

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 39—No. 18.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 12, 1927.

5c PER COPY

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AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 10.—The state next year will pay the long sought \$15 to Texas public schools for every child enrolled, thus making the highest rate in history, the state board of education voted unanimously today in a meeting in which it deferred until Thursday acceptance or rejection of bids for proposed re-binding of state free text books.

The board boosted the per capita apportionment to \$15 on the belief that increased gasoline tax and other higher levies will make sufficient revenue available. S. M. N. Marrs, state superintendent of public instruction, Governor Dan Moody, Comptroller S. H. Terrell and Mrs. Jane Y. McCallum, board members, all were strongly for the raise.

Comptroller Terrell's estimate of revenue indicated that a per capita of only \$14.53 would be available, but all members, including Terrell, agreed that the estimate probably would be too "conservative."

L. W. Rogers, assistant instruction superintendent, acted for Marrs, who was out of town. Marrs, through Rogers, gave the scholastic estimate at 1,370,000.

Merkel Couple Keeps Marriage Secret for Months

Announcement is made this week of the marriage on last December 12 of Mr. Zedic Lafayette Johnson and Miss Ruth Naomi Watts, the ceremony taking place at Miles, Texas.

For more than a year the happy couple's many friends have been expecting and guessing that their marriage would really soon take place, but up until the mailing out of announcements did but few people know of the marriage.

Mr. Johnson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Johnson. He has been practically reared in Merkel, and by his energetic spirit and friendly manner claims a host of good friends.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Watts, and by her gentle disposition and womanly graces she too has numerous friends and admirers, with all of whom this paper joins in extending greetings and good wishes for a long, useful and happy married career.

They will have an apartment at the Johnson home at present.

MR. AND MRS. BRAGG RETURN FROM MARKET

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg returned Wednesday from St. Louis, where they had been to personally select the big fall and winter stock of merchandise for the Bragg Dry Goods Company store in this city.

ABILENE AND ANSON OPEN FOOTBALL SEASON AT WEST TEXAS FAIR

ABILENE, Texas, August 11.—When the Abilene and Anson High School football teams meet Monday, September 26, on the gridiron at the West Texas Fair Park in this city, Dewey Mayhew, coach of the Abilene aggregation will have an opportunity to revenge the 3-0 defeat hung on his Marlin Bulldogs by the Anson team on January 1, when the two met in Abilene to decide the unofficial Class B high school championship of the state.

Mayhew has resigned his Marlin connection and come to Abilene to direct the local High School athletics teams for this year taking the place of Lee Jones, resigned.

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Misses Dixie and Ruth Howard of Abilene and Mrs. Lytton Howard and two daughters, Mary George and Annie Laurie, of Hamlin, spent Tuesday in Merkel with friends.

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Elder J. L. Pummill, of Dallas, who for ten days has been conducting a revival at the Church of Christ, closed the meeting with the Wednesday evening services.

Besides a general revival among the entire church membership there were ten candidates for baptism. It was a very successful and helpful meeting.

VIEWS ON HIGHWAY BOND ISSUE

In the News and Reporter of the 9th there was an article by Tom K. Eplen, County Judge, detailing the expenditures on designated highways in Taylor County and setting forth the amounts necessary to complete the work.

This is the first statement that has been given the tax payers of the county touching the \$350,000 bond issue voted in 1923 and on reading it we are convinced that Judge Eplen and the commissioners from the four precincts of this County are going to take the tax payers into their confidence and keep them informed as to how this money was used as well as to acquaint them with the needs of further funds.

Judge Eplen says that it will be necessary to vote a million dollars in bonds to complete the designated highways and to leave about \$350,000 for lateral roads. The money appropriated for lateral roads is to be divided into four parts and the people of each precinct through their commissioner are to say how this money shall be expended.

The tax payers of Taylor County are thoroughly alive to the necessity of a first class system of hard surfaced roads but they are in no humor to brook any more unnecessary delays. In the opinion of the writer, if the commissioners court will let the contract for all bridge and dirt work on Highways Nos. 1, 30, 7 and 1A, and can definitely and unreservedly name the latest date on which the hard surfacing will begin and promise that it will be completed with out delay, there will be no serious opposition to the bond issue. We are all disgusted that so little has been done since 1923 but we should not allow this disgust to prejudice our own best interests.

Abilene will pay about 70 per cent of the bonds and interest and she is willing that every dollar appropriated to lateral roads be equally divided among the four precincts. If we do not vote the additional bonds we have practically thrown away \$350,000.

There are those who believe that good roads to Abilene will work to the injury of Merkel; but observation proves the contrary to be true. The hope of Merkel to double in population is linked with the hope that Abilene may double in population. A system of good roads connecting Merkel with other parts of the County will make it one of the most inviting residential centers in the County. We have an abundant supply of the purest water in West Texas, we have an excellent sewage and water system, and by the 15th of October all who desire it can have gas piped into their own homes. With all these conveniences and a hard surfaced road to Abilene it requires no great stretch of imagination to believe that many people who have active business relations in Abilene will live in Merkel. Judge Ely has given the writer assurance that the next contract for hard surfacing that will be let as soon as sufficient funds are available will be on highway No. 1 from Nolan county east to Mulberry. We understand the commissioners court makes the same pledge. With these assurances we believe that Merkel and Trent and surrounding territory will heartily join with the people of other parts of the county in perfecting the system of hard-surfaced roads outlined in Judge Eplen's article.

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Mr. J. T. Warren, accompanied by his son, Booth, and Messrs. Kirby Beckett and H. C. Coit, of Dallas, sons-in-law, made a flying visit to the Carlsbad Cavern near Carlsbad, New Mexico. They left here Sunday and on Monday spent the day exploring the Cavern, said to be one of the eight wonders of the world. These gentlemen were delighted with their visit and Mr. Warren stated that every one who could should see the wonder cave. On their return they came via Roswell, making the return trip in one day.

Mr. W. A. Sheppard Gets First Round Bale 1927. Cotton

Mr. W. A. (Uncle Willie) Sheppard has the honor of bringing in the first cotton for 1927, which he sold to the Sam Swann Gin at the handsome price of 25c per pound. After the cotton brought in by Mr. Sheppard was ginned, there was 335 pounds of lint which was put up in the round bale, and at the price of 25c per pound, together with the seed, Mr. Sheppard received for his first bale the sum of \$90.80.

This first bale was received here on Tuesday, August 9. The first bale of 1926 cotton was brought in by Mr. M. G. King and sold at eighteen cents. There was also a premium of \$55.25 cents given by the business men to Mr. King. No premium was given Mr. Sheppard this year for his cotton because he only had 335 pounds of lint cotton, and premiums will not be given on bales of less weight than 450 pounds, we are told.

Thus it is likely that the person bringing in the first bale up to the standard in weight will receive a nice premium. However, Mr. Swann not only ginned the above mentioned bale free, but paid several cents above the market for the cotton.

Local Boy Scouts Return from Camp

The Merkel Troupe of Boy Scouts returned Sunday from a sojourn of eleven days at camp Tonkawa on the banks of the Clear Fork, where, under the leadership of big chief Shumway, they were instructed in the lore of scout craft, taught the value of discipline and made more appreciative of the comforts of home. There were more than two hundred boys in camp at one time and their readiness to abide by the restrictive laws of the camp and their eagerness to engage in the many and varied activities of the organization are fine evidences that their energies were rightly directed during this vacation period. John D. Coats passed the examination as a Junior Red Cross Life Saver. Tom Osborne, Senior Red Cross Life Saver, who was on duty at Camp Tonkawa in that capacity, will be here Monday evening from three to six p.m. at the Shannon pool giving instructions in swimming and life saving. The Troupe will have the exclusive privilege of the pool for those hours but the public is cordially invited to be present as spectators.

Herbert Patterson, Scout Master, deserves great credit for his interest in this movement and should have the encouragement of all who are interested in boys.

JONES DRY GOODS BUYER OFF TO EASTERN MARKET

Mr. W. J. Sheppard, local manager for the Jones Dry Goods Store in this City, left last week for St. Louis, where he will join other buyers of the firm's many stores in purchasing a large and complete stock of fall and winter merchandise for each and every store.

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MR. MELLINGER RETURNS FROM NEW YORK MARKET

On Wednesday Mr. Max Mellinger returned from a three weeks trip to New York City, where he personally selected and purchased a large and complete stock of fall and winter dry goods for his store in this city.

NOTICE TO CLEAN UP

Since the country has been suffering from sweltering weather and there are some indications of Typhoid we would respectfully urge every one to clean their premises of all rubbish, trash and filth and thereby aid in keeping down the possibility of an epidemic of any kind. Respectfully,
W. V. CRANFORD,
City Health Officer. 1tp

Some Fine Peaches

The editor is pleased to acknowledge the receipt of some very fine Elberta Peaches, right fresh from the orchard of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Ford, who reside on Oak street in this city. They were very large and of delicious flavor and prove without a doubt that as fine peaches can be raised here as are to be found anywhere.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Sheppard and son, Sterling, Mrs. W. L. Harkrider and Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Booth and family left Wednesday for an outing trip to the Llano river. They may also visit San Antonio and Corpus Christi while away.

School Board Announces Faculty For This Year

Anticipating one of the best school years in the history of Merkel schools and encouraging the patrons to cooperate with one of the strongest faculties ever employed by a local board, the trustees are pleased to announce the following as your teachers for the session of 1927-28.

Mr. J. M. Macon, A. B., H. P. C., with five years teaching experience in Gorman High School and principal of the same. He has had a marked success in his work there, teaching science. He has also been assistant in the science department at Howard Payne College. He will be principal and coach of athletics here with his usual assignment as science teacher.

Miss Martha Bird, A. B., S. U., with graduate work at Columbia University and the University of Colorado. She has been here five years and her work is of the highest order. Her success is well known. She will be the head of the English Department.

Miss Mary Cleo Booth, A. B., S. U., with graduate work in the University of Colorado and the State Teachers College of Arkansas. She has had two years experience, and has won her promotion. Her assignment will be English and History.

Mrs. Geneva Young, A. B. from C.I.A., will continue her work as Spanish teacher, where she worked so capably last year. She has had five years teaching experience in high schools and junior colleges. We are expecting her to be a great help to the young people of Merkel by continuing her work as supervisor of a grade and her good class room work.

Miss Roberta Sloan, succeeding Mrs. Kathleen Sudderth Wright, comes to Merkel from Whitewright, where she has been teaching history for two years. She received her college training in C. I. A. and the University of Colorado. She comes to Merkel highly recommended and we are sure she will fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Wright in a capable way.

In the grammar school the board has retained most of the teachers from last year, but has raised the standard of qualification to two years of college work. This we think will give the people of Merkel a school of somewhat higher rating with a corresponding degree of efficiency and good for the pupils.

Mrs. Len Sublett will remain as Principal of the Grammar school. She is too well known to make any comment necessary in explaining her qualifications. Her continued success here has only been exceeded by the esteem of the patrons whose children she has taught.

Mr. Roy Duke will succeed Mrs. Jackson and will have the position of assistant principal and the work of handling junior athletics. Mr. Duke is a young man having had his two years college work and also teaching experience. His school board was loathe to release him to come to us. He will be a popular young man and teacher.

In the sixth grade we shall have Miss Julia Martin and Miss Frances McMurry, both of whom are well known Merkel teachers. Miss McMurry having been with us the past two years. Miss Martin taught in Merkel schools for several sessions, but for the past two years has been teaching in the Junior High School of Childress, Texas.

In the fifth grade we shall have Miss Jessie Rodden and Miss Melba West, both well trained and capable. These two will make a fine pair to carry on the work started by Miss West last year. Miss Rodden has had several years experience as a teacher and comes to us with the reputation of being a very strong and capable teacher.

The fourth grade will be under the care of two local teachers whose experience should stand them well in their work. They are enthusiastic teachers with the purpose to make good and they are expecting to make as good teachers as you people want them to. They are Miss Lucille Guitart and Miss Ouida Campbell.

The third grade will again be taken care of by Miss Helzer and Miss Coats. These are two capable, interested and hard working teachers, whose work is well known here. They will repeat as excellent teachers.

The Primary Department. Miss Pogue and Miss Harrison will be responsible for the second grade, as they have been for the past several years. We know their work and that they will do their best to give us the kind of school we deserve.

The first grade will be under the

Odd Fellows To Build 2-Story Brick

We are informed by Mr. E. L. Ash, who recently purchased the vacant block of six lots on Kent and Elm streets, that he has this week sold to the local Odd Fellow Lodge 30x100 feet off the corner, on which the organization expects to soon erect a two-story brick building facing north on Elm street.

We understand that the upper story will be used by the lodge as its hall, while the lower story will be occupied by some business concern. Several different kinds of concerns are said to be bidding for the lower building.

\$1,500 is the handsome price paid for the building site, which is probably the best and most desirable location available in the city now.

Watch Merkel grow. The mossback and pessimist in this town is on the run, and will be an unknown quantity entirely before long.

GAS MAINS TO BE LAID BY OCTOBER THE 15th

The Community Gas people are on the job and inform us that gas mains will be laid within the town to accommodate all prospective customers by October 15th.

Mr. Thompson was busy yesterday securing office and living rooms for those already on the ground and was informed that at least seventy-five others would be here by the first of the week, and, if they can live as cheaply here, will make Merkel their headquarters while they are laying pipe between Abilene and Sweetwater.

ROTAN VS. NOODLE HERE WEDNESDAY

One of the best baseball contests of the season will be played on Merkel grounds Wednesday and Thursday between the Rotan Yellow Jackets and the Noodle team. The Yellow Jackets have been playing wonderful ball as has also the Noodle team and the games are brought here under a guarantee. An admission of fifty cents will be charged to defray expenses and a large attendance from town and country is expected.

This will probably end the season so far as Merkel is concerned, and the Mail hopes to carry an announcement that the gate receipts much more than paid all expenses and left something in the treasury for the teams.

WHY NOT ENFORCE THE CHICKEN LAW?

Every day some one asks this editor to write a piece about why the law in this city against chickens running at large is not enforced. As to why the law is not enforced we do not know, but suppose it is about like a lot of other laws now on the statute books; the citizens fail to make the proper complaint and the officers just fail to do so waiting for the complaint.

However, there is no doubt but that it is really aggravating to have to put up with the other fellow's old hen and chickens playing havoc with the attempt to have a nice yard of pretty flowers but in the first place every citizen should have enough care of their neighbor's interest and feeling to keep their chickens up.

Mrs. Will Toombs entertained Mrs. J. W. Tipton and children from Lamesa with a lovely luncheon at her home south of town on Monday. Guests for the day were Mesdames Jake Cox, Helen Booth, John Toombs, Tom Toombs.

charge and care of Mrs. H. H. Teaff and Mrs. Sadler, both of whom are teachers with experience, judgment and foresight. Mrs. Teaff is well known and needs no introduction to the Merkel people. Mrs. Sadler has been in the school business for years and knows the game both ways. She has served in almost every capacity as a teacher and supervisor. Her knowledge of school problems will be a great help to the younger teachers. We are fortunate to get a teacher of her qualifications for Merkel schools.

Irvin L. Jackson will continue as Superintendent. We think we have a strong faculty. We expect much of them; and you as patrons should interest yourselves in school and see that we have a good year.

School will open September 12. There will be announcements concerning opening of school at a later date, so please keep informed. Seeking your cooperation and pledging the best school possible for you, we thank you.
I. L. JACKSON.

Excursion Rates

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WE ARE MAKING A SPECIALTY OF THIS ROUND-TRIP TICKET. SORT OF AN EXCURSION, YOU KNOW.

TICKET OFFICE
LAX, LENIENT
COURTS

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Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Sheppard and son, Sterling, Mrs. W. L. Harkrider and Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Booth and family left Wednesday for an outing trip to the Llano river. They may also visit San Antonio and Corpus Christi while away.

School Board Announces Faculty For This Year

Anticipating one of the best school years in the history of Merkel schools and encouraging the patrons to cooperate with one of the strongest faculties ever employed by a local board, the trustees are pleased to announce the following as your teachers for the session of 1927-28.

Mr. J. M. Macon, A. B., H. P. C., with five years teaching experience in Gorman High School and principal of the same. He has had a marked success in his work there, teaching science. He has also been assistant in the science department at Howard Payne College. He will be principal and coach of athletics here with his usual assignment as science teacher.

Miss Martha Bird, A. B., S. U., with graduate work at Columbia University and the University of Colorado. She has been here five years and her work is of the highest order. Her success is well known. She will be the head of the English Department.

Miss Mary Cleo Booth, A. B., S. U., with graduate work in the University of Colorado and the State Teachers College of Arkansas. She has had two years experience, and has won her promotion. Her assignment will be English and History.

Mrs. Geneva Young, A. B. from C.I.A., will continue her work as Spanish teacher, where she worked so capably last year. She has had five years teaching experience in high schools and junior colleges. We are expecting her to be a great help to the young people of Merkel by continuing her work as supervisor of a grade and her good class room work.

Miss Roberta Sloan, succeeding Mrs. Kathleen Sudderth Wright, comes to Merkel from Whitewright, where she has been teaching history for two years. She received her college training in C. I. A. and the University of Colorado. She comes to Merkel highly recommended and we are sure she will fill the vacancy left by Mrs. Wright in a capable way.

In the grammar school the board has retained most of the teachers from last year, but has raised the standard of qualification to two years of college work. This we think will give the people of Merkel a school of somewhat higher rating with a corresponding degree of efficiency and good for the pupils.

Mrs. Len Sublett will remain as Principal of the Grammar school. She is too well known to make any comment necessary in explaining her qualifications. Her continued success here has only been exceeded by the esteem of the patrons whose children she has taught.

Mr. Roy Duke will succeed Mrs. Jackson and will have the position of assistant principal and the work of handling junior athletics. Mr. Duke is a young man having had his two years college work and also teaching experience. His school board was loathe to release him to come to us. He will be a popular young man and teacher.

In the sixth grade we shall have Miss Julia Martin and Miss Frances McMurry, both of whom are well known Merkel teachers. Miss McMurry having been with us the past two years. Miss Martin taught in Merkel schools for several sessions, but for the past two years has been teaching in the Junior High School of Childress, Texas.

In the fifth grade we shall have Miss Jessie Rodden and Miss Meiba West, both well trained and capable. These two will make a fine pair to carry on the work started by Miss West last year. Miss Rodden has had several years experience as a teacher and comes to us with the reputation of being a very strong and capable teacher.

The fourth grade will be under the care of two local teachers whose experience should stand them well in their work. They are enthusiastic teachers with the purpose to make good and they are expecting to make good teachers as you people want them to. They are Miss Lucille Guitler and Miss Ouida Campbell.

The third grade will again be taken care of by Miss Helzer and Miss Coats. These are two capable, interested and hard working teachers, whose work is well known here. They will repeat as excellent teachers.

The Primary Department. Miss Pogue and Miss Harrison will be responsible for the second grade, as they have been for the past several years. We know their work and that they will do their best to give us the kind of school we deserve.

The first grade will be under the

Odd Fellows To Build 2-Story Brick

We are informed by Mr. E. L. Ash, who recently purchased the vacant block of six lots on Kent and Elm streets, that he has this week sold to the local Odd Fellow Lodge 30x100 feet off the corner, on which the organization expects to soon erect a two-story brick building facing north on Elm street.

We understand that the upper story will be used by the lodge as its hall, while the lower story will be occupied by some business concern. Several different kinds of concerns are said to be bidding for the lower building.

\$1,500 is the handsome price paid for the building site, which is probably the best and most desirable location available in the city now.

Watch Merkel grow. The mossback and pessimist in this town is on the run, and will be an unknown quantity entirely before long.

GAS MAINS TO BE LAID BY OCTOBER THE 15th

The Community Gas people are on the job and inform us that gas mains will be laid within the town to accommodate all prospective customers by October 15th.

Mr. Thompson was busy yesterday securing office and living rooms for those already on the ground and was informed that at least seventy-five others would be here by the first of the week, and, if they can live as cheaply here, will make Merkel their headquarters while they are laying pipe between Abilene and Sweetwater.

ROTAN VS. NOODLE HERE WEDNESDAY

One of the best baseball contests of the season will be played on Merkel grounds Wednesday and Thursday between the Rotan Yellow Jackets and the Noodle team. The Yellow Jackets have been playing wonderful ball as has also the Noodle team and the games are brought here under a guarantee. An admission of fifty cents will be charged to defray expenses and a large attendance from town and country is expected.

This will probably end the season so far as Merkel is concerned, and the Mail hopes to carry an announcement that the gate receipts much more than paid all expenses and left something in the treasury for the teams.

WHY NOT ENFORCE THE CHICKEN LAW?

Every day some one asks this editor to write a piece about why the law in this city against chickens running at large is not enforced. As to why the law is not enforced we do not know, but suppose it is about like a lot of other laws now on the statute books; the citizens fail to make the proper complaint and the officers just fail to do so waiting for the complaint.

However, there is no doubt but that it is really aggravating to have to put up with the other fellow's old hen and chickens playing havoc with the attempt to have a nice yard of pretty flowers. But in the first place every citizen should have enough care of their neighbor's interest and feeling to keep their chickens up.

Mrs. Will Toombs entertained Mrs. J. W. Tipton and children from Lamesa with a lovely luncheon at her home south of town on Monday. Guests for the day were Mesdames Jake Cox, Helen Booth, John Toombs, Tom Toombs.

charge and care of Mrs. H. H. Teaff and Mrs. Sadler, both of whom are teachers with experience, judgment and foresight. Mrs. Teaff is well known and needs no introduction to the Merkel people. Mrs. Sadler has been in the school business for years and knows the game both ways. She has served in almost every capacity as a teacher and supervisor. Her knowledge of school problems will be a great help to the younger teachers. We are fortunate to get a teacher of her qualifications for Merkel schools. Irvin L. Jackson will continue as Superintendent. We think we have a strong faculty. We expect much of them; and you as patrons should interest yourselves in school and see that we have a good year.

School will open September 12. There will be announcements concerning opening of school at a later date, so please keep informed. Seeking your cooperation and pledging the best school possible for you, we thank you.
I. L. JACKSON.

Excursion Rates



CONDENSED STATEMENT of CONDITION of
THE FARMERS STATE BANK

Merkel, Texas, as called by Banking Commissioner June 30th, 1927

RESOURCES

Loans	\$471,170.41
Banking House	25,000.00
Furniture, Fixtures and Vault Equipment	7,500.00
Other Real Estate	6,939.00
Due from Guaranty Fund	6,940.91
U. S. Bonds	\$ 50,150.00
Cash & Exchange	130,573.47
AVAILABLE CASH	180,723.47
Total	\$698,273.79

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus & Profits, Net	23,383.19
Dividend Unpaid	2,500.00
Bills Payable	NONE
Re-Discounts	NONE
DEPOSITS	622,390.60
Total	\$698,273.79

The above statement is correct. W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.

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

Misses Oleta McCluskey and Geraldine Smith of McMurry College were week-end guests of Miss Nina McAninch.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Lee and Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Galley, owners and proprietors of Camp Fair, one of Merkel's very best tourist camps, have as their guests this week Mrs. R. C. Ivey and four children, Mr. J. W. Ivey of Thurber, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Jackson and two children of Ranger, also Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jackson and daughter, Wanda, also of Ranger.

John T. Morgan and family came in first of the week from Dallas for a visit with Mrs. Morgan's mother, Mrs. Calvert, and other relatives.

Mrs. J. H. Lloyd of Comanche was here this week, the guest of her son, A. J. Lloyd and family.

Miss Virgie Mae Campbell, who has been spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Campbell, left Wednesday for a short visit at Lubbock, before returning to her work as bookkeeper with the First National Bank at Clint, Texas.

THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' AGRICULTURAL CLUB PRIZES RAISED AT FAIR



Boys and Girls Agricultural Club work receives stronger recognition than ever, in the premium list just issued by the State Fair of Texas, a perusal of the list shows.

In the past the only crops recognized by the fair have been corn and grain sorghums and the highest prize in any one class was \$5.00. This year the highest prize is \$10.00 and the other prizes are increased in proportion. Besides a sweepstakes prize of \$10.00 has been hung up in each class, making it possible for some boy or girl to win additional money and honors.

The State Fair officials this year have added three other crops to the contests, namely sweet potatoes, peanuts and cotton. In the latter class the officials put the boys and girls on the same footing as the grown-ups, as far as prizes are concerned. The cotton prizes, therefore, duplicate those offered in the regular agricultural prize list and range from \$20.00 down to \$2.00, through ten grades.

The results will be, according to J. A. Moore, superintendent of the Agricultural department, tremendous interest on the part of the Boys and Girls Clubs and a much better show of products than ever before offered.

Any boy or girl club member may have a premium list for agricultural, home-demonstration work or pig and poultry club work by writing Roy Rupard, Secretary State Fair of Texas, Dallas.

JUNIOR LIVE STOCK SHOW A NEW FEATURE AT TEXAS STATE FAIR



A complete junior live stock show will greet the visitors to the State Fair of Texas this year, Oct. 8 to 23. The directors in line with their policy of giving greater recognition than ever to the splendid work that is being done by the Boys and Girls Clubs throughout Texas, have decided that from now on, all the animals, calves, pigs, lambs, etc., as well as poultry, etc., raised by the boys and girls shall be exhibited under one roof, in a building of their own.

In the past these exhibits have been scattered through the different live stock pavilions on the grounds. Beginning this October they will be housed in a separate building adjacent to the boys and girls' club dormitories, a more logical as well as a more convenient arrangement, it is admitted.

Dr. A. E. Flowers, superintendent of the live stock department is authority for the statement that the boys and girls' club exhibits at the 1927 State Fair will surpass anything ever shown in this line in the Southwest. This is all in accord with reports from other sources which point to the coming State Fair as a record breaker from every angle.

PAVED MIDWAY TO GREET VISITORS AT STATE FAIR



If you happen to pick out a rainy day to see the State Fair of Texas next October and you want to go through the Midway and take in the many shows and rides you can do it with dry feet, it is announced.

The fair management has built a new Midway and has put down a hard-surfaced roadway throughout its entire area. The rides will all be grouped together in the middle, it is said. Around these will run the new roadway. And on the opposite side from the rides the different tent shows will be lined up, facing the rides. The roadway, therefore, will be bottle or loop-shaped. The famous Morris & Castle Exposition Shows have been engaged for the next fair dates, Oct. 8 to 23, it is announced from Dallas, and these are said to be the very best on the road.

WILL MORRIS, THE GREATEST CLOWN IN THE WORLD



This man would be the next governor of Texas if the choice depended upon the ability of the candidate to make the voter laugh out loud. Will Morris can make people laugh louder and longer than any other clown in the world. No one can beat him, it is claimed.

He is one of the merry-makers who will help to make the Hippodrome show, in front of the grand stand, at the State Fair of Texas next October, the funniest and the best show ever engaged by the fair management for that purpose, it is claimed.



Dickens
 Yes, he had many and grave faults. So had Sir Walter and the good Dunns; so, to be candid, did Shakespeare himself—Shakespeare, the king of poets. To myself he is always the man of his unrivaled and enchanting letters—is always an incarnation of generous and abounding gaiety, a type of beneficent earnestness, a great expression of intellectual vigor and emotional vivacity. I love . . . to reflect that even as he was the inspiration of my boyhood so is he the delight of my middle age. I love to think that while English literature endures he will be remembered as one who loved his fellow men, and did more to make them happy and amiable than any other writer of his time.—W. E. Henley, in Views and Reviews.

Old Chinese Banknotes
 The oldest banknotes on record are the "flying money" or "covenant money" issued in China in 2097 B. C. At first these notes were issued by the treasury department. But it was found that the attendant expense was large. This caused their transfer to banks which were under government inspection and control.

Thus China had a marvelous financial system centuries before the Christian era. The notes issued were printed in blue ink on paper made from the fiber of mulberry trees. Several specimens of Chinese notes issued during the Ming dynasty, in the Fourteenth century, are still in existence. That was about 50 years before the establishment of the first European bank.—Mentor Magazine.

Emerald Isle
 Ireland is known as the Emerald Isle because of the bright verdure of its grass and other vegetation, due to the frequent rains for which the island is noted. It is supposed that Dr. William Drennan (1754-1820), an Irish physician and poet, was the first to apply the name Emerald Isle to Ireland. In a poem entitled "Erin" and published in 1795 Drennan spoke of "the cause of the men of the Emerald Isle." It was the opinion of the poet himself that he was the first to use the nickname which later became so popular.

QUEEN THEATRE
Ends the Quest for the Best in Motion Pictures

FRIDAY Only
Tom Tyler
 and HIS PALS in
"LIGHTNING LARIOTS"
 It's the kind you've been asking for! Chuck full of speed! Also "Battling Kangaroo"—2-Reel Comedy

SATURDAY Only
Complete Change of Program
 A great story of good and bad men in the east and the west.
Harey Carey
 —in—
'The Night Hawk'
 The beloved Carey never better than in this fast moving western drama. Also—
AL ST. JOHN COMEDY

Monday & Tues.
 August 15 and 16
AT LAST IT'S HERE!
 The World's Funniest Comedy!

"ROOKIES"
 —with—
George K. Arthur and Karl Dane
 —You'll learn about laughing from them. This is positively the funniest picture ever made! All other laugh hits look like pale greens by comparison! No wonder the whole country has roared a welcome second to none.
Awarded the Blue Ribbon and Guaranteed 100% entertainment.

Wednesday Only
 —in—
BOB CUSTER
'the Cactus Trail'
 A whiz of speed and action in the oil fields. Also—
"QUEER DUCKS"
 2-Reel Comedy
Thursday and Friday
"BERTHA, the SEWING MACHINE GIRL"
 Same Old Prices. 10c-25c

STATEMENT of CONDITION
FARMERS & MERCHANTS NAT'L BANK

Merkel, Texas
 Close of Business June 30th, 1927

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$272,311.78
Overdrafts	535.42
Furniture & Fixtures	7,500.00
5 Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Bankers Acceptances	\$105,729.51
Commercial Paper	15,000.00
U.S. Bonds (owned)	116,850.00
Cash & Sight Exchange	79,622.87
AVAILABLE CASH	\$317,202.38
Total	\$599,812.08

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	14,218.03
Circulation	6,250.00
Borrowed Money	NONE
Rediscouunts	NONE
Other Liabilities	NONE
DEPOSITS	\$514,344.05
Total	\$599,812.08

STATE OF TEXAS }
 County of Taylor } 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

Directors
 J. T. Warren G. F. West
 Sam Butman, Sr., Geo. L. Paxton Booth Warren

Colonel and Mrs. J. A. Buford returned first of the week from a two weeks vacation trip to Christoval and other points south.
 W. T. Jones of Mason, and his son W. T. of Midland, are visiting in the homes of E. H. and W. M. Jones this week.
 Ed Turner and family left first of the week for a vacation trip.
 Mrs. W. L. Diltz and baby returned first of the week from a visit with relatives and friends at Amarillo.
 W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest. tf

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Let us do your Finishing Our Results are Superior
 MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TODAY
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HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES EMPLOYERS WANT YOU NOW!
 Almost two million young men and women will graduate within the next few weeks.
 Most of them expect to become self-supporting. More than half will seek employment. These million young people will be "competitors" of YOURS.
 But of all these "competitors," YOU, as a high school graduate, will have the advantages IF—
You Make the Most of Your Opportunities
 Business men show a preference and appreciate the ADAPTABILITY of high school students. They realize the value of high school education.
 Right now, employers of the country have their eyes on you. They are looking for young people of PROMISE. You are old enough to shoulder responsibilities and yet young enough to learn. You are wanted while your mind is still flexible.
 You are wanted for positions which pay good salaries and offer WONDERFUL opportunities for advancement, especially for the bigger and better positions.
 How you can capitalize your high school education; how you can get "a running start" on business; how you can outdistance your million "competitors"—all this is told in "Achieving Success in Business" Clip the coupon now and send for the large book. It is free.
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 GENTLEMEN:—Please send me your large free book, "Achieving Success in Business." I am interested in a training that will help me get a good position.
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EVERY far-seeing family wants to own its own home—have a patch of Mother Earth it can call its own and a comfortable home on it. We offer now exceptional values. Let us be of service to you. We have everything to build anything.
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C. S. Higgins Garage
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 Garage Phone 100 Res. Phone 149W
General Repair Work Used Parts for sale
All Mechanical Work Guaranteed
Good Work at Absolutely Lowest Prices

"Gas Men Here"

There is no Doubt About Merkel Having Natural Gas

They have already established an office and expect to begin actual construction on mains in Merkel by the middle of the month. We will have gas fitters; "HOME MEN" so why give this profit to outside men that will carry their profit out of town when they leave, like they did on our sewer service lines, when the home merchants lay them for the same price. The home man is here to look after any grief that might occur, but the transient will be here today and somewhere else tomorrow. His rule is generally "get the money and let somebody else get the grief."

Don't fail to see our line of HEATERS and RANGES before you buy. We will be here to service them for you. There are over 100 different makes so the best thing to do is to buy from someone that will take care of your trouble if you happen to have any. We will hold a demonstration as soon as the gas is turned in the mains.

Buy from your home, Regular Dealers and keep your profits in Merkel where they belong. It's your town as much as it's ours.

Mr. Farmer, come in. We want you to see a real trailer

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"If It's Hardware We Have it"

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

The West Texas State Teachers College
Canyon, Texas
Eighteenth Annual Session opens September 22.
A class "A" College offering work leading to B. A. and B. S. degrees.
A faculty of seventy men and women, each an expert in his field.
A \$1,000,000 plant to which a \$300,000 education building is now being added and which includes:
Dormitories for 200 women.
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Two gymnasiums and a swimming pool.
The Oldest College in Northwest Texas, dedicated to the preparation of young men and women for successful professional life and Christian citizenship.
For catalog and full information write
D. A. SHIRLEY, Registrar

NOTICE
SWIFT & CO.
Have a Cream Station with
QUALITY MARKET & GROCERY
Best Market Prices Paid.
Cream tested anytime you bring it in.

NOT EASY TO GET SHINE IN FRANCE

Bootblacks Not Familiar Sight on Streets.

Paris.—"Shine, sir!" Don't expect to hear in Paris the cry familiar outside railroad depots back home. But even at that you don't have to walk around the streets of the French capital with rusty footwear. No, it is no use thinking that all you tourists have to do is to place your shoes outside the door of your hotel room, as you will find in the guidebook advices. The half awakened chambermaid or night watchman will merely wipe off the dust, slap about one centime's worth of polish on the shoes, and let it go at that.

You won't find shoeblacks at every corner as you do in New York or Chicago, but you can find a few if you know where to go. There are not many, half a dozen or so in the whole city. When you get off the train at the Gare St. Lazare you can have your shoes shined right in the station, or in a hidden arcade across the street. With a tip it will cost you about two francs, or eight cents in real money.

Then there are two worthy "commissioners," or public messengers, who sleep half the day on little stools on the two corners of the Boulevard des Italiens where it runs east from the Place de l'Opera. If you can wake up one of them when they are not busy carrying a bunch of flowers to a blonde or ringing a bell somewhere to awaken a late riser, you can have the job done under the eyes of half of Parisian Paris which never misses a chance to watch the antics of "those crazy Americans."

If you understand some of their argot you will at the same time learn what they think of people who spend money getting their shoes shined and then tell France she must pay her

Types of Zebras

Zebra is the name in general of all the African striped species of the horse family (equidae) of which four species are usually recognized, viz., the true or mountain zebra (Equus zebra), Burchell's zebra (Equus burchelli), Grevy's zebra (Equus grevyi) and the quagga (Equus quagga). The last-named was only partly striped and is extinct. It was an inhabitant of South Africa, and especially of mountainous districts, where it roved in small bands. It was the smallest of the group, standing a trifle over four feet high at the withers, and had relatively long ears, a comparatively short mane and a scantily haired tail. Its ground color was white (brownish on the face) and the stripes were black. The zebra now most often seen in South Africa and in menageries is Burchell's which Boers call "quagga."

OLD VIOLIN SHOP BOASTS FAR FAME

Great Musicians Pick Way to Dinky Quarters.

Atlanta, Ga.—All the world's a stage for Mays Badgett. In it he humbly plays the part of a violin maker.

His shop, two stories above Atlanta's busiest corner, is dinky. About his bench is a confused ensemble of musical instruments. The clatter of traffic pounds in through dusty windows. But Badgett, as he works away with the knowledge that the proof of the fiddle is in the playing, would not trade his shop for a palace.

Famous personages of the musical world have made a beaten path to his place. Once a year he has a big party attended by members of the Metropolitan Opera company. Once Badgett gave a bear supper to 600 guests, including the opera stars, Sousa's band and southern artists.

Artists who sing and play for the public for thousands of dollars perform for Badgett between courses. Occasionally the party is broadcast and opera goes rush away from the auditorium to reach their radios for two more hours of music by the stars. Proudly displayed by the violin maker is a letter from Eugene Yaare, praising his instruments. David Love, New York conductor; Fritz Schaeffer and Henri Georgia of the Metropolitan orchestra, and Rickard Schleiweg of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music are among those who use his violins.

One of Badgett's latest violins was made from a bedstead of curly maple more than two hundred years old. Badgett's wife is an expert string maker.

Fish Fight to Regain Homes in Flood Area

Memphis, Tenn.—With conservation of all wild life the aim of every true sportsman in the flooded areas, no greater opportunity for restocking of favorite lakes and ponds with game fish has been offered than that which is being afforded now as the flood recedes and the high waters, especially in the lakes, pour out into the bayous.

This is especially true, observers claim, for Horseshoe lake and the other smaller lakes in eastern Arkansas.

Thousands of small game fish between an inch and two-inch growth are fighting their way up the streams in an effort to get into the lakes. At four culverts on the Horseshoe lake road a party saw countless numbers of small fish swarming at the bayou side of road culverts, unable to push their way up against the heavy out-

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Consistent Progress and Proved Design—
have resulted in the most
Amazing Quality
in Chevrolet History!

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The COACH
\$595

The Touring or Roadster . . . \$525
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The 4-Door Sedan . . . \$695
The Sport Cabriolet . . . \$715
The Landau . . . \$745
The Imperial Landau . . . \$780

1/2-Ton Truck . . . \$395 (Chassis Only)
1-Ton Truck . . . \$495 (Chassis Only)

All prices f.o.b. Flint, Michigan.
Check Chevrolet Delivered Prices.
They include the lowest handling and financing charges available.

Today's Chevrolet embodies the most amazing quality in Chevrolet history—the result of 14 years of consistent development and improvement.

In carrying out this policy, the Chevrolet Motor Company has profited immeasurably from its close association with the General Motors Corporation.

The General Motors Research Laboratories—
—the General Motors Proving Ground—
—the General Motors engineering staff—
—all have been constantly utilized in making Chevrolet the world's finest low-priced automobile!

Come to our showroom and see today's Chevrolet!



BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET COMPANY
MERKEL, TEXAS

QUALITY AT LOW COST

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.

Water main extensions are about completed, paving work just beginning, and soon laying of gas mains will begin, besides farmers are beginning to gather their feed crops and the moving of the cotton crop will soon be under way. Indications are that there will be busy times in Merkel trade territory during the approaching autumn season.

THE FLOUNDERER AND THE LOAFER IN COLLEGE

"The chief function of the college," thinks the New York World, "is not to give vocational training. Perhaps its greatest service is to provide a period for the indulgence of intellectual floundering." This is its comment upon the alarm expressed by college executives over the high tide of loafing which has swept over the colleges of the land. Floundering and loafing are equally without design. But floundering has purpose, albeit not an ordered purpose. A certain desperation is involved. Taken in that sense, the words of the World are true.

But it is also true that we will demand college training. Of these shortly have a million youngsters demanding college training. Of these perhaps a quarter of a million seek it out of social conformity, parental duress or sheer laziness. For a reasonably bright young American, college can be made to serve as a delightful pleasure resort. In institutions where all charges are borne by the pleasure resorters there is no injustice in that. But in tax-supported schools and endowed foundations the arrangement is anything but just.

The notion that everybody ought to have a college education is a fallacy.

Everybody ought to have an education. But education is the sum of what we have learned, no matter whence. Some learn their all outside of college walls. Some learn practically nothing inside. The learning and not the walls ought to be made the important thing. Make form of snobbery. Making a social lark out of learning is downright folly. The flounders may be tolerated, as the World suggests, and welcome. But the loafers ought to be given loafer's leave early and often. We need their room.—State Press in Dallas News.

BLAIR ITEMS

The Baptist Revival that was conducted by Rev. Perry King of Abilene and his Brother, Mr. Rufus King, the singer, closed Sunday with five conversions, seven for baptism and two additions.

There has been some sickness in the community the past week. Anna Clara, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vergile Doan, who has been real sick is on the convalescent list.

Mrs. Arthur Wilson, who underwent an operation recently is doing nicely at this writing.

Mr. Pat Addison returned Saturday from Valera, Texas, in response to a death message of his mother.

Mrs. A. P. Sanford and children and Miss Ada Sanford of Nolanville, Texas, is staying an indefinite time with Mr. and Mrs. John Dulin.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hester and family of Knox City visited the latter's mother, Mrs. R. J. Meeks and other relatives this place last week.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Lackey of Merkel spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lackey.

Mr. Riggan Clark and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Ora Mayfield Sunday.

Miss Mary Hughes of Merkel was the guest last week of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes.

Miss Florence Meek visited relatives at Rotan several days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Meek and family motored to Hamlin, Texas last week-end.

Mr. Bill Dulin from the Plains is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ira Cavett.

Mrs. Jep Climmons of Buffalo Gap was the guest last week of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Doan and family.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Yates Brown wishes to announce the opening of her class in PIANO Monday, September the Fifth Studio at the home of Mrs. E. N. Brown

Teaching Experience Five Years

Mr. Ernest Hill and Miss Effie Grayson of Merkel visited Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell Sunday evening. Mrs. Mell Hand and children of White Flat spent Sunday with Mrs. Mattie Addison.

Peter Pan Bridge Club

Miss Gladys Mayfield was hostess to the Peter Pan Bridge Club Wednesday afternoon. The club has been organized for several weeks, but no name had been selected until this meeting when the name Peter Pan Bridge Club was selected by the members. Many games of bridge were played after which a refreshment plate of sandwiches, fruit salad, potato chips, olives and iced tea were served to the guests. The members present were: Misses Evelyn Curb, Melba West, Dorris Durham, Boog Sears, Johnnie Sears, Lola Dennis, Maurine Tipton, Mildred Matthews and guests, Tommie Durham, Mrs. T. M. Price and Miss Bobby Williams of Mineral Wells.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hughes are now occupying the beautiful new stucco residence recently built by W. R. Hampton. Mr. Hughes is a member of the firm of Brackeen-Hughes Motor Company.

Miss Elizabeth Harkrider left Sunday morning to visit relatives in Houston.

Judge N. D. Cobb and wife returned first of the week from a trip to Galveston.

CARD OF THANKS

We take this opportunity of extending our sincere thanks and appreciation of the many favors, kindnesses and words of sympathy tendered us during the recent illness and death of our beloved wife and mother. For every favor, kindness and word of sympathy so generously tendered us by our good neighbors and friends, we are grateful beyond expression in words. To each and every one we ask the Lord's richest blessings. V. Garner and Sons. 1tp

Kale-Hebron News

The revival meeting closed at Hebron last Sunday afternoon at the baptizing. There were eight additions to the Church, four reclaimed, five conversions.

Mr. L. A. Mullins and family were guests in the Gunter home last Sunday.

Mr. Thomas Harris and wife are spending the week with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris and family. Mr. Sammie Stevens of Calvert, Texas spent the past week with Mr. Colon Whalley.

Miss Gladys Wullins visited Miss Jewel Skidmore last Friday.

Mr. James Harris spent the week-end with home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Douglas returned home from Fort Worth last Sunday after spending a few days with the former's sister, Mrs. Nellie Sibley.

Mr. Adge Douglas, wife and daughter, Mrs. Henson, of Stanton, spent the week-end with the former's mother, Mrs. M. A. Douglas.

This community was made sad indeed on last Sunday morning when the death angel entered the home of Mr. V. Garner and took the loving wife and mother home to glory. Mrs. Garner had been sick for some three weeks. She was a kind and loving woman always trying to make others happy. She has been an inspiration to this community. If we could all be the Christian worker that Mrs. Garner has been, what a glory it would be. She always had a willing hand and happy smile for every one whom she met. She was laid to rest in Comanche cemetery Monday afternoon, Bro. Tatum and Bro. Smith conducting the funeral service.

Mrs. Garner is survived by her husband, three sons, Gerald, Howard, and Clifford besides other relatives and a host of friends. We should all profit by her Christian life and good works. Our loss is Heaven's gain. The family has the sympathy of the entire community. By a Loved One.

E. L. WILSON & SON

Contractors for PAINTING and PAPERING Let us furnish your Paint and Paper; first class material at a big discount. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED Phone 121 P. O. Box 35

QUEEN THEATRE

Showing the Pick of all Pictures MERKEL

Monday & Tues.

August 15 and 16

AT LAST IT'S HERE!

The World's Funniest Comedy



—You'll learn about laughin' from them. This is positively the funniest picture ever made! All other laugh hits look like pale grins by comparison! No wonder the whole country has roared a welcome second to none!

NOTE—Awarded the Blue Ribbon and guaranteed 100% entertainment or money refunded. Also—

COMEDY & NEWS

Same Old Prices10c & 25c

Miss Jones Entertains

In honor of her guest, Miss Elinor Moore, Mona Margaret Jones entertained with a bridge party at her home on Oak street Tuesday afternoon. The entertaining rooms were beautifully decorated with many cut flowers. The bridge tables were prettily appointed in score pads and cards. After many delightful games of bridge, the guests were served a delicious refreshment plate. Miss Jones' party guests were: Misses Mildred Matthews, Boog Sears, Lola Dennis, Tommie Durham, Althea Boden, Helen Booth, Dorris Durham, Evelyn Curb, Maurine Tipton, Melba West, Marion Sheppard, Mrs. Tom Price and Miss Elinor Moore.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Hey, You!!

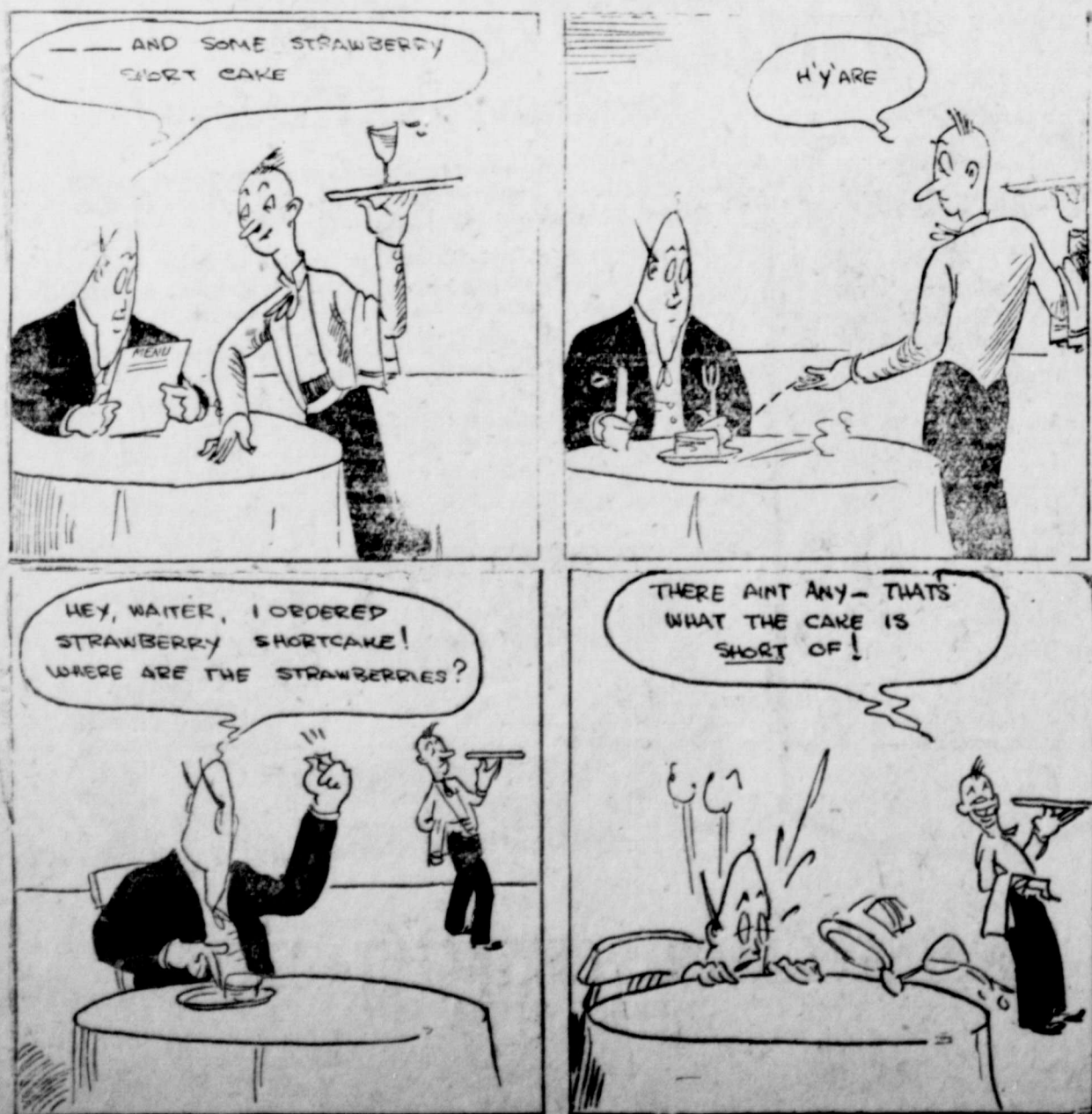
Why be scared of The Adolphus?

We have rooms with bath at \$2.00

Coffee 5c

The ADOLPHUS
DALLAS, TEXAS

The Judge - Short Orders a Specialty - By M. B.



Always On the Job!

OLKS are spending a lot of money today for insurance. You buy protection against loss by fire, windstorms, theft, injury and even death. Premiums may seem high, but you know the benefits are worth the price.

There is one form of protection, however, that all of us in this community enjoy every day and it does not cost us one cent! We never can know how many lives it has saved, how much sickness it has prevented, how many hours of contentment it has brought to our homes.

This protection is the service rendered by the business men of our town, who quietly and faithfully meet our daily needs. No matter what emergency may face us, they continue to supply us with food, shelter, clothing and the other necessities of life.

You will find their ads in this paper. They solicit—and deserve—your generous patronage. They are your friends in time of need!

Read the Ads in this Paper
and save yourself money by trading at home

NOTICE

We have decided to discontinue our mechanical work and shop in connection with our garage and filling station.

Our shop will be For Rent to any reliable person. For further information see us at

MERKEL GARAGE

Ross Ferrier

H. L. Propst

LAUGHS, THRILLS IN EVERY FOOT OF M-G-M'S "ROOKIES"

"Rookies," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's latest farce comedy, which has just opens at the Queen Theatre Monday and Tuesday, should have been called "Laughs and Thrills in Celluloid."

Never has the reviewer seen a picture so replete with comedy and suspense. It opens with a laugh and closes with a thrill that is almost blood-congealing.

There are fights, and plenty of them, riots, runaway army balloons and daring dives toward earth with slim dependence on pack parachutes attached to the backs of the players.

Airplanes swoop out of the skies directly at the camera lens, bank forty feet away with a thirty foot wing spread and give the appearance of missing the audience by inches.

Director Sam Wood spent an entire week above the clouds with his players filming the balloon sequence. Beneath the basket can be seen Hollywood, as the players climb about the rigging of the balloon and dangle by their hands.

The story, a farce by Byron Morgan, is laid against the background of a citizens' military training camp and the picture was filmed with the cooperation of the government and a number of regular army officers as-

signed to training camp duty.

There are drills of every branch of the army service, as well as athletics and sham battles, giving an idea of what may be expected by those desiring to attend one of Uncle Sam's training camps for his citizens.

The cast is an exceptionally good one and art Dane and George K. Arthur make their debut as a film comedy team. Marceline Day has the role of the girl in question and Louise Lorraine is the "vamp." Both men fall in love with Marceline but Dane, in his capacity as a sergeant, has the upper hand over Arthur, who is only a private, and a green one at that.

If this is an example of what this new screen team can do—let's have more! NOTE—Awarded the Blue Ribbon and guaranteed 100 per cent entertainment.

CARD OF THANKS

We take this method of extending our sincere thanks and appreciation to our neighbors, friends and the good people of Merkel for every kindness and favor extended us during the late illness and death of our beloved wife and mother. We never lived among a kinder or more generous-hearted people, and it is our sincere wish that the Lord may smile on and deal kindly with each and every one. Austin Smith and children. 1p

POOR HORSE COLLARS CAUSED ROME'S FALL

French Savant Advances an Original Theory.

Paris.—Did Rome fall because no public-spirited citizen knew enough to invent a harness that would adequately utilize horse power? This weak joint in the armor of the fallen empires of antiquity was pointed out by Commandant Lefebvre des Noettes at a recent meeting of the French Institute of Anthropology.

Commandant des Noettes has made a complete survey of the history of the use of animal motive power from the early dawn of civilization. The harness of the ancients, he explained, had for its principal organ of traction a collar consisting of a leather band that went around the neck like a dog collar, without touching the shoulders, and which was attached to a wooden yoke just above the withers. This collar was so placed that it most effectively cut off the animal's wind by pressing on his windpipe and the large artery of the throat.

Almost Strangled Horses. As soon as a team felt the weight of a chariot and its passengers exerting pressure on the collar they were forced to rear up their heads and dash off to save themselves from strangling. Hence the rampant attitude of all the horses depicted in ancient papyri and sculptures, declared Commandant des Noettes.

As a result of this drawback the great civilizations of the past were never able to get more than a fraction of the potential motive power from their horses. Oxteams operating with a wooden yoke attached to the horns, not greatly different from that in use today, did not suffer from the oppressive collar and in consequence did most of what heavy hauling was done. Both oxen and horses were unshod and in consequence were not much good in rough ground.

Couldn't Haul Half a Ton. Data obtained from translations of the Greek historian Xenophon and from the Theodosian code about a thousand years later, said Commandant des Noettes, indicate that no team of oxen in ancient times was ever considered capable of transporting a load of over half a ton.

Various ineffectual attempts were made to modify to better advantage the accepted type of harness, but not until after the era of Charlemagne, about the time of the beginning of the Capet dynasty in France, did some inventive genius devise a horse collar that was practical.

Announcement

We are pleased to announce to the general public that Mr. J. A. Collum formerly with McDonald & Collum, will be actively connected with this store and will have charge of our Cream Station and Groceries. He invites his friends and former patrons to call on him here where he will endeavor to give them the same courteous treatment as he always has heretofore.

You will find many Bargains at this store in our Grocery line. Come in and look them over.

Don't forget our MEATS. We keep our Cured Meats under refrigeration, so why buy your meats elsewhere when you get them here properly cared for.

We handle only the best of fresh meats, as our many customers will testify. In fact, we put the "EAT" in MEAT.

You can come nearer getting everything for your table at this store than any place in town. Don't forget our good Barbecue, fresh daily.

The store that gives Quality, Quantity, Service and Satisfaction

PHONE 249—WE DELIVER

Quality Market and Grocery

Find Old Roman Town on Farm in Britain

London.—Recent discoveries in and around the town of Stockbridge, Hampshire, have led archeologists to believe that the site of a former Roman town has been discovered.

In 1924 Ernest Bernard discovered on his 850-acre farm the foundations of two Roman baths and three villas. He has since unearthed the positions of over a dozen other Roman buildings.

Among the more recent discoveries are several hundred copper coins, parts of a tortoise-shell necklace, an oyster opener, a razor, a quantity of broken pottery and two grinding stones.

Barnard has also discovered what he believes to have been a Roman vineyard, with terraces cut in the rising upland. Further finds were two huge stones, probably forming the bases of pillars of the entrance gates of an imposing Roman building.

Roman bricks have been found built into the walls of an Elizabethan cottage in the town, while in the neighboring village of Kings Somborne several people have collected quite a show of Roman and early British relics.

Such importance is attached to the discoveries that a British museum expert is making a personal investigation.

Lord Balfour Admits He's Lazy and Likes It

London.—Lord Balfour is a lazy man—and admits it.

"I am a great lover of idleness myself, though I never say much about it, and I always love to hear that there are to be certain hours of the day when no one will ask me to do anything," the former prime minister said at a luncheon of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology.

"The institute is engaged upon one of the most important tasks facing people engaged in social welfare," Lord Balfour went on. "That is the complete explosion of the superstition that all hours of work are a misus quantity in the happiness of life and all hours of idleness a plus quantity."

Lord Balfour's idea of perfect bliss and laziness is to listen to performances of Handel or lie in bed and read "thrillers" or detective stories.

More to Come

Cesaree, Turkey.—This town in eastern Turkey has a railroad connection for the first time in history and has 100 less sheep and one less camel than before modernity arrived. The animals were sacrificed in ceremony when the railroad was opened.

Girl's Brittle Bones Mystery to Doctors

Burton-on-Trent.—An eleven-year-old girl here, the daughter of a miner, is puzzling medical men who have come from all parts of England to study her case.

Her bones are so brittle that they break easily and she has already suffered seven bone fractures, five to her legs and two to collar bones. She spent two years in a local infirmary, but had been discharged as cured several weeks ago.

Two weeks after she was discharged she stumbled and fractured a leg bone again.

Fights 18 Years To Get Rid Of Gas

"I had stomach trouble for 18 years. Since taking Adlerika I feel better than for years and have not been bothered with gas."—L. A. Champion.

Even the FIRST spoonful of Adlerika relieves gas and often removes astonishing amount of old waste matter from the system. Makes you enjoy your meals and sleep better. No matter what you have tried for your stomach and bowels, Adlerika will surprise you. Merkel Drug Co. 1t

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

WHY SUFFER

You can rid yourself of Rheumatism at once. Rheumalax reaches and removes the cause of rheumatism doesn't just stop pain for few hours, but brings permanent relief by cleansing the liver, kidneys, stomach and bowels of the poisons which are the direct cause of rheumatism. Guaranteed by Hamm Drug Co.

SAVE MONEY

On Tires, Tubes and Auto Accessories. Have several 31x5.25 Tubes well worth the money. GAS 18c. WALTER HATHAWAY at C. P. Stevens Filling Station. 5t2p

New Fall Goods

We have just returned from the great wholesale centers of the North, where for the past three weeks, we have personally been selecting and buying one of the largest and complete stocks of choice Fall and Winter Dry Goods ever brought to this city.

New Goods Already Arriving and already these new goods are coming in. They are the best that money can buy, and in style they have no superiors and few equals.

Goods For All The Family as has always been the custom and policy of this store since its beginning, we have studied carefully the needs of our customers from the stand point of not only the individual, but the needs and necessities of the whole family.

Our stock will soon be complete; the quality unsurpassed, and the price—always the lowest

A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to come in at once and see the many new goods now arriving daily. Make our store your headquarters, you are always welcome, and your business always appreciated.

Max Mellinger

NOTICE!

Ford Owners

During the entire week beginning Monday, August 15th, Our Ford Trained mechanics will give you

Free of Charge

a special inspection service on your Ford Car or Truck.

Come any day during next week

Merkel Motor Company

Phone 84

Merkel, Tex.

Authorized FORD Dealers

Methodist Church

Church School Sunday morning at the Methodist Church at 9:45 and preaching services at 11.
We hope that all members of the church school may be on time Sunday to have a part in the worship and lesson discussion.

Strangers, visiting friends are invited to worship with us at the eleven o'clock service.

Union service at the Baptist church at 8:30 p.m. W. R. McCarter.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a.m. Wm. Elliott, Supt.

Preaching at 11 o'clock.
C. E. Meets at 7:30.

At 8:30 union services at the Baptist church. Rev. W. R. McCarter will preach. Will you be in all the services? R. A. Walker, Pastor.

CHURCH OF CHRIST MEETING AT BLAIR

Elder J. D. Boren of Big Spring will begin a meeting for the Church of Christ at Blair under the arbor at that place, beginning tonight, August 12th. J. J. Pribble will have charge of the singing. Everybody is cordially invited to come and take part in the services.

Preston Guthrie, of Slaton, stopped over in Merkel, Wednesday enroute to Abilene on business, and spent a short time with old friends.

Baptist Church

All regular services Sunday.

Sunday school 10 a.m. with all departments having their own opening services in their own assembly rooms. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp and Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Matthews we now have a piano for each of the six departments of the Sunday School. Other things secured during the week is the required number of books for our library and a good book case to keep the books in. The books were brought or sent to our book social Monday evening, while the book case was brought by Mr. and Mrs. Willie Joe Largent. Our library is now assured. Of course we can use additional good books especially books on missions, missionaries or biography, and any of the B.Y.P.U. or Sunday School study books. Additional books may be brought Sunday and turned over to the general superintendent or to any department superintendent.

The pastor will preach at the morning hour.
All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 7:15 and everybody stay for the evening preaching hour.

The evening preaching service will be one of the joint preaching services for August. This service will be at the Baptist church with the Methodist pastor, Bro. McCarter, preaching. Let everybody come and find a seat in our cool roomy auditorium.

Visitors and strangers especially welcomed to all services.

Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

Senior B. Y. P. U. Program

Subject: The Great Commandments.

- Leader: Fannie Belle Boaz.
Introduction, by leader.
1. Why we Love God, Mae Lassiter.
2. The first and fundamental command, Bill Haynes.
3. And the second is this, Mary Parrack.
4. Why is my neighbor? Mildred Hamm.
5. Are chinamen heathen or neighbors? Mary Ellen Ashby.
6. Human love an echo of God's love, Eunalee Gilmore.

Philatheas Entertained

Mrs. Virgil Touchstone, teacher of the Philatheas Sunday School class of the Methodist Church, entertained the members of the class at her home Tuesday evening. A short business session was held where plans of work were discussed, after which the guests were entertained with delightful music from the Orthophonic Victrola. Ice cold watermelon was served to the guests on the lawn. Those present were Misses Lorena Dry, Martha Bird, Cora Lee Hulsey, Mildred Matthews, Dorris Durham, Mossie Sears, and Mrs. Tom Allday, Mrs. Touchstone and little daughter, Molly Frank.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Freeman were up last week from their home at Clyde. They had just returned from a business trip and visit to East Texas.

Mrs. Oscar Rohde of Dallas and Misses Jesse and Annie Mae Burch of Blum, Texas, passed through Merkel Monday enroute to Jayton to visit relatives. Mrs. Rohde was a resident of Merkel many years ago, and has relatives buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mr. John Sears and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown left Thursday for the Carlsbad Govern and New Mexico.

Ernest (Bill) Moore, who is with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, was up Sunday for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Willie Moore.

Mr. W. F. Derrick, one of the pioneer and substantial citizens of Collin County, was here several days this week on a visit with his son, C. T. Derrick.

COSTS YOU NOTHING PAYS YOU BEST

Our office is maintained to serve you, without cost, in all insurance matters. Our policies are written to protect you fully and pay you most in cases of loss.

You will find us equipped to give you all forms of property protection insurance, advise you in all insurance matters and serve you at all times. Consider us pleased to give free consultation whenever desired upon insurance.

W. O. BONEY

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer



NONE BETTER

Recommended

And Sold by

Patton's Grocery

Ordinance Determining To Assess a Part of The Cost of Improving a Portion of North Front Street and Oak Street in The City of Merkel, Texas, Against Abutting Property and the Owners, Thereof, Adopting Engineer's Rolls, Providing For Notice of Hearing and Hearing, and Declaring an Emergency.

NOTICE—By making publication of the hereinafter set out ordinance, notice is given of all matters and facts therein contained, which said ordinance is as follows, to-wit:

WHEREAS, by ordinance passed on the 25th day of July, 1927, the City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas, ordered that sundry streets in said city be improved by raising, grading, and filling same, and paving with 2 1/2 inch Vertical Fibre Brick on 5 inch Concrete Base, with concrete curbs and gutters, together with all incidental and appurtenances as provided in the plans and specifications referred to in the contract hereinafter mentioned, the said streets so ordered improved being as follows, to-wit:

NORTH FRONT STREET, from the West property line of Runnels street to the East property line of Lamar Street, known and designated as Unit or District No. 6.

OAK STREET, from 2 feet north of the north rail of the north track of the T. & P. Railway Company to 10 feet south of the south property line of North Front Street, known and designated as Unit or District No. 7.

WHEREAS, contract was let and entered into with Panhandle Construction Company for the making and construction of such improvements, and the City Engineer has prepared and filed rolls or statements concerning the improvements and assessments therefor in each unit, and same has been examined and all errors found therein by the City Council corrected; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined to assess a portion of the cost of such improvements against the owners of the property abutting thereon and against such abutting property;

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TEXAS: THAT,

I.

The City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas, does hereby determine to assess a portion of the cost of said improvements on said portions of streets, against abutting property thereon, and against the owners of such property, said assessments to be levied in exercise of the powers granted by Articles 1086 to 1096, both inclusive, and Articles 1104 and 1105 of the Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas, of 1925, heretofore adopted by the City.

II.

Said rolls or statements, as corrected, be and the same are hereby adopted and approved.

III.

The proportion of the cost in each district or unit to be assessed against abutting property and the owners thereof shall, in accordance with the proceedings concerning such improvements, be apportioned among the respective parcels of property abutting upon the improvements, in accordance with the front foot plan or rule, provided, that if the application of this rule shall in the opinion of the City Council result in particular cases in injustice or inequality, or in assessments in excess of special benefits to the property in the enhanced value thereof by means of the improvements in the particular district or unit upon which the property abuts, then the City Council shall adopt such rule in each district or unit as shall effect a substantial equality between the parcels of property abutting upon such district or unit and the owners thereof, considering benefits received and burdens imposed, and provided further that in no case shall any assessments be levied against any abutting property or the owners thereof for any part of the cost of improvements in excess of the special benefits in the enhanced value of such property by means of the improvements in the district or unit upon which such property abuts, as ascertained at the hearing herein provided for, each district or unit being considered as a separate and independent unit of improvement, and the omission of improvements in any district or unit shall in nowise affect or impair assessments levied, and the omission of improvements in front of any property exempt by law from the lien of special assessments shall in nowise affect or impair the validity of assessments. Assessments when levied shall be and constitute the first enforceable lien and claim on the property against which such assessments are levied, superior to all other liens and claims, except state, county and municipal taxes, and shall also be a personal liability and charge against the real and true owner thereof. The description of the parcels and tracts of the abutting property, the several amounts proposed to be assessed against such parcels of property, and the owners thereof, the total estimated cost of the improvements in each district, the total amount proposed to be assessed against each parcel of property and other matters and things as shown on said rolls or statements, being as follows, to-wit:

ENGINEER'S ROLL OR STATEMENT FOR NORTH FRONT STREET FROM THE WEST PROPERTY LINE OF RUNNELS STREET TO THE EAST PROPERTY LINE OF LAMAR STREET, KNOWN AS UNIT NO. 6.

No.	Name	Lot	Block	Addition	No. Front Ft.	Assessment for Improvements Excl. of Curb	Assessment For Curb	TOTAL Assessment
1.	Mrs. A. C. Boney	15	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
2.	Mrs. A. C. Boney	14	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
3.	Mrs. A. C. Boney	13	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
4.	Mrs. A. C. Boney	12	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
5.	Jno. Bell Est.	11	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
6.	E. E. Leslie	10	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
7.	Jno. Bell Est.	9	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
8.	Jno. Bell Est.	8	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
9.	W. J. Fulwiler	7	21	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
10.	W. J. Fulwiler	S44' of 4,5&6	21	Original Town	25	463.89	30.00	493.89
11.	H. L. Propst & Ross Ferrier	15	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
12.	H. L. Propst & Ross Ferrier	14	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
13.	W. F. Jones	13	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
14.	E. L. Turner	12	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
15.	W. S. Telford	11&W8' of 10	20	Original Town	33	204.11	13.20	217.31
16.	A. B. Patterson	E17' of 10&W4' of 9	20	Original Town	21	129.89	8.40	138.29
17.	A. B. Patterson	E21' of 9	20	Original Town	21	129.89	8.40	138.29
18.	W. O. Boney	8	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
19.	J. W. Wheeler	7	20	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
20.	J. T. Warren	S80 of 4,5&6	20	Original Town	75	463.89	30.00	493.89
21.	Geo. F. West	15	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
22.	Geo. F. West	14	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
23.	Geo. F. West	13	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
24.	Geo. F. West	12	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
25.	Geo. F. West	11	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
26.	C. T. Derrick	10	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
27.	Mrs. A. A. Baker	9	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
28.	Mrs. A. A. Baker	8	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
29.	Mrs. A. A. Baker	7	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
30.	W. T. Daniel	6	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
31.	W. T. Daniel	5	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
32.	J. N. McNay	4	19	Original Town	25	154.63	10.00	164.63
33.	T. & P. Ry. Co.	Abutting Right of Way			1140	7,051.10	79.80	7,130.90
					2040	\$12,617.78	\$439.80	
Rate per lineal foot for Curb (North Side).....					\$0.40	Amount Total Property Owners.....		\$13,057.58
Rate per lineal foot for Curb (South Side).....					0.07	Amount City's Part.....		4,205.92
Rate per front foot for other improvements.....					\$6.18518	TOTAL COST.....		\$17,263.50

ENGINEER'S ROLL OR STATEMENT FOR OAK STREET FROM 2 FEET NORTH OF THE NORTH RAIL OF THE NORTH TRACK OF THE T. & P. R. R. CO. TO 10 FEET SOUTH OF THE SOUTH PROPERTY LINE OF NORTH FRONT STREET, KNOWN AS UNIT NO. 7.

No.	Name	DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	Lot	Block	Addition	No. Front Ft.	Assessment for Improvements Excl. of Curb	Assessment For Curb	TOTAL Assessment
1.	Texas & Pacific Ry. Co.	Abutting Right of Way	55			55	456.85	22.00	478.85
2.	Texas & Pacific Ry Co.	Abutting Right of Way	55			55	456.85	22.00	478.85
						110	913.70	44.00	
Rate per lineal foot for Curb.....						\$0.40	Amount Total Property Owners.....		\$ 957.70
Rate per front foot for other improvements.....						\$8.30645	Amount City's Part.....		304.58
							TOTAL COST.....		\$1,262.28

IV.

A hearing shall be given by and before the governing body of the City of Merkel, Texas, on the 15th day of August, A. D. 1927, at 3 o'clock P. M., in the City Hall of Merkel, Texas, in the regular council meeting room, to the owners of the respective parcels of property, and to all others in any wise interested, whether they be named herein or not, all of whom are hereby notified to be and appear at the time and place herein named and fixed, and hearing shall be continued from time to time and from day to day, if necessary, until all desiring and presenting themselves to be heard shall have been fully and fairly heard, and at which hearing any mistakes, irregularities, or invalidities in any of the proceedings with reference to the making of said improvements or assessments therefor may be corrected, and the benefits by means of the said improvements, and the amounts of the assessments, and the apportionment of the cost of the said improvements upon the said streets to be improved, and any and all other matters and things shall be determined, and the real and true owners of the property abutting upon the said streets to be improved, and any and all others in any wise interested, their agents and attorneys, shall be and appear at said hearing at said time and place and present and make any protests or objections, which they or any of them may have as to the said improvements, as to the benefits therefrom, as to the cost thereof, as to the amounts of such assessments, or as to any mistakes, irregularity or invalidity in any proceeding with reference to said assessments, such improvements or the contract therefor, and as to any other matter or thing in anywise connected, either with the said improvements, contract or proceedings, and after all desiring and presenting themselves to be heard, either in person or by agents, attorneys or representatives have been fully and fairly heard, the said hearing shall be closed and assessments will by ordinance and in accordance with the law and the proceedings of the city be levied against the respective parcels of abutting property and the owners thereof, whether such owners be named herein or not, and whether the property be correctly described herein or not. At such hearing anyone in any wise interested or affected may subpoena witnesses and introduce evidence, and has the right to appear and to be heard.

V.

Assessments against abutting property and the owners shall be a personal liability of the owners of such property and a first and prior lien on the property against which assessments are levied, and shall be due and payable in six equal installments, due respectively on or before ten days, one, two, three, four, and five years, after completion and acceptance of the improvements upon which the particular property abuts, and said assessments shall bear interest from the date of such completion and acceptance and until paid at the rate of 8% per annum, payable annually, provided, any owner shall have the right to pay any installment at any time before maturity by paying principal with interest accrued to date of payment; provided, further that if default be made in the payment of any installment promptly as the same matures, then the entire assessment upon which such default is made shall, at the option of the contractor, or its assigns, be and become immediately due and payable and shall be collectable together with reasonable attorney's fees and costs of collection, if incurred.

VI.

The improvements in each said District or Unit constitute an entirely separate, distinct and independent unit, and the proposed assessments for the improvements in each Unit are in no wise affected by any fact or circumstance in connection with any other unit, all to the same extent and as full as if entirely separate and independent contracts had been made for each Unit and separate proceedings had, separate hearings and separate notices thereof ordered.

VII.

The City Secretary of the City of Merkel is directed to give notice to the owners of property abutting upon the said portions of streets named to be improved and to all others interested, of the time, place, and purpose of such hearing, and of all matters and things, by causing a substantial copy of this ordinance to be published at least three times in newspaper published in and of general circulation in the City of Merkel, Texas, the first of which publications shall be made at least ten days before the date for such hearing, and by such publication all owners of property abutting upon said portions of said streets, whether named herein or not, and whether the property be correctly described herein or not, as well as all others in anywise interested therein or to be affected thereby, shall be and are duly notified, and no error or mistake in the name of any property owner, in the description of any property, in the amount of any proposed assessment, shall in anywise affect or invalidate such notice or any assessment levied pursuant thereto, and the real true owners of such abutting property shall be and are by such notice duly and fully notified. The City Secretary is further directed, but not required, to give further notice of such hearing by causing a substantial copy of such published notice to be mailed to each owner of property abutting upon such portions of said streets, but all such notices by mail shall be only cumulative of such notice by advertisement, and publication, and said notice by advertisement and publication shall in all cases be sufficient and binding whether or not any other kind or character of notice be given.

VIII.

The present condition of said portions of said streets endangered health and it is necessary that the improvement thereof be proceeded with at once, and while the weather will permit, and such facts constitute and create an emergency and an urgent public necessity requiring that the rules and provisions providing for ordinances to be read more than one time or at more than one meeting be suspended, and requiring that this ordinance be passed as and take effect as an emergency measure, and such rules and provisions are accordingly suspended and this ordinance is passed as and shall take effect as an emergency measure and shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Passed and approved this 25th day of July, 1927.

H. C. WEST, Mayor, City of Merkel, Texas.

ATTEST: PAULINE JOHNSON, City Secretary.

DONE BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL, TEXAS.
PAULINE JOHNSON, City Secretary.

PROFESSIONAL

DR. W. M. GAMBILL
Dentist
—X-Ray Diagnosis—
Office phone 116 Res. phone 108
Office on Front St.; Boney Bldg

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Office Over Farmers State Bank
Res. Phone 12. Office 195.
Local Surgeon T. & P. For Last 10 Years.
Furnish Drugs From Office.

T. C. WILSON
...JEWELER...
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.

—PILES CURED—
No Knife No Pain No Detention
from Work
DR. E. E. COCKRELL
Rectal and Skin Specialist
of Abilene, Texas
Phone No. 359 Alexander Bldg

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

FREE! FREE!
One Large 8x10 Enlargement
with each \$5.00 worth of
Kodak Finishing
RODDEN'S STUDIO
Roll Developed 10c; Prints 3,4,5c
—ONE DAY SERVICE—
All Work Strictly Guaranteed

H. P. HULSEY, D. C.
CHIROPRACTOR
Merkel, Teas Phone 51
In Boney Building on Front St.

Exide
BATTERIES
Watch the old Battery, Boys!
I am here for your benefit
as well as mine.
Plenty of New Batteries on hand
PRICES RIGHT
S. M. HUNTER
at EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

Full Set Teeth \$17.50
No Better Plate Made at Any Price
22-k Gold used in all Crown and
Bridge work at \$4.50 and Up
Gold Fillings \$1.50 and Up.
I Cure Those Old Bad Gums.

NATURAL GUMS
DR. HOUGHTON
All Work Guaranteed
25 Years Experience
SOUTH SIDE DENTIST
116 1-2 Chestnut St. Abilene.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

WALL PAPER—A few patterns wall border and ceilings, enough for 14-ft. rooms. \$1.50 per room. Phone 121. 1t

FOR SALE—Stephens Hotel. Price \$8,800, \$3,700 cash. See owner. 12t4p

Why not build up your system, appetite and blood, Dr. Shoop's Restorative will do the work. Guaranteed and sold by Hamm Drug Company. 1t

You may send your child for meat with the assurance of receiving the same good quality as if you came for it yourself—if you send to Baker & Wheeler Market. 1t

FOR SALE—A good syrup mill, almost new. Will take \$40. See J. L. Harris. 5t3p

FOR SALE—8-horse power portable engine. Almost as good as new and at almost your own price. Have bought an electric motor. C. M. Largent. 1t

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—2 unfurnished or furnished rooms. 3rd house north Guitar Gin. Fred Deutschman. 1t

FOR RENT—Two residences, one furnished and one unfurnished. All modern conveniences. Close in to town church and school. S. F. Haynes. 1tp

FOR RENT—Three rooms furnished or unfurnished. Near school. Mrs. G. R. Holloway. 1tp

ROOM and BOARD—Would take boy or girl for room and board during school term. Modern conveniences, reasonable rent. Apply to Jack Durham at Mail office. 1t

FOR RENT—2 unfurnished or furnished rooms. 3rd house north Guitar Gin. Fred Deutschman. 1t

UNFURNISHED Rooms—2, newly papered, 5 blocks south of depot on Oak street. Couple preferred, small child considered. Mrs. N. E. Sandlin. 1tp

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Masonic charm, 32nd degree emblem. Finder return to L. R. Thompson and receive reward. 1tp

LOST—A ladies brown scarf, bordered in black, all wool. Lost on road from Stith to Eli Case farm. Finder please leave at Bradley's store or the Merkel Mail. J. L. Barker. 1tp

LOST—Green colored eversharp pencil. Finder please return to L. R. Thompson and receive reward. 1t

We kill home-raised meat and try to keep Merkel money in Merkel. Baker & Wheeler Market. 1t

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Victrolas, Guns and
Bicycles Repaired
See
CLYDE FOSTER
Phone 154J

I am a malicious mosquito!

I should be killed!
Bee Brand Powder or Liquid kills Flies, Fleas, Mosquitoes, Roaches, Ants, Water Bugs, Bed Bugs, Moths, Crickets, Poultry Lice and many other insects.

Powder	Liquid
10c and 25c	50c and 75c
50c and \$1.00	\$1.25
30c	Spray Gun .35c

Write for free booklet on killing house and garden insects

McCormick & Co.
Baltimore, Md.

Bee Brand
INSECT
POWDER
LIQUID

WANTED

ROOMS WANTED—There will be about 75 men, some with families, who will be employed in Merkel for the next two or more months putting in pipe lines in the town and between Abilene and Sweetwater. Anyone having rooms for light housekeeping or bed rooms should list them in the classified column of this paper for quick results. Phone 61 right now. 1t

WANTED—Single man to do farm and ranch work. Tom Largent. 1t
HONEY FOR SALE—Pure extracted Honey. See J. T. King, phone 206. 1p

WANTED—Man with small family to do farm and ranch work. C. M. Largent. 1t

ANNUAL BARNYARD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT AT STATE FAIR

If there are any horseshoe pitchers in this community who believe that they are able to hold their own with the experts of other places in the State, now comes their chance.

The State Fair of Texas will inaugurate its first annual Barnyard Golf Championship Tournament, at the big fair Oct. 8 to 23, "barnyard golf" being the fancy game that has been fastened upon the game of pitching horseshoes.

The tournament will be held under the sanction and according to the rules of the National Horseshoe Pitchers' Association, which conducts all such tournaments at the large state fairs in the north and east.

The champion who wins this tournament will be eligible to enter the National Tournaments next year, and let us all hope he will bring the national championship to Texas.

The list of prizes and the rules under which the tournament will be held may be had by anyone interested by addressing a request to Roy R. Ward, Secretary State Fair of Texas, Dallas.

PAINTING—PAPERHANGING
We strive to please and leave proof. Have your work done right and save money. Estimates Free and appreciated.

A. L. Bryant & Bro.
Box 536, Merkel, Texas
City Res. 2 blocks northeast Postoffice
Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

Mr. Carvel Tucker, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tucker, of this city, came in this week for a few days visit. For the past few years young Tucker has been attending the State University and teaching school in South Texas. On his return home he was accompanied by his young bride, who before their marriage about a month ago was Miss Beulah Cobb, of Goldthwaite. For the coming school term both Mr. and Mrs. Tucker have been employed to teach in the High school at Wellington, Texas. They are both experienced and capable teachers and will no doubt prove very satisfactory to the patrons of the schools in that city.

20 Families Kin to Pre-Conquest Saxons

London.—The controversy as to the tallest family tree in England reached a climax when A. C. Fox Davis, genealogist, and Sir Francis Galton, anthropologist and Darwin's cousin, came out recently with authoritative comment.

Mr. Davis declared there were 20 families who have direct descent from Saxon ancestry before the Conquest, while 35 descended through the male line from ancestors who rode in the ships of William the Conqueror. None is yet bold enough to say how Caesar's gauleys figured. Sir Francis Galton, in writing "The Ancestral Law," calculates that a man descended from a Norman baron, assuming a weight of 100 pounds, contains one-fiftieth of a grain of blue Norman blood, which hardly seems enough to fuss about.

Going back to 1066, it was ascertained that a person born in the early part of the Twentieth century has 67,108,876 ancestors, while nearly half of the actual ancestors—33,554,432—are accounted for during the Norman conquest, which is greater than the estimated population of western Europe of the year 1100.

Flying Boats in Orient to Serve Meals at Bar

London.—Extensive flying tests are being made by imperial airways pilots in Singapore in a Rolls Royce flying boat—a large, all-metal aircraft built for the air ministry to co-operate with the fleet at sea—and it is now announced that two all-metal flying boats will be built to make experimental flights over the Calcutta-Rangoon section projected on an empire air route connecting London with Australia.

Each of these new passenger flying boats will be driven by three Jupiter engines, with a total of 1,350 horsepower, and will be equipped with a refreshment bar for serving hot and cold meals while in flight.

Palace Theatre
10c-30c—FRIDAY & SATURDAY—10c-30c
BEBE DANIELS
—in—
"A KISS IN A TAXI"
BEBE'S BEST BET—DON'T MISS IT!
COMEDY A Paramount Picture and NEWS
Monday and Tuesday
DOROTHY GISH
—in—
"NELL GWYN"
DEDICATED TO ALL LADIES IN LOVE
COMEDY A Paramount Picture and NEWS
Wednesday and Thursday
"OLD SOAK"
A Universal Jewel PATHE COMEDY
"NEVER A DISAPPOINTMENT"

GRAY FAMILY HOLDS REUNION SUNDAY AT MERKEL RESIDENCE

Merkel, Aug. 10.—A reunion of the Gray family was held Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Smith Gray, celebrating the 36th birthday of the eldest son, G. Boss Gray, of Deport, Texas. At the noon hour a picnic lunch was spread and the afternoon was spent in kodaking, singing and pleasant conversation.

This was the first reunion in 15 years. All of the children except Mrs. Sid Flemings of Merkel were present. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Gray and son, Terry; Mr. and Mrs. Boss Gray and son and daughter, Waylen and Mavis of Deport; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Gray and daughter, Ona Fay of Hill, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gray and son, Leroy; Mr. and Mrs. Everett King and sons, Harold, Carlton and Raebon of

Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. Clint Stewart and daughter, Billijo; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Brewster and daughter, Bobbie Louise, and Lloyd Gray of Capps. Invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Dave Anderson and son, Odell; Mr. and Mrs. Homer Campbell and son, Junior, and Miss Opal Brookerson of Hill, N. M.—Abilene Morning News.

Sale Bills If you intend to have a sale get our prices
PRINTED
We are fixed for turning out work of this kind in double-quick time.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

Good Citizenship and Good Business

Do you know why it is that when this Company enters a new town in West Texas with its services the leading citizens of that town generally consider themselves fortunate? One reason, of course, is because they know that their homes, their business institutions, and their industries are assured for all time an adequate, absolutely dependable electric light and power service at reasonable rates.

But that is not the only reason. They have every reason to believe, from what they have seen of this Company's actions and policies in other towns, that they are gaining a GOOD CITIZEN.

Good citizenship and good business policy and practice usually go hand in hand. The good business man realizes that the success and growth of his business depends exactly upon the success and growth and welfare of the community in which he does business. And if he conducts his business on sound principles he will neglect no opportunity to aid in the advancement and growth of that community.

Steinmetz once said that "Cooperation is not a sentiment; it is an economic necessity."

The stockholders of this company, through their directors, have permanently invested in West Texas more than twenty millions of dollars, building here one of the major electric power distribution systems in America. Unless West Texas shall grow and develop and prosper, their enormous investment will have been unwisely made.

This company therefore conceives it to be not only a duty it owes to the public it serves, but an economic necessity that it shall in every possible way foster and encourage and assist in every proper effort for the advancement and improvement of the communities which it is privileged to serve. It has always been found, and will always be found, in the forefront of every worthy movement looking toward the development of the schools, the churches, the civic institutions and public enterprises soundly conceived and properly promoted for the general welfare.

That is its conception of GOOD CITIZENSHIP and GOOD BUSINESS.

West Texas Utilities Company

**MRS. J. B. WARREN
CELEBRATES HER
82nd BIRTHDAY**

On Wednesday of this week Mrs. J. B. Warren, one of the pioneer and honored citizens of Merkel celebrated her 82nd birthday, having with her on this happy occasion all of her children as well as a pleasant visit during the day from many kind friends.

A bountiful and delicious noon-day lunch was prepared by the daughters and daughters-in-law and neatly and tastily spread for all present, including a birthday cake bearing 82 tiny candles, which was brought by Mrs. T. A. Warren, of Waco.

This was the first time since December 25, 1912, that the entire family had the pleasure of all meeting in a family reunion, and the occasion was indeed a happy one and brought special joy and happiness to the Dear Mother, of whom each was so proud to honor with their presence.

During the afternoon many good and true friends came to visit Mrs. Warren, and among them we would mention Mesdames Nannie and Elizabeth Armstrong, who have been close friends of Mrs. Warren for seventy years, and during the afternoon hour iced melon was served to all.

Those present for the happy event were: T. A. Warren and family, of Waco; Mrs. J. F. Campbell, Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. E. Q. Warren and H. M. Warren and family of Knox City; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Warren, Anson; and Misses Johnnie and Irene Warren of Merkel. In the evening the family of Mrs. Campbell came over from Abilene as follows: J. F. Campbell, Wade Campbell, Mrs. Lee Griswald and Geo. F. Campbell and family.

**MRS. V. GARNER PASSED
AWAY LAST SUNDAY**

Mrs. Kate McDaniel Garner, wife of Mr. V. Garner, residing some three miles northwest of this city, after an illness of some three weeks suffering from Typhoid Fever, died at the family home last Sunday morning.

Deceased was born July 1886, in Comanche county, Texas, and was married to Mr. Garner 24 years ago. To this union five sons were born, three of whom survive with the husband to mourn her sad departure.

At the age of 27 years Mrs. Garner became identified with the Missionary Baptist church, and throughout all the years has lived a faithful and consistent member.

Her remains were conveyed by the Barrow Furniture Company undertakers to Comanche, where she was tenderly laid to rest in the presence of a large concourse of sorrowing friends from both this community and her former home.

**LIST YOUR ROOMS WITH
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

There will be about 75 men, some with families, who will be employed in Merkel for the next two or more months putting in pipe lines in the town and between Abilene and Sweetwater. Anyone having rooms for light housekeeping or bed rooms please list them at once and let the price be in keeping with the accommodations and not higher than that charged by other towns. Phone 101.

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



There's just one way to keep all the sweetness of your baby through years to come—have photographs made often.

Bring baby in the morning, fresh from a nap.

SPECIAL PRICES LAST ONLY A FEW DAYS

Rodden Studio

What's What For Fall?

Felts of every description, Plain Felts and Felt Combinations

The best assortment of early Fall hats ever shown in Merkel are now open for your inspection.

Others to come most every day. Select yours early before best numbers are sold.

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

"The Place Most People Trade"

**FAMILY COMES FROM
AFAR TO GREET BUZBEE**

The home of Mr. and Mrs. S. W. H. Buzbee near Ovalo was the scene of a family reunion Sunday in honor of Mr. Buzbee on his seventy-first birthday. Seven of the 10 children of Mr. and Mrs. Buzbee were present, with 10 grand-children and four great-grandchildren and a number of visitors. Some of the children had not met in 10 years. At noon a bountiful dinner was served on the lawn, cafeteria style.

Those present for the occasion with the pioneer West Texas couple were Mr. and Mrs. George H. Montgomery, Pasadena, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Buzbee and family of Olney; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Buzbee and family of Olney; Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Berry and family of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Buzbee and daughter of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Johnson and family of Ovalo; Mrs. Dovie Buzbee and family of Abilene; Mrs. E. B. Wheelock and children of Lubbock; Will Buzbee of Big Spring, Miss Minnie Buzbee of Ovalo; Mr. and Mrs. Claud Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Johnson and daughter of Abilene.—Abilene Morning News.

Misses Faye Smith of Stanton and Mildred Smith of Merkel spent last week at a house party of Mr. and Mrs. E. Clyde Smith of Hamlin.



Making both ends meet sometimes is a serious proposition, and that may be the reason why families are getting smaller and smaller. It sort of makes a man feel glad that he was born, because if he wasn't, the chances are that he wouldn't be. You're taking no chances when equipping your car with India Tires. Extra mileage at no greater cost with even greater riding comfort is their boast.

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

**THE TEXAS STATE FAIR
TO HAVE BETTER AND
MORE FIREWORKS**



There will be plenty of fireworks at the State Fair of Texas this year, both day and night. The management decided to drop the usual "spectacle" for the next show, Oct. 8 to 23, and to put into actual fireworks the money hitherto spent on the pay rolls for supers to act in these spectacles. Consequently, while there will be no scenery, no parades or supers, no canvas palaces toppling down as in Pompeii, Tokio, the World War and such spectacles, there will be fireworks and a lot of them and all of the best and most brilliant sorts that money can buy. Many people complained that these "shows" which preceded the fireworks were somewhat tame and only detained the crowds who were really desirous of seeing the fireworks and not the preliminaries. So the State Fair management is making the new experiment, believing that by putting the cost of the "shows" into better and more fireworks, they will please a larger crowd and give a really better entertainment.

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**GREATER DEMAND FOR
SPACE ON IMPLEMENT
ROW AT STATE FAIR**



Implement and machinery dealers are evidently looking forward to a banner year in Texas, for not for decades has there been such a demand for space on Implement Row at the State Fair of Texas as has developed this summer.

With all Texas learning the lesson that modern farming pays dividends when properly conducted, with examples on every hand of what others are doing in the line of advanced methods and with bumper crops and good prices in sight, the implement men evidently expect to do business on a grand scale this fall. Hence the demand which has made it necessary to add new space to Implement Row at Fair Park. It is hinted that several new devices of rather startling nature are to be shown by some of the exhibitors.

Mr. Allen Ozee and family of Fort Worth were here this week visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker.

**TEXAS A. & M. COLLEGE TO
DEMONSTRATE COTTON
GROWING AT STATE FAIR**

Texas A. & M. College, which in the past has contented itself with an exhibit at the State Fair consisting of a model of the college grounds and buildings, will this year completely reverse itself and display one of the most interesting demonstrations that possibly could be arranged, it is announced from College Station.

It will make an exhibit which will demonstrate every step in the cotton industry from the preparation of the soil for the seed right down to the time the finished cotton fabric is placed in the hands of the consumer.

**STATE FAIR OF TEXAS TO
OPEN SIX NEW EXIT GATES**

Six new exit gates from the grounds of the State Fair of Texas will make it possible to empty the grounds of all cars in from seven to ten minutes, even after the conclusion of the biggest football games, when the cars are thickest. At first but three new exits were planned, but engineers pointed out how and where additional openings could be made and used to aid the crowds in getting away. The former gates will be used for entrance only. No change has been made in those latter locations.

The directors of the State Fair of Texas claim that their efforts to give the people of Texas this fall the best State Fair ever held has resulted in every individual department being improved 100 per cent over what it was last year or any year in the past. Over a million attendance is expected.



ALWAYS GOOD GOOD ALL WAYS
TRY A CAN
You'll Like It!
J. N. Carson & Son



Good-bye, Tired Feet

Try This Better Flexible Sole Made of Wolverine Shell Cordovan Horsehide

If your feet ache after a hard day's work, it's time you tried a different kind of work shoe—made of Wolverine Shell Cordovan Horsehide. It has a flexible, comfortable sole that has been perfected by five generations' tanning experience.

The most durable, comfortable leather for work shoes is Shell Cordovan Horsehide—

because it includes a reinforcing shell in uppers and soles. It wears longer and dries out soft and plump regardless of weather. And only in Wolverine Work Shoes can you buy this marvelous leather.

Come in today and see this nationally-advertised shoe. There's a style for every farm job—and surprisingly reasonable prices.

GREEN STAMPS

given with every pair of shoes whether they are sold at regular or reduced prices.

BROWN'S

**"A KISS IN A TAXI"
BEBE DANIELS BEST**

Few comedies have come to the screen during the past twelve months that can compare in plot interest or swiftness with "A Kiss in a Taxi," Bebe Daniels' new Paramount starring picture, now showing at the Palace Theatre.

In it, the vivacious comedienne plays Ginette, bewitching waitress of the Parisian Montmartre. All patrons seek to kiss her but she is unobtainable, answering each advance with a fresh shower of glassware. Chester Conklin, Maraval, treasurer of the Artists' Society, has one of the best opportunities of his long mustached career. Douglas Gilmore, Paramount's latest leading man, gives a splendid performance as Lucien, Bebe's sweetheart.

"A Kiss in a Taxi" bears the stamp of sterling comedy not only because of its cast but also due to the capable direction it received from Director Clarence Badger who seems quite satisfied to create one continual line of successful farces for Famous Players-Lasky.

Jocelyn Lee gives added zest to the picture as Conklin's attractive secretary. Others excellent in their roles are Henry Kolker, Richard Tucker, Agostino Borgato, Eulalie Jensen and Rose Burdick. By all means see "A Kiss in a Taxi."

**MRS. LELA EFFIE SMITH
PASSES AWAY 7th.**

Mrs. Lela Effie Smith, wife of Austin Smith of this city, after a short illness died early Sunday morning. She was 33 years of age and besides her husband she leaves five children, two of whom are married, to mourn her departure. The two daughters, Mrs. A. D. Houston of Ranger and Mrs. Dudley Pittman of Haskell, were present for the sad occasion.

Funeral services were conducted by Elder J. L. Pummill, with burial immediately after in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hunter left Wednesday for their home in Lubbock after a visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hunter and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Campbell.

Mr. Bill Dean and Alford Windham left last week for East Texas where they will spend a few days visiting friends and relatives.