

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 36—NO. 48

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1925

6 PAGES

NEW FIXTURES AT F&M BANK MODERN

When we announced several issues ago that the Farmers & Merchants National Bank would install new fixtures, we were not prepared to believe that they would have one of the best equipped and most convenient country banks in the state.

The officers and directors of this fine institution with their characteristic enterprise did, as is usual with them, more than expected of them.

The bank has always borne the reputation of being one of the strongest and best managed banks in the state and is now in addition one of the most beautifully furnished and most conveniently arranged banks.

In an interview with Mr. L. R. Thompson, Cashier we gain the following bit of history concerning this fine institution.

The articles of Association were dated November 14th, 1904, and were signed by J. T. Warren, G. F. West, Ed. S. Hughes, T. A. Johnson and Henry James, who were chosen as the Board of Directors. The officers elected were J. T. Warren, President; G. F. West and Henry James, Vice-president; and T. A. Johnson, Cashier.

Mr. Warren has remained as president of the institution since its organization and its success is in a great measure due to his counsel and to his knowledge of the financial returns of this section of Texas, and more particularly to his inherent conservatism. Mr. Warren has always been ready to extend credit to any one asking for it when, in his opinion, there was a reasonable definite assurance that the obligation would be met or properly secured.

The charter number of the bank was 7481 and was dated November 18th, 1904 and the bank opened for business on December 1st, 1904. At the next meeting of the shareholders, the same directors were chosen with the exception of Mr. Ed S. Hughes, who was succeeded by Mr. C. P. Warren. Mr. C. P. Warren retained stock in the bank until his death in January 1921, and his association with the bank as director and shareholder had much to do in building up the confidence of all the people of this section in this institution. Mr. Warren will always be remembered as one of the men of Taylor county who had the vision of its possibilities and made it possible for a great many people within the county to own their homes. He was patient and kind with all who had dealings with him and was one of the most generous contributors to church and schools of any one who lived here in his day.

Mr. Thomas Johnson was Cashier of the bank until his interest along with the interest of some other shareholders was purchased by Mr. L. R. Thompson in September 1919. Mr. Johnson developed into one of the best bankers in the state and is now the executive officer of the Collin County National Bank, McKinney, Texas. He visits Merkel several times a year and holds the institution which he served for fifteen years, in affectionate regard.

Mr. James continued as director since the date of organization to the last shareholders meeting held on January 18th, 1925 when he was succeeded by Mr. Booth Warren. Mr. James while not being able to attend many directors meetings was a wise counselor, and was always helpful to the bank in every way.

Mr. G. F. West has been on

LAY LEADER TO TALK AT M.E. CHURCH SUN.

For the next two months the church will have before it one of the most intensive and extensive programs that it has ever had.

The period from January 15 to March 15 is to be given over to the Laymen of the church for the cultivation and promotion of this program. It is the firm belief of this pastor that if our laymen will take this program and put it over that it will mean far more to the church than any evangelistic campaign that we could possibly put on.

It is my earnest desire and prayer that our laymen take this and put it over. Next Sunday morning our District Lay Leader will have charge of the morning service and will speak on the "Five Goals of This Program". He is a very able and interesting speaker and I trust that every layman will hear him.

Sunday night at seven o'clock our subject will be "The Worthwhile." We urge your presence at all of these services and promise you something in return for your trouble. T. J. Rea, pastor.

LOCAL UTILITIES CO. TO IMPROVE SYSTEM

While the Electric Power service in Merkel, so far as this paper has ever heard, has been entirely satisfactory to the patrons and public in general, we are glad to announce that in the near future the West Texas Utilities Company, contemplate making same extensive and valuable improvements in the city of Merkel, in the way of extensions and the changing of the lines from off the front streets to the alleys.

Manager Ira Huss informs us that the improvements to be made here by the company will run up to several thousand dollars additional investment. As said above, the Electric Power service in Merkel, by the West Texas Utilities Company has been excellent, and any additional improvements will be sincerely appreciated by the citizenship here.

"SAFETY LAST" TO BE PLAY AT TRENT SCHOOL SOON

The faculty and students of Trent High School will give a play, "Safety Last", in the spacious school auditorium at Trent soon.

A roaring comedy, a laugh from start to close. Side splitting situations. Mary Ann O'Finney the Irish maid, can't be beat for pure fun. The troubles of Jack Montgomery and Jerry Arnold keep up a constant excitement.

Watch for the date.

the board continuously as director and has held the office of Vice President since its organization.

Mr. West has done as much as any man in Taylor county in extending credit at times when crops could not have been raised without it. He has not only been one of the best Credit Advisors of the Bank but has supplemented its credit every year by extending accommodations to people of this community as an individual. He with Mr. Warren and Mr. Thompson compose the banks discount committee.

Mr. Sam Butman Sr. has served on the board for the past three years as director. Mr. Butman is one of the large land holders and stock raisers of the

PIONEER HOTEL WOMAN SELLS OUT

A few days ago Mr. W. B. Stephens, formerly of Atlanta, Ga., purchased from Mrs. J. A. Collins the pretty stucco hotel on the south side known as the Collins Hotel. The consideration was \$8,000.00. Mr. Stephens is well known among the people of this community, having made Merkel his home for the past five years, being for some time connected with the C. H. Oil and Development Company.

Both Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Collins are pioneer settlers of this place. They have been true West Texans, and have had a large share as boosters for their town and for good old West Texas. As true and loyal citizens they have been of the best.

Not only is Mrs. Collins a pioneer woman of this community, but she is likewise a pioneer in the boarding house and hotel business, having been in this business since 1907. At that time she was proprietress of the South Side Hotel, then located where the Presbyterian church now stands. In 1911 she took charge of the McDuff Hotel. In 1915 her son, Gracie, who at that time only twenty-two years of age, drew up the plans for the Collins Hotel as it now stands. Then Mr. Gracie Collins with the assistance of his father and two helpers built the present Collins Hotel, and Mrs. Collins has been proprietress since that time. Mr. Collins holds a very remarkable record by never letting a person who stayed at the hotel miss a train.

Mr. Collins is seventy-one years of age and Mrs. Collins is fifty-eight. They plan to leave the first of February for Centralia, Mo., to visit their daughter, Mrs. S. J. Grafton, however Mrs. Collins stated that she was burning no bridges as she went, and that she regrets very much to leave Merkel.

Mr. Gracie Collins, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Collins is in New York in the employ of a Radio concern where he has charge of a department working a number of men. Gracie accepted a position at first as a workman, and in a very short time his ability was noticed by the company and a promotion was given him.

MR. AND MRS. BRAGG ENTERTAIN CHURCH OFFICERS

Monday evening of this week Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg graciously entertained the stewards and officers of the Methodist church with a seven o'clock dinner at their pretty home on Locust street. Covers were laid for ten diners. A very delicious and tastefully prepared baked turkey dinner was served. Mrs. Bragg was assisted in serving by her daughter, Miss Iva Bragg.

After the dinner hour, a very enthusiastic business session was held. During this time plans were laid for a campaign of progressiveness and better cooperation among the church members as a whole. Also finances of the church were deeply discussed and plans were formulated for a revival meeting.

A most pleasant evening was enjoyed with Mr. and Mrs. Bragg. Those who were able to be present on this occasion were: Messrs. A. T. Sheppard, Thos. Durham, Henry Frazier, Herbert Patterson, W. W. Campbell, L. W. Cox, T. G. Bragg, Rev. T. J. Rea, W. F. Golladay, Dr. M. Armstrong, and Eli Case.

Another car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal in transit. Car Alabama Lump has been delayed—expecting it any day. Swafford, phone 44, south side.

NAZERINE MEETING CONTINUES

Announcement is made that the Nazerine meeting which began last week, will continue on through this week over and including Sunday night, at the old Christian church, on the south side.

ATTORNEY SAYS SALE OF 'JAKE' UNLAWFUL

County attorney Frank E. Smith, who has established a fine record in office through the success of his efforts in bringing criminals to justice, has issued a statement which calls attention to the fact that the selling of "Jake" is a violation of the Prohibition laws.

The county attorney cites two opinions made by Federal Judge William H. Atwell in Federal court at Wichita Falls recently. The opinion, officials believe, will have a far-reaching effect upon the sale of jamaica ginger by drug stores. Judge Atwell ruled that druggists who sell the ginger, which he holds is an intoxicating beverage, do so at their peril, despite their impression that the preparations are of a nature which the law sanctions for sale.

Rulings were given in the charge to the jury in the cases of United States vs. Mrs. R. F. Green and W. E. Simpson, both of Electra, who were charged with possession and sale of 'jake'. Both defendants were subsequently found guilty and fined \$100 and \$50. Mrs. Green is the operator of an Electra drug store in which a large quantity of ginger was seized several months ago. Simpson is a clerk in her employ.

The essence of the whole matter lies in the ginger content of the preparations which have been sold as "double strength" jamaica ginger. Prohibition officials have learned that thousands of ounces of this have been dispensed in Wichita county, and under laws effective prior to May 24 of this year such sales were legal. "Jake" of only one strength was recognized before that time by the U. S. pharmacopoeia, but a differentiation has now been made to meet the exigencies of the prohibition laws.

Formerly a Medicine

The law formerly provided that jamaica ginger was a medicine, but it now holds that a preparation of other than "double strength" is an alcoholic beverage. This is true provided, of course, that its alcoholic content is more than one-half of one percent and all jamaica ginger contains from 85 to 90 per cent alcohol. Going still further, the law allows the sale of "double strength" or less to any one person. This is done on the assumption that such a preparation, which contains 400 grams of powdered ginger to 10 cubic centimeters of alcohol, is too powerful to be taken in anything but minute quantities.

"Single strength" preparations on the other hand, contain but 200 grams of ginger to 1000 cubic centimeters of alcohol and hence can be consumed as a beverage. The ginger content was doubled to make the "double strength" preparations, simply in order that the sale of the ginger for medicinal purposes could be legalized and its sale as a beverage prohibited.

Under prohibition regulations in effect since the adoption of the Volstead law, it naturally follows that beverages classes as intoxicants are prohibited for sale.

NAZERINE MEETING CONTINUES

A cordial welcome is extended one and all to attend these meetings.

REV. REA IS TOAST-MASTER NEXT MEET

As Toastmaster for the next meeting of the Merkel Luncheon Club, the President of the Club, Mr. L. R. Thompson, has named Rev. T. J. Rea, pastor of the First Methodist church. Rev. Rea, while among our progressive able ministers of the Gospel, is also among the best town boosters we have, and those who attend the Luncheon will no doubt look forward to the next meeting of the Club as being one of the best and most interesting yet held.

The next meeting will be held at Ed's Cafe, on next Tuesday evening, January 27, at seven o'clock, and all members of the club are urged to be present and a cordial welcome is also extended to any citizen within the city or community nearby to be present.

As has been stated before, the Club is for the benefit and upbuilding of Merkel; an organization in which all the citizens may feel free to participate and take part in; hence you, Citizens, should feel it your duty to come out and help all you can to make this a better town and community. If the Club is or has not been doing things as you think they should then come out and help to put things over in the way you think best. Don't stay away and cuss what is being done.

COM. DILTZ ASKS RECOMMENDATION

Commissioner Phillip A. Diltz who on January first assumed the duties of County Commissioner in the Merkel precinct, has asked the Merkel Mail to announce to the citizens of this precinct that, he would like for them to meet among themselves and make selections and recommendations of some person suitable to them, for road overseers in their respective road districts.

Mr. Diltz is very anxious to do everything within his power to make better roads throughout the rural districts, and as the Commissioners court at their next regular meeting on the second Monday in next month, will make appointments of road overseers, he would like for the citizens as above stated, make recommendations for suitable men to these positions.

He also requests all old overseers, who have in their possession road machinery and tools, to please bring same in to him, if possible at once.

JUDGE CUMMINGS ON IMPORTANT COMMITTEES

From the daily press we note that Hon. E. S. Cummings, of Merkel, member of the present session of the 39th Legislature, has been assigned by the speaker of the House to several important committees; that of the Judiciary being among the most important.

We also take this opportunity of thanking Judge Cummings for sending us a copy of the House Journal, which gives the work transacted by that body each day.

Rev. Fred S. Rogers, popular pastor of the Grace Presbyterian church, returned first of the week from a trip to Comby Texas, at which place he was formerly pastor, being called there to officiate at the funeral of a former member of his church.

CUMMINGS OFFERS GOLD CHECK BILL

Judge E. S. Cummings, State Representative from this county introduced a bill in the House of Representatives Monday of this week, styled "An Act amending Subdivision IV, of Article 1422, of the penal code of the state of Texas, so as to more effectively prevent the giving of worthless checks, drafts and orders.

A bill of the above nature is without doubt needed to be passed in this state, and it is likely that the Judge's bill will meet with favor among his fellow legislators.

ANOTHER PIONEER PASSES AWAY

Following a stroke of paralysis which he suffered some weeks ago, and from which he never regained consciousness, Mr. J. S. Burns was called by the death angel at four p. m. last Thursday, January 15, and his soul took flight to that eternal home in heaven, where in peace it will rest and abide forever.

Deceased, at the time of his death, was eighty-two years of age. He was born in Bath county, Virginia, September 22, 1843. He served faithfully through out the Civil war, and perhaps was the last surviving soldier of the Confederacy, who carried or was carrying, as he was, a message to General Robert E. Lee, when the surrender came, and he did not surrender, but turned and rode out.

He came to Texas in 1867, and was married to Alice Ross in 1871, and to this happy union ten children were born, of which seven are living, as follows: Mrs. Josie Penny, Clyde W. L. Burns, Merkel; Mrs. F. B. Kile Hoover, Texas; Mrs. R. C. Hampton, Clyde; O. S. and O. R. Burns, and Miss Rennie, all of Merkel, and all of whom were present when the final summons came for this good citizen, beloved husband, kind and affectionate father, to quit the walks of men and take his place among those chosen by the Father on High.

Besides the good and faithful wife and companion, left to mourn his demise, there were eighteen grand children and three great grand children.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, at the cemetery, conducted by Eld. W. G. Cypert, followed by burial by the members of the Odd Fellow Lodge, of which organization deceased has been a faithful member for many years.

This paper joins the entire citizenship of this community, in extending deepest sympathy to the bereaved family and loved ones, during this sad hour of bereavement.

CHANGE IN GROCERY FIRM

We are informed that Messrs. R. A. Martin and Wm. Elliott last week purchased the interest of their partner and associate, Mr. A. R. Booth, in the Bob Martin Grocery Company, and will continue the business under the same firm name in the future.

We have not learned Mr. Booth's intention, but join a host of friends in the sincere hope that he and his excellent family will continue to make Merkel their home.

Read our ad on the back page of this paper. Brown Dry Goods Company.

Just received car Pease Maker Flour. Try a sack. G. M. Sharp.

STATEMENT FARMERS STATE BANK

Merkel, Texas
December 31, 1924

RESOURCES

Loans & Discounts	\$185,248.22
Overdrafts	521.40
Banking House & Fixtures	13,902.50
Stocks & Bonds	4,430.40
Warrants	915.57
Liberty Bonds Held in Trust	8,950.00
Other Resources	12,108.27
Other Real Estate	22,314.40
Due from State Cty. Fund	31,611.80
CASH, EXCHANGE & COTTON	340,416.30
Total	\$620,418.86

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus & Profits	12,166.43
Liberty Bonds held for customers	8,950.00
Bills Payable	NONE
Rediscounts	NONE
Borrowed Money	NONE
DEPOSITS	549,302.43
Total	\$620,418.86

The above statement is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.

Mr. Jack Durham and Miss Bettye Rogers are Married

A marriage of interest to many friends in Merkel was quietly solemnized last Sunday, when Miss Bettye Rogers, of De Leon, Texas, became the bride of Mr. Jack Durham of this place. The marriage ceremony took place at De Leon, Texas, at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. H. C. Neill, the hour of the betrothal being as high noon. Rev. Kirkpatrick, Methodist pastor of that place, very impressively read the ring ceremony that bound in holy wedlock this young couple. Only the immediate family and close relatives of the bride were present to witness the ceremony.

Amid showers of rice this happy couple left shortly after the ceremony for Merkel, where they will make their home for the present.

The bride is the lovely daughter of Mrs. Maude Rogers, who until about a month ago made their home in Merkel. The bride is a very accomplished and ambitious young lady, and was associated with her mother in the millinery business here last year. Although she only lived here a short time, she made lasting acquaintances during that time. She also became very popular in her church, and we are sure every one will be happy to know of her return to Merkel to make her home.

The groom is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Durham. For about five years he has been closely associated with his father in the newspaper work.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Durham are at home to friends at the N. D. Cobb apartments, after January the twenty-sixth.

Mrs. George A. Bullock and little daughters, Annie Marie, and Georgene returned to their home at Gainesville, Texas on Thursday night after visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Garrett.

WITH THE CHURCHES BROTHER CYPERT TO PREACH

Eld. W. G. Cypert announces that on next Sunday, at both the morning and evening hours, he will preach at the North Side Christian church. He extends a cordial welcome to one and all to hear him, and especially urges the church membership to be present.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 6 p.m.

On account of the snow the pastor did not preach his sermon on the Seventh Commandment last Sunday night, but will preach it next Sunday morning. It will be a hot-shot. The subject is "Thou shalt not commit Adultery."

Last Sunday the services were well attended considering the day.

W. H. Albertson.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 25, will be the last Sunday in the first month of the New Year. Have our New Year's "Resolutions" been carried out? The church will help us to make good our worth while plans, if something has hindered you from attending the services of this month, will you not make an effort to overcome every hindrance, and be present next Sunday morning.

Sunday School will meet at 10 o'clock promptly, with the preaching service at 11 o'clock. Vesper service will be at the usual hour, 4 p.m. Christian Endeavor at 6:15. We seek to make all our services satisfy the spiritual longing of the human soul. We have no place for the sensational nor will you find jazzy themes discussed, but if you are seeking the Bread of Life we will help you to find it.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Merkel, Texas
Close of Business December 31, 1924

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand	\$158,805.10
Loans, Commercial Paper	169,000.00
Loans, Cotton	54,060.61
Overdrafts	2,183.01
U. S. Bonds and Treasury Certificates	64,850.00
Other Bonds and Warrants	9,490.62
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co.	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,735.00
Five per cent Red. Fund	312.50
Cash and Sight Exchange	242,229.95
Total	\$707,016.79

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	6,360.04
Circulation Acct.	6,250.00
BORROWED MONEY	NONE
Deposits	629,406.75
Total	\$707,016.79

J. T. Warren, Pres. L. R. Thompson, Cash.
Booth Warren, Ass't Cash Owen Ellis, Ass't Cashier

DIRECTORS

Henry James G. F. West J. T. Warren
L. R. Thompson Sam Butman

Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



MEN AND WOMEN OF THE HOUR

Her Excellency, Miriam Amanda Ferguson, First Woman Governor of Texas

By William Harrison
Almost anything may happen in politics. For instance, the people of Texas have just inaugurated into the office of governor Mrs. Miriam Amanda Ferguson, familiarly known during her recent campaign as "Ma" Ferguson. She is the first woman in Texas to hold this important position and, together with Mrs. Nellie Ross, who was recently inducted into a similar office in Wyoming, the first woman to hold such an office in the United States.

Still more remarkable is the fact that the new governor is not a club woman, has never before taken part in politics, did not help secure woman suffrage and, in her campaign, doubtless ever made a political speech, nor asked for a vote—she just sat on her back porch and peeled and preserved peaches, while she was being elected by an overwhelming majority—and she was elected by male rather than female votes. But is it not the object of this little article to go into the complex political situation which brought about this remarkable election.

Mrs. Ferguson is just a wholesome, home-loving, stay-at-home American mother, of the highest type, thoroughly inexperienced in matters of government. But the program, which she has formulated, calls for efficiency and economy in state affairs—for good schools every where and good roads to them. Maybe a man would not have done much better.

WE ARE IN THAT BUSINESS

If it is cleaning and pressing you want, that is one of our specialties. Phone 218. Ligon, the Laundryman.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

As you are sitting by a good, comfortable fire

these long wintry nights, are you dreading those long, hot summer days that will be spent in that hot kitchen next summer?

Now is the time to prepare that good, easy to keep clean kitchen that you have been longing for so long.

It can be done only by

The ELECTRIC RANGE

It is SAFE, CLEAN, ECONOMICAL

No Soot, no Ashes to carry out. With the turn of the switch it is instantly hot.

West Texas Utilities Co.

Come Thou with us and we will do thee good. Fred S. Rogers.

Missionary Society Notes

On next Monday afternoon the Missionary Society will have a lesson in the new Bible Study book. The lesson will be the first chapter as we did not have a lesson last Monday as had been planned. The meeting will open promptly at 2:30. Mrs. Thompson, the study teacher will have charge of the lesson. Every member who wishes to study this book is urged to be present for the first lesson, because the study of the book will be much more interesting as well as profitable to each of us of we are regular in attendance during this study.—Supt. Pub.

Junior League Program

An Aeroplane visit to the Indians.

Leader, Nadine Tippet. Scripture, Duncan Briggs. Prayer for the Indians. Piano Solo, Mary E. Grimes. The first Methodist missionaries to the Indians, Nell Durham.

An Indian plea, Eleanor Mae Hamilton.

The Indians today, Opal Huskey.

Reading, Florine Rider. League Benediction.

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann.

Many dollars were saved last Friday and Saturday by the people who took advantage of our "Specials." Brown Dry Goods Company.

Pipe, pump and windmill repair work. All work guaranteed. Headquarters at West Co. Phone 59. Appreciate your work. Cox Brothers. 2313pd

Another car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal in transit. Car Alabama Lump has been delayed—expecting it any day. Swafford, phone 44, south side.

Mr. Booth Warren, Assistant Cashier of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank, was among those who carried away some first premiums on Barred Rock chickens at the West Texas Fair at Abilene recently. And in the classified column of this paper our readers will find his advertisement concerning the sale of some of his fine stock.

When your windmill or pump is out of fix and needs repairing figure with me. Mack Cox. 2313p

Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Matlock are the happy parents of a new boy, born on the 13th.

I now have a complete line of Rawleigh's goods at W. D. Ramsey store. When in need of same call at this place or phone 147 or 265. I will give a good house broom with \$12.00 worth of the goods bought. E.B. Barnes. 16t3

PROFESSIONAL

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 West Company—Front St.
Merkel —:— Texas

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent.
Notary Public.
Office over Crown Hardware Co.

SPECIAL PRICES!

White Cups and Saucers
Per Set **\$1.00**

White Dinner Plates
Per Set **\$1.00**

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.

If it's Hardware We Have It

We Sell All Kinds of Magazines

Also the Ft. Worth Record and El Paso Herald

HAMM DRUG Company

The Rexall Store

Mr. Cash Customer--

We want your business. The dollar is as big as ever. It's the things we buy that have shrunk.

SPECIALS FOR SATURDAY & MONDAY

25 lb. Sugar.....\$2.00
9 Cans Babbit Lye..... 1.00
11 Cans Hookers Lye..... 1.00
1 lb. Lownys Coco..... 30c
35c Delmonte and Gold Bar Can Fruit..... 30c

CARSON & SON GROCERIES

Buy Your Merchandise at Home

Buy your merchandise at home from a well established firm, it is the best that money can buy.

It is the same with our line of high grade Electric Merchandise.

West Texas Utilities Company

The Quality Bakery

Can furnish you at all times with—

Fresh Bread, Cakes and Pies. Also, nice fresh, pure home-made candies

Buy at home and help your home town.

A. A. McGehee, Prop.

We believe in Merkel, we think people of this community should spend their money in Merkel. We know that where people get the greatest value for their money is where they will want to trade. And we believe that in Merkel can be found, among the best values in any line of merchandise, any way we ask you with pleasure, before you go away to buy to come to our store and get our prices.

W. D. Ramsey Grocery Company

FROM A VISITOR'S VIEW POINT

It was not my privilege to remain long here, but I had time to give you something more than just a "once over" before I left, and, as a result, I can report, without fear of honest contradiction, that with the many advantages Merkel now has there isn't any reason whatever for not doubling her population within the next few years. When one takes into consideration the rich agricultural and horticultural land surrounding this city and then realizes, as every thinking person should, that a prosperous farming and fruit growing section about a town is the best and most substantial asset in the world, there remains but one point or problem to work out in order to bring the things we all hope for, viz: the growth, prosperity and progress of your city.

Admitting that, in these wonderful rich acres, the production end of the problem is secure, what then is the other main essential to the prosperity of Merkel?

It is a Get-together And Pull-together Spirit

Having many advantages, natural and otherwise, Merkel is looking into the future with unbounded faith and optimism, and well she may, for when the civic structure of any town, no matter what its size, is built upon such a foundation, there is nothing in the world, short of unforeseen disaster, that can check its steady progress. Just keep on pulling together. Naturally, there are some slackers amongst your population, there always are, but if you work it out rightly these can be brought into line and made good, loyal substantial boosters.

You've got to PULL TOGETHER, folks, in order to keep up the pace and be in the running at the finish. You citizens and you farmers who have been short on your contributions of COMMUNITY PATRIOTISM cannot afford to stand by and expect your business element to carry more than their share. Just imagine, if you please, a town where the majority of the population are perfectly willing to let the merchants shoulder most of the load, and then, instead of giving those merchants the support they deserve, and have earned, those people send away and patronize merchants in other trading centers. Can't you see what the ultimate result will be?

Prosperity means but one thing and that is the ability of an individual or either a community, to keep earnings, or income, above expenditures. You readily realize that for every dollar spent a dollar must be earned, otherwise failure will result. For every dollar that goes out of your community, a dollar must come in from outside sources to replace it. A community's prosperity, therefore, is based on its ability to make income exceed out-go. Modern conditions make it impractical, if not impossible, for any community to live entirely within itself. We must buy outside to some extent, but does it not behoove us to be cautious and careful about so doing when we know that every dollar spent away impoverishes our community just that much.

If you want to please your wife, buy her a sack of

Light Crust Flour at W. W. Campbell's

Our groceries are fresh at all times.

Our prices are right.

And we appreciate any part of your business.

BETTER HURRY

8 More Days Left.

25% Discount on all Portrait work this month only.

RODDEN STUDIO

The Old Reliable Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Small enough to know you, Strong enough to protect you, well equipped to serve you.

START AN ACCOUNT TO-DAY

Reduction of 5% on Tailored Suits during coming eight weeks.

Cleaning, Pressing and Alterations

L. J. RENFRO, TAILOR

Middleton's Filling Station & Tourist Camp

Tires, Tubes, Oils and Gas.

That "Good Gulf Gasoline and Supreme Auto Oil"

Phone 256 for road Service

B. P. Middleton, Prop.

Bargains in Used Cars

We have some genuine bargains in some used cars. Call and see them for your self. They will bear inspection.

Also drive around and try our gas and oils—there are none better. Our stock of tubes and tires is also complete.

Boney's Garage

C. P. Steven's Filling Station

A good Place to buy your Gas and Oils. A place where your business is appreciated Located next door to my Black Smith Shop. And we also invite you to bring us your Blacksmith work.

C. P. Stevens, Prop.

Watkins & Vaughn Meat Market

Fresh Beef, Pork, Sausage, Lard, Chilli, and infact everything usually found in first class Market, coupled with courteous and accommodating treatment where your patronage is sincerely appreciated.

The Farmers State Bank The Home of Guaranteed Deposits

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

J. S. Swann, President, W. L. Diltz Jr., Cashier
R. O. Anderson, Vice-Pres. Herbert Patterson, Asst.-Cash
J. C. Mason Director, David Hendrieks Director.

This institution is here for the benefit of the community and we ask co-operation of our patrons and friends. All legitimate business will be handled with care and dispatch.

A Rubber Goods Special this week

We will sell you either a Guaranteed Hot Water Bottle, or a Fountain Syringe, and make you a present of the other. Come in to see this extraordinary value.

We have as complete a Prescription Stock as will be found anywhere.

Grimes-Smith Drug Company

Phone 9 Prescription Druggists Front Street

J. T. DARSEY & COMPANY

Furniture - Oil Stoves

- Floor Coverings -

- Seller's Kitchen Cabinets -

Why our Tire and Tube Sales are Increasing

We have the goods and make the price right.

On Saturday, January 24th with each five gallons of gasoline sold we will sell one 30x3 1/2 Buck gray tube for one dollar.

Come in and gas with us and get your tube, if you don't need it now you may need it later.

30x3 1/2 Five ply cord casing.....\$7.50

We buy in large quantities and give you the savings in price. Come in and see for yourself.

We have the best in Gas and Oils.

THE OASIS FILLING STATION

All Aboard for Merkel-- Let's Go.

We are trying to give you prices plus Service that are worth considering.

SWAFFORD'S

Phone 44

South Side

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.

EDITORIALS

Don't envy the ruddy health of youth, just adopt those simple rules of health known to all, and acquire it.

Carry with you into your more mature years the dauntless ambition and courage of youth and you are certain of success.

Often those who complain the most of the miscarriage of justice in our courts, try the hardest to get excused from jury service.

Civic pride begins at home—and is expressed in a well-kept lawn, a nicely trimmed hedge or a new coat of paint on the old house.

Success in life comes more frequent to those who do small matters extremely well, rather than to those who struggle after big things.

In years gone by, the distance from farm house to town was measured in minutes; good roads and the automobile have made the difference.

After having been out of town for a few days, don't you enjoy getting back to the familiar scenes and faces—the honest smile and sturdy handgrasp of welcome?

He who produces something better than his fellows—whether it be a larger ear of corn, a heavier grain of wheat or a longer staple boll of cotton—is a benefactor of man.

That man is worth while who, without noise or display or hope of reward, is always found fostering those movements which are for the well-being and uplifting of our city.

How thankful the office of a school trustee! If the school term is successful and every-

thing runs smoothly, he is unpraised, unnoticed and unknown; if troubles arise, he receives the blame immediately.

Let's forget personal differences and individual selfishness and, during the year upon which we have just entered, all pull for the common good of Merkel and we will be surprised at our accomplishments.

Sufficient time has now elapsed for you to have broken almost all of your New Year's resolutions and to have reached that safe and sound mental conditions where you subscribe to that doctrine, "To err is human, to forgive divine."

Did you ever notice how contagious is the spirit of civic pride, which causes our citizens to keep neat, clean, attractive yards? Other citizens up and down the street catch the spirit and soon the whole street presents an attractive appearance.

The recent developments in radio have brought within the reach of the most remote farm house concerts by the world's greatest artists, although the concert may be given a thousand miles away. With radio, good roads and automobiles, farm life is not so bad after all.

The old-time spelling matches in the rural schools provided an ideal gathering place for the young people of the community and at the same time developed some of the best spellers we have ever had—wouldn't be so bad, if we were to revert to some of these simple, wholesome forms of amusement again.

The real enjoyment of life comes not from places and things but from within. Our city furnishes a clean, comfortable place in which to live, amid congenial surroundings. If you will but "tune in", that is, adjust your mental and spiritual attitude, there is no place in the world where you can have more real happiness.

Have all the onion sets west of the Mississippi River. Get your needs before all gone at W. F. Hamblett's.

Chas. Wright is our painter. Just been painting cars eleven years. See some of his work. Merkel Motor Co., Authorized Ford Dealers.

The Sun Worshipers

The sun is not a popular member of the heavenly fraternity around July Fourth.

But during the winter and spring, the sun is looked at as a dispenser of comfort and happiness. Travelers journey long distances to winter resorts so that they can sit on porches bathed in his rays. At home the housewife values her sunny rooms, she places her plants under his influence, and even the cat follows his light around from one side of the house to the other. People are happy on bright days with clear sunlight, and depressed when the same is obscured by clouds.

Sunlight is wonderfully healthful, and it brings good cheer. We express our regard for it by the word "sunshiny", which describes the kind of personality that brings happiness. It is no wonder that ancient races worshipped the sun, as the source of all energy. We should not be too fearful of it in this country and should get all we can of its light.

CARD OF THANKS

To our many friends and neighbors, who during the long illness and final death of our beloved husband and father, we take this method of expressing our thanks and appreciations of every favor and kindness shown us by you, and sincerely trust that throughout the remainder of your lives, you may be blessed with every happiness possible.

To the members of the Odd Fellows Lodge, we are especially thankful to you for your every kindness. Mrs. J. S. Burns and children. 1tp

Our good friend and former citizen of Merkel, Mr. S. W. Wilson, who for the past year has resided at Lamesa, sends this paper a clipping from one of the Lamesa papers showing that 51,000 bales of cotton had been ginned in Dawson county, with shipment from Lamesa of 35,000. And the paper goes on to remark "some cotton crop from drought stricken, sand stormy West Texas." And we admit it. Of course friend Wilson, you have a fine country for a new country. But being so young, sappy and overgrown may over jump itself and absolutely make a failure some time, and in which event, your good friends will be glad to welcome you back to good old tried, true and stable Taylor county.

Mrs. Maude Rogers was here several days this week visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Jack Durham.

All Gold Coffee at G. M. Sharp's. 23t2

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Terrill, of Exnia, Ohio, are here for a visit with their daughter, Mrs. R. I. Grimes.

Mr. L. E. Propst, of Marlow, Okla. was here first of the week, the guest of his cousin, Mr. H. L. Propst.

Messrs. Sam Swann, Clyde Sears and Earl Lassiter made a business trip to the plains this week.

Fresh car of Seal Flour, at Bob Martin Grocery Company. 1t

TEXAS LEGISLATURE SLOGAN IS ECONOMY

BOTH HOUSES NOW READY TO CONSIDER GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS.

ACTUAL WORK HAS STARTED

Bill to Consolidate State Agricultural and Market Departments Filed.

Austin, Texas.—The good ship economy, launched amid cheers at the opening of the Legislature, with a crew composed of the majority of the House and Senate, gave additional signs of the hoped-for progress in its "sixty-day passage," as the reciprocating engines in both chambers got their stride.

Only one minor disturbance aft in the House marred the perfect sailing. An effort to cut the number of stenographers and pages in half was defeated by a vote of 109 to 31.

The ship's log discloses, however, his record for the second day out: The Senate disposed of all appropriations necessary for the operation of the legislative machinery and a now free to consider general appropriations within the limits of the regular session.

In the house a bill to consolidate the markets and warehouse department with the State Department of Agriculture was given place No. 2 in the calendar after presentation by Representative John H. Veatch of Joshua, Johnson County.

The Senate led out with passage of the per diem and mileage bill, appropriating \$125,000, and the contingent expense bill calling for \$40,000. They were the first bills to be introduced in the Senate for the present session, and were presented by Senator John Davis of Dallas, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Final passage of these two bills was given on suspension of constitutional rules relating to bills aying over.

On motion of Senator Davis consideration of two of the resolutions dealing with passage of the general appropriation bills during the regular session, were set down as pending business. The first of the series of three resolutions relating to passage of the general appropriations was adopted which provides for the passage of the general appropriations during the regular session. The other two set down provide that no other appropriation measures are to be considered prior to final passage of the general appropriation bills, and that the recommendations of the State Board of Control are to be used as the basis for drawing up the general appropriation bills.

FIGHT ON FEDERAL AID OPENED BY DAVIS

Introduces Bill in Senate Opposing Fifty-Fifty Appropriations.

Austin, Texas.—Senator John Davis of Dallas, chairman of the Finance Committee, has renewed his fight of two years ago on the so-called "fifty-fifty" appropriations, with the introduction of a simple resolution condemning that character of Federal appropriations which may be obtained by the State, only after matching with equal sums. Against his protest the resolution was referred to the Committee on Federal Relations, on motion of Senator Murphy of Harris.

In presenting the resolution, Senator Davis pointed out that it was identical in wording and intent to concurrent resolution which he presented early during the session of the Thirty-Eighth Legislature. The resolution of two years ago died in the House, where concurrence was refused. The present resolution, being a simple resolution, requires adoption by the Senate only.

In his resolution, Senator Davis says: "There has lately grown up among a number of well organized minorities who apparently believe that the chief end of government is to engage in, or to furnish finances to further undertakings which are not the primary functions of government; and in order to obtain the financial aid desired, they have brought pressure to bear upon Congress of the United States with the suggestion and provision that if the National Congress shall furnish to the several States certain aid or finances from the Treasury of the United States, that the several States will furnish a like amount." The resolution suggests that the various States are able to look after their own problems and declares that he so-called "fifty-fifty" appropriations are "contributing in increasing degree to high Federal and State taxes."

Wants Convention System. Austin, Texas.—The calling of a constitutional convention and substitution of the old convention system of nominating candidates for State offices for the present primary system, were urged in a talk before the Senate by D. F. Goss of Seymour, former Senator from the Panshandle district. Mr. Goss was a member of the Texas Senate for ten years, his first term beginning in 1893. His district comprised twenty-five counties, being he said, "the sweet in the world."

WHITE CHURCH NEWS

Probably you readers think that we White Church news hounds quit, as it has been some time since we have found time to hunt for any news. Yes we have been busy, not with crossword puzzles, but with making ready to begin an effort to make another crop. Cotton! Cotton? No, not all cotton, for the writer of this article is a strong believer in diversification. 1925 may mean a prosperous year for us and then it may not; it is not arranged so that we may know in advance, but we do know by our own, or some one else's experience that the greatest effort we put forth to accomplish a thing the better the results are likely to be.

Since our last writing many of our neighbors have started breaking land and some places it is breaking up cloddy which seems to indicate that we still need rain. The rain will come though in due time and those who are breaking the land while it is dry are the ones who will probably realize the most benefit from it when it comes.

Our school is still progressing nicely regardless of the fact that the patrons and trustees are finding excuses not to visit the school as often as we should and try to show the teachers our appreciation of what they are doing for us.

Mr. H. E. Farmer is having some new additions made to his house during the last few days.

Messrs. Sam and Oran Chamberlain of Goree were visiting their sister, Mrs. D. R. Snow one day last week.

Clabourne McPeak from Plainview is visiting friends and relatives here and at Truby.

Z. E. Snow and family of Brownfield visited here and at Hawley a few days of last week before going on to south Texas on a prospecting trip.

In passing we see a new Moline Tractor taking the places of horses in front of R. Frank Demere's discs.

Mr. Voe Tye, who lives near Fort Worth, is here this week looking after the business of his farm and visiting relatives while doing so.

In spite of the nice big snow we had falling last Sunday, the friends of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Malone enjoyed a nice turkey dinner with them.

WORK FOR US

If you really want an education and are willing to work for it, this is your opportunity. One young person at Merkel can earn a free scholarship for the World-famous Draughon Training by working for us in that vicinity. Work pleasant and profitable. Don't say you never had a chance, if you let this opportunity pass. Better call at the College Office at once, or write J. D. Miracle, President Draughon's College, Abilene, Texas inclosing references and full particulars of your education, plans and the like. Arrangements will be made only with one who really needs the work. Act to day. 1t

Mr. Lytton B. Howard, left Wednesday for Brownfield, where he informs us, he will again be connected with the Jones Dry Goods Company of that city. Mr. Howard is a fine citizen, a good dry goods man, and his many friends regret that he is to again leave us, but commend him to the best citizenship of that city. Mr. Howard stated that his family would follow as soon as he could secure a home there.

B. Y. P. U.'S ENJOY WENNIE ROAST

The members of the Baptist Young People's Union, of the First Baptist church of Merkel enjoyed last Friday evening a Wennie Roast out on Mulberry creek. Those honoring Miss Willie Swann, and those taking part in the enjoyable outing and feast were: Carlton Dennis, Miss Lola Dennis, Bill Haynes, Bill Teaff, Willie Swann, Louis Giles, Delbert Polly, Jas. Swann, Fred Giles, Miss Hearne, Miss Lucy Tracy, Selma Teaff, Miss Weeden, Miss Harrison, Marvin Mayfield, Warren Smith, Floyd Dowell, Miss Lucille Guitard, and Mrs. Warren Smith.

Branding Scene In Picture Thrills

One of the most strenuous scenes of her career! This was the opinion of all who witnessed the filming of the branding episode in "The Cheat", starring Pola Negri, produced by George Fitzmaurice and which will beshown at the Cozy theatre next Monday and Tuesday. Jack Holt has a featured role and Charles de Roche leads the supporting cast. It was the latter, who played the scene with Miss Negri, and after it was over, both were exhausted by the strain, and several bruises testified to the realism injected into the dramatic action.

The episode shows de Roche in the role of a crook parading as a Hindu prince, branding the beautiful star on the shoulder with a tiger's head—deonting that she is his property. This is after she has become financially indebted to him and then tries to pay with money. He calls her a "cheat" and brands her. Later this brand saves her husband and her own peace of mind, after she has shot the Hindu, and theburden of guilt is assumed by the husband, played by Mr. Holt.

The scene had to be made with every realistic touch to be effective; worked up to a high nervous tension. The two players went through several rehearsals, and finally "camera" was called. Then with redoubled intensity they proceeded to enact the situation which, on the screen, is said to be one of the most tremendous ever filmed.

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann. 1t

Peace Maker Flour, Del Monte can goods, All Gold Coffee, all best brands at G.M. Sharp. 23t2

IF YOU HAVE
Malaria, Piles, Sick Headache, Costive Bowels, Dumb Aches, Sour Stomach, and Belching; your food does not assimilate, you have no appetite.
Tutt's Pills
will remedy these troubles

Easy Way to Break Severest Cough

No matter how long you have had a persistent, weakening cough—no matter how many remedies you have tried without success—you can usually get relief instantly, and often relieve the entire cough condition in 24 hours, by a very simple method. The method is based on a remarkable prescription known as Dr. King's New Discovery for Coughs. You simply take one teaspoonful and hold it in your throat for 15 or 20 seconds before swallowing it, without following with water. The prescription has a double action. It not only soothes and heals soreness and irritation, but it quickly loosens and removes the phlegm and congestion which are the direct cause of the coughing. The prompt relief seems almost magical, and the quickness with which the whole cough condition disappears is often simply amazing. There is nothing better for coughs, chest colds, bronchitis, bronchial asthma, hoarseness, and almost every throat irritation. Economical, too, as the dose is only one teaspoonful. On sale at all good druggists. Ask for

DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY FOR COUGHS

Cozy Theatre

Telephone No. 243

MONDAY and TUESDAY, Jan. 26-27

Adolph Zukor Presents

POLA NEGRI

—in—
"THE CHEAT"

The biggest cheat of all is he who cheats himself out of happiness. Be square with yourself and see THE Picture of the year.

—also—

Larry Semon in

"RISKS AND ROUGHNECKS"

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Jan. 28-29

RICHARD TALMADGE

—in—
"AMERICAN MANNERS"

Also Paramount Comedy

"TWO TOUGH TENDERFEET"

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, Jan. 30-31

Progress Pictures Presents

"EDMUND COBB"

—in—
"TROUBLE TRAILS"

A Thrilling Western Romance with

Educational Comedy

"HIGH LIFE"

—Always a Good Show and a Warm House—

□□□□□□

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

□□□□□□

25 PER CENT DISCOUNT
ON PORTRAITS THIS MONTH ONLY.
"BABY GROWS OLDER DAY BY DAY— A PHOTOGRAPH NEVER."
PARAMOUNT KODAK FINISHING
Best service in Southwest. Special Attention given mail orders.
EIGHT HOUR SERVICE.
RODDEN STUDIO Merkel, Texas

Ford

THE UNIVERSAL CAR



The TUDOR Sedan

admirably meets winter driving needs

Tudor Sedan
\$580

Ford Sedan - \$660
Coupe - 520
Touring Car - 290
Runabout - 260

On open cars demountable rims and starter are \$55 extra
All prices f. o. b. Detroit

Visitors are always welcome at all Ford Plants

The wide utility of this popular body type makes it a splendid winter car for the average family.

In the Tudor Sedan you have a closed car you will not hesitate to take out in any weather. Light in weight, yet sturdy and always dependable of performance, it is safe, convenient and extremely easy for anyone to handle.

In its roomy interior you will ride snugly and comfortably. Viewing its attractive appearance, you will never regret your decision to purchase this inexpensive, yet so highly satisfactory a car.

Ford Motor Company
Detroit

SEE THE NEAREST AUTHORIZED FORD DEALER

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—A good work mare, weighing about 1200 pounds, 16 hands high. Terms to the right party. Roy Adams. 16t2p

BERMUDA Onions and Cabbage plants. Best early varieties. 400, 1.00; 1000, \$2; 5000, \$8, post-paid. Prompt shipment and satisfaction guaranteed. TEXAS PLANT FARM, Mart, Tex. 16t8

Half and half Cotton Seed. Pure, first year seed from originator in Georgia. Write for circular and price list. I guarantee 1,100 pounds seed cotton to make 500 pound bale. Address ED TAYLOR, Queen City, Texas. 1Apr

FOR SALE—One choice Barred Rock Cockrell at \$5.00. Only one left. See Booth Warren, at the F. & M. Bank. 1tp

FOR SALE—Work mules or horses, big, little, old or young, cheap for cash or good note. M. Armstrong. 1t

FOR SALE—A good smooth 3 year old Filly. Might trade for good fresh young Jersey milk cow. See J. E. Richardson at Merkel Lumber Co. 1t

FOR SALE—Some fat hogs. J. A. Bland, Merkel, Texas. 1tpd.

FOR SALE—Pure Hog Lard. For ten days we will sell pure hog lard at 15 cents per pound, where a person takes as much or more than 25 lbs. at one time. City Meat Market. 1t

FOR SALE—A P. & O. Double row cultivator. See J. B. Foster, Route One. 1tp

FOR SALE—One young mule and two old ones. Will take good notes for them payable in the fall. See W. T. Duncan. 1tp

FOR SALE—Some good milk cows and some plow tools. See Homer Patterson. 1tp

WANTED

WANTED—Some hands to do some grubbing. See Sam Butman for particulars. tf

WANTED—To trade 160 acres land near Brownfield, Texas, for something in or near Merkel. See me or phone 84. L. B. Scott at Merkel Motor Co. 1t

WANTED—Single man to do farm and ranch work. Tom Largent, Merkel, Tex, phone 55. 1tp

WANTED—Men to grub 75 acres of land. See A. B. Cranstun, Merkel, Route 1. 16t2p

LOST

LOST—Pretty little pup, half collie and half Airdale. Supposed to have strayed from home. Would appreciate return of same or would like to know of his whereabouts. Call at the Merkel Mail Office. tf

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

BLAIR'S No. 7



HERB TONIC
FOR
Stomach, Liver
Kidney and Blood
Sold For Over 20 Years
All Good Druggists

BLAIR & SON MEDICINE CO.
Sherman, Texas
MERKEL DRUG CO. Sells it.

Tearing Down Vs. Building Up

Bickering, fault-finding, and back-biting will retard the growth of any community, town, state or Nation.

A house divided against itself cannot prosper. There can never be any lasting prosperity where these factors are uppermost in the minds of a considerable portion of the people. Consideration and energetic cooperation will materially advance the interest of any town or community. These form the background of all great municipalities. Natural advantages have much to do with community achievements, but natural advantages will not suffice alone. Cooperation is an essential element, but it never marches side by side with fault-finding and bickering. The latter are destroyers, not builders; they tear down instead of building up.

Possibly we are not overburdened with this destroying element, but such as we have is entirely too much. Community advancement means personal security to the individual, and that is best achieved through energetic and persistent co-operation. Hence tearing down or building up is the question. Which side are you identified with? The fault finders are invariably the ones with the greatest faults. The most expensive indulgence is hate.

The cheapest, most stupid and easiest thing to do, is find fault. The greatest trouble maker is talking too much. The worst bankrupt is the soul that has lost enthusiasm. The meanest thing is jealousy. The best gift is forgiveness. As the poet has said:

Look not for the flaws, as you go through life.

And even if you find them.

'Tis wise and kind to be somewhat blind,
And remember the virtues behind them.

For the darkest night has a hint of the light,

Somewhere in its shadows hiding 'Tis better by far to look for a star,

Than spots on the sun abiding.
J. C. Mason.

ROAD WORK NOTICE

All persons subject to road work, may pay \$3.00 this month and receive exemption receipts for the year. After Jan. 31st, it will be five dollars or five days work on streets.
W. N. Hall, City Marshal 1tp

W. C. Reid returned Thursday from a business trip to El Paso. He reports conditions fine out that way.

CITY FURNITURE Co. buys, sells and exchanges new and second-hand furniture. Large shipment of dishes, rugs and army goods. Joe Garland, Prop. Across from Post Office. tf

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

THE CABINET IN CONGRESS

The idea is being advocated and is likely to be prominently pushed, that the president's cabinet should be given seats in one or both of the houses of Congress, where they could expound and promote the measures which the administration favors. This would be a partial adoption of the system prevailing in most European countries, where cabinets have to defend their policies before their parliaments, and if they can not obtain a parliamentary majority, they have to resign.

The American people will never go so far as to make the president's cabinet subject to the will of Congress. And the idea of allowing cabinet members this position in the lawmaking assembly may be advocated by some of those who merely like to see changes of any kind, regardless whether such changes will accomplish good results or not.

Still there are some forcible arguments for such an innovation. One fault in our system of government is the failure of the president and Congress to work together. Frequently there is a paralysis of action, because these two powers can not agree on any program. The country waits for needed legislation because of this lack of unity.

If the cabinet members were given a chance to become direct leaders of opinion on the floor of Congress, it would become possible to put through a good many measures which now are blocked by the lack of some positive and driving force behind them.

Many authorities feel that the president is already too powerful, and such ones would not of course favor such a suggestion. But the American people are as a rule in favor of action, and think that failure to do anything is often worse than some real mistake. Many who take that view would like to see the cabinet members advocating their program on the floor of Congressional debate.

Many dollars were saved last Friday and Saturday by the people who took advantage of our "Specials." Brown Dry Goods Company. 16

Miss Blanche Durham returned this week from a very pleasant trip to Fort Worth and Dallas, Texas.

Make your Ford look like new for \$12.50. We paint them. One day service, see us. Merkel Motor Co., Authorized Ford Dealers. 1t

Mrs. S. D. Gamble and father Mr. W. A. Sheppard have returned from Fort Worth, Texas where they visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Ramsey report the arrival of a bouncing baby boy, born on the 17th.

FOR SEWER Connections—See Sid Criswell. tf

LAND FOR SALE

I still have four little farms I can sell and deliver, worth the money. So don't miss a crop. E. D. Coats. -t.

The Carson Grocery Company is offering some special bargains in groceries. A big saving to you. Read their advertisement in the big "Trade At Home Page", in this paper. 1tp

We have a new paint shop and a man with the experience. See our work and have your old car painted like a new one. Merkel Motor Co. Authorized Ford Dealers. 1t

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

ST. GEORGE HOTEL
Dallas
Where you will feel at home
*If only to spend the day in
* Dallas, make our large lobby
* and our spacious parlors
* your resting place.
* 170 Rooms, 60 baths.
* \$1.50 per day and up.
* In the center of the business district.
* CHAS. HODGES,
* Proprietor.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Send to the Laundry and be convinced. Regular family washing. Everything included except stiff collars, silk and woolen goods at ten pounds for one dollar. Phone 218. Alfred H. Ligdon.

Mr. L. B. Howard returned the latter part of last week from a business trip to the plains. tf

The longer you use it the better you like it. Try it. Motorgain Fordoyle lasts longer, makes motors run smoother. Get it at the OASIS Filling Station. tf

MEMBER
TEXAS QUALIFIED
DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE

Legally
Registered
Pharmacist

**Merkel Drug
COMPANY**
S. D. Gamble, Mgr.

EMBERS FROM THE OLD FIRE SIDE

The Country Church Spire
By Harry Woods

Just a little country church at the turning of the road, nestling 'neath a grove of native trees—but its rudely fashioned spire, towering well aloft, points ever heavenward and its welltempered bell calls the wayward to the house of worship.

No stained glass storied windows—no choir loft—no organ great, but the praises sung come from hearts sincere and the message which their shepherd brings his flock is of the lowly Nazarene who came in humbleness to minister and not to rule.

Ah, happy the lot of the villager born within the shadow of the old church. Held in proud parents' arms, christened into life's responsibilities within its sacred walls. As youth to man is turning, his mind and heart from sermon straying, behind hymn book, a stolen whisper, a stolen smile from lips of ruby red—and sitting on the old stone bench in the churchyard the truth is plighted, 'neath summer moon and silent stars.

Then the happy wedding, and a new home dots the hill-side farm—by long hours of labor and sacrifice he waxes prosperous—children come to bless the home, and after a while he becomes weary of the struggle and by loving hands is laid to rest in the little cemetery beside the old church with those others gone before.

Ah, peaceful sleep! When life's fitful fever is spent and I, too, at last shall rest, I want just such a grassy mound, kissed by the morning dew, a thousand gems in the early sunlight—where gentle breezes forever whisper through the trees a sweet sad requiem—and where at eventide the settin' gsun tints the sky with gold and throws about the old church spire a halo of glory.

The longer you use it the better you like it. Try it. Motorgain Fordoyle lasts longer, makes motors run smoother. Get it at the OASIS Filling Station. tf

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann. tf

I want partner who wishes to build 5-room bungalow from car of lumber. Lee D. Williams. tf

SEVERE CRAMPING SPELLS, PAINS IN BACK AND SIDES

"My trouble has been periodic cramping spells," says Mrs. C. C. Draper, of Atlanta, Texas. "For several years these have come on me so bad that I had to quit my work and go to bed. Every month I would stay in bed from one to two days. The pains in my back and sides were awful. This went on for several months after I was married one time when I was having a bad spell, my husband suggested that I try Cardui. I said I would try it, so he got me a bottle at the store and I began to take it.

"It seemed like I improved from the very first dose. When I had taken one bottle I was very much better. I did not cramp so hard the next month and I ate and slept better. I was not nearly so nervous, either. I thought Cardui was fine, so I continued the treatment until I had taken five bottles, at which time I felt completely well. I had no more

cramping spells at all, and my health was as good as anybody's. I am feeling fine now and I give all the credit to Cardui, for I had been suffering for years before I took it."

Cardui is a vegetable extract, containing no harmful ingredients. It is made from mild-acting medicinal herbs with a gentle, tonic, strengthening effect upon certain female organs and upon the system in general. Its users have testified to its special value at the time of entering womanhood at maturity and at the time of the change of life.

For over 40 years, Cardui has been tested in use by thousands of women who have written to tell of the great benefit they have received from it. For over 600 years, medical authorities have recommended one of the principal ingredients of Cardui in the treatment of certain female complaints.

Cardui, the woman's tonic, tested by time, is today the product of many years of experience and investigation. It is manufactured in up-to-date laboratories by the most modern and sanitary methods of pharmaceutical

MERKEL HIGH GIVES FOOT BALL REPORT

The following report is intended to let the people of the Merkel school district and others know something of what was done in Merkel High School athletics so far this year, especially football.

The season just passed was one of Merkel's best, as a large number of interested athletes reported for practice and by hard work soon attained fair condition for the seasons games. The first game was with Clyde High and was won without great worry, the score being 57 to 0. The second game, played at Ballinger, promised to be a closer contest, but when the last whistle blew the score was 65 to 0 in favor of Merkel. The third game was played with Sweetwater, an ancient rival, the game being clearly in doubt with the "Badgers" having the small end of the dope, but despite the fact that most people predicted Merkel would lose, the "Badgers" again kept their goal line uncrossed and piled up a safe score of 26 to 0. Interest was growing by now and the people were wanting to see the locals hit that line. The fourth game was with Winters. This was a dull affair compared to some others, Merkel winning by 37 to 0. The fifth game was to local players the game that must be won as it was with the Hamlin High team, one of the two teams that had beaten us the year before. Long practice and hard work were engaged in and the team in good fighting spirit when the game opened. It was on the opening play that one of those uncalled for plays occurred. Merkel kicked off to Hamlin, and they ran the ball back for the first score of the season against the "Badgers". This play was the thing needed by our boys to put real fight into them. They came back and piled up 33 points and left their opponents with the lonely 6. Merkel had avenged herself for the defeat of the previous year.

Merkel had, by winning this game, earned the right to compete for the championship of District No. 3, so a few days later the "Badgers" took on the Stamford "Bulldogs" for the semi-final game in the district. For the first time in the history of the two schools Merkel won a hard fought game 6 to 0. This put the local team up to the final game for the championship of 23 counties—the game with Stephenville. Here was our "Waterloo." A small school pitted against one of twice its size, a team of boys against foot ball players, outweighed and out played, but not out fought, the Badgers went down to defeat by a score of 20 to 0. The tide had turned and Merkel had lost. But it was said by the man who refereed the game that he never saw boys fight and try so hard who were handicapped as much as the Merkel squad were, and that if lots of College players could have seen the fight put up by the "Badgers" they could have learned a lot about how to win games.

The eighth game was with the Roscoe boys and with several of the best players out Merkel suffered an "off day", winning however by a score of 9 to 6, when ordinarily they should have won 40 to 0. The Roscoe boys made a touchdown and never earned a first down. Our alibi is we were "off". The last game of the season was played under similar conditions, Patterson, Smith, Petty, Acuff, Harkrider and Tittle were out entirely and one or two others so badly bruised up from previous games that they were unable to play only part of the time. They came home from Haskell with the little end of the score, 20 to 0. This ended the season for the "Badgers," but they had their way. They had won the friendship of the towns played and the people of Merkel. To them goes the credit for fighting on and winning a moral victory and almost winning a



JANUARY CLEARING SALE

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All Winter Goods Priced Cheaper

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New Spring Merchandise Now coming in

These Extra Specials for Saturday Mean MONEY SAVED FOR YOU

Good 32-inch dress Gingham 15c
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 Extra special prices on ladies Shoes. All Dresses priced less than cost.
 25 New Spring Hats Priced Special

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

material victory.

The boys themselves are more pleased with the town and its support and backing than anything else. Their appreciation is expressed by these lines: "It is our wish that the support will always be as good as it was this year. The things the town did are many and the individuals who lent financial support are too numerous to mention, but let this suffice: The boys wish to thank Mr. Scott for plowing the field before the season started, making it possible to have a ground at all fit to play on, and to the many men who furnished their cars for transporting the teams and officials from one place to another. And for the fine blankets presented to the school to be used by the players; and for the advertising done by people; and finally for the trophy sweaters awarded. For these and many other things too numerous to mention the "Badgers" thank the citizens of Merkel, the

biggest and best town its size in the world."

We have this from coach Jackson: "Some people seem to think I am going to leave Merkel next year. Well, I haven't asked any other place for a job, and I have not packed up yet, nor have I contracted with the local board. Of course I will go if I am not hired to stay here, but I am not gone yet, so don't get the wrong idea. I like Merkel and her people. I would like to stay here, but that is for others to dictate."

(Signed) Committee, of Merkel High School.

Fresh car of Seal Flour, at Bob Martin Grocery Company. It

FOR SALE—Writing paper and envelopes to match. Name or monogram printed FREE. Call at Mail office to see samples. Blanche Durham. tf

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann. tf

READ THE BIG TRADE AT HOME PAGE

Beginning with this issue of the Mail and running every two weeks, there will be found a "Trade At Home Page", in which will appear an Editorial of the reasons why the people of this town and community should buy their needs from the home merchants, as well as the appearance also in this page of advertisements from eighteen business firms. And, we want our readers to not only read the different editorials in these different pages, but read the merchants and business men's advertisements.

There is not a newspaper anywhere that could last long unless the business interests and people generally patronized it from an advertising standpoint and these men, as well as all others who carry advertisements in this paper from time

to time, are the ones who make it possible for the paper to exist. And, this town nor any other town would not be much of a town without a newspaper. Hence, the more advertising the better paper we are able to publish, therefore, we urge our readers to patronize those who advertise in this paper. If they spend money asking for your trade, and show their appreciation of same in that way, we believe they are entitled to it. Read the ads each week and see if you can't profit by patronizing those who advertise. Try it!

Have your old car painted. Touring \$12.50, painted by a man with eleven years experience. Merkel Motor Co., authorized Ford Dealers. 1t

Another car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal in transit. Car Alabama Lump has been delayed—expecting it any day. Swafford. phone 44, south side. 1t

NEW FIXTURES AT THE F. & M. BANK MODERN

(Continued from page one)

county and his opinion of conditions and credit is highly regarded. Mr. Butman is one of the pioneers of Taylor county, having taken up land where he now lives and gradually adding to it until the present time. He is highly regarded by the officers and directors of the bank.

Mr. Thompson in speaking of the board of directors tells us that there never has been any differences between them and that he never sat at a directors table with men who were more capable of impartially determining any matters that came before them. The Bank started with a capital of \$25,000.00 and has increased its capital out of its earnings to \$50,000.00 and its surplus to \$15,000.00 and has yet been able to have as its slogan, "We never missed a dividend and never assessed a shareholder."

Mr. J. T. Howard was with the bank since its organization until the summer of 1924 when he voluntarily resigned to make the race for County Tax Assessor. Mr. Howard was an efficient and capable employee of the bank and its officers hold him in highest regard.

Mr. Thompson came here from Kansas and entered actively into the management of the Bank and has taken an active share in all of the community activities. He is at present serving his second year as President of the Luncheon Club. He is a Trustee of McMurry College and a member of the County Board of Education. And by his big heartedness, progressive spirit and enthusiastic desire to lend a helping hand to any cause that will redound to the upbuilding and betterment of the community, as well as his desire to be of any help he possibly can to his fellow man, Mr. Thompson has won the friendship and admiration of the entire community.

The Bank is yet to receive new desks, chairs and tables which will be installed within the next three weeks. The Mail does not hesitate to say that the entire community should and no doubt does appreciate the fine public spirit displayed by this good bank and we bespeak for it the same measure of prosperity and good will that has always attended it.

We would not wish to close this article without commenting on a remark Mr. Thompson made at the close of the interview when he said he believed the bank had one of the best working forces of any institution of similar size in the state. Every one of them being extraordinarily efficient in their particular duties and agreeable co-workers; each having for their first consideration and each always speaking well of his fellow workers.

The working force is now composed, in addition to Mr. Thompson, of Mr. Booth Warren, Assistant cashier, who has charge of the notes and collections, Mr. Owen Ellis, Assistant Cashier, who holds the chief tellers window, Miss Rosie Laney, Stenographer, who has charge of recording notes and collections, and writing drafts, Mr. Castle Ellis and Miss Willie Toombs, Bookkeepers.

In addition to those mentioned the Bank numbers as its shareholders some of the strongest men in this section of the county and they along with the officers and directors contribute in no small measure to the banks success.

Plenty Bran, Shorts, corn and corn chops. G. M. Sharp. 2312

The longer you use it the better you like it. Try it. Motorgain Fordoye lasts longer, makes motors run smoother. Get it at the OASIS Filling Station. tf

Walter Warnken returned first of the week from a trip to San Antonio and other points in south Texas.

Today and Tomorrow "SPECIAL"

Heavy weight "OIL CLOTH"

We only carry the very best in OIL CLOTH at all times. Regular 40c Oil Cloth in light Oak patterns and white, Friday and Saturday "Special"

32 1/2^c Yard

Throngs of People took advantage of our "Specials" last Fri. & Sat. Why not you?

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WE SELL FOR LESS—BECAUSE WE SELL FOR CASH

"Paymaster" OVERALLS

MEN! You know the quality of this Overall. They are selling the country over for \$2.25. We have your size, it matters not what shape you are. Friday and Saturday "Special"

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