

THE MERKEL MAIL

THE MERCHANTS WHO ADVERTISE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS—READ THE ADS

VOL. 37—NO. 17

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1925

8 PAGES

A FINE TRIP TO MT. PLEASANT

The Trade Trip to Mt Pleasant was well attended by both the people of this city and those of that splendid community, and pronounced by every one as being among the best and most appreciated trips that has yet been made.

The Trade Trippers were royally welcomed to the Mt. Pleasant community by Mr. Thornton, one of the energetic and progressive young farmers of that community.

And to this welcome Mr. H. C. West ably and interestingly responded upon behalf of the Trade Trippers.

The next number was a reading by little Miss Nell Durham, followed by a solo by Miss Christine Collins. Miss Collins always receives an appreciative and hearty response from her audiences.

Mr. J. A. Buford next made a very interesting talk on the necessity of a cooperative spirit by the farmers and business people, which every one seemed to appreciate.

At this time Miss Lucy Tracy gave an appreciated reading, followed by a solo by Mr. Paul West, both of which brought a hearty applause from the audience.

MR. BUSINESS MAN

Talk about advertising getting results—does it pay? Many small firms offer proof that it does; big corporations have built gigantic paying concerns by using it liberally.

As evidence that advertising in The Merkel Mail brings immediate and satisfying results, Mr. N. A. Dowell, the auto top and camp supply man, who conducts a growing business on Front street, placed a small classified advertisement in the Mail offering for sale a couple of second-hand articles and before night after the paper had been placed in the mails on Friday morning he had sold the articles "BECAUSE OF THE AD," he said. He states that he sold one of the items to a man who had passed by his place twice each day for a month and the article had been sitting out in front of his place of business all this time, unnoticed by the man. He saw the ad and bought the article.

The biggest advertiser the Mail has at this time is the biggest corporation doing business in the city, the West Texas Utilities Company. And think of it, they have no competition in their line. But they use each week from a quarter page to a page, and according to the very popular and efficient manager, Mr. Ira Huss, there has been one or two instances where they have not been able to see direct results from each week's advertisement.

Now Mr. Merchant, you who have for sale the things that are actual necessities, the things the public must have, certainly should find proper advertising a paying business when such firms as the above find it profitable to spend money to induce the public to buy things that are not actual necessities.

As another evidence that the big companies find that advertising judiciously used pays good dividends we call your special attention to the fact that one of the biggest Mail Order concerns in the United States is planning to enter into a big advertising campaign this fall with the small weekly newspapers of the country. They are actually offering the small newspaper of 1000

FURNITURE MAN GOES TO EASTERN MARKETS

Mr. A. T. Sheppard, popular manager for the Barrow Furniture Company's store in this city, in company with three other members of the firm, left Abilene last Saturday night for Chicago, and from that city they will go via boat to Grand Rapids, Michigan, the great furniture manufacturing center of the nation, where they will personally select the new fall stock of furniture for the chain of Barrow Furniture Company stores. They will return home about July 1.

CO. AGENT TALKS ABOUT COTTON LICE

The County Agent has made a tour over the county investigating the cotton lice situation, and he informs us that there is no occasion for alarm at the present time. In some sections the lice are injuring the young cotton plant, but the Lady Beetle, a parasitic bug that is yellow or red with dark spots over the body, is destroying the lice rapidly, and the indications are that the injury of the cotton lice will not become serious. In many fields the county agent found that the lice are already disappearing.

In case this pest continues to suck at the cotton leaves, spraying can be used effectively. Nicotine mixed with water at the ratio of 1 to 1000 parts and applied to the insect will destroy the lice. But the solution must touch the pest to destroy it, which will require an efficient spraying machine with the nozzles set low on the ground and so adjusted that the spray will be angled upward, spraying the under side of the leaves. The cost of the spraying material will be about \$1.50 to the barrel. An efficient machine will cost about \$30 provided a small engine of one or more horse power is available and does not have to be purchased. After the machine has been secured, the cost will be about 50 cents per acre.

But the county agent thinks that it is not advisable to attempt to spray at this time. Likely the pest will have disappeared within a week or ten days.

Last year the lice came when the plant was large and the heavy foliage protected the pest. But this is the first time in the history of the state when the lice attacked matured plants, and it is not probable that it will appear at that same season this year.

circulation or more a contract that calls for the spending with them of more than \$50 per month.

If they can spend that sum monthly in a town the size of Merkel and feel assured of paying results, as they surely do or they would not spend the money, then surely there is not a firm in this city that could not well invest half that amount in advertising. Let us say that if every firm in the city should spend a third that sum for advertising the management would be able to publish a much better paper and live in a far more prosperous condition.

It seems that the time has come that if the small town merchant is to hold the trade that is due him, and in fact survive, he must look more careful toward advertising his business, for the buying public is now also a reading public and they are going to buy their needs from those who offer what at least to them appears to be the best bargains.

SCHOOL FACULTY IS NOW COMPLETE

The following teachers have been elected and have accepted for the coming session of the Merkel Public Schools:

High School

I. L. Jackson, Principal, mathematics and Coach.

Miss Martha Bird, Head of English Department.

Miss Kathleen Sudderth, Head of History Department.

Miss Baylor Durham, Science and History.

Miss Mellie Gilbreth, Spanish and Assistant in English.

Elementary School

Mrs. Len Sublett, Principal, Seventh Grade.

Mrs. I. L. Jackson, Seventh Grade.

Miss Mary Cleo Booth, Sixth Grade.

Miss Velma Sterling, Sixth Grade.

Miss Mamie Ellis, Fifth Grade

Miss Maurine Hearn, Fifth Grade.

Primary School

Mrs. Len Sublett, Principal.

Miss Eunice Russell, Low First.

Miss Lola Dean, High First.

Miss Eleanor Harrison, Second Grade.

Miss Alzada Pogue, Second Grade.

Miss Vennie Heizer, Third Grade.

Miss Minnie Coats, Third Grade.

Miss Lora Joiner, Fourth Grade.

Mrs. Nell Tracy Teaff, Fourth Grade.

Merkel is to be congratulated on the splendid school system maintained for the past several years by Superintendent Burgess, his able faculty, and the wise planning of a capable Board of Education. I expect to do my best to maintain this standard and to secure more recognition. Miss Martha Bird is to be commended for her splendid work in the English Department. She secured the fourth unit in English the past session. The fourth unit in English is given only for exceptional work. An additional 1/2 unit in American History was secured also. This means that the retiring superintendent with his faculty did some very excellent work the past session.

I am here to make Merkel schools equal to the best in the entire state. If I can be of any service to any child in the community I shall be glad to do so. I shall be glad to talk with parents at any time about the work their children want to do next term. Command me. I am at your service. I shall be glad to meet patrons at my office or home.

Sincerely,
J. A. SUMMERHILL, Supt.

T. & P. PUTS ON CHEAP RATE TO EL PASO JULY 4

In this paper will be found an advertisement from the Texas & Pacific Railway announcing a special Excursion Rate to El Paso and return. The fare will be, for the round trip, \$12.00.

The Special train, equipped with diner and pullmans, will leave Merkel on July 3rd at 3:50 p.m. and arrive in El Paso at 7:00 a.m. July 4th, and returning leaves El Paso at 7:00 p.m. July 5th, giving two whole days and one night in El Paso.

Hope Church of Christ To Begin Revival July 4

The Hope Church of Christ, two and one half miles of Stith, will begin their meeting the night of July 4th. W. A. Bently of Abilene doing the preaching, and Mr. Lee Eason of Merkel conducting the singing. Everybody is invited to attend these meetings. J. S. Varner. 26t2

Every third washing machine in the U. S. is the THOR. 1t

METHODIST REVIVAL STARTS HERE JULY 5

Rev. T. J. Rea, splendid and untiring pastor of the First Methodist church of this city, announces that on Sunday, July 5th, the annual revival for his church will begin, and the plans are made for same to continue to and including the Sunday evening service of July 19th.

In this great revival campaign the local pastor will be assisted by the Rev. Lewis N. Stuckey, the talented and popular pastor of St. Paul's Methodist church, Abilene, who will do the preaching. The music and singing for the occasion will be under the direction of Rev. Thos. W. Brabham, the able young pastor of the Methodist church of Cross Plains, Texas.

Dr. Stuckey is without doubt one of the strongest and foremost pastor-evangelists to be found throughout the Northwest Texas Conference, having conducted some very successful revivals in many of the larger cities of the West, including a great revival in the city of Roswell, New Mexico. For a number of years he has been assisted in these very successful revivals by Rev. Brabham.

In calling these two able ministers to this city for the coming revival, the pastor had the endorsement and unanimous approval of the official board of his church. In fact the entire membership of the church is looking forward to the fact that when the same shall have come to a close there will be many men, women, boys and girls of this town and community who have aligned themselves on the side of Christianity, and that the church membership as a whole will have been uplifted and united in the cause of Christianity in a way that will make for lasting good.

The pastor invites the cooperation and attendance upon the meeting by Christians of all denominations to join in making the meeting a help to one and all. He also urges the membership of his church to make preparations to be present at every service and do all within their power to make the same the success so badly needed.

FARMERS URGED TO KILL GRASSHOPPERS

According to the county agent Mr. J. R. Masterson, the grasshopper has just begun to enter fields and to injure the crops. He urges the farmers to apply the white arsenic-bran mash along the fence rows and in pastures near the fields immediately before the insect becomes scattered in the maize and cotton. A little work at this time may prevent much labor later any may prevent much damage. The government has warned the farmers against trying every advertised scheme to eradicate this pest, and to stick to the bran mash poison, which has never failed to check the ravishes of the hopper when it is properly mixed and applied.

The THOR is guaranteed by a \$10,000,000 company operating in Merkel. 1t

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Darsey have as their guests Mr. Darsey's mother, Mrs. Ruth Darsey of McGregor. Miss Willie Darsey, sister of Mr. Darsey, was here last week visiting, but returned to her home at McGregor last Friday.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DAN MOODY IS VISITOR HERE

Mr. J. T. Warren and son, Mr. Booth Warren, had as guests in their homes on last Saturday, their niece and cousin, Miss Mildred Paxton, assistant Secretary of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, and Hon. Daniel L. Moody, Attorney General of Texas.

Mr. Moody is perhaps the youngest man ever to occupy the Attorney General's office in this state, but is thus far making a brilliant and excellent record, which if kept up will likely bring to him higher political honors from his countrymen.

TO LOYAL SONS OF THE CONFEDERACY

Upon the sons and daughters of the south devolves an obligation as sacred as high Heaven—an obligation to keep ever before our children the lofty ideals of chivalry for which the South has always stood.

It is us alone who must instill in the minds of the young, a reverence for the heroic men, and for the patriotic memories of a stormed and cradled nation.

The broadest duty to our country demands this service at our hands.

As the divinely appointed guardians and teachers of the young, it is to us that the youth of the South must look for instructions.

The times are commercial, greed and graft written in large letters upon the surface of events, and to guard the minds of the young against the sinister and sordid influences of the age, a salutary check must be provided.

If our women are kept pure and gentle, if our men continue to exemplify the chastity of honor, which is said to feel a stain like a wound—if our traditions are held inviolate, there is a work for us to do, nor can we fail to perform it without disaster to the highest and holiest interest of our civilization.

Let's presume that you do not belong to any camp of Sons. Further, you do not know the biography of your sire during one of the most momentous epochs in world history. Not knowing, you let his deeds and his memory to some extent lie buried with his sacred ashes.

It is not old sores we would stir, it's just a demand for fairness. Give our fathers their due and rightful place in the great deeds on this continent, and we will not deny—have never denied fairness and honor to the one time enemy of his descendants.

Will you help to put your father right before the world? Will you give aid to making spots of chivalry of the South, and will you help to see that history is writ aright? Will you stop, think and pay tribute to the denials and sufferings of that dear old mother or grandmother who helped to keep alive the courageous spirit, and stamped her image upon the boys who later helped to make history and save civilization beyond the seas.

Then let me implore you to join a camp of the Sons, and contribute a few paltry shekels to help another seemingly lost cause. We juniors had no part in the chronology of the trying days, and only by inheritance of birth do we fall heir to the glory won solely by our fathers and mothers.

Joseph E. Johnston Camp, Sons of Confederacy, Merkel, Texas.

By J. C. Mason, Commander.

JAS. H. WEST IS NEXT TOASTMASTER

For the next Toastmaster at the regular Luncheon Club meeting, to be held at Ed's Cafe on next Tuesday evening, Mr. Jas. H. West, splendid and successful young hardware merchant of this city has been named.

Mr. West needs no introduction to our readers, as he is one of "Merkel's Own," so to speak, having been reared here. He is familiar with the growth and development of our city for many years, is a man of good solid judgment, progressive to the core, and those in attendance upon this meeting of the Luncheon Club may well look forward to his bringing forth some good thought and progressive idea toward the improvement of our city. You are assured of a fine program upon this occasion.

The fact that every town in all the West is growing and reaching out after more and greater trade territory should be in the thought of every business man in this city, which should also be an incentive to them to be present at the Luncheon Club meetings, where the question of how and when to act in a way that will hold what we have, and if possible bring more business to Merkel.

About forty plates have already been sold for this occasion—there should be a hundred or more. The little town of Slaton held a similar meeting one evening last week, and there were about ONE THOUSAND Slatonites present.

Revival Meeting now in Progress at Noodle Church

Revival meeting now in progress at the Noodle Methodist church. You are invited to come out to the meeting. Work for a great revival. Quarterly meeting at Noodle Saturday. Rev. W. E. Lyon of Abilene will be with us Friday night and Saturday.

R. E. L. Stutts, P.C.

The Blue Bird says



Uncle Sam went to war for a principle. And now he is having a hard time getting even the interest.

France acts as if she licked Germany without any help at all.

Don't blame the French, however, they dun the best they know how.

There is some danger that Europe may sue us for non-support.

If people hated wars as much as they do paying for them, peace would prevail.

Two problems we have with us: The high cost of living and the cheapness of human life.

The limitation of armaments has put the nations one by one up in the air.

Don't be afraid to speculate. Those who bought German marks now have money to burn.

Statistics show that one person out of twelve is now working for the U. S. Government. How many are just working it?

A scientist says nothing in the world is done as well as it could be done. How about the American tax payers?

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Public Hearted

This bank has at all times stood by its depositors through thick and thin.

It has always met every fair demand upon it to help the people of Merkel.

And the strength behind this Institution in deposits, resources, and personnel which makes it a desirable banking home, assures the permanent maintenance of these policies.

We invite your business on our record.

FARMERS STATE BANK

A Guaranty Fund Bank
"The Bank That Helps You Get Ahead"

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

Electricity in Palestine
Plans for the electrification of Palestine by raising the level of the Sea of Galilee and harnessing the historic River Jordan, involving an opening expenditure of \$10,000,000, as described in "Palestine—Its Commercial Resources With Particular Reference to American Trade," by Addison E. Southard, American consul at Jerusalem, recently published by the Department of Commerce. The same project calls for the canalization of the Jordan valley from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead sea, where, under irrigation, it is expected that copious crops of dates, rice, sugar cane, flax and cotton can be produced. Provision for 2,000 miles of motor highways, commercialization of the Bagdad-Cairo air route, traversing Syria, and agricultural credit banks are among the other innovations contemplated in the modernization of the Holy land, as related by Mr. Southard.

Has "Driving Calf"
Young Horace Flint and Patience, a calf born last March, which he has broken to harness, are familiar sights at Brighton Ridge, Maine. Carrying mail, hauling vegetables, scraping the road in front of the house were some of the things they did last summer. Now with the advent of winter, Horace finds more time for a pleasure ride, either with the rig or in the saddle to which Patience has been equally well trained. Patience prefers to stay around the house rather than with the rest of the stock, and is particularly fond of camping on the piazza.

Has Odd Collection
Edward C. Farnsworth, of Portland, Maine, has added another hornet's nest to his collection of those specimens of insect ingenuity, making in all twenty-seven which are hung around the walls of two rooms in his home. All these nests have been found by Mr. Farnsworth in his tramps in the neighboring woods.

New Variety of Apple
By a rare trick of nature there now exists a new variety of apple which has not been given a name. The new variety was accidentally discovered in New Jersey several years ago, when it was found that one tree bore two kinds of apples. The parent tree bears apples of mixed red and green stripes, while the new apple, developed on a single branch, is a deep dark red and has no stripes. Fruit experts studying the new apple declare it to be a most promising variety as well as a big boon to the fruit growers of America. Horticulturists term it the product of a "sport bud." A large nursery company purchased a single branch bearing the new fruit, paying the owner \$5,000 for it. Buds from this branch are now being used to develop the new variety, and it is expected to become widely known as one of the leading apples.—Pathfinder Magazine.

New Use for Menthol
An all-American cold cure, based on home-grown menthol, is a possibility held out by the bureau of plant industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. Inasmuch as menthol is now imported at a cost of more than \$1,000,000 annually, government botanists point out that menthol-bearing mint plants can be made a profitable crop if properly cultivated in regions where the climate is suitable. Experimental plantings in various parts of the United States in the last year have shown that the mint does not produce a high enough percentage of menthol in southern states, but in the cooler and moister northern states its culture can be made to pay.

In the Silent Night
In the middle of the night father heard in the next room—Roger's room—a little murmur, very soft:
"Papa, papa! Mamma!"
"That's Roger dreaming," said father to himself. But the murmur continued, still soft and still muffled.
"Papa! Mamma! I fell out of bed!"
Father got up, went into Roger's room and found him actually on the floor.
"Why didn't you cry louder, sonny? I might have been asleep and would not have heard you. You should have shouted and not whispered for papa."
"But I didn't want to wake you up," said Roger.—From L'Echo de Paris.

This Teaches Us
President Coolidge, whose literary taste is excellent, said at a White House luncheon:
"I mistrust best sellers, the authors whose names are household words, and whose bank accounts never descend below four figures.
"Look at Poe and Whitman. They stand out above all their contemporaries today, yet Whitman lived in a little wooden shanty in Camden, while Poe lived in a little wooden shanty in Fordham, and they were both behind-hand with the rest.
"This teaches us that genius will sut. Even during the genius' life it will out—at the elbows."

South African Diamonds
The production of diamonds in South Africa in 1922 was 2,053,095 metric karats, which was the largest since 1920 and comparable to that of any year since the immediate pre-war period, 1911 to 1913, when the yearly output surpassed 5,000,000 karats. The value in 1923 was estimated at \$31,049,000. Outstanding features were the increase of alluvial compared with mine production and the development of more serious competition from foreign fields, especially those in the Belgian and Portuguese Congo.

SEIZURE ACT IS EXPLAINED BY ATTY.

Austin, Texas, June 20.—Inquiries made of the Attorney General's Department regarding the new search and seizure act of the last Legislature, which became effective June 18, are being informally answered that the language of the statute is clear and plain, providing that evidence obtained in search and seizure without a search warrant is not admissible in court trial, and further, that any State ranger or other peace officer making search and seizure without first securing a search warrant shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and fine and jail imprisonment is provided for such violations.
Under the new law the searching of an automobile, a private residence or other premises where there is suspicion liquor is stored would be illegal if the search was made without a search warrant. If an officer suspected there was whiskey in an automobile he found on a public road it would be unlawful for him to search the car without having first obtained a search warrant, it was explained at the Attorney General's department. Evidence secured in such a search could not under the provisions of the new law be introduced at the trial of the owner of the automobile or the possessor of the liquor.
Not only does the new search and seizure act apply to liquor law violations, but also to other classes of crime. It would be unlawful for an officer to search premises for evidence in murder, criminal assault or robbery cases without first having obtained a search warrant. And if the evidence was secured without the issuance of a search warrant it would not be admissible in court.

Opinion was generally expressed that while there is little doubt that the Legislature had in mind only liquor law violations when it passed the new search and seizure act the law as it stands on the statute books today affects all other crimes.
Reports have reached Austin that in some sections of the State peace officers are puzzled over the new law, and that pending a thorough understanding of its provisions all raids have been suspended. It is expected that some of these officials will make formal request of the Attorney General construing the new act.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.
Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

☞ Is exceptionally equipped in everything for your convenience, and in funds to take care of the requirements of its customers.

☞ We solicit your business on the basis of a conservative and successful management for twenty-one years.

☞ We invite you to visit us at any time you are in town, whether you are a customer or not. Ask us for a copy of our last statement.

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



"HEBRON GOSSIP" By Mayflower

The farmers are almost finished chopping cotton now, and would be very glad of a good rain.
Every one come to the box supper at Hebron Friday night, June 26th, and bring your money with you, as there will be lots of good eats, also cold drinks.
Little Miss Annie Mae Harris was bitten by a dog Tuesday morning, but is doing nicely at present and we hope may continue to do so.
Mr. Riley Hodges, who has been quite ill is able to be up and is improving nicely now.
Miss Jewel Skidmore was the guest of Miss Lillie Davis Sunday.
Miss Eva Horton of Noodle was the guest of Miss Pearl Skidmore Saturday night and Sunday.
Miss Bessie Lou Pannell spent the day with Miss Ruby Skidmore Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Newberry visited Mr. and Mrs. Johnny

Dunn Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Turner of Merkel Sunday.
Misses Lola Shelton and Mary Lou Newberry visited the former's sister, Mrs. Johnny Dunn, Jr., Sunday.
Mr. Thomas Harris took supper with Mr. William Pannell Sunday night.
Mrs. Ollie Skidmore and daughter, Jewel, called on Mrs. Lige Harris Tuesday afternoon.
Mr. James Harris took dinner with Mr. Robert Davis Sunday.
Mrs. A. J. Pannell and daughter, Evelyn, visited Mrs. Lige Harris Tuesday afternoon.
Mr. and Mrs. Watley spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Petty.
Several of the Hebron folks attended the singing at Union Ridge Sunday afternoon.
Remember the box supper and tell your friends. "Mayflower."
Mr. Joe Garland has recently made quite extensive improvements about his home in the north part of Merkel, adding a sleeping porch, new front porch, walks and curbing and new paint.

Cozy Theatre

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, 26th and 27th.
William Fox Presents
WILLIAM FARNUM
—in—
"THE END OF THE TRAIL"
Story by Maibelle Heikes Justice
—Also—
Educational Comedy
CLYDE COOK
—in—
"THE BRONCHO EXPRESS"
Regular Prices 10c, 20c and 30c

POET'S CORNER

(Editor's note—The following poem was written by Miss Nina Medeoh Rawlings of Trent, Texas, who is only thirteen years of age.)
TRENT
(Copyright pending, by Nina Medeoh Rawlings.)
Trent, dear old Trent,
Kinda hard for us to part,
'Cause I have little place
For you in my heart.
I've got a tender feeling
For your lazy little streets,
And your men a doin' nothing,
But a settin' out their seats.
I've run down your dusty roads,

When but a barefoot kid,
And wondered thru your bit of woods
And other things I did.
From each blade of grass,
To each tall telephone pole,
I love you every bit,
To me, you're good as gold.
I hear the church bell
As its song floats thru the air
And a few hurrying
To get there.
I'm gon'a put you on the map,
Trent,
I want you to know,
And if the women's tongues will stop,
I'll say because I love you so.
The THOR—the Oldest Washing Machine Made. It

Sweetwater Marble & Granite Works

J. P. Aycock and G. C. McCord, Props.
MANUFACTURERS OF
HIGH GRADE MONUMENTS
Sweetwater, Texas

We have the largest finishing plant in the West. We buy high grade rough granite at the quarry which comes to us at a low raw material freight rate, which enables us to make any size and design at a saving in price to our customers.

Write us when ready to buy and our factory representative, Mr. G. C. McCord, a member of the firm, will be glad to call and submit modern designs and prices; or we would be glad to have you visit our plant. When you deal with us you deal direct, avoiding middle-man profit.

NEWS AGENCY

Beginning July 1st we will be local agent for

The Dallas News

The Dallas Journal

The Semi-Weekly Farm News

Call and give us your Subscription for the above papers.

HAMM DRUG Co.

NOODLE NEWS

Rev. Campbell of Abilene preached at the Baptist Church Sunday morning and evening. Services were held at the Christian Church also.

Singing at Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon was attended by a large crowd.

Crops around Noodle are looking fine. The farmers have most of the weeds killed.

W. T. Walker and family have had as their guests for several days two of Mr. Walker's daughters from Sweetwater.

The party given by Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Jenkins Friday night of last week was attended by a large crowd of young people and all present reported a most enjoyable time.

Mrs. Reagan of Sweetwater was the guest of Mrs. Huey Vick a part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Z. Harrison and daughters were guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Goode Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Howard and little boys attended church

in Abilene Sunday night.

There were several visitors in the Herring home Sunday.

Miss Dula Harrison of Horn was in Noodle Monday morning.

Felix Howard was in Noodle Monday afternoon.

Mrs. T. E. Goode called on Mrs. R. C. Goode Monday morning of this week.

W. B. Howard was in Merkel Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Spurgin visited in the Compere community Saturday night.

Thursday of last week Mr. W. J. Bicknell who lives south of Noodle, was plowing cotton during a thunder storm, when a bolt of lightning struck the ground nearby, knocking three of his mules down and burning quite a place on Mr. Bicknell's head.

W. B. Howard and two little boys were in Abilene Tuesday.

U. B. Wheeler and little granddaughter of the Horn community were in Noodle Tuesday morning.

Hicks Goode is on the sick list this week, we learn.

There are several cases of the whooping cough in our commu-

DORA NEWS

By Special Correspondent

The Dora community has been visited with nice rains and crops are looking fine.

Mr. Earl and Earnest Gibson motored to Sweetwater Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Frazier's granddaughters of Sweetwater are spending a few weeks with them.

Mrs. Valrie Frazier and Miss Mary Ellen Frazier motored to Sweetwater Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Evans of Sweetwater were visitors of E. L. Frazier Sunday.

Mr. J. B. McCoy and Mr. Glen Elliot motored to Sweetwater Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bardwell were visitors of Earnest Gobbson Sunday.

Mr. J. B. McCoy and Earle Gibson motored to Dora Friday.

Mr. Marvin Frazier and wife and Mary Ellen Frazier motored to Mt. Pleasant Friday evening.

Mr. Bill Farmer and wife were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Farmer Sunday.

Mrs. E. L. Frazier's mother, Mrs. Elmore, has been very ill, but she is improving now.

Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Brown of White Church were visitors of E. L. Frazier Sunday.

Mr. E. L. Frazier's cousin, Mr. Raymond Malone of Hico, Texas, was a visitor here Sunday.

Beryl Brown, Willis Evans, Marvin Frazier, and Raymond Malone motored to Dora Sunday afternoon, after a bottle of soda water.

Mr. J. B. McCoy was a visitor of Mr. Earl Gibson Sunday.

E. L. Frazier and family attended services at White Church Sunday and Sunday night.

"Blue Bonnett"

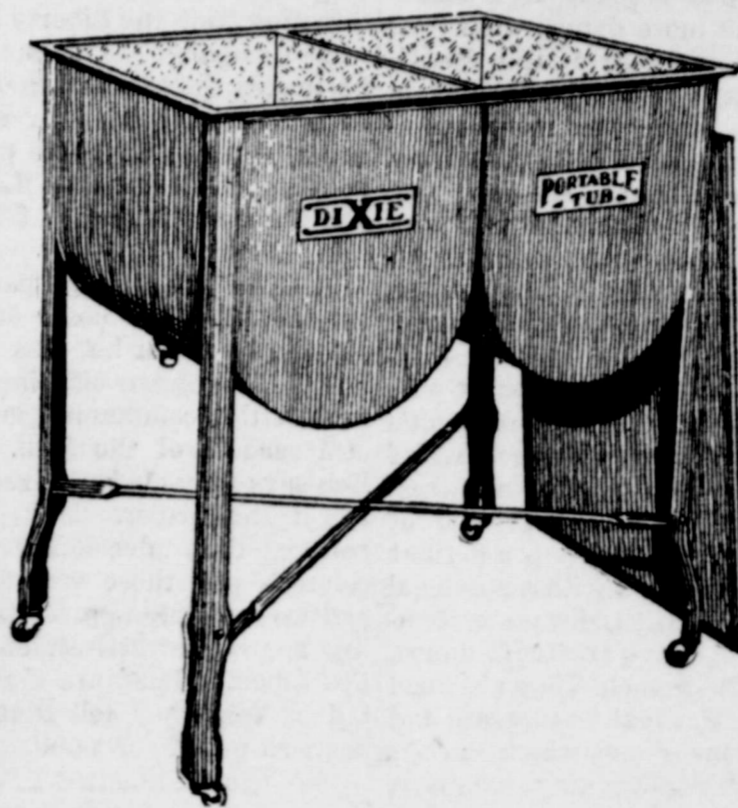
ity now.

Russell Herring was in Abilene Tuesday morning.

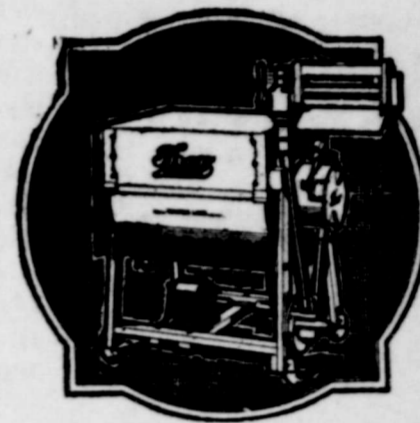
C. B. Compton went to Abilene Tuesday night.

Can you afford--

to buy until you have seen the Thor--and, get our special offer.



It's a Thor
Sold in
Merkel
Guaranteed in
Merkel



Get our Special
Offer

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

Summer Vacation Needs

As every one knows, the great summer vacation days are here--the days when the great out doors beckons you to come--and many are gone and more to go. And for your needs in wearing apparel in which to make your vacation trips we have in stock many items you will want and appreciate.

Besides, we have Hand Bags, Suit Cases, Trunks, Hat Boxes etc.

And while our stock is ALL NEW, we have recently received many items of the latest in Wearing apparel. Our goods are not only nifty and of the newest models and makes, but they stand out as good as the best in quality; which makes for service that is pleasing.

MAX MELLINGER

Everything in Dry Goods

CROSS ROADS NEWS

Mr. Henry King's little girl accidentally broke her arm while playing one day last week.

Dorothy Pitts, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Pitts, was quite sick one night this week, but is better.

We are glad to report Mr. A. Parker is still improving.

Maurice Canon of Gainesville, Texas, is spending the summer in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joiner.

The W. M. U. had a very pleasant meeting Tuesday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Everett King. After the regular meeting a nice course of refreshments was served to all present, and all went away feeling that those who were not there had missed a real treat.

Mesdames Gray, Brewster and Stewart visited Mrs. King Tuesday afternoon.

The Senior class of Cross Roads Sunday School gave an entertainment two weeks ago. They rendered a nice program, after which they passed nice plates of ice cream and cake. Mrs. Garland Teaff is teacher of the class.

The teachers and Superintendent of our Sunday school met on Wednesday night to arrange a program for Sunday afternoon.

Cotton Chopping is in full swing with the farmers in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. England were shopping in Abilene Monday.

Winfred Joiner is attending summer school at Simmons University.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett King gave their son, Harold, a birthday dinner on June seventh. Those enjoying the nice dinner with him were: Katie Ruth Wallace, Oleta Pannell, Marie Hughes of Abilene, Hollis Hammond, Dennis England, Lloyd Gray, Carroll Joiner. Also Mesdames and Messrs. Gray, Hammond, Brewster and Joiner.

A surprise birthday dinner was given W. F. Joiner Sunday

with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hammond and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. R. F. England and family as guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle King are expected to arrive from East Texas to visit his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Everett King, this week.

WARREN NOTES

By Miss Vera Jones

We are all enjoying the nice weather for cotton chopping, but would like to have a nice shower on the feed.

Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs have some sick folks at their home, but they are improving at the present time.

Mr. and Mrs. George Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Janes spent the day Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jones spent the day Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Hudson of the

Stith community.

Misses Lillie and Liddie Jones visited Miss Lottie Gressett on Sunday.

All who attended the party at Mr. Homer Foster's Saturday night reported a nice time.

Miss Helen McCormick was the guest of Miss Vera Jones on Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Brit Baker were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Jones Sunday night.

Mr. Martin Barker was the guest of Mr. Zebie Sumpter on Sunday.

Miss Ruth Chancey was the guest of Miss Azilene Sumpter Sunday.

Mrs. Annie Harris and Mrs. Fay Jones were visitors with Miss Vela Jones for a while on Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Medford Jones visited Mrs. Jones sister, Mrs. Singleton, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Laney had as their guests last week Mr. H. D. Smith and family of Ozona.



GIVE YOUR CAR A NEW FINISH-DO IT YOURSELF WITH ONE OR TWO COATS

OF
Effecto
AUTO
FINISHES

West Company

THE MARK THE HOUSE FOR THE MARK
DEPENDABLE AUTO NECESSITIES

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.

You wouldn't dare think of
criticising the manner in which
the stores and banks are run in
your town, but the newspaper,
if it is not run according to your
thinking is a worthless thing and
the editor is too sorry for any-
thing.

One often hears a church
member who does not feel that
he or she is able to pay so much
to the upkeep of the church,
make slight remarks about an-
other who gives liberally, even
though the liberal giver is often
hard up. And then one often
hears another make slight re-
marks about old so and so, who
does not give so much. And
doubtless the biggest sin that
each commits is that they say
hard things about each other.

Verily the meanest man or
woman in the community is the
one who makes slurring, slight
and hurtful remarks about each
other to the public. And the
worst of all about this matter is
that the practice is found more
among church members than
others. Shame on the church
members who practice it. It is
no wonder the claim is made
that "the church is failing."

A newspaper man can write
big heads for some people, fol-
lowed by a long eulogizing and
complimentary article time and
again, even for years; he can
say beautiful things about their
children when they marry and
when death enters their home

can offer condolence and sym-
pathy, and yet if he over looks
some little personal or makes
mention of some other person
disliked by this citizen pictured
above, the newspaper man loses
his friendship.

CRIME AND POLICE

Chillicothe News: Crime is in-
creasing so fast in Chicago, they
should hang out a service flag
when some member of the fam-
ily goes down.

The life of a policeman in
Chicago is actually and statisti-
cally in more danger than was
that of a soldier of the Ameri-
can Expeditionary Forces in
France. There are more crim-
inals in Chicago than policemen,
and the criminals are as well
armed and probably better equip-
ped with automobiles and simi-
lar paraphernalia. Chicago is
struggling to remain civilized,
while an army of bloody savages
ranges the city almost at will,
ready to slay at a moment's
notice and with no more fear of
public opinion than of a corres-
pondence school. In several of
our large cities there is a defiant
element, fringed with acute legal
talent, which carries on system-
atically a heavy traffic in liquor,
drugs and women. They are lined
up with an equally desperate and
murderous group which carries
on gambling, yegging, banditry,
burglary and special assassina-
tions. All our cities are under-
policed. In London, where crim-
inals are not trifled with, the
number of policemen is twice as
large in proportion to population
as in Chicago. So it is in most
European capitals, and one re-
sult is that the worst European
criminals prefer to operate in
this country. The condition is
not getting better, but worse.
Martial law and every known
criminal stood against a brick
wall any time between sunrise
and sunset may be the final so-
lution.—State Press in Dallas
News.

300,000 use the THOR—all
satisfied.

**LIBERTY HARDWARE EX-
TENDS TRADE TERRITORY**

Mr. Robert Hicks, one of our
enterprising and progressive
hardware men, who since open-
ing the Liberty Hardware Com-
pany some five years ago, has
been one of the biggest adver-
tisers this paper has, stated
that he has recently extended
the distance of his trade ter-
ritory beyond that advertised in
the Mail. In his advertisements
in the Mail he often makes the
assertion that "Our trade ter-
ritory extends forty miles in every
direction from the Liberty Har-
dware Company," whereas now
he makes the boast that his
firm is having calls for and is
actually selling goods to parties
residing at Big Spring, Lamesa
and Tulia, a distance of more
than 100 miles.

And the interesting part of
this is that the most of the
parties to whom he has been
making sales, are old time citi-
zens of this community, and are
still readers of the Mail. And
Bob says they evidently read his
ads in the paper. This paper
believes that advertising in its
columns pay those who use it,
and we certainly appreciate hav-
ing a good advertiser, such as
the Liberty Hardware Company
tell us that they fell that they
are well payed for same.

See the THOR in operation. It

NOTICE

Sealed proposals for the cus-
tody of the City Funds of the
City of Merkel, Texas, will be re-
ceived at the office of the City
Secretary of said City, from any
Banking Corporation, association
or Individual Banker, doing busi-
ness within the said City of
Merkel, that may desire to be
selected as the Depository of the
Funds of Said City of Merkel,
until 5 o'clock p.m., July the
6th, 1925.

G. W. JOHNSON,
City Secretary, City of Mer-
kel, Texas, June 24, 1925. It

**Wild Bill's Last
Spree**

By ELIZA M. HARVEY

(© 1925, Western Newspaper Union.)

YOUTH sat heavily upon Wild Bill
Wasson. Just now Wild Bill was
learning—not to his taste, exactly—
but learning, for all that.

His girl had thrown him down for
the measly Kelly, who hadn't the
courage to be so wild as he. His
career in life was wrecked—just as his
motorcycle had been wrecked in the
last race. If he hadn't hit that skid
he would certainly have walked away
with nine thousand dollars, a perfect-
ly good pair of legs, and a perfectly
good girl.

But the chap who did win the nine
thousand—Wild Bill cursed him under
his breath, then he suddenly said
aloud, defiantly—to no one and no
thing in particular—

"I'm going on one wild spree! They
call me Wild Bill—just because I drove
a motorcycle hell-bent where any other
guy is afraid to make more than forty
miles. Well—I got mine, all right!
But I'm not done yet, just because I've
got a game leg. Wait till I get on my
feet."

He got on his feet several months
later, with a slightly perceptible limp
—a bitter heart—and a recklessness
that boded ill for anything that stood
in its way. Money had been showered
on Wild Bill with lavish hand by the
fates—and an indulgent parent. He
was like any other man who had come
too early to the age of twenty-four.

If any man ever earned a sobriquet,
Wild Bill earned his from then on.
Wild parties and wild women knew
Wild Bill as a thick-as-thieves intima-
mate; till Wild Bill's old girl, being
selfish and a coward at heart, shook
inwardly at the havoc she had wrought
and wondered what would be the end.
There's no knowing what the end
might have been—if Kelly's old girl
hadn't been in the Blue Owl that night.
She danced with Bill as a silvery cur-
tain dropped from nowhere around the
dance floor—cutting the revelers at the
tables completely from sight. The
huge shaded chandelier over the dance
floor went dark, Wild Bill hugged the
girl up to him and said under his
breath:

"Give us a kiss." The girl pulled
back quickly, and answered with a
sharp intake of breath.

"Not unless you take me away from
here in that big blue car outside."
Bill kissed her with a grin. And five
minutes later they were tearing down
the long smooth road. There was a
careening silence, till Bill said ab-
ruptly:

"You're here—what'll you have?"
"You!" the girl spoke sharply.
"You're too good a man to go like
this. You think that girl broke your
heart and wrecked your life just be-
cause she threw you down for Kelly.
Kelly threw me down for her. You're
worth ten of Kelly. You've got to
stop before it's too late."

"Wow! Got to, eh? Where do you
get off? What have I got to stop for?
Nobody cares for me, my girl."
"I do. I've been mad about you ever
since you first started racing, but I
was promised to Kelly—and I kept my
word. She never cared for you in a
minute like I do. You know there's
other things in life beside racing.
You're just off on the wrong foot. Take
some of that coin you're wasting and
start around the world in this car—
with me. Get into a decent business,
marry me and settle down and try the
other side of life. If it's no go—you
can step out, say 'I'm through—good-
by and good luck,' and you won't hear
a word from me. If it pans out—
well, who knows? Anyhow—I'm will-
ing to try—and I'll stick—and I keep
my word."

The big blue car slowed down to a
creeping pace. Bill looked at the girl
with eyes and brain cleared by the
shock of what she was saying. Sudden-
ly he laughed uproariously. He
stepped on the gas—and Wild Bill
yelled over his shoulder:

"Well! That's one kind of spree
I've never tried! But I'll try anything
once. You're on—let's go!"

He was still laughing when the
justice of the peace sighed sleepily
over the words that made them one,
hours later. The girl's face was set.
She had made a grandstand play—but
she was not afraid to race it out with
him.

There's a quiet little town in the
West where business is booming under
the hand of a keen-eyed, clear-brained
chap. Everybody in town swears by
him. He has a wife that he wouldn't
take all the kingdoms of the world for,
and who rules his life with her
slightest smile. He has two children
that are the pride of his heart. He
leads a cool, sane, steady life that
many a man points out as a top-worthy
existence for example to his growing
sons.

Wild Bill Wasson is still on his last
spree.

What Else Could He Do?

She was a practical young woman,
and he had been flirting with her for a
long time. When they met at the
party she thought it was time she
brought him up to the scratch.

Games were in progress after din-
ner, and he, searching for her, dis-
covered her in the conservatory.

"Come along," he said, "we're just
going to play 'Kiss-in-the-Ring,' and I
shan't enjoy it unless you play."
"Let's play it out here," she an-
swered. "I'll give you the kiss and
you give me the ring."

And another young engaged couple
went back to the drawing room

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE**

After a Fire==

you'll find no satisfaction in figuring up
the amount of insurance you should have
had. But there is a lot of satisfaction in
knowing that your property as it stands
today is fully covered by dependable fire
insurance.

Our fire insurance policies are dependable.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

A Swimming Party

Tuesday evening, about seven
thirty o'clock, a gay crowd of
young people gathered at the
Shannon Swimming Pool for a
swim and picnic supper. After
enjoying the swimming for a
time, a very appetizing picnic
supper was spread, which con-
sisted of sandwiches, deviled
eggs, pickles, olives, potato chips
iced tea and cakes.

Those enjoying this affair
were: Misses Ruby Hamm, Lois
Dry, Mary Eula Sears, Lorena
Dry, Evelyn Hamm, Christene
Collins and Iva Bragg, and Mess-
ers Guy Darsey, Delma Comp-
ton, Jack West, Loring Ham-
let, Z. Oswald and Doyle Garrett.

Mr. J. C. Mason left first of
the week to attend a meeting of
the State Farm Bureau Cotton
Association, of which organiza-
tion Mr. Mason is a director.

**Little Marie Stanford Given
Birthday Party**

Little Marie Stanford cele-
brated her eleventh birthday an-
niversary at a party given by her
mother, Mrs. W. E. Stanford, at
her home in the north part of
Merkel on Monday afternoon.

After the assembling of the
children, games were enjoyed
and much fun was had in the
opening of the packages which
contained gifts for the guest of
honor. After Miss Marie had
blown out the tiny candles atop
the beautiful birthday cake, and
this was cut and served with
ice cream, the best fun of the
afternoon came in the candy
contest by each guest. Mrs. Stan-
ford made this a happy after-
noon for Marie and her friends:
Ola Smith, Florence Rider, Mis-
sie and Rogene Dye, Phalia Diltz,
Nell Durham, Mildred Richard-
son, Mabel Pilcher, Mary Olive
Simpson, Marvin Boney, Neil
Durham and Jack Stanford.



**We keep you looking
clean and neat
When you step out on
the street.**
—CASH KID

**NOTHING equals the feel-
ing of being well dressed
—let us keep you that way.**

**"Real Cleaning—Permanent
Dyeing—Right Pressing."**

Cash Tailor Shop

Job Wanted!



Let me keep your stables, barns,
poultry houses, etc., sanitary and
free from disease germs, lice and
vermin. My name is

**DR. LEGEAR'S
DIP AND
DISINFECTANT**

I also clean, deodorize, and rid
your poultry and livestock of
flea, lice, ticks, etc. My charge
is only a few cents. Please hire
me at once.

**Satisfaction Guaranteed
or Money Back**
For Sale by HAMM DRUG CO.

**Children's
EYES**



**PROTECTED BEST—
and Preserved with cor-
rectly fitted Glasses.**
ABILENE OPTICAL CO.
T. S. Higginbotham, Stan-
dard Optometrist
229 1/2 Pine St. Abilene

**MEMBER
TEXAS QUALIFIED
DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE**

**Legally
Registered
Pharmacist**

**Merkel Drug
COMPANY**

S. D. Gamble, Mgr.

* 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.



**What Wonderful
Laundry Work!**

**300,000 Women are Satisfied Users of this
Wonderful Washer—It's a**

Thor

**Only \$5.00 puts this Electric Washer in your home,
with a Dixie Portable twin tub free!**

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

Will Close July 4

We will be closed all day Saturday July 4th and any thing you may want, please get it Friday.

We have always observed July 4th, our Independence Day. It seems though that some people in the mad rush for the almighty dollar, forget the aim in life that our Creator created us for; "Service" service to our fellow man. We try to keep in mind the things for which our forefathers fought, bled and died, and reverence their memory.

Drifting as we are, if we don't stop and think we will soon even forget the Birth of our Christ.

Because July 4th comes on Saturday, why wait until Monday to observe it, we may as well attend a funeral two or three days after the body has been buried. Remember our slogan "If it's hardware we have it," if in need of anything that comes in this line.

Liberty Hardware Co.

"If It's Hardware We Have It"

Service That Satisfies

GIVE US A TRIAL

Everything for your Convenience

Come around and let us water your Battery and air your tires. We will be glad to help you keep your car in first class condition.

We handle the Best Grade of Gasoline, Oils and Greases. Also Ford parts and accessories. Our stock of tires is complete. We seek to satisfy our customers.

OASIS FILLING STATION

Bill Haynes, Manager

CARD OF THANKS

In appreciation of the many acts of kindness, aid and friendship extended during the illness and death of our beloved husband, son and brother, Virgil Touchstone, we take this method of extending our most sincere thanks and appreciation to one and all. We appreciate every act, every word of consolation, and most especially the beautiful floral contributions.

For your extreme goodness and kindness, we sincerely trust that the Lord's richest blessings will forever rest upon each and every one. Mrs. T. V. Touchstone and daughter, Mrs. Alice Touchstone and children and Mrs. Frank Sears and family. It

Messrs Dee and Emmette Grimes returned Wednesday from Blair, Oklahoma, where they had been for a visit to their grandmother, who has been in ill health for some time.

Mr. Dee Bland, Merkel, route five, is among the list of new subscribers to the Mail. Thanks.

Fit your own eyes with our line of Glasses, priced right. HAMM DRUG CO. It

Ask any THOR user. It

Mr. J. S. Barnes and son W. J. Barnes, of Westbrook, were here first of the week for a visit with their daughters, Mesdames J. C. Childress, T. G. Bragg and Fred Guitar.

Mr. H. D. Clark and daughter, Mrs. J. T. Coats, left first of the week for a visit with relatives at Lamesa and other Plains towns.

Mr. R. N. Campbell returned first of the week from a business trip to Albany, Breckenridge, Archer City and Wichita Falls. He reports crops better here than at any point he visited.

WARREN NEWS

By Miss Rose Ellington

People of this community are very busy chopping cotton and plowing over.

Health of this community is not very good at this writing.

Mr. Buster McCoy was taken sick suddenly Saturday night with his side. The doctor said he was bordering on appendicitis. Mrs. Harris and daughter, Constance, and Miss Willie Derrick visited Mrs. Ellis Harris Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Patterson, Grandpa and Grandma Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McCoy, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McCoy spent Sunday afternoon with Mrs. McCoy.

Those who called on Grandma Hobbs, Ella and Hall Hobbs on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. John Hobbs, Mrs. Delma Tarvin, Mrs. Ellington and Rose and Cordie Ellington, Flossie Copeland and Messrs. Noel Harvell, Odis Foster, Robert Sumpter and Therman McCoy.

Mrs. Jim Copeland is some better at present. She was able to be moved over to her mother's Mrs. Woodard, of Hodges, Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Medford Jones visited close to Blair Sunday.

The party at Mr. and Mrs. Homer Foster's was enjoyed by all who attended.

Several from Warren attended singing at Stith Sunday afternoon and reported a fine singing.

Miss Willie Ellington spent Saturday night in Abilene with her aunt.

Mr. Howard Tarvin and children, Mrs. Emmett Howard and little son and daughter, spent Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Ellington and family.

Miss Willie Newman spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur McCoy.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hobbs and family spent the day with grandma Hobbs and Ella Hobbs Sunday.

Mr. Robert Sumpter was the guest of Mr. Therman McCoy Saturday night.

Mrs. Homer Foster's sister spent last week-end with her.

Mr. Buster McCoy was carried to the Abilene sanitarium Monday to undergo an operation. We hope he will soon be able to return home.

Lorene Ellington spent Saturday afternoon with Artie McCoy.

LOOK FOR—

The bungalow sign—George's Kandy Kitchen, on Front street. "Eat Hand-Made Candy" and protect your health. Try our Hamburgers, Cold Drinks and Cigars. George W. Thompson, proprietor. tf

W. O. Boney represents the San Antonio Joint Stock and Land Bank. See him for 6% money. tf

FELT SLUGGISH

Illinois Man Tells About His Relief from Indigestion.

"I used to suffer," says Mr. Walter W. Macdonald, of 711 Fairview Ave., Edwardsville, Ill., "with indigestion, a tight feeling in my chest after meals—felt sluggish, lazy and dull and out of sorts. I would be very constipated."

"Some one recommended Black-Draught. I began using it. I found it so very satisfactory I have used it ever since. I wouldn't be without it."

"My work is inside. I do not get as much exercise as I would like, and at times my system gets clogged and I would see the necessity of a good active medicine."

"After one or two doses of Black-Draught, my head clears up and I feel like new."

"For stomach or liver trouble, Black-Draught does good."

Thedford's Black-Draught is recommended by thousands of others for the relief of many common ailments due to a torpid liver, needing laxative or cathartic stimulation.

Sold everywhere; 25c. C-30

Thedford's BLACK-DRAUGHT LIVER MEDICINE

The W. T. G. Club Meets

The W. T. G. Club members were entertained at the home of Miss Mildred Smith on Wednesday afternoon from the hours of four to six o'clock.

Various games and contests gave interesting past-time during the afternoon. In the dress-making contest, Miss Helen Booth won, and was awarded a pretty bob comb as prize. Miss Flora Frances Anderson favored the guests with several piano selections.

A refreshment of iced lolly-pop with sandwiches, olives and candy was served to Misses Flora Frances Anderson, Mildred Hamm, Tommie Durham, Helen Booth, Ruby Fae Golladay and the hostess.

Mr. Alex Champion and daughter, Mrs. Lena Morrow, of Bardwell, Texas, are here for a visit with the families of Mr. S. J. Roberts and B. T. Sublett.

Harry Williams, wife and daughter, Miss Hazel, of Dallas, and Frank Mixion and wife of near Clarendon, visited R. E. Cole and family last Saturday. Mrs. Cole was very glad to see her uncle, Harry Williams, as he was a brother of her father and the last time she saw him was when she was a child.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Clark, of Meridian, Texas, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Keith. Mr. Clark is a teacher in Meridian College, and the Mail is thankful for some nice words of commendation of the paper from him, he having been a reader of the paper for the past several years.

Mrs. Homer Cook and sons, of Boonville, Mo., are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. Z. Turner for an extended visit.

Save Your Clothing with the THOR. It

TEN WAYS YOU HURT YOUR CHUDCH

The following, written by a prominent West Texas Churchman, and published in his home town paper, is reproduced in this paper for the reason that it is sure to please some people and may cause others to turn up their noses.

1. Broadcast the faults of the minister. Assume the silence of your hearers means they agree with you and so report it.

2. Repeat every rumor you hear about the way people are cutting down their giving to the church—and believe all you hear on the subject.

3. Attend church only when an "outside" speaker occupies the pulpit—and then shake hands with everybody that day.

4. Lament about the "poor music" and the high cost of it, harking back to the old days when you did the same thing about the music then. Ditto the preaching.

5. Tell everybody the attendance is falling off, though you never got a report on the official count.

6. Criticise fellow members for things you, too, are guilty of.

7. Give one-third of what you can give.

8. Report that the church lacks spiritual power, although your own is like a cinder.

9. Park both your piety and intelligence at home when you attend church, then accuse the preacher of being "heretical."

10. Send your children to another church school and publish the fact. Oppose the leaders of your church—always!

SWEET CREAM—I am now using a cream separator and can furnish you with fresh, sweet cream on short notice, right off the ice. Phone 246, Mrs. J. Ben Campbell. tf

Over 300,000 satisfied users of the THOR. It

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

BREAD IS YOUR BEST FOOD—EAT MORE OF IT

Phone Your Grocer

for

Milk Maid Bread

You can save time and steps by ordering your bread when you order your groceries. Your Grocer has it, and it will be delivered to your door fresh and on time, simply by ordering your BREAD with your groceries.

PIES CANDIES ROLLS

Pastries for all Occasions

QUALITY BAKERY

When will the Clock Stop?

Can you guess?
Are you Lucky?

With each Cash Purchase of \$1.00 a clock dial we will give; one of which will call for a

Beautiful Snow White Kitchen Cabinet

Now on exhibition at our store

ABSOLUTELY FREE!

No Advance in Prices on Account of this Offer.

8 pounds Lard	\$1.40
25 pound sack Meal	90c
New Spuds, good ones, pk.	70c
Pure Gold Syrup	\$1.05
Dry Salt Meat	23c
A real good Sorghum Syrup	80c
Golden Table Syrup	80c
25 pound sugar	\$1.85

J. N. Carson & Son

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Mayfield announce the birth of a baby girl last Monday.

Mrs. Amy Sears and daughter, Miss Boog, returned Tuesday from a short trip to Chillicothe, Texas.

Mrs. James Wheeler and little daughter, Mina Margaret, of Abilene were guests, of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Barnes and baby are visiting Mrs. Barnes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Meeks.

Mrs. Forest Gaither has as her guest this week, Miss Lenor Bishop of Sweetwater.

Mrs. W. L. Diltz Jr. and little daughter, Betty Jane, returned Sunday from Amarillo, where they visited Mrs. Diltz's parents.

Celebrate the 4th

in El Paso

\$12.00 ROUND TRIP



Leave Merkel 3:50 P. M.

Friday, July 3

Arrive El Paso 7:00 a. m. Sat.

SPECIAL TRAIN

Standard and Tourist Sleepers
Chair Cars and Diner

Spend 2 days in El Paso

RETURNING

LEAVE EL PASO Sunday July 5, 7 p. m.

Visit Juarez, Mexico. Across the River,
and See the Many Interesting Sights
of a Foreign Land.

For Full Particulars See J. C. Childress

No Time for Business

By WILLIS BRINDLEY

(© 1921, Western Newspaper Union.)

MR. OLIVER PITTOCK, assistant credit manager of the Itsgood Manufacturing company, having been summoned by an insistent buzz, stood now beside the desk of Mr. James Ogilvie, president of the company.

Mr. Pittock was scared. When a man is forty-eight and bald and a little stooped and has four children and an invalid wife, he scares easily.

Mr. Ogilvie, the president, barked at him so fiercely that old Mr. Hawthorne, chairman of the board, who was standing at a window, looking out, turned his fine, white-haired head in surprise.

"I want you to go down to Berrydale and see Sam Findler and get that \$1,800 dollars he owes us."

"Yes, sir, but—"

"No—buts—I have no time for butts. You go after that money and get it—at once!"

Mr. Pittock went. He had no choice but to go, and his task was the more galling because credit had been extended to Sam Findler in the face of his protest.

But what can a man do when his immediate superior is son-in-law of the chairman of the board? Pittock was only assistant credit manager. He had made a careful report on Findler, had recommended that further credit be denied the man, and with his own eyes had seen the credit manager toss the report and recommendation, unread, into a file basket.

And now that Findler's bill had climbed to \$1,800 dollars, somebody must be the goat. He, Pittock, was being sent to collect an impossible account. When he failed, as he surely would fail, there would be dismissal. It was unthinkable that the ax would fall upon his chief, the chairman's son-in-law. The thing was cut and dried.

But he went to Berrydale and tried—tried hard—to get at least part of the money from Findler, and security for the balance. He came back beaten, nerved for dismissal, and bitter at heart.

Again he stood beside the president's desk, his left knee trembling in its baggy trousers leg. Again Ogilvie barked at him.

"Well, you didn't get it, I suppose. Why didn't you get it?"

"Because Findler has no money and no credit."

"Then you arranged for return of our merchandise?"

"The merchandise is sold and the money from it spent. Findler is no business man. He has an expensive wife and an expensive motor car, a passion for golf and no time for business."

Mr. Ogilvie, the president, leaned back in his big mahogany chair, his thumbs in the armholes of his waistcoat, and swung part way around to catch the eye of old Mr. Hawthorne, chairman of the board, who stood by a window. His look was eloquent: "Look at what I'm up against," it said. "The progress we make is in spite of brainless work by incompetents like this person before us."

"Then why, may I ask," he said to Pittock, "was this man who is no business man, who has, as you say, an expensive wife, an expensive motor car, a passion for golf and no time for business—why was such a man allowed to get into us to the tune of \$1,800 dollars?"

It was Pittock's cue, of course, to hang his head and stammer excuses. Then would come the cold and cutting dismissal. But, of a sudden, the injustice of the thing made him cast to the winds the office virtues—caution, humility, respect for superiors. His voice rang:

"Because my recommendation was ignored by the credit manager of this company, who is no business man, who has an expensive wife, an expensive motor car, a passion for golf and no time for business."

The president's jaw dropped. He paled. This was terrible, unheard of, unspeakable.

But before he spoke, the old chairman took a step forward.

"I think, Mr. Ogilvie," he said, and his voice was calm and low, "that this man knows his business. I think that it would be well to promote him to the title and salary of credit manager. I will, in such case, make other arrangements for the employment of my son-in-law."

The good right leg of Mr. Pittock, which had held him while his left leg trembled in its sagging trousers leg suddenly gave way, and he grabbed the desk to save a fall.

Then he straightened up, ten years fell off him, and his heels clanked as he strode out to take on the duties and the salary of a real job.

Regulating the Flag

The Continental congress passed a resolution on June 14, 1777, that the flag have 13 stripes, alternating red and white, and a union consisting of 13 stars of white on a field of blue. Vermont having been admitted to the Union in 1791, and Kentucky in 1792, congress enacted, on January 13, 1794, a law that the flag of the United States be 15 stripes, alternating red and white, and that the union be of 15 stars. The number of states increased rapidly, and for this reason, in 1817, congress enacted a law that the number of stripes be reduced to 13, to represent the 13 original states, and that the number of stars be increased to 20, one for each state in the Union.

UNION RIDGE ITEMS

Health of this community is very good at present.

Some few enjoyed the singing at the church Sunday evening.

Mr. Bill Dunn entertained the young people Saturday night with a party.

Mrs. Willie Douglas was called to Big Spring Saturday on account of the illness of her father.

Mr. J. H. Clark and family visited relatives in Merkel Sunday.

Miss Eva Horton spent Saturday night and Sunday with Miss Pearl Skidmore.

Misses Lola Shelton, Mary Newberry and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Newberry spent Sunday with Mr. Johnnie Dunn and wife.

Miss Helen Compton of Merkel visited Miss Selma Russell Sunday.

The Misses Kelso visited Miss Lois Barnett Sunday.

Mr. C. J. Douglas and wife visited their daughter, Mrs. Irvin, at Noodle, Sunday.

Mr. Willie Harris spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. Palmer Skidmore.

Mr. Raymond Harp and family of Tye visited Mrs. Harp's parents, Mr. J. C. Hartline and family Sunday.

Mrs. A. B. Walton, of Wills Point, Texas, is here for a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Robert Hicks, and other relatives and friends.

Mrs. O. R. Douglas was called the past week-end to Big Spring, to be at the bedside of her father who has been ill for the past two weeks. We are very proud to learn that Mr. Taylor, her father, is some better at this writing. Mrs. Douglas made the trip with her brother, Mr. C. D. Taylor, of Clyde, and sister, Mrs. R. A. Elder of Baird.

Ask any THOR user.

Did you ever see A Thor worn out?

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt returned last week from a pleasant trip to Dallas.

Mr. F. Y. Gaither visited his wife and baby last week-end from San Angelo, where he is connected with a bank of that city.

Mrs. Bill Brown of Anson visited her sister, Mrs. James H. West, last week end.

Mr. Cleo Calloway visited relatives and friends here last week from Dallas.

Miss Mary Cleo Booth, who is attending summer school at Abilene, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Booth, last week.

Mr. Ed Turner has just had his home on Oak street improved by a coat of paint.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank McFarland are announcing the birth of a baby boy last Tuesday, June 23rd, weight eight and one-half pounds.

Miss Hazel Lee Rainbolt returned Wednesday from a visit with friends and relatives at Cisco, Ranger and Breckenridge.

Mr. C. R. L. Crick, of route one, has our thanks for the renewal of his subscription to the Merkel Mail.

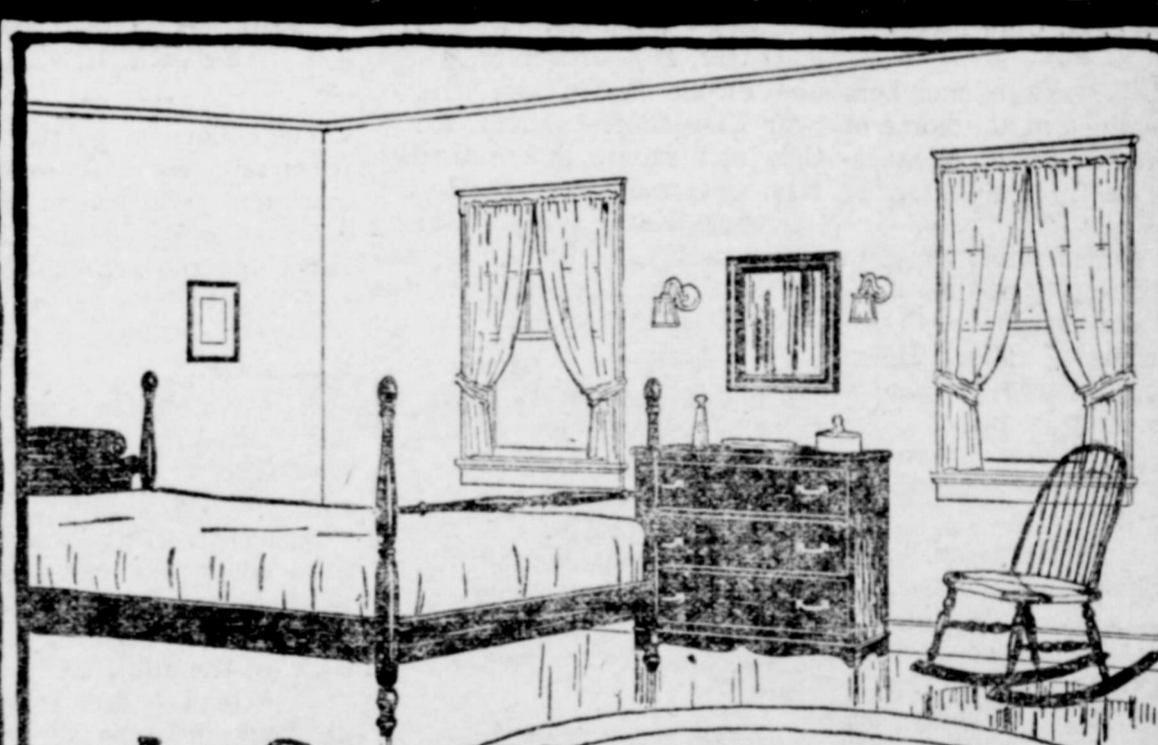
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris returned last week from their visit to their son and daughter, who reside at Caddo and Eliasville, Texas. They report a very fine trip.

300,000 use the THOR—all satisfied. 1t

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Giles, accompanied by their son, A. M. Giles, left this week for a month's visit among the scenes of their old home, where they will visit relatives and friends.

Mr. Joe Holmes, Sr., another of our most excellent citizens, has our thanks for the renewal of his subscription to the Mail.

Ask any THOR user. 1t



Are You Planning to Redecorate Your Home?

BEFORE you make any plans, come in and let us tell you about Mellotone—the modern flat finish for living room, dining room, and bedroom walls and ceilings. Mellotone provides a smooth, velvety surface, restful and elegant in appearance.

Lowe Brothers
MELLOTONE

But the most pleasing feature of Mellotone is that its first day newness and beauty can be retained just by washing with mild soap and water.

We will be glad to tell you how easily you can decorate any room in your home with Mellotone—whether the walls are new or need redecorating—and at how low a cost the work can be done. Come in and get a color card, and learn how you can secure distinctive, attractive color schemes, free of charge.

Burton-Lingo Company

NOTICE

If you want a well drilled, windmill or pump repaired, or anything in the well or pipe line. See—

TOM COATS

Or Phone No. 2.

J. P. Howard

Scientific Masseuse

Collins Hotel

Phone 173

—FOR PLUMBING—

That is as good as the BEST

See **JONES** And **DAVIS**
Phone 266
Ben Jones
Ira Davis

Len Sublett

Water well Driller, all work guaranteed first-class.

Merkel, Texas

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 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.

BACKACHE

Mississippi Lady Benefited by Taking Cardui.

"I took Cardui for backache and a weakened, run-down condition, and it strengthened and helped me," says Mrs. Mattie Hurt, of Goldwater, Miss.

"Before the birth of my children, when weak and nauseated, I took Cardui. After the birth of my children, when just getting up to do my work, I took a couple of bottles of Cardui and it never failed to strengthen and help me when taking it."

"I seemed to enjoy my food and my back would feel stronger. I don't believe I could have kept going had it not been for Cardui and the strength it gave me."

"When change of life came on I got down in bed. Life seemed to be just a terrible drag. I did not have strength for anything. My back hurt. My limbs hurt. I was so nervous I couldn't rest."

"I knew what Cardui had done, so sent straight for it, and it did just as it had done before—strengthened and built me up."

At all drug stores. C-30

CARDUI
The Woman's Tonic

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—3,000 acres good plains land located in Parmer County. Price \$17.50 per acre. This land can be sold in tract of from 160 acres up to 960 acres. In case you are interested in buying cheap farm land it will pay you to make inspection at once as we figure on closing this land out within the next thirty days. M. A. Crum, Friona, Tex. 26t2p

FOR SALE—Maize at \$37.50 per ton. See A. B. Cranston, 4 miles northeast of Stith. 26t2p

FOR SALE—Pure White Arsenic at 15c lb., also Banana Oil. **HAMM DRUG CO.** 1t

FOR SALE—The Dallas News, beginning July 1st. Also Semi-Weekly and Dallas Journal at **HAMM DRUG CO.** 1t

FOR SALE—One business house 25x75 feet, located just across the street opposite the Woodrum Hotel. Reasonable price and good terms. See W. W. Wheeler. 1tp

FOR SALE—Good organ, cheap. For particulars see Mrs. J. M. Garrett. 1t

FOR SALE—Fine Duroc Jersey Boar and Sow. See George A. Smith, Merkel, Route 5. 1t

FOR SALE—2 months old Male Bull Pup, \$5.00. Inquire at the Post Office. 1tp

FOR SALE on Saturdays—Nice, fat fryers. Also vigorous, big boned White Leghorn Pullets, 12 weeks old. Mrs. E. C. Perry, six blocks south Burton-Lingo Lumber Yard. 1t

WANTED

WANTED—A girl or lady to read to me one or two hours each day. Mrs. W. P. Brown, Merkel. 1t

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—32x4 1/2 Goodyear Casing on rim. Run about 1,000 miles. Please return to Magnolia Filling Station for reward. 26t2p

LOST—A black week-end hand bag, last Sunday, on road between Merkel and White Church. Finder please return to Mrs. A. W. Costephens. Phone 156. 1t

W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest. 1t

You can't buy energy—save it with the **THOR**. 1t

Come and get your Tanks, Tubs, Milk Pans and Coolers and all other tin work from Wm. O'Brian. Cheaper than any place else, price is not the object I want to sell you. 5t4

See the **THOR** in operation. 1t



I wish the boss would heal that collar gall with **DR. LEGEAR'S ANTISEPTIC HEALING POWDER**

A soothing remedy for saddle and collar galls, barb wire cuts and many sores on livestock. Apply freely from the handy silver top can. Heals quickly. Keeps off the flies.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back

For Sale by **HAMM DRUG CO.**

WORLD HAS PLACE FOR THE PESSIMIST

After All, There Are Disadvantages in Optimism.

A prominent man recently made the statement that it never is possible to have too much optimism.

Undoubtedly optimism is a splendid specific for many of the ills of life. It is good for such dread maladies as the blues, the willies, the jumps, the doldrums, the dumps, mental halitosis (groucho homo) and nerves; it also is helpful in case of an attack of sour face.

The big things in life have been done by optimists, and it would be interesting to secure a pessimist's views on the alarming developments which may be looked for in the radio, the airship and electricity during the next five years.

Still, there is such a thing as too much optimism. It is good once in a while to be a regular pigheaded, rantankerous, unreasonable, narrow-eyed pessimist.

For example, in financial matters. So many persons are perennially optimistic on the subject of getting rich quickly and painlessly that a billion dollars a year, so statisticians tell us, goes into the hands of stock swindlers and sleight-of-hand financiers like Ponz and Koretz.

We once knew a confirmed optimist who was persuaded to invest all his possessions in certain suburban real estate. His holdings undoubtedly had a great future, although a future which, perhaps, was inclined to be somewhat too eventual and remote. At any rate, it seemed to, be felt generally that if he only had been more patient and could have held on he would have become a rich man with everything the heart could wish by the time he had reached the age of two hundred and thirty-eight.

There is a popular tendency also toward optimism in the matter of crossing crowded thoroughfares. There are no doubt many statisticians in this country who could tell exactly how many street-crossing optimists are knocked down and flattened out per annum while running in front of automobiles, and not miss it by more than 25 or 30 optimists either way.

Experience seems to make quite plain the fact that sometimes a little well-chosen pessimism and some good intelligent, old-fashioned worrying will bring more happiness in the long run than any amount of 100 per cent optimism, notwithstanding its widely advertised advantages.—Harry Daniel in The Thrift Magazine.

Badly Dressed Statesmen

Cecil Rhodes would not have accepted the dictum of the Tailor and Cutter that it is obligatory on statesmen to dress well. Even on ceremonial occasions Rhodes would wear old and dilapidated flannels and a seedy slouch hat.

Sir Gordon Spring, when premier of Cape Colony, made an effort to enforce the wearing of "respectable" dark clothes in the Cape parliament. Sir Gordon was the height of respectability himself, and always wore a black frock-coat in parliament.

Rhodes refused to follow the premier's lead and made a speech against the proposed sumptuary regulation. "If I cannot help to legislate in comfortable clothes," said he, "I refuse to help at all, and I think most honorable members will agree with me." They did.

Edible Birds' Nests

These nests are made by various species of swifts inhabiting the islands of the Indian ocean, India, the Philippines and few tropical islands in the Pacific. The nests are composed almost entirely of mucous secreted by the salivary glands of the birds. These are the nests which are so eagerly sought by Chinese epicures as an ingredient of soup. The nests are built on the sides of cliffs or in caves. Their value depends on their color and purity, for frequently they are mixed with feathers or other foreign substances. When dry the mucous of which the nests are made resembles isinglass.—Exchange.

A New Word

Raymond Mulholland is a five-year-old boy living in Bloomington. A few days ago he was pounding a box with a hammer. He cracked his thumb and exclaimed: "Oh, Bamp It." "Why, Raymond," exclaimed his father who was near, "What did you say? Where did you hear that word?" "Why that is what all the other boys say when they hurt themselves." —Indianapolis News.

London's War on Rats

Rat week in London was a bad week for rats. More than three million were killed by professional rat catchers, ordinary householders and boys and girls. One vermin-exterminating company alone killed eight hundred thousand. But London sanitary officers are not yet satisfied; they want the campaign to continue until the city is free from rats.—Youth's Companion.

It's Hard

Otto Kahn, the New York financier, said in an interview on his return from Europe: "The French people are prosperous. Never has such prosperity, such spending, been seen in France. "It's different in tax-ridden England," Mr. Kahn went on. "The English workingman can't make both ends meet. The poor fellow finds it hard in fact, to make both ends vegetables." —E. R. Hayden.

The Miracle Worker

By WILLARD K. BRADLEY

(© 1925, Western Newspaper Union.)

"YOU say you can restore sight to the blind?" Old Simon asked, putting down "The Discovery of America," though not before he turned the corner of his page.

Mr. Skiffington nodded. "How are you going to do it?" "Have your office boy go out and bring in the first blind person he meets and then I'll show you."

Turning to his office boy, Old Simon told him to do as Mr. Skiffington bade. In less than five minutes the boy returned with a man encumbered with a sign advertising his affliction, a bundle of pencils and a battered tin cup.

Mr. Skiffington surrendered his chair to the blind man and then, after the fashion of certain physicians, removed his Prince Albert, draped it gently across the back of Old Simon's swivel chair, and rolled up his sleeves. After removing the blind man's blue-smoked spectacles, he produced a bottle and from it poured a quantity of golden fluid. This he applied to the unseeing one's lids. After a second or so they began to flutter. In another second, they were up, and the blind man's eyeballs were visible.

Realizing that he could again see, the man threw his arms around his savior's neck and said:

"I—can—see! I—can—see! Oh, my friend, how will I ever be able to repay you? Oh, my little Rosie! Now I will be able to see your dear little face for the first time!"

Mr. Skiffington gently released himself from the grateful man's embrace and, with a Manstfieldian gesture, said: "That's all right, my friend; that's all right! The pleasure I derive from helping a suffering fellowman repays me a hundredfold. Go to your little Rosie and may God bless you both!"

The grateful man kissed the sleeve of Mr. Skiffington's coat and then silently departed. Turning to Old Simon, Mr. Skiffington asked:

"Are you convinced, Mr. Atkinson?" Old Simon evaded Mr. Skiffington's query and answered it by asking:

"How much will you take for your restorer?" "Five thousand dollars," answered Mr. Skiffington.

Old Simon balked at the amount requested and then blew his Napoleonic nose. Then he began to rub his bald pate and whistle an ancient waltz. Then he became strangely silent, a merry twinkle in his crafty eyes.

"I'll give you thirty-seven hundred; not a cent more!" he said finally. After herring and hawing for a few minutes, Mr. Skiffington decided to accept Old Simon's offer.

Old Simon produced a check-book from the bottom drawer of his roll top desk. After blotting what he had written, he tore the check out of the book and, holding it aloft, said:

"Young man, you will get this when I get the formula of your restorer." This last was a part of the transaction Mr. Skiffington evidently had not taken into account.

"Formula? Er—yes, why of course! Of course you shall have the formula. Yes, yes, of course! The original was accidentally destroyed, but I'll write out another one!"

Mr. Skiffington grabbed a small scratch pad and an indelible pencil from the desk and hurriedly began to scribble something about nitroglycerin, ipecac and bisulphate. Then he tore off what he had written and handed it to Old Simon.

"Here is your formula!" he asserted like some monarch of old upon handing the key to the drawbridge of one of his vassals.

Old Simon took it from Mr. Skiffington's beringed, nicotine-stained fingers and perused it carefully. Then he gave the check to the miracle performer, who thanked Old Simon profusely, bowed a bow worthy of Chesterfield, opened the door, closed it, and was gone.

Old Simon then returned the check-book to its place in the bottom drawer of his roll-top and resumed his reading of "The Discovery of America."

The office boy tiptoed over to Old Simon's desk and noiselessly removed a small leather case from the top drawer. Out of this he took a pair of day-and-night marine binoculars, and going to the window, focused them on two gentlemen standing in a shaft of golden sunlight in the distance and holding an extremely happy conversation.

"How much did you get?" "Thirty-seven hundred!"

"Hot dog! That's eighteen hundred and fifty each!"

"Pretty good for a twenty-cent bottle of cream soda and a formula not worth a half a hoot in hades!"

And then the two gentlemen winked meaningly at each other, turned the corner and were lost to sight.

The boy turned excitedly to Old Simon and breathlessly exclaimed:

"Mr. Atkinson, you'd better have that check stopped! The bank closes in fifteen minutes. I just saw—"

"That's all right, Alexander," Old Simon cut in. "If that gentleman hadn't been so gosh-dinged anxious to get off with that check he would have noticed that it was dated October 12, 1492, and was signed by Christopher Columbus!"

Excuses Without Merit

Never suffer youth to be an excuse for inadequacy, nor age and fame to be an excuse for indolence.—E. R. Hayden.

On Cash Basis After July 1st

This is to notify my friends, customers and the public that, on and after July 1st., I will conduct my business on a strictly Cash basis, as I am not able to conduct a credit business.

I believe however, that by doing a cash business I can better serve you and at the same time save myself much trouble and worry.

To every one who has patronized me, I wish to sincerely thank. I appreciate all business given me, be it large or small, and I earnestly solicit a continuance of your patronage, and promise you the very best service to be found in this line of business.

Middleton's Filling Station

B. P. Middleton, Prop.

470 FURNACES TREAT STEEL PARTS FOR FORDS

If the average car owner ever gives any thought to the subject of heat these days other than to try motoring out to a cool spot to escape it, there's one place where he can take a little lesson that will be as interesting as it is, phraps, surprising to him. That place is in a department at the Highland Park plant of the Ford Motor Company where he may learn how heat, when it is controlled and maintained to certain definite temperatures, works wonders in treating steel.

The purpose, of course, is to give steel parts used in the building of automobiles qualities that make for the greatest durability and thus insure the utmost in safety. It is demonstrated here more impressively than most anywhere else, for in this division of Ford manufacture there are 470 heat treatment furnaces through which steel parts by the millions pass daily in preparation for the particular duties they are to perform in the make-up of the Ford car.

Steel, as most everyone knows may be given various degrees of hardness, strength and elasticity

by heat treatments and these heat treatment furnaces maintain the standard conditions so uniformly that it is not only a scientific certainty that each part will come forth fit for duty but that it could not be made better by any means at present known.

Intensive experiments carried on by the Ford Motor Company determined the exact treatment needed to produce just the qualities required, processes varying according to the chemical analysis of the steel used and the function the finished steel part is to perform.

There is one battery of these furnaces in the plant through which 2,250,000 small steel parts are treated every day. Another battery takes care of the steel bars from which magnets are made and still another treats the magnets after they have been cut from white hot bars and have been bent to the correct shape, at the rate of 150,000 daily.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bland and Children of Abilene passed thru Merkel Thursday on their way to Cool Colorado, where they will see the sights of that beautiful country and enjoy the splendid climate there.

BATHING GIRL REVIEW At Lytle Beach

July 4th, After Automobile Races
A trip to Atlantic City will be awarded to Miss Abilene. \$500 offered in prizes.

Merkel Ku Klux Klan No. 137

Will Meet Tonight

And every Friday night of each week until further notice.

Every member urged and expected to be present. There is always important work to be done.

NOT WISE PLAN FOR OPPOSITES TO MATE

Writer Takes Issue With Long-Accepted Maxim.

Considering the hands of both husband and wife together is most interesting and most enlightening. I'd say to engaged couples, "Go and have your characters analyzed together." It's good advice and they'd probably adore doing it.

But would they profit thereby? Not if they were really in love, as I told a gentleman who brought me his fiancée to look over. However, let me state right here that that ancient saw about the attraction of opposites may be right as to attraction, but it's all wrong as to suitability. The happiest, most enduring marriages are founded upon likeness. The more alike the better, unless, perhaps, it's a matter of violent temper, when, of course, the companion should have balance and self-control.

Also supersensitiveness and jealousy should never be doubled. Two of these together will make themselves and the angels weep. By all means, let artist marry artist or art lover; and musicians are better mated to the musical, the business woman to the business man.

And, above all, look for a similarity in a sense of humor. Dissimilarity of that all-important sense has ruined more homes than vamps, drink and religious differences put together. How to tell it? Um—that's hard, for it isn't to be found in the lines. Truly adaptable people, who are those with a sense of humor, have the flexible hand, warm in color and warm in its heat quality. The palm is invariably spotted, the flanges of the fingers well proportioned, apt to be a trifle wide at the tips, which are sensitive. People with large bumps of ambition, which bump is right under the first finger, very seldom own that cherished gift. Why, heaven only knows.

That other old saw about "Man's love is of a man's life a thing apart; 'tis woman's whole existence" is all bosh. With many women it is a thing apart, and with innumerable men it is their whole existence.

The love-dependent man is really more common than the love-dependent woman, and his number is increasing; or rather, the love-dependent woman is decreasing, as she finds that work is an anodyne.—Ethel Watts Mumford in the Saturday Evening Post.

New Vitamines

Scientists at the University of California are working on two recently discovered vitamines which may prove of great importance in lengthening life and in preventing animal sterility.

One is a vitamine discovered in tea. It has been named "bios" and is supposed to have 300 times the life-giving qualities of other similar vitamines previously found in yeast. "Bios" was discovered, it is reported, as a result of observations that tea drinking peoples, including Chinese, Japanese, Irish and English, are longer lived than some other nationalities.

The second substance discovered, a flake extracted from wheat, is said to have increased animal fertility to a marked degree. However, the substance is present in such small quantities that only a few flakes were secured from a ton of grain.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Buckskin Cheaters

Buckskin, from which gloves are made, comes from the most part from Mexico and Brazil.

The skins are usually smaller than those of sheep and seldom perfect because of the wounds or thorn scratches. The latter do not weaken the gloves, however, and, in fact, a visible scratch is pretty good proof that a glove is genuine buck and not sheep dressed to imitate buckskin, says the Springfield Republican. The leather is dressed in oil and the color is obtained with colored clay dust. Because of this method of coloring every buckskin glove will dust off or crack the first three or four times it is worn. Buck leather is close fibered, soft after wearing and warm.

Interest Cut in Half

The United States court for China Shanghai, recently held that the legal rate of interest applicable on judgments rendered by the United States court for China was 6 per cent per annum. In the past a rate of 12 per cent has been allowed, in conformity with an old consulate regulation permitting this rate of interest on judgments. The court held, however, that the District of Columbia code provided a legal rate of 6 per cent interest on judgments, that this was the law for the United States court for China, and that in the future only this rate would be permissible.

Windy

Chicago now holds the world's murder record, and Secretary Sawyer of the Anti-Profanity League, discussing in Ware, Mass., the defense that the Windy City has put up, said:

"A windy defense. A defense that wins nobody over. A defense evocative of the chicken thief who said to his lawyer:

"Put me on the stand. Let me tell my own story. It'll be believed."
"It'll carry conviction," the lawyer snorted."

Well, Why Don't They?

Joe, at Football Game—Just see that right end tear up the field.

Dumbell—Why don't they play on a cement gridiron then?—Alston Recorder.

New Hats!

Big Showing of Felt and Kid Hats in White, Black and White and Colors.

Price Range from \$2.95 to \$5.75.

You can buy choice of Summer Hats for 98c

All Dresses are Priced Special

One rack of silk dresses, values to \$12.75 priced \$8.75

One rack Silk Dresses, values to \$19.75 priced \$12.75

One rack Wash Dresses, values to \$6.95, priced \$3.95

One lot Voile and Tissue Dresses values to \$6.50 priced \$2.95

All Childrens Dresses Priced Special

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

DIVORCE CAPITALS

Stephenville Empire: Reno had only one claim for renown, and that was as the easiest city in the entire country in which to secure a divorce. And now Los Angeles has outstripped the Nevada town in that line. The statistics show 8,032 divorce actions filed in Los Angeles in 1924, and the first four months of the present year foot up 3,620. The average age of the petitioners is from 21 to 26. We imagine the citizens of Reno are not at all sorry to see their town lose its distinction in this regard.

Oh, but the comparison should be made from the per capita basis. Reno is a small place, while Los Angeles is a big one, although not as big as it thinks it is. Most of the Reno divorcees are granted to temporary residents, unhappy ladies and gentlemen who seek legal separation

from their several husbands and wives in various portions of the country. Los Angeles divorcees, on the other hand, are for the benefit and uplift of the permanent population, or the tourist population. When a Los Angeles lady goes to Long Beach or Ocean Park and sees a gentleman in swimming who strikes her fancy, by reason of the superior fabric or tailoring of his bathing suit, she sometimes wishes she had married him instead of the lobster she did lead to the altar. The result is sometimes an addition to the divorce court total. Or sometimes a gentleman of Los Angeles goes down to the sea in spats and observes a nymph from Keokuku, Iowa, diverting herself in the surf and is attracted to her graceful manner of doing the double flopplop from a diving pier. He says to himself, in such case, that the wife he mistaken-

ly took without reference to her aquatic experience lacks a marine background, therefore is unsuited to his social plane. Another divorce adds to the statistics. The Los Angeles divorcees are as a rule less expensive, and the Reno sort are a trifle more elite. Many people of note are divorced at Reno, whereas the Los Angeles divorcees are rather hoi poloidal.—State Press in The Dallas News.

Mrs. Thornton Entertains Guest With Slumber Party

Mrs. Earl Thornton entertained with a slumber party and sunrise breakfast last Tuesday evening for her sister, Miss Christene Christopher, who is here from Lamesa on a visit.

The guests arrived at the Thornton home early in the evening, and enjoyed various kinds of games and other forms

of amusements for a time. Then a refreshment of sandwiches, potato chips, and iced tea was served. Later on during the evening all went serenading, which added much pleasure to the evening's fun.

The following morning at five o'clock, all drove to Warren's Lake and cooked breakfast. Those enjoying this hospitality were: Misses Mildred Hamm, Ruby Fae Golladay, Lois Christopher, Mildred Smith, Hazel Leslie, Wynona Patton, Rubijo Higgins, Lois Harris of Abilene, and the honoree.

On Tuesday of last week Mrs. G. L. Reeves was called to the bedside of her sister, Mrs. Mattie Emmons of Powell, Texas, and on her return she reported her sister very low.

Ask any THOR user. 1t

WITH THE CHURCHES

METHODIST CHURCH

Just one more week until our meeting. Are you ready? It will not take one week long to pass over. It is one thing to have a meeting and another thing to have a sure enough revival. We want a revival.

Come to the services Sunday. There will be something good at both services. Subject at the morning service, "Apostolic Religion." What about it? There will be a surprise at the evening service. Come to both services.

"We extend to each of you Earnest invitations true, Let our message tell you this—Come and for Christ's cause enlist.

Only you your place can fill, Many others you might thrill, Even by this step today.
T. J. Rea, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday school at 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 7:30 p.m. There were about thirty present last Sunday at the Senior Union. Next Sunday evening the Seniors will elect officers.

There was good interest in all of the services last Sunday. Two additions at the morning hour. Next Sunday morning the pastor will preach on "The Great Commandment." Sunday evening the service will be specially evangelistic.
W. H. Albertson.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. Senior and Junior Christian Endeavor at 7:00 p.m. Choir practice Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. Special music at both morning and evening services.
Chas. H. Little, pastor.

Save 220 hours in a year with the THOR. 1t

KNOW YOUR OWN BUSINESS

A good salesman knows all about the goods he sells. A manufacturer knows the quality of the goods he produces and prices them accordingly. The farmer, however, produces cotton and offers it for sale, and thousands of them can't name the grade or staple of their product. If offered for sale they have to take the buyer's word and the price offered. The buyer may purposely give a lower grade and a shorter staple than the product warrants or he may not know any better. The farmer is at his mercy in either case.

Farmers who have grown and marketed cotton from ten to forty years should have a pretty fair idea of both grade and staple, but many of them don't even pretend to know anything about it. Others are not sure enough of their knowledge to dispute the word of the buyer even though they believe him to be wrong. It would be good business on the part of every cotton grower to make a study of cotton grading in order that they may be more sure of receiving the price their product is worth.

The agricultural colleges of every State in the Southwest offer short courses every summer in cotton grading and classing. It would be well worth the time and expense to take this course, but if that is impossible, there are other ways of learning something about the subject. Certainly, cotton growers should have some idea of the quality of the product they produce and sell.—Farm & Ranch.

Mrs. Wm. O'Briant left Saturday night for Los Angeles California for a visit with her sons and daughters, and also to attend the wedding of her son, Bill O'Briant, who is well known here

Mr. and Mrs. John Doss of Mineral Wells, visited Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Jones a few days this week while enroute to Colorado.

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"PAYMASTER OVERALLS"

You know them. They wear longer and look better. Full cut, heavy weight.

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A brand new shipment, just received by express. Any size for the Miss or Matron. A big value.

Friday and Saturday Only **98c**

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