

MANY PRIZES WILL FEATURE TRADES DAY

In our last week's issue of the Mail the announcement was made that there would be held in this city on Saturday, April 18th, the biggest Trade Day Event ever held in this part of the country. And now we are ready to announce to the world that the plans are all complete for carrying out the big event.

As stated last week, Mr. J. C. Mason, who takes a delight in promoting enterprises and event, that will be of mutual benefit to the whole citizenship, took it upon himself to canvas the business and professional men of the city, soliciting them to offer prizes to be given away absolutely free on next Saturday, and that he has succeeded in securing the biggest lot of useful and valuable prizes may be noted by reading the big page advertisement in this paper, wherein the business men have announced the fine prizes they are offering. Mr. Reader, don't fail to read these advertisements, every one of them. And, besides those found in the page advertisement, there are others who have offered prizes not mentioned in the ad, and some have given cash to help pay the expenses of the occasion.

The big drawing will take place on the main streets in the afternoon at three o'clock, and every one will be given an opportunity to get one of the nearly one hundred prizes to be given away by the business men of this city. Remember you do not have to buy one cent of merchandise to get a prize. It's all FREE, and will amount to hundreds of dollars worth of cash and merchandise absolutely free. Make your arrangements to come to Merkel on this day. Besides the many valuable prizes to be given free, you will find the merchants well stocked with various lines of merchandise, and at prices as reasonable as can be found in any town throughout the country.

There will also be quite a bit of amusement for the entertainment of the great crowd that is sure to be here, among which will be singing, music, readings, etc. And we are told there will be a real "Battle Royal," a big boxing bout between five big buck negroes, headed by "Derby," and all boxing at once, right on the main street, taking place at four o'clock and absolutely free of charge.

Meat Market Change

After an absence of a year or more from the meat market business, Messrs. A. E. and W. F. Patterson are again in the market business with their brother, Jas. A. Patterson, having purchased the interests of Messrs. Baker and Vantrees, who were associated with the latter Mr. Patterson. They are not only experienced in this business but are courteous and accommodating, and will no doubt enjoy their share of the business in this line.

Mr. W. A. Barker of Tennessee son of Mr. J. L. Barker of the Salt Branch community, is here this week for a visit with the latter, and with the view of locating in this community. He says he is anxious to get back into good old Texas, having formerly resided in the state.

Colonel and Mrs. J. A. Buford left this week for an extended trip to the coast country.

TRADE TRIP TO CROSS ROADS

Tonight the business men, professional men and citizens, accompanied by the Merkel Orchestra, will leave the city at seven o'clock p. m. promptly for the Cross Roads or Teaff school, southeast of the city some nine miles, where they will render a program consisting of music, singing, readings, etc.

These Trade Trips are put on for the purpose of the business men and the farmers getting better acquainted, and it is hoped that every one who can will take it upon themselves to join those making the visit. Mr. Business man, it's to your interest, and all business men are invited and urged to go.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DAY METHODIST CHURCH

A program observing Sunday School day will be given at the Methodist church next Sunday at the evening hour. Following is the program to be given by the different classes of the Sunday School.

Song, "Onward Christian Soldiers," No. 28.

Prayer.
Welcome, Arma Love Toombs.
Song by Children.
Reading by Nell Hughes.
Song by Beginners.
Wishes, by Mrs. Cox's class.
Reading by Holt Vaughn.
Song by Clarence Rea.
Reading by Nell Durham.
Piano Solo by Mary Elizabeth Grimes.

Reading by Tracy Campbell.
Song by Mossie Sears' class.
Reading by Margaret Turner.
Play by Winner Class.
Song by Mrs. Golday's class.
Play by Mrs. Hutcheson's class.
Solo by Miss Christine Collins.
Talk by Mrs. Swafford.
Song by Blue Bird Class.
Talk by Mr. L. R. Thompson.
Benediction.

Some Fine Strawberries

Let's start a campaign to interest the citizenship in raising more strawberries in and about Merkel. That they can be grown here we are sure. We know it, because Mr. L. R. Robbins, one of our splendid fellow townsmen, brought to this office today a sample of some extra large, fine and ripe ones of his own raising. Yes, grown right here in Merkel. And Mr. Robbins states that he had them for his own table use since March 25th. He only has a small plot but has been able to produce a small quantity for sale. Thanks, Mr. Robbins, for the fine sample.

Saturday, April 18 only, will sell gasoline at 18c per gallon, as much or as little as you want. Quart of good oil 20c. C. P. Stevens Filling Station. 1tp

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt are happy over the receipt of a telegram from their son, Robert, in California, stating that on the 12th a seven pound boy was born unto them. Mr. and Mrs. Rainbolt have several grand children, but this is the first son, in whom the honor of perpetuating the family name will be conferred.

J. T. Darsey and son, Wade, returned first of the week from a visit with relatives at McGregor, Texas.

COUNTY AGENT VISITS IN THIS COMMUNITY

The County Agent, J. R. Masterson, toured this section Wednesday, visiting several schools in this territory with the object of interesting the boys and girls in agricultural activities. He states that we will, in all probability, have a severe attack of grasshoppers. The hoppers that have hatched during the past 30 days are not the variety that are destructive. He informs us that there are two types of the pests that are especially injurious, the flying kind with yellow bodies, called the "differential," and the "Jumbo," which is a short, chubby insect. He informs us that the destructive varieties are expected to hatch about the middle of April, but will not begin to injure growth until they are from three to four weeks of age, at which time the hoppers shed their shells in the manner that a snake drops its coat. Then the pest begins to migrate and to destroy the growth as it advances. He also informs us that a detailed account of the means of combating the pests will be given wide publicity at an early date. Watch for it.

PROMINENT GINNER BURIED AT STITH

James Munroe Dunagin, 48, of Abilene, who was found dead in bed Saturday morning at a Dallas hotel by his room-mate, Geo. McDonald of Abilene, when he attempted to rouse him for breakfast, was buried at Stith Sunday afternoon after funeral services from his residence at 720 Meander street at 2 o'clock. A coroner's inquest pronounced the death due to apoplexy, a press dispatch stated.

Mr. Dunagin was born in White County Tennessee, December 9, 1876 and when he was 9 months old came with his parents to Texas, settling in Fannin county near Ladonia. He married Miss Josie Crowson. He was a rancher in Jones county for two years before going into the gin business in 1903 at Stith. For 21 years he followed this business and owned or was interested in gins at Abilene, Caps, Anson, Radium, Weinert, Hamlin, Stith and Las Cruces, New Mexico, at the time of his death.

He owned two gins at Anson, and in 1902 took the world's record when he ginned 7380 bales in one season at Anson with 5 stands and 80 saws, which was the largest number of bales ginned in one season by one ginner. He had been in Abilene for about five years, moving to that city from the Stith community.

Mr. Dunagin was a Shriner, and a member of the Kiwanis Club and was well-known in Abilene and this section of the state. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, Bessie Lee of Abilene, Mrs. Pearl Mashburn of Stith and Mrs. Ruby Rainbolt of California; four sons, Fred and Elmo of Abilene and Will and Bryan of Stith.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stuart and Mrs. T. H. Christopher of Lamesa were called to Abilene last Saturday on account of the illness of Miss Lois Christopher at that place. They have also been visiting Mrs. Len Sublett and Mrs. Earl Thornton.

Mrs. Joe Bickley and children and here as guests of Mrs. Bickley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Laney, and also Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bickley.

DISTRICT TRACK AND FIELD MEET 17-18TH

The district meet of District No. 7 of the University Interscholastic League will be held on Friday and Saturday of this week at Paramore Field, Simmons College. The literary events will be held on Friday at Simmons College Auditorium. Girls' tennis will be played on Friday afternoon on the same courts, beginning at 2:00 o'clock.

The track meet will be held on Paramore Field Saturday, beginning at 10:00. Entries for track were closed on April 10th with nearly three hundred entries (289). This promises to be the biggest and best track meet ever held in the Abilene District. The following men have consented to officiate at the meet:

Starter of races, Coach Y. P. Kuhn of Simmons. Tennis Director, Dr. Arnette of Simmons. Jumps, Coach Vic Payne of Simmons. Weights and Javelin, Coach I. L. Jackson of Merkel. Head Judge of Races, Coach Morris of A. C. C. Recorder, Coach Shotwell of Simmons.

Program.

Order of events: Track—1. 120-yd high hurdle. 2. 100-yd dash. 3. Mile run. 4. 220-yd hurdle. 5. 440-yd dash. 6. 220-yd dash. 7. 880-yd run. 8. Mile relay. Field—1. Pole vault. 2. 12-pound shot put. 3. Discus throw. 4. High jump. 5. Broad jump. 6. Javelin.

Where track preliminaries are needed they will be held before noon; the finals in same order in the afternoon.

Finals only in field events in the order named above. Contestant report when his event is called. Positively everyone back of fence and off the field except contestants and officials.

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Sermon Sunday morning, "All things work together for good," Romans 8:28.

Sunday evening, the fourth sermon on Revelation, "The Seven Trumpets of Rev. 8."

You are cordially invited to worship with us.

ICE NOTICE

We are now delivering ice regularly every day, and will appreciate your phoning your orders in as early in the morning as possible. Ask the driver for a window card. Phone 203. MERKEL ICE COMPANY. 17t2

WILL PREACH AT THE NAZERENE CHURCH

We are requested to announce that Rev. Allie Arick and wife of the Hamlin District will preach at the Nazarene church in Merkel on Wednesday, April 22nd.

Everybody is cordially invited to hear them.

W. G. Leach, one of the ever courteous and efficient telegraph operators at the local T. & P. Station, is just back from a week's stay at the company's hospital at Marshall, where he underwent an operation, having his tonsils removed. He returned feeling fine, we are glad to report.

Mrs. Robert Lee of Abilene is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp.

SCHOOL CONFERENCE BE HELD AT ABILENE

The State Department of Education has divided the state into six sections, and will hold a two-day educational conference in each of these sections. The conference for this section will be held at the Carnegie Library, Abilene on next Wednesday and Thursday, April 22 and 23. Leading the conference will be State Superintendent S. M. N. Maris, Chief High School Supervisor A. W. Evans, Chief Rural School Supervisor L. D. Borden, and State Auditor T. P. Walker.

All persons interested in education are invited to attend any and all of these conferences. The following are especially urged to be present: All County Superintendents, all city superintendents, all trustees interested in any question touching school administration. All those having to do with school finance. The session given over to school finance and methods of accounting will be held Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTS OFFICERS

At a regular meeting of the Local Volunteer Fire Department on last Monday evening, held at the City Hall, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year.

For president, N. D. Cobb; vice president, S. D. Gamble; Fire Chief, A. V. Dye; Assistant Chief, Booth Warren; Secretary, John E. West; Treasurer, O. R. Dye. The names of the hose company foremen we were unable to learn.

All the above officials have been in office for several years, and are therefore experienced and capable, and by their splendid efforts Merkel may expect the Fire Department to keep abreast of the times, and to at all times render the best of service.

The Merkel Mail is \$2.00 per year outside of Merkel territory.

EVERYBODY USES IT

The "Classified Ads" Column of the Merkel Mail is coming into use more and more every day, and the general public has formed a habit of looking over the column each week for items. This column is successfully used by farmer, merchant and citizen, in advertising articles for sale, for rent, wanted, lost found, notices, etc.

In last week's issue two LOST ads appeared, and in one day after the paper was mailed, both the advertised articles were returned to the proper owners. Here are the ads:

LOST—A baby's embroidered square, white serge lined with pink silk. Mrs. F. Y. Gaither. 1t

STRAYED—1 blue horse mule weight about 950 lbs., about 11 years old, freshly sheared. Strayed from place 1 mi. south of Shiloh Sunday night. \$5.00 reward. J. R. Lambers, Trent R. 2., phone 3 longs on 96. 1tp

Have you lost or found something? Try a classified ad. Ask those who use them about the results obtained.

BIG CROWD ATTENDS THE LUNCHEON CLUB

At the Luncheon Club meeting at Ed's Cafe on last Tuesday evening, there was present one of the largest crowds attending for many months, which resulted in one of the best meetings for some time also.

Mr. R. O. Anderson had been selected Toastmaster for the occasion, but unfortunately was called out of town on important business, and therefore there was no set program. However, the president of the Club, Mr. L. R. Thompson, was present, and besides delivering an interesting and appreciative address on the work of the club and its importance to the town and the community, he called upon a number of others who brought forth some interesting and constructive thought for the consideration of the organization.

Among those making interesting talks were Mayor West, Col. J. A. Buford, Dr. R. I. Grimes, and possibly others. We would also mention here that the entire club was glad to have with us again Mr. J. C. Mason, who for many months has been in ill health. He also made an able and interesting talk, bringing before the club, among other things, his plans for the big Trade Day event that is to take place here tomorrow, which met with the hearty approval of all present.

Knowing that Mr. R. O. Anderson would make an affable toastmaster, he being highly capable to bring forth a fine and inspiring program, the chairman announced that he would continue the appointment of Mr. Anderson as such for the next meeting two weeks from that date. So you business men and citizens who were not present make your arrangements to be present at the next meeting.

At the close of the business session of the meeting, the question of attending the Mineral Wells meeting of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce was brought up, as well as the matter of lady representatives to attend in the capacity of "Madam and Miss Merkel." For the former honor Mrs. L. R. Thompson was unanimously selected, while a committee was appointed to make selection of the young lady to be "Miss Merkel," announcement of which will be made in this paper next week. We commend the Club's action in selecting Mrs. Thompson for the above honor position, for she will gracefully and ably represent our city.

Mrs. Durham Delegate To Missionary Meeting

Mrs. Thos. Durham will leave Saturday morning for Memphis, Texas, where she goes as a delegate from the local Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Northwest Texas Conference. She will join other delegates from Trent, Abilene and other points in the Abilene District Saturday morning at Abilene, where the entire party will take the Wichita Valley for Memphis.

Mr. Fred Latham has recently purchased the pretty residence lot located between the homes of Mr. J. L. Beene and W. F. Golday on Oak street.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg and Mr. and Mrs. E. M. McDonald left Wednesday for a fishing and outing trip to the Llano.

Many Prizes will be given away Sat. Apr. 18, Trades Day at Merkel

Condensed Statement FARMERS STATE BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

Close of Business
April 6th, 1925

RESOURCES	
Loans & Discounts	\$289,004.50
Banking House	12,500.00
Furniture & Fixtures	5,430.00
Stocks and Bonds	1,590.00
Liberty Bonds Held in Trust	8,850.00
Overdrafts	484.31
Other Resources	14,530.66
Other Real Estate	13,287.50
Dne from State Gty. Fund	34,075.98
Cash & Exchange	205,805.15
Total	\$585,558.10

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus and Profits	20,423.04
Borrowed Money	NONE
Deposits	515,135.06
Total	\$585,558.10

We are offering a service brought to a high standard of efficiency and security through a continuous business experience of twenty-five years.

---Ask Our Customers---

J. S. Swann, President J. C. Mason, Vice-President
R. O. Anderson, Active Vice-Pres,
W. L. Diltz Jr., Cashier Herbert Patterson,
Assistant-Cashier.

Mrs. T. K. Garland, Mrs. Tom Garland and little daughter were here Tuesday from Sylvester visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Garland.

Oh, Boy! Have you forgot to order Mother a "Mother's day" box of candy? Hamm Drug Company.

Miss Ruby Lee Service of Simmons Collge, Abilene, was a guest in the homes of Thos. Durham and Mr. and Mrs. Sie Hamm last week-end.

W. O. Boney represents the San Antonio Joint Stock and Land Bank. See him for money.

LYTLE BEACH

THE
"Playground of the West"

OFFERS

Golf Diving
Dancing Fishing
Picnicing Boating
Trap Shooting Swimming

Motor boat rides, private boat privileges, pavillion for private parties, restaurant and confectionery service.

Free swimming instruction during morning hours every week day by authorized Red Cross Life Guards.

Come and Enjoy Yourself.

Senior Epworth League Has Social

The Senior Epworth League of the Methodist Church, South, met at the church on Tuesday evening of this week in a business and social meeting. The whole meeting was a lively one, and much enthusiasm was manifested. In the business meeting Mr. W. L. Harkrider, president, presided. Arrangements were made to attend the District meeting at Anson, and the following were appointed on a committee to get up a stunt for stunt night of the meeting: Miss Eva Mae Johnson, chairman, Comer Patterson, Ray Garrett, Anna Lou Russell, Hallie Pike.

In the social hour various and sundry games were played and also eight new members were added to the League roll. The High School quartet favored the crowd with several numbers which were much enjoyed.

A refreshment plate of punch and cake was served to about thirty leaguers.

Trent Missionary Notes

The Womans Missionary Society met at two p.m. Monday, April 13. The program in the Voice was carried out. The delegate was elected for our annual meeting of the Womans Missionary Society to be held in Memphis, Texas, April 18 to 21. The delegate was Mrs. R. B. McRee. Our lesson for next Month will be a Bible lesson in the first chapter in "Study in Prophecy."

Mr. H. R. Horton, of route 1, was here last Saturday and while in the city dropped in to have the Mail come to him for another year. He also reports young grasshoppers just hatched out by the millions around his farm.

Mrs. M. E. Hubbard of Willow, Oklahoma, is here for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Laney.

Intermediate B. Y. P. U.

Jesus is God.
1. Something to memorize, Ora Hughes.
2. The witness of the son, Clyde Mayfield.
3. The Witness of the Father, Fannie Belle Boaz.
4. The witness of the works, Azilee Gilbert.
5. The witness of Writers, Charlie Largent.
(a) The Bible is the word of God Pauline Chinn.
(b) The Bible tells us how to be saved, Roy Giles.
(c) The Bible is our lamp, Mas Swafford.

Junior League Program

Subject: 'Showing Our Colors' Leader, Florene Rider.
Hymn, "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus."
Lord's Prayer in concert.
Scripture: Matt. 10:32. Burrell Chaney.
I Samuel 17:1-3, Lynn McSpadden. I Samuel 20:1-4, Opal Huskey. I Samuel 20:17-20, Dorothy Miller. Piano Solo, Mary Elizabeth Grimes. Story by Supt. Juniors, let's show our colors by all being present next Sunday.

CARD OF THANKS

Mrs. I. J. Williamson and children wish to extend their thanks and appreciation to the many friends who assisted them during the illness and death of their loving husband and father.

H. M. Rainbolt left first of the week for a trip to Marlin, where he goes in the interest of his health. He has been in poor health for the past year or more, and his many friends sincerely hope that his trip to Marlin will prove of immediate and lasting benefit.

Miss Mary Burkes Blair visited friends in Abilene last week end.



At BROWN'S

NUBIA NOTES

By Lloyd Pribble

Well, old Mr. Dry Weather is still visiting us, and we are patiently waiting for him to leave so we can start our corn and taters to growing.

There was a small hail storm passed here last Tuesday afternoon, being the first hail we have had this year. Many of the hail-stones were as large as hen-eggs, and some of them measured from two and a half to three inches in circumference. Several of the larger ones hit the writer's home, going through the roof.

Mr. Oran Neill, formerly of this community, who has been in business at Blair, has sold his interest in business there to Mr. Pat Addison. Mr. Addison now has complete control of the store there, formerly known as Addison and Neill.

Mr. Thad Johnson of Nubia has been very ill for the past few days.

Mr. Riley Whisenhunt, who was seriously hurt by a baseball

bat at the Nubia-Mt. Pleasant baseball game last Friday, is reported to be improving.

Everybody come to Cross Roads next Sunday afternoon and let's make a big singing out of it.

We are informed by Mr. Earl Pribble that Mr. Albert Barnes, of Blair, is installing a power shop in his old stand.

Mrs. W. H. Laney is improving this week after a very serious illness of several days.

Mrs. B. F. Polly is confined to her home in North Merkel with the flu.

Special prices on Flake White and Dold's Shortening Saturday at Bob Martin Grocery Co. It

Mr. R. O. Anderson left Tuesday for Fort Worth, Texas, on business.

Mr. Harvey Warren of Knox City was here Wednesday of this week on business and for a brief visit with his mother, Mrs. J. B. Warren.

We take great pride--

in calling your attention to the statement below and we solicit your business on the basis therein shown.

RESOURCES	
Loans, Time and Demand	\$317,768.16
Loans, Cotton	2,482.50
Overdrafts	837.27
Other Bonds and Warrants	17,074.94
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co.	360.00
Furniture and Fixtures	7,500.00
Five per cent Red. Fund	312.50
Cash, Sight Exchange and U. S. Bonds	310,662.79
Total	\$658,948.16

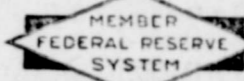
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	5,563.94
Circulation Acct.	5,850.00
BORROWED MONEY	NONE
Deposits	582,534.22
Total	\$658,948.16

The Farmers & Merchants National Bank

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

DIRECTORS— J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, L. R. Thompson, Sam Butman Sr., Booth Warren

Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



Mrs. W. A. Thornton left on Tuesday night in response to a message announcing the death of her nephew, Troy Stanley, at McKinney. She was accompanied by Mr. Ira Stanley, brother of the deceased.

Miss Dorothy Sanders of McMurry College was at home last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Sanders.

Minor Burns, who spent last week in this city visiting in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burns, left first of the week for his home at Wills Point. His family who also came here with him, remained for a more extended visit.

Miss Lillian Watts of Abilene visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Watts last week-end.

COZY THEATRE

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, April 17-18

F. B. O. Presents

Fred Thompson

And His Famous Horse, Silver King

—in—
"THUNDERING HOOFS"

Also Educational Comedy
"The Optimist"

MONDAY and TUESDAY, April 20-21

Daniel Carson Goodman Presents his Master Photo Drama

"Has The world Gone Mad"

See this Daring Expose of Human Existence
An X-Ray of the home today and its startling revelation regarding your home and mine.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, April 22-23

Creole Enterprises Present

"Barriers of the Law"

Also Educational Comedy

65 PRIZES FREE! 65

MERKEL, TEXAS SATURDAY APRIL 18

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BUY ANYTHING TO GET A PRIZE--EVERYBODY GET'S A CHANCE

The business people of Merkel have decided to have a big day Saturday, and invite all of the people of this trade territory to be here. We have decided to show our appreciation of the trade in a most substantial way. We are going to actually give away free to the people 65 valuable presents consisting of money and merchandise. Tickets will be distributed free on the streets at two o'clock Saturday and the drawing will take place at 3 o'clock on Main Street. No obligation, just be here and participate in the drawing. These presents are for the country people only.

<p>J. T. DENNIS 1 Stamped Dress Pattern \$1.00 1 Bucilla stamped Scarf... \$1.25 1 24lb sack Primrose Flour \$1.30 1 2 1/2 lb can Folgers Golden Gate Coffee, value \$1.60 1 can Syrup, value \$1.00 3 1-lb pkgs. Bronco Coffee.</p>	<p>FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK Will Give Free.....Five Dollars in Gold.....</p>	<p>CROWN HARDWARE CO. Will Give Free Thermos Jug, value \$5.00</p>	<p>MCDONALD & COLLUM CASH GROCERY Will Give Free One 10-pound Hormel Ham</p>	<p>FARMERS STATE BANK Will Give Free Five Dollars in Gold</p>
<p>J. M. GARRETT COAL AND FEED STORE Will Give Free One Sack Purina Cow Chow</p>	<p>WEST COMPANY Hardware, Groceries and Auto Supplies Will Give Free 48-lb Sack La France Flour 1 pair Keen Kutter Scissors</p>	<p>BRAGG DRY GOODS CO. "The Place Most People Trade" Will Give Free \$5.00 In Merchandise</p>	<p>MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION The Place to get your Gasoline, Oil and Tires Will Give Free \$2.50 in Merchandise</p>	<p>GRIMES-SMITH DRUG CO. —Prescription Druggists— Will Give Free One Vanity, value \$2.50 1 Box Stationery, value... \$2.50 Toilet Water, value \$1.75</p>
<p>WHITE HOUSE CAFE A Good Place to Eat Will Give Free One Meal Ticket, value... \$2.50</p>	<p>G. M. SHARP Groceries and Grain Will Give Free 1 3-lb bucket of All Gold Coffee</p>	<p>McFARLAND GARAGE Gas, Oil, Tires, Repairing Will Give Free One Inner Tube to fit your car, or 1 gallon of Mobiloil. Take your choice.</p>	<p>W. F. HAMBLET Will Give Free 1 Bottle Cherry Syrup, 1/2 gallon Plato syrup, 1 can selected pineapple, 1 carving set. 1 quart Pickles.</p>	<p>WOODRUM FILLING STATION The place you get that Good Gulf Gasoline and where your trade is appreciated. Will Give Free 1 extra heavy Silvertown Tube.</p>
<p>MERKEL MOTOR CO. Authorized Ford Dealers One Inner Tube to fit any Ford</p>	<p>JONES DRY GOODS Dry Goods and Ready-to-Wear Will Give Free 1 Pair Ladies Humming Bird Silk Hose.</p>	<p>MOTOR MECCA W. H. Warnken, Prop. Will Give Free 5 gallons Gas and 1 quart of Oil</p>	<p>WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO. Electric Service Our Aim Will Give Free \$5.00 in Cash</p>	<p>MIDDLETON FILLING STATION Quick Service That Pleases Will Give Free 1 Dayton Thoroughbred Inner Tube, value \$2.50</p>
<p>THE QUALITY BAKERY Bread, Cakes, Pies, Candy Will Give Free Six Loaves of Bread, One Layer Cake One Pie</p>	<p>J. T. DARSEY & COMPANY Furniture and Oil Stoves Will Give Free One quart can of O-U-Dust Polish and one O-U-Dust Mop</p>	<p>OASIS FILLING STATION Your Trade is Appreciated Bill Haynes, Mgr. Will Give Free One Diamond Tube to fit your car, any size.</p>	<p>HAMILTON - CASE GROCERY 243—A Good Place to Trade Will Give Free One Large Can of that Good Schilling Coffee</p>	<p>MERKEL DRUG COMPANY Try Our Service Will Give Free Five Victor Phonograph Records</p>
<p>BOB MARTIN GROCERY CO. We Strive to Please See us for Special Prices on Syrup and Lard Saturday. Will Give Free 1 3-lb Breakfast Delight Coffee.</p>	<p>ED'S CAFE A Clean Place Will Give Free 1st Prize Three Pies 2nd Prize Two Pies</p>	<p>CITY MEAT MARKET Patterson Bros. now own and operate the City Meat Market and will appreciate a part of your business. Will give \$1.00 worth of meat to party holding number</p>	<p>CITY CAFE Thompson & Newberry, Props. Will Give Free \$1.00 in Cash</p>	<p>WATKINS & VAUGHN MEAT MARKET Will Give Free One Dollar in Merchandise</p>
<p>HAMM DRUG COMPANY Get it Where They've Got It Will Give Free Pkg. Hess Panacea, value... \$1.50 Bottle of Admirene, value... \$1.20 Free to the Farmer ONLY</p>	<p>DONALD MARR CONFECTIONARY Will Give Free \$1.00 in Merchandise</p>	<p>BARROW FURNITURE CO. Furniture & Undertaking Will Give Free \$2.50 in Merchandise</p>	<p>J. N. CARSON & SON GROCERY Will Give Free 3-lb Can Brazilian Blend Coffee</p>	<p>A. C. ROSE, DRY GOODS Where the Sale is on Will Give Free \$5.00 in Merchandise</p>
<p>BROWN DRY GOODS CO. We Sell For Less—Because we Sell For Cash Will Give Free 1 Suit Case, value \$3.50</p>	<p>CASH TAILOR SHOP "Well Pressed is Well Dressed" Will Give Free \$2.00 in Cleaning and Pressing. We will appreciate your business</p>	<p>LIBERTY HARDWARE CO. "If it's Hardware we Have it" 4-qt. Frost-King Cream Freezer</p>	<p>W. W. CAMPBELL GROCERY Will Give Free 2 Heads of Lettuce, 2 pounds of Green Beans, 2 pounds fresh Tomatoes, 1 surprise package.</p>	<p>S W A F F O R D Will Give Free 1 Liberty Dollar—Spend it where you please COAL & FEED YARD Phone 44 — South Side</p>

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Taylor, Jones, Nolan and
Fisher Counties, per yr. . . \$1.50
Outside these counties, yr. \$2.00
IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

**GRAND JURY GIVEN
CHARGE BY JUDGE**

Opening the April term of dis-
trict court here Monday morn-
ing District Judge W. R. Ely de-
livered the charge to the grand
jury in which he stressed the im-
portance of the oath which he
had administered and the re-
sponsibilities which rest upon
the members of the jury in the
investigation of cases of law vi-
olations which were to come up.

Guy McCarty was named fore-
man of the grand jury by Judge
Ely and the names of the other
members who were on the jury
were Ocie Hunt, Bradshaw; Rob-
ert Hicks, Merkel; G. F. West,
Trent; M. P. Latimer, Merkel;
Guy McCarty, Abilene; C. J.
Smith, Buffalo Gap; Frank An-
tilley, Elmdale; J. T. Haney, Abi-
lene; A. L. Lockett, Lawn; D.
D. Williams, Ovalo; J. D. Har-
rison, Guion; and Ed Gist, Abi-
lene.

P. C. Cobb of Tuscola was un-
able to be present because of sick-
ness, and Judge Ely excused H.
L. Propst of Merkel and Lloyd
Bynum of Abilene from serving
on the jury.

Talks to Jury.

Judge Ely opened his talk by
stressing the sacredness of the
oath which the jurors had just
taken, and emphasizing that
secrecy is one of the most im-
portant attributes of a member
of the grand jury.

"You will lose your influence
and power as a grand jury if

you are not careful never to re-
veal any of the proceedings of
the jury session," said Judge
Ely. "You should never reveal
anything which comes up in the
jury room because by so doing
members will be tempted some-
times to keep important facts
which should be known and ac-
ted upon. You are not required
to disclose any testimony given
in the jury room except in case
of trial in which the court de-
mands it.

"The oath which you have just
taken requires that you rise a-
bove friendship and that for no
reason will you refrain from pre-
venting indictments when the
evidence is sufficient to convin-
ce you of the guilt of the party.
On the other hand," continued
the judge, "the oath requires
that you will not return bills of
indictment for hate or malice or
any similar reason."

Judge Ely then explained that
the grand jury does not have
pardoning power and no power
to refuse to indict a man if the
evidence is sufficient to point to
his guilt.

"I want you to exercise great
care in presenting bills. If there
is any doubt as to the guilt of a
person, do not indict, for that
red sheet called an indictment
hangs over a man for life. A
good criterion is to ask yourself
the question 'If I were on the
petit jury would I be willing to
convict this man with the evi-
dence I now have?'"

"That this is a hard time to
uphold law and order and that
it calls for the earnest vigilance
on the part of every good citizen
to enforce the laws and preserve
order," Judge Ely stated. He ex-
pressed the opinion that the par-
doning power of the governor is
being abused and that he believes
with the Dallas News that there
is too much sentimentality over
criminals at this time.

"It is a hard time to send a
murderer to the penitentiary in
Texas, as you all know. The jury
often loses sight of the main
facts of the case and the trial
resolves itself into a contest of

wits. It is claimed that practical-
ly all pardons are granted on the
recommendation of the jury, the
district judge and the district
attorney who tried the cases, but
as for me I promise not to re-
commend any except for very ex-
traordinary reasons."

The speaker then mentioned
the three killings which have
been committed in Abilene since
the last meeting of the grand
jury.

"When such abnormal happen-
ings occur in a town we know
that there must be some deep-
seated cause," he continued. "We
must get at the root of the thing
and remove the cause. The jury
can not remove these causes, but
the police and sheriff depart-
ments can and I am in favor of a
closed town as regards crime.
As an example, these profession-
al gamblers should be arrested
and tried for vagrancy until
they are forced to go to work,
for merely paying a fine for
gambling will do no good.

"The prosperous cities of the
future will be those which are
clean morally. All those interest-
ed in the schools of our city
should be interested in making
Abilene a clean town for these
2,000 students registered in the
colleges here."

Judge Ely urged that all the
city officers keep careful sur-
veillance over the rooming hous-
es here and to see that condi-
tions are kept clean and moral.
He also expressed the hope that
in all cases where people are ar-
rested for drunkenness that in-
dictments be filed against them
and that strenuous efforts be
made to find the source of the
liquor supply.

Judge Ely then referred to
several cases which are to come
up before the grand jury and
called upon the members to use
care not to present a bill unless
guilt is fairly certain but to
make every effort to indict the
ones who are guilty. He then ap-
pointed a foreman and asked
that the jury take the jail cases
first.—Abilene Reporter.

**Extra Specials For
Saturday**

**One lot 25 ladies hats values up
to \$6.50, your choice of the lot
Saturday for \$3.95**

**One lot of hats values up to \$3.95
Saturday at \$1.95**

JONES DRY GOODS

13 STORES IN TEXAS

**Mrs. Lytton Howard En-
tertains T. E. L. Class**

Mrs. Lytton Howard, of Ham-
lin, Texas, formerly of Merkel,
entertained the T. E. L. Class of
the Baptist Sunday School, of
which she was a member, at her
home in Hamlin last Thursday.
The class members were asked
to spend the day, and at the noon
hour a lovely east luncheon was
served. Table decorations, plate
favors, and other decorations
were in keeping with the Easter
season.

Those of the class members
attending this affair were Mes-
dames A. R. Booth, T. E. Collins,
W. J. Largent, T. A. Bearden,
Earl Lassiter.

ICE NOTICE

We are now delivering ice regu-
larly every day, and will appre-
ciate your phoning your orders in
as early in the morning as possi-
ble. Ask the driver for a win-
dow card. Phone 203. MERKEL
ICE COMPANY. 17c2

See Bob Martin Grocery Com-
pany for special prices on White
Swan Syrup Saturday. 1t

O. M. Black and family of El
Paso, and A. M. Smith and fam-
ily of Maverick, Texas, are here
for a few days visit with Mr.
and Mrs. B. M. Black. Mr. O. M.
Black is a son and Mr. A. M.
Smith a son-in-law of Mr. and
Mrs. B. M. Black.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Case have ss
their guest this week Mr. C. T.
Hodges and family of Tulia.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rainbolt
of California, announce the birth
of a seven pound baby boy, with
mother and babe doing nicely.
Mr. Robert Rainbolt is the son
of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt
of this place.

Mr. Marvin Boney left for
Fort Worth on business the first
of this week.

* CASH for Dental Gold, Plat-
* inum, Silver, Diamonds, mag-
* neto points, false teeth, jew-
* elry, and valuables. Mail to-
* day. Cash by return mail.
* Hoke S.&R. Co., Otsego, Mich.

STOP THAT ITCHING

If you suffer from any form of
skin diseases such as Itch, Eczema,
Tetter or Cracked Hands, Poison Oak,
Ring Worm, Old Sores or Sores on
Children. We will sell you a Jar of
BLUE STAR REMEDY on a guar-
antee. It will not stain your clothing
and has a pleasant odor.
For sale by MERKEL DRUG CO.

SHARP-WEAVER WEDDING

Saturday afternoon at three
forty-five, Miss Roxie Sharp be-
came the bride of Mr. Carl Wea-
ver, the ceremony taking place
at the Lula Belle Parsonage,
with the Rev. W. H. Albertson
saying the ceremony. Only a sis-
ter of the bride, Mrs. Robert Lee
of Abilene, was with the couple
for the ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. Weaver left im-
mediately for a short wedding
trip. On their return they will
make Merkel their home.

Mrs. Weaver is the daughter
of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp and
is much loved and esteemed by
her friends.

Mr. Weaver is in the plumb-
ing business and at present is
located with the Crown Hard-
ware Company.

Bathing season is on. Call and
look our line of bathing suits,
slippers, caps, belts and capes
over. Hamm Drug Co.

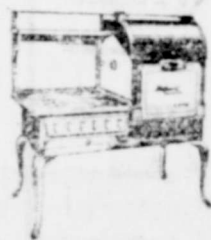
FOSTER-DUNCAN WEDDING

A marriage of quite a surprise
to their many friends was that
of Miss Ruth Duncan and Mr.
Clyde Foster on last Saturday
evening at seven:15 o'clock. The
marriage ceremony was solemn-
ized at the Methodist parsonage
with Rev. T. J. Rea, the pastor,
officiating. The only witnesses
were Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Sublett.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Foster are
well known in Merkel. Mrs. Fos-
ter has been assistant at the of-
fice of Dr. R. I. Grimes for some-
time, and Mr. Foster, the son of
Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Foster, is
manager of the Cozy Theatre.
They will make their home for
the present at the home of Mrs.
R. L. Bradshaw.

WE ARE IN THAT BUSINESS

If it is cleaning and pressing
you want, that is one of our
specialities. Phone 218. Ligon,
the Laundryman. 1t



THE Hotpoint RANGE

The lucky owner of the Hot Point
Range like the illustration will be through
with the scrapeing of pots and pans no oily
odors no ashes to carry out. The six inch
porcelain speed unit does away with that.

The Automatic heat control makes it
convenient for you to do your morning
shopping while your lunch is cooking. Come
in and see our different models; you will
find one, "That will be the best servant in
the house."

Pay As You Use

**West Texas
Utilities Company**



Buy Your
Ladies Hose
at a
Man's Store

**Ladies
All-Silk
Chiffon
Hose
\$1.95**

The Same as you have been
paying \$2.50 and \$3.50 for.

**Mail Order a Pair
Prepaid**

Caleb Reed's Man Shop

1062 N. 1st St. Abilene, Texas

LAST CALL!

**Make it Snappy
Folks, the
Time is Short.**

**Saturday Night Closes the Doors
OF A. C. ROSE IN MERKEL!**

JUST THIS WEEK TO GO

**The final days of this sale offers you
Untold Bargains that are Money Savers**

—Saturday is the Last Day—

**It is your last opportunity to purchase the
Goods you need at Quit Business Prices!**

**Be here Satur-
day for the
Grand Finale**

A. C. ROSE

Miss Mary Campbell left Friday night for Canyon to spend Saturday and Easter Sunday with her sister, Miss Ouida, who is attending the W. T. S. T. C. at that place.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holcomb of Brownwood were guests of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Adcock this week. Mrs. Holcomb is a sister to the Messrs. Adcock of this city.

Mrs. A. R. Booth Entertains The T. E. L. Class

Mrs. A. R. Booth was hostess to the members of the T. E. L. Class of the Baptist Sunday School at her home last Saturday afternoon. The Booth home was handsomely decorated with pretty flowers and the Easter season's motif was carried out in the entertainment, and diversions of the afternoon.

Mrs. L. B. Scott, the president of the class presided over the business meeting, which was held first. In the unusually happy social hour that followed, games were enjoyed. In a flower contest Mrs. J. R. Miller and Mrs. W. J. Largent tied for the prize, and in a cut Mrs. Largent was successful and received a pretty potted plant. In the egg race Mrs. R. J. Miller was successful, and in the contest to see who could make the prettiest easter bonnet Mrs. Earl Lassiter won, and received a little hat box. A salad plate and iced tea was served.

This was quite a delightful afternoon spent in the home of Mrs. Booth, and those attending were: Mesdames W. J. Largent, L. B. Scott, Luke Huddleston, Thos. Bearden, R. J. Miller, W. H. Derstine, O. R. Dye, Earl Lassiter and Abbott.

ICE NOTICE

We are now delivering ice regularly every day, and will appreciate your phoning your orders in as early in the morning as possible. Ask the driver for a window card. Phone 203. MERKEL ICE COMPANY. 1712

Rev. Fred S. Rogers and family of Lamesa were here one day this week calling on friends and attending to some business matters here and at Abilene.

Mrs. C. P. Stevens was at Hamlin last week visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Cash and family and other relatives and friends.

Mrs. George Smith Hostess To M. H. S. Seniors of 1920

On Saturday evening, April 11th, Mrs. George Smith entertained the members of the Senior class of 1920 of Merkel High School with a three course dinner at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Costephens. This was the first reunion this class had had for some time and a very happy time was spent. Mrs. Smith, formerly Miss Annie Mae Costephens, proving a most charming and entertaining hostess.

The beautiful Costephens home was made more beautiful with flowers and ferns. Pretty candle sticks and holders were used very artistically in the decorations. The class colors of purple and gold were carried out as the predominating color scheme.

Besides the enjoyable three course dinner, a very pleasant social hour was had in which old sayings, doings and memories of the school days were laughed over.

Those enjoying this affair were: Misses Christene Collins, Murphy Thomas, Ruby Hamm, Agnes Rister, Mrs. Geo. Coker of Dallas, Mrs. Nathan Wood, Mrs. Geo. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Hutcheson and Mr. and Mrs. Roger A. Burgess.

Special prices on Flake White and Dold's Shortening Saturday at Bob Martin Grocery Co. It

CREAM—EGGS—CREAM

We are paying 35c for Cream. Test it every day, and will pay you the highest price possible for Eggs. We need them; our price will get them. McDONALD & COLLUM. tf

Mrs. Sam Swann returned on Wednesday from a visit with her parents at Leonard, Texas.

Miss Inez Coppinger of Cottonwood, Texas, is here the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Jones.

Young People Enjoy Outing

A picnic was much enjoyed Monday evening on Mulberry creek by some thirteen young people. A small victrola was carried along and afforded much pleasure during the time spent on the creek. A picnic supper of sandwiches, waffles, pickles, and soda pop was enjoyed.

Misses Iva Bragg, Christene Collins, Lynn Thompson, Willie Toombs, Murphy Thomas, Opal McNeely of Abilene and Messrs. Wrenn Durham, Carlton Dennis, Tom Allday, Loring Hamblet, Yates Brown, Kenneth Watkins, and Doyle Garrett were those enjoying this outing.

Mr. J. E. Costephens returned this last week from a visit to a brother at Stamford who has been seriously ill for some time. He reports good rains in the Stamford community.

Methodist Sunday School Enjoys Easter Egg Hunt

The members of the beginners and primary departments of the Methodist Sunday School were entertained last Thursday afternoon with an Easter egg hunt by the teachers of these departments.

After all the little boys and girls had assembled in the primary rooms of the church, Easter games were played for a time, after which a merry hunt for the easter eggs was indulged in. The eggs were hidden on the lawn about the church and parsonage. Lemonade, Sandwiches and candy easter eggs were served to about one hundred children and visitors.

Mesdames A. R. Booth, T. E. Collins and Earl Lassiter attended the district meeting of the W. M. U. at Abilene Wednesday.

NO. 7481
Report of the Condition of
THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
AT MERKEL
In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on April 6, 1925

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts, including rediscounts	\$320,250.66
Customers' liability account of acceptances of this bank	NONE
Total loans	\$320,250.66
Overdrafts, secured, \$ 14.11 Unsecured, \$ 823.16	837.27
Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. Bonds par value)	\$6,250.00
All other United States Government Securities	\$109,110.60
Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc.	19,384.94
Furniture and Fixtures	7,500.00
Real estate owned other than banking house	
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	39,705.75
Cash in vault and amount due from national banks	151,641.35
Amount due from State banks, bankers and trust companies in the United States (other than included in items 8, 9, and 10)	
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank	1,599.48
Total of items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13	\$153,240.83
Checks and drafts on banks (including Federal Reserve Bank) located out side of city or town of reporting bank \$	
Miscellaneous cash items	2,355.68
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
Total	\$658,948.16
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided profits	\$12,796.29
Reserved for	
Less current expenses, interest, and taxes	\$ 7,232.35
Circulating notes outstanding	5,563.94
Amount due to State banks, bankers, and trust companies in the U. S. and foreign countries (other than items 22 23)	23,826.24
Cashiers checks on own bank outstanding	2,401.80
Total of items 22, 23, 24, 25, and 26	26,228.04
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:	
Individual deposits subject to check	460,879.63
Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	5,550.00
Dividends Unpaid	
Total of demand deposit (other than bank deposits)	
Reserve, Items 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32	\$466,429.63
Certificates of deposit	15,130.00
Other time Deposits	74,746.55
Total of time deposits subject to reserve,	
Items 33, 34, 35, and 36	\$ 89,876.55
Total	\$658,948.16

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, L. R. Thompson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
L. R. THOMPSON, Cashier
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of April, 1925.
W. O. Boney, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest:—G. F. WEST,
J. T. WARREN
BOOTH WARREN, Directors.

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE**

**TOMORROW
is on the way—**

**If you knew today that tomorrow fire
would destroy your home—you'd prepare
today.**

You can't know what will happen tomorrow. But you can protect yourself against financial loss through property loss.

Fire insurance is only one of the many forms of dependable property protection we offer to those who would be prepared for tomorrow's eventualities.

W. O. BONE
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

News From Communities in this Territory--Is Yours Represented?

SPECIALS AT HAMM DRUG CO.

One 75c Box 1 lb. paper One 15c Package Envelopes . 49c One Tube Colonial Club Shaving Cream . 98c One Gold Gillette Razor

COME IN AND VISIT US

HAMM DRUG Company



REGAL COLLEY, my Registered Stallion No. 185391



Also my thoroughbred black mammoth Jack "Truett" will make the season at my barn. Terms \$10 when living colt is born.

Lee Baker

Advertisement for printing services: 'If You Have a Printing Want WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS... Show You'

Advertisement for 'RESULTS' with text: 'YOU can get them by advertising in this paper... Use This Paper'

REPORT FINDING OF MAYAN THRONE ROOM

Excavators Uncover Royal Relic in Buried City.

Advices received at Washington from the archeological expedition of the Carnegie institute to Yucatan say that the excavators at work on the ruins of Chicken Itza have penetrated to the throne of the king, perhaps the most magnificent spot within the columns of the buried chief city of the prehistoric Mayan empire.

The throne is a magnificent affair, thirteen feet wide, seven feet deep and three feet high. On the sloping sides are carved elaborately costumed warriors, weaving in and out among which are serpents, sacred to Kukulkan, principal god of the Itza.

The throne and council chamber were found in the northeast colonnade of the buried city. The excavators were guided in their work by four sculptured columns, the rest of the 48 which compose this colonnade being plain. The walls and plain columns were painted with frescoes in bright colors, now almost entirely destroyed.

Another very important discovery has been the outer wall of the colonnade with its sculptural decorations uninjured, in position at the southwest corner. This shows the original height of the building to have been 19 1/2 feet. Around the top of the building there had been a sculptured cornice. Below this there were two great, grotesque human heads with square eye sockets, curling noses, filed teeth set in grinning mouths, and square earrings.

Life in Chicken Itza, however, was not entirely one of grotesque reverence to Kukulkan. The Carnegie institute excavators announce the uncovering of a ball court just north of the throne location in which a game similar to the American basketball was played. The game, which was introduced by the Toltec-Aztec conquerors of the city, had for its object the driving of a solid rubber ball through a ring fastened in the side of the wall.

The game was known as "Itachtli." The hole through the ring being perpendicular to the wall, it was necessary to stand very close to the wall and throw the ball practically parallel to the axis of the wall. The ball would not be thrown directly with the hand, but had to be struck with the elbow, wrist or hip.

The winning shot was so difficult and so seldom made, that, according to another rule of the game, the lucky player had forfeited to him all the clothing of the spectators.

At the court of Montezuma, where the game first was witnessed by the Spaniards, high stakes were wagered on the game by the Aztec nobles—quills filled with gold dust, estates, even liberty, the bettors becoming slaves if they lost. It is notable that from the balls used in this game the Spaniards gained their first conception of rubber.

The excavating work has been brought to an end for the year, due to the rainy season, which prevents any operations for the greater part of the time.

An Example

A Methodist minister on Michigan avenue presents a concrete example of the contagion of marriage. He tells of a couple last week who decided to become married after they had seen a wedding party emerge from his church. They were walking along the street, the minister says, and were watching the members of the party leaving the church. A hasty consultation was held, a marriage license was obtained an hour later, and within three hours of the first wedding, the minister was asked to marry the couple.—Detroit News.

WARREN NOTES

By Rosa Ellington & Vera Jones

The farmers are enjoying a nice show which fell Tuesday afternoon.

We are very sorry to hear the death of Mr. Dunagin of Abilene. His funeral was held at Abilene and his body was brought to the Stith cemetery for burial.

Warren school is progressing fine this month.

Misses Hellen McCormick and Willie Newman spent Saturday night with Misses Vela and Vera Jones.

Miss Vera Jones was the guest of Miss Helen McCormick Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Tarvin of Abilene spent Sunday with Mrs. Tarvin's mother, Mrs. Ellington.

Miss Flossie Copeland spent Sunday with Misses Rosa and Willie Ellington.

Mr. Charlie McCormick and family spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. McCormick of the Stith community.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Jones and daughter, Violet, spent Sunday with his brother, Mr. Walter Jones.

Miss Lottie Gressett gave an Easter Egg hunt Sunday afternoon and all reported a good time.

Odis Foster spent the weekend with his brother, Mr. Homer Foster.

Mr. Medford Jones spent last Friday night with Mr. Ervin Thompson.

Misses Gladys Noel and Willie Newman spent Sunday with Vela Jones.

We are very sorry to learn that Mr. Price and family have moved but hope them success in their new home.

We are very glad to know that Mrs. Stella Dobbs is improving at present.

"HEBRON GOSSIP"

By Mayflower

The farmers of this community have their land all put up and are waiting for agoodrain so they can plant.

The young people were entertained Sunday with an Easter Egg hunt, which was given by their Sunday School teacher, Mrs. Jim Williamson.

We were visited by a rain Sunday afternoon but would have liked it better if there had been more rain and less lightning.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Martin entertained the young people with a party Saturday night.

Mrs. John Davis is unable to get about this week on account of a sprained ankle.

Mrs. A. J. Pannell and daughter, Evelyn, visited Mrs. Ford Palmer of the Compere community Friday.

Mr. Thomas Harris, who had his tonsils removed last week is getting along nicely.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell was consumed by fire Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Pannell and children spent Easter Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere of White Church.

Miss Winnie Bayless is visiting with relatives in Comanche county this week.

There will be a B.Y.P.U. program at the Hebron church every Sunday night at seven o'clock. Everybody is invited to attend and bring some one with you.

Mr. Robert Davis has returned home from Colorado where he has been visiting with his uncle.

Mr. Joe Douglas, Sr., is building a fine new bungalow.

Miss Dora Alma Palmer of Compere was the guest of Miss Bessie Lou Pannell Easter Sunday.

CROSS ROADS NEWS

By Rosa Ellington & Vera Jones

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Simpson and son took supper with Mr. and Mrs. R. F. England Tuesday evening.

W. F. Joiner and W. D. Ikard went to Merkel Monday morning on business.

Mr. E. N. Pitts took four bales of cotton to Merkel Tuesday morning.

The Parent-Teachers Association met Friday night, April 10th, in their regular meeting. An interesting program was given by the men. The debate, resolved "That women should bob their hair," proved to be quite interesting, with the affirmative side winning. The last on the program was Rev. W. H. Albertson of Merkel, who gave a very interesting talk for a few minutes, after which the ladies served refreshments and all went away looking forward to the next meeting.

The ladies of the W. M. U. went to Abilene Wednesday afternoon to meet in the home of Mrs. Tatum for their regular meeting. They are a wide awake and energetic society, ever on the alert for something to do.

Rev. W. H. Albertson of Merkel preached at Cross Roads Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. His sermon was enjoyed by all.

The junior B.Y.P.U. program was postponed until next Sunday on account of the unfavorable weather conditions.

Our Sunday School is doing nicely under the leadership of Mr. J. W. Hammond as Superintendent.

Mr. A. Parker has been sick for sometime but is reported better.

On Friday night April 17, the Commercial Club of Merkel will render a program at Cross Roads school house in the interest of the Merkel Community Fair this fall. Everybody is invited to come and hear them.

Mesdames R. W. Holder and E. N. Pitts were shopping in Abilene Monday.

Mrs. Hartline visited her daughter, Mrs. Raymond Harp, Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Groene visited Mr. and Mrs. A. Parker Wednesday.

Mr. Giles attended the preaching service Sunday at Cross Roads.

MT. PLEASANT MUSINGS

By D. J. Curb

The Easter egg hunt was enjoyed by every one Sunday evening. There were 360 eggs hidden in the brush around the ball ground in Mr. J. T. Humphrey's pasture and the young folks had quite a time finding them all. Lester Wood found the highest party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Rodgers Friday night. Every one reported a very happy time.

Mr. J. S. Anderson and D. J. Curb attended the debate at Cross Roads Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Shouse, Mrs. Bettie Sue Berryman, Miss Sallie Curb, and Mr. C. T. Curb, of Merkel, were visitors in our Sunday School Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Riley Whisenhunt of Nubia suffered a most painful accident at our ball ground Friday afternoon by being struck on the head by a bat. The bat being jarred from the batter's hands by a foul ball.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Thornton took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Anderson Sunday.

Our Sunday Schools are progressing nicely. Almost every Sunday our records show a gain of several new scholars. At the Methodist church we are launcheon number which was 32, and received the prize offered by Miss Stinnett.

The many friends of Mrs. J. R. Ingram will be glad to learn that she is improving fast at the Alexander Sanitarium and is expected to be able to come home soon.

Rev. Riddle and Rev. Harrison

of Abilene were in our community Saturday night and Sunday to fill the appointment of Bro. Dunlap at the Baptist church.

Bro. Riddle preached Saturday night and Sunday night and Bro. Harrison preached at 11:00 a.m. Sunday. Every one enjoyed their sermons and hope they will come again. Bro. Dunlap recently had his tonsils removed and was unable to be here.

The young people enjoyed a class contest to begin next Sunday. The winners will be presented with a banner at the end of this quarter.

Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Alexander of Tuscola spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Alexander.

Misses Lucy Stinnet and Ruby Little and Messrs. Frank and Gordon Alexander attended the debate at Cross Roads Friday night.

SALT BRANCH ITEMS By Miss Wynona Patton

The farmers of this community are about to believe they are going to get some rain.

The Salt Branch Baptist church was glad to have Bro. Kindard of Simmons College to be with them through Saturday and Sunday. Bro. Fitzgerald delivered a wonderful sermon Sunday morning.

Mrs. George Reeves and children of Blair were visitors at Salt Branch Saturday night. They also placed their membership in the Salt Branch Baptist church.

Misses Dollie Toombs and Jimmie Reeves West were visitors at Salt Branch Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jaynes were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jaynes Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar McMurry were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hayes Sunday.

The singing Sunday afternoon was fine. There will be singing next Sunday afternoon at three.

Misses Gladys Petty and Celia Henry were the guests of Misses Ruba, Norma and Wynona Patton Sunday.

Miss Fannie Thompson was the guest of Misses Ruth and Pauline Pinckley Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Higgins of Merkel were visitors at Salt Branch Sunday.

Mr. McGregor and Mr. W. A. Thornton were visitors to the farm Monday afternoon.

The Salt Branch B.Y.P.U. will meet at 7:30 Sunday evening. The Salt Branch Baptist Sunday school meets at 10:30.

MULBERRY NOTES

By Miss Hazel Thomas

The farmers are thankful for the rain which will be an advantage to them and others. A good rain makes us all feel better.

The base ball game between Mulberry and Hodges on Friday afternoon was in favor of Hodges. The score was 17 to 11. They plan to play again on Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Verna Pitman, one of our worthy school teachers, spent the week-end with home folks and friends at Haskell.

Mrs. Will Moore entertained the young people with a party on Saturday evening. A splendid time was reported.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sanders also Mr. and Mrs. Buglar Cooke, from Lamesa, are visiting at the Walter Barley home.

Our Sunday School is progressing nicely. Glad to have so many visitors. We invite all who will to come and take part. On next Sunday our county missionary, Bro. Pope, will preach for us at the church.

Mr. Dewey Thomas, of Merkel, spent Sunday with home folks. Miss Dora Varnhagen was greatly missed at Sunday School as she is one of our very best teachers. We learn she was at home to a prominent caller from

Lubbock.

Carl and Earl Thomas and families of Merkel visited at the home of Mrs. C. E. Thomas and Mrs. L. M. Walsh on Sunday.

Miss Intha Bird of Merkel spent the week end with Miss Ethel Bird.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Walton and daughter, Miss Ethel Lee, called at the L. M. Walsh home Monday evening.

Mrs. Dewey Redding was the afternoon caller of Mrs. Thomas on Monday.

A birthday dinner given at the Walsh home celebrating the 22nd birthday of Charles M. Walsh was well attended by relatives and a delicious dinner was served.

Mr. and Mrs. Stout spent Tuesday in Trent visiting Mrs. A. R. Payne. They reported Mr. John Payne quite ill from eating poison food.

There will be Sunday School at the new church every Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock and Christian Endeavor every Sunday evening beginning at Sunset. Come and take part in the Sunday school and program.

Mr. Howard Tarvin and family from Abilene spent the week end with Mr. E. C. Tarvin.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Milliken of Abilene were visiting home folks Saturday and Sunday.

A few days ago a bunch of the young men from Compere went to the river fishing. They had a fine time but did not catch any fish. The party was composed of Mr. Hall Hobbs, Raymond Stout, E. C. Tarvin, Jasper Hobbs, Therman McCoy, and Matt Randolph.

Mr. Tarvin and son, E. C. were visitors in Abilene Saturday.

If nothing happens our school will be out May 22.

There was Sunday School at Zion Chappel (the new church) Sunday morning at 10:30 o'clock. It was the second time it has been held there. There was a large crowd but we hope to have more next Sunday.

We got a good rain at Compere Saturday night and about twice that amount Sunday evening. The farmers will begin to plant right away.

Mr. G. W. Stout and family spent Sunday evening at Carpenter's Gap and we caught in the rain and hail coming home. Around Noodle the hail completely covered the ground and drifted up in piles several inches deep. It beat leaves and small limbs off the trees.

Mr. C. C. Day spent Saturday and Sunday at Anson with home folks.

Miss Mary Proctor spent the week end in Merkel with home folks and friends.

The Palmer Brothers are going out of business at Compere. They have sold out their stock of dry goods and groceries and the store will remain closed a few days. We understand it will be opened in a few days and will be operated by a man from Merkel.

The school library will be open to the community every Friday evening from 3:15 to 4:00 o'clock. The books may be held out for a week but must be returned in a week.

SALT BRANCH NEWS

By Lois Jaynes

There will be Sunday school every Sunday morning. Singing every Sunday evening at three o'clock and B.Y.P.U. every Sunday night and preaching every second Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Fannie Mae Reeves took supper with Lois Jaynes Sunday. Mr. Earl Walker was the guest of Mr. Charlie Price Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hester were guests in the W. M. Hayes home Sunday.

Miss Fannie Thompson was the visitor of Miss Pauline Pinkley Sunday.

Advertisement for 'Tutt's Pills' with text: 'PREVENTION better than cure. Tutt's Pills taken in time, are not only a remedy for but prevent SICK HEADACHE biliousness, constipation and kindred diseases. Tutt's Pills'

Will be ready to cull Cotton Seed April 21st. Culling days will be Tuesdays and Fridays of each week. Jesse Higgins. 17t2p



A little powder on your shoulder Surely makes a suit look older.

—CASH KID

WE remove all spots and stains no matter how new or old your clothes may be.

"Service plus Satisfaction"

Cash Tailor Shop

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. 166

DR. S. W. JOHNSON.
Surgeon Dentist
Office over Farmers State Bank
Office Phone 806

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.

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.

J. P. Howard
Scientific Masseuse
Collins Hotel
Phone 173

—FOR PLUMBING—
That is as good as the BEST
See **JONES**
Phone 266 And
Ben Jones **DAVIS**
Ira Davis

EGGS—CREAM—EGGS
We are headquarters for Eggs and Cream. We buy them every day; we turn no one away. We always pay the highest price and do it every day. McDONALD & COLLUM. tf

HomeState Bank, Trent, Texas

No. 1398
Official Statement of the Financial Condition of
at close of business on the 6th day of April 1925, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, state of Texas, on the 17th day of April, 1925.

RESOURCES

Loans and dis. personal or collateral	\$142,188.11
Loans, real estate	.....
Overdrafts	..... 63.74
Bonds and Stocks	..... 100.00
Real Estate (banking house)	..... 4,500.00
Furniture and fixtures	..... 1,800.00
Due from other banks and bankers and cash on hand	..... 73,869.82
Interest in Dep. Gty. Fund	..... 2,156.16
Accept' and Bills of Exchange	.....
Total	\$224,537.43

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	..... \$25,000.00
Surplus Fund	..... 5,000.00
Undivided profits, net	..... 9,828.96
Due to Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	..... 82.82
Individual Deposits Sub. to Check	183,845.65
Time Certificates of Deposit	.....
Cashier's Checks	.....
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	..... NONE
Total	\$224,537.43

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. T. Warren, as president, and L. E. Adrian as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
J. T. Warren, President
L. E. Adrian, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 13th day of April, A. D., 1925.
(SEAL) Both Warren
Notary Public Taylor County, Texas.
Correct—Attest:
H. W. Beckham, Directors
T. L. Stevens

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

MEMBER
**TEXAS QUALIFIED
DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE**

**Legally
Registered
Pharmacist**

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

STAR PARASITE REMOVER
A Wonderful Poultry Remedy
Contains lots of sulphur; is a good tonic and blood purifier; prevents disease, increases egg production and keeps all insects off fowls. More than 200,000 bottles sold in Texas in 1924. A One Dollar bottle will treat 100 chickens more than 100 days. No trouble to use simply put a few drops in the fowls' drinking water as directed, and if it fails to rid them of destructive insects, make brighter plumage, redder combs, more eggs and to save many young chicks destroyed every spring by insects, your money refunded. FOR SALE BY—
HAMM DRUG COMPANY

Severe Pains in Side

"I HAD had quite a bad spell and sickness," writes Mrs. Emma Patrick, of Caney, Ky., "and it was an effort for me to go about my home. I had a very severe pain in my left side that almost took my breath at times. I lost my appetite. I grew thin, pale and lifeless. I fell off till I only weighed about 115 pounds.
"Cardui was recommended to me and by the time I had taken one bottle I saw it was what I needed. I ate more and rested better. I kept taking it and my skin and flesh took on a more healthy color. I felt stronger and, as the nervousness left me, the pain in my side was less severe. After taking nine bottles, I eat anything, go anywhere and feel fine. I weigh 160 pounds and am well. I feel that I owe it all to having used Cardui."
Pain, in certain parts of the body, is a sure indication of female complications. The treatment needed is not the use of narcotic drugs, but—

CARDUI
The Woman's Tonic

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Some gin run Kasch Cotton Seed for planting at \$1.00 per bushel. See L. C. Patton, Merkel. 10t2p

FOR SALE—White Leghorn, Rhode Island Red and Barred Rock Baby Chicks each Tuesday. Higgins Hatchery. tf

FOR SALE—Second-hand Lawn Mower. See Robert Hicks. tf

FOR SALE—Good three-year old Jersey cow, will be fresh soon. See Clarence B. Williams, Merkel, Route two, on Lee Williams place. tf

FOR SALE—A fine coming 2-year old, full blood Jersey male. Felix Howard, Anson, motor Rt. B. Located five miles north of Noodle. 1tp

KASCH COTTON SEED—For Sale at \$1.00 per bushel. See A. W. Hunter, Merkel, Route No. Five. 17t2p

WANTED

WANTED—Widow lady with 2 small children wants work on farm for board and small wages. Phone 9039F4, Merkel, call for Mrs. Bucklew.

WANTED—Permanent work on farm or ranch by experienced man 55 years of age. J. W. Dennis at Blair Hotel, Merkel. 1tp

LOST

LOST—Between Abilene and Merkel, used casing on rim, 31x-4-40. Leave at Carson's store and get reward. H. M. Rainbolt. 1t

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms, private entrance, near town, south of railroad water-tower. Mrs. Mattie Richie. 10t2p

CREAM—EGGS—CREAM

We are paying 35c for Cream. Fest it every day, and will pay you the highest price possible or Eggs. We need them; our price will get them. McDONALD & COLLUM. tf

Just arrived—the newest colors and styles of stationery. See our window. Hamm Drug Co. 1t

PIONEER WOMEN VS. THE FLAPPER

Harold Bell Wright, Famous Author, Challenges Younger Generation in New Novel.

Is America denying God?
Are we losing the sturdy faith and rugged virtues which transformed a wilderness into the world's greatest and most prosperous country?
Is the old pioneer spirit dead?
Do modern "improvements" improve?
Where is this new generation headed?
These are some of the questions which Harold Bell Wright raises in his new novel of Western adventure, "A Son of His Father," which is being published serially in McCall's Magazine. The former clergyman, who is now the world's most popular author, hits straight from the shoulder. Thus he says of Tucson, Ariz., on a ranch near which most of the action in the story takes place:
"Church Changed to Garage
"The Tucson of today, in the heart of this old, old land, is a city of fathers and sons. The fathers, with their ox teams, stage coaches and Indian wars, laid here the foundation upon which they hoped their sons would build a civilization worthy of the race. And the sons are building. "With feverish activity they are putting down pavements, putting up electric lights, putting down gas and water pipes, putting up real estate signs, putting down more city wells, and extending the city limits to include new additions of the surrounding desert.
"With a fine contempt for the past they have destroyed the ancient wall.
THE OLD AND THE NEW

Petting Parties Where Brave Pioneer Women Fought and Died
demolished many of the picturesque adobe structures of history, renamed the century-old streets, converted the beautiful old Saint Augustine Church into an unsightly garage and erected dance halls where, within the shadow of a heroic past, their sons and daughters may have all the modern advantages of a thorough education in jazz.
"On the very spot where men died to save their wives and children from the knives of the painted savages, and women fought and endured beside their men, the grandchildren of those courageous souls hold petting parties and are bold only in their indecencies."
It is from the effete, decadent influences of the present day that Mr. Wright appeals to the sturdy, stalwart virtues of another time when men, whether good, bad or indifferent, at least were men, two-gunned, fearless, able to hold and maintain their own. This point of view is brought out by Max Drayton, one of the characters in the story, who, in a conversation with an Eastern author, says:
"The thing that's interesting a lot of us old timers is: while we're sheddin' our wild and woolly ways, and getting shed of our guns, are we throwing away a lot of things with 'em that we ought to hang on to?"
Old-Time Gamblers Had Their Virtues
"You take even our gamblers—the old-time professionals, I mean—they had mighty well-set standards of honor and decency and fair play that they lived up to and sometimes died for.
"The old-time, wide-open, gambling days are gone—and we're all glad of it—but I'm telling you, sir, it wouldn't do us a bit of harm if a lot of our young business men of these days had some of the old style gambling standards of honor and decency and fair play, and had 'em strong enough to die for 'em—if it was necessary."
The scene of "A Son of His Father" is intimately known to Mr. Wright. It was not necessary for him to "gather atmosphere," as he lives in Arizona and is keenly interested in the history and traditions of that state. Critics pronounce this the best and most vigorous of all Mr. Wright's works and clergymen everywhere are urging their congregations to read it.
This is the first time that one of Harold Bell Wright's novels has been published serially in advance of book publication. Heretofore the author has rejected the many alluring offers which magazine editors made to him. It is announced that this is the last Western novel which the former clergyman will write in some time. But this does not mean that he will abandon the enormous audience which awaits each new work from his pen. On the contrary, he has planned over a dozen more books.



Petting Parties Where Brave Pioneer Women Fought and Died

Beautiful Walls.

MELLOTONE is the name of a wonderful finish for your living room, dining room and bedroom walls and ceilings, that can be kept new, clean and bright just by washing with mild soap and water.

This flat, oil paint comes in many beautiful shades. It is easy to apply, and covers a large area per gallon. It dries quickly to a beautiful, velvety surface.

Lowell Brothers
MELLOTONE

Whether your walls are new or need redecorating, you can decorate them with Mellotone—easily and at low cost. Stop in anytime and get a color card.

Burton-Lingo Co.

Mrs. John Sears has as her guest this week her mother, Mrs. J. S. Lilley of Whitewright, Tex.

**What You Want
How You Want It
When You Want It**

For anything in the line of printing come to us and we'll guarantee you satisfactory work at prices that are right

The Sum and Substance

of being a subscriber to this paper is that you and your family become attached to it. The paper becomes a member of the family and its coming each week will be as welcome as the arrival of anyone that's dear. It will keep you informed on the doings of the community and the bargains of the merchants regularly advertised will enable you to save many times the cost of the subscription.

**Merit—
and merit alone!**

WOODSTOCK Standard Typewriter

LITTLE has been said in print about the Woodstock—but much has been said by thousands of enthusiastic operators.

It's mainly this background of good will—earned by good performance—that is responsible for its success.

Users will tell you the Woodstock is a most exceptional typewriter—a composite of all improvements conducive to effortless writing—plus a rare beauty of type and sturdiness of construction that stamps this machine as a thing apart.

Woodstock Typewriter Co.
216 West Monroe St. Chicago, Illinois.
Branches and Distributors Everywhere

WOODSTOCK

THE POET'S CORNER

(Editor's Note—The following poem was written by a pupil in the sixth grade of Warren school. We appreciate having such original poems sent in to us, and will be glad to have other poems from any school or person in this territory.)

OH, WHAT A TIME WE HAVE IN SPRING!
By Lottie McCoy

Oh! what a time we have in the spring,
The lapping of the water,
And the birds on the wing;
The bees making honey,
And the people begin to earn their money;
Then the children shout and sing
Oh, what a time we have in the spring!

The boys playing ball,
Teachers, girls and all;
Then the children begin to sing
Oh, what a time we have in the spring!

When begin the summer showers
Perfume of roses from the bowers,
Make us want to stop and sing
Oh, what a time we have in spring!

Mrs. W. S. J. Brown Hostess

Mrs. W. S. J. Brown was the most charming hostess to the members of the Winner Sunday School class at her home last Friday afternoon. Mrs. Brown entertained with a banquet for the class members. Pretty tables were arranged in the dining room and were very attractively spread with dainty covers, using cut glass vases containing cut flowers at the center piece. Candy rabbits and chickens were used as plate favors. Pretty napkins with the easter motif carried out the other easter decorations. A most delightful menu consisting of baked chicken, fruit salad, deviled eggs, cream peas, cream potatoes, tomatoes, olives, lettuce, pickles, iced tea, ice cream and cake was served.

After enjoying the banquet all attended the pre-easter services at the church. Class members attending were Misses Inice Brown, Tommie Durham, Ruby Fae Golladay, Ruby Walton, Gladys Watts, Addie Fae Patterson, Marza Chaney, Irene Perry, Bernice Lassiter, Lela Hays, Elizabeth Harkrider, Dorothy Daniels.

Delphian Club Meets

The Delphian Club met in the home of Mrs. W. L. Diltz, Jr., with Mesdames Diltz and Fred Groene hostesses, on Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock. The lesson for the afternoon was "The Doll House," by Ibsen. Miss Lucy Tracy gave the entire lesson and it was very interesting indeed.

The next meeting will be with Miss Lucy Tracy in her home, and the lesson topic will be "The 19th Century Drama of England." April 29th is the date.

Picnic to Mulberry

A crowd of High School boys and girls, chaperoned by Mrs. Dan Matthews and Miss Susie Belle Weedon, enjoyed a picnic at a pretty spot on Mulberry creek last Friday afternoon. About sundown a very appetizing lunch was spread consisting of sandwiches, olives, potato chips and soda pop.

Those enjoying the occasion were Mrs. Dan Matthews, Misses Susie Belle Weedon, Dorris Durham, Melba West, Ona Fae Rose, Mildred Matthews, Gladys Mayfield and Messrs. Clyde Matthews, Fred Giles, Weldon Wells, James Swann, Delbert Polly, and Marvin Mayfield.

Messrs. W. C. Church and family, Sam Mashburn and family and Wesley Mashburn enjoyed a fishing trip to the river last week and report that they caught more fish than they could eat and carried some to M. C. Church and family.

Biggest Cut-Price Shoe Sale Ever Put on in Merkel

It means that we have too many shoes and need CASH. If you need shoes, a little money will buy you a real bargain. Some of these shoes you would buy for dress wear but if you only need an every day shoe you'll be proud to own a pair of these high grade shoes at such prices.

One lot of Selby Shoes, consisting of oxfords, patents, satins and kid leather all good styles but carried over from last season, values \$6.00 to \$9.00
Priced Special **\$2.95**

One lot tan & black pumps, this season style, sold for \$6.95 special **\$5.00**

One lot tan calf sport shoes, the right style and hue, sold for \$7.50
Special **\$6.00**

One lot black satin shoes, good styles **\$3.95**

This Sale STARTS Saturday April 18th and CLOSES Saturday April 25th. Come first and get your size.

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

DO YOU REMEMBER
Merkel 23 Years Ago?

(Editor's Note—The following articles were taken from the Merkel Mail of 1902, Ed J. Lee-man, Editor. A series of articles will appear under this heading each week about Merkel in 1902)

Merkel in 1902 was phenomenal. It marked an era of progress that should be very gratifying to every citizen of the town. Four years ago Merkel was known merely as "a wide place in the road," and we had few attractions and fewer enterprises of merit. But at the beginning of the Spanish-American war, when the first canon boomed in defense of Cuban liberty, the reverberations seemed to awaken the dormant interests of the town, and our development since that time has been of a most substantial nature. However, the year just past was the crowning year of all and marked the greatest epoch in the history of the town. A resume of the business interests shows a remarkable increase. Many of the old wooden buildings that were long an eye sore and a menace to the public safety, have given way to magnificent brick and rock structures and during the first eight months of the year eight houses were built at a cost of approximately \$25,000, besides a number of wooden buildings. In the residence portion of the town we have a much greater increase, the total number being built reached the neighborhood of 75. Many new business enterprises were established, and the population shows an increase of about 35 per cent. Few towns in the West can boast of such a growth. It is a record to be proud of. The country, too, has been rapidly developed, thousands of acres within the Merkel territory having been opened to settlement until there is hardly a vacant section to be found.

The disastrous fire of October 15, very naturally retarded our progress to a great extent. It was a hard blow to the town and a harder one for those who suffered loss, but with characteristic public-spiritedness and indomitable pluck we have survived the blow and entered upon the glad new year with the determination to make this the most profitable year of them all. To that end we must work together harmoniously for the best interest of the town. We can then hope for a new era of prosperity. Industrial progress should be the watchword, and the first step will be the erection of a new school building.

We are showing the best \$1.50 hat that ever happened—J. T. Warren. (Editor's note—When these prices prevailed The Merkel Mail was \$1.00 per year. Compare the advance in price of all other commodities with the advance in price of the Mail.)

The Mail is informed by Post Master Witt that the post office receipts for the quarter ending Jan. 1 were many dollars in excess of any preceding quarter and that they passed the requirements of a third class office. This means that the office will be raised to a third class or presidential office during the year, or not later than a year hence, which is another item in our progress.

A deal was closed Tuesday by which E. D. Coats becomes owner of the F. M. Polk building by J. T. Warren. Mr. Polk received the neat sum of \$2,900 for it. Mr. Coats put in 160 acres of raw land as part payment at \$12.50 per acre.

F. P. McGuffin is selling choice steaks at 10c per pound, roasts from 8 to 10c, other meats in proportion.

The Mail is authorized to announce T. F. Compton as a candidate for public weigher at Merkel, his candidacy being subject to the action of the Democratic Primary. Mr. Compton has made an efficient weigher and, so far as we know, has given general satisfaction. He promises his best attention to the office.

M. E. Missionary Society

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church met in Bible study at the church at 2:30 Monday afternoon. In the absence of the teacher, Mrs. L. R. Thompson, Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford taught the lesson. Those present responded heartily to the questions and discussion. The society meets again next Monday in Bible Study.

ICE NOTICE

We are now delivering ice regularly every day, and will appreciate your phoning your orders in as early in the morning as possible. Ask the driver for a window card. Phone 203. MERKEL ICE COMPANY. 17:2

Come to my residence for everything in fresh vegetables, packed in ice, Monday and Thursday evenings. Across from Swann's gin. S. K. Eckerd. tf

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the people of Merkel for aid given us after our property and household goods burned in the recent fire. We sincerely appreciate the many kind deeds done, and the many gifts of money and household goods which will enable us to go ahead as well or even better than before. Again thanking you for your kindness. Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Jones and family.

See Bob Martin Grocery Company for special prices on White Swan Syrup Saturday. It

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. Ligon. tf

Sub-Senior League Program

- Leader, Intha Bird.
Piano solo, Ona Fae Rose.
Scripture: Judges 1:21, 27-30, Sallie Brown. Song
1. Our peculiar obligation to the Indians, by Doris Pike.
2. Solo by Ray Garrett.
3. The Indians by W. L. Harkrider.
Song, "We've a story to tell to the nations."
4. An appreciation of the American Indian, by Gladys Milliken. Bass solo, by Adrian Rea.
5. The Indians' religion by Delbert Polly.
Our Task, Comer Patterson.
Song; Business; Benediction.

EGGS—CREAM—EGGS

We are headquarters for Eggs and Cream. We buy them every day; we turn no one away. We always pay the highest price and do it every day. McDONALD & COLLUM. tf

CARD OF APPRECIATION

We wish to express our appreciation and want to thank the many people and friends who helped us when our home burned. We certainly appreciate the money and things given us and the many acts of kindness done for us. Sincerely, Itp
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Perry
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Perry.

W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest. tf

Intermediate League Program

Song; Prayer.
Leader, Dorothy Daniels.
Duet, Elizabeth Harkrider and Ruby Fae Golladay.
Talks: Success in Spite of a poor start, Tommie Durham. Success sayings, Lola Hayes. True Success, Irene Campbell.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

MEN'S UNION SUITS

B. V. D. Style Summer Unions

60^c
Pr.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY ONLY

Brown Dry Goods Co.

WE SELL FOR LESS—BECAUSE WE SELL FOR CASH

MISSES PATENT SANDALS

New Stock - New Style

\$1.95
Pr.

AT