

THE MERKEL MAIL

THE MERCHANTS WHO ADVERTISE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS—READ THE ADS

VOL. 37—NO. 40

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1925

8 PAGES

NEXT LUNCHEON PROGRAM CHARGE OF MR. D. GRIMES

On next Tuesday evening there will be the regular meeting of the Merkel Luncheon Club, with Mr. Dee Grimes as Toastmaster. The fact that a great many tickets have already been sold for the next meeting, and the further fact that Mr. Grimes is capable of and is sure to bring forth a most royal and interesting program, one filled with good wholesome entertainment and also constructive thought for the betterment and improvement of our city, already assures one of the largest attendances for some time.

As has been stated before, the Luncheon Club is an organization working for the interest of the town as a whole, and should therefore meet with the cooperation and help of every business man and citizen interested in a better Merkel. Make your arrangements to be there. The president, Mr. Thompson, who was away last meeting, will be present and preside, and will only be in charge for one more meeting of the organization, as the new officers will take charge the first meeting in January. In justice to Mr. Thompson, may it be stated here that he was not a candidate for re-election to the presidency of the Club, but insisted that another be named as he had the place for two terms.

SIMMONS CHORAL CLUB TO GIVE PROGRAM HERE 7TH.

Simmons University presents the University Choral Club in a program here on December 7th at 8 o'clock at the Ward school.

H. Grady Harlan is director and Lyda Gresham, Accompanist for the Club. The program is as follows:

Part I

- (a) Simmons Anthem, Stiles R. Anderson.
- (b) De Coppah Moon, Shelley.
- (c) Bridal Chorus (from Rose Maiden), Cowen.

Choral Club

- (a) Arabesque, Debussy.
- (b) Waltz Caprice, Cyril Scott Lyda Gresham.
- (a) Hello People, Parks.
- (b) Syncopated Lullaby, Sinn.
- (c) Mosquitoes, Bliss. Male Quartette

- One act play: "A Fan and two Candlesticks," MacMillan. Myrth Williams, Director.
- (a) Come down laughing street, Spross.
- (b) Goin' Home, Dvorak.
- (c) Last Rose of Summer, by Floto. Zanaida Mann

Part II

- (a) Happy Birds, Holst.
- (b) I'd Like to Go Down South Once More, Parks.
- (c) The Dance Song (from Faust) Rhys-Herbert-Gounod. Choral Club

- 2 Morning, Speaks—Sopranos.
3. (a) Out of the Dusk to You, Dorothy Lee.
- (b) Rockin' in de Win', Neidlinger.
- (c) Annie Laurie, Anderson. Women's Quartette

- 4 Costumed performers.
- 5 (a) Miller's Wooing, Fanning.
- (b) Goodnight, Goodnight Beloved, Pinsuti.

Choral Club

Mr. Tira Compton, we learn, left last week for California, where he has a son who was in some manner injured while working in that state, and it was necessary to amputate one hand, but at last reports the young man was getting along nicely.

Messrs. Cox & Henderson Buy Noodle Cash Grocery

A deal was consummated first of the week whereby Messrs. J. Waldo Cox and Ernest Henderson, both well known and prominent young citizens of the Noodle community, become the owners and proprietors of the W. B. Howard Cash Grocery in that community, having purchased the same from Mr. Howard.

These young men are very enterprising and progressive, are well-known, and will no doubt enjoy a very fine share of the mercantile business of that community. And this paper joins their many friends in wishing for them much success.

Mr. Howard the retiring merchant, has enjoyed a nice business there, and has many friends who regret that he has gone out of business. Read the advertisement of Cox & Henderson in this paper.

BOX SUPPER FOR ATHLETIC ASSN.

We are informed that on December 11, at seven o'clock p.m. there will be held at the Grammar school auditorium a big box supper, the proceeds from which will go to the Merkel Athletic Association.

This is to be a very enjoyable and interesting event, and besides the splendid entertainment and good time afforded every one will have the opportunity of purchasing at the highest bid a box of some "good eats." However, every one who will be urged to bring with them a box of good eats to be offered for sale. Let's go out and help the boys.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SELL XMAS SEALS

Mrs. Dallas Scarborough, president, and Mrs. Grady Kinsolving, a director, of the Taylor county Tuberculosis Association, were in Merkel yesterday in the interest of the sale of the well-known Christmas Seal, the funds from the sale of which go to help check the spread of Tuberculosis in this state and county.

Besides having mailed quite a number of the stamps to business men and citizens, asking that they assume the responsibility of the sale of same, these good ladies have arranged with the school children to sell the stamps in Merkel. Mrs. L. C. Sublett, the capable superintendent of the grammar school, is supervising the work to be accomplished by the school children. Each child will be given a certain number of the seals to sell, and will go out and endeavor to sell them. If you care to help this worthy cause, buy some of the seals for use in sending your Christmas packages, letters, etc.

STOCKHOLDERS NOTICE

The annual stockholders meeting of the Farmers & Merchants National Bank, of Merkel, will be held in the offices of the bank, beginning at 2:00 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 1926, for the purpose of electing five directors, and transacting any other business which may come before said meeting.

J. T. Warren, President; L. R. Thompson, Cashier. It

We are very grateful to Mr. J. A. Welch, most excellent citizen on route four, for the renewal of his subscription to the Merkel Mail, also one which he sends to his aged mother in Georgia.

MISS SWIFT TO LECTURE ON FAIR SATUR. POULTRY GROWERS TO MEET AT ABILENE

Miss Helen Swift, who is regarded as one of the ablest lecturers in the state, and who is employed by the A. & M. College to deliver addresses over the various sections of Texas, will speak at the Presbyterian church Saturday night, December 5th. The A. & M. College will pay all expenses and her address will be free to all.

Because the Merkel citizens and rural people of this section demonstrated an unusual interest in the Merkel Fair, Miss Swift has been invited to deliver this lecture, offering suggestions for developing the Fair into one of the outstanding exhibitions of farm produce of the smaller cities of West Texas. She will discuss jelly making and jelly judging, fruits, vegetables and meat canning, and a number of other features of domestic activity that concern both the rural and the town people.

Miss Swift has judged in the Dallas Fair, the Waco Cotton Palace, the Abilene Fair, and in a number of other state and national exhibitions.

Incidentally Miss Swift will demonstrate for the girls how four hats can be made from a yard of velvet.

Both the town and the rural people are invited to attend the lecture. It will be a high class and instructive address and we are fortunate in having this opportunity. The lecture will begin at 7:30 o'clock. L. R. Thompson, President of Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. L. R. Thompson, who accompanied his wife to Temple last week, where the latter went for consultation with specialists of one of the great sanitariums of that city, returned first of the week and reported that his wife only underwent a minor operation, and that she is now improving nicely and will likely be able to return home within the next few days. After her arrival here she will be placed under further treatment and special diet for some time, with the view of avoiding another and more serious operation. Their many friends will be glad to learn that she is doing nicely and sincerely trust that she may under the treatment prescribed soon regain her former good health. Mr. Thompson states that they were treated most royally by every one in Temple with whom they became acquainted and that the Scott & White sanitarium is without doubt in his mind one of the best in the entire south.

POULTRY GROWERS TO MEET AT ABILENE

A general meeting of the poultry growers of Taylor county has been called for Monday night of December 7th, at the Chamber of Commerce rooms at Abilene, and every one who is interested either in utility or in exhibition birds are urged to be present.

The object of this meeting is to develop a greater interest in poultry throughout the county.

We hope to interest the farmers as well as the professional breeders in a better quality of fowls.

To further stimulate an enthusiasm for a better quality of poultry on the farms, special premiums will be offered at the mid-winter poultry show at Abilene on utility stock. Professional breeders will not be permitted to exhibit their birds against the farmers' utility class, but must enter their fowls in the separate division of the show that will be prepared for them.

In order that the plans may be perfected for furthering these two distinct divisions of the poultry show, and as a means of encouraging the people in producing better poultry over Taylor county, this meeting has been called. If enough interest is shown by the attendants, an organization will be perfected composed of the poultrymen, and will be actively maintained.

J. R. Masterson, County Agt.

CELEBRATES 57th BIRTHDAY ON LAST SUNDAY

On last Sunday Mr. G. F. Wood the clever and efficient section foreman for the Texas and Pacific Railway here, celebrated his fifty-seventh birthday, and through the kindness of his good wife, a very dainty and most delicious dinner was prepared and served to a number of invited guests besides the immediate family.

It was a very happy event and was enjoyed by every one present, all of whom expressed the wish and hope that Mr. Wood might enjoy many more happy birthday occasions.

Those present and enjoying the fine dinner were: Rev. and Mrs. W. R. McCarter, Mrs. M. J. Burks, mother of Mrs. Wood, of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Graham, Mrs. Frank Sears, Miss Eula Sears, Mrs. Sallie Pledger, Grand mother Armstrong and a guest of honor, Aunt Jane, 104 years of age and Mr. Wood's aunt.

REAL NEWSPAPER BARGAINS

THE ABILENE REPORTER (Daily and Sunday) for one year	\$4.20
THE MERKEL MAIL One Year	\$1.50
Total	\$5.70
OUR CLUBBING OFFER—The Merkel Mail and Abilene Reporter daily & Sunday 1 yr.	\$5.00
You Save	\$.70
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM (Daily and Sunday) One Year	\$7.45
THE MERKEL MAIL One Year	\$1.50
Total	\$8.95
OUR CLUBBING OFFER—The Star-Telegram Daily and Sunday and The Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$8.00
You Save	\$.95
DALLAS NEWS (Daily & Sunday) 1 year and THE MERKEL MAIL 1 year for	\$7.25
MAGAZINES	
Holland's Magazine 1 yr. and Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$2.00
Holland's Magazine 3 yrs & Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$2.35
Holland's Magazine 5 yrs & Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$2.75
Farm & Ranch 1 yr. and Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$2.35
Farm & Ranch 3 yrs. and Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$2.75
Farm & Ranch 5 yrs. and Merkel Mail 1 yr.	\$3.25

These offers are good at the Merkel Mail office only, as we have no agents authorized to make such offers, and no agent for any paper can give you as good prices. We can also give you a good clubbing offer on magazines.

ROBERT N. (BIG) CAMPBELL BUYS HAMBLETT GROCERY

A deal was consummated last week whereby Mr. W. F. Hamblett sold his grocery business to Mr. Robt. N. (Fatty) Campbell, who immediately took charge of the business.

Mr. Hamblett has been in the grocery business here for the past six years and has many friends who regret that he has dropped out of the business circle of our city.

Mr. Campbell is well and favorably known here, having resided here a long time and at different times has been engaged in business in the city for several years, and he, too, has many friends who welcome him into the business circle of the city. He also has associated with him Mr. W. W. Campbell, formerly in the grocery business in Merkel for a number of years, who will assist the former in the operation and management of the business. The latter Mr. Campbell has been very successful in the grocery business here, and also has a host of friends who will be glad to meet him there.

MRS. JOHN SEARS HAS OPERATION

Mr. and Mrs. John Sears left last week for Dallas, where Mrs. Sears, after consultation with specialists, underwent a serious operation. While we learn that she was resting fairly well at last reports, she had been reported as being in a very dangerous condition; infact for a while it is said she was hardly expected to survive the operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Sears are among our pioneer and very best citizens, and this paper joins their host of friends in the sincere hope that she has already gone through with her most severe suffering and is now steadily and permanently improving.

We are informed that Mrs. Sears is in the care of the St. Paul's Sanitarium, one of the best in the south. Mrs. Lillie Pratt Brown and Miss Johnnie Sears, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. John Sears, left for Dallas Wednesday.

Mr. W. L. Diltz, Sr., has this week received the sad news of the death of Mr. Cicero H. Graves, aged 69, a relative of Mr. Diltz, and one of the prominent citizens of McLennan, Coryell and Taylor counties. We understand the deceased was well known by many citizens of this community, who regret very much to learn of his death.

There will be a box supper at the Stith school house Friday night, December 4, 1925. There will be at least two contests, one for the "most popular" young lady and one for the "ugliest" man. Every one is invited to come and bring a box or plenty of cash.

Elder W. G. Cypert, in his usual and appropriate manner, on Thursday afternoon pronounced the words that made man and wife Mr. H. H. Cargill and Miss Allie Lewis, both of the Canyon community. We join their good friends in extending congratulations and good wishes.

Joe Adams, of Great Bend, Kansas, came in last week for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Adams, who last week moved to the Plains, where they own a fine farm near the town of O'Donnell. They are old timers here and have many friends who regret that they saw fit to move away.

MUST HAVE LIGHTS TESTED TO GET 1926 CAR LICENSE

The Texas Automobile Headlight law requires that every motorist, at the time of registration, present to the Tax Collector a headlight certificate which has been issued by a test station within thirty days of the date of registration. If the car or truck to be registered is not equipped with headlamps, the registrant will be permitted to make affidavit to that effect and this affidavit will take the place of a headlight certificate. Early testing and registration will help the test stations and the Tax Collector, and will save time for the motorist.

Motorists cannot obtain a headlight certificate for registration purposes on a re-test. The re-test provision of the law permits a retest at any time during the year, but the certificate presented for registration must be a "test" certificate and must be paid for. In other words, headlamps are "tested" at the beginning of each year for registration purposes, and at this time the regular yearly fee of twenty-five cents must be paid. At any time during the year following, a re-test may be had free of charge until the next registration period begins.

After the coming pre-registration tests, there will not be another set test until the 1927 registration period begins. Throughout the year, however, a constant check will be made on the headlighting conditions in the various parts of the State. Enforcement work is in the hands of local officers, and motorists are urged to cooperate with them in reporting bad headlight conditions. There is no doubt that compliance with the Headlight law will mean a great saving of property and human lives.

EXPRESSION DEPARTMENT GIVES PROGRAM DEC. 10

On Thursday evening, December 10, at eight o'clock, in the Cozy Theatre, the Expression Department will present for the public a very entertaining program, consisting of one-act plays and musical comedies. This program is being given for the benefit of the Annual Fund. Buy a ticket and help your school. Admission 20 and 35 cents.

Program.

1. The Play-Goers, a one-act play by Pinero—Senior Dramatic Club
2. The Circus Busbee Nell Durham and chorus.
3. Sparkin' Peggy Jane, Busbee Deshazo Simpson and Flora Frances Anderson.
4. The Aadies Aid, Lytton Cox Tommie Durham and chorus
5. The Sing-A-Song Man, one-act play—Junior Dramatic Club.

The following are pupils in the Expression Department: Gladys Gatts, Irene Perry, Gladys Deutschman, Elizabeth Harkrider, Ruby Fay Golladay, Deshazo Simpson, Berdelle Adcock, Flora Frances Anderson, Tommie Durham, Nell Durham, Artilee Simmons, Modyne Sheppard, Mary Zoe West, Eleanor Mae Hamilton, Margaret Canon, Mary Nell Summerhill, Harold Chaney, Dallas Sharp, Jack Patterson, E. L. Turner.

Miss Connie Travis of Ralls and Miss Roberta Gay of Big Spring were guests of Mrs. M. Armstrong the past week-end. Miss Travis taught in the Merkel grammar school 3 years ago, and Miss Gay was piano teacher here last year.



You Hold the Key

IT IS NOT BY ACCIDENT THAT IN TRANSACTING YOUR BUSINESS HERE, OR IN PASSING OUR DOORS, YOU NOTICE OUR LOBBY WELL FILLED WITH BUSY PEOPLE MAKING USE OF OUR MANY FACILITIES

IT IS THE RESULT OF FIFTEEN YEARS OF CEASELESS EFFORT IN DEVELOPING OUR FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY.

AN INCREASING NUMBER OF PEOPLE OF ALL CLASSES ARE FINDING THIS BANK BEST FOR THEIR BUSINESS.

FARMERS STATE BANK

Banking Friendship that Encircles this Section

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

BAPTIST CHURCH

In the absence of the pastor, who is away at the convention Rev. Horace Tatum, who has been attending Yale University, will preach at the morning hour. Mr. Tatum is an eloquent speaker and an exceptionally deep thinker for a man of his age.

At the evening hour, there will be given a special musical

service by the choir. A song sermon with the subject "The Cross." Program as follows:

Processional; Hymn; Prayer. 23rd Psalm (with song). Offeratory.

Solo, Mrs. Howard. Reading, Miss Tracy. Series of Old Hymns. Benediction.

All B.Y.P.U.'s at 6 p.m.

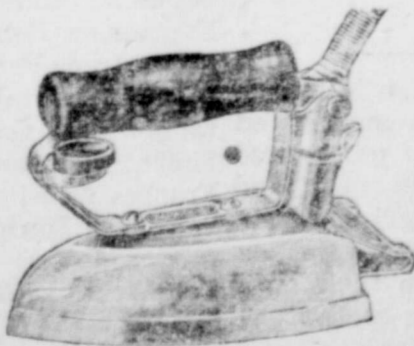
Expert Repairing

The way we repair shoes, it is really more of a re-made rather than a repaired shoe. Naturally the service a re-made shoe gives is almost equal to a new shoe.

GOODYEAR SHOE SHOP

176 Cypress, Opposite Gambill's. Abilene, Texas

Hotpoint



The most beautiful iron and acceptable gift. Certain to be used and appreciated for many years. Hotpoint's exclusive patented thumb-rest makes ironing easy.

A complete line of Hotpoint appliances from which to choose.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

NAIRN-ALBIETZ PLAYERS COMING NEXT WEEK

On next Monday December 7, there comes to Merkel, sponsored by the Merkel Fire Department, the Nairn-Albietz Players under canvas, for a week's engagement. If we said this and no more it would not suffice.

Mr. Bud Nairn and Mr. Lysle Albietz, owners of the above attractions, have many friends in Merkel as well as members of the company, they having played here in the early summer, and the attraction as a whole was a most pleasant one.

This season Nairn-Albietz are said to be carrying some 25 people in conjunction with a Concert Band and Feature Orchestra and using only plays of the very newest and highest class. On next Monday night, the opening night, will be offered a new Comedy drama: "Other Peoples Business," written by Chas. Harrison, the author of "Honest Sinners and Sainly Hypocrites" "Awakening of John Slaer" and other well known successes and on which occasion ladies will be admitted free if accompanied by one adult ticket. Special mention is due the vaudeville and feature orchestra carried and another feature worth mentioning is the special heating arrangement of the big tent, where by patrons are kept warm on chilly nights.

The above attraction coming under the auspices of the Merkel Fire Department, is guarantee enough of the merits of this company and on next Monday night the Nairn-Albietz players will no doubt be greeted with a good house.

Mrs. McDonald Hostess to the Alathean Class

The Alathean class of the First Baptist church met in a business session at the home of Mrs. E. M. McDonald. Several interesting talks were made as it was the first meeting since the new officers for the ensuing year were elected.

After the business was over we enjoyed a pleasant social hour after which Mrs. McDonald, assisted by her daughter, Miss Lucy Tracy, served delicious refreshments of sandwiches, pickles, olives, tea and plum pudding with whipped cream.

Each one declaring Mrs. McDonald a most charming hostess, the class adjourned to meet the third Friday in December at the home of Mrs. J. T. Warren.

Headlight tie rods for 1926 model Fords. West's Accessory Department.

Good pasture for milk cows, \$1.50 per month. Joins city limits. Merkel Motor Co.

Some used cars at a bargain See W. E. Lowe.

LOOK!
A Good Place to Eat and Drink
GEORGE'S CANDY KITCHEN
The Home of Fine Hand-Made Candies
Hamburgers—Sandwiches
Cold Drinks and Cigars
The Store That Sells The Big Bottles of Soda Water For 5 Cents
Look For the Bungalow Sign
On North Front Street

MEMBER TEXAS QUALIFIED DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE

Legally Registered Pharmacist

Merkel Drug COMPANY
S. D. Gamble, Mgr.

SENIOR NOTES

The High School is still 'boosting' the Annual. The contest for the most popular girl was very interesting. The contest closed Monday morning with the following votes: Opal Patterson, 9868 and Stell Ledger, 3928.

There will be another contest to start real soon for the most popular boy and the prettiest girl.

There is going to be a box supper given next Friday night, December 11, at the Grammar school building, and the proceeds will go to the Athletic Fund. Everybody is invited and the women and girls bring the boxes, and the men will surely buy them.

The expression department will also put on a play next Thursday night, December 10, at the Cozy Theatre and the proceeds will go to the Annual Fund. The Annual staff met Wednesday afternoon and they are beginning to get the material ready to go to work.

Our football team is going to Roby to play the last game of football that will be played this year. We certainly hope everyone will go to help win a victory for Merkel High School.

—M.H.S.—
Miss Durham (in Chemistry class): "What is the next element you are going to analyze for me?"

Vernon: "I know it; it's on the tip of my tongue."

Miss Durham: "Well don't swallow it; it's arsenic."

—M.H.S.—
Teacher: "Order please!"

Lewis (Absent minded): "Egg sandwich."

—M.H.S.—
Mr. Summerhill: "How old are you?"

Jimmie Toombs: "Eleven years, Sir."

Mr. Summerhill: "But you were only five last year."

Jimmy: "That's right. Six this year and five last is eleven."

—M.H.S.—
Fragrant Imogene, the flapper: "Can you recommend this brand of perfume?"

Druggist: "Certainly, Miss. It is one of our best smellers."

—M.H.S.—
"Dear Sir: Please send me by mail a string for the high school piano. Have the string tuned to G before you send it, as Mr. Jackson can put it in, but he can't tune it.

Mr. Summerhill.

"P. S. It's G on the right side of the piano."

—M.H.S.—
Mr. Jackson: "I just got a set of balloon tires."

Miss Sudderth (eagerly) "Why Mr. Jackson, I didn't think you had a balloon."

—M.H.S.—
Maben: "Great Scott, I've forgotten who wrote Ivanhoe."

Inice: "I'll tell you if you'll tell me who the Dickens wrote the 'Tail of Two Cities.'"

Trent Missionary Society

On December 11th and 12th, the Womens Missionary Society of the Methodist, Church, south, of Trent, will have their annual bazaar.

Everybody is invited to visit our bazaar before purchasing your Christmas presents.

Also, on Saturday we will serve dinner. All the ladies of the church are expected to help us with the dinner. Remember the dates, Dec. 11 and 12 at the Loveless building, Trent, Texas.

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at Loraine next Sunday morning and evening.

Mr. C. W. Meeks, Trent, route 2, is one of the many new subscribers to the Mail recently.

Mr. G. C. Lowrey returned first of the week from a very pleasant visit with Dr. J. H. Craig and family at Winters. Mr. and Mrs. Craig formerly resided here, and have many friends who will be glad to learn that they are getting along nicely, according to Mr. Lowrey.

OUR CREED

To court and deserve the fullest measure of confidence, to protect the customers' interest in every way that lies within our power. Handling with scrupulous care all matters intrusted to us.

To render service in keeping with the best traditions of the bankers calling, always remembering that our existence is for public service.

THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

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

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

Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



Expecting car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal Friday—\$13.00 at the car. \$14 delivered in town. Swafford, south side, phone 44. It

Expecting 2 cars Good, Bright Heavy Maize Saturday or Monday. Just a little to sell at \$27.50 off the car. Also have a few sacks of the Lone Star Seed left. Get them at South Side Gin. Taylor F. Davis. Itp

Christian Endeavor Program
Leader, Norma Shannon.
Topic: "How Can we Translate Christmas into Service?"
Scripture Reading: 1 John 4: 7-14. Talk by leader.
Song, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone." Clippings.
Questions.
Song: "The Old Rugged Cross." Mispah.

OUR

AUTOMOBILE ACCESSORY DEPARTMENT

is complete in every way. And, thanks to our many customers, our business in this line, is increasing every day. Just at present we want to remind you of a few items that you might need at this time of the year.

- Top Recovers
- Side Curtains
- Windshields
- Auto Glass
- Heaters
- Draft Shields
- Radiator Covers
- Whiz Anti-Freeze
- Tire Chains
- Wind Shield Wipers
- Hot Shot Batteries
- Prest-O-Light Batteries

Give something for the automobile for Christmas

West Company

THE MARK OF THE HOUSE FOR THE MARK
DEPENDABLE AUTO NECESSITIES

CROSS ROADS ITEMS

After quite an absence we are again bringing you some happenings from Cross Roads. We are sorry to have been out so long, but ti's been very busy times with us.

Cross Roads school has been going for some time very nicely with Misses Fuqua and Merritt as teachers.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Barrett of Red River county are visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. F. England and family.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Taylor and daughter left Saturday morning for Bartlett, Texas.

On November 23 the death angel visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Teaff and claimed their infant son. We deeply sympathize with them in this sad hour.

There was a family reunion last Saturday at the home of Mr. N. B. Teaff, and a bountiful dinner was served to all present.

The W. M. U. met at the home of Mrs. Henry King last Tuesday evening, with seven members present. They report a good meeting.

Farmers are about to finish gathering their cotton crop, and some are sowing grain.

The P. T. A. gave a pie supper at Cross Roads November 20th and raised something over \$35 for the benefit of the school.

Rev. Sibley preached last Sunday morning and evening to a very attentive audience.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Haynes visited Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Joiner and family last Sunday.

Our Sunday school is still progressing very nicely under the leadership of our efficient Superintendent, Mr. J. W. Hammond.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Teaff of Lorenzo, Texas, attended the reunion at Mr. Teaff's last Sunday and spent a few days visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Teaff of Haskell also attended the reunion last Sunday.

Mrs. J. N. Parter and daughter, Miss Annie May, attended the funeral of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Teaff's infant son last Monday evening.

Miss Lorena McCartney has been on the sick list but we are glad to report her much improved at present.

Mr. N. B. Teaff has been sick for sometime, he is not confined to his bed but is very weak and not able to go about very much. We hope to have a better report to give of him next time.

FOR RENT—Farm. Parties must be able to furnish themselves. See Mrs. Causseaux or Joe Gunn. 1tp

Fresh shipment of those famous Prest-O-Lite Batteries. At West Company. 1t

Good pasture for milk cows. \$1.50 per month. Joins city limits. Merkel Motor Co. 1t

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.



New Disc Plows in stock and on exhibition, both double and treble, also Stalk cutters, Sulkys, Listers, Planters, Regular Planters and Cultivators

Whether interested in buying just now or not, let us show you our plows and quote you our prices.

New improvements on both planters and cultivators this year. Anything else you might need in the hardware line, we have it.

Crown Hardware Co.

HORSEMANSHIP THRILLS MARK FRONTIER FILM

Daredevil Riders Add to Realism of "The Light of Western Stars"

The most thrilling headlong ride that the cattle country of southern Arizona has ever witnessed was taken by Paramount company of daring cowboys during the filming of Zane Grey's frontier romance-drama, "The Light of Western Stars," which opens at the Cozy Theatre Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4-5.

William K. Howard, director, was elated at the realism of the dangerous gallop over the desert while Jack Holt, Noah Berry and Billie Dove, who are featured players in the production, said they had never seen anything to equal it for sheer horsemanship. The mad rush on horseback occurs in an exciting rescue scene

in which the cowboys set out to save Holt and Miss Dove from Berry, who plays the part of a desperate outlaw chief. It is a terrific race against time, for Beery has sent Holt on the "walk of death," that is, forced him to walk between two rows of buildings from which concealed bandits open fire, the idea being to kill him just as he reaches the open street.

The cowboys, several miles away, learn of Holt's danger and start out at a breakneck pace to save him. The sensations of those who watched that hazardous exhibition of daredevil horsemanship were succinctly summed up by Jack Holt.

"The horses and riders coming at top speed were like a thunder storm," he said. "We heard a pounding almost before we sighted the riders. A cloud of dust swirled behind them as they came into view. It had more thrill

than a dead heat on a race course."

This dynamic scene is but one of the many tremendous episodes and situations that develop in the unfolding of the story, which pictures with amazing fidelity the turbulence and violence that conflicted with the building up of frontier America—the vast range territory of the Southwest.

Family Reunion

Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Wilson of the Which Church community, have had with them just recently, five of their sons, the largest gathering of the family since 1910, when all of their eight children were with them at the old home for several days.

Those visiting them at this time were W. Key Wilson of South Dakota; Arthur J. of Phoenix, Arizona; Oliver H. of Kress, Texas, and Frank W., of Tuscola, all with their families, meeting with A. D. Wilson and family of White Church, at whose home the relatives gathered for the occasion.

A daughter, Mrs. Willard Marion of South Dakota, and Fain Wilson of Arizona, were here earlier in the year.

Dr. and Mrs. Wilson were married in 1875 and their children were mostly reared in the Merkel country, and had planned to visit their father and mother in this the fiftieth year of their married life.

The coming of the four sons and their families at the same time was a happy surprise to the parents.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

METHODIST CHURCH

A good day last Sunday, and all the services very well attended.

Help to make next Sunday a better day by bringing more of your friends and neighbors to the services.

Begin with the first service, the Sunday School, and continue with us in prayer and service throughout the day.

Strangers are invited to the meetings, and visitors will be welcomed.

W. R. McCarter, Pastor.

ADVICE TO THE AGED

Age brings infirmities, such as sluggish bowels, weak kidneys, torpid liver.

Tutt's Pills

have a specific effect on these organs, stimulating the bowels, gives natural action, and imparts vigor to the system.

EASY TO CHOOSE A RADIO

Not long ago a man made this statement: "If I have to become an engineer in order to choose the right radio and work it properly I guess I'll have to do without one." At the time this struck as an exceptional point of view but since then it has become clear that there are thousands who feel exactly the same way.

Radio still seems so new that there yet remains much confusion, uncertainty and doubt regarding every phase of it. The ordinary non-technical person in approaching the subject of radio finds himself plunged into a maze of strange technical terms as: neutralization, hetrodyne, radio and audio frequencies of amplification, etc. So he decided to read the paper or play poker, maybe dominos.

Now suppose we forget all this confusion, let's just try this: Don't try to understand the technical points about radio; it's unnecessary, you don't need to know. Everybody has been born into the world with the most perfect means of judging radio—ears—just ears. After all is said and done, your ears will tell you all you need to know if you will but listen to two things. What people are saying about radio sets, and what the radio sets are saying for themselves.

A matter of fact, this getting away from technicalities is exactly what has happened during the last two years. There are over three million radio sets in active daily use in the homes of this country. Only a few of these sets were bought on a comparison of technical merits.

And again there seems to be a trend towards one outstanding radio set that comes thru the most powerful advertising word-of-mouth recommendation from friend to friend.

About this time we begin to wonder what make this wonderful set is? Who makes it? And where can we see and hear it? It is none other than the Freed-Eisman, noted for clearness of tone and fidelity of reproduction, simplicity of operation, selectivity, great volume, beautiful appearance and ability to receive from distant stations. Built by the Freed-Eisman Radio Corporation, largest neutrodyne manufacturers, a company with strong resources, one selected by the U. S. Navy to build a special set. You can hear it, see it, and buy it by seeing R. W. NEWSOM. At Everybody's Garage. It

Sale Bills PRINTED

If you intend to have a sale get our prices

We are fixed for turning out work of this kind in double-quick time.

A REAL TIRE VALUE

To our Customers, Friends and the Tire and Tube Buyers We have bought an awfully large stock of TIRES AND TUBES AT THE OLD PRICE and until December 31st. will make you a very close price

Thanking you for your liberal patronage and assuring you we are ready and glad to serve you in any way possible. We solicit your business

DON'T FORGET TO CALL FOR YOUR GREEN STAMPS

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION

Remember

That every added subscriber helps to make this paper better for everybody

Hotpoint



A beautiful gift that will be a reminder of the giver 365 days a year. It makes the most delicious coffee and will add distinction to any table service. Set illustrated sells for only \$17.00. Many other designs.

We have a complete line of Hotpoint appliances from which to choose.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

Living Room Suits
 —We have a wonderful line of Living Room Suites, all priced At 20% DISCOUNT For this week. Cash only— If you need one now is the time.

BARROW FURNITURE COMPANY

Dining Room Suits
 —A very large Assortment— Some beautiful suites at real values, priced from \$135.00 to \$350.00
20 per cent off
 For Cash

BARROW FURNITURE COMPANY

We Give—
GREEN STAMPS
 On Cash Sales ONLY
 We do not give them on Accounts

BARROW FURNITURE COMPANY

Bed Room Suits
 —Every suite takes a Cash Discount of—
15 per cent
 This Week

BARROW FURNITURE COMPANY

RUGS
 —All Tapestry, Axminster and Velvet Rugs at
15 per cent off
 This Week

Four Were of One Mind

By J. A. WALDRON

(Copyright.)

Tessie and Bessie, Harry and Jack were a happy quartette and two blissful pairs among a multitude at Low-Neck-by-the-Sea. Other chaps and damsels were paired, in accord with summer usage, but none were as constant and satisfied with one another, with each other, and with everything about them as these.

The four had been together for weeks and had made up their minds that as pairs and as friends they should remain for ever and a day.

Bessie was Jack's fiancée and Tessie was Harry's; and their spirits were like the weather, which had continued glorious so long that local wiseacres shook their heads and predicted some atmospheric convulsion as to a sequel.

Up to a certain day Bessie and Jack had agreed perfectly upon diversion. No such thing as time-killing was thought of, for the hours flew magically, and moonlight evenings had charms that brilliant days could not surpass. And Tessie and Harry were as mutual. If it happened that Tessie wished to motor or golf, Harry coincided happily; or if Bessie expressed a desire to go out in a motor boat, Jack at once sent for his craft. And there were times when all four were of one mind. Jack and Harry each had a motor boat, a canoe, a motor car, and plenty of the sinews of jeyous activity vulgarly called money.

On this certain day, however, when Jack suggested motoring, Bessie said she wanted to play tennis. Strangely, Tessie also wanted to motor, while Harry was for canoeing. Long at events, they now were at odds. But proverbs presumed to have been based upon human conduct down the ages verify such things.

Jack still insisted upon motoring. At the moment it seemed that his insistence made Bessie determined not to motor. Harry stood aloof, having expressed his preference. Tessie caught more of Jack's mood, and declared that she would motor with him if Bessie remained of an opposing mind—and, of course, if Jack cared to have her along. That settled it. Bessie's eyes snapped, and Harry turned his back.

So Tessie and Jack entered the latter's long, low, rakish car, after due preparation, and shot away, never even turning their heads. Bessie, seemingly forgetting her tennis desire, strolled down toward the boat house, and Harry came after, with his paddles.

Jack drove his motor in silence, yet at speed, until the hotel vicinity was lost and something like seclusion was found. Then he slowed down.

"Well?" he queried, peering into Tessie's eyes.

"Well?" she replied.
 "Ripping! Wasn't it managed well? Your part of it, I mean. You're the cleverest girl I ever knew!"

"Is that all?" She looked at him with a tantalizing pout.

"Only the beginning. You're the dearest, the sweetest—"

"S-s-s-h! Not so fast! Am I not still engaged to Harry?"

"That's only an irrelevant formality. Engagements are made to be broken. Hello! I've got a sooted spark plug!"

He stopped the machine. He didn't have a sooted spark plug. He simply had an excuse. Before he got out, in line with his subterfuge, he looked up and down the road and found a clear right of way for the subsequent proceeding. He put an arm about Tessie and kissed her without ado. And Tessie kissed him back. After a bit, the spark plug being forgotten, the machine started slowly.

"I don't believe either of them suspected a thing!" said Tessie.

"No. I've been acting for days and days, just as I told you when we met alone for a moment last night. And I guess you have, too."

"You guess?"

"I know. And I'm tired of acting. I've pretended to be in love with Bess, but you—you—you!"

The machine stopped again.

"But weren't you . . . really . . . in love with Bess . . . once!"

"No. I thought I was. But how different!"

Jack and Tessie decided, before returning to the hotel, that Bessie and Harry had no rights whatever they were bound to respect. But they were nervous on their return, and debated as to whether they should look up the unfortunates and settle the matter above board—amicably if possible, but surely even if enmity should ensue—or run away forthwith without explanation. They decided to face the consequences.

Harry and Bessie could not be found, and for a very good reason. As Jack and Tessie entered the boat house in search of them, they were coming out of a cottage at Rockville, a hamlet down the coast.

In the door of the cottage, which adjoined a little church, an elderly man peered at them benevolently over spectacles, and two elderly women of the household, looking over his shoulders, watched them sympathetically. "Remember, now, my children," said the elderly man, "I should have married you without question if you had secured a license!"

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program
 Group No. II.
 Subject: "Trials and Triumphs in the King's Service."
 Leader, E. Yates Brown.
 Introduction by leader.
 Part I, "The World's view-

point is wrong," by Mildred Hamm.
 Part 2, "The Paradox plain to the Christian," by Lewis Giles.
 Part 3, "Value of the Long Look," by Stella Wilson.
 Part 4, "Illustration," by Nell Swann.

Part 5, "Mark's trial and triumph," by Helen Booth.
 Part 6, "Some Experiments of Paul," by Mrs. W. W. Haynes.
 We will pay six cents per pound for good clean cotton rags. Merkel Mail.

Ford

TUDOR SEDAN
\$580

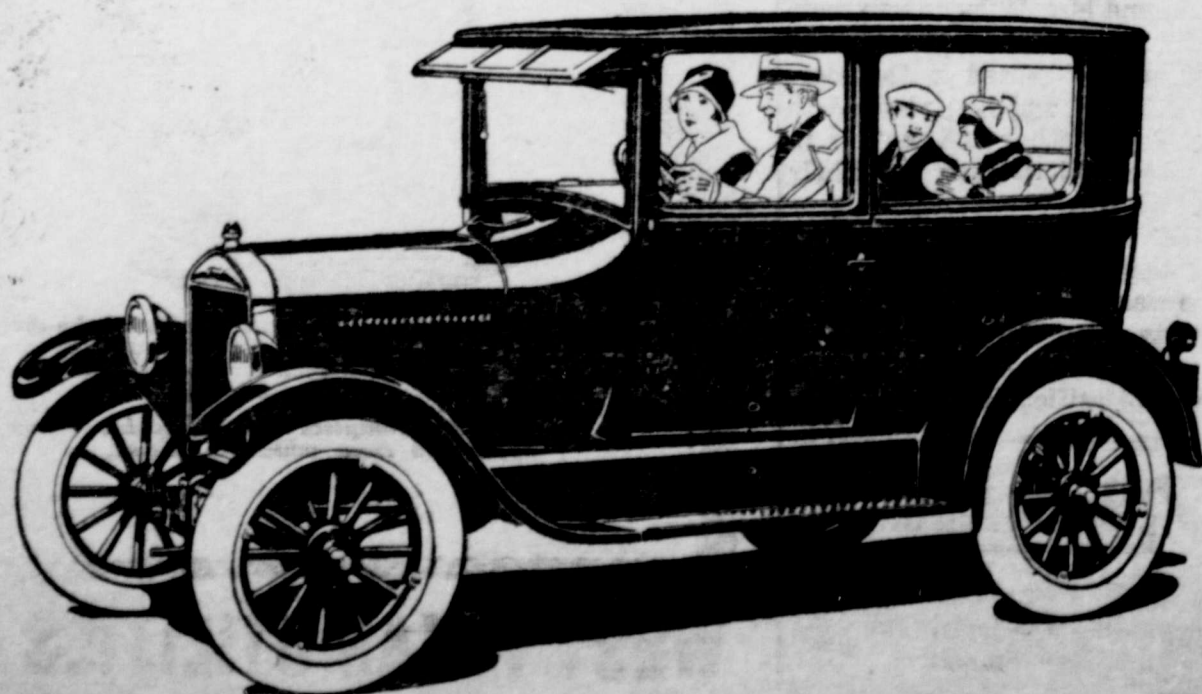
Runabout - \$260
 Touring - 290
 Coupe - 520
 Fordor Sedan 660
 Closed cars in color.
 Demountable rims
 and starter extra on
 open cars.
 All prices f. o. b. Detroit

To anyone familiar with closed car values, it is amazing that such quality and workmanship can be had at this low price.

Everyone admires the smart lines and the cozy interior, with its strong, hand-built seats and attractive upholstery. Windows and windshield are of fine plate glass.

Inspect all the new features at any Authorized Ford Dealer's showroom. Any Ford car can be purchased on very easy payments.

Ford Motor Company
 Detroit, Mich.



COZY THEATRE

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, December 4-5
 Adolph Zukor and Jesse L. Lasky Present
ZANE GREY'S
"THE LIGHT OF THE WESTERN STARS"
 —With—
 Jack Holt, Noah Beery and Billie Dove
 Screen play by Lucien Hubbard, director, W. K. Howard
 —Also—
 An Adventure Picture
"THE FIGHTING RANGER"
 With Jack Daugherty, Eileen Sedgwick and Al Wilson,
 World Famous Stunt Flyer
 Chapter 12—"FALSE FRIENDS"
 And— Educational Comedy "Step Lightly"

MONDAY and TUESDAY, December 7-8
 Adolph Zukor and Jesse L. Lasky Present
POLA NEGRI
"FLOWER OF NIGHT"
 By Jos. Hergesheimer; Screen play by Willis Goldbeck
 Directed by Paul Bern—A Paramount Picture
 And Educational Comedy—"LOTS OF KNOTS"

WEDNESDAY, December 9th.
"THE PERFECT FLAPPER"
 —With—
COLLEEN MOORE, FRANK MAYO and
 All the world loves a Flapper
 She's the sunshine of life, chasing the blues, a nymph
 with June-time spirit, though December winds do howl.
You'll Love Her of Course

Call 61 to place a want ad in the Mail or give us a news item. Is your subscription about to expire to the Mail. Look at the label on this paper and see.

ANNOUNCEMENT



☐ We wish to announce to our friends and citizens in general of the Noodle Community that we have purchased the W. B. Howard Cash Grocery, Noodle, and expect to give the same good service heretofore given the people of this community by the old company, and if possible, make such improvements as we may be able to accomplish.

☐ We also invite, along with our friends, all the firm's old customers and the public in general to give us a trial.

☐ It shall be our aim at all times to carry a full and complete stock of everything found in a first class grocery, and to the best of our ability to render first class service.

☐ We also realize that it is human to make mistakes, but with us when such happens, we shall be glad to make any corrections where we are at fault.

☐ As most of the people in the community know us personally, we want you to feel at home at any time you happen our way, and to those who do not know us, we would like to have you call and get acquainted.

☐ Thanking you in advance for a share of your patronage, we are yours most respectfully,

Cox & Henderson

Waldo Cox

Ernest Henderson



When you flirt with Miss Expense Your bankroll's bound to get some dents. **BUTTONS.**

LET us care for your wardrobe and cut your clothing costs.

"Appearance Counts"

Cash Tailor Shop

Phone 180

ALL WORN OUT? So Was Mr. Montgomery, Who Tells His Experience.

Are you tired all the time; wornout night and day? Does your back ache as if it would break? Do you suffer dizziness, headaches, rheumatic twinges or distressing urinary disorders? You have good cause, then to be alarmed about your kidneys. Do as many of your townfolk recommend. Use Doan's Pills—a stimulant diuretic to the kidneys. This Merkel lase is convincing:

J. P. Montgomery, farmer, rural route No. 4, says: "Heavy work weakened my kidneys and the secretions passed too often. My back became lame and sore. A heavy dull ache across my kidneys made me restless. I purchased Doan's Pills at the Merkel Drug Co., and after using them I was cured."

60c. at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N.Y.

SIMPLE MIXTURE MAKES STOMACH FEEL FINE

Simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adlerika, often helps stomach trouble in TEN minutes by removing GAS. Brings out a surprising amount of old waste matter you never thought was in your system. Stops that full, bloated feeling and makes you happy and cheerful. Excellent for chronic constipation. Adlerika works very QUICKLY and delightfully easy. Merkel Drug Co., in Trent by R. B. Johnson.

Mr. J. M. Johnson, who is now stationed at the Itan pump station of the T & P, was here this week. We are grateful for the renewal of his subscription.

COMING UNDER AUSPICES MERKEL FIRE DEPT.

"The Bigger and Better"

Nairn-Albietz Players

"THE SHOW YOU ALL KNOW"

25 PEOPLE, CONCERT BAND AND FEATURE ORCHESTRA

OPENING PLAY MONDAY NIGHT—

"Other People's Business"

Comedy-Drama by Chas. Harrison, writer of "Honest Sinners" and Sainly Hypocrites etc.

Play, Vaudeville and Music changed nightly

Polite, Courteous, Uniformed Ushers.

Comfortable Seats for 1200

BIG TENT IS HEATED

We Positively Guarantee to keep show patrons WARM and DRY on wet and cholly nights.

PRICES

CHILDREN 15c ADULTS 35c
Doors open 7:00. Orchestra called 7:45
Show Starts 8:00

BAND CONCERT IN FRONT OF THE BIG TENT AT 7:00 O'CLOCK

Under Canvas

MERKEL

ONE WEEK Commencing

MONDAY DEC.

7

Santa Claus

won't know where to do his shopping unless you tell him you can supply many of his needs.

Get wise, Mr. Merchant, advertise in this paper NOW and tell him of your stock of goods.

New 300 Candle Power Lamp



COSTS LESS THAN 2c A NIGHT TO OPERATE

This wonderful new Lamp operates on less than half the fuel required for one ordinary wick lamp and gives almost 100 times more light. It is brighter and cheaper than electricity or gas—the most remarkable scientifically developed light of the age. It gives a soft, white light, ideal for sewing or reading. Easy on the eyes and beautifully brilliant for the home.

Burns Kerosene or Gasoline—Absolutely Safe
The Lamp operates on kerosene or gasoline, giving the same brilliant 300 candle power light with either fuel. It is absolutely safe, as there is positively no danger even if upset. It can be carried anywhere, is easy and simple to operate, and needs practically no attention except occasional filling—no wicks to trim, no chimneys to clean. It is smokeless and odorless.
Let me show you how bright and cheerful this 300 candle power brilliance will make YOUR home. A demonstration doesn't obligate you in any way. Just drop a post card to—

B. L. Pribble, Merkel, Route 3.

YOU'LL FIND

All the new outdoor clothes, Lumber Jacks, Blazers, Sweaters Sheep skin coats, at Merkel's **NEW STORE FOR MEN**



A big assortment of Gent's furnishings, Hats, Caps, Collars, Ties, in fact if it is in Men's wear, we have it.

L. B. HOWARD & CO.

Chronicler Tells of Naming of Diogenes

"I don't know what to name that child," sighed an Athenian lady one day to her husband, as she rolled up a pair of sandals she had been embroidering for herself.
She was a pretty woman with a Greek profile. She wore a set of walls of Troy around her waist, which fell dangling around her toga (frook).
"Why don't you name him after me?" inquired her husband, a mild little fellow with a bald head and a habit of flapping one ear as he talked.
"Huh!" sniffed his wife. "I shall name him after somebody." Just as if her husband was nil, nothing, you know.

The woman called the child to her. Suddenly she had a thought.
"Let's name him Alpha. It means 'first,' you know," she explained.
"Don't talk Greek to me," sneered her husband. "What's the matter with Omega, meaning 'last'?"
With a derisive laugh the woman beckoned the nameless child.

The baby walked unsteadily over the floor. First he lopped over toward his father, but just as he reached his father's knee he would lurch on without touching him. When he tottered over toward his mother, who was about to grasp him, he dodged her knees, too.

"This is funny," laughed the mother. "Isn't it?" roared the father, and they both called the child; first one, then the other; then vice versa, just to see him dodge their knees.

"I know," cried the Athenian lady, suddenly jumping up and knocking over the child. "Let's call him Dodgeknees!" which in the Greek is spelled "Diogenes."

Seeing the wisdom of her choice, the little mild husband handed it to her and so I was.—Detroit Free Press.

Novel Dinner Gown

The tropics have a fascination all their own. They would be irresistible were it not that the hum of the mosquito, like the trail of the serpent, is over it all.

At the first dinner party that Dorothy Dix attended in Singapore, she tells us in "My Trip Around the World," a servant handed her a white pillow-case-looking affair. I had no idea, she says, what it was for, and I waited for my hostess' lead. She proceeded calmly to slip her feet into it and draw the strings about her knees. It was to protect her feet and ankles from the mosquitoes, and she said that later in the season mosquito bags were just as much provided for guests as napkins, unless one furnished each guest with a lamp, which was set before his or her feet as they sat on the veranda or at the table. For mosquitoes prefer darkness to light.

And at that, the mosquitoes in Singapore are no worse than they are in many parts of America; so I pass this tip on to my fellow countrymen and women.—Youth's Companion.

Assassin's Kin in Need

Being brother of an assassin is not generally regarded as a claim to public benevolence, but a newspaper correspondent has received a letter written in faultless Croat from one who craves alms on such a ground. He is, in fact, brother of the most important assassin since Brutus, in his influence on the history of the world. Jova Princip is now virtually an exile in Sussak, just across the ditch from Italian Fiume. He does not like the present Yugo-Slav government, and the government heartily reciprocates. So he suggests that all who have money to spare show their gratitude toward the brother of the man who touched off the World war, Gavril Princip, assassin of the Austrian heir apparent.

Just 18 shopping days before Christmas. Shop early and avoid disappointment.

PORT HURON PROUD OF ITS NATIVE STAR

Besides being proud of a modern electric lighting system, a modern mode of transportation and Edison's latest telephones, Port Huron, Mich., is proud of Colleen Moore, star of "The Perfect Flapper," which is to be at the Cozy Theatre Wednesday, Dec. 9. From a school girl of a very few years ago she has amazed the world.

Miss Moore within the last year has taken a permanent place among the prominent screen stars of filmdom. Talent, perseverance and a goodly supply of pluck have made the little Irish lass known from Pernambuco to Peru.

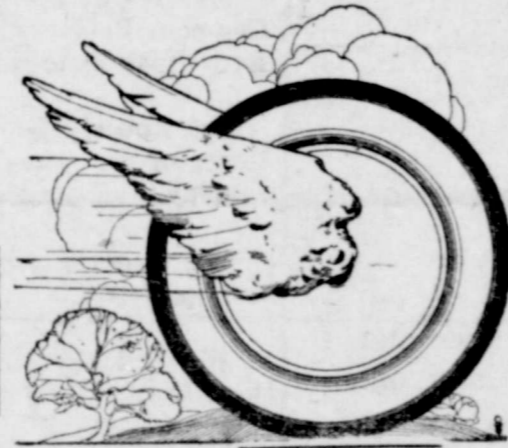
A drama editor on an eastern

paper recently said: "Miss Moore must have had the courage of all her Irish forefathers and the film company that first starred her must have had justasmuch, for on first acquaintance she does not impress one as a famous screen star. Rather she reminds one of the ideal sister. A bright cheerful girl who would rather be in the background."

In less than six months after starting, a picture company gave Colleen her first leading part. Tren after extensive and varied experiences came a contract with First National which led up the dazzling success of "Flaming Youth." Over night Colleen was established as a most versatile actress. Followed "Painted People," and now comes "The People," which offers Col-

leen Moore in a role that runs the gamut of emotions; a dashing spitfire; a lovable daughter; a remarkable portrait of the modern girl. First National spared no expense to make "The Perfect Flapper" a most elaborate and pretentious production. The cast supporting Colleen is an imposing one and includes Sydney Chaplin, Phyllis Haver, and Frank Mayo, Lydia Knott and Charles Wellesley, John Francis Dillon directed it from an adaptation by Earl Hudson of "The Mouth of the Dragon" an Ainslee Magazine story by Jessie Henderson.

Renew your subscription to the Merkel Mail before it expires so you will not miss a copy.



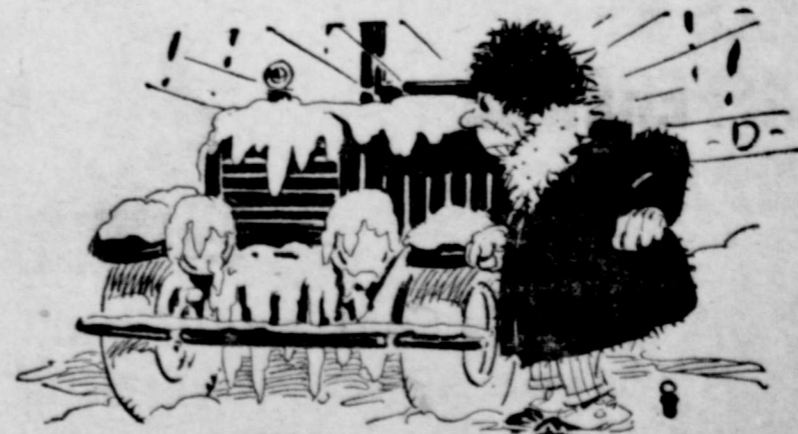
REAL TIRE VALUES

In order to reduce our stock of tires before the first of the year, and to make room for a new kind of tire—THE INDIA TIRE—which we will have the exclusive agency for in Merkel, we are offering special pre-inventory prices on the following:

- 33x4 Racine Country Road Cord \$25.00
- 32x4 Racine Country Road Cord \$24.00
- 30x3 1-2 Tires from \$9.40 to \$19.50
- 30x3 1-2 Tube, reg. and over size \$2.50
- Pennsylvania Special Gray tube \$2.50

That Cold Spell is coming

That old adage "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is as true concerning automobiles as human beings. Better get ready for that cold spell by having a can of Anti-Freeze in your car or garage.



Guaranteed Repairing. Filling Station
Battery Charging

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

"Our Customers Must be Satisfied"

The Best

OF TIRES AT THE Lowest Prices

Phone us when you are out of gas or have a flat tire.

Boney's Service Station

A full line of Humble and Mobil oils.

TELEPHONE 60

Free Road Service

Baptist S. S. Notes

Our Sunday School was well attended last Sunday, but we are hoping the attendance will continue to grow until every one who is eligible will be enlisted. We have 46 officers and teachers Sunday before last we had one absent, last Sunday our officers and teachers made 100 per cent record. These are men and women who are seeking to advance the cause of our Lord and Master. Meet with us Sunday. We

need you, you need the Sunday school.

Sunday School starts promptly at 10. Bill Haynes, Supt.

Messrs. J. S. Swann and Sam Butman, Sr., each received some days ago several head of fine thoroughbred muley Hereford Bulls, which will be used in the improvement of their already fine herds.

Some used cars at a bargain See W. E. Lowe, It

WE ARE GRATEFUL

Having sold our mercantile business in Noodle, we take this method of extending our thanks and appreciation to everyone who has at any time been a patron. We have done our best to give you good service and treat you honestly and fair.

To our successors, Messrs Cox & Henderson, we bespeak our very best wishes, trusting that you will continue to extend to them your patronage. Again, we thank you.

W. B. HOWARD, CASH GROCERY

THERE IS A PILE OF DIFFERENCE IN COAL



Coal is Coal, and Wood is Wood but there is a pile of difference in the burning. You would select the pile of wood that made the most heat. Let us deliver the kind of coal that has the HEAT

DAWSON FANCY EGG

COLORADO FANCY LUMP

McALISTER LUMP

SWAFFORD

PHONE 44

COMPERE ITEMS

By Alma Stout

The Thanksgiving program at the Presbyterian church was well attended Thursday night.

A parents and teachers meeting was organized at Compere Friday night with Prof. Bland as president and Mrs. Evelyn Hulse as secretary, and Miss Howard, Mrs. C. S. Childers and Mrs. Ola Spurgin as program committee. Hot chocolate and cake were served to a large crowd. The meetings will be held on the last Friday night in each month.

Those visiting at Mrs. Stout's Sunday were Mr and Mrs. J. H. Hobbs and family and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anthony and children from Warren.

Among those who attended the singing at Shiloh Sunday were Mr and Mrs. Ed Spurgin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tarvin and daughter Mrs. Lanier and Charlie and Alice Allred.

Mrs. Ashby is on the sick list this week.

Mr. Bland made a trip to Merkel Monday.

Mrs. Zenobia Lucas visited her mother, Mrs. T. K. Marshall a while Monday afternoon.

Miss Girlie Howard spent the week-end in Abilene.

Juanita and George Winters from Abilene spent a few days last week with their aunt, Mrs. Allred.

Mr. E. C. Tarvin visited at Mrs. Stout's a while Sunday.

Virgil Marshall spent Sunday with Misses Lenora and Ruth Wilburn.

Flora Tarpley visited her cousin, Miss Pearl Tarpley Sunday. Mrs. Wilburn and children visited at Mrs. Adkins a while Sunday afternoon.

Some of the young folks from here attended the show in Merkel Saturday night.

Mrs. Wilburn visited her mother, Mrs. Tarvin, on last Friday evening.

Miss Opal Rister, who has been sick for some time, had improved at last reports, but will not be able to attend school for some time yet.

There will be a box supper at Compere Friday night, Dec. 11. Everybody come and bring a box.

Mr. Robert Davis was the guest of Mr. Thomas Harris on Sunday.

Get your discount in Green Stamps NOW.

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

FOR SALE—Stationery for individuals. 200 sheets of paper and 100 envelopes to match with your name and address printed in blue ink, or monogram, on both paper and envelopes for \$2.00. Colors: white, pearl gray, royal blue, pink and yellow. It has individuality when it's printed. See samples at THE MERKEL MAIL OFFICE.

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 Merkel, Texas as second class mail.

THE CRIMINAL POPULATION

Lawrence Veiller in the World's Work:

How large the army of professional criminals is there is no means of knowing. There are few cities in fact where even anything like an intelligent estimate can be made of the criminal class—of the number in that community who secure their living chiefly through a career of crime. It was estimated not long ago there were thirty thousand professional criminals in Chicago alone, but the absence of any accurate statistics of crime in most cities of the country—the absence of any centralized information about crime for the country as a whole—makes it impossible to state with any degree of accuracy how large the criminal army really is. Only in a few places, notably in those where crime commissions are at work has any attempt been made to take account of the criminal population.

The number of criminals confined in prisons and penitentiaries throughout the country gives barely more than a clew to the situation, for no one knows what proportion of the criminal population is in prison and what proportion is at large. At best it can be but an estimate.

Professional crime has many branches. It is by no means limited to burglars, counterfeiterers, or even to bank robbers. Even the professional murderer exists and occupies an important place among his craft. The "gunman" is but the modern equivalent of the hired mercenary of the Middle Ages. There has seldom been a time in history when the world has been without its hired mercenaries—the soldier in time of war, the bandit in times of peace, the gunman of today.

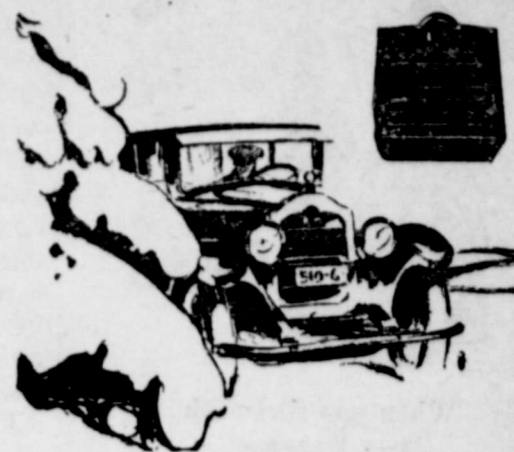
But the world has thought that it had progressed somewhat in recent years and that civilization had emerged from the stage of banditry. The situation in the United States, however, does not permit of our "laying that flattering unction to our soul." The official report of a committee of the American Bar Association discloses facts that will not permit it. When there are ten thousand unlawful homicides in this country in one year, it is not possible to fool ourselves with the belief that we have emerged from that period of civilization when the bandit or the hired mercenary played an important part. For murder is deliberate, and murder as a profession exists among us and flourishes. It is significant that out of the 58,800 persons confined in our state and federal prisons in 1910, 15,316, or more than 25 per cent had committed homicide.

Mr. S. G. Houston of Abilene was over this week looking after his farm near here, and incidentally shaking hands with his many friends. Mr. Houston and family formerly resided here and is always welcome to our city at any time.

Come to Merkel Fruit & Vegetable for Sweet Potatoes, Apples, Bananas, Grapes, Pecans, Peanuts, popcorn, grape-fruit, vegetables and pure ribbon cane syrup.

Mr. W. M. Eoff, one of the splendid citizens of the Noodle community, was here one day this week and has our thanks for two subscriptions to the Merkel Mail, one to himself and one to his son, C. L., who resides in Arizona.

Don't Take a Chance



We have the denatured alcohol and glycerene to protect your Radiator.

We can save you money on tires and tubes. Call and see before you buy.

Ford parts and accessories.

The best that can be had in Oils and Greases. Texhoma gasoline, there is none better

Oasis Filling Station

Appreciates Your Trade

Day Phone 25 Bill Haynes, Mgr. Night Phone 22

Union Ridge-Hebron News

Health of this community is very good at present.

The farmers are all just about through picking cotton.

The program committee for the Christmas tree met at the church last Tuesday for the purpose of giving the children their parts on the program.

Mr. M. L. Douglas and family Mr. E. E. Douglas and children of Golan, spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Douglas.

Mr. Willie Blackwell visited Mrs. Palmer Skidmore Sunday.

Mr. Edward Blackwell and wife visited Mrs. H. C. Barnett and children Sunday.

Among those attending the singing at Shiloh Sunday were

Mtssers Walter, Novis, and Barnett, Henry Dubree, Palmer Skidmore, Willie Blackwell, rM. Clifford Garner and wife, Mr. Howard Garner, Misses Lois Barnett, Jewell Skidmore, Mary Newberry and Minnie Dubree.

Mr. E. N. Dean and family visited Mr. John Davis and family Sunday.

Mr. Lige Harris and family visited relatives at Hamlin Sunday.

Misses Alma Davis and Winnie Bayless visited Miss Bessie Lou Pannell Sunday.

Mr. Raleigh Hodge has been on the sick list for the past week. Grandma Dunn has also been very sick.

Mrs. Robert Dunn and twin boys, who have been spending a few days with Mrs. Dunn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Selma Russell, returned home Sunday.

Our Painless Extractions are Absolutely Painless and "We Don't Mean Maybe" If your plates do not fit, we can make them fit makes no difference who made them.



We Especially Invite Hard Jobs. DR. K. M. WATKINS & ASSOCIATES, DENTISTS Dr. Johnson, Associate Texas' Leading Plate Specialists in Texas's Best City. Rooms 15-16 Compton Buldg., 152 1/2 Cypress, Abilene.

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE

After a Fire==

you 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.

Harness and Disc Plows

We have just received a large shipment of leather harness that we are making attractive prices on as long as they last. These are not cheap materials but have cheap prices. If you need harness now is your chance to buy worth the money.

We are now letting them have Disc Plows (Bob Cat & Standard) you had better get yours while you can. We also have the famous Avery Blue Ribbon Sulkey. Our stock was never more complete in all lines. Give us a chance at your hardware bill.

We give green stamps, ask for them

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.

If its Hardware we have it

HONOR ROLL FOR MERKEL SCHOOLS

The following pupils have made grades sufficient to place them on the honor roll for the third month of school.

Eighth Grade: Addie Faye Patterson 97, Imogene Simmons 96, Irene Campbell 95, Tracy Campbell 95, Ruskin Smith 94, Norma Shannon 93, Euna Lee Gilmore 93, Alice Reed 92, eBrnice Lassiter 92, Raymond Earthman 91, Francis Collins 91, William Sheppard 90, Helen Compton 90.

Seniors: Emma Toombs 96, Lila Bird 95, Pearl Skidmore 94, Lillian Rider 94, Lola Dennis 94, Eva Mae Johnson 94, Luther Pence 94, Sybil Smith 93, Godie Richie 93, Leron Chaney 92, Stell Ledger 92, Dorris Russell 92, Juanita Beene 91, Vernon Chaney 91, Jennie Reece West 91, Anna Lou Russell 90, Lena Mae Wilson 90, Ollie Hobbs 90, Flossie Campbell 90, Grace Beene 90, Clarence Waldon 90.

Tenth Grade: Tommie Dur-96, Orpah Patterson 96, Helen Booth 95, Aileen Childress 94, Christene Russell 92, Mary Hughes 93, Flora Francis Anderson 91, Floy Ash 90, Jewell Skidmore 91, Claude Willis 91, Delphene Moore 92.

Grammar School.

The following pupils of the Grammar School have an average of 90 or above for the month ending Nov. 27. They also have not less than 90 in deportment and not less than 75 on any subject, also have been neither absent nor tardy.

Seventh Grade: Francis Frederickson, Nina Vantreesse, Nadine Tippet, Odell Hunter, Missie Dye, J. T. Darsey, Florence Ligon, Pauline Toombs, Hilda Rister, Fred Guitar, R. B. Horton, Mildred Bird, Beryl Hunter.

Sixth Grade: Mary Ligon Dorothy Little, Mattilou Largent, Louise Booth, Fannie V. Jones, Velma Lee Holden, Lucille Cole, Elvis Richardson, Virgil Matlock.

Fifth Grade: Roy Abbott, Ross Ferrier, Willie Evelyn Boaz, Ida Mae Derstine, Nell Durham,

Imogene Middleton, Zelda Belle Miller, Meyer Mellinger, Florence Rider, Alice Reeves, Margaret Miller, Helen Best, Lucile Campbell, Margaret Canon, Nell Hughes, Claude Lindsey, Duncan Briggs.

Third Grade: Mary Nell Summerhill, Julia Proctor, Mabel Morton, James McClure, Hazel Reeves, Sarah Sheppard, Jack Stanförd, Clara B. White, Lloyd Robertson, Jack West, Frances Adcock, Rogene Dye, Maxie Abbott, La Verne Holden, David Gamble, Neal Durham, Jim Chaney, Walderine Huskey.

Second Grade: Jack Lowe, B. L. Carter, Billie Gamble, J. C. Jones, Robert Higgins, William Hughes, Guy Ragan, Fern Toombs, Billie Robins, Modyne Sheppard, Ethelda Tucker, Alice Russell, Isabel Propst, J. V. Patterson, Ben Sublett.

First Grade: Jack Huddleston, Aubra Lee Patton.

AUTO REPAIRING

I am now doing repair work at my home. I can save you money on any kind of repair work, and I guarantee satisfaction. Also have assortment of used parts. Located across street from T. L. Grimes place, 1 block east of Oak street. Charlie Higgins. 422

Plenty of window glass, putty and building paper at Burton-Lingo Company. It

Chevrolet Owners! Bring your car up-to-date by installing one of our inexpensive head lamp tie rods. West Company. It

Noodle B.Y.P.U. Program

Song: "Holy Spirit Faithful guide." Prayer.
Song: "I am Thine O Lord." Business session. Quizz. Devotional and introduction.

1. "The world's viewpoint is wrong," Archie Clark.
2. The paradox plain to the Christian," Mrs. V. L. Merritt.
3. "Value of the Long Look and Illustration," Mr. Deavers.
4. "Mark's trials and Triumphs," Mrs. Finis Bell.
5. "Some Experiences of Paul," Mrs. V. E. Spurgin.

Thanksgiving night the members of the B.Y.P.U. and some of their friends enjoyed a weiner roast at Cedar Hill. In addition to roasting the weiners and toasting marshmallows, those present enjoyed many games around the big bon fire.

SPECIAL

Complete ELGIN Watches

\$11.00 and Up

Also a good value in

DIAMOND RINGS

From \$15.00 Up

PRESLEY'S

Jewelry & Gift Shop
Expert Repairing
209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

WANTED! WANTED!

Your old mattresses to make new. We make old mattresses new. Old feather beds made into new style mattresses. We call for and deliver. Phone 632, or write—

WARD MATTRESS FACTORY & RUG CLEANING PLANT

"Where Mattresses are made to Sleep EZY"
761 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas, Phone 632

Paymaster Work Clothing for less at BROWN'S. Get your Discount in Green It Stamps NOW.

DR. E. E. COCKRELL

I CURE PILES without the knife—no detention from work. Office practice only
Rectal and Skin Specialist
Suite 312 Alexander Building. Office Hours 8 to 12 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. Phone 359. Abilene, Texas

Missionary Society Notes

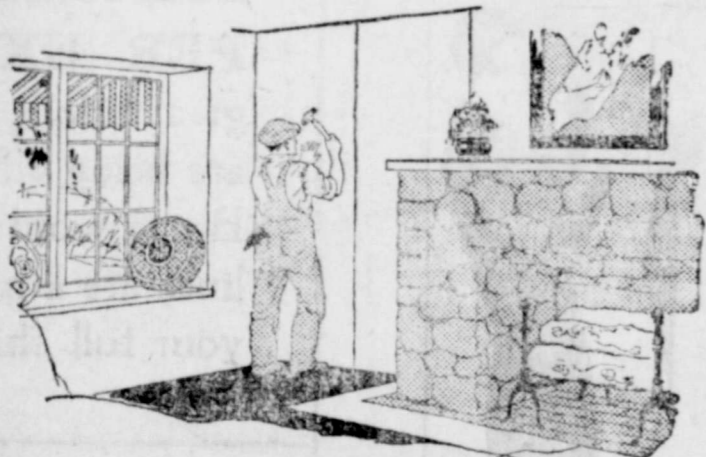
The Missionary Society had a splendid meeting on last Monday afternoon. This being the fifth Monday it was used as a social meeting. A nice program together with some contests furnished the entertainment. Bro. McCarter made a very much appreciated talk and we feel much encouraged to press on in the work because of his interpretation of what it means to be a member of the Missionary Society. There were other very interesting parts on the program also. In one contest Mrs. Grimes was awarded a lovely vase of roses for her skill and she in turn presented them to Mrs. McCarter. In the second contest Mrs. Armstrong was the first to finish and was given a beautiful bouquet of white chrysanthemums. These were also presented to Mrs. McCarter.

At the close of the social hour a refreshment plate of hot chocolate and assorted cakes was served. There were about 20 present and the meeting was a very pleasant one. On next Monday afternoon at 2:30 there will be a business meeting of the Society. At this time there will be the election of officers for the coming year. It is quite necessary that every member be present and have a part in the election of the officers. There will also be the election of a delegate to the district meeting at Abilene. Other business matters will also be transacted. Publicity Supt.

We will pay six cents per pound for good clean cotton rags. Merkel Mail.

NOTICE

I will have car of Hulls and meal in the next few days. Also car of fancy grate Coal. Phone or see me for prices. Also car of heavy Red Oats, recleaned. Will make you prices on any of the above to your interest. L. L. Murray, at South Side Gin. It



Only genuine Sheetrock can give Sheetrock results

You've heard about Sheetrock, the different wallboard; how, at low cost, it makes walls and ceilings that resist heat and cold, are fireproof, tight-jointed, non-warping and permanent.

Don't gamble on the results by using something offered as "just as good as Sheetrock." It isn't! It takes genuine Sheetrock with the patented reinforced nailing edge—made only by United States Gypsum Company—to give Sheetrock satisfaction and Sheetrock economy.

SHEETROCK THE Fireproof WALLBOARD

We have genuine Sheetrock in stock, ready for quick delivery. Come in and let us show you how attractively Sheetrock can be finished with Textone

BURTON-LINGO LBR. CO.

Service! Quality!

we take this method of calling your attention to the fact that we handle and keep in stock a good supply of that

Good Gulf Gasoline and Supreme Auto Oils

and of urging upon you to give same a fair trial. If you are not already using this gas and oil we will say that GOOD GULF GASOLINE and SUPREME AUTO OIL is absolutely backed up by our guarantee. All of which means that Good Gulf Gasoline and Supreme Auto Oil is clean and powerful, and free from foreign matter. It insures a sweet-running engine and more power than any other product on the market. Supreme Auto Oil is a Summer and Winter lubricant. It leaves less carbon and flows freely at zero.

These features help avoid many troubles.

We also handle the Goodrich Tires and Tubes and, Anti-Freeze for the Radiator.

WOODRUM FILLING STATION

—The Place Where You Get Service and Don't Have to Wait.—

Our Annual Call

to Economy Seekers Comes Just in Time to Fill Holiday Season Needs

SALE

COMMENCES FRIDAY
Dec. 4



JONES' DECEMBER SALE

Spells Saving on Brand New Merchandise

SALE

WILL CLOSE ON
Dec. 24

---Needed and Wanted Right Now

One lot 36-inch
Brown
Domestic
Sale Price
10c

Mens Noxall
Overalls
Sale Price
1.19

20c Grade Bleached
Domestic
Sale Price
15c

Mens Ribbed
UnionSuits
Sale Price
98c

Outing
27-inch Outing
Sale Price
15c

NOTHING CAN STOP THE PROGRESS OF THIS GREAT SALE

We have just returned from market, a troupe of shrewd buyers representing chain stores, and we brought with us merchandise that will open the eyes of the most fastidious--at prices that will look like a mistake in print.

You know the things you need and want right now, during the heart of the winter season. Ready-to-Wear, Accessories, Piece Goods, Home Furnishings, Clothing, of unquestionable quality combined with style and at the right price.

We are proud to announce that we have **JUST THIS AND MORE**. We found jobbers in the midst of their inventory sales, and as usual "money talked." We said "Cash" they were willing to sacrifice profits and clean out their stocks.

This was the opportunity we were looking for. We had in mind your many needs and if we bought extravagantly, it was because the prices were too tempting to resist.

SPECIALS, EXTRA SPECIALS, SUPER EXTRA SPECIALS dominate this great sale. Value is the most exceptional kind are being offered in the department of this store. But a word of warning: quantities in some lines are limited, so if you wish to get your full share.

Outing
One lot 36-inch
Sale Price
19c

Sheeting
Luna 9/4 Sheeting
Full 81 inches
Sale Price
35c

Gingham
One lot 32-inch
Dress Gingham
Sale Price
12 One half c

Cotton Check
500 Yards
Good Grade
8c

SHEETS
Bleached,
Seamless.
81x90
98c

Drastic Reductions Prevail on Womens' and Misses'

Coats and Dresses

Ladies Coats

- \$49.75 Coats, sale price ...\$39.75
- \$45.00 Coats, sale price ...\$34.75
- \$39.75 Coats, sale price ...\$29.75
- \$35.00 Coats, sale price ...\$26.75
- \$29.75 Coats, sale price ...\$22.50
- \$24.75 Coats, sale price ...\$19.75
- \$19.75 Coats, sale price ...\$15.75
- \$15.00 Coats, sale price ...\$11.75
- \$12.50 Coats, sale price ...\$ 9.75
- \$9.75 Coats, sale price ...\$ 6.75



MENS, LADIES AND CHILDRENS

SWEATERS



- \$10.00 Sweaters, sale price \$8.45
- \$8.50 Sweaters, sale price \$6.95
- \$7.50 Sweaters, sale price \$5.95
- \$6.50 Sweaters, sale price \$5.25
- \$6.00 Sweaters, sale price \$4.95
- \$5.00 Sweaters, sale price \$3.95
- \$4.00 Sweaters, sale price \$3.45
- \$3.75 Sweaters, sale price \$3.19
- \$3.50 Sweaters, sale price \$2.95
- \$3.00 Sweaters, sale price \$2.45
- \$2.50 Sweaters, sale price \$1.95

LEATHER COATS

- \$18.00 Grade, sale price ...\$15.75
- \$13.50 Grade, sale price ...\$11.75
- \$11.50 Grade, sale price ...\$ 9.75
- \$10.00 Grade, sale price ...\$ 8.75

DRAPERIES

- \$1.00 Terry Cloth, sale price 75c
- 50c Cretons, sale price ...39c
- 45c Cretons, sale price ...35c
- 25c Cretons, sale price ...19c

MOLE SKIN AND CORDURY COATS

- \$7.50 Grade, sale price ...\$4.95

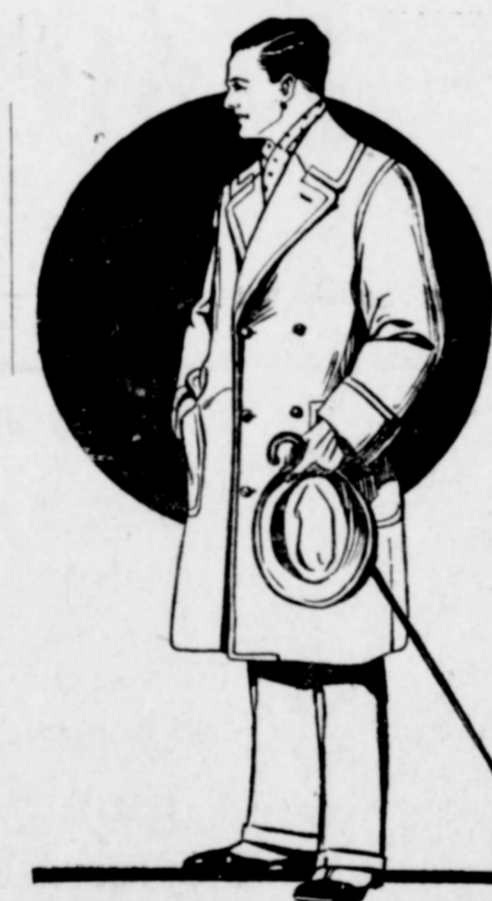
LADIES DRESSES

- \$24.75 Dresses, sale price \$16.75
- \$19.75 Dresses, sale price \$14.75
- \$16.75 Dresses, sale price \$13.75
- \$15.00 Dresses, sale price \$11.75
- \$12.50 Dresses, sale price \$ 9.75
- \$9.75 Dresses, sale price \$ 6.75
- \$7.50 Dresses, sale price \$ 5.95
- \$6.75 Dresses, sale price \$ 4.95



Over Coats

MEN'S OVERCOATS



MEN'S HATS

- \$5.00 Hats, sale price ...\$4.45
- \$4.50 Hats, sale price ...\$3.95
- \$4.00 Hats, sale price ...\$3.65
- \$3.50 Hats, sale price ...\$2.95

PRICED BELOW VALUE Jobbers' Pre-Inventory Special

MEN'S DRESS PANTS

- \$750 Pants, sale price ...\$6.75
- \$7.00 Pants, sale price ...\$5.95
- \$6.50 Pants, sale price ...\$5.45
- \$6.00 Pants, sale price ...\$4.95
- \$5.00 Pants, sale price ...\$4.35
- \$4.50 Pants, sale price ...\$3.95
- \$4.00 Pants, sale price ...\$3.45

Mens' Dress Suits

- \$35.00 Suits, sale price ...\$29.75
- \$30.00 Suits, sale price ...\$24.75
- \$27.50 Suits, sale price ...\$21.75
- \$25.00 Suits, sale price ...\$19.75
- \$22.50 Suits, sale price ...\$18.75

MEN'S WORK PANTS

- \$5.00 Pants, sale price ...\$4.25
- \$3.50 Pants, sale price ...\$2.95
- \$3.00 Pants, sale price ...\$2.45
- \$2.75 Pants, sale price ...\$2.35
- \$2.50 Pants, sale price ...\$2.25
- \$2.25 Pants, sale price ...\$1.95
- \$1.75 Pants, sale price ...\$1.45
- \$1.50 Pants, sale price ...\$1.35



WOOL BLANKETS

- \$8.50 Wool Blankets ...\$6.95
- \$7.50 Wool Blankets ...\$5.95
- \$6.00 Wool Blankets ...\$4.75
- \$5.00 Wool Blankets ...\$3.98
- \$3.50 Wool Blankets ...\$2.98
- \$2.50 Wool Blankets ...\$1.98

RED SEAL GINGHAM
27-inch
Sale Price
15c

PERCALES
36-inch, 25c Grade
Sale Price
15c

RED SEAL GINGHAM
32-inch
Sale Price
19c

- \$30.00 Coats, sale price ...\$22.50
- \$25.00 Coats, sale price ...\$19.75
- \$22.50 Coats, sale price ...\$18.50
- \$19.75 Coats, sale price ...\$15.95
- \$17.50 Coats, sale price ...\$14.75
- \$15.00 Coats, sale price ...\$11.75

JONES' DAILY GOODS

MERKEL

TEXAS

He Was Just the Janitor

By SIDNEY M. WILDHOLT

(© 1925, Western Newspaper Union.)

THE post office, international repository of joys and sorrows, failures and successes, news and gossip, fact and fancy—guardian of trifles and of treasures—remained open constantly for the deposit of that eternal flood of flotsam and jetsam crudely classed under the one head—mail.

The church clock opposite had tolled the long strokes of midnight. A later wanderer, through the slot labeled letters, gently slid a long thin envelope. Deep in personal musings, or else a little sleepy from a long and lonely session in a bleak and empty office—he had not observed one who was watching him with wide-eyed intensity.

She was huddled in a corner, as though cold. A woman, just a woman young, probably under thirty.

"You—you do that very—very carefully."

The absorbed young man wheeled curiously. "Do what?"

"She smiled pately, not answering at once. "Suppose," she asked another question, "suppose—what'd you do if you wanted it back?"

He stared at her, not comprehending. "Eh?"

"The letter. A mistake. If you wanted it back—"

"Oh," he shrugged. "But I don't. Though I suppose, if I did—lotta red tape—" he mumbled incoherently, turning away.

"Isn't—Isn't there someone—someone, some clerk or other I can—Isn't there anyone in the post office now?" she pleaded in low, hurried tones.

He twisted his mouth toward her in brief accommodation: "Just the janitor, madam."

The janitor, came out of his seclusion to mop. He said nothing, but he had noted that twice she had paused before the letter-slot.

Going back through the murky gloom of mailbags, he had passed, last, the huge canvas basket that caught and held the offerings. He was passing just in time to see a letter projected partly through and drawn hastily out again; and then, with a sudden abandon, was pushed violently in.

And then, through the narrow slot came the slender fingers of a woman's hand—and as quickly as they had wriggled in, the fingers withdrew.

But, these episodes over, the janitor did not hear the plaintive accosting of the stranger in the post office, nor did he hear his own unobtrusive position in life so summarily described: "Just the janitor."

Yet the woman waited, and waited. The janitor came back, lighting lights and making sure all was ready for the night shift. As he came by a window in the wall of lock-boxes, he saw the woman still standing out there. On a vague pretext, to soothe his dutiful conscience, he went out. It was as he dimly suspected—she spoke.

"When—what time—how soon'll these letters be picked out and sent?" So that was it! "In less'n half 'n hour, ma'am. Them letters 'll be sent by then, sure—you needn't worry none," he added.

"Put," she said, "Isn't there some way—can't you get me—a letter?"

Of course, he misunderstood. "Sorry, ma'am, I'm the janitor—we never handles no mail. It'll be in the mornin's delivery, sure."

But, I just mailed a letter here—mistake. I—I want to get it back."

"I can't!" she objected, almost angrily. "This—it's a blue envelope small—addressed to—Mr.—Mr. Langland. Can't you get it back for me? It's mine."

The janitor voiced a cruel truth. "Not now. It's his." Then an afterthought. "Is't to your husband?"

"No, but I wish it was. Oh, I—I wish it was!"

The old man was troubled. "I'm just the janitor," he mumbled.

Swiftly she sought his confidence. "My husband was neglectful—this man, this other man, was studiously attentive. I came here tonight, with a letter, telling him—to come, but—but—" she choked, overcome with mingled repentance and fear.

As long as I had my hands on it, this letter, I felt brave, determined. I waited, waited—thinking. Then, I—I pushed it in—and—you must believe me—the moment it left my hand it seemed as if I was letting go of Jim, good, steady Jim, whose strong hand—"

she broke down into convulsive sobs. "Then—I knew. I—I want it back."

The janitor shook his graying head. Without a word, dimly pondering, he pidded back through the inner office, and stooped beside the canvas basket, and hastily, reached in and pulled it out. Behind him a door opened and closed. A voice, that of Fenton—a petty fault-finder on the night shift, snapped at the janitor's back.

"What doing there, old bird?"

"A—a letter, sir—"

Fenton tossed his head in superior contempt. "Hereafter mail your letters from the outside, through the slot. Don't be dabbling your meddling fingers in that basket."

In the lobby the woman still waited. She seized the crumpled envelope in frenzied haste. She reached generously into her purse, drew out a bill—"I can never thank you. You've been kind, very kind—"

The old man shook a dubious head. "I'm just the janitor, ma'am," and walked away somewhere, into his unknown janitorial sanctum.

In Holiday Mood---This Store Abounds With Many Gift Suggestions



Come here-shopping early and often. The values we offer will save you money. The gifts you select from our stock will prove most pleasing to the recipient and the convenience of shopping here will add to your pleasure of gift choosing.

Very Charming Indeed and truly acceptable is a Gift of a Coat, Suit or Dress

The splendid array of new modes, the excellence of the materials in the models shown and the wide range of prices quoted, combine to make this an ideal place to come and do your shopping.

Neck Ware

Smart novelty patterns and colors--the very newest ideas from the country's foremost manufacturers.



The Kind That Pleases



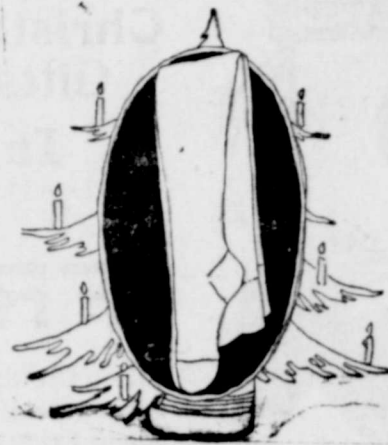
The Finer Gloves of Lether and Fabric

A most complete array of the Newest and Finest Gloves

especially assembled for gift shoppers. Make a special effort to see them—you will find the values interesting.

Special Reductions on all Coats, and Dresses this week.

HOESRY A MOST THOUGHTFUL GIFT



Varied in color to match the new shades in Winter apparel--of silk, wool or lisle to meet your wishes. It is a display that merits your attention.

Max Mellinger
Merkel Texas

Presbyterian Missionary Society Program, Dec. 7

Devotional: Subject, "Our Christ," led by Mrs. Elliott.

The Kindergarten roll, by Mrs. Tucker.

Just being neighbors, Mrs. Selma Russell.

Of Such is the Kingdom, Mrs. Chas. H. Jones.

A little Heaven, Mrs. G. F. West.

Xmas in Mexico, Mrs. James West.

Xmas in Japan, Mrs. Smith.

Xmas in the Mountains, Miss Mary Keny.

Xmas in Spanish America, Mrs. Jim Baker.

Closing Prayer.

Genuine Duco No. 7 polish for Duco finished cars can be obtained at West's Accessory Department.

Good pasture for milk cows. \$1.50 per month. Joins city limits. Merkel Motor Co.

Painting & Paperhanging

We appreciate your work and insure satisfaction. We strive to please, and have proof—ask others. Our 1926 wall paper samples are with us, and a complete line of latest styles at moderate prices. See them before buying your paper. Residence 2 blocks northeast of postoffice, P.O. box 536. A. L. BRYANT & SON.

Paymaster Work Clothing for less at BROWN'S.

Messrs. Robert Hicks, Uncle Charlie Brown, Carlton Dennis and Andy Brown, returned Wednesday night from their hunting trip to south Texas. They report a very pleasant time and that plenty of game was to be found in that country, but were unsuccessful in killing a plentiful supply.

Mr. R. J. Talley of Miami and Mrs. C. M. Smith, of White Deer, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Boney this week.



PLAN TO DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING AT GIFT HEADQUARTERS

You may come here with the assurance that whatever Gift you may choose it will be of a quality and a style that will appeal instantly to the recipient. Furthermore, it will register a mark of your respect toward those receiving the gift, especially if they know the reputation of this store for reliability.

To The Kiddies!

This store has been designated as Santa Claus' headquarters and we will have on display the later part of next week the biggest line of toys and childrens presents ever shown in Merkel.

GRIMES-SMITH DRUG COMPANY



SCHOOL NEWS

The Merkel Public Schools dismissed Wednesday, November 25, for the Thanksgiving holidays and assembled again Monday morning. Superintendent J. A. Summerhill attended the State Teachers Association at Dallas. He reported a splendid time, and that there were 9000 teachers in attendance.

The Badgers played Stamford Friday and were defeated 20 to 7. We play Roby this week and the boys are determined to win as this will be the last game of the season. The Badgers have played 12 games to date and have won 5, tied one, lost 6. The team played 7 class B games and won 5. This is a good showing as Cisco and Abilene were the two leading Class A teams in this district, and defeated Merkel by a small margin.

The compulsory attendance law will be put into operation on January 3. All pupils between 7 and 14 will be required to attend unless a legal excuse is given. The attendance this term will not be considered; the attendance of 100 days will be required beginning January 3.

The local teachers will attend the county teachers institute on December 21-23. The public schools will be dismissed December 18, to open again on January 3rd.

A box supper will be given at the Ward School Auditorium on December 11 at 8 o'clock for the benefit of athletics. Let everybody plan to attend and enjoy a good social time and help the school finance the athletic program.

The Choral Club of Simmons University will give a program at the Grammar School auditorium Monday, December 7, at 8:00 o'clock. Admission 35c and 50c. Hear this program as it will be one of the most classical and entertaining programs given this season. The proceeds will be applied to the Library Fund.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Junior Christian Endeavor at the 11 o'clock hour.

Senior Christian Endeavor at 6:00 p.m.

Choir practice Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Session meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m. All officials are urged to be present.

We extend a cordial invitation to the public to worship with us at all the above Sunday services.

PROFESSIONAL

E. S. CUMMINGS
Attorney At Law
Offices 307, 308, 309
Citizens National Bank Building
Abilene, Texas

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

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

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

G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance—Notary Public
Over West Company—Front St.
Merkel — Texas

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



FROM FAR AND NEAR—
Over the Radio

Think what a joyfully Merry Christmas you can make this Christmas in your home by giving the family a Freed-Eismann Radio. Its wonderful tone, bell-like clearness and ease of tuning quickly make it a household favorite. At Various Prices.

R. W. NEWSOM Located at Everybody's Garage

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

Hotpoint

A gift that will be appreciated this Christmas and for many years to come. The "Toast-Over" model turns the toast automatically—Price \$8.00. Others \$5.75.

We have a complete line of Hotpoint appliances from which to choose.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

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

STATIONERY SPECIAL

200 sheets of paper and 100 envelopes to match with your name and address or monogram printed to order in blue ink for \$2.00. You may have your choice of folder or straight sheet in white, pearl gray, royal blue, pink or light yellow. You can't beat this for a stationery bargain. Makes appropriate gifts. Also have \$1.15 box. THE MERKEL MAIL. tf

The Old Reliable Farmers & Merchants National Bank never missed a dividend; never assessed a shareholder. Bring your cotton checks for cash or credit to the Farmers & Merchants National Bank. tf

Expecting car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal Friday—\$13.00 at the car. \$14 delivered in town. Swafford, south side, phone 44. It

Good pasture for milk cows. \$1.50 per month. Joins city limits. Merkel Motor Co. It

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Span of young work mules, well broke. See Ernest Higgins, Route 1, city. tf

Paymaster Work Clothing for less at BROWN'S. 1t

Used cars for sale at Boney's Service Station. 1t

FOR SALE—Good first year Mebane Cotton Seed. See Bryan Dunagin at Stith. 20t4p

FOR SALE—Good violin, cheap. See Mrs. J. M. Garrett. 27t2

Used cars for sale at Boney's Service Station. 1t

Bargains in used cars at Boney's Service Station. 1t

FOR SALE—Mammoth Bronze Turkeys. Blue ribbon winners. Toms \$8.00. Mrs. F. M. Mullen, Route 1, Merkel. 27t2p

FOR SALE—One double disc plow, at a bargain. See W. F. Dunn, Merkel, Route 2. 27t2p

FOR SALE—Fordson tractor, overhauled and all wearing parts put in new. Fenders, belt wheel and Bosch ignition system. Impulse starter and governor. D42 and D43 Oliver Disc plows. This outfit like I have it rigged would cost over \$1,000. Price \$650 for whole outfit, including 5 barrels, oil cans, wrenches, funnels etc. G. M. Byrom, Trent, Texas. 4t2

FOR SALE—A few copper back Bronze Toms, sired by a Tom from the Martin-Waide Turkey farm, Denton, Texas. See these Toms before you buy. J. Ben Campbell. tf

FOR SALE—Lloyd baby carriage. Practically new. Phone No. 156. 1tp

FOR SALE—Work stock of all kinds, cash or approved note. Also one saddle pony. G. M. Byrom, Trent, Texas. tf

FOR SALE—A good line of one and two row farm tools, 2 sulkey plows, 10 head of good gentle work stock, a few thousand bundles of red top cane. Everything offered at prices you can afford to pay. O. N. Brewer, Noodle. 1tp

FOR SALE—First year Kasch, Cliett and Mebane Cotton Seed, well matured, grown in Sweet-water creek bottom, making one half bale per acre. Price \$1.50 per bushel at barn. G. M. Byrom, Trent, Texas, route 2. tf

FOR SALE—9-room residence with bath and 6 lots, windmill barn, garage, on Oak street. Price \$3250.00 for next 30 days. Some terms. Apply to J. F. Abernathy, Merkel, Texas. tf

FOR SALE—One dining table and six chairs, 1 four-burner oil range, 1 Topsy Heater, 1 piano, 1 victrola, and 1 forward roller bearing coaster wagon. Phone 154. At Gaither residence. Mrs. Mac Best. 4t2p

WANTED

WANTED—Steady job on farm by man and wife, or share crop. Best of references furnished. Robert. E. Gibbs, Munday, Texas. 27t3c

WANTED—To buy good second hand wagon. Would buy good team and harness complete if priced right. See T.W. Collins. 1p

WANTED—Good, clean cotton rags. Will pay 6 cents per pound. The Merkel Mail. tf

LOST AND FOUND

STRAYED—Two black hogs, weight about 175 lbs. Left my home Wednesday night. If you know of them notify John S. Hughes. Will pay reward. 1t

I have 195 acres of land to rent if you want to buy teams to cultivate it. Will back you for teams tools and harness if you have money to buy your feed and groceries and force sufficient to handle this much land. G. M. Gyrom, Trent, Texas. tf

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

Coming To
ABILENE
Dr. Mellenthin
Specialist

in Internal Medicine for the past twelve years

DOES NOT OPERATE

Will be at
GRACE HOTEL
Sunday & Monday, Dec. 13 & 14
Office Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

TWO DAYS ONLY

No Charge for Consultation

Dr. Mellenthin is a regular graduate in medicine and surgery and is licensed by the state of Texas. He does not operate for chronic appendicitis, gall stones, ulcers of the stomach, tonsils or adenoids.

He has to his credit wonderful results in diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels, blood, skin, nerves, heart kidneys, bladder, bed wetting, catarrh, weak lungs rheumatism, sciatica, leg ulcers and rectal ailments.

Below are the names of a few of his many satisfied patients in Texas.

Mrs. B. A. Rust, Avery, gall stones.

Emil Hausmann, San Antonio, nerve trouble.

T. V. Watts, Lamesa, appendicitis and nerve trouble.

Mrs. H. G. Hill, Big Spring, eczema.

Mrs. D. D. David, Hebronville, female trouble and back aches.

M. T. Banta, Dundee, ulcer of the stomach.

M. G. Blankenship, Westover, stomach and bowel trouble.

Walter Stolte, Marion, heart trouble.

Remember above date, that consultation on this trip will be free and that his treatment is different.

Married women must be accompanied by their husbands.

Address 211 Bradbury Bldg., Los Angeles, California.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

STOP THAT ITCHING

If you suffer from any form of skin diseases such as Itch, Eczema, Tetter or Cracked Hands, Polymorphous Eruption, Ring Worm, Old Sores or Scabies in Children. We will sell you a Jar of BLUE STAR REMEDY on a guarantee. It will not stain your clothing and has a pleasant odor.

For sale by MERKEL DRUG CO

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Burton-Lingo Co.

Plenty of—
Window Glass,
Putty and
Building Paper
Make that old room warm—
Use Sheetrock

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

MOLINE
DISC
PLOW

Cost a trifle more to start with but cost far less to operate.

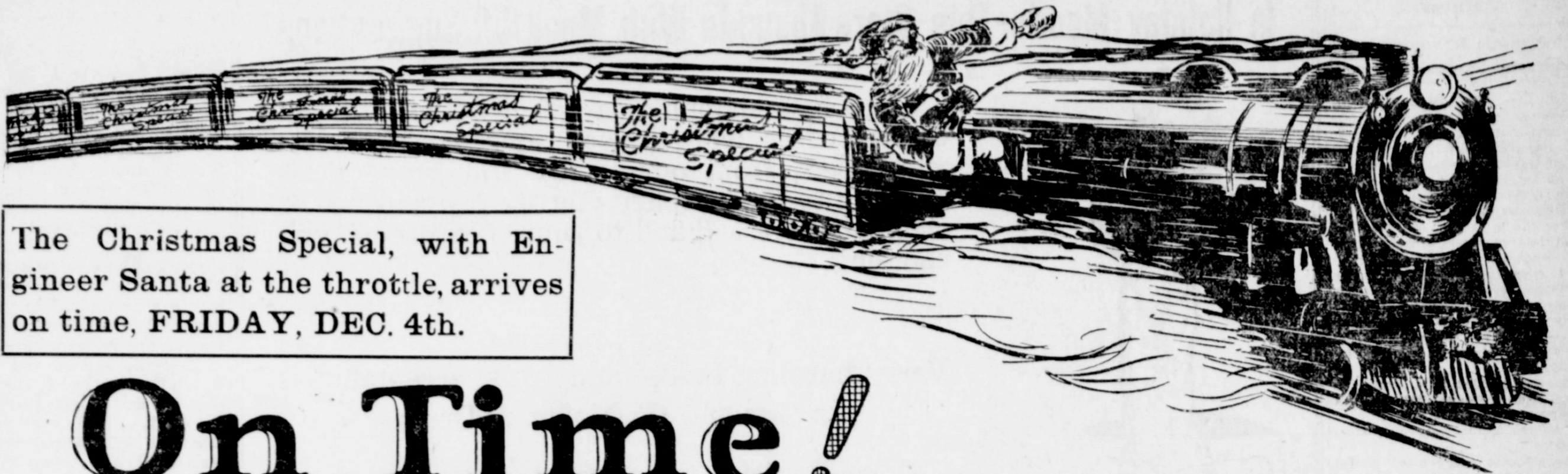
We can furnish you names of hundreds of farmers in Taylor, Jones and surrounding counties who have used their Moline Plows for 20 years and are still doing good work with them.

Terms, either cash, half cash, or all on next Fall time.

Your credit is good here

Ed. S. Hughes Co.

ABILENE, TEXAS



The Christmas Special, with Engineer Santa at the throttle, arrives on time, FRIDAY, DEC. 4th.

On Time! The Christmas Special!

BRINGING A VAST ASSORTMENT OF HOLIDAY GOODS AT EXTREMELY LOW PRICES



Christmas Gifts Winter Apparel Home Needs

In fact everything for everybody.
—and everything will be conveniently arranged for easy selection, ready for sale.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4TH.

Mark the date on your calendar now. Don't miss the opening day of this big value-giving demonstration. You'll be well repaid for your time if you come Friday, December 4th, the first day of this event.

BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY

The Christmas Store for Economical Shoppers

BLANKETS COMFORTS

A dandy little blanket 64x76 on sale at\$1.89
\$3.50 wool-nap Cotton Blankets priced\$2.95
Largest size 100% cotton Comforts\$4.95
Assorted colors in Silk Comforts\$6.50
A wonderful down comfort priced\$16.50

Christmas specials in Cotton Goods.

Good grade 32-inch Outing, 25c value, priced15c
27-inch 25c Red Seal Gingham, Special19c
32-inch 35c Red Seal Gingham, Special29c
32-inch 20c Dress Gingham, Special12½c
27-inch 15c Dress Gingham, Special10c

All Silks and Woolens Priced Special

The values we offer will save you money.

On Time! Right on the Dot

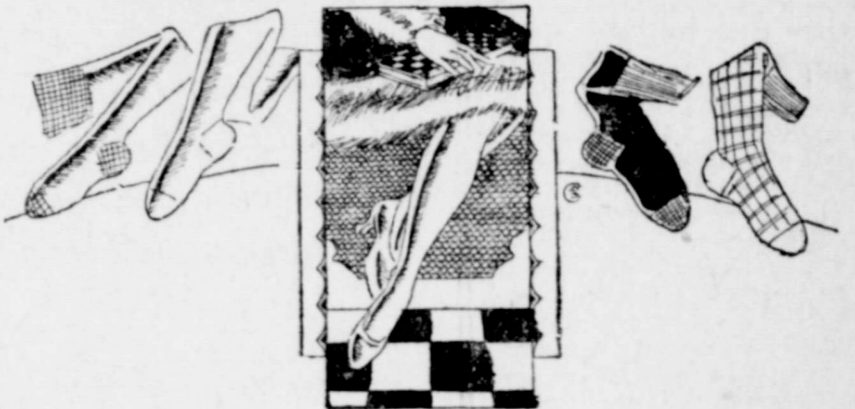
Xmas Special Overflowing With Bargains in Millinery and Ready-to-Wear

One rack of Coat values to \$35.00 at\$8.75
One rack of Coats, values to \$45.00 at\$16.75
One rack of \$6.95 Wool Dresses\$4.95
One rack of Silk and Wool Dresses\$6.95
Entire stock Childrens Hats priced\$1.95 and 98c
Nine Pattern Hats, values to \$14.75, at\$4.95

Another lot of Christmas Specials on Time

White baby Blankets, \$1.50 kind for98c
One lot knit Caps, 50c and 75c kind, for25c
One lot Childrens Sweaters, priced95c
One lot Childrens Coats priced\$1.98
Entire stock of Laies Knit Union Suits at98c

Be on time! Don't miss this opportunity. The people of this community know when we put on a sale it means a money saving event. You'll hear many exclamations of delight from shoppers who attend this value giving demonstration, and you'll experience thrill after thrill as you find many bargains here, too numerous to mention. Don't forget the date Friday, Dec. 4 Be on time



You're sure to please if you give Hose

Ladies \$2.00 Chiffon Hose in all colors\$1.75
Ladies \$1.50 Silk Hose in all colors98c
Childrens \$1.50 Silk Hose, black and colors98c
Mens silk hose priced50c, 75c & \$1.00

Gloves Solve Many a Gift Problem

—All kinds and sizes here for Men and Boys priced cheaper.
Womens strap wrist, soft kid Auto gloves, a gift sure to please, and priced Special\$2.50 to \$6.50
Other Gloves priced25c to \$1.50

Gifts to Embroidery

Buffet sets, Luncheon sets, Vanity sets, Scarfs, guest towels or dainty gowns and teds all make pretty personal gifts
—Creme de chine and jersey underwear, gowns, teds, stepins and bloomers pricedSPECIAL

Christmas Specials in Men's Section

—If you like to save money, this is your opportunity.
One lot Mens \$25.00 to \$30.00 Suits, Xmas Special\$19.95
One lot mens \$22.50 Overcoats Priced Special\$18.95
One lot mens \$11.50 Overcoats, Extra Special\$8.95

Attention! Look this way all who would save Money on Shoes.

One lot Lades new style patent and satin dress shoes, medium, low and high heels, values to \$6.50, priced\$3.95
One lot mens Packard dress shoes, \$11.00 kind at\$7.95
One lot mens J. W. Carter and J. E. Tilt Shoes, special at\$3.95
All childrens shoes priced SPECIAL

—Another opportunity to save money!

One lot mens \$2.25 and \$2.95 work shoes\$1.95
Mens \$2.00 Buck Brand Overalls\$1.69
One lot mens \$1.50 Overalls95c
One lot mens \$1.50 Union Suits\$1.19



BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY
THE PLACE WHERE MOST PEOPLE TRADE