

THE MERKEL MAIL

ALL THE AUTHENTIC OIL NEWS OF THE NOODLE CREEK FIELD

VOL. 38—NO. 37

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1926

8 PAGES

MIDWEST'S WELL DUE IN WITHIN 24 HOURS

LAD REACHES HERE IN SEARCH OF HEALTH

With a grim determination on his face, his hands manacled in front of him and a fifty pound pack on his back, Lionel "Happy" Edwards, 17 year old Canadian youth from Quebec City, arrived in Merkel Thursday afternoon, and to his interested listeners told the following story.

Late last Winter "Happy" and his pal, Larry Rae, obtained positions in a home town shoe factory and set out to learn the trade of shoe makers. But after five months work the youths discovered that they were losing weight rapidly, consulted a physician and underwent a week's treatment. At the end of that time the doctors gravely informed the lads that the chalk which is used extensively in shoe manufacture had entered their lungs and as there was no known method of removing it, they could not live a month. Finally they stated that if it was possible for the youths to constantly change their climate there might be a faint chance, depending on the fact that the reaction of the various atmospheres in different parts might eventually loosen the chalk, and they would be able to exhale it. The medical men, backed by a firm of betting underwriters, offered to wager the boys \$1,000 against one that they would not live to reach El Paso, and return, the only conditions being imposed were that they go handcuffed together and without asking aid on the way.

The youths accepted and on the 26th of May left Quebec in search of health, with the cards seemingly already stacked against them. They had reached Boston, Mass. successfully, however, but there Larry fell sick, collapsed, and despite Boston's most expert medical attention passed away five days later. "Happy", after communicating with the better, worked three weeks as a dish washer to pay his dead pal's funeral expenses, and continued on his way alone, this time with a shiny new pair of "bracelets" on his own wrists.

He has many adventures and the prominent people whom he has met on his trip would fill a good sized book. On his pack are the autographs of governors, mayors, senators and well known athletes including Jack Dempsey and "Babe" Ruth. He also has the personal seals and best wishes of 20 governors and 60 mayors while he proudly displays an autographed photo of President Coolidge.

He is a blonde youth, dressed in khaki and is apparently in the best of health, but behind the ever-present smile which has earned him the name of "happy" lurks the long shadows of the grim Reaper, always waiting and watching for a chance to cut down the fighting Canuck who has so far kept him at bay. But now he has a little hope as doctors along the way say that one-third of the deadly chalk has now been removed and that his rugged constitution is slowly throwing off the rest of it. "Happy" before his affiliation was an all around athlete, being twice picked for quarterback on the All-Canadian team.

And so this grim-faced yet laughing youth plods on, never stopping, never resting, yet always with a smile on his face as he chases the elusive health and all that is his who has it.

MEETING FOR ORGANIZATION OF BAND TO BE HELD TUESDAY NIGHT

Announcement is made that on next Tuesday evening, November 16, there will be a meeting in this city, held at the office of the Chamber of Commerce, for the purpose of organizing in this city a good band.

Merkel has ample talent for a fine band, and such an organization would prove a benefit and good investment for the city. This paper expresses a hope that all who are interested will make it a point to be present and help secure this much needed organization.

3RD. TOWNSITE BE CALLED "PHILLIPS"

The third new Townsite to be opened up near the Joe Winter discovery well was announced this week by Mr. M. Anderson Boren, which is located about one half mile north of the Phillips producer and from which its name is derived, "The Phillips Townsite." Streets have been laid out and flags are up on the various lots, and sale of the lease on them will start immediately.

Mr. Boren claims many advantages for the new townsite besides the fact that it will be in the heart of development. It now has a good school building and a three teacher school in session, it has a good supply of water which will be free to tenants. The town is intended to be permanent, and it will not be necessary to remove any improvements on the lots because of drilling activities, Mr. Boren stated.

The oil fraternity will remember Mr. Boren as the developer of the Louann, Arkansas townsite, at one time a city of 5000, and Boren City, Ark.

NEW BUILDINGS ON KENT STREET

Mr. Howard H. Hand is just completing a new frame building on his property on Kent street, which when completed will be used by him for a garage and radiator welding shop. He is an artist in his line and will no doubt enjoy a nice business.

A new building is also going up just north of Mr. Hand's building which, we learn, belongs to the Merkel Produce Company, and will be occupied by them and Mr. Arch Rose, tinner, they formerly having occupied the building known as the Kent Street Wagon Yard, which is being removed and the lots cleared for sale or other buildings.

FARM BUREAU ADVANCING \$40.00 PER BALE

Mr. J. C. Mason, local capitalist and member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Cotton Farm Bureau, returned yesterday from Dallas, where he attended a meeting of the Association.

He informs this paper that it was decided at this meeting that the sum of \$40 per bale would be advanced to members consigning their cotton to the association on a basis of strict low middling and up.

12,341 BALES RECEIVED HERE NOW

From Mr. C. L. Tucker, the very efficient and accommodating public weigher of the Merkel precinct, we learn that about 10,000 bales of cotton had been received at the local cotton yard up to yesterday morning, and from Mr. A. Morton, the hustling shipping clerk at the T & P. Railway station we learn that up to this time the Farm Bureau had shipped about 1,800 bales of cotton from here. Mr. Morton also stated that 3,475 round bales ginned by Mr. Sam Swann had been shipped, which, when counted as half bales, would make a total of 12,341 bales received here to date.

On the 20th of November last year, according to a report in the Merkel Mail of that date, there had been received a total of 12,179 bales.

This report shows that this community has produced a few hundred more bales of cotton than last year, but the farmers of this community have not received by far the amount of money for their work this year as they did last year.

POULTRYMEN TO MEET IN ABILENE

On the night of November 15 there will be a county-wide poultry meeting at the Abilene Chamber of Commerce room, with the object of perfecting the Taylor County Poultry Association that was started in October. Every farmer and poultryman is urged to be present.

At this meeting Mr. M. E. Oats, Superintendent of the Agricultural Department for the Fort Worth and Denver Railway will speak on Feeding for winter egg production. The Construction of Economic Poultry Houses for West Texas, and How to Prevent and Cure Winter Poultry Diseases.

Mr. Oats is not only thoroughly acquainted with the fundamentals of poultry keeping, but he is altogether practicable. You will enjoy his lecture and he will give you some excellent ideas.

Furthermore, at this meeting there will be an open discussion of the various needs of the poultryman of Taylor County. Just how can the farmers help each other? How can the farmer and the business man cooperate in order that both may enjoy greater prosperity? Since cotton cropping at the present price is not profitable, just how extensively shall the rural man engage in poultry activities. Bring your ideas and your questions. An organization will succeed to the extent that its members share an interest in its activities.

We want you with us. At the last meeting there was more than 100 in attendance. Let's double the number the night of November 15. J. R. Masterson, County Agent.

Will Give Silver Tea

The Womens Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church will give a Silver Tea at the home of Mrs. Chas. H. Jones, Saturday afternoon, November 13, from 3 until 6 p.m. An interesting program will be given. All ladies are invited.

NINE WELLS ARE NOW DRILLING

While all attention is centered on the wells nearing the pay sand, other tests are continuing unabated. The latest addition to the field for immediate action, is the location on the Mrs. A. T. Smith tract, three miles west of Noodle and four and a half miles northeast of the Winter producer. Phillips' large block around the discovery well will be given a test in large measure by the new test of Shaheen et al. on the Smith tract. The test is located along the trend traced by Phillips parties when the discovery well was located, and adjoins the Phillips block to the north.

Though in other areas producing from the Cisco a test this distance out would not be considered significant for territory in between, the fact that the pay in this case is a limestone and not a sand may change conditions.

Humble, Snowden & McSweney, Sinclair and Independent have acreage near this well, and Broderick and Calvere, Fort Worth Independents, acquired control of the rest of the Shaheen acreage last week.

Between this block and the well most of the acreage is held by Phillips, with Gulf, Landreth World Oil Co., and Anchor Oil and Gas among the others represented. Marland and Midwest have pieces close to the discovery well as a result of wildcat acreage trading with Phillips before the discovery well was drilled in.

Another Test Begins

Another test was added to those closely surrounding the discovery when the Marland's No. 2 J. C. Mason, northwest offset, was spudded in Tuesday. The same company started construction of a rotary rig for its No. 3 Mason, two locations west of the discovery.

Last night's report of operations in the Noodle Creek field were:

Midwest Exploration Company's No. 1 Ira Thornton, drilling at 2,470 feet.

Phillips Petroleum Company's No. 1 Tessie, drilling at 2,285 feet, after several hours delay from boiler trouble the day before.

Marland Oil Company's No. 1 J. C. Mason, drilling at 825 feet.

Marland's Mason No. 2, spudding.

Hurley Oil Company's No. 1 John Sears, 2,240 feet deep.

Atlantic Producing Company's No. 1 J. R. Howell, drilling at 1,075 feet.

Clark, Harbin and Baldrige No. 1 John Wheeler, drilling at 395 feet.

Phillips Petroleum Company's No. 2 Joe Winter, 185 feet deep.

Hart and Cole No. 1 W. R. Cranston, drilling at 930 feet.

Mr. E. M. Heeter, who during the years 1918-21, when several oil tests were made in this section, and who helped to drill the Bland well two miles southwest of the city, which had a good showing of gas and some oil, returned to this city this week from his home in Pittsburgh, Pa. Mr. Heeter has been engaged in drilling a well for some months in the state of New York. He has many friends here who welcome his return.

The contract has been let and work started on the foundation for the new home of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson, in south part of the city.

Depth of 2,475 feet Reached Last Night

ROAD COMMITTEE IS KEEPING ROADS TO OIL FIELD IN GOOD SHAPE

The writer has recently had occasion to travel over the roads leading from Merkel to the now famous Noodle Creek Oil Field eight miles northwest of this city, and it gives us much pleasure to state there are three different roads leading from Merkel to the field and every one of is in fine condition. They have all recently been graded, and since the rains have been gone over and put in good, smooth condition, and it has been done just in time for the big rush that is expected to start with the bringing in of the next big gusher, which may be an hour now.

The road committee, the best one operating under any organization in the state, which is sponsored by the Merkel Chamber of Commerce, and headed by Dr. M. Armstrong, with our very capable county Commissioner, Mr. P. A. Diltz, cooperating, has been very diligent and constantly active in making good roads leading from this city for more than two years, and now, since the discovery of oil, they have put on more "steam".

ALPINE WOMAN BUYS FINE CATTLE

We are informed that Mrs. J. C. Bird and son of Alpine were here first of the week and purchased for breeding purposes on their ranch near Alpine, 6 yearling heifers and two young bulls, all fine, thoroughbred Herefords. One of the bulls included in the sale was one of the Largest show bulls, which brought the handsome sum of \$750.00. For the entire number the Largents received the sum of \$1,900.

We might also mention that word was this week received from Mr. W. J. Largent, who is making a tour of the northern states showing the fine Largent herd, that at Wichita, Kansas, they won over half the champions and blue ribbons offered.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS TO HAVE CEMENT WALKS

Through the initiative of the Parent-Teachers Association the Merkel School Board decided unanimously to build new cement walks connecting our school buildings and the entrances of them. The contract will be let at once, and we shall soon see our school grounds in a much better condition.

The P. T. A. agreed to pay the cost of the walks within a year, but the school board had sufficient funds to pay for it and decided that they would not throw this extra burden on the good women who urged it.

This paper is thankful to Mr. T. L. Grimes for a subscription to the Mail which he had us send to a sister in the Eastern part of the state. Mr. Grimes also reports his wife, who has been for some weeks staying with relatives at Nevada, Texas, as having improved in health considerably, she having gone there to recuperate.

The stage is all set, the critical moment is at hand, hundreds of people are waiting, new enterprises are at the deciding point, waiting to see what the outcome will be when the Midwest Exploration Company drills in their No. 1 Ira Thornton, southwest offset to the Joe Winter discovery well.

The next 24 hours should tell the tale, if present plans of the company mature. Maybe another gusher, perhaps a smaller well, or a dry hole, could be the result when the bit penetrates the pay level of the Winter, which has already produced thousands of dollars worth of oil and caused to be invested even greater sums in leases and development. If the Thornton proves half as good as the discovery well, there will be a continued and even more extensive operations in the Noodle Creek field.

As this is being written Thursday evening, Nov. 11, while the entire country is honoring the brave and faithful heroes of the late World War, there are a few faithful and efficient employes going quietly and steadily about the work of drilling into the pay sand, only about 30 feet below. Early Thursday morning the Oil Belt Casing Crew finished the job of pulling the larger casing, after running the six-inch Wednesday. Arrangements were finished for using a boiler set back at a safe distance, the connections were all made with pipe line from the well to a string of storage tanks down the hill a short distance, and the cap and control head were in readiness. Everything is set. A showing of oil was encountered Tuesday night, when the well was closed down to make final and safe preparations for drilling in.

Of course, the well may be a dry hole; such things do happen, but according to those in a position to know the situation a good producer is expected, some expecting a bigger well than the Winter No. 1.

FIVE YEAR OLD BOY PICKS 101 LBS. COTTON

Little M. C. Church, five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Church, of the Stith community, recently picked in one day, from sun up until sun down, 101 pounds of cotton. A mighty record for a boy of that age. Who has a better record?

We would also mention Mr. and Mrs. Church's daughter, Anna Lau, seven, who picked 126 pounds in one day, which is also a fine record for a young lady of her age.

Mr. C. E. French, of Dallas, spent several days here recently visiting his sister, Mrs. G. W. Boyce. He has considerable property in and around Merkel and incidentally was here to look after same.

Mr. C. M. Pogue, formerly a citizen of this city, but now residing in southwest Texas, is here looking after his property interests.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, accompanied by Mrs. E. N. Brown, the former's mother, visited in San Angelo Thursday and Friday of this week.

Postmaster Taylor F. Davis is having built in the southwest part of the city a new and modern home.

NOTICE

To Our Friends and Patrons

You will note that the **Farmers State Bank** has this week moved its fixtures, furniture and business to the Corner Building in the Max Mellinger Block, where we will continue to serve you faithfully and to the best of our ability, while our old home building is being remodeled; and which, when completed, will be our future and permanent home, modernly constructed and equipped.

And while we are only temporarily located, we invite our customers, friends and the public to call on us for banking service that is as good as the best.

FARMERS STATE BANK

MERKEL TEXAS

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. S. Swann, President	Herbert Patterson,
R. O. Anderson, V. Pres.	Assistant Cashier
J. C. Mason, V. Pres.	
W. L. Diltz, Cashier	Dallas Scarbrough
	David Hendricks

No Complications to Justice in Abyssinia

Abyssinia is a country without lawyers, explains Rosita Forbes, famous woman explorer, in an article telling how the East solves its crime problem in Liberty. "For there are no courts except for foreign nationals in the capital. Any respected citizen may act as judge. Seated by the roadside, or in the open market, he will listen patiently. The witnesses will often mimic the whole scene.

"If one man accuses another of crime, they are chained together until the case can be adjudged. If the couple are of opposite sexes, the plaintiff has to produce a man or woman of his own family, according to the sex of the defendant, to be chained to him or her until judgment is given.

"Death can be imposed only by the empress or her regent. Treason or any crime against the imperial person is punished by slow strangulation in the public market. Ordinary cases of murder are often settled on a basis of blood money. If blood money is refused, the murderer is taken to the potters' field outside the city and handed over to the family of his victim.

"He must be killed exactly as he killed—by knife or bullet or rope, as the case may be. Two policemen stand by to see that no torture is committed."

Expression Job Used Now Ordinary Slang

The expression, "I escaped by the skin of my teeth," used, say, when a pedestrian has just dodged a motor car by a hair's breadth, is often regarded as pure slang, and many a boy has been rebuked by his very proper maiden aunt for using it. Yet it is taken direct, with the change of one small preposition, from the most literary book in the Bible, that great poem of "the ways of God with man," that we know as the Book of Job.

It occurs in chapter 19, verse 20, that reads: "My bone cleaveth to my skin and to my flesh, and I am escaped with the skin of my teeth." It is a forceful metaphor, because the teeth have no skin, and thus it carries the idea of the closest shave imaginable.

Job is referring to the fact that all his family have perished and all his riches have flown away, and that he himself is not only in dire poverty, but in very bad health as well. The only thing left to him is his life, and even that is so full of misery that it is hardly worth retaining.

French Financial Law

An apprenticeship tax was provided for in the French financial law passed July 13, 1925. By the terms of the law a so-called "apprenticeship tax" is imposed on every person or organization engaged in industrial, commercial or mining enterprises, with certain exceptions, whose annual pay roll amounts to more than 10,000 francs. The tax is used to extend the work of trade, commercial and industrial schools, of the national vocational schools, and of occupational or other courses which have for their object the restoration of apprenticeship training or the preparation of young people for a commercial or industrial occupation, and also to extend the development of scientific laboratories.

Li-Po

In the days when the venerable Bede was writing church history in Northumbria, and Charles Martel hammering Saracens at Tours, and Leo the Isaurian smashing images in Byzantium, the intelligent Chinese were writing poetry. And when, just a thousand years later, a selection was made from the still surviving verse of this Tang dynasty (Seven to Ninth centuries A. D.), even the anthology included nearly fifty thousand poems in nine hundred books (which may teach our sorely tried generation that others have suffered even worse); and of the twenty-three hundred poets there enrolled, the greatest was Li-Po.—F. L. Lucas, in "Authors."

The Gift of Water

The gift of a drinking fountain to a city is the eldest of all such gifts. It was first given when libraries were for the priestly, learned few, and when parks were owned by savage, surly nobles. Thither the pigeons came, and gossiping girls with water urns, and grimed travelers, and paunchy merchants, and pariah dogs, and laboring horses, and even the beggars of the market place. And with an intemperate sun beating down upon them all these drank or drew water, in the democracy of thirst.

Wonders of Chemistry

Chemical research and development are already playing an important part in industrial production. Materials formerly in common use are disappearing, only to be replaced by others unrecognized in nature, not only answering every needful purpose but frequently presenting decided advantages. The chemist is the modern Aladdin, the wonder worker who is leading the world into the synthetic age.—Troy Times.

Planets and the Sun

The distances from the sun of the eight major planets are:—Mercury, 36,000,000 miles; Venus, 67,270,000; Earth, 93,000,000; Mars, 141,700,000; Jupiter, 483,853,000; Saturn, 887,098,000; Uranus, 1,784,732,000; Neptune, 2,796,528,000.

REV. AND MRS. McCARTER ATTENDING CONFERENCE

Rev. W. R. McCarter, for the past year the untiring and able pastor of the Merkel Methodist church, accompanied by Mrs. McCarter, left first of the week for Childress, where they will attend the Annual meeting of the Northwest Texas Conference of that church.

The local church under Rev. McCarter's leadership has enjoyed a prosperous year, and the minister carried with him a good report, with all finances paid in full.

QUALITY MARKET AND GROCERY OPENS HERE


The Quality Market and Grocery, recently opened by Mr. Weidenbach, in the building formerly occupied by Mr. G. M. Sharp, is a nice, up-to-date Market and Grocery, and, according to the proprietor, is enjoying a nice business. You are invited to visit the store and get acquainted with the management and line of goods carried. 1tp

Ill Man Invents New Ford Gas Saver & Quick Starter


Walter Critchlow, 4441 P street, Wheaton, Ill., has patented a new gas saver and quick starter that beats anything ever gotten out. With it on Fords show as high as 66 miles on 1 gallon. Other makes do equally well. This new invention saves gas and oil, makes a Ford start instantly in any weather and completely de-carbonizes the engine. Mr. Critchlow offers 1 free to advertise. Write him for one. He also wants County and State Distributors who can make \$500 to \$2500 monthly. 12t2

Mr. G. L. Anderson, substantial farmer residing some ten miles south, was here first of the week and has our thanks for a subscription to the Mail, which he had us send to his daughter in California. Mr. Anderson reports having completed gathering his cotton crop of 27 bales, 15 of which he is holding. He also reports that his tenant on another farm will gather about 25 bales. Mr. Anderson has plenty of feed and in fact is not worrying in the least about the low price of cotton.

Call 61 to place a want ad in the Mail or give us a news item.



**THE
OLD
RELIABLE**



**ORGANIZED IN
1904**

SORE GUMS: You won't be ashamed to smile again, after you use Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy. This preparation is used and recommended by leading dentists and can not fail to benefit you. Druggists return money if it fails. Hamm Drug Co. 1t

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

This paper is thankful to Mr. T. L. Grimes for a subscription to the Mail which he had us send to a sister in the Eastern part of the state. Mr. Grimes also reports his wife, who has been for some weeks staying with relatives at Nevada, Texas, as having improved in health considerably, she having gone there to recuperate.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Deputy Sheriff J. T. King returned last week from a very pleasant visit with relatives at San Saba. He reports having met a sister there whom he had not seen for 35 years.

Mr. Sam Owens and family of Slaton are here for a visit with friends and relatives.

Mrs. T. V. Touchstone and Miss Mildred Matthews returned last week from a pleasant visit with friends and relatives at Dallas and Denton.

We are glad to learn that Mrs. J. N. Shelton, who has been quite ill for some time is now improving nicely.

At The COZY

Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13
WILLIAM S. HEART
—IN—
a William S. Heart production. A United Artists Picture
—ALSO—
An adventure picture—
"THE SILENT FLYER"
With "SILVER STREAK" King of Dog Stars. Malcolm MacGregor and Louise Lorrane
Chapter 4 "The Treacherous Trail"
with Fox Comedy "A FLAMING AFFAIR"
Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 15 and 16
LILLIAN GISH AND JOHN GILBERT IN
"LA BOHEME"
A King Victor production
A Metro Goldwyn-Mayer picture
Also Universal Comedy—
"BUSTER'S NIGHT MARE"
Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 17-18
CARL LAEMME presents—
Pat O'Malley & Virginia Valli
—IN—
"WATCH YOUR WIFE"
A Universal jewel
with Educational Comedy
"Laugh It Off"
A S. INTERNATIONAL NEWS NO. 77

America's Safest Light Car

168 of America's foremost Police Authorities say that 4-wheel brakes are absolutely necessary on a light car today.

The Whippet is the only light car having 4-wheel brakes as national standard equipment. Drive it yourself, and see how safe you feel behind the wheel. 4-wheel brakes and a low gravity center make the Whippet America's safest light car.

\$695 WHIPPET SEDAN

Other Whippet prices are: Coupe \$685; Touring \$645; prices f. o. b. factory. Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. The Wyllys Finance Plan offers unusually attractive credit terms. Wyllys-Overland, Inc., Toledo, Ohio.

W OVERLAND Whippet

F. E. CHURCH, Agent
At Blue Front Service Station

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.

T. E. L. Class Meeting

The T. E. L. Class of the Baptist church met in the home of Mrs. Luke Huddleston Friday afternoon with Mesdames Frank Hodo and Dean Higgins as co-hostesses.

Mrs. Claude Derrick read for devotional 18 verses from the 14th chapter of John. Mrs. Booth then led in prayer.

During the business hour plans were made and discussed for the annual "Love Feast" the class has each year at Christmas time.

The most important item of business of the afternoon was the giving by each member of a dollar and telling in rhyme how it was made. These dollars are to keep an African boy in school for one year.

During the social hour a "peppy" game of getting acquainted was enjoyed. The hostesses served a lovely plate to the following members: Mesdames Earl

Lassiter, Bill Sheppard, R. W. Condor, Frank McFarland, Sidney Coats, Jr., A. R. Booth, Sam Swann, Jim Mayfield, Andy Brown, I. L. Jackson, A. D. Fulton, T. E. Collins, O. R. Dye, Doyle Pogue, Claude Derrick, W. H. Derstine and I. W. Crane, and two visitors, Mrs. Deavers and Miss Swann.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bickley left this week for Vernon, where they will make their home with their son, Rev. C. A. Bickley, pastor of the Methodist church in that city, whose wife we regret to learn died on last Friday, following an illness of several years duration. They have many friends here with whom we join in extending deepest sympathy to the bereaved minister.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris returned first of the week from an extended visit with friends and relatives in Dallas and Cooper, Texas.

Science Advances

Slowly Rising Spiral

There is nothing new under the sun. Science has developed, if not in a circle, at least in an ascending spiral, according to Dr. J. Newton Friend. It has continually followed earlier trends, but on increasingly higher planes, like a railway circling a mountain top, he told members of the Royal Institution in a recent lecture in London.

Side by side with their pseudo-magic, the ancient priests of Chaldea and Egypt gradually accumulated a varied stock of scientific facts which were of invaluable assistance in enabling them to carry out simple experiments to impress the mob. They learned, for instance, that gases expand when heated, and utilized the fact in performing many a miracle, such as forcing out a libation through a tube concealed in the arm of the idol. Hero of Alexandria, an adroit Greek physician who flourished around 100 B. C., has left an account of many of these "miracles." Among other things he has described what is usually known as the first steam engine.

This consisted of a spherical boiler of water which, when heated gave off steam through several nozzles, causing it to revolve very much on the same principle as the pinwheels that delight little boys on the Fourth of July.

The Greeks were not interested in experiment. That was menial work fit only for slaves. Accordingly they produced theorists. Besides the well-known cogitations of Aristotle and others there was Democritus, who developed an atomic theory of matter, the essential features of which were generally accepted until the time of Dayton, said Doctor Friend.

Alchemy did not come till the Christian era, but it lasted well on into the Seventeenth century till the time of Boyle, one of the early physicists. The mainstay and end-all of alchemy, transmutation of metals, after enjoying a couple of centuries of disrepute, declared Doctor Friend, now engages the attention of the best scientific minds, since the investigation of radioactive elements shows that they have probably been undergoing spontaneous change into other simpler atoms.

Mysterious Message

Mr. W. K. Ludlum, a New York broker, has other problems than the fluctuations of the stock market to solve. Upon returning to his home one evening, Mr. Ludlum found the following note from the maid printed in capital letters:

"MIS MOKS COULDUP SEZ ZUNZ YAKOMOM GOLERUP SEZ NOMATER HOW LET IS GONABEE COLERUP."

Mr. Ludlum studied the note for some time, but finally gave it up. In the morning he asked an explanation from the maid. In plain English the note was meant to say:

"Miss Marks called up. Says as soon as you come home, call her up. Says no matter how late it is going to be, call her up."

There is reason for complaint, for Miss Marks is a customer of Mr. Ludlum, and when he called her in the morning he was informed that she had just left for the West.—The Outlook.

Comparing Advantages

The country cousin was visiting her city cousin. She was pleased with the city and was pointing out the many advantages of city life. The city cousin said: "Yes, we have our advantages and you also have your advantages in the country. In the country you do not have any of the smoke and dirt that city people have to contend with. I have always lived in the city and my lungs are black from the smoke in the air. You have always lived in the country and your lungs are nice and pink."

"Just think of it," said the country cousin, "your lungs are black and mine are pink, and yet we are first cousins."

Florida Saws

Felix Isman, one of Florida's most active promoters, said at a Miami luncheon:

"The Florida colored people are an interesting lot. Their proverbs are especially interesting.

"They have a cynical proverb about marriage—'Marriage got teeth.'

"Another marriage proverb of theirs, though, is hopeful and helpful—'A kiss a day keeps divorce away.'

"And they have a sociological proverb with some truth in it—'Fat dog say to thin dog, 'Back up!''"

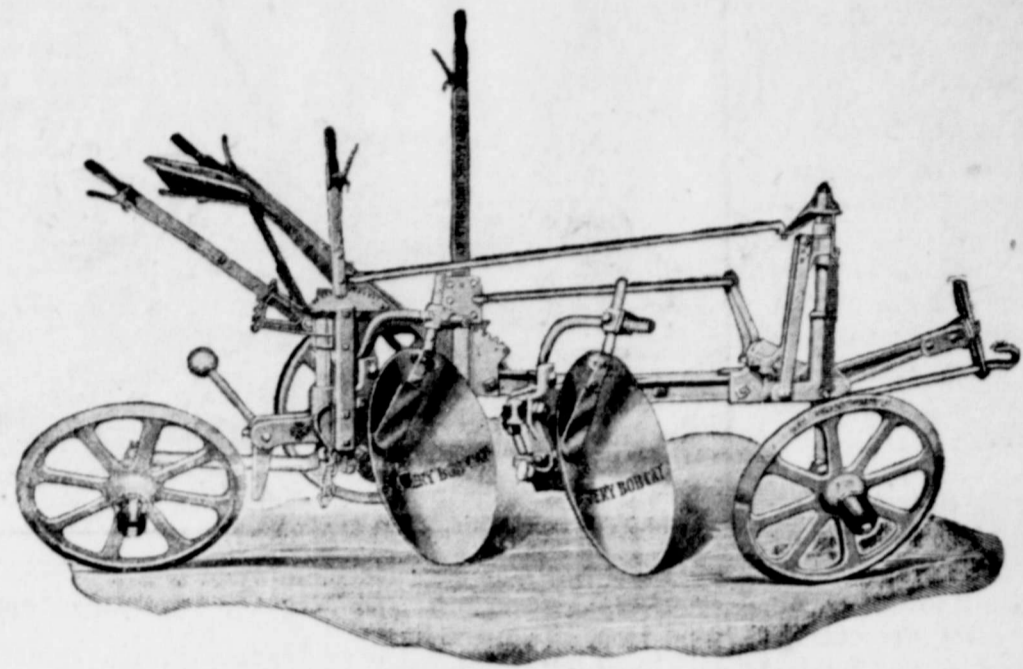
Rustproof Swords

The war office of Japan is considering the adoption of rustproof swords for all Japanese army officers. In Japan an officer is not regarded as fully dressed unless he wears his sword. Damp weather is so prevalent that swords must be polished at all times, and even then it is difficult to avoid rust. A sword-maker recently invented a rustproof weapon which he submitted to the war department.

Odd Articles Lost

Only 42 per cent of the lost property turned in annually to Scotland Yard ever finds its way back home, according to the annual report of the metropolitan police of London. The total number of articles found and turned in to the police during 1925 was 163,576. Among the deposits last year were a ferret, two human leg bones, a glass eye, two white mice and a parrot.

Disc Plow Season Here



As cotton is being gathered why not begin your fall plowing. Turn it under and get the benefit of the fall and winter rains. We still have the "Bob Cat" and Standard. Come look them over. We guarantee them to do their work.

We are still prepared to furnish your Hardware wants in all lines. Visit us and look over our stock.

OIL FIELD SUPPLIES

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.

"If Its Hardware We Have It."

CHURCHES

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS

All regular services Sunday and through the week. Services last Sunday were gratifying indeed. Best attendance at the morning and evening preaching services that we have had in many weeks. Attendance at the B.Y.P.U.'s best in history of our B.Y.P.U. work.

Pastor will preach at both hours Sunday. Morning subject, "Everybody Helping". Evening subject, "The Most Valuable Asset in Merkel".

A cordial welcome awaits all who will come to worship with us. Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Junior Christian Endeavor at 11 a.m.

Senior Christian Endeavor at 6:00 p.m. Choir practice Wednesday at 7:45 p.m.

A cordial invitation is extended the public to attend all services. Chas. H. Little.

Services at North Side Church

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at the North Side Church of Christ next Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. A cordial invitation is extended the general public to attend these services, and the membership is urged to be present.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Eades and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Eades of West Virginia are here for a visit with Mr. Ocie Burns and sister Miss Renna, and Mr. and Mrs. Elmon Ross.

Intermediate B.Y.P.U.

Leaders, Vera Richie and Paul Causseaux.

Introduction, Pual Causseaux.

Part 1, The Bible, J. T. Darsey
Part 2, Sin and the Savior, by Kenneth Mayfield.

Part 3, The church, Maurine Davis.

Part 4, The Seven Cardinal Doctrines, Max Swafford.

A talk on Doctrines taught by Paul, Vera Richie.

All members please be in attendance. Visitors are invited.

We are thankful to Mr. M. C. Church for a subscription to the Mail which he had us send to his son, at Sedalia, Mo. He stated that his son expected to move back to Merkel early first of the year.

Miss Renna Burns returned Thursday of last week from Temple, where she had been to visit her sister, Mrs. A. C. Hampton, who recently underwent an operation in a sanitarium at that place.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

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First-Class Work

Good Soft Water

Your patronage will be appreciated.



Good Gulf and No-Nox GASOLINE

ECONOMY of operation—that's the big point to consider in running any car. And good fuel—gas of reliable test and quality—is the first and most important item when you want to cut repair bills. Use of Gulf gas, sold at our filling station will eliminate much of that "carbon" trouble and help you maintain a low operating cost.

Our Battery Station and Repair Shop offer quick, dependable service.

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The Merkel Mail

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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Anywhere else\$2.00
IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE No. 61
Entered at the postoffice at Merkel, Texas as second class mail.

Should other wells be brought in there will be great demand for labor. The Chamber of Commerce has many applications for opportunities to work, but those who wish to employ labor should make their wishes known to the secretary as he is anxious to serve both the laborer and those who employ him.

Mr. Thompson, Secretary of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce, is enthusiastic and energetic for the best interests of Merkel, but he is not advocating any enterprises that will not be permanent. Of course there will be a great deal of capital invested here that will be withdrawn after the oil boom. This will be brought here by men who have followed oil fields for years and know their business. He invites and encourages all such ventures but he is working to make such improvements as will remain permanently. He visualizes a bigger and better Merkel—Merkel with an extended water and sewerage system and paving. When the highway is completed between Merkel and Abilene he believes that it will mean more rather than less business for Merkel and he hopes to see some good residences erected and believing that example is better than precept he now has one under construction.

A MUNICIPAL BAND

Messrs. Armstrong and Henderson were here this week finding out the prospects of organizing a municipal band. This is an organization which will have the hearty indorsement of the Chamber of Commerce and the people in general, and should be encouraged. The governing authorities have the power to levy a small tax for the support of such an organization and, as they are all public spirited men, we may expect some action if the people are interested. The towns in the territory embraced by the West Texas Chamber of Commerce which have profited most through advertising are the towns that have had good bands. We are not advocating a band just because of the discovery of oil, but we are urging that one should be organized and properly supported as an encouragement to young men of musical talent to the upbuilding of their town. The Mail trusts that the organization may be perfected and a band permanently established.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Remember

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

The Human Race



Idlewise Club

The autumn months have afforded an unusual number of delightful occasions for the club members of the Idlewise. One of the most enjoyable parties was that of Tuesday afternoon when Miss Christine Collins was the charming hostess in her pretty home out in Bettis Heights. Guests arrived at three thirty o'clock to find a warm welcome in the cozy entertaining rooms adorned with beautiful chrysanthemums and autumn leaves. Merry games of Bridge were soon begun and succeeded in reigning as the chief diversion of the afternoon.

The hostess, assisted by Miss Virginia Potts of Abilene, passed a delicious plate, consisting of shrimp salad, cheese straws, pickles, iced tea and chocolate rings. Those who spent this happy afternoon with Miss Collins were Miss Virginia Potts, Mesdames L. B. Scott, Earl Baze, George White, Emmet Grimes, Bill Haynes, Bill Brown, Misses Kathleen Sudderth, Ruby and Evelyn Hamm, Lucy Tracy, and Mary Cleo Booth.

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

ABE MARTIN



Some folks git along jest fine till they need a little common sense. Th' feller that smokes a pipe fer economy never seems t' save enough t' buy some matches (Copyright John F. Dille Co.)

MIDWEST WELL TO BE BIGGER PRODUCER THAN WINTER, IT IS BELIEVED

The Phillips Petroleum Company's Joe Winter No. 1, discovery well in the Noodle Creek Field, given up to be the best wildcat well ever brought in in West Texas, may have to take a back seat when the Midwest's Thornton No. 1 hits the pay level. In the event the Thornton well is a bigger well or even half as big as the Winter, it will cause to be made at once one of the most rapid and extensive drilling campaigns in the Noodle Creek field ever witnessed in any new field in Texas. We would also take occasion to remind the citizens of Merkel of the necessity of being on their toes and ready to go; to be able to keep abreast of the rush that is sure to come. A new producing well will not only mean much to the field, but it will mean much to Merkel and her people. However, let's not over-jump. Let's not get too high on our prices. And above all let's ALL cooperate with the Chamber of Commerce. Almost every firm in the

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

COMING NEXT WEEK
BURK'S PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL CO.
First Class Plumbers
...and Electricians
Service and Satisfaction Guaranteed

city is contributing to the Chamber of Commerce.

It's a good investment. We have a good business man, a capable, active and enterprising secretary in the person of Mr. L. R. Thompson, and he is working for the whole town. He has no pets; he is serving all the people, as only an honest secretary should. Let's back him to the limit.

Mr. Sam Owens and family of Slaton are here for a visit with friends and relatives.

But a Trap Is Better
These new methods of getting rid of mice, printed in London Opinion, may interest some of our readers: "Creep up to mouse hole and whistle down it softly. Mouse runs out at once to see who called. Hit mouse on head with frying pan. Watch till mouse is listening, then tell it brutally it is only a vermin. Mouse deeply humiliated to be only a vermin. Broods on it and dies of a broken heart. Kneel on floor and read mouse some extracts from "The Green Hat." Mouse loses all moral tone. Goes away and leads a bad life. Succumbs to despatch.—Boston Transcript.

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WE COME NOW TO THE FASCINATING STORY OF KING RICHARD THE FIRST OF ENGLAND AND NORMANDY, AND WE SHALL UNFOLD A TALE OF FAIR LADIES AND VALIANT KNIGHTS, OF LOVE AFFAIRS, INTRIGUES AND BATTLES NOT SURPASSED EVEN IN FICTION.
RICHARD WAS A BOLD, DARING MAN WHO LOVED FIGHTING FOR ITS OWN SAKE. WHEN A WERE YOUTH HE BEGAN HIS STORMY CAREER BY QUARRLING WITH HIS FATHER AND HIS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN A WARFARE WHICH WAS WAGED WITH MUTUAL FEROCENESS ON ALL SIDES, OVER THE DIFFERENT POSSESSIONS OF THEIR FATHER, THE KING.
SINCE THE PAGES OF HISTORY ALL RECORD THE TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE WHICH MOTHERS HAVE EXERTED UPON THE CHARACTER OF FAMOUS SONS, WE PAUSE TO PRESENT BRIEFLY THE STORY OF ELEANORA, THE MOTHER OF RICHARD, TOGETHER WITH THE BACKGROUND AGAINST WHICH RICHARD'S LIFE WAS LIVED.
ELEANORA WAS A GREAT LOVER AND A VERY BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS, RENOWNED IN HISTORY UNDER THE NAME OF ELEANORA OF AQUITAINE. HER FATHER HAD BEEN KILLED ON A CRUSADE WHICH HE HAD UNDERTAKEN WITH HIS BROTHER RAYMOND.

FROM THE MAP ABOVE IT WILL BE SEEN THAT NORMANDY WAS THE NORTHERN PART OF FRANCE. NORMANDY HAD CONQUERED ENGLAND AND THE TWO WERE NOW A UNION. THE KING OF FRANCE RULED AT PARIS, WHILE SOUTH OF THE LOIRE RIVER WAS A SORT OF KINGDOM RULED BY ELEANORA. THIS WAS CALLED AQUITAINE—THE OLD AQUITANIA OF JULIUS CAESAR'S TIME.

ELEANORA'S GRANDFATHER WAS GROWING OLD. REMORSE FOR HIS SINS, WHICH HAD BEEN MANY AND VARIED, NOW MADE HIM WISH TO ATONE FOR THEM, BY PENANCE, BEFORE HE DIED. TO FREE HIMSELF FROM CARES OF STATE, HE ABDICATED IN FAVOR OF ELEANORA. THEN HE FORMED THE PLAN OF MARRYING ELEANORA TO PRINCE LOUIS OF FRANCE, AND THUS UNITING LOUIS' KINGDOM TO HERS. ELEANORA HAD NEVER MET LOUIS. AN INTERVIEW WAS ARRANGED AND SHE CONCLUDED THAT SHE WOULD LIKE HIM VERY MUCH FOR A HUSBAND. THE GIRL WAS SCARCELY FIFTEEN WHEN SHE BECAME QUEEN OF FRANCE, AS WELL AS DUCHESS OF AQUITAINE, AND THUS SHE HAD SCALED THE HEIGHTS OF WORLDLY GRANDEUR.

Men Who Made The World
King Richard I
By—**Dr. Elliot Shoring**
The Noted Historian

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WE are adding new stocks of Groceries, Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Bananas, Celery and Lettuce.

We carry Kimbell's Highpatent and Smith's Best Flour and Meal.

Try our Fresh Fish and Oysters every Thursday. Our quality meats are the best. Will give you your special cut in pork or beef. Also many other delicacies too numerous to mention. We strive to please. As near as your phone.

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Quality Market & Grocery

Food Staple Depends on Irrigation Work

Among the staple foods raised in Central American regions is one that is almost daily on the tables of rich and poor; this is the garbanzo, or chick-pea. They are successfully grown also in the state of Sonora, Mexico, on the alluvial plains near the mouths of the Mayo and Yaqui rivers, where the altitude is but little above sea level, although they are also grown farther inland at altitudes of 500 feet, more or less, and with more or less success.

The plant is very tender and subject to injury by frost. During the growing season the temperature ranges from 70 degrees Fahrenheit to the freezing point. At planting time, in October, it ranges from 50 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The average rainfall in the garbanzo region in the Yaqui valley is nine inches and in the Mayo valley thirteen inches. No rain falls during the growing season of this crop, and the growers depend entirely upon irrigation, for the rains begin in July and end in October, just before the first planting begins.

The garbanzos are harvested in May, when the plants are pulled up by hand in the field and turned over so they will dry thoroughly. They are then carried in bunches to central points in the fields where a threshing floor has been made on smooth beaten ground.—Charles Bell Emerson in Adventure Magazine.

Brown Proved Quite Unable to See Joke

Two bachelors, Smith and Brown, were seated in the flat of the latter.

Smith—Would you like to know the name of your future wife?

Brown—I certainly would.

"Well, I'll guarantee to tell you her name by arithmetic."

"That's impossible."

"Well, you take a piece of paper and work out this sum: Write down the year in which you were born, subtract the last two figures from the first two. Now multiply what remains by the date of the month in which you were born. Divide your answer by two, and tell me the result."

Brown, after a lengthy struggle and much thought, at last works out the problem and hands his friend the result.

Smith—Now these figures obviously indicate that the name of your future wife will be Mrs. Brown.

Brown and Smith are no longer friends.

Roads Laid Out by Animals

There is an idea become current of late that none but a man of science, bred in a school, can lay off a road. This is a mistake. There is a class of topographical engineers older than the schools and more unerring than the mathematicians. They are the wild animals. They travel thousands of miles, have their annual migrations backward and forward, and never miss the best and shortest route. These are the first engineers to lay out a road in a new country; the Indians follow them, and hence a buffalo road becomes a warpath. The first white hunters follow the same trails in pursuing their game, and after that the buffalo road becomes the wagon road of the white man, and finally the railroad of the scientific man.—Senator Benton of Missouri.

Pay Your Debts

Always pay; for, first or last, you must pay your entire debt. Persons and events may stand for a time between you and justice, but it is only a postponement. You must pay at last your own debt. . . . He is great who confers the most benefits. He is base—and that is the one base thing in the universe—to receive favors and render none. In the order of nature we cannot render benefits to those from whom we receive them, or only seldom. But the benefit we receive must be rendered again, line for line, deed for deed, cent for cent, to somebody. Beware of too much good staying in your hand. . . . Pay it away quickly in some sort.—Emerson.

Slip Into It

She sank on the settee in her room with a sigh of intense weariness. "I'm very tired," she said to her new maid. "Bring me something I can slip into." "Oh will that, ma'am," said the colleen from Connemara. After a rather long interval the maid returned bearing a tray on which was a thick steak, some fried onions and a bottle of stout. "Now just be after slipping into that, mum; it'll do ye good," she said.—London Tit-Bits.

Well-Meant, but Ill-Timed

A physician had been called in to treat the spoiled child of a certain family. After his departure the mother returned to the room and told the youngster that the doctor had complained that the child had been very rude to him.

"Why, mother," replied the kiddie, "he's just an old fogey, that's all! He got mad because I put my tongue out before he told me to."

Reasons for Failure

The "small" man remains small by reason of his own shortcomings, not because of the persecution of others. We too frequently go far afield to learn the reason for our failure, when all we have to do is to look around a bit at home.—Grit.

MOCK MEETS PASHA HERE TONIGHT

Wrestling fans in Merkel will be given a real treat Friday night at the local Armory when Adam Mock, a light heavyweight grappler from Kansas City, goes to the mat in a finish engagement against Kala Pasha, known all over the country as the Brownwood Turk.

Mock, who hails from a state which has produced some of the world's greatest matmen, arrived in Merkel and was immediately recognized by several oil operators who have seen him in action against some of the top-notchers in Oklahoma and Kansas. According to Matchmaker Tommy Andrews, who is in the field to bring to Merkel the best wrestlers obtainable, Friday night's engagement between Mock and Pasha will have far reaching results as both men are anxious to win.

The man from Kansas City has been promised several matches in Dallas and Houston if he can prove to Texas wrestling promoters that he has the goods. Therefore, he is expected to make things interesting when he grapples with Pasha tonight.

A good card of preliminaries is being arranged to precede the main event.

Introducing

The cab drew up in front of the imposing marble mansion, and he jauntily alighted. Upon his swarthy bronzed countenance there glowed the sparkle of health, and there was the vigor of youth in his stride. Leisurely climbing the steps, he rang the bell. The door flung open a few seconds later.

"Taxi for Blotzwitter," he said.

Matter of Choice

Pat was telling Mike with great pride that he was born in the city of Dublin.

"Well," said Mike, "I was born within two miles of the city of Dublin and could have been born in the heart of the city if I had wanted to be."



Library Extensions

Library extension service is maintained by thirty-five universities and colleges in the United States in connection with their university extension departments. This service is free of charge, except cost of return postage. It goes wherever the mails go, making available to thousands of readers information which cannot be obtained from local sources.

Roman Farm Luxuries

A great Roman farm establishment, the rural villa of a colonial gentleman of the Third century, is being unearthed and explored near Cologne, Germany. The principal building had a length of more than fifty yards and contained thirty rooms. An outstanding feature is the bath establishment, patterned after the luxurious baths of Rome, with elaborate water supply and drainage systems.

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Closed Cars that are Astounding Values

No other closed cars at the price offer the luxury of bodies by Fisher with their acknowledged superiorities in craftsmanship, style and safety.

No other closed cars at the price combine equal power and smoothness with equal thrift in use of gas and oil—for Chevrolet's famous valve-in-head motor has proved its worthiness in every phase of traffic and road performance.

Finished in modish shades of lustrous Duco—roomy and attractively upholstered, Chevrolet closed cars offer every essential to the highest type of modern, comfortable motoring. A single ride will reveal the astounding value which has made them the choice of so many hundreds of thousands of buyers. Come in—and get a demonstration!

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Low Prices!

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Practical Four-Room Plan for That "Castle in Spain"



LAGSTONE terracing, iron grille balconies and a quaint wrought iron lantern give distinction to this little old world one-story house. Rough plaster walls and a colorful tile roof make an attractive exterior that will find a welcome in any neighborhood.

But a carefully designed floor plan is its greatest appeal. One enters through the covered loggia directly into the large story and a half living-room, with its triple-arched windows reaching from the floor almost to the ceiling. The dining room alcove is conveniently located and well lighted. The kitchen has been deftly planned to give the housewife the greatest comfort and step-saving.

Everything about the house has been planned to give the utmost in stability and real home comfort. The walls and ceilings are insulated throughout with celotex to cut down the coal bills in winter and keep the house cool in the summer. Who could wish for a more beautiful little home.

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GIVE SOMETHING DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

GIVE PHOTOGRAPHS

Make the appointment now, and avoid disappointment

RODDEN STUDIO



THEY WEAR LONGER

JONES DRY GOODS

Merkel, Texas

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes

The many friends of Mrs. M. R. Woodrum will be glad to learn that she is now improving nicely from a severe illness of several days.

Mr. R. L. Grimes, formerly cashier of one of the local banks, now active vice-president of the First State Bank at Panhandle, Texas, was here this week visiting friends and relatives and incidentally looking after some fine residential property he owns in Merkel.

NEWSPAPER BARGAIN DAYS ARE ANNOUNCED

This paper is glad to announce the arrival of fall bargain days on newspapers. The Abilene Morning News, a fine morning paper published right here at home, in our own county site, has announced the very low rate of \$4.70 per year for the daily and Sunday.

We are going to offer our subscribers and friends a combination rate for both the Reporter and Merkel Mail, one year each, at only \$5.50. The Merkel Mail costs you only 80c in this combination.

The regular price for the Abilene Morning News is \$7.00 per year; the regular price of the Merkel Mail is \$1.50 in the local territory and \$2.00 outside, a total of \$8.50 for both. During bargain days we will send both papers for one year for only \$5.50. You save \$3.00 by subscribing now.

Mr. Nally says that every Fuller brush man must always render courteous, careful and beneficial service to his patrons, otherwise he will lose his job. 1p

MRS. HOGAN, AGE 75, PASSES TO ETERNITY

Mrs. Elizabeth Hogan, 75, a pioneer and well known lady residing in the Mt. Pleasant community, died last Tuesday evening, Nov. 9, at the home of her son, F. T. Hogan, following an accident several days ago in which she was hit by a passing auto while walking from her home down the road to the home of her son.

Funeral services were held on Thursday morning, conducted by Rev. Ira L. Parrack, with interment following in Drummond Cemetery near Abilene. This paper joins many friends in extending deepest sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

Box Supper at Union Ridge

The Mail has been requested to announce that tonight, Friday Nov. 12, there will be a box supper at Union Ridge.

Every one is invited to attend and to bring a box.

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

How African Natives Communicate by Drums

A member of the congregation of the Faithful who, after many wanderings, has now at last set up his roof-tree under a home rafter of the synagogue, has been telling us wonderful tales of his visits to Africa.

He was there years ago when but few white men had yet penetrated its jungles and its vast plains. And he says that Africa is some day to be a marvelous country. Its resources are inexhaustible. It is a land of lakes and rivers and mighty waterfalls. It will be the next retreat of civilization.

And this man, as he sat with us in a shadowy corner of the synagogue, was telling us of the drums that are used by the natives to communicate messages from village to village and from tribe to tribe.

He said that by means of the drums the natives can send messages over great distances. Messages that are quite as complete and understandable as our telegraphic messages are.

For instance, when our friend arrived at a certain native village the dwellers were fully prepared to receive him. The drums, across many miles, had given exact information concerning him and his companions. And he had been heralded as a friend.

The tale set us thinking again of the many strange things in the world that we, who think ourselves so wise, are not informed of. And how much there once was in the world that has been lost, and of which we have only a vague surmise.

If old Marco Polo could come back and talk over the radio now, how very interesting he would be.—Los Angeles Times.

Freak of Finny Tribe

It is reported that a singular species of fish, small in size, which, instead of laying eggs or roe, gives birth to fully developed young, is found along the California coast. Specimens collected by members of the United States fish commission last July were stuffed with little fish apparently almost to the bursting point.

In some instances the young had begun to escape from the mother, the little ones being found in the water, and in nearly all cases they could be easily pressed from the body of the mother, in which event they were able to maintain themselves in an upright position in the water and swim about. The adult fishes are a silvery white, from 3 1/4 to 8 inches long, and the newly born were from 1 to 1 1/4 inches in length. "Surf fish" is the name prevailing in the California waters, and it is described by the fish experts as swarming in great numbers, during the spawning season, in the surf or in shallow water along sandy shores.

Damage by Termites

Earth-nesting termites are causing serious damage and annoyance in the Hawaiian Islands, says the Hilo Tribune-Herald in a recent issue. D. T. Fullaway, entomologist of the board of agriculture and forestry, in a recent address before the Hilo Rotary club, said as there are no known means of complete extermination of the pest and, in fact, but very little encouragement towards effective control, it is advised that every householder or others who are concerned in wood structural work do everything possible to check the spread of termites of any species.

When the soil-nesting species was discovered by the entomologists it was realized that it would become a serious problem, and also the dry wood species was recognized as being a severe pest.

ALL ABOARD FOR THE B/G

THANKSGIVING EXCURSION to EL PASO

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Lv. Merkel at 3:10 p. m. Wednesday and 1:55 a. m. Thursday.

SPECIAL TRAINS

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Arrive El Paso 7:15 a. m., 3:30 p. m. Thursday

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MAKE YOUR PULLMAN RESERVATIONS EARLY

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FIVE YEAR OLD BOY PICKS 101 LBS. COTTON

Little M. C. Church, five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Church, of the Stith community, recently picked in one day, from sun up until sun down, 101 pounds of cotton. A mighty record for a boy of that age. Who has a better record?

We would also mention Mr. and Mrs. Church's daughter, Anna Lau, seven, who picked 126 pounds in one day, which is also a fine record for a young lady of her age.



ARMISTICE

Eight years of peace—eight prosperous, busy years have sped by since the signing of that historic document which marked and created the first Armistice Day. Looking back, it seems but a recent yesterday that the whistles were shrieking, the bells ringing and the whole world dancing a mad celebration of the closing of the world's greatest agony.

We danced then, and we sang and we cried aloud our joy that "the war to end all war" had come to a glorious and triumphant end. We had won!

Well, we did win. We won the war. We won our physical victories. And we won some moral victories, too. We deigned ourselves of any faintest suspicion that Twentieth Century "commercialism" had purged the souls of men to the deep tuned call of truth and honor and decency. We proved anew to a cynical world that men could suffer and die for a great cause, regardless of personal interest and prodigal of unselfish sacrifice.

But eight years have taught us that we did not win all we believed we had won. The monsters of hate and greed and envy and mean suspicion which we thought to have buried deep beneath the thunder of the guns at Chateau Thierry, at St. Mihiel, at Argonne, again reared their ugly heads to spew their venom upon the striving nations of the earth, to sow the dragon's teeth of discord and discontent.

And we came to find, in the end, that out of the reek of France and Flanders we had brought not only a great reward, but a great and continuing obligation.

"To you, from falling hands, we throw
The Torch....."

Our sons and our brothers and our buddies, who sleep today beneath the little white crosses, or bear upon their bodies the unfading scars of the great conflict, will have suffered and died in vain unless on this Armistice Day of 1926, and on those yet to follow, we rededicate our strength and our minds and our lives to a reaffirmation of those principles for which they fought.

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Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—I have lately purchased the 11-room house with two lots on corner of Oak street in Merkel. 2 blocks from depot. This will make some one fine home or boarding house. If in the market for good property write me. Terms one third cash, balance long time. Box 188, Navasota, Texas 224p

For Cedar posts at saving prices see J. W. Bland, Merkel, phone 269. 5t4p

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes tf

FOR SALE—2-ton International truck, 2 new 40x8 tires on rear, 1 new 36x6 on front, other front tire about half worn. Is only 18 months old and has been run very little. Good mechanical condition. Was repossessed at \$885. First man with that much cash will get a sure enough pick up. Dodson Motor Co., Stamford, Texas, Phone 32. 12t3

FOR SALE—Span of good, gentle, young work mules, and harness, for \$250. Also have practically new wagon for sale. W. R. Hampton. 1t

FOR SALE—Grocery fixtures, cash registers, adding machines, etc. C. F. Dodds, Roscoe, Tex. 1p

FOR SALE—Two hundred good mesquite posts. See M. G. King, in the French Pasture. 1tp

FOR SALE—Nice Bronze turkeys. Toms \$8, hens \$6. Call at once. Mrs. F. M. Mullen, route 1, box 7, Merkel, Texas. 1tp

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Two furnished light housekeeping rooms, close in on Kent street. See P. H. Douglass. 1tp

FOR RENT—Two unfurnished rooms; water, lights, private entrance. 3rd house north of Guitar Gin, west side of street. Fred Deutschman. tf

FOR RENT—2 nice, clean unfurnished rooms. Might furnish. Mrs. B. M. Black. 1tp

FOR RENT—2 furnished bed rooms, stove, water, lights, bath and private entrance. Phone No. 261w. W. A. Whitely. 1tp

FOR RENT—Bed room, 2 blocks from town on Kent street, private entrance. Mrs. Stanley King. 1t

PUBLIC STENOGRAPHIC WORK

Call at N. D. Cobb's Office
Over Farmers State Bank Bldg.
We Write
All Kinds of Legal Instruments

USE the classified ads for sale, for rent, wanted, etc. New subscribers and strangers read the classified ads every week to secure various items. tf

WANTED

WANTED—Two or three furnished light housekeeping rooms. Apply at Merkel Mail office or phone No. 61. 1tp

WANTED—Second hand coal grate for fireplace. W. S. Chinn, Merkel, route 2. 1tp

If you want to buy or sell oil leases farms or city property, see W.O. Boney or T.L. Grimes tf

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Fountain pen. Finder please return to Mrs. McSpadden Merkel, Texas. 1tp

LOST—English Setter bird dog, black and white ticked, black ear answers to name of "spark". Reward. A. W. Costephens, phone 156, Merkel, Texas. 1tp

FOUND—Crank for a truck. Owner may get same at Merkel Mail office by paying for this notice. 1tp

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

An Appreciation

We are using the columns of our paper to express as a church and choir as well as individuals, our appreciation of Mrs. J. Samuel Rider's services as director of the Methodist Choir, as well as a Sunday school teacher and religious leader among our young people. May God's richest blessings follow her wherever she may go. A Choir Member.

Will Give Silver Tea

The Womans Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church will give a Silver Tea at the home of Mrs. Chas. H. Jones, Saturday afternoon, November 13, from 3 until 6 p.m. An interesting program will be given. All ladies are invited.

W. C. Nalley, representing the Fuller Brush Company, is in town getting acquainted with the many friends and patrons of this well known institution and taking care of their numerous needs in this line. He will call at your home at the earliest possible date. 1tp

Buy a sack of White Flake Flour and Pure Sorghum Syrup at W. F. Hamblet's. I will appreciate your patronage. 1t

Mr. McCrary, father of Mrs. L. B. Scott, and Edward McCrary, came in this week from Spur for a few weeks visit with the former.

Davis & Tyler Realty Co.

Located in N. A. Dowell Paint Shop Front St.
If you want to buy or sell Leases, Royalties,
Farms, Ranches or City Property...

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Stoves that are constructed so as to save you fuel and at the same time beautify the room it occupies is a stove that will serve you for many years as an investment in utility and decoration.

We also have a complete line of tools used in oil field and trucking work.

You will also find in this store anything in General Hardware

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Simply lift the
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Call Before Noon Thursday for
Friday's Insertion

The MERKEL MAIL



SPECIAL

Complete ELGIN Watches

\$11.00 and Up

Also a good value in

DIAMOND RINGS

From \$15.00 Up

PRESLEY'S

Jewelry & Gift Shop

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209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

Ford

THE UNIVERSAL CAR

FACTS

To refute a few malicious statements about Ford Products we print the following facts and figures:

- Jan. 6th, 1925, motor No. 10,957,952 was built
- July 1st, 1925, motor No. 12,047,873 was built
- Jan. 5th, 1926, motor No. 12,946,337 was built
- July 1st, 1926, motor No. 13,914,513 was built

These figures show a production of approximately a million cars built every six months and a total production of 2,956,561 in eighteen months, or, almost as many cars as all other makes combined.

THERE WERE MORE FORD CARS AND TRUCKS DELIVERED IN JONES COUNTY FROM JANUARY 1st. TO JULY 1st. 1926 THAN ALL OTHER MAKES COMBINED.

The Ford Car is a better car today, in both workmanship and materials than ever before and never has the price been so low.

For 22 years the Ford Car has been constantly improved in workmanship and material. For 22 years it has been a leader in the automobile world in

PRICE, DESIGN and QUALITY

And it is today the most economically operated and altogether by far the best value--A car supreme in its class.

Authorized FORD Dealer
Merkel Motor Co.

TELEPHONE 84

MERKEL, TEXAS

POULTRY INDUSTRY PROFITABLE HERE

Merkel, Nov. 7.—Disclaiming any thought of giving up cotton and turning their entire attention to poultry, Mr. and Mrs. Joe K. Higgins, on their 200-acre farm, three miles north of Merkel, modestly but often with a note of enthusiasm, told of their experience in the poultry business.

"Really the chickens are not ours," said Mrs. Higgins, "but belong to our son, Orin, who went to town a little while ago to take in some of his eggs. About three years ago he became interested in chickens and went into it on a small basis. He seemed to like it and did pretty well. Since that time he has been increasing his flock until this year he has 500 pullets. He sold practically all of his older chickens after keeping back those that made a record of 200 eggs when trap nested.

10 Dozen Eggs Daily
 "He keeps these 500 pullets in three separate pens. The bulk of them were hatched off in April and May, which seems to be the best time for pullets you intend to keep for layers. He is getting about 10 dozen eggs per day now. "He has a 2,400 egg incubator and hatched off this last year

between 6,000 and 7,000 chicks. About half of these he kept for himself and the others were hatched for neighbors, or sold as baby chicks.

"We had at first thought he would have trouble disposing of his little roosters, but eating houses are glad to buy them as broilers. With good attention he can make them weigh one and a quarter to one and a half pounds in eight weeks, and his broilers averaged him 63 cents each. The little pullets he sold to neighbors for breeding purposes and they brought him 75 cents."

Good Feed Important
 "Most people make a mistake in thinking that they can feed chickens most anything," put in Higgins, "but the better attention you give them the better the returns they will make. Some feeds fatten and some feeds produce eggs."

Three galvanized iron houses care for the chickens. About six acres are fenced with woven wire and this is divided into plots. In the winter time wheat furnishes them with something green to eat and in the summer these pens are planted to sudan grass, alfalfa and sweet clover.

Sudan grass has proven very satisfactory. When cut back it soon puts out a new crop that is green and tender and relished by the chickens.

Incubator In Cellar
 At this time they are feeding wheat, barley, corn and maize

mixed according to proportions furnished by the county agent.

The incubator is in a concrete lined cellar and a fan run from current off a home light plant keeps it properly ventilated.

Higgins related how one of his neighbors had told him the day before that he had marketed his forty-ninth bale of cotton and that he would get more profit from 150 hens on his place than he would from his cotton. —Star Telegram.

Florida Island That Has Tragic History

Named for Ferdinand of Aragon, once king of Spain, and a leading pirate rendezvous during its early days, the city of Fernandina, Fla., is the only town of importance on what is now known as Amelia Island, 22 miles long and from one-half to one and one-half miles wide, says the Dearborn Independent.

In the three centuries since the days of the pirate Lafitte and his comrades, mysterious diggings have sprouted at various parts of Amelia island. During the War of 1812 the port of Fernandina became one of great importance. At that time it was the center of contraband cotton export and smuggling to England.

A little later Capt. Jose Lopez, who held the Spanish fort on Amelia island, surrendered to the forces of General McIntosh, leader of the Florida filibusters and Venezuelan patriots. Five years later the port was captured by Sir Gregor MacGregor, who had allied his interests with the Insurrectionists of South America. MacGregor established himself as king of Fernandina and for many months a regime of feasting, carousal and ribaldry dominated the port.

Roller-Skate Craze Once Swept America

Roller skates seem first to have been used in France, about 1819. A few years later an Englishman named Syers invented and began the manufacture of a skate consisting of a sandal mounted on five narrow wheels in a single row, so arranged, however, that only two of them could touch the floor at a time. Similar skates were devised by other ingenious mechanics, but the skate of the present type was not invented until 1865, by an American, A. G. Plympton of Boston. He inaugurated the first roller rinks in this country, the first public rink having been in Newport, R. I.

Fads and crazes swept across America in those days pretty much as they do now, and what was called the "skating craze" spread from Newport all the way to the Pacific. Indeed, it was strongest in the Far West. In San Francisco the sport was so popular for a time that the rights to the exclusive use and rental of the Plympton skate in that city were sold for \$25,000. By 1872 roller skating had gone into a decline in America, but was on the upgrade in Europe, and large rinks were established in London, Paris, Rome and other cities.

Discovery of Hawaii

Debated by Experts

Was Hawaii discovered first by Spaniards? That question has interested historians and geographers since the finding of an ancient Spanish coin by workmen digging in an old Hawaiian garden. The coin was dated 1774 and bore the inscription "Carolus III Dei Gratia."

Capt. James Cook, British voyager, to whom the discovery of Hawaii by white men is generally attributed, came to the islands in 1778 on his first trip. There has long been a tradition that Spanish voyagers preceded him. One story was that the Spaniards touched Hawaii while sailing to the Philippines.

Hawaii has been peopled for more than 1,000 years, according to the best evidence obtainable. Long ago brown islanders, journeying from group to group in their great canoes, came here from the south, probably from Samoa. The finding of the Spanish coin is not of itself enough to upset the story that Cook was the first white man to visit the islands and make his discovery known to the world, but it is giving the antiquarians a fresh theme for discussion.

Tripoli Is Hottest Place

For years it has been supposed that the world's hottest region, if not its hottest spot, was a Greenland ranch. In Death valley, California, where on July 10, 1923, the temperature reached 134.1 Fahrenheit. Now the world hears that in Azizzia, a town in Italian Tripoli, North Africa, the people sizzle at a temperature of 136 above. Azizzia, the well named, is a desert village 25 miles inland from the Mediterranean. The people are poor and live in underground dwellings, to which sloping tunnels lead eight to ten feet under the surface and through small openings to chambers hollowed from the conglomerate rock. Something like a cellar is required to keep cool, notwithstanding until 1911 this region conducted an almost continual war with the Turks and Arabs on one side and the Italians on the other. No wonder Death valley is a pleasant place compared to it.

Antique Drug Mortars

Many years ago a loan collection of antique mortars was shown at the New York College of Pharmacy which was insured for \$25,000. The most expensive mortar of the lot was one lent by Enrico Caruso, the tenor, who bought it from J. Pierpont Morgan for \$3,000.

At a recent sale in London a collection of 50 bronze and bell-metal mortars was sold at prices ranging from \$1 to \$27 each. The highest price was brought by an eleven-inch mortar with two handles bearing the inscription, "Thomas Castle, Edward Neale made me, 1657." — Western Druggist.

Keeping Sea Full of Fish

The Port Erin biological station at Port Erin, Isle of Man, makes it a business to see to it that England does not suffer a fish or sea-food famine. During spawning season millions of eggs are floating in the ocean, and special boats are sent out to rescue them. Tow nets of silk or muslin gather the eggs, and as quickly as possible they are taken to the hatchery and put in hatching boxes set in big tanks. There they are safe, and nature, with the aid of a continuous supply of real sea water pumped from

NOTICE to Telephone Subscribers BILLING CHANGE

Effective with November 1926 service charges, a change will be made in the method of issuing bills for telephone service. Telephone subscribers in Merkel, will receive bills in the future dated the

11th of each month

This change, as part of a new Billing Plan, will greatly simplify and expedite the rendering of bills so that our subscribers will receive their statements more promptly.

Please be sure to read the explanation of this new Plan which is given in notices accompanying your bills.

SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY



ONE AT A TIME

Buying a new car is one thing. Selling a used car is another. Don't get the two confused—or you are almost sure to end up with a new car you never really wanted.

MERKEL GARAGE

A USED CAR IS ONLY AS DEPENDABLE AS THE DEALER WHO SELLS IT

* * * * *
COMPERE ITEMS
 By Alma Stout
 * * * * *

The farmers are all nearly through with their cotton in this community. All are wishing for some pretty weather so they can finish up.

There was preaching at the Baptist church Sunday afternoon by Rev. Parrack. Sunday school was well attended at both churches Sunday morning.

Miss Floy McKinney spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Pearl Allred.

The parties at Mr. Allred's and Mr. Ragsdell's Friday and Saturday nights were enjoyed by a large crowd all reported a nice time.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Foster and family were visitors in this community Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Stout and Mr. and Mrs. Grady Bond and children from the Canyon spent Sunday with Mrs. Bond and family.

Mrs. Ola Spurgin spent Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Stout.

Mr. and Mrs. Tarvin, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lanier and baby spent the week-end with relatives at Truscott.

Misses Maude, Gertrude, Virginia and Rowena Cook, Howard Cook, Eteyl and Lawrence Spurgin are among those attending school at Stith this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Allred visited Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allred Sunday.

Singing was well attended at the Presbyterian church Sunday night. Next Sunday night is singing night at the Baptist church.

School will start at Comper next Monday.

Mrs. S. A. Hobbs and family visited at Mrs. Munday's Sunday afternoon.

Miss Gracie Lee Cranston spent the weekend with her parents here, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cranston.

Mr. Wesley Stout has returned to his home in Arlington, after a visit in this community.

Mr. Urbon Childers spent the week-end with home folks and friends here.

Miss Clea Vessels and Mr. Raymond Vessels have returned to their home in Abilene.

Miss Flora Adkins who was sick a few days last week, is up again now.

Mr. Daniels has bought the store at Comper from Mr. Hass and has moved his family to this place and has taken charge of the store and is now operating same.

Miss Eva Horten is spending the winter in Abilene.

Mrs. S. A. Hobbs and Miss Ella Hobbs visited with Mrs. Stout a while Saturday night.

SORE GUMS: You won't be ashamed to smile again, after you use Leto's Pyorrhoea Remedy. This preparation is used and recommended by leading dentists and can not fail to benefit you. Druggists return money if it fails. Hamm Drug Co. 1t

**WE SELL --STRICTLY FOR CASH-- THEREFORE
 WE SELL FOR LESS**
 —ASK OUR CUSTOMERS—
Brown Dry Goods Company