said that some merchants would be so anxious to make small economies, that they would neglect the big interests of their business. Some men would spend considerable time untwisting little bits of string so as to make a saving on twine, while at the same time they were neglecting some vital element in their business.

Today people seem to have gone to the opposite extreme, and have a tendency to neglect small economies. Young people who are taking positions should look out that they do not do their work in a wasteful way. Their employers were usually trained in a day when small economies were looked after.

If they see an employe using material in a lavish way, they are apt to form an impression that such a worker will not be a profitable one. It is the view of experts that most forms of business could reduce their costs by a careful policy of saving waste.

Mr. R. B. Wells has recently purchased from Lee Stanley the latter's 31 acre plot of land just to the north of the city, and will soon move with his family to Merkel to make their home. Mr. wells now resides in the Salt Branch community. We are glad to have them move among us, and welcome to our city.

Messrs. W. O. Boney of this city and L. E. Adrian of Trent were doing service in their state and county this week as Grand Jurors. As long as men of such high character and integrity compose the jury service of the country there need be no fear of the lack of law enforcement.

Miss Sarah Pendleton of Tyler, Texas, is a guest this week of Miss Hattie Proctor.

Mr. and Mrs. Mason Pee were here this week for a visit among home folks and friends. They reside at Lawn, where Mr. Pee is the manager of a Hardware Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fryar of Abilene were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt last Sunday.

Mr. Howell Brittain and wife were here last week end visiting with Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Harmon, of Dallas, are here for a week-end visit with Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Williams.

1923 Model Touring, a dandy good car at a bargain price of \$300.00. Merkel Motor Co., Authorized Ford Dealers. It

Misses Julia Martin and Lucy Tracy returned first of the week from Boulder, Colorado, where they attended summer school and spent their vacations.

Thos. A. Johnson and family of McKinney, were here several days this week, visiting in the home of L. R. Thompson and other friends. Mr. Johnson states that they like their new home fine.

### Len Sublett

Water well Driller, all work guaranteed first-class.

Merkel, Texas

### ITCHY

Itchy skin diseases. Try this treatment at our drug.

For sale by MERKEL DRUG CO

### FRIENDLY INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

In many of the old time factories, it was customary for the employer to work a good part of the day at the bench with his men. He would commonly have a corner of his workshop parted off as an office, to which he would retire to open his mail, work on his books, and conduct business dealings.

But in thousands of old time workshops, these functions took an employer only a portion of his working day. After he had attended to these matters, he was apt to take his place at the bench, and help on with the work. There was a distinction toning up of production when the boss opened the office door, put on his working apron, and "bellied up to the bench" as they used to say.

But it did something more than pur on production. The employer and his help got a common point of view. They discussed matters of business and politics. They often called each other by their first names. If one of them was dissatisfied, he had it out with the boss, and usually they could get together.

Those days are largely past, though all over the country you find small plants where a good deal of the same spirit prevails.

The big industry, where the management and the help are entirely separate, where the owners may reside in distant cities or all over the country, where the office has no personal touch with the men, suffers from the lack of this old intimacy. It needs to do something to take the place of the old points of contact. Hence the shop councils that have been tried in many factories are a hopeful substitute for the old conditions. If employer and employes are willing to get together in the same spirit with which the old time boss and his help used to meet at the bench, they can make labor troubles a thing of the past.

## WHOLE BODY SEEMED IN ONE AWFUL PAIN

Morse, La.—Mrs. L. P. Lambert, who has been a popular school-teacher here for several years, recently told a visitor of her interesting experiences with Cardui.

"Just before my . . . came on," said Mrs. Lambert, "I would ache all over. My feet, my toes, my arms, hands, head—my whole body seemed to be in one awful pain. I would grow so nervous that I could not hold a cup in my hand. My husband would have to hold my coffee for me to drink. Last fall I was in such a bad condition that I had to spend about three days in bed every month. It seemed to me that I was on my last go-round."

Then one day, said Mrs. Lambert, she happened to read about Cardui and the experiences of some women who had been helped by it. "I felt that Cardui might help me if I tried it," she

continued, "for I had been suffering with similar troubles to those mentioned there. I had heard of Cardui all my life and I knew many women who said they had been helped by it. The very next day I began to take it.

"Very soon after, I began to notice my improvement. I kept on till I felt like a different woman. I gained in weight from 98 pounds to 115 and felt better than I had in years. I took six bottles right along and found it a splendid tonic. My suffering was partly due to a run-down condition and the Cardui stimulated my appetite and helped me to gain the strength I needed. . . . I take a bottle every now and then, even now, just as a tonic to keep up my strength, but I am in better health than I have been in for years."

All druggists sell Cardui. Try it.

**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.

If the girls want to know the  
seamy side of life, they might  
make their own clothes for a  
while.

The boys are wonderfully po-  
lite in rising from their seats  
whenever a pretty girl comes in.

It is not surprising that the  
girls have a bigger waist devel-  
opment after you see them tuck  
in the ice cream.

Some folks need to spend a  
little less time altering the so-  
cial system, and a little more in  
repairing their own buildings.

Many of the engaged girls are  
getting shower parties, while  
the married couples are having  
showers of bills.

The young men who under-  
take to observe Sleep Week in  
business hours need not be sur-  
prised if they are laid off for  
permanent rest.

When you pay cash in the  
stores of Merkel you help the  
home merchant to pay cash for  
his stuff, which makes it less  
expensive to do business.

Many politicians are now a-  
bout ready to announce, in re-  
sponse to an overpowering pub-  
lic demand, that they will sacri-  
fice their own interests and  
stand for some office.

The people who are going to  
overturn the government should  
wait until the 1924 baseball sea-  
son is finished.

Much is being said about the  
hard lot of the white collar men,  
but there are always plenty of  
overalls for sale.

Many of our chappies ought  
to feel quite safe on the water  
now with all those girl swim-  
mers around.

The kids are anxious to bathe  
in the water supply reservoirs,  
and can't see why this ambition  
for cleanliness is frowned upon.

While the women are crowding  
the men out of the business of-  
fices, the men may be able to  
get jobs as housecleaners.

Blisters obtained in the gar-  
den are considered intolerable,  
but gained by playing ball at the  
picnics, they are exhibited as  
marks of good sporting spirit.

Many folks who complain of  
the appearance of their home  
town, could considerably improve  
the same by building and main-  
taining a good sidewalk in front  
of their home places.

The wife of a rich rancher in  
Hayes county, this state, is  
charged with poisoning her hus-  
band. She is said to be aged 30,  
while her husband is about 50.  
Officers are also investigating  
the death of the man's four  
children by another marriage,  
all four of which have occurred  
during the last year. The writer  
can remember when to hear of  
a woman committing murder  
was a rare thing. But according  
to the front page reports of the  
daily press, some six of seven  
charges of murder have been  
filed against women in Texas  
during the past ten days. All for  
the murder of their husbands.  
But in those days women wore  
dresses altogether, there was no  
bobbed hair and no mixed bath-  
ing parties. But why write about  
such things? To do so only adds  
to the sneer and laughter of the  
world's onward march of pleas-  
ure seeking and riotous living.  
To condemn such one only stands  
alone.

**HIGH TOP'S WITCH**

By JANE GORDON

"D E E D it is a witch, Mr. King, sir;  
I done seer with my own eyes.  
Last night when we's in the cabin  
playing cayrds something brushed past  
the window. Sam, he says, 'I bet  
that's High Top's witch.' Which? I  
aska, and Sam tells us. She roams  
the mountains, and its bad luck for  
the man that sees or tries to catch  
her. Joe, he once give chase, when  
the witch come prowlin' around the  
messhouse, and she throws a laugh  
at him and gets quick behind a tree,  
and when Joe looked all about she  
wasn't there; an' next day Joe lost  
his job, diggin' on High Top."

Glen King laughed, but the golden-  
haired child on his knee warned:  
"It is true what Jim says. I saw  
the witch one evening just as I was  
going off to sleep. Sister Monna had  
tucked me into bed and kissed me  
good-night. She threw a rose from the  
edge right through my window and  
into my bed—and first she kissed the  
rose—so I wasn't afraid at all. May-  
be its only bad men that she punishes,  
Mr. King; Joe was a bad nigger, Mary  
Murphy says. He gambled money and  
took all poor Tim Murphy had."

"Information bureau," Glen King  
remarked, and pinched the little girl's  
cheek.

"So you have seen the witch, and  
are not afraid of her, Angel—and  
Monna says that red roses mean love?"  
Glen King was quite untutored in  
the ways of John Kirkwood's daugh-  
ter. And the chief engineer was.

Glen was torn with jealousy at times  
by the sight of Monna, walking the  
sweet mountain trails at the side of  
Bob Whitely. Bob, a New Yorker  
like himself, had come with the en-  
gineering commission, as secretary to  
Mr. Kirkwood, and Glen could not get  
over his dislike and suspicion regard-  
ing the ingratiating stranger. Monna  
appeared not to share this dislike.  
Sighing now, he put the child down  
from his knee and left the cabin; An-  
gel walked at his side.

"And if you don't believe in the  
witch, Mr. King," she continued her  
favorite topic, "you just watch for  
her some evening on High Top."

Glen sat long in the moonlight at  
his cabin door that night; Jim, as  
usual was absent. As he sat across  
the moonlit path fled a shadow. He  
got to his feet, interested—the witch,  
beyond a doubt. He saw a dark en-  
veloping cape, a peaked hood rolled  
up.

The witch eluded him; but moon-  
light showed a touch of scarlet lining,  
where the person's arm had tightened  
for a moment the cape about her—  
"I'm him."

Next day Glen King astonishingly  
received notice that his services on the  
great engineering commission were  
dispensed with. When he sought out  
his chief John Kirkwood received him  
coldly.

"This grieves me more than it can  
possibly grieve you," he said. "If I  
did not undoubted authority, I would  
not find it possible to believe you  
guilty of the very fault you have ap-  
parently been eager to help me to  
abdue. You were an active gambler  
at last night's disgraceful meeting on  
High Top."

Stunned, indignant, Glen King  
poke but one word. "Mistaken," he  
said brusquely, and went to pack his  
things.

Black Jim brought him coffee. "Dat  
rascal call himself Bob Whitely, tell  
Mr. Kirkwood lies 'bout you, Mr.  
King," Jim said. "Pretendin' to look  
up the gamblers when he's one of 'em.  
Dressed up like you last night. Went  
to the whites' cabin. Got out so no  
one could catch him, an' den made the  
detective believe it was yo'self. I  
know it. An' it's Miss Monna Kirk-  
wood that rascal wants, an' maybe'll  
get her, on account of his smooth  
ways."

"But to think," Glen murmured bro-  
kenly, "that after all our association  
Mr. Kirkwood would dabeelieve in  
me—"

"Dat Bob," Jim confirmed, "is  
mighty smooth, Mr. King." Glen  
bowed his head in his head—toward  
him a slender figure came. The negro  
drew. "The witch!" the disheartened  
man heard him cry. Glen raised his  
head. Monna stood before him. A  
dark cape wrapped about her, its lin-  
ing showed scarlet. She held out to  
him a wide black ribbon. "The peaked  
hood," she said and smiled.

"I have been High Top witch, Glen."  
She came to sit beside him. "After  
Angel was put to bed for the night  
I roamed the Top; really it was fun,  
but I had an object. Bob Whitely had  
whispered things about you—had in-  
sinnuated to father. I had to know.  
So, I peeked in the cabin windows  
where games were played. How did I  
know where to go? I followed Mary  
Murphy's Tim one night, secretly. She  
had bewailed the fact of his nightly vi-  
sits. And last night, Glen, I saw through  
a cabin door, left open but for a moment  
to admit a man—that man dressed as  
you might be dressed—but it was not  
you. I have told my father who the  
man was. And here I saw you, solit-  
ary, on your own doorstep—until you  
went in to bar for the night your  
cabin door. I have told my father  
that, too. Tomorrow it will be Bob  
Whitely who will leave the High Top  
commission—and not you, my Glen,  
dear!"

His longing arm was around the  
slender figure in the dark cape.  
"It was love for you," she said  
Monna.

**Have You This Habit?**

By Margaret Morison

**TIMOTHY RUGGLES**

I F A stranger wanted to know the  
pools where the trout were in the  
spring, or his wife the hidden slopes  
where the first arbutus grew under the  
leaves, they asked Tim Ruggles. To  
Tim at fifteen, every square foot of  
his grandfather's broken-down farm was  
familiar and dear. When his grand-  
father died and the farm was sold, it  
was to the boy as if the end of the  
world had come. He did not at all  
understand. Then he heard someone  
explaining the old man's bankruptcy  
by his never having been "able to look  
ahead."

From that moment, fifteen-year-old  
Tim began to take count of stock. Al-  
though he felt as if he could not live  
away from the farm, he suddenly  
realized that the village offered him  
no future. He contemplated the few  
dollars that were his inheritance, and  
took a temporary job at the country  
store. After six months he made up  
his budget: so much for railroad fare,  
so much for living while on the hunt  
for employment, so much for margin.  
Then he said good-by to his river and  
his woods for many years.

In the big city wholesale house he  
deliberately set himself to work. For  
a year he ran errands. He was prompt  
and reliable in all his work, and  
through contacts and reading he stud-  
ied up both fundamentals and fine  
points of the jobbing business.

When a vacancy occurred in the  
sales department, he applied for it and  
proved himself worthy of a trial. Then  
he made good in it. So, as he worked  
at the present, his eye was always on  
the future. He had acquired the habit  
of "looking ahead." And as he looked  
ahead, he went ahead.

Eventually he married. When his  
son was seven years old, he heard  
that his grandfather's old farm was  
again on the market. He and his  
wife and the boy made an excursion  
over one Sunday to go to see it. It  
was the first time he had been back  
since he himself had been a boy. They  
hunted in the gnarled orchard for the  
little red apple tree that bore such  
sweet fruit. They climbed the high  
hill from which a glimpse of the sea  
was to be caught. They even discov-  
ered up in the garret a dried bunch of  
herbs that through all vicissitudes had  
hung undisturbed upon the rafters.

"How I wish we could afford to buy  
it!" sighed Tim Ruggles' wife, looking  
at their son.

"We have bought it," said Tim. "I  
knew you'd want it when you saw it.  
I've been saving up for this day ever  
since I was fifteen—ever since I began  
to 'look ahead.'"

**HAVE YOU THIS HABIT?**

(By Metropolitan Newspaper Service.)

**Mother's Cook Book**

"Smile, and while you smile another  
smiles.  
And by and by there's miles of smiles.  
And life's worth while because you  
smile."

**MAIN DISHES**

**A** GOOD, substantial dish which is  
not hard to get ready for a good-  
sized family is

**Alaskan Dish.**

Cut two pounds of round steak into  
eight pieces for serving. Dice one-half  
pound of salt pork. Cook the pork,  
one cupful of minced celery and one  
large onion in the pork fat. Fry the  
steak until brown on both sides, add  
to the rest of the ingredients, blend  
two tablespoonfuls of fat with the  
same of flour, pour over the meat and  
simmer all together for thirty minutes.  
Just before serving add one cupful of  
cooked spaghetti and one plate of  
stewed tomatoes. Serve on hot platter.

**Panned Oysters.**

Soak one cupful of oysters. When  
the edges curl, remove them from the  
liquor. Take one tablespoonful of but-  
ter creamed with two of flour, add one  
cupful of milk and cook until thick.  
Add one-half cupful each of broken nut  
meats and chopped celery. Season to  
taste and add the oysters. Remove the  
tops from rolls, scoop out the soft part,  
toast the tops and shells and fill with  
the oysters. The shells may be well  
buttered with soft butter before filling,  
adding to the daintiness of the dish.

**Baked Lima Beans and Tomatoes.**

Soak a pound of beans overnight,  
parboil for five minutes or longer to  
soften, rinse and cook until tender.  
Add one teaspoonful of salt to each  
quart of water used. Season a pint  
of tomatoes with salt and pepper and  
onion juice. Add it to the drained beans.  
Put into a beanpot with two thick  
slices of bacon or salt pork and bake  
until the bacon is crisp and brown.

**Fricassee of Tongues.**

Sheep's tongues or small calves'  
tongues may be used. Take four, cover  
with boiling water and simmer until  
tender, adding a few cloves and a  
small onion; season with salt when  
nearly done. Remove, cool, skin and  
cut lengthwise; season well. The next  
day, roll the tongues in flour and fry  
in butter and chopped onion until  
brown. Serve with a brown sauce  
seasoned with a dash of lemon juice.  
Serve with hot boiled rice.

*Nellie Maxwell*

**NEW ARRIVALS**  
—AT—  
**BARROW'S**

**A Big shipment of Cedar Chests just  
arrived---New Patterns.  
Come see them.**

**Linoleum and Congoleum Rugs  
New Patterns.**

**Bed Room Suit Special**  
One five piece suit, vanity chiffret,  
bed bench, rocker. Walnut finish.  
Priced this week for only \$63.75

**Barrow Furniture Co.**

C. C. Campbell and little  
daughter, Sallie Mary, accom-  
panied by Mr. Campbell's bro-  
ther-in-law, Mr. J. S. Whitten-  
burg, of Sweetwater, returned  
Monday from a week's visit with  
friends and relatives in Mills  
county. Mr. Campbell reports  
crops in that section fairly good,  
with corn and feed stuff very  
good.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Headrick,  
of Sweetwater, spent the week  
end with Mr. and Mrs. A. C.  
Blair.

Mr. and Mrs. Dee Grimes, ac-  
companied by Miss Iva Bragg,  
left yesterday for a visit with  
relatives at Chillicothe.

F. P. Hamm and family, ac-  
companied by Mr. Guy Darsey  
and Miss Blanche Durham, re-  
turned Wednesday from an ex-  
tended trip to Temple, Austin,  
San Antonio and Corpus Christi.  
They report a very pleasant trip.

A good Ford Touring, A-1 con-  
dition, looks good, runs good, a  
car that has been taken good  
care of, \$115.00. Merkel Motor  
Co. Authorized Ford Dealers. It

Mr. Geo. Sharp, son of Mr.  
and Mrs. G. M. Sharp, returned  
home Thursday after spending  
about two years in the U. S.  
Army.

Mrs. W. V. Cranford is spend-  
ing the week with her sister,  
Mrs. Long, at Aspermont.

Denied that some towns are  
so absolutely quiet, as you can  
always hear the knocking of the  
knockers.

Miss Martha Bird returned  
last week from Austin where she  
attended the summer session of  
school at the State University.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sheppard  
and little daughter, Maudine,  
Littlefield, are here visiting re-  
latives.

Dr. E. R. Barker and family of  
Heldton, Oklahoma, are here  
for a visit with the former's  
parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Bar-  
ker.

Miss Jeanette Day, of Breck-  
enridge, arrived last Sunday for  
a visit with her old time friend,  
Mrs. S. J. Grafford, of the Col-  
lins House.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

**PROFESSIONAL**

**PILES CURED**  
No Knife, No Pain, No deten-  
tion 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.  
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**Simmons College**

J. D. Sandefer, LL. D., President  
Abilene, Texas

**OFFERS—**

All the Advantages of a First-Class College in the  
heart of West Texas, Standard A. B. degree for four  
years' work.

A Million Dollar Plant of seven buildings; Men's  
Hall in process of construction; Scientific laboratories  
and equipment equal to the best in the state.

\$125,000 Fine Arts Building, one of the most beau-  
tiful in the entire South.

A Faculty of Christian Men and Women of high  
scholarship and finest character to instruct and lead  
the young people.

Certificates granted for the completion of Fresh-  
man year.

One of Texas' Best-Equipped College Gymnasiums.  
Enrollment 1923-'24 over 1,000.

Entrance Examinations September 12th and 13th.  
Thirty-third Annual Session opens September 15, 1924.

Make your Reservations for Rooms Now.

For bulletins and further information, address—  
A. E. Chandler, Registrar.



## IT IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR DUTY TO MAKE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES EASILY AVAILABLE

The fact that a home is wired for electricity does not mean that it has the full benefits of electric service.

Full advantage of electricity is to be had only when the home is equipped with those appliances which enable electricity to give you complete service.

Therefore—as a part of the service we owe to our customers—we test all electrical appliances that are placed on the market. We offer reliable appliances for sale to our customers at prices and on terms that make them available.

Sufficient house wiring and plenty of places to connect appliances and lights aid in getting complete electrical service. The advice and suggestions of this company are available in this field, also.

### West Texas Utilities Co.

Electrical Service our Motto

### CLASSIFIED ADS

#### FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR TRADE—My home in Merkel. H. M. Rose, 116 Ash street, Sweetwater, Texas. 183p

FOR SALE—My home place. Would trade for good saleable cottage. Also my rent house, 5 rooms and bath. Will give time on either. Mrs. H. C. Williams. 1tp

FOR SALE—Stationery for both men and women, boys and girls. 200 sheets paper with 100 envelopes to match for \$1.15 and \$2.00. Comes in white, pearl gray, buff, pink and blue. Your name and address or monogram on each envelope and each sheet or folder of paper FREE. Call for Blanche Durham at the Merkel Mail office to show you samples. 1tp

#### LOST

STRAYED—Black Horse Mule about 15 hands high, weigh about 800 pounds, scar on right shoulder. Notify C. W. Carlile, Roscoe, Texas, Route 3. Will pay all charges on mule. 1t2p

#### FOR RENT

FOR RENT—3 unfurnished rooms, close in, Ash street. Apply to Mrs. Ludgate. 1tp

FOR RENT—A three-room residence, well located. See E. B. Barnes, the Rawleigh Man. 1t3

### RHEUMATISM

The powerful healing warmth of Hunt's Lightning Oil gives instant and positive relief from throbbing, nerve-racking pains of Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, etc. See the bottle.

**HUNT'S LIGHTNING OIL**  
For sale by MERKEL DRUG CO.

#### WRITE CHURCH NEWS

Weather conditions are beginning to cause quite a lot of comment. Two nice showers have fallen during the month, but some crops are failing fast. Let's have hope, remember it was only a few days later than this last year when we had a long spell of wet weather. The 8th of August was the date for the cemetery working, but no one could have gone on account of so much rain. We are planning to meet there this 8th of August. Everybody get their tools and dinner ready and come over.

Mr. Jim Norris and family from Hurley, New Mexico, who have been visiting relatives here returned home yesterday.

Mrs. Allie Reid and daughters Misses Mattie and Lillian, from Thalia are visiting Mrs. W. L. Brown.

Mrs. Charlie Lewis stopped here to visit relatives before going to Tahoka to visit her mother, Mrs. Warren, formerly of this community.

Mr. Fred Bofine and family who have been living near Fort Worth for the past few months, returned last Saturday. We understand they will make this their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lewis have as a visitor a four pound baby boy.

Mr. Tom Maddox, wife and little daughter, returned the latter part of last week from a trip to Brady where they went to visit Mr. Maddox's sister.

Chitwood and Bugg of Sweetwater were seen on top of Chalk Peak Sunday. They were chaperoned by Charlie Shuff.

Mrs. Dee Addison who is visiting her sister, Mrs. Frank Demere will leave the latter part of the week for South Bend, Indiana, where she goes to join her husband and son who are employed there.

If it's in the Ford Line, Merkel Motor Co. has it. 1t

#### TRENT NEWS

Mrs. J. W. Jennings of Arlington has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. O. A. Smith.

Fae and Floyd Smith of Stanton have been visiting their cousins, Misses Ora and Maurine Smith.

Mr. Bud Winters entertained a few friends last Thursday night at his home where music was enjoyed and ice cream and cake was served as refreshments.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Whitley and family of San Antonio returned home last Monday after a few days visit with Mrs. Whitley's sister, Mrs. R. B. McRee.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Murdock and little daughter of Big Spring were here Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Beo Billings of Abilene was here Saturday afternoon, returning home Sunday morning.

Last Monday night Mrs. Alex Williams entertained a number of young people in honor of Mr. Jim Gunter. The evening was enjoyed by playing games and listening to music, after which orange julep and cakes were served.

The Methodist ladies will serve dinner in town Saturday. Everybody is invited to eat with them.

Miss Ethel McLeod left Saturday afternoon for Port Arthur where she will visit her grandparents and other relatives.

A number of Trent people attended singing at White Flat Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Jim Gunter of Duncan, Oklahoma, returned home last Monday night.

Miss Lela Duke of Meadows, Texas, is visiting relatives and friends here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Smith of Meadows, Texas, are here on a visit.

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.

#### GOLAN NEWS

Health of community good at this writing.

Eva Woods of Miles, Texas, has been visiting relatives here.

Mrs. Ray Dean and Miss Thelma Cooper returned from a three weeks visit to South Texas.

May Hill of Rotan is the guest of Mervil Hill this week.

Martha Medley of Roby spent last week with Bettye Byrom. Miss Medley was a friend of Miss Byrom at McMurry College.

Several people from this community have been attending the Methodist meeting at Sylvester the past week. Rev. L. B. Tooley has been doing the preaching.

The musical at J. F. Cox's Thursday night and the party at C. A. Duncan's Friday night were enjoyed by large crowds.

Bettye Byrom is leaving Wednesday with some friends from Anson for Sulphur, Oklahoma. They are planning a big outing trip.

W. M. West and family are planning a family reunion next week. All of Mr. West's brothers and sisters are going to meet at his house for this purpose.

Virgie Brooks, his grand father and grandmother of Emory, Texas have been visiting relatives for a few days.

The people of this community are attending the Methodist meeting at Newman. Rev. Boyd of Rotan is preaching.

We are sure that we are going to have good officers this year for most of the women of this community voted. Hurrah for our women!

Ernest McCright and family of Lamesa, Texas have been visiting J. F. Cox and family.

If you are in the market for a second-hand Ford of any model or description, see us. We have them at reasonable prices, with terms. Merkel Motor Co., Authorized Ford Dealers.



#### FRANK SMITH THANKS VOTERS FOR SUPPORT

I sincerely thank all of you who assisted in the race for County Attorney. I lacked only 90 votes of having a majority over both my opponents, and this strong vote is certainly appreciated. I tried to make a clean race, never dealt in personalities, but relied absolutely on my record. Yours for a better County Attorney,  
FRANK E. SMITH.  
(Political Advertisement.)

#### Card of Thanks

We wish to thank all those who assisted in any way in the sad hour of death of my husband and our father.

Words can not express our appreciation to our friends for the many kind words, deeds and beautiful floral offerings.

May God's richest blessings be upon you is our prayer.  
Mrs. E. Tucker and children. pd

#### BARBER NOTICE

From now on we, the undersigned, barber shops, will charge only 50 cents for all fancy hair bobs. Straight bobs 35 cents. West Barber Shop and Byers Petty Barber Shop. 1t

It Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

#### YOU TELL 'EM



Some men can't even play the game without discords!

We are in the "game" to help you cope with the High Cost of Living by giving you just what you want in

### Groceries

at prices that save you money. When you go to shop for the needs of the pantry, be sure to make this store your "stopping place". A few of our Specials For Saturday are listed below:

- 8 lb. bucket Lard ..... \$1.35
- Smoke Bacon ..... 20c
- D. S. Bacon ..... 17c
- Sweet Pea Breakfast ..... 25c
- Farmers Brand Syrup ..... 75c

### J. N. CARSON GROCERIES

Did you say secondhand Fords at Bargain Prices? We got 'em. Merkel Motor Co., Authorized Ford Dealers. 1t

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Holland of Fort Worth are the guests of John Sears and family.

# STOP - LOOK - LISTEN

## Big Excursion to EL PASO \$12.00 ROUND TRIP

### Friday August 8th via.



SPECIAL TRAIN Leaves Merkel 5:01 p. m.  
Returning leaves El Paso August 10th 7 p. m.  
**Two Days in El Paso.**

See the Government post, Fort Bliss  
Washington Park and its Many Attractions  
The Scenic Drive around Mt. Franklin  
**GET A THRILL**  
Visit Juarez, Mexico, See the interesting sights  
and Quaint customs of a foreign land.

Buy your ticket early. For full particulars see  
**J. C. Childress, Ticket Agent**

PERSONAL GRIEVANCES

Many people would be surprised to know how far little personal antagonisms and grievances interfere with community progress.

Civic advance is principally accomplished through organizations. But a lot of people won't work through such organizations or will give little or no help in public enterprises, because of such personal feelings.

They do not like some trait of the persons they are asked to work with, or of some individual who holds a leading position in the organization. The heads of an organization may think that they have named a committee of members who will do able work on some undertaking. Yet it may be that some personal friction exists between these people, as a result of which they will not work with each other. The whole task they were asked to perform may suffer or not be done on this account. People will occasionally withdraw from organizations because they can not put up with the personality of some officer or officers.

Some years ago a certain clergyman was criticised by some of his parishoners because he wore red stockings. He preached admirable sermons. But the folks whose eyes were on his feet could not lift up their spirits to get the message that came from his head.

It is amazing how easily some folks will get offended. They twist things intended perfectly innocent into some distorted meaning, they brood over the remark, and think their work is unappreciated, and they quit.

Years ago, when people lived narrower lives, such sensitive feelings might be excused. But today, with our wider interests, the many opportunities for self improvement and enjoyment, people ought to get their minds off these little thoughts.

SELLERS AND PRODUCERS

A dispatch from Stockholm, Sweden, says that the immigrants now coming to the United States from that country are not, as heretofore, largely farmers. The majority of them are industrial workers, so they are headed for the manufacturing states of America, rather than for the farm country. This will be regretted by many farmers who are looking for help.

Skilled factory workers are however more in demand than people whose aim is to set up stores and try to sell something. This country has all the stores it needs now. Business men would probably say that there are more of them than are needed in the majority of places. What is needed is people who are willing to work at farming or the mechanical trades, and who have had some experience at these trades so that they can be easily self supporting.

Are you going to Shiloh with the Trade Trippers?

# ANOTHER SHOE SALE!

## Bragg Dry Goods Co. Will Sell Ladies Summer Shoes at One-Half Price

About Seventy-five pair of Ladies and Misses good style and best quality shoes on a table for Saturday's Extra Special at Half Price. All other Summer Merchandise Marked Special.

## Millinery & Ready-to-Wear at Less than Half Price

We never carry any thing over but let the price move it. Come to see us for your end of season merchandise and save Money.

# Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

MR. MASON EXTENDS THANKS TO VOTERS

To The Democracy of Texas: Ladies and gentlemen, I want to thank all who supported my candidacy in the campaign just closed, as far as I am concerned. No man had truer friends in Texas, and no man loves his friends better than I. 'Tis more blessed to possess a good name than great riches. Friends are the dearest things on earth, like a mother's love, viz:

If I were damned of body and soul,  
A mother's love would make me whole.  
If I were drowned in the deepest sea,  
A mother's love would reach down to me.  
Even though I am defeated, that confidence expressed by my friends in this contest makes me as proud as a king, and accept it cheerfully, with the hope that all is for the best, and to those who supported my opponents, I entertain nothing but the best of feelings. Once more thanking my friends from the depth of my heart, with love in my heart for all and ill will for none, I am obediently,

J. C. MASON.  
(Political advertisement) 1t

THE IDEALS OF BUSINESS THE TRICKS OF TRADE

Some people claim that the war introduced a good deal of deception into the arts of production. They feel that the idea of substitution gained a firm hold at that time, when producers were encouraged to use inferior materials in a time of shortage. Now, it is claimed, many of them keep on using such poor stuff.

The merchants of Merkel do not approve of tricky ways. They make nothing but trouble for the retail dealer. If by mischance, or because the public demands a cheap article, they have to deal in inferior quality stuff, a long succession of complaints is sure to follow. Our merchants do not believe in inferior stuff made to look like good, nor in deceiving trade names. If they had their way, they would have good labeled and marked for just what they are, so that every person would know precisely what he is buying. In so far as they know, they are glad to tell what is in goods.

COTTON OPENING

Mr. S. A. Freeman who resides in the city, but farms considerable land in and about the city, brought to this office one day this week a large, well developed open cotton boll. He states that the cotton was planted early in April and while needing rain, was pretty fair at this time.

1923 model Ford Touring, D. R., new tires, lock steering wheel, fender braces, Bosch Ignition system, accelerator, only \$275.00. Merkel Motor Co. Authorized Ford Dealers. 1t

WHITE CHURCH CEMETERY

At our meeting August 8th, 1923, no one could come on account of rain. Let us try again this year. Come as you have come to our other meetings, with a spirit to work and be agreeable.

Remember to tell your friends about this meeting. Tell them to meet you at the cemetery Friday August 8th to help cut weeds repair the fence and to do any other work you find there that needs to be done.

Dillard R. Snow.

Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Cogburn and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cox returned last Wednesday from a visit to relatives at Granbury and Fort Worth. Mr. Cogburn reports that country pretty dry, but said he enjoyed the fine fruit and melons to be found there.

WITH THE CHURCHES BAPTIST CHURCH

The pastor is in a meeting at Comper this week. The prospects are good. A great deal of interest is being shown at this writing.

All regular services will be at the usual hours next Sunday except the evening preaching service which will be called on an account of beginning a meeting at View. The pastor will preach Sunday morning on, "The Christian's Joys in the Second Coming of Christ". This sermon will be of interest to every one who knows the Lord and looks forward with joy to His second coming.

The total Sunday School attendance the past four Sundays was 1663. The picnic time and place will be announced Sunday. Be sure to come and get in on the ground floor. Let us concentrate all of our efforts on the service next Sunday morning as we will have no evening service.

W. H. Albertson, pastor.

M. E. CHURCH NOTES

Last Sunday was a good day in our church, with more than 300 in Sunday School. This is as it should be, but we hope to make next Sunday a better day. Let every Methodist be in his or her place next Sunday and help make the day a glorious one.

For the morning service the pastor will use for his text, "The Meaning of the Word Catholic, as used in the Apostles' Creed." We urge all Methodists to be present for this service, likewise extend a cordial invitation to all visitors and others who may see fit to come and worship with us.

T. J. Rea, pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Snow and children are over in Knox county this week with friends and relatives.

M. E. Womans Missionary Society Notes

We had a splendid program from the Missionary Voice at our meeting last Monday afternoon. Every number on the program was responded to and the meeting was a very interesting one. The attendance was some what small, but we are trying not to grow discouraged at this condition, but trying to plan some way to create more interest and bring our membership to a better realization of the work the Missionary Society is carrying on. So on next Monday afternoon we will have our regular meeting and a social meeting afterward. During the social hour, there will be a program at the close of which there will be refreshments. The entire membership is not only invited but urged to come to this meeting. The time will be four o'clock at the church. We will be looking for you.

Baptist Business Men's Class

The young Business Men's Class of the Baptist church will meet Sunday morning as usual at the Gem Theatre, with Mr. W. A. Tittle in charge as teacher, and every member of the class is urged to be present next Sunday morning. An invitation is also extended to every one who has no regular place of attending Sunday School.

Next Sunday is to be a special service, and it is hoped that one of the largest attendances ever had in this class will be present. A big welcome for all.

Junior League Program

Subject: Following Jesus out of Doors.  
Leader: Victor Smith.  
Song.  
Scripture: Matt. 5:1-12, leader.  
Prayer.  
Reading, Glenna Rea.  
An out-of-doors picnic, John 6:1-13, John Frazier.

Jesus' home, Nadine Tippett.  
Jesus at a picnic, Lorine Dixon.  
Special song.  
Lesson from Catachism.  
Benediction.

Intermediate B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: Stewardship.  
Leader: Mary Ellen Ashby.  
1. Some Experiences in tithing, by Mary Ellen Ashby.  
2. Jacob's Deceit, by Iris Garrett  
3. Jacob's Vision, by Fannie Bell Boaz.  
4. Jacob's Conversion, by Clyde Mayfield.  
5. Jacob's Consecration, by Charlie Largent.  
6. Jacob's death, by Ora Hughes  
7. Memory Verse, by Ava McCandless.  
8. Stewardship, by Roy Giles.  
9. Sword Drill, Tithing.  
Every member be present on Sunday evening at 7:15.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

## 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 unailing protection. Have you enough insurance? Have you the right kind.

**W. O. BONEY**  
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your lawyer.

## BE - IN - MERKEL FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE BIG TENT

Manville Bros. Comedians  
Big Feature Play  
**Why Wives Go Wrong**  
Singing Dancing Vaudeville

SATURDAY NIGHT  
**The Man From Texas**  
Big Western Comedy