

THE MERKEL MAIL

THE MERCHANTS WHO ADVERTISE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS—READ THE ADS

VOL. 38—NO. 20

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JULY 16, 1926

10 PAGES

CAN AFFORD BETTER SCHOOLS, SAYS SUPT.

Can we afford better schools in Merkel? That is a question so many people ask and to their question the answer is can they or we afford NOT to have the best? The instances where people have good schools, the best teachers, are not cited to make you think we need anything because other places have them. If there is no value in the school itself it is the rankest of errors for us to try to keep step with the other country. The reason we mention other places is to show you that they are financially able to do things in a man-size way. If you will look in the Abilene Reporter, Wednesday's edition this week, and see what they did at Midland you will see signs of a growing, wide-awake community. Almost every day now you see where the communities are taking advantage of the new school laws made since the legislature was divested of the authority to create new Independent Districts or Special school districts.

The plan suggested by the State Superintendent and all informed men is that we are presenting to you—where the needs of the community are what they are here in this country. Returning to the subject, can we afford better schools? Yes, we can always afford the necessities. Can the average man afford to own a car? Can he afford to do without it? The difference is in the point of view only. We can always have what we want—if we want it. From a point of cost, we can take in the districts contiguous to the Merkel district and take care of the High School work with no more money than we now get, and the balance of the proportionate part of the money from the several districts concerned. Here is the point. Our seven high school teachers can take care of 200 or 225 high school students as easily as they can 175, or practically so. Then, if we had all the money that the state appropriates, the tax money, etc., that each one shares, we could use that in bettering your grade schools, above what is actually necessary to carry on the high school. It saves each patron the personal expenditure of tuition in our district, to which he would be liable if the district were not united. Of course there are always objections to be raised by some one, but we think that if objections are raised on this it will come from the city of Merkel. They have the less to gain in a visible way. The short sighted person who can't see that he is responsible for the "capital" that his boy or girl starts out in the "business" of life with, is apt to be opposed. The cry of "it costs too much" will die out when we put the real facts up beside one another. The access to the best with a make-shift. How many farmers, when he goes to buy a mule, will take the warty, runty scrub of a mule for \$100 when he can get a clean cut, real, honest to goodness mule for \$150. Which is the better economy? The cheap priced article is usually the highest priced in the long run.

A proposition of annexation would cost possibly a little more than you now have to pay in the rural communities, and no change in the town. To have a high school in the country would cost the rural school several times as much as it does now, even if they had the building and equipment. That is where we have the advantage; we have that as a foundation to

WILL SPEAK FOR MRS. FERGUSON AT TRENT

The Mail is authorized to announce that Hon. Oliver Cunningham, of Abilene, will speak in the interest of Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, candidate for reelection to the office of Governor, on next Saturday evening at eight o'clock. Every one is invited to hear him.

CANDIDATES COUNTY JUDGE SPEAK HERE

On next Saturday afternoon, at the tabernacle, the people of this community will have the opportunity of hearing the three candidates for County Judge of Taylor county tell of their platforms and candidacy for this office.

This is an important office and the voter should acquaint himself or herself with the facts which will enable them to cast their vote for the man best qualified and most capable of serving them best in this position. Let every one hear these candidates. They are all nice gentlemen and should be given a consideration and fair hearing with all the courtesy expected from a good citizenship such as we have in this locality.

Mrs. J. A. Milliken, one of the popular salesladies at Max Mellinger's, left first of the week for a vacation trip with friends and relatives at Caps and Tuscola, Texas.

build on.

There is no better trade territory in Texas than this. There is more cotton ginned in Merkel than in any other town its size that I know of. We are a prosperous people and have the things we want. Our farmers are the best citizens of the community and will not deny their children the advantages of a good education. As we said before we should have those good things at Merkel and not spend our good, hard earned money at some other place for the same article.

Remember this maxim: "People do things like them." IRVIN L. JACKSON.

NEXT LUNCHEON AT SHANNON'S

On next Tuesday evening at eight o'clock, the members of the Merkel Luncheon Club, with their wives and children and sweethearts, will enjoy a nice meeting and interesting program at Shannon's Pool.

Besides a very interesting program, which will be prepared by the special committee appointed by President West for this special occasion, the luncheon will be served by the ladies of some of the local organizations, hence every one attending may expect a fine time in every respect. Make your arrangements to be present.

SAYS WILLIAMSON IS SOLID FOR DAN

Mr. S. F. Haynes, one of our substantial and most excellent citizens, returned first of the week from a trip to his old home in Williamson county, and reports crops in that section of the state also very good.

In speaking about the political situation as it concerns the Governor's race, Mr. Haynes stated that he did not meet a man but who was supporting Dan Moody for governor.

He also spoke of meeting a minister friend, a Presbyterian, and let us say here that Mr. Haynes is a Presbyterian, who told him that he had known Dan Moody since boyhood, and that Moody at one time stayed in the Minister's home for three years, and that he at all times found him to be a good, clean, upright Christian young man, and now believed him highly capable and qualified to make this state a great governor.

Mr. S. M. Hunter, one of the members of the firm of Everybody's Garage, with his family left first of the week for New Mexico, where they will spend some time looking after their ranch and cattle interest in that state.

CROP PROSPECTS VERY FINE HERE

Of course, as every one knows, the business of farming is somewhat a gamble from the time the seed is planted until the fruits thereof have been harvested, and many times the brightest prospects turn out to be the poorest crops, but just at this time it is doubtful if the Merkel country ever saw better crop prospects than are to be found throughout this entire section.

Without some disaster or calamity, the country is already assured without doubt the largest feed crop ever raised here before. In this respect the farmers of this country learned a great lesson from last year's experience, when they failed to plant sufficient acreage, causing them to have to ship in hundreds of car loads of feed at very high prices, thereby taking their surplus earnings from their cotton crops to pay for feed. This they seem certain not to have to do next year.

The cotton crop at this time, although not as large in acreage, is very fine and promising. There has been some complaint that the plant was not fruiting as it should, but the last few days reports are coming to the contrary; in fact it is said that it is now fruiting very fast. To date there has been but little complaint about insects, etc., and with reasonable season and sufficient dry, hot weather it is possible that an extra good cotton crop will be made here, which, with a decent price for same, will mean perhaps the greatest prosperity this town and community has ever witnessed this fall.

Mr. R. L. Adcock, splendid and accommodating carrier on route four, left this week for East Texas, where he will attend the Annual meeting of the Texas Rural Letter Carriers Association, being the delegate from the 19th Congressional District as well as a delegate from the Taylor County organization.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Sears were up last Sunday from their ranch near Wingate.

OPENS HARDWARE STORE AT BLAIR

Mr. C. F. Curb, we are informed, has this week opened a new and up-to-date hardware store in the city of Blair.

Mr. Curb is one of the finest citizens in our community, and will no doubt make good in his new adventure. He states that he will carry a complete line of everything found in a first class hardware store.

CHURCH OF CHRIST REVIVAL BEGINS SUN.

Elder J. L. Pummell will be here Saturday to begin a series of meetings Sunday morning at 11 o'clock for the Church of Christ. Bro. Lee Eason will have charge of the singing.

You are cordially invited to attend these meetings at all times. Sunday's services will be at the church building. Beginning Monday all other services will be at the tabernacle.

TO LET BIDS FOR HIGHWAY WORK

At a recent meeting of the Honorable Commissioners Court of Taylor county, by authority from the State Highway Commission, asked for bids for the grading and drainage structure work for 19 and a fraction miles of Bankhead Highway work through this county.

The bids asked for will include the building of the highway from the Nolan county line through Trent, Merkel and on to a point two miles west of Tye. Besides this section, bids are asked for on six miles of the Bankhead from Abilene to the Shackelford and Callahan county lines near Hamby, a distance of a little more than six miles.

Bids will be received up to 10 a.m. August 10th.

NAZARENE REVIVAL CONTINUES HERE

The Nazarene revival meeting at the tabernacle continues to progress in a pleasing manner. Some 35 or 40 professions have been made to date. The church is greatly encouraged. Old time shouts of victory are heard in every service. It will make you think of old times. You are welcome to attend these meetings.

On Sunday afternoon at three o'clock Rev. Ellis will deliver his famous lecture on "White Slavery and the Social Evil". The evangelist extends to the entire city a cordial invitation and more especially the mothers with their girls.

You will be stirred as never before as you hear this man pour forth streams of red hot truth into this awful evil. Mother, your girl is in danger now. Don't miss this lecture. R. B. Williamson, pastor.

Our good friend and splendid citizen, Mr. E. F. Vantrees, Hawley, route two, was here one day this week and reported crops very fine out his way. Ed's one of the supporters of James E. Ferguson, et. al., but he is not so enthusiastic about the matter this year. However, he is a good scout and enjoys having his fun from the usual political fracas.

SCARBROUGH MEETING IS PROGRESSING

Great crowds are hearing Dr. L. R. Scarborough as he preaches in the Merkel Baptist Church building. The crowd Wednesday evening taxed the seating capacity of the building. Dr. Scarborough is preaching the old Gospel in the old time way. Any man to hear him preach will be convinced that the old Gospel still has power. Many have been gloriously saved and many others have renewed their allegiance to the Lord. More than a score have united with the local Baptist church while a number have found the Lord and will unite with other churches of the town.

While Dr. Scarborough is preaching the old time Gospel he is preaching it so as to meet the up-to-date tricks of the devil. He recognizes the fact that the devil is making a tremendous effort to carry people away from virtue and from the truth, and he is urging the people of the Lord to do the unusual to win men to the Lord. He deprecates the complacency and indifference of the Lord's people while the devil is leading our friends and neighbors captive at his will. He deprecates the waywardness and worldliness of the church and urges the people of the Lord to show the world what the Lord can do for His redeemed. He holds up the highest Christian ideals and glories in the joys of the true Christian. He makes the Christians lot the happiest lot of any people on the earth.

One feature of the meeting has been the place of prayer in the meeting. Each day there has been a number of prayer meetings; men have met to pray, women have met to pray, young people have met to pray, and the children have had their own prayer meetings. One unusual prayer meeting has been the early morning prayer meeting, when people met in the basement of the church at six o'clock and prayed for the Lord's blessings on the town and surrounding communities. If you have never been in one of these meetings you have missed a real treat.

The meeting will continue till Sunday evening and we are expecting many more to line up for the Lord in the remaining services. Sunday will be made evangelistic all day. The Sunday school hour will be given largely to an evangelistic appeal. Teachers and officers together with other Christians will seek the salvation of every lost pupil.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public in general to be in these services. All Christians are urged to come and help us work and all who are not Christians are urged to come and seek the Lord. "Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon Him while He is near." "Now is the day of salvation, now is the accepted time." "And today if ye shall hear His voice, harden not your heart." "He that being often reproved hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed and that without remedy."

Ira L. Parrack, pastor.
Returns From Vacation Improved in Health

Mr. E. D. Coats and family returned this week from an extended trip to the mountains in New Mexico. Mr. Coats went to that state in the interest of his health, and we are glad to report to his many friends that he feels considerably better and really believes that he has gained from his visit to that country. He is back in his real estate office again, ready for business.

In Spite of The Heat



FURTHERING COMMERCIAL PROGRESS

OUR BUSINESS IS TO ASSIST IN THE SOUND DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR CLIENTS' INTERESTS; THAT MEANS KNOWING "HOW," FINANCIALLY SPEAKING, AS WELL AS POSSESSING THE REQUISITE RESOURCES AND FACILITIES.

THIS PROGRESSIVE INSTITUTION INVITES YOUR ACCOUNT. YOU WILL FIND HERE AT ALL TIMES A COADIAL WELCOME AND THE BEST OF SERVICE.

FARMERS STATE BANK MERKEL TEXAS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. S. Swann, President
R. O. Anderson, V. Pres.
J. C. Mason, V. Pres.
W. L. Diltz, Cashier

Herbert Patterson, Assistant Cashier
Dallas Scarbrough
David Hendricks

Mr. Tom Sears and children of Whitewright are here this week for a pleasant visit with the former's brother, Mr. John Sears and family.

Mr. W. D. Haynes reports that his sons, W. W. and Comer, who, besides operating their own farms, are managing and working his farm, and have threshed from 100 acres planted in wheat 1,700 bushels of grain.

Messrs. J. S. Swann and R. O. Anderson, president and active-vice-president, respectively, of the Farmers State Bank of this city, were business visitors in Fort Worth first of the week.

We are glad to have the renewal of Mr. W. T. Walker's subscription to the Mail for another year. Mr. Walker, one of our best farmers, states that he has the best crop this year he has ever had at this time. Worlds of feed already made and cotton looking fine, he said.

Mr. Hugh Brewster and family of Caps were up last Sunday for a visit in the home of J. S. Thomas.

Mrs. J. Willie Moore, and daughter, Delphine, Mrs. W. E. Lowe and son Jack and Mr. G. W. Cox returned last week from their trip to California.

FARMERS TO ATTEND A. & M. SHORT COURSE

It is now estimated that 4000 rural boys and girls will attend the Farmers' Short Course to be held at the A. and M. College from August 2 to August 6. Provisions have been made to offer the farmers, their families, and boys and girls everything free, including camp ground, lectures by the A. and M. College faculty and a number of the ablest agriculturists in the United States, movie shows, radio and band music, swimming pool, and tours to the agricultural and poultry experimental farms. A large crowd is planning to go from Taylor county, leaving the Abilene Chamber of Commerce Saturday morning at 8 o'clock of July 31 and going to the Lampasas River that night and driving to College the next day.

Perhaps no trip that the farmer and his family could make during the summer would be as beneficial or as entertaining. Many boys and girls who attend catch the College spirit, and plan to attend some college after completing the high school work.

Provisions are made to give board and room at the College for the week at a cost of \$6.25, but most of those who plan to go from Taylor County will camp out and prepare their own meals.

In some instances one boy of a community will furnish the automobile and four neighbor boys will pay the cost of gas and oil for the trip. The cost of transportation both ways will be about \$2.50 each. These boys will carry their eats with them and camp.

The county and home demonstration agents will accompany the crowd, and several families have expressed their intention of going.

J. R. Masterson, County Agt.

Mrs. H. E. Thompson, of Dallas, is here for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Collum. Mrs. Collum has been in ill health for some time but seems to be improving nicely at this time.

Mr. N. A. Dowell, the auto top and paint man, has recently received a new and up-to-date air paint brush and announces that he is now better prepared than ever to turn out in a hurry first class work in his line. Read his advertisement in this paper.

Mr. V. D. Jones and family of Clarksville are here for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Collins and other friends and relatives. Also Mrs. T. H. Doolin and daughter, Mrs. Bomer, are here from Clarksville visiting in the Collins home.

Mrs. G. A. Roberts and son of Cisco were the guests of her sister, Mrs. W. A. McSpadden, this week.

B. M. Holman, Hubbard, Texas, writes to have the Merkel Mail sent to his address, enclosing the necessary funds.

Miss Maurine Wellborn, of Abilene, and Miss Imogene Simmons, of Big Lake, were guests last week of Miss Pauline Chinn.

Mrs. Roy Adams and baby daughter are spending the week at Post City with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. O'Brian left this week for an extended visit with their son and daughter who reside in California.

F. Y. Gaither, former young banker of this city, but now connected with a bank in San Angelo, was here first of the week shaking hands with friends.

Dr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong returned Tuesday from Fort Worth, where they had been to visit their son, Dr. Frank Armstrong, now a successful young physician in the Panther City.

DAN'S PROHI. RECORD HAS O. K.

Dallas, Texas, July 14.—Dan Moody's prohibition record is eminently satisfactory to the Texas Womens Citizens Committee and the Womens Christian Temperance Union, according to a statement given out by Mrs. Jane Y. McCallum, chairman of the former organization. Her statement reads:

"The complaints of a despairing candidate anent Dan Moody's prohibition record have heretofore been ignored.

"Today our committee received our first suggestion that some uninformed persons have been misled by continued misstatements, and to set these rumors at rest we wish to submit Dan Moody's answers to the Womens Christian Temperance Union questionnaire that is every two years sent all candidates for State office," she said.

"Are you a bone dry prohibitionist?"

"Yes, and have been always, and always will be."

"Are you a total abstainer from the use of alcoholic beverages?"

"Yes, and have been always. Have never used it in any form."

"Do you believe in keeping the Volstead Act in its entirety?"

"The Volstead law is the act of Congress now in effect pursuant to the national prohibition amendment. I do not know whether it is the best law Congress could enact. But if I were a member of Congress I should support that measure most efficiently designed, in my judgment, to carry out the purpose of the prohibition amendment. I am opposed to any modification of that law."

Dan Moody will begin the final week of the present campaign for governor with a speech in Clarksville Monday afternoon, July 19, and will wind up the present campaign at Lockhart Friday night, July 23. His itinerary for the week is announced as follows: July 19, Clarksville, afternoon, Paris, night; July 20, Bonham, afternoon, Denison, night; July 21, Eastland, afternoon, Fort Worth, night; July 22, Ennis, afternoon, Dallas, night; July 23, La Grange, afternoon, Lockhart, night.

Mrs. V. P. Tippet and baby, of San Angelo, were here this week for a visit among relatives and friends.

Mrs. W. L. Harkrider and children returned home this week from an extended visit with relatives at San Angelo.

Born on the 12th to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Largent a big fine baby boy.

Is your subscription about to expire to the Mail. Look at the label on this paper and see.

Statement of the Condition of THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK At the close of business June 30, 1926

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand	\$261,937.29
Overdrafts	161.00
Warrants (Merkel Ind. School)	26,989.02
Furniture and Fixtures	7,500.00
5 Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Other Resources	338.56

Cash, Sight Exchange and U. S. Bonds 192,609.32

Total \$491,797.69

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$50,000.00
Surplus	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	10,529.98
Circulation	5,950.69

Bills Payable None
Rediscouunts None
Other Borrowed Money None

Deposits 410,307.71

Total \$491,797.69

THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS CORRECT

BOOTH WARREN, Cashier



THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NAT'L BANK

MERKEL

TEXAS

'SINCE 1904'

Nice fresh roasted beef every day at Baker & Wheeler's Market.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company.

Miss Lonnie Shook of Temple has returned home after a visit in this city with Miss Cora Lee Hulsey.

To Coast on Vacation
Messrs. A. B. Homer and Herbert Patterson, with their families, left Monday for an extended vacation trip to San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and other points along the coast.

Misses Zula Woods, Mary Lyon, Tilda Burton, Gertrude Nelson and Lizzie Lou Hughes, of Abilene, were guests at Shannon's Monday of this week.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

PILES CURED

NO KNIFE NO PAIN NO DETENTION FROM WORK
Dr. E. E. COCKERELL
RECTAL AND SKIN SPECIALIST
OF ABILENE, TEXAS

Will be at the Stephens Hotel in Merkel Monday, July 19 from 12 a. m. to 5 p. m.
Phone No. 359 Abilene, Texas

Advertise

IF YOU
Want a Cook
Want a Clerk
Want a Partner
Want a Situation
Want a Servant Girl
Want to Sell a Piano
Want to Sell a Carriage
Want to Sell Town Property
Want to Sell Your Groceries
Want to Sell Your Hardware
Want Customers for Anything
Advertise Weekly in This Paper.
Advertising Is the Way to Success
Advertising Brings Customers
Advertising Keeps Customers
Advertising Insures Success
Advertising Shows Energy
Advertising Shows Pluck
Advertising Is "Biz"
Advertise or Bust
Advertise Long
Advertise Well
ADVERTISE
At Once

In This Paper

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE

After a Fire==

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

Our fire insurance policies are dependable.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.



OH, BOY! There's a delightful, refreshing, cleansing kick in a FITCH SHAMPOO! The Fitch Shampoo dissolves and removes from the scalp every first application every particle of dandruff and dirt, leaving the scalp clean and healthy and the hair soft and fluffy.

The tonic in the Fitch Shampoo actually penetrates into every hair follicle, thereby invigorating the growth of hair. The lather is then gradually created by the application of water and, when rubbed out and rinsed, the lather carries with it all dirt, dandruff and foreign matter, leaving every pore open and functioning as nature intended.

Know the joy of a really clean scalp. Make your next shampoo a Fitch. Buy a bottle at any toilet goods counter or write the F. W. Fitch Co., Des Moines, Ia., for free trial bottle. If Fitch's isn't all we say, take it back and your money will be refunded.

At The COZY

ADOLPH ZUKOR and JESSE L. LASKY PRESENT
ZANE GREY'S
"THE VANISHING AMERICAN"



Friday & Saturday July 16 - 17

"THE VANISHING AMERICAN"

Also an adventure picture starring—

Jack Daugherty & Lola Todd

—IN—

"The Scarlet Streak"

Chapter 9. **"The Dive of Death"**

Also a Century Comedy with

EDDIE GORDON

"CRYING FOR LOVE"

Admission Prices 10-35-50c

Wednes & Thurs. July 21 and 22

William Fox Presents—

Edmond Lowe & Alma Reubens

in the famous book play

"EAST LYNNE"

with an all star cast

With Universal Comedy—

"DUMB FRIEND"

Starring **ARTHUR LAKE**

Also International News No. 43

FORMER BANKER HERE RETURNS FOR VISIT

Mr. L. R. Thompson and wife and daughter, Miss Lynn, of Kress, Texas, accompanied by his niece from Missouri, came down last Saturday for a visit with many friends here, stopping with Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Russell while in the city.

Mr. Thompson, who is a member of the Executive Board of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, attended a meeting of the officers and the board in Abilene on Monday.

In speaking about crop conditions and politics on the great staked Plains, Mr. Thompson, who is always a booster for his home town and community, stated that they were harvesting one of the biggest grain crops the plains ever made, and in politics he seemed to think that the Honorable Dan Moody will sweep the entire Plains in the governor's race.

The Farm Bureau had a most inspiring meeting at the tabernacle Saturday. About 75 of the leading field men and directors from adjoining counties were present, and all report a profitable meeting.

Mrs. Neeley Hudson and little daughter, after a visit with Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Anderson, of Merkel, route five, returned to her home last week. Also Mrs. R. M. Martin and children of Cleburne are here for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.

W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 25 years at 6% interest.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Case had as their guests first of the week Mrs. R. P. Penny and the Misses Barrett, of Winters, all sisters of Mrs. Case.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company.

The Hot Days Are Here



Our Summer weather has begun to show up, but you can forget these hot days if you will get one of our 5 year guarantee electric fans, "THE EMERSON"

We have a few Refrigerators left, pay as you use them; Ice Cream Freezers and Water Coolers.

Our car of binders has just arrived and we are unloading it today.

If you need a Binder, look at these before you buy.

Our stock is complete in most all lines.

We appreciate your business and influence

Liberty Hardware Co.

"If It's Hardware, We Have"

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Let every member of the church and Sunday school meet at 9:00 o'clock Sunday morning at the church prepared to go to Buffalo Gap to worship with the young people's encampment. All members who do not have any way to go will please report to T. M. Smith or Tom Douglass, committee, or W. M. Elliott and those who have cars and can take some one or more please report to the above men.

There will not be any services at the church on Sunday.

See the Special Window for Saturday at Schindler's Variety Store.

Baptist S. S. Notes

Our attendance was above the average last Sunday, but we hope to have even better attendance next Sunday.

Sunday is the last day we will have Dr. Scarborough with us and of course you will want to hear him. We are planning to have a special service during the Sunday school hour, so don't be late; be there not later than ten o'clock. If you are a member be there. All visitors cordially invited to attend. Orchestra starts ten minutes of ten; Sunday School promptly at ten o'clock. Bill Haynes, Supt.

the Mail or give us a news item.

Removal Announcement!

I have moved my office to the West building, over the Bragg Dry Goods Company, where I am better prepared to do my Chiropractic Work, and where I extend a warm welcome to my friends and patients to call at any time.

My office is located next door to Dr. Gardner, and the Phone number is 227. Will be open for business Saturday morning July 17.

Our residence is at the J. S. Burns home on Oak Street. You will find me there when I am not in my office.

H. P. Hulsey, D. C.

The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50
Anywhere else \$2.00
IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE No. 61

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

Lynch Davidson accuses Dan Moody of having the support of the oil-liquor interest. Can you beat it? Since when has Lynch Davidson ever made a record for prohibition? And, why has he any right to talk about the oil interest as a monopoly when every one knows that Lynch himself is linked up with and a part of one of the most unreason-able and unconscionable giant-corporations now operating in this nation—the lumber trust. If the truth were known, the real big oil corporations of the nation are linked up with Lynch and are doing their bit to help his cause along. He says "Moody is perhaps the innocent tool of the oil interest". Perhaps, did you say? Get that. He gives no proof. And as to Dan's prohibition record, there is no blemish. It seems now that Lynch is absolutely going to swipe a lot of Jim Ferguson's tactics when it comes to making statements which are made out of the whole cloth. A vote for Lynch is half a vote for the Fergusons.

"JUDGE NOT"

There's an old woman living in a dingy flat on what the boys call "Spagetti Avenue." She sells papers for a living and I have seen her scarcely more than half-clad standing on the corner in wintry blasts. For some reason I had no pity. I concluded that the old critter was a seasoned female hag who

would do anything for a few pennies.

A block away from where she sold her papers there was a little crippled girl, the only child of a widow. The girl had dreamy blue eyes that looked up so pleadingly and about each ear there were ringlets of gold. The doctor said that she could be cured by an operation and that the old paper vender had become interested in her case. That was the reason she stood out on the street corned day and night in all kinds of weather trying to earn some money.

In the course of time the girl was taken to a hospital. The surgeons used their knives skillfully, and while she is still in a rolling chair, they say she will eventually be able to run and play like other children.

It is an inspiration to see her smile these days. Really the girl is beautiful, and attracts the attention of all who visit the hospital where she is happily convalescing.

"The first time I saw her," the old woman said, "she asked me if Jesus couldn't make her well. I was touched to pity by what she said and went to work to keep her faith from being destroyed. But I am so glad that it is all over, I tell you I had to go hungry sometimes to save my nickles, and sometimes I shivered out there on the streets because I didn't have warm clothes to wear."

Things are not always what they seem. One I thought a hardened hag proved to be a saint. That face was rough, that hair was unkept and those clothes were shabby. I could see nothing to admire. But a fragrant flower bloomed down in the hidden depths of that heart God had left a beautiful impress upon that soul. —Austin Callan.

Gossiping is one of the most prolific sources of evil. The rattle snake bites, and the scorpion stings you to death, and we think that is terrible, but they

are to be as benefactors compared to gossipers. A gossip will hunt day and night to find something to gossip about, and besmirch the character of their superiors and leave them to walk around with their character besmirched, while the snake has more compassion; he puts them out of the way, without besmirching the character of any one. Now which had you rather have in your house among your family? For God's sake and the sake of humanity, give me the rattler any time. Gossip separates and estranges friends, breaks up families, wrecks business, bankrupts character, and raises the devil generally. Only empty hearted people gossip. They who have their minds filled with worth while knowledge find better employment than indulging in gossip.—"J. C. M."

Mr. Quay Hamblet, of Breckenridge, is here for a visit with home folks and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Morgan, of Dallas, came in first of the week, and will spend a short vacation here with friends and relatives. Mrs. Morgan is the daughter of Mrs. J. C. Calvert and sister of Mesdames C. K. Russell and F. H. Latham. We were glad to have Mr. Morgan visit the Merkel Mail office, where, when he was a mere lad he spent some time learning the printer's trade, but later, perhaps wisely, departed from his early training.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp of Fort Worth arrived this week for an extended visit with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sharp. The former Mr. Sharp has been a valuable employe for a number of years in the First National Bank of Fort Worth.

Elder W. G. Cypert returned first of the week from a trip to Bell county, where he recently closed a very successful revival.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Conner returned this week from a month's vacation trip that carried them over a great deal of the state. He says crops are good everywhere, but found none that looks better than are to be seen in the Merkel country at present. In speaking of the governor's race he stated that from what he could gather, Dan Moody was far in the lead. Even in former Ferguson strongholds, he stated, the people were predicting that Moody would run close if not ahead of Jim and Miriam.

Mr. Hayden Turner, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, arrived first of the week for a short visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Turner, of the Salt Branch community. He left Wednesday for his home accompanied by his parents, who will spend some time with their son and family in the great health resort of the Ozarks.

Mr. J. A. Ellison, of Trent route two, whom we mentioned some time ago as being a rock-ribbed Ferguson man and glad of it, was here again recently and presented this editor with a dozen of the biggest and finest roasting ears to be found anywhere, and stated further that they were Ferguson roasting ears. If they were we could not tell it, as we seasoned them nicely with "Dan Moody butter," covering up anything that might remind one of the usual Ferguson smell." Not being satisfied with the above kind generosity, Mr. Ellison has also promised us a big, fine, juicy watermelon within the next few days. And if it is as good as the corn it will be mighty fine, Ferguson or what not. Thanks.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company. It

A DODGE BROTHERS SEDAN

\$ 895

F. O. B. Detroit

People are surprised to learn that this beautiful and sturdy car now sells for \$895.

They have heard so much about its exceptional value that they are under the impression it sells for a higher price.

Moreover, the Sedan possesses all the roominess and character of closed cars that call for a much greater investment.

It is substantial *in appearance* because it is substantial *in fact*. And serves its owners far beyond the period usually expected of a car at any price.

The body is all steel—safe, sturdy, fireproof, and smartly finished below the belt line in coolie blue lacquer, with cartouche yellow stripe—upper body in black lacquer—shields and fenders in black, oven-baked enamel.

Blue Spanish genuine leather upholstery, removable rear seat-back, and optional wood or steel wheels are included among many other features that commend themselves forcefully to the buyer.

Many who expected to buy a cheaper car, now find that Dodge Brothers product is well within their means. Many who had expected to buy something more expensive, now find everything they could possibly desire in these smart and dependable vehicles.

See the cars for yourself—and investigate our attractive time-payment plan.

Touring Car	- - - - -	\$795
Roadster	- - - - -	795
Coupe	- - - - -	845

f. o. b. Detroit

NEW TIRE REDUCTION

We are glad to announce a reduction in the price of the well known and unsurpassed—

Hood Tires

which makes this a good time to equip your car with new casings. When it comes to quality and durability the "HOOD" stands among the best.

We will also trade you new tires for your old ones. Come in and figure with us.

Our shop is now equipped with a Battery Charging Machine, and we can give good service in this line.

All repair work done here is fully guaranteed and done by a first class workman.

Magnolia Gas and the Best of Oils

THE CORNER GARAGE

"Service that Satisfies"

F. C. McFARLAND, Prop.

MERKEL GARAGE

Ross Ferrier

PHONE 1-2-3

H. L. Propst



ROW BINDERS

We now have in our store on display---

The John Deere Row Binder

If you are in the market for a binder, don't fail to see this one before you buy.

The first thing to be considered in buying a Row Binder is "Quality of Material;" then the next feature is simplicity.

...QUALITY...

If you are not acquainted with the John Deere Binders, then just take for comparison any John Deere implement you have. Hasn't it given you the best and longest service of any implement you have ever used? Well the binder is made by the same Company at the same factory. So why shouldn't it be the same grade of material.

...SIMPLICITY...

By looking at this machine you will see that it is more simple because of fewer parts and easy adjustments.

CROWN HARDWARE COMPANY

"WE GIVE YOU SATISFACTION ALL THE TIME AND SAVE YOU MONEY EVERY TIME"

Try Our Filling Station Service

We Sell

Good Gulf and No-Nox Gas and Mobiloils.

"A COMPLETE SERVICE"

Everybody's Garage

Front Street

Phone 72

Death Never Frightful, Old Physician Asserts

In all my experience I have seen but one human being who, when death actually came, was rebellious and afraid! I have, it is true, seen men die in delirium tremens. But their terrors had nothing to do with death. They were simply a part of the delirium, the phantasies of a disordered mind. I have seen only one case of a human soul which, to the very last, was bitter and afraid.

No, we need not fear the moment of death, for nature is never more kind to us than then. Very, very often she sees to it that we do not even know. Our minds drop asleep, as it were, and death is then only a physical change.

But even though our minds remain awake and conscious, she gives us peace and contentment. This is not strange, perhaps, when people are weary and worn with long illness. But I have seen it over and over again when conditions were entirely different.

I have seen people die as the result of accidents, perhaps only an hour or two after they had been in the full vigor of life. Yet for them, too, nature performed her kindly service, and they were neither rebellious nor frightened.

This is true even of people who have lived careless and ungodly lives. But to those whose souls are "stayed on God" the moment of death is not merely free from terror, it is often so radiant with peace and joy that the onlooker is moved almost to envy.

I do not see how any physician could know death as I have known it without acknowledging the power of religion. If he worked only in his laboratory, absorbed in material things, possibly he might be a materialist. But if, again and again, he has seen death glorified by faith in a living God, it is inconceivable to me that he can be without that faith himself.—Dr. Thomas Wilson, a Country Physician for More Than Fifty Years, in the American Magazine.

Put Boycott on Men

The Amazons were a race of warlike women ruled by a queen who suffered no man to dwell among them. Their husbands having been killed in war, they resolved to form a state of their own, and declared marriage to be servitude. Three nations of Amazons are mentioned by the ancients, the Asiatic, the Scythian, and the African. The Asiatic Amazons, from whom the others branched off, dwelt on the shores of the Black sea and among the Caucasus mountains. They were said to have founded the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna and Cumae; and were famous for their three queens: Hippolyta, who was conquered by Hercules; Penthesilea, who was slain by Achilles while aiding the Trojans; and Thalestris, who visited Alexander the Great with 300 maidens in

CITY MARSHAL SAYS CUT WEEDS NOW

Mr. J. A. Woodard, our energetic and most excellent City Marshal, asks this paper to announce to the citizenship of Merkel that he sincerely hopes and expects every one to immediately get busy and cut the weeds and grass from around their premises and in the alleys.

He stated that he hoped that all would heed the suggestion and help to make our town cleaner and more sanitary, and save other steps necessary to enforce the weed cutting ordinance.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

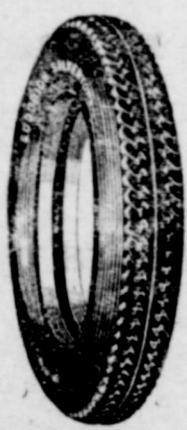
MISS TRACY RETURNS FROM TAKING COURSE

Miss Lucy Tracy, for a number of years the very popular and efficient director of the Expression Department in the Merkel Public Schools, returned this week from Fort Worth where she has just completed a summer course at the Curry School of Expression, Texas Christian University.

On her return she was accompanied by Mrs. W. T. Smith and two children, Master Tom and little Miss Edith, who will visit in the home of Miss Tracy.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Owen Patterson, route five, a daughter, on the 12th.

Big Price Reduction On Tires



The Famous Goodrich Silvertown Cord tires, the best tires Goodrich ever built; more miles to the tire than any other ever built.

Goodrich Radio Cord of high quality, to meet any competition, at the following prices:

- 30x3 1/2 Cord at only - - \$9.70
- 30x3 1/2 Oversize Cord at just \$10.75
- 29x4.40 Balloon Cord to go at \$11.45

We also sell that Good Gulf Gasoline and Supreme Auto Oil. And that famous NO-NOX Gasoline, which makes your car faster and with more power, and is guaranteed to do away with all spark knocks and give more miles to the gallon than any other gas made. If you have not tried it drop around to Woodrum's New Drive In Filling Station and fill up.

We have the most convenient Filling Station in town. Have the very latest pumps we can buy, and we guarantee to give you every gallon of gas that you buy.

Give us a trial if you have never traded with us and we will appreciate your business. We also have, free air, free battery water and "Service with a Smile". We have spent money to try to please and serve you well, so now give us your trade.

Woodrum's New DRIVE IN Filling Station

KENT STREET

Two in the Moonlight

Winters in Florida aren't so worse—with the warm, mellow moon—the Spanish moss making everything just a trifle hazy.

And few girls were nicer than Sally. Said Sally:

"Oh—I think it is wonderful out tonight. Let's not go in and dance, let's sit out here, just you and I and talk."

Came the answer: "You may, if you wish. I want to dance—see you later."

You don't believe it—but it is true. Because, after all, what fun is there for two girls to sit out in the moonlight together?—Boston Beanpot.

"Straying" Husbands

Strayed husbands in London at the present time number nearly 12,000. "Why husbands leave home and where they go are mysteries," said a district relieving officer. "If they are found, the almost invariable excuse they give is that the wife was 'carrying on.' Some apparently just grow bored with married life, or want a change. One man sent his wife and three children to the seaside for a holiday. When they returned he was gone, bag and baggage, and has not been heard from since."

She Should Have Known

A certain English bishop prides himself on saying the right and tactful word to every person he meets, and by reason of his office he is not accustomed to find his remarks questioned.

"So strange I should run up against you," he said to a woman acquaintance, "because I was chatting only a few minutes ago with your two children."

"But," said the woman, "I have no children."

"Are you sure?" he asked earnestly.

Batik Work Intricate

The Netherlands East Indies produces by the cottage industry method the world-famous batik, or glorified cotton cloth, says Commerce Reports. Cloth used in this industry is imported and distributed in small pieces to the workers, who dye it with an elaborate hand process which produces beautiful and intricate designs. As many as 100 operations are sometimes required before a single piece of cloth is finished. Native batik is now meeting with competition from imported printed cloth.

Removal Justified

Wife—I took the recipe for this cake out of the cookbook. Hub (sampling the soggy thing)—You did perfectly right. It never should have been put in.—Boston Transcript.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Black and children, who for the past six months have been residing in Corpus Christi, arrived this week for a visit in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Black and Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Elliott, respectively. Carl states that he will likely decide to make Merkel their home again.

ICE COLD MELONS

We keep at all times a nice supply of good, cold Water-melons at the Ice House. If they are in town we have them, ICE COLD. Leslie & Middleton. It

Married Sunday

Mr. A. L. Brooks of Abilene and Mrs. Caldonia Willburn, nee Pearl Rains, of Merkel, were united in marriage last Sunday evening at Anson at the home of Rev. J. H. Edmonds.

Mrs. L. D. Gaither arrived this week from San Antonio for a visit with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Cranford.

No. 1398

Official Statement of Financial Condition of the HOME STATE BANK

at Trent, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 30th day of June, 1926, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 16th day of July, 1926.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts, undoubtedly good on personal or collateral security	\$104,808.42
Loans secured by real estate, worth at least twice the amount loaned thereon	3,843.00
Overdrafts, undoubtedly good74
Bonds, stocks and other securities	300.00
Real Estate (Banking House)	4,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures	1,400.00
Cash on hand	3,211.52
Due from approved reserve agents	53,099.79
Interest in Depositors' Guaranty Fund	2,156.16
TOTAL	\$172,819.63

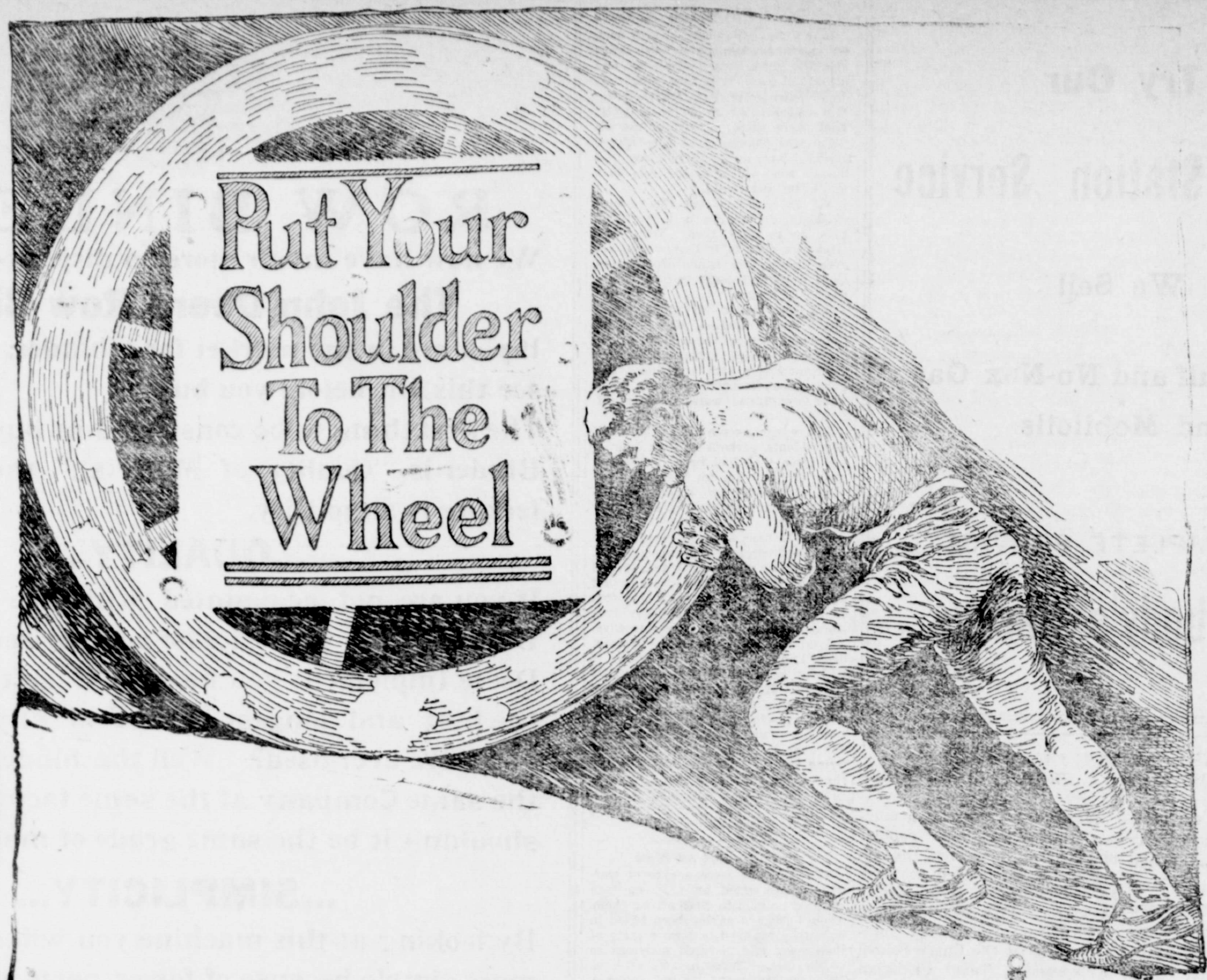
LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Other Surplus Fund	17,500.00
Undivided profits, net	1,006.72
Individual deposits subject to check on which no interest is paid	116,870.91
Individual Deposits on which interest is paid or contracted to be paid	11,192.00
Public Funds on Deposit (School \$1,250.00) Total	1,250.00
TOTAL	\$172,819.63

STATE OF TEXAS)
County of Taylor) We, J. T. Warren, as President, and L. E. Adrian, as Cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

J. T. WARREN, President.
L. E. ADRIAN, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of July, A. D. 1926. Booth Warren, Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas.
CORRECT—ATTEST: T. L. Stevens, H. W. Beckham, A. Williamson, Directors.

Adv-11



POWER is generated by energy and energy by the will "to do."

Have you ever seen a heavy cart stuck fast in a rut of mud? The jaded horse unable to move it another inch because of drooping spirit and lack of interest.

A dozen onlookers—some merely waiting to see what is going to happen—others giving advice and direction. But none of these will start the cart moving.

Then from the crowd step out three or four "doers." They put their shoulders to the wheel lending both effort and example until others follow them. The thing begins to move—gains momentum as all things do when out of a rut.

And so, also, is it with civic progress, community movements, local enterprise, when "doers put their shoulders to the wheel."

GRIMES-SMITH DRUG COMPANY
BOB MARTIN GROCERY COMPANY
J. T. DARSEY & CO., FURNITURE
WOODRUM FILLING STATION
BARROW FURNITURE COMPANY
J. T. DENNIS, Dry Goods and Groceries
HAMILTON & CASE GROCERY
McDONALD & COLLUM GROCERY
THE CASH TAILOR SHOP

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE
FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATL. BANK
THE CORNER GARAGE
HAMM DRUG COMPANY
THE COZY THEATRE
BROWN DRY GOODS COMPANY
MERKEL DRUG COMPANY
MAX MELLINGER, DRY GOODS
CROWN HARDWARE COMPANY

LIBERTY HARDWARE COMPANY
WEST COMPANY, Genuine Ford Parts
BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY
MERKEL LUMBER CO. Wm. P. Carey Co.
JONES DRY GOODS COMPANY
WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING CO.
THE QUALITY BAKERY



THOS. S. CHRISTOPHER
Candidate for
ATTORNEY GENERAL

A life long democrat, running on his own merit and qualifications, with a view to giving this state a clean, fair and square, honest administration of the affairs in the Attorney General's office. There is no block, nor political organization sponsoring his candidacy, to which he will owe allegiance or favors.

Honesty, efficiency, economy and strict law enforcement are the foundations of his faith and creed.

To the people of Merkel and Taylor county who might not have known him, that he is a Merkel reared young man, educated in the public schools of this city, Simmons University and the State University, is a brother of Mrs. L. C. Sublett, principal of the Merkel Grammar School, and with his host of friends here who know him best, will appreciate a very decisive vote in his favor.

—Political Adv.—It

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company.

Renew your subscription to the Merkel Mail before it expires

COMPERE NEWS

By Alma Stout

There were no services at the Presbyterian Church Sunday night as every one attended preaching at Hope.

A large crowd attended the Baptizing services Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Tarvin spent a few days last week in McKinney, Texas, on business.

Mr. Ramon Palmer, who has been sick for some time, had improved at last reports.

Mr. Urbon Childers, who has a position in Abilene is spending a few days vacation with home

folks and friends.

Those visiting at Mrs. Stout's Sunday were Mrs. S. A. Hobbs and family, Mr. J. H. Hobbs and family, Mr. and Mrs. Claunch and Mrs. Lena Stokes and little son from Fort Stockton. Essie, Laverne and Burley Bond and Mr. Clyde Reed.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Howard and children spent Sunday with Mr. Allred and family.

Miss Carrie Whitaker, who has been working in Abilene, is visiting home folks and friends for a few days.

Mrs. S. A. Hobbs and family were among those attending the funeral of the little infant baby of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harvell.

Misses Alma and Lorene Stout spent Sunday with Miss Essie Bond.

Mrs. Tarvin and Mrs. Nora Lanier spent Sunday with Mr. Howard Tarvin and family.

Mr. C. S. Childers and family spent the week end with his mother in Hamlin.

Mr. Allred and family, Mr. Harvey Allred, wife and baby, Mr. Childers and family and Mr. Edd Spurgin and family enjoyed a fishing trip to Lueders last Tuesday.

Sunday night is singing night at the Presbyterian church. Every one is invited to come and take part.

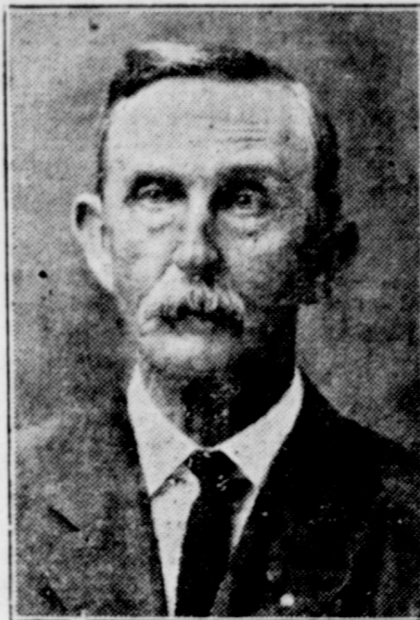
Every one was indeed sorry to hear of the sad death of Miss Odessa Lucas, which occurred one day last week at Fort Worth. She had been on a visit with some of her relatives in East Texas and was returning home and reached Fort Worth where she was taken sick, only living a few days. Funeral services were held at Noodle Saturday afternoon with burial immediately afterwards in the Compere cemetery. She is survived by many relatives and friends here who mourn her death. The bereaved relatives have our sympathy in this their saddest hour.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For County Judge:
TOM K. EPLEN
LEE R. YORK
CARLOS D. SPECK
- For County Attorney:
FRANK E. SMITH
- For District Clerk:
BELLE WELLBORN
- For County School Supt.:
M. A. WILLIAMS
- For Sheriff:
H. T. O'BAR
JOHN BOND
- For County Clerk:
W. E. BEASLEY
W. P. BOUNDS
- For Tax Collector:
R. A. McCLAIN
EARL HUGHES
- For Tax Assessor:
J. T. HOWARD
CLARENCE W. BOYCE
- For County Treasurer:
AUSTIN FITTS
(Precinct Offices)
- For Public Weigher:
THOS. A. BEARDEN
B. M. WILLIAMS
HUGH E. CAMPBELL
- For Commissioner, this Precinct:
PHILLIP A. DILTZ
- For Commissioner (Jones Co.):
W. R. SUMPTER
W. T. RAINWATER

To The Voters



I lived in the Merkel Community for 23 years. Practically all these years were spent in one of your financial institutions, so any thing I might say now would not alter your decision as to whom to vote for in the tax assessors race. My life with all it's mistakes and short comings is known to practically every individual in your community. I cannot change the record I have made myself but I do want to call your attention to a few things in regard to my race for assessor of your county.

I made the race two years ago against the present incumbent and another good citizen of Abilene. By receiving an overwhelming majority in Merkel, Trent, Nubia and Blair I was second man in this race. In the run off I was defeated by some 500 votes out of approximately 6000 votes.

When I announced for the office two years ago I was a stranger to the majority of Taylor County voters, my acquaintance being limited to the west end of the county and many loyal friends in Abilene. This is the third campaign I have made for this important office of your county. I have met the people all over the county, from one extreme corner to the other, as well as the people in the shops, factories and stores in Abilene. I feel confident of leading the ticket on July 24th, and if my friends and supporters of two years ago are as loyal to me now as they were in 1924 I feel that with the added votes I shall receive all over the county I will be nominated the 24th of July, making a run-off unnecessary.

If you feel that I am qualified for this position, may I not count on you for your support on July 24th.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. Howard

Law and Facts About Taylor County Highways.

LAW

"The (Highway) Commission is authorized to take over and maintain the various State Highways in Texas, and the counties through which said highways pass shall be free from any cost, expense or supervision of said highways." Art. 6673.

"All further improvement of said State Highway System with Federal aid, shall be made under the exclusive and direct control of the State Highway Department. . . . No further improvement of said system shall be made under the direct control of the Commissioners' Court of any county." . . . Art. 6674d.

FACTS

Since February 24, 1924, I have had nothing to do with the maintenance or upkeep of these highways.

Since June 18, 1925, the Highway Commission has been clothed with all authority over further improvement of these highways.

We contend for and have secured an equitable division of our funds between the two Highways and an additional allotment of \$166,000.00 for the Hamby Pike.

We have strenuously contended for the old road bed and secured many concessions, one being the old location south of T. and P. Ry. from five miles west of Abilene to the Callahan county line at a saving of from \$75,000.00 to \$100,000.00.

Construction is now under way from Abilene east to Callahan County line. Bids will be received and contracts let on August 10 from Abilene to Hamby and from eleven miles west of Abilene to Nolan county line. Plans have been approved from Tuscola south to Runnels County Line, and engineers are finishing plans on the remaining two sections of the two Highways.

The lateral roads, over which we have control, are in better condition than they have been in years. This has been made possible by the purchase of 5 tractors, 5 graders and 2 motor maintainers which are kept at work constantly on the lateral roads. It was necessary to purchase this equipment as the County had no motor driven machinery. While we have purchased this machinery, we have also reduced the County indebtedness approximately \$75,000.00, and reduced the tax rate eight cents.

I believe that upon a careful consideration of my limited authority over the highways and the results thus far accomplished through our efforts to protect the tax payers in their local and vested rights, together with my experience with the highway problems, you will feel that I am entitled to the usual and customary second term. It has been my soul desire and effort to render the most valuable service possible, and in the event of my re-election, I shall devote myself to the accomplishment of the same purpose.

RESPECTFULLY,

Carlos D. Speck
Candidate for re-election, second term
County Judge

SHARK GOD'S WRATH OF LITTLE MOMENT

Overcome by Peace Offering, or by Cement?

Hawaiian natives prophesied calamity when ground was broken in October, 1900, for the construction of Pearl harbor, America's strongest naval station, on the shore of the island of Oahu, near the city of Honolulu. For their legends said that on the site selected for the immense dry dock were the caves in which the shark god once lived. Their belief was based on the presence of numerous sharks in the vicinity.

When, on February 17, 1913, the immense coffer dam collapsed, the natives fancied that the shark god had avenged himself for the desecration of his temple. The construction company in charge of the naval works believed that faulty engineering rather than one of the ancient island gods was responsible for the collapse, and requested authority to proceed with the project. The opposition of the natives was so strong that many conferences were held before the Navy department agreed upon the plan which, has since been developed.

When work began anew in December, 1914, the natives, believing that another disaster was inevitable, did what they could to avert it, and retained a female "kahuna" or priestess. They believed she possessed the ability to appease the wrath of the shark god by making offerings, and engaged her to conduct her rites on the shores of Pearl harbor during all the time that the dry dock was being reconstructed. In the spring of 1919 all was in readiness for the release of the water from the new dock. This was regarded as the supreme test. A Hawaiian foreman sacrificed a white pig and white chicken to the shark god, with prayers and supplications that the dry dock be spared.

The pumping began. It was noticed that a muddy streak arose in the water within the docks. The Hawaiians then insisted that the shark god was again attempting to break down the structure by boring through the basin. As the last foot of water was pumped out the remains of an immense shark were revealed on the bottom of the dock, and naturally the Hawaiians believed that it was the god which had destroyed the first dock. The bones were distributed among the members of the construction crew as souvenirs.

Engineers who have studied both the first and second dry docks have been inclined to scout the efforts of the priestess in appeasing the shark god, and to credit the success of the second work to the fact that the present basin has a concrete thickness of 16 feet, while the collapsed dock had a base of only 3 feet.

Mrs. L. D. Gaither arrived this week from San Antonio for a visit with her parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Cranford.

Elder W. G. Cypert returned first of the week from a trip to Bell county, where he recently closed a very successful revival.

NO. 7481

Report of the Condition of

THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
AT MERKEL

In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on June, 30, 1926

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts, including rediscounts	\$261,937.29
Acceptances of other banks discounted	NONE
Customers' liability account of acceptances of this bank	NONE
Total loans	\$261,937.29
Overdrafts, secured	\$110.30
Unsecured	\$50.70
Deposited to secure circulation (U. S. Bonds par value)	\$6,250.00
All other United States Government Securities	\$110,500.00
Other bonds, stocks, securities, etc.	28,939.02
Furniture and Fixtures	7,500.00
Real estate owned other than banking house	NONE
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	25,689.88
Cash in vault and amount due from national Banks	49,243.14
Amount due from State banks, bankers and trust companies in the United States (other than included in Items 8, 9, and 10)	NONE
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank	926.30
Total of Items 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13	\$ 50,169.44
Checks and drafts on banks (including Federal Reserve Bank) located out side of city or town of reporting bank	NONE
Miscellaneous cash items	NONE
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
Other assets if any	338.56
Total	\$491,797.69

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in	\$50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided profits	\$21,217.24
Reserved for	\$
Less current expenses, paid	\$10,677.26
Circulating notes outstanding	5,950.00
Amount due to State banks, bankers, and trust companies in the U. S. and foreign countries (other than items 22 23)	5,813.02
Cashiers checks on own bank outstanding	729.71
Total of items 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28	
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:	
Individual deposits subject to check	\$14,523.28
Certificates of deposits due in less than 90 days	130.00
Dividends Unpaid	\$2,940.00
Total of demand deposit (other than bank deposits)	
Reserve, Items 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34	\$317,593.28
Certificates of deposit (Other than for money borrowed)	15,000.00
Other time Deposits	71,171.70
Total of time deposits subject to reserve, Items 35, 36, 37, and 38	\$ 86,171.70
Total	\$491,797.69

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:

I, Booth Warren, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

BOOTH WARREN, Cashier

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of July, 1926.
Rosie Laney, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:—G. F. WEST,
J. T. WARREN
SAM BUTMAN Directors.



**"BITIN' AND GOUGIN' "
TOO MUCH FOR BEAR**

**Pioneer Easy Victor in
Rough and Tumble.**

An idea of the early pioneer's notion of "playful" antics may be obtained in the following incident related by Rev. J. B. Finley, a pioneer preacher in Kentucky and the Ohio valley, says Arthur Woodward, in Adventure Magazine.

According to Finley, one of the principal meats of the backwoodsmen and their families was that of the black bear. In the fall of the year, when the beechnuts were about ripe, the Kentucky hunter repaired to the place where the beech trees were thickest, for the nuts from those trees were especially liked by bruin.

Before the nuts were ripe, the bears often climbed the trees and raked the nuts from the branches. This was called lopping by the settlers. While the animal was thus engaged, it was an easy matter for the bear hunter to steal upon the unsuspecting bear and shoot him.

One autumn day a Kentucky emigrant, whose name is not recorded, went into the woods with his ax to cut a broomstick and, observing a bear in a tree, decided that it would be an easy matter to climb up behind the engrossed animal and slay him with the ax.

He reached the foot of the tree all right, but, to his surprise, Mr. Bear didn't wait for him to make the climb, but slid down the trunk and confronted the alarmed man. He swung his ax valiantly, but the bear, stretching out a huge paw, warded off the blow and seized the man's left arm with his teeth. In retaliation, the borderman played border tactics of a rough-and-tumble fight and promptly set his teeth into the bear's nose.

In the ensuing struggle the heavy weight of the bear threw the man to the ground. Again the fighting custom of the frontier was brought into play. The man used his thumb and calmly gouged out both eyes of the brute. The doleful screams of the agonized animal brought aid to the frontiersman and bruin was soon dispatched.

In after years the man who had thus unceremoniously fought his shaggy foe was asked by a friend who came to visit him:

"Well, how do you and the bears make it?"

The Kentuckian laughed. "H—ll," he said, "they can't stand Kaintucky play. Bitin' an' gougin' air too hard fer 'em."

Telling Him Off

In the kindness of his heart Mr. McGregor Smith opened an account for his wife at the local bank. A few

months later the manager, Mr. Jones, meeting him, remarked, "Would you kindly tell your wife that her account is overdrawn?" The news was duly passed to Mrs. Smith, and next morning she handed her husband a sealed envelope addressed to Mr. Jones, requesting him to deliver it. The manager, having opened the letter, remarked, "Perhaps you would like to see what your wife says," and handed the contents of the envelope to Mr. Smith. It was a half-sheet of note-paper, on which was written in large letters, "Sneak."

The Essay

Is, then, the essay in literature a thing which simply stands outside classification, like Argon among the elements, of which the only thing which can be predicted is that it is there? Or like Justice in Plato's republic, a thing which the talkers set out to define, and which ends by being the one thing left in a state when the definable qualities are taken away? No, it is not that. It is rather like what is called an organ prelude, a little piece with a theme, not very strict perhaps in form, but which can be fancifully treated, modulated from, and colored at will.—A. C. Benson.

The Oldest Dogs

Greyhounds are supposed to be the oldest members of the canine race, and one enthusiast has traced back their history for 30,000 years.

They certainly figured in Egyptian frescoes of the early Pharaohs, and were used for coursing by Xenophon, while a fine sculpture in the British museum of two greyhounds at play proves that they were known to the Romans.

These swift and graceful dogs were popular with all sporting sovereigns from Canute to the Stuarts.

Ban on Student Drivers

Beginning next fall, University of New Hampshire students will not be allowed to operate their own motor cars during the time the university is in session. This action was taken after it was found the grades of the car owners are much lower than those of their fellow students. Written permits will be needed before students can operate cars, and it is thought these will be granted only to students commuting.

Knew Better

A young bride-elect was ordering her trousseau in London before going out to New Zealand to be married.

The dressmaker suggested only very warm clothing, and when she demurred, asserting that the climate was beautifully mild, she was immediately informed:

"I assure you, madam, you are mistaken. New Zealand is where the frozen meats come from."

To The Voters of Taylor County

The 24th of July is almost here, and this is about my last opportunity of appealing to you through the columns of the newspaper in behalf of my candidacy for the office of County Clerk.

In my announcement to you through the newspaper I gave you a brief sketch of my life. I told you that I was 56 years of age, had resided in Taylor County about 19 years, and had many years experience in clerical work and felt confident that I was well qualified to make you a good and efficient County Clerk.

My platform then and is now, economy, honesty, efficiency, fairness and courtesy to all. I promised you then that if elected to this office I would do my very best to make you a faithful and efficient officer. I renew this promise to you now.

I am proud that I live under a Democratic form of government where the people are sovereign and can choose their servants, and where life tenure in office can not exist. Rotation in office is democratic.

I can not speak but in complimentary terms of my opponent, but he has served his allotted time in this office and should now be willing to step up higher or retire to private life. He has served you almost one term by appointment and is now serving his second term by election. He has served you as County Clerk between five and six years. Is this not long enough in one office? especially when there are others who are as competent and willing to serve the people.

There are some seven or eight thousand voters in this county. I have tried to see them all and personally solicit their vote and influence, but I am sure there are many whom I have failed to see, but it has been unintentional on my part.

Hence I take this opportunity of personally and earnestly soliciting the vote and influence of every voter in Taylor County for County Clerk at the coming Democratic Primary Election on July 24th.

VERY RESPECTFULLY,

W. P. BOUNDS
...CANDIDATE FOR...
County Clerk

BOWEN POPE, of HAMLIN
State Representative of
Jones and Shackelford Counties
Candidate for Re-election.

It will be of interest to the readers of the Merkel Mail who reside in Jones County, to know that their present State Representative, Bowen Pope, of Hamlin will accept this position again if the people want his services in this important work of the State. His name will be on the ticket in the July 24 Democratic Primary.

Mr. Pope has spent many years in Texas, made a success as a teacher for thirteen years, and has been in Jones County twelve years as publisher of a successful newspaper. He is a man well versed in the affairs of the state and his experience in the last legislature especially fits him for wider and better service if the people want him to fill this office again. He is not making an active campaign this year, but wants the public to know that he will again accept this responsible place, and will render the best service possible for ALL the state. Adv-It.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company. It



**To THE
VOTERS
Of Taylor County**

I have been thinking daily that I would be able to call on you personally, but my duties as Corporation Judge of Abilene, with my private business, has so consumed my time that I have not been able to meet many of you personally. This I regret exceedingly.

I know though you will excuse me. I may have neglected Abilene, for I felt that I was better known here than elsewhere and have spent all the time I have had out in the outlying precincts. I believe Abilene folks will appreciate this, and will overlook this apparent neglect on my part.

We are now on the home run, in a few more days some of us will know our fate. I cannot think of words to express my appreciation of the efforts of my loyal friends in my behalf. If I am elected, all praise belongs to them. To me, it now looks like you are going to put me over in the first primary. Friends, you will never regret it if you entrust me with this office. I am going to take you into my confidence, and ask your cooperation and assistance in putting over and finishing our program of public improvements. Without this aid and cooperation the wheels of progress will soon cease to move.

I thank you in advance for your vote and influence on July 24th.

SINCERELY,

LEE R. YORK
...CANDIDATE FOR...
COUNTY JUDGE

Cancer on Increase

A careful analysis of cancer statistics gathered by the United States census bureau over a period of about twenty years in ten Eastern states reveals definitely that cancer mortality is from 25 to 30 per cent higher than it was about twenty years ago, according to Dr. J. W. Schereschewsky of the United States public health service, who made the statistical analysis and reported it to the American Medical Association. "There has been a pronounced increase in the observed death rate from cancer in persons forty years old and over in the ten states comprising the original death registration area," Doctor Schereschewsky said. "Part of this increase is due to greater precision and accuracy in the filling out of death returns, but the remainder is an actual increase in the mortality of the disease."

Plan Prehistoric Park

Twenty-seven acres of land just south of Hollywood will be converted into a prehistoric park by the Los Angeles Museum of History, Science and Art. A large number of bones of prehistoric animals have been found in the asphalt beds in this small area. If the plans work out, the park will be planted with trees and shrubbery as nearly as possible like those which grew there when the saber-toothed tiger, Imperial-tusked elephant and their contemporaries roamed in the jungles of southern California. Prehistoric animals, reproduced in stone, will be placed in this reconstructed jungle.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Counting the Pennies

"Getting to work from an all-night poker party is sometimes something of a problem," says a downtown business man. "The other morning after an awfully bad session, I found I had just a few minutes in which to reach my office several miles distant. I had only \$1.24 but I called a taxicab. I kept one eye on the meter and when the bill amounted to \$1.10, I ordered the driver to stop. I wanted the ten cents for coffee and sinkers and the four cents for luck.—Detroit News.

Little Choice

First Casualty—What happened to you?
"Been teaching my wife to drive the car."
"Ah, ha! Why didn't you act sensibly, as I did? Mine wanted me to teach her, and I refused."—Judge.

She Knew the Game

Traffic Cop—I'm sorry, miss, but I've got to tag your car. You know what that means?
The Sweet Young Thing—Certainly. Now I chase somebody else and tag them and then they're "it."—Life.

Idlewise Club

The Idlewise Club and guests were graciously entertained last Friday by Miss Christine Collins in the delightful home of Mrs. T. E. Collins. When the guests were assembled gay tallies were passed, after which interesting games of bridge were indulged in. A delicious salad course was served to Misses: Ruby Hamm, Evelyn Hamm, Mary Eula Sears, Mesdames Jack Durham, Emmett Grimes, Earl Baze, W. S. J. Brown, and guests, Mesdames T. H. Doolin, and Bowers of Clarksville, Doss Sheppard of Dallas, Homer Easterwood of Taft, Frank McFarland, R. O. Anderson, Misses Boog Sears, Bertha Flesher of St. Louis, Lil-

lian Watts, and Annie Mae Swann.

On Tuesday afternoon Mrs. W. S. J. Brown was hostess to the Idlewise Club and friends in her beautiful new home. After enjoyable bridge games the hostess served a pretty refreshment assisted by Mrs. V. P. Tippet of San Angelo. Those enjoying Mrs. Brown's hospitality were Misses Mary Eula Sears, Ruby Hamm, Evelyn Hamm, Mesdames Earl Baze, Jack Durham, Emmett Grimes, and guests, Misses Willard Wilson, Belton, Harkins, Abilene; Mesdames Chas. Jones and L. B. Scott.

Mr. Quay Hamblet, of Breckenridge, is here for a visit with home folks and friends.

Three Reasons Why I am Supporting EARL HUGHES for TAX COLLECTOR

FIRST. I know him to be an honest, industrious, sober gentleman, and know that he is well qualified to discharge the duties of the office and that he will make an efficient officer if elected.

SECOND. I would be ungrateful, after more than five years faithful service for me in the office as deputy, if I did not support him.

THIRD. Earl Hughes is a poor man, has a wife and two children to support, and needs the office. I wish to thank my many friends who have been so loyal to me, and as I am not in the race, next to a vote for myself, I would appreciate one for Earl Hughes.

D. T. HARKRIDER, Collector

Nice fresh roasted beef every day at Baker & Wheeler's Market.

PROFESSIONAL

THOS. C. WILSON
The Jeweler
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry Repaired
All Work Guaranteed
116 Chestnut, Street Abilene

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

PAULINE JOHNSON
Successor to
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

DR. MINTON T. RAMSEY
DENTIST
X-Ray and Diagnosis
3rd Floor Alexander Bldg.
Telephone 177 Abilene, Tex

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

No Advertiser Ever Lost a Dollar in Good Sign Advertising
RISTER THE SIGN MAN
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SEE—
W. B. Stephens
At Stephens Hotel
for your
MONUMENTS
Agents and Representatives
of the
Etawah Monument Company

MEMBER
TEXAS QUALIFIED
DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE

Legally
Registered
Pharmacist

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

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

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

HEAT

is what you expect when you burn coal.
It's time to think of your Winter supply.
SWAFFORD
PHONE 44



Get Rid of Roaches

They crawl up water pipes and through cracks—but you can stop them forever. Bee Brand Insect Powder will kill every one. Sprinkle or blow it into every crevice—all around your kitchen and pantry. It's harmless to mankind, domestic animals, birds and pets of all kinds, but death to roaches.
It also kills Ants, Fleas, Flies, Mosquitoes, Water Bugs, Bed Bugs, Moths, Lice on Fowl, and many other house and garden insects.
Get Bee Brand in red sifting top cans at your grocer's or druggist's. Household sizes, 10c and 25c. Other sizes, 50c and \$1.00. Puffer gun, 10c.
If your dealer can't supply you, send us 25c for large household size. Give dealer's name and ask for free booklet, "It Kills Them," a guide for killing house and garden pests.
McCORMICK & Co., Baltimore, Md.



They Insure BIGGER CROPS

The Jim Watts Cultivator Blades offer every farmer a 3-way saving of money: (1) on hoeing, (2) sharpening and (3) on the increased crop production by the moisture preserved. You will not try to farm without these blades, once you have tested their value to you. Made to meet the needs of every occasion. They clean from drill to drill, from two to a four-foot row. One-fourth less draft than four ordinary sweeps.

Fits Any Cultivator

It makes no difference what kind of cultivator you have. These blades adjust to any make, single or double row, 2 to 6-foot cultivator. Farmers and dealers alike acclaim these the best blades on the market. They will, in one day prove their worth to you.

Talk to us today or write us
MERKEL MOTOR CO.
Merkel, Texas

Let us show you these blades take place of sweeps. Buy our blades and you will need no sweeps.
Wooten-Bailey Watts Mfg. Co.
Abilene, Texas

Historians Differ on Naming of Manhattan

Philologists have long disagreed as to the origin of the word Manhattan, the name of the island on which stands metropolitan New York. But, according to a recent issue of Little Old New York, many modern authorities are taking seriously the claims which ascribe the name to a great drunken bout held on the island by the Dutch discoverers, whereas they made certain of the natives most ecstatically drunk for the first time in their lives, the Indians being so delighted by their jovial entertainment that they gave the place the name of Mannhattanink, or the "Island of Jolly Toppers." To substantiate this, it is pointed out that many of the early maps called the island Monados, Manados and Manatoes, all said to mean "a place of drunkenness."

The Dutch scholar, Van Der Donck, seemingly refuted this idea, however, in his "Description of New Netherlands," in which he pictured the Indians as being an abstemious race whose common drink was water from a living spring or well, and having no name in their languages to express drunkenness.
Schoolcraft, one of the early philologists and historians of the nation, who made a deep study of aboriginal names and geographical terminology of the state of New York, gave a different definition.

"When the Mohegans first discovered the island," he wrote, "and denoted Hell gate, they, true to their habit of naming localities after the most striking geographical feature near it, called the island 'Mon ah tan uk,' meaning a bad running water whirlpool. Themselves they called Manatus, or 'People of the Whirlpool.'"—Detroit News.

Awkward Situation

Try as I would, I could not rid myself of the bore.
He was not to be dismissed by anything I did.
"I must go uptown," I said; but he merely replied:
"Very well, I'll go with you."
I invented several chores, but he stuck like a leech.
Finally I hesitated in front of a private dwelling.
I had never seen it before, and said to the bore:
"I must stop here to see an old friend. Good-by."
I ran up the steps and rang the bell.
The door was opened by a servant.
"Is Mrs. Robinson in?" I inquired.
"Certainly, sir," he replied. "Step this way."

Building Storm Cellar

The weather bureau says that many plans for a storm cellar have been proposed, but all that is necessary is any sort of a room or hole under the surface of the earth convenient to get into. Naturally one would prefer to have a door to it, close enough to keep out snakes and toads. It can have cement walls and floor, or these may be of stone, plank or just the earth, if that will stand. All these details, as also many others that some designers have suggested, are only unimportant details. One only wants a room of any kind under ground, in which, at worst, he probably will never need to stay more than five minutes in a lifetime. While in the "cellar" during the passage of a storm the door to the cellar should be left open.

Where Priests Labored

A bronze tablet now marks the spot where nearly 800 years ago Franciscan priests taught the word of God among warring Indians. It is near New Smyrna, Fla.
There the priests taught Indian boys and girls their catechism, baptized them, received their confessions, married them and officiated at the last rites for the dead. An old Spanish document found some time ago revealed a communication from the Franciscans to the king of Spain asking for certain implements. Hoes particularly were sought, "which," the letter read, "are the most essential for the many 'entradas' which have to be made and the erection of houses and temples in the Indian villages."

Good Company

To possess a small collection of well chosen volumes, lighting up a corner of your room, is to have beside you the wisest and best men in the world. The pleasure and profit of their company is your own. They are there to instruct you; to make you hopeful, trustful, thoughtful, better. Would you deny yourself this? Know well the volumes you can gather together. Help and instruct others to know and like what is best suited to their needs. Teach them how to approach a book. Nothing has greater influence or is more potent in young people than a love for good books.—Thomas Tapper, in "Chats With Music Students."

Lavish Chinese Weddings

Chinese weddings take 11 days, and, in the case of the very wealthy, cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000. It is not uncommon for as many as 5,000 invitations to be issued, writes a correspondent of the Duluth (Minn.) News-Tribune. The bridegroom pays for this lavish entertainment. The couple to be married never meet until the ceremonies begin, the match having been arranged by the parents. On each day there is a different ceremony performed and not until the eleventh day is the knot said to have been securely tied.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One broadcast binder, See Earl Lassiter. 1tp

FOR SALE or Trade—My old filling station located in the Porter building, Geo. Woodrum. 1t

FOR RENT—rooms, to elder couple without children. Also a 4-room residence close in on the south side. See S. F. Haynes. 1tp

WANTED—A good second-hand money safe. Write all particulars to Box 57, Merkel, Texas. 1t

LOST—A black Boston Bull dog. Will pay reward. Call 151. 1tp

Judge and Mrs. N. D. Cobb left last week for a visit with relatives and friends at Bryan, Hearne and other points south-east.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company. 1t

ICE COLD MELONS

We keep at all times a nice supply of good, cold Water-melons at the Ice House. If they are in town we have them, ICE COLD. Leslie & Middleton. 1t

FARM & RANCH LOANS

At 6, 6½ and 7 per cent interest payable once a year. Terms 5, 10, 20 or 33 years, the best contract ever offered the borrower. NO RED TAPE. See me if you want a loan. V. E. MUIR, Abilene, Texas. 1Jan27

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

Subject: "The mind of a man" Leader, Ray Garrett. Introduction by leader.
1. Man, the crown of creation, by Mary Ellen Ashby.
2. Worth to Christian Workers, by Stella Wilson.
3. What relation has this to repentance, Effie Grayson.
4. Thanks God for power to think, by Joe Hartley.
5. God appeals to men's minds by Rubyjo Higgins.
6. A true conception of Christ, by Iris Garrett.
7. Insufficient conception of Christ, Thelma Copeland.

Intermediate B.Y.P.U. Program

1. Opening with a prayer.
2. President. 3. Business.
4. Group Captain. 5. Program.
A. Position of Nazareth, Eris Ash.
B. How Jesus Might have learned the scriptures, Louise Booth.
C. The Sin of Unbelief, Beth Hamm.
D. Jesus Our Friend, Audie Lou Giles.
6. Closing with a prayer.

Notice to School Patrons

The time for making your transfers from other districts to the Merkel Independent district will expire Aug. 1, 1926. If you have a boy or girl who is under 18 years of age on Sept. 1, and wish to transfer them to this district, now is the time. If they are 18 years of age or over on Sept. 1, nothing can be gained by transfer.

The transfer will entitle the boys and girls so transferred to four months free tuition in this district, after which they must pay tuition monthly in advance at the usual rate according to the grade, \$3.00 in the primary, \$4.00 in the intermediate grades and \$5.00 in the high school.

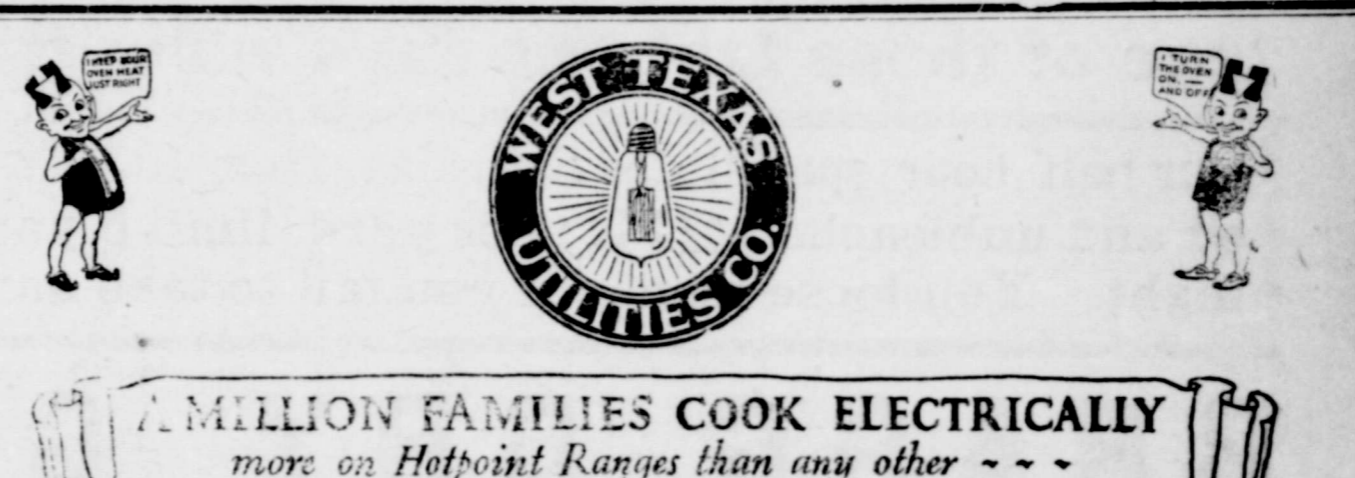
You can get your transfer blanks at the Merkel Mail office or from the Secretary of the Board, Mr. W. O. Boney.

If you live out of the district now is the time to save yourself the extra expense of tuition. Remember the date, any time between now and Aug. 1st.

Irvin L. Jackson, Supt.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. E. L. Turner, who has been quite ill for some ten days, is now improving nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Underwood, of Crowell, are here this week guests of Mrs. Underwood's father, Mr. F. J. Smith. Also Miss Annie Laurie is visiting her father at this time.



1 MILLION FAMILIES COOK ELECTRICALLY
more on Hotpoint Ranges than any other ~ ~ ~



Why Are Hotpoint Ranges Most Popular?

WHY do most women pick a Hotpoint Range? Because they know that Hotpoint Ranges have advantages found in no others. Because Hotpoint's automatic time and temperature control give exact results the first time and every time. The Hotpoint Super-Automatic Range makes every woman an expert cook, for it leaves nothing to guesswork. The Hotpoint Range is economical; it is clean. It is the pride of the kitchen.



Come in and let us tell you about the many other advantages of the Hotpoint Electric Range

West Texas Utilities Company

Folks Certainly did take advantage of our low prices and our Real JULY CLEARANCE SALE



Our store has been the busy scene of Merkel folks and their friends, taking advantage of this timely saving event since opening last Friday.

Thousands of dollars worth of good dependable merchandise has been taken home by thousands of real thrifty customers of Bragg Dry Goods Company and at prices that were **LOW**.

Never before has this big, annual event proved to be such a success. All former sales records have been broken, and still the crowds are coming. These folks know real values and they know when we announce an event of this kind that we try to over do things by giving quality merchandise at the **LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE**.

SATURDAY IS THE LAST DAY. So don't fail to take advantage of these last two days while the stocks are still fairly complete.

Our half hour special for Saturday, from 10:00 a. m. to 10:30 a. m. is Good 9-4 Sheeting, both bleached and unbleached **25c** per yard, limit 5 yards to each customer. This Sale closes Saturday night. You loose money if you fail to take an advantage of these last two days.

BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY

"THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE"

ICE COLD MELONS

We keep at all times a nice supply of good, cold Water-melons at the Ice House. If they are in town we have them, ICE COLD. Leslie & Middleton. It

Mrs. H. L. Willard, of the state of Washington is here for a visit with her son, J. E. Boaz, and family, as well as many old friends, she having been a citizen of this community many years ago.

Mr. B. T. Sublett, member of the Liberty Hardware firm, with his family, returned last week from an extensive vacation trip to many points in South Texas. He reports fine crops in most every locality visited.

Miss Odessa Lucas of Noodle Dies Suddenly in Ft. Worth

The friends and relatives of Miss Odessa Lucas of Noodle community were shocked beyond measure to learn of her sudden death in Fort Worth last Friday morning.

The remains were shipped to Merkel Saturday morning, funeral services being conducted by her pastor, Rev. Clyde R. Campbell, assisted by pastor Marvin Williams of the Noodle Methodist church and Ira L. Parrack of First Baptist Church of Merkel at the family residence. Interment was made in the Comper cemetery.

Among those attending the funeral services of Miss Odessa Lucas Saturday were: Palmer Lucas, Malone, Texas, who, with Clyde Basinger of Fort Worth, accompanied the corpse, Mr. and Mrs. Erving Zinn and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Beacham of Midland, Mrs. J. F. Strickland of Crawford, Mr. and Mrs. Harvy Barnard, Ovalo, Mr. Jim Strickland and son, Delman of Tuscola.

Back on the job after being out for about 35 days, and feeling much improved in health. I am now ready to serve you to the best of my ability in the real estate business. I have several good farms worth the money, and I have some three or four hundred acres leases to sell and will say if you want to buy or sell please see me as I will try to be strictly on the job the rest of the year. Thanking you for past favors, I am yours respectfully, E. D. COATS. It

Mr. J. N. Carson, of the Carson Grocery, returned last week from an extended trip throughout the northern part of the state and Southern Oklahoma. He reports good crops every

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Eoff Entertain Friends

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Eoff entertained a number of friends and relatives with much pleasure at their home near Trent, on Sweetwater creek, last Saturday.

At the noon hour the dinner was spread in picnic style under a big tree. It consisted of fried chicken, roast beef, gravy, salad, and so many other things that go to make up a delicious dinner.

The afternoon was spent in talking over by-gone days, eating ice cream and kodaking.

Those who enjoyed this happy occasion with Mr. and Mrs. Eoff were Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barbee and daughter, Miss Ina Faye, of Merkel, Mrs. Hattie Fultz of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. B. O. Mitchell and children, Mrs. Georgia Easterwood of El Paso, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hill and children of Sylvester, and D. R. Thompson of Sylvester.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail in

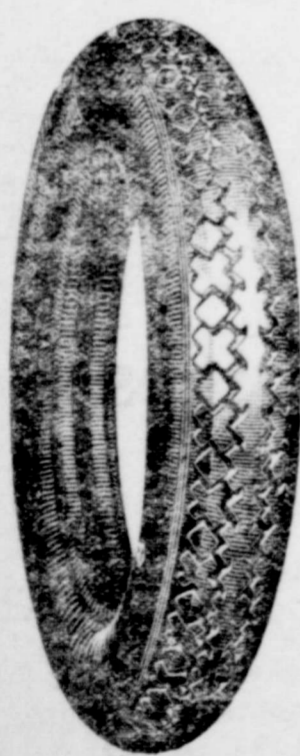
RETURNS FROM EASTERN MARKETS

Mr. A. T. Sheppard, manager for the Barrow Furniture Company in this city, returned first of the week from his trip with other buyers and managers for this firm in other places, to the Eastern Markets, where they purchased for this firm many car loads of nice furniture for the fall trade.

Our car of Osborne Binders has just arrived. Come in, look them over and get our prices before you buy. Liberty Hardware Company. It

See the Special Window for Saturday at Schindler's Variety Store. It

Mr. A. H. Thornton returned this week from a trip to Hugo, Oklahoma, where he had been called by the serious illness of a sister, whom he reports as being in a serious condition still.



Firestone PRICE REDUCTION!

Why buy "gyp" and unknown brand tires, when Firestone Gum-dipped and Oldfield Tires can be bought at such low prices? We offer you only the best to be had in tires and tubes—made by the oldest and largest tire maker in the country and carrying the standard warranty. There never was a better tire built. Take advantage of the new low prices now. Complete fresh stock at your disposal.

Firestone Gum - Dipped Cords	
30x3 1/2 Coml	\$ 9.75
30x3 1/2 Extra Size	11.85
30x3 1/2 H. D.	14.25
31x4 S. S.	19.25
32x4 S. S.	20.95
33x4 S. S.	21.85
29x4.40	13.75
31x5.25	22.00
30x5.77	27.85

Oldfield Cords	
30x3 1/2 Reg	\$ 8.75
30x3 1/2 Extra Size	9.70
29x4.40 Balloon	10.85
30x3 1/2 S. S.	11.75
Fabrics	
30x3	\$6.75
30x3 1/2	7.75

"Most Miles Per Dollar"

West Company

DOWELL ADDS NEW EQUIPMENT

I have just received a new **\$250.00 AIR PAINT BRUSH**

I can now give you a paint job of as fine Duco or Enamel painting as can be had any where. With the addition of this new equipment, I am prepared to do any kind of work that can be done in the city. Give me a trial and be convinced.

AND DON'T FORGET THAT WE TURN OUT THE BEST AND QUICKEST TOP WORK IN THE WEST. FIRST CLASS TOP AND PAINT WORK WHILE YOU WAIT

ASK THE MAN WHO HAS TRIED OUR WORK

N. A. DOWELL