

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 40—NO. 35

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1928.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

## West Texas C. of C. Backs State Road Bond Issue

### 127 STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

#### ONE IN FOUR OF MERKEL PUPILS REACH 90 MARK

Thirty-nine From High School and Eighty-Eight From the Grammar School on Coveted List Second Six Weeks.

Below will be found the names of those pupils who for the second six weeks' period have made the honor roll of the Merkel public schools. This list contains the names of 127 pupils, 99 from the High school and 88 from the Grammar school. This means that about one in every four of the pupils in the Merkel schools have reached the standard set for this roll of honor. Many more names should appear than do if pupils and parents would take a little more pride in seeing that the pupil is present every day and on time, according to a statement by the faculty.

The following pupils have been neither absent or tardy, have made at least 90 in deportment, have not made less than 75 on any one subject, and have made a general average for the period of 90 or more:

- GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**  
 First Grade, Miss Russell.  
 W. C. Copeland, 92; Richmond Buford, 90; W. I. Wozencraft, 90; Pearl Mathews, 90.  
 First Grade, Mrs. Teaff.  
 Mable Murray, 94; Joyce Hayes, 93; Barnum Novian, 93.  
 Second Grade, Miss Pogue.  
 Jannell Black, 93; Leroy Denny, 93; Tally Jr. Holloway, 91; Charles Idings, 91; Doris Diltz, 91; Lois Adkisson, 90; Lucile Gilmore, 90.  
 Second Grade, Miss West.  
 Charles Andy Shouse, 93; Clyde Sears, 92.  
 Third Grade, Mrs. Anderson.  
 Betty Grimes, 93; Waymon Adcock, 92; Alta Grayson, 91; Laverne Hughes, 91; Davis Beasley, 90; Vincent Barnett, 90.  
 Third Grade, Miss Heizer.  
 Marvin Perkins, 93; Laurence Thornton, 93; Morris Wozencraft, 93; De La Vergne Teague, 92; Marguerite Berger, 91; Gail Peterson, 90.  
 Fourth Grade, Mrs. Cookston.  
 Harold Morgan, 94; Louise Toombs, 94; Mollie Frank Touchstone, 94; Florence Nicholson, 92; Aliene Parks, 91; Thelma Patterson, 91; Holt Vaughn, 91; Billy Woodrum, 91; Murry Toombs, 90.  
 Fourth Grade, Miss Guitard.  
 Horace Boney, 93; Mabel Maddox, 93; Don Brown, 93; Janet Hayes, 92; Preston Chaney, 92; Beth Holloway, 91.  
 Fifth Grade, Miss Bridwell.  
 Ethelda Tucker, 94; Wanda Owen, 93; A. C. Sears, 90; Alice Russell, 90; Ben Sublett, 90; Modyne Sheppard, 90; Jackie Slater, 90.  
 Fifth Grade, Miss Hayes.  
 Billie Bernice Gambill, 91; Deverle Brown, 91; Mary Helen Lancaster, 90; Jack Lowe, 90.  
 Sixth Grade, Miss Rodden.  
 Annie Lee Owens, 93; Julia Proctor, 93; Mabel Morton, 92; Sarah Sheppard, 91; Harold Reese, 90.  
 Sixth Grade, Miss Coates.  
 Walderine Huskey, 94; Wilma Gardner, 93; Frances Adcock, 92; Laverne Golden, 92; David Gamble, 91; Besse Lee Church, 91; Vivian Lasiter, 91; Hail Destinne, 90.  
 Seventh Grade, Mr. Duke.  
 Fay Vantreese, 95; Mildred Richardson, 94; Joyce Wheeler, 94; Jack Baker, 93; Margaret Miller, 93; Larine White, 93; Jim Patterson, 93; Melba Taylor, 92; Roy Robbins, 91; Marcell Shouse, 91.  
 Seventh Grade, Mrs. Sublett.  
 Eugene Middleton, 97; Opal Huskey, 95; Francis Marie Church, 94; Ifer Hollingsworth, 93; Howard Fisher, 92; Nadine Field, 92; Meyer Regger, 92; Duncan Briggs, 91; Yo Leach, 91; Gordon Murray, 90.
- HIGH SCHOOL.**  
 Eighth Grade, Miss Martin.  
 Ferrier, 93; Lela Patterson, 91; Line Salter, 92; Oleta Moore, 91; Church, 90; Ida Mae Der-

#### Merkel Choral and Glee Clubs Heard Over Station KFYO

Merkel High School Choral and Glee clubs popularized themselves with a KFYO radio audience Wednesday evening, broadcasting from the Abilene studio. The program was directed by Miss Christine Collins, with Mrs. E. Yates Brown at the piano. Of special interest to West Texas listeners was the fact that the two opening numbers were written by the first woman to organize a Choral club in Merkel, Mrs. Beulah Burkett Howard, now living at Stamford. Both numbers were dedicated to her.

Ralph Duke, pupil of Miss Collins, gave two vocal numbers, and Mrs. Homer Patterson appeared in a highly pleasing piano selection. Two excellent numbers were rendered by the Glee club, followed by a well executed violin selection by Lynn McSpadden.

The two closing numbers were by the Choral club. The club responded to a request for "Highways Are Happy Ways," and Mrs. Brown gave a special piano selection at the request of listeners.

Club members who participated on the program report a delightful time, with many expressions of commendation. Twenty-four telephone calls were received expressing appreciation of listeners.

#### TRENT WORKMAN IS ELECTROCUTED

Contact With Two High Voltage Lines Fatal to C. E. Miller Late Saturday.

Trent, Dec. 6.—Contact with two high voltage lines recently installed to operate the new automatic block signal system for the T. & P. railroad, resulted in the instant death of C. E. Miller, carpenter, engaged in the construction of a tool house for the railroad, late Saturday afternoon.

Miller was on top of the tool house which was crossed at right angles by the high voltage wires. In leaning forward one of his hands came in contact with the wires and he was killed instantly. Mr. Freeman, electrician at Trent, who was passing saw Millican enmeshed in the wires and rushed to his assistance, loosening the wires from the electrocuted man with a dry board. The body was taken to Sweetwater to await the arrival of relatives. His wife and three children reside in Dallas, as do three brothers.

Millican had been working at Trent for about five weeks, the construction work on which he was engaged including five section houses in addition to the tool house.

#### Merkel Men Attend Boy Scout Meeting of Chisholm Trail

T. G. Bragg, Homer Patterson and L. R. Thompson attended the meeting of the Chisholm Trail Boy Scouts at Abilene Wednesday, at which time reports were made of scouting activities among 892 Boy Scouts under direction of 342 volunteer adult leaders in the seven counties composing the Chisholm Trail area.

The report was made by Ed Chisholm of Abilene, who was re-elected secretary and Scout executive. Other officers elected were: James P. Stinson, Abilene, president; Col. R. I. Penick, Stamford, vice president; L. R. Thompson, Merkel; Sim O'Neal, Coleman; G. E. Nicholson, Winters; Emory Menefee, Haskell, vice-presidents; Geo. L. Paxton, Jr., Abilene, council treasurer; Dr. R. A. Maddox, Abilene, Scout commissioner; Herbert Patterson of Merkel, Tom Strickland of Coleman, J. E. Pirie of Albany and A. O. Strother of Winters, deputy commissioners.

**Ballinger Leader Dead.**  
 Ballinger, Dec. 6.—Louis Cohen, 51, prominent merchant of this city and chief of the fire department for many years, died suddenly of a heart attack while on an outing with a party of friends on the Concho river 18 miles south of Ballinger.

#### MERKEL TO HEAR OF CAMPAIGN FOR SALVATION ARMY

Business Leaders of Abilene to Present Needs of Organization to Lions Club at Next Tuesday's Meeting.

For the purpose of acquainting the people of Merkel with the work of the Salvation Army, a number of representative citizens of Abilene will come to Merkel next Tuesday as guests of the Lions club. The work of the army in West Texas will be explained by able speakers. The visit is a part of the county-wide movement to aid the Salvation Army by contributing to the expense of the charitable work the organization is doing.

Among those who will attend the Lions meeting Tuesday from Abilene are A. S. Payton, vice president Ed S. Hughes Co.; Guy McCarty, cashier Abilene State bank; G. W. Waldrop, furniture dealer and president of the Salvation Army advisory board; Bert Low, vice president Citizens National bank, and Envoy George Lambert, army leader at Abilene. Some of the business men of Trent have been invited, and it is probable that several will attend from that town.

**PURPOSE OF WORK.**  
 Regarding the county-wide movement for the support of the army, the following statement has been issued from Abilene:

The Salvation Army in its plan to assist in protecting the public from the panhandling appeals of many irresponsible people, goes on record as doing away with what is known as tambourine collections.

There are so many tambourine collectors these days for so many different organizations, some having little, if any, merit, the army wishes it to become known that there will be no authorized tambourine collection for the Salvation Army in Merkel, except for the offering taken among the congregation in the religious services that may be held.

The taking of the tambourine from store to store and from office to office is strictly forbidden. This statement is issued on the authority of Brigadier Davis Main, southwestern divisional commander, headquarters at Dallas.

In line with the above, the Salvation Army is making county-wide appeal for funds for the support of its humanitarian work. A quota of \$5,300 has been set for the county, of which Abilene has already subscribed \$3,800, a little more than two-thirds of the amount needed to carry on this great work.

The budget for the county was adopted by the officers of the local and county advisory board. The officers of the local board feel that the allotment for each of the towns listed is very moderate indeed, and when we realize that the army is our institution, that it exists to take over the responsibility for and care of every case of moral delinquency that may develop in any part of the state or county, the allotment is very small indeed. One case during the past year cost the local corps \$450. The case in question was a Stamford case of a deserted wife, but the Salvation Army is everybody's friend, and she was taken into the officers' quarters and cared for till she and her child were out of danger.

Such is the scope and work of the Salvation Army. There are no out-casts to the army, but wherever there is need and sorrow and bereavement, the loving hand of sympathy is outstretched to help.

In view of the foregoing, the president and members of the Salvation Army advisory board for Taylor county, believe that Merkel can reach its quota of \$600.

**Prominent Doctor Dies.**  
 Dallas, Dec. 6.—Dr. Garland B. Foscoe, 78, formerly of Waco and a pioneer Texas physician, died here at the home of his daughter, Mrs. N. C. Hammer.

#### FOOTBALL STARS PLAY IN MERKEL CHRISTMAS DAY

Former College Gridsters of Sweetwater and Merkel Play; Proceeds Will Go to Two Worthy Local Causes.

Merkel citizens are going to have an opportunity to see a real football game Christmas day.

Arrangements are being perfected whereby best college stars that Merkel and Sweetwater have produced will meet in gridiron combat on that day. The gridsters of former years will be called on to "limber up" for what is expected to be one of the most interesting games the football fans of this section have ever witnessed. There are those who say that Merkel has a number of gridiron stars of former years and some who are now in college. All of these will be called on to "fight for Merkel" against the best talent Sweetwater can produce.

In addition to witnessing an extraordinary game, those who attend will have the added satisfaction of knowing that they are contributing to two worthy causes, as the proceeds are to apply on a benefit fund for the Merkel Cemetery association and the local Boy Scouts. Both are badly in need of funds to carry on their most laudable work, and to patronize the game is to contribute to those worthy causes.

The game will be played on the Merkel High School field. Herbert Patterson, Dee Grimes, L. B. Scott and Jerome Hutchison are giving attention to the arrangements. The names of the players will be announced in the next few days.

#### NEW OIL WELL EXTENDS FIELD

Cranfill-Reynolds-Dilworth Bickley No. 1, half way between the Tiner and Shaheen pools, tapped the pay early Tuesday morning and was standing nearly 1,000 feet in oil from a total of 2,369 feet. Preparations were at once begun to pull the big casing and erect storage. The well is estimated to be worth between 200 and 300 barrels.

The newest well means an extension south of the Bickley field of approximately one mile, and is certain to result in an offset on a lease adjoining this tract by the Humble company, on the west by the Texas company, and on the south by the Gulf Refining company, which will be the first operations by Humble and Gulf in this field.

The next well due to come in is the Clark-Thomas No. 1, 200 feet west of the Smith, which is expected to reach pay by the last of this week or the first of next. This well is north of the Bickley area.

#### West Texas Utilities Electrifies 75 Oil Wells in Ten Days

Abilene, Dec. 6.—Electrification of 75 oil wells in ten days is the record hung up by the West Texas Utilities company in the Putnam field, Callahan county, according to a report received from R. A. Williams, district commercial manager, with headquarters at Cisco. This is believed to be a record for oil field electrification. These wells were connected up with the company's 13,000 volt transmission lines and the oil is pumped from the leases to pickup tanks. There now are approximately 700 electrified wells in the Putnam field.

There now are more than 2,000 oil wells on the properties of the West Texas Utilities company using electricity exclusively for drilling and pumping oil, according to a report compiled in the central offices here.

Electrified fields on the company properties are located in Callahan, Eastland, Shackelford, Throckmorton, Coleman, Jones, Fisher, Wilbarger, Haskell, Crane, Upton, Reagan, Irion, Pecos and Crockett counties.

### GUARANTEE OF WATER RIGHTS FOR DOMESTIC, MUNICIPAL USE URGED

Adopting resolutions favoring a state bond issue for the construction of highways; the enactment of a law that would guarantee water rights to be used, first, for domestic and municipal purposes; second, for irrigation, and third, for hydro-electric power, the Central Texas district West Texas Chamber of Commerce convention completed its labors late Thursday evening.

Other resolutions favor the experiment stations established in West Texas, and urging the location of other stations having as their particular function soil conservation, encouragement of the pecan industry, and experiments in wheat raising in West Texas.

Governor Moody's stand in favor of appointment of the highway commission received the endorsement of the convention.

Another resolution favored the appointment of county superintendents by the county board of education, and the enactment of such laws as will take Texas from the forty-fifth to first place in the education of its boys and girls.

Merkel people were thanked by resolution for the manner in which the convention was cared for, many expressing the opinion that the arrangements were among the best ever provided for any district convention.

**CONGRESSMAN-ELECT SPEAKS.**  
 R. Q. Lee, congressman-elect from the Seventeenth district, pledged himself in favor of any constructive legislation that would be of benefit to the farming interests.

Members of the legislature present, about six in number pledged their support of the legislative program favored by the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, and outlined in the resolutions.

An octette, from McMurray College Abilene, appeared at the afternoon session in folk song, dance and solo numbers, and the delegates, although running more than an hour behind schedule with their program, showed their appreciation by prolonged applause.

**WINTERS GETS CONVENTION.**  
 Winters was selected as the next regional convention city, the date to be fixed by the advisory board.

Three past presidents of the organization—R. Q. Lee, Clifford B. Jones and R. W. Haynie—together with President A. M. Bourland, Manager Homer D. Wade and several members of the board of directors, were in attendance and took an active part in the proceedings of the convention. State Senator Walter C. Woodward of Coleman and a half dozen members of the house responded to the invitation to attend the Merkel meeting.

In addition to the above, representatives of 24 towns were present, all of whom were given an opportunity to say a few words at the noonday luncheon meeting. It was estimated that there was an attendance of 300 which the W. T. C. C. officials considered good with the threatening weather. Abilene sent the largest delegation, including the Simmons University Cowboy band, a quartette from Abilene Christian College, and an octette from McMurray College. The band and the musicians from the other Abilene schools made a "big hit" with the delegates, and were kept busy responding to encores.

**THOMPSON PRESIDES.**  
 The convention opened with the singing of "America" led by Ed Shumway of Abilene, with Mrs. E. Yates Brown as accompanist. The invocation was by Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the Merkel Baptist church. L. R. Thompson of Merkel called the meeting to order and presided during the preliminary proceedings. Mr. Thompson was responsible for the convention having met in Merkel, he having extended the invitation successively for three years. He was chairman of the convention arrangements and received many compliments on the manner in which he and members of the Lions club had provided for the comfort and pleasure of the delegates.

Mayor H. C. West welcomed the delegates to Merkel and the response

was by Judge James P. Stinson of Abilene. R. W. Haynie, former W. T. C. C. president, was introduced by Mr. Thompson as the convention president, following which the quartette from Simmons University at Abilene was heard, and so popular was their rendition, that they responded to two encores.

Manager Homer D. Wade was introduced, his subject being, "Our Objective," and after complimenting Merkel on the splendid convention arrangements, discussed legislative matters affecting West Texas.

**OPPOSES VACANCY SUITS.**  
 J. E. Thompson of Breckenridge discussed legislation affecting the oil industry.

A. M. Bourland, president of W. T. C. C., urged constructive co-operation, emphasizing the duty of the citizen to his community.

Clifford B. Jones of Spur expressed the hope that the 41st legislature would enact a broad policy toward investments in order that foreign capital be attracted to Texas.

**LUNCHEON FOR VISITORS.**  
 In the absence of Houston Harte of San Angelo, who was on the program as toastmaster at the luncheon, Homer D. Wade presided, later turning the meeting over to L. R. Thompson of Merkel. Mr. Harte was prevented from attending by a bereavement in his family, and a telegram of sympathy was ordered sent by the convention.

Senator Walter C. Woodward caustically condemned the policy whereby the state permits power companies to obtain control of the streams of the state, which forces towns and cities needing water for domestic and industrial uses to purchase the right to use the water from the power companies, citing the Brownwood case as an example. He denounced as vicious and unfair a bill pending before the legislature dealing with water rights, and said emphatically that he was satisfied it would be vetoed by the governor if it ever passes the legislature. He has a bill to introduce and urge before the legislature, which he declared would forever prevent control of the people's water rights by power companies.

The Abilene Christian College quartette sang at the luncheon meeting, and were recalled for two additional numbers.

**SWEETWATER EDITOR SPEAKS.**  
 Hershel Colbert, editor of the Sweetwater Reporter, spoke of Texas' opportunities, expressing the belief that it would be to the state's advantage to study the progress of other Southern States. South America, he said, is due for unusual development, and being located right at Texas' door, consideration should be given to analyzing and reaping the benefit to come from such development.

**NEW YORKER SINGS.**  
 Wm. Bonner of New York delighted the audience with a number of songs. He has a wonderful voice and his selections were so popular and so well rendered that he was recalled time and again.

Miss Lucy Tracy of Merkel closed the entertainment features with several short readings and she completely captivated the convention audience.

Mrs. Homer D. Wade and Mrs. L. R. Thompson were introduced to the delegates as "the brains behind their husbands in Chamber of Commerce work."

#### Baby Bootlegger In Midland Area

Midland, Dec. 6.—An 8-year-old girl "baby bootlegger" of the Midland oil field area, is selling white mule to all who will buy at 25 cents a drink, according to the story of a local rig contractor.

The little girl, carrying a basket of candy, approached him, the contractor declared, and finding he wasn't in the mood for sweets, asked him if he'd buy a drink instead. Another oil man asked the little girl if she had any and she opened a loose blouse, displaying a waistband with pockets for the small whiskey bottles.

### IT PAYS TO DIVERSIFY

The optimistic farmer plants  
 And trusts to weather, work and chance;  
 And while his corn may need a rain  
 Wet hay to him would give a pain.  
 Now the only thing for him to do  
 Is to diversify the whole way thru;  
 So if it rains and spoils his hay  
 It helps his corn and makes it pay.  
 The Farmers State Bank would advise you try  
 No other way than diversify.

### THE FARMERS STATE BANK

#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

J. S. SWANN, President      HERBERT PATTERSON,  
 R. O. ANDERSON, V. Pres.      Assistant Cashier  
 W. I. DILTZ, Cashier.      DAVID HENDRICKS

### WHAT'S DOING In West Texas

Finishing work is being done on the basement of the new Methodist church at Woodson. The basement is divided into seven rooms, including kitchen, assembly room, and class rooms. Gas connections are in every room.

Building permits from Snyder have already exceeded \$300,000.00 mark up to November 15. The city council is planning the installation of a new \$18,000 sewerage disposal plant to be erected within the next 30 days.

An athletic stadium is soon to be

### AUTO REPAIRS

It is a saving of money and possible loss of life to see that your car is in tip-top shape.

We specialize on repair work—all makes of cars. The price is as low as is consistent with good workmanship.

### C. S. HIGGINS GARAGE

Back of Postoffice



**A. J. BORNELIUS**  
 JEWELER  
 At Hamm Drug Co.  
 MERKEL, TEXAS

Bring us your Watch Troubles  
 All Watches and Jewelry Repairing  
 Guaranteed.

built for the Abilene public schools. The school athletic council already has \$13,000 out on interest to be used in building the plant and this sum will be increased.

Plainview is to have an over pass 600 feet long over the Santa Fe tracks on Highway 28. It will be made of steel and concrete. Plans are practically complete for the grading and drainage structure on the highway.

Concrete is being poured for the fourth and last story of the new \$80,000 hospital at Dalhart. B. C. Frohman, general contractor in charge of the work, expects to finish by April. This will give Dalhart one of the most complete hospitals in this part of the state.

The first baby beef show conducted in Swisher county will be held in Tulia February 2, 1929. C. B. Martin, county agent, now has 34 baby beeves on balanced rations in boys' clubs, one of which won \$544.84 in prizes recently.

Arlington's new city hall will soon be finished. Brick is being laid on the top story, and plumbers are at work in the basement. White face brick is being used in the exterior work of the building, and this will make it one of the most attractive in town.

Del Rio recently celebrated the big event of the season there when the new Roswell hotel was formally opened with the Hawaiian Welcome Ceremony. F. L. Childs, general manager, sponsored this unique entertainment.

Plans are being made in Geree to install a sewerage system. If present indications mature, work will start on the system about the first of the year and will be ready for use the earlier, part of the spring.

Paducah is constructing an ornamental white way along the streets of the business section. It will have 34 standards mounted on the sidewalks with wiring underground when completed, and will replace the old system of 17 standards located in the center of the street.

Work will start on the building of a diversion dam on Bluff creek near Winters soon, since the carrying of a city bond election of \$72,656.65 for the purpose, by a vote of 84 for and 53 against. Winters has recently bought a new fire truck, erected a new water reservoir, and completed some paving.

### Large Beauty Chorus With "Rio Rita," at Sweetwater Dec. 11

Beauties from nearly all states in the Union fill the stage of "Rio Rita," which comes to the City Auditorium, Sweetwater, Texas, Tuesday, Dec. 11. Many brunettes are seen, because the scenes are laid in Mexico, but not all are dark-haired. There are numerous blond beauties, and a generous number of titian and auburn haired misses, all forming what the advance notices term "A glittering galaxy of glorified girls." Aliterative, and, if entirely true, something to look forward to. Miss Billie Blythe, reputed to be an international beauty-prize winner heads the ensemble, which range all the way from the tall and stately show girls down to the tiny ballet girls, who, by the way do most of the work, while their taller sisters content themselves mostly by looking lovely in costly gowns and costumes. Many of the girls in "Rio Rita" were contestants in the past two annual bathing beauty pageants, in Atlantic and Galveston, and a not inconsiderable number are fresh from boarding schools and dancing studios. While the principals in a production like "Rio Rita" are of vital importance, nevertheless it is to the feminine ensemble that the playgoer looks for decorative element, and the management of "Rio Rita" is firm in its conviction that it has provided an unforgetably beautiful aggregation of young and attractive girls.

### Fire Destroys Gas Plant.

Eastland, Dec. 6.—Causing a loss estimated at \$7,500 fire virtually destroyed plant No. 2 of the Lone Star Gas company located a few miles northeast of here. Discharge from a high stage compressor was given as the cause of the fire, a four-inch line blowing out.

### ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 8th day January, 1929, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

## Read This

One of our customers started last Spring with nine (9) turkey hens. She had only reasonably good luck. Last week she sold seventy (70) turkeys on the local market which averaged nearly twelve (12) pounds each and brought thirty (30c) cents per pound. Her check was for Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and Forty Five Cents (\$250.45) and she has twenty three (23) turkeys left to select her stock from for another year.

This lot of turkeys has paid her more money than many farmers in this territory are getting out of their entire cotton crop. Does this mean anything to you? To us it is just another example and further proof that DIVERSIFICATION on the farms of this community will pay.

Plan now to DIVERSIFY next year. This BANK will help you. (If you would like to know we will tell you, upon application, who the above customer is).

### The Old Reliable

### Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

#### Directors

J. T. WARREN      G. F. WEST      SAM BUTMAN, SR.  
 GEO. L. PAXTON      BOOTH WARREN

"Never missed a dividend—never assessed a shareholder"

Organized      1904

### Cousin Eli Case a Visitor.

W. B. Case of Denison visited his cousin, Eli Case of Merkel, last weekend, coming over from Abilene, where he will be located for some time while establishing a produce house there for the G. P. Foster Produce Co., with headquarters in Denison and houses throughout North Texas and Southern Oklahoma, also at Athens and Taylor, Texas.

### Box Supper Dec. 14.

A box supper is to be given at White church school house Friday night, December 14. The proceeds

will assist in getting playground equipment. Everyone is extended a cordial invitation.

### THINK IT OVER

You say it takes all you can make to meet your family's daily needs.

For this reason you cannot afford insurance.

What would your family do if deprived of your salary?

Mrs. L. M. Touchstone  
 Southwestern Life Representative

## Never Having Tried To Steal A Car

you probably don't know how easy it is. We never tried either, but we know from looking at the stolen car records that lots of people do try—and get away with it.

We DO know how to protect you. Our policies cover theft, collision, public liability and all the misfortunes that the automobile owner is heir to.

We represent a company widely known for prompt settlements and good service.

### W. O. BONEY REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

### MAKE HER HAPPY—

Build Her a Home First.  
 For the Best Material, See

### CLAY LUMBER COMPANY

# Hamm Drug Company

**Suits to Condemn Property on Route Bankhead Highway**

Condemnation proceedings have been filed against five owners of Taylor county property along the bankhead highway between Merkel and Abilene following failure of the owners and the county commissioners' court to reach an agreement on a price for right-of-way. The county has acquired right-of-way from 44 property owners along highway in a plan to widen the road from 70 to 100 feet. Only five refused to meet the county's terms.

The suits were filed upon recommendation of the commissioners' court by County Attorney Frank Smith. Defendants are: George Kenjan, Boyd and McFall, F. T. Hogan, James Guitar and C. H. Boyd.

Hearing on the suits has been set for Saturday, December 8. A special commission, named by County Judge Tom K. Eplen to preside at the hearing is composed of Lloyd Bynum of Potosi, Charles Motz of Abilene and L. R. Thompson of Merkel.

**Lubrication System New Ford Described**

The engine lubrication system of the new Model A Ford car is a combination of pump, splash and gravity feed which is an exclusive Ford development.

In design and in operation it is simple and positive and repeated tests have shown it to be ideally suited to this somewhat revolutionary type of four-cylinder, medium-speed, medium-compression motor.

The oil pump is located in the bottom of the crank-case and is run off a gear on the camshaft. It is enclosed in a fine mesh wire screen through which the oil filters before it is pumped up into the valve chamber. The screen is surrounded by a shield so that the oil is pulled through it, rather than flowing in by gravity. The oil flows into the valve chamber in a continuous stream whenever the engine is running, but is in no sense a "forced" feed. It is rather the full load of the pump being delivered in a smooth, flowing stream. The principal purpose of delivering the oil to the valve chamber is to provide direct gravity feed lubrication to the bearings of the crankshaft. However, it also supplies exceptional lubrication for the valves, giving better and quieter action, and by gravity to the front end camshaft bearing.

Texas has valuable deposits of kypsum with manufacturing plants using this material at Quanah, Sweetwater, Plasterco, Mamlin, and Rotan.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

**Salt Branch News**

A splendid Thanksgiving program was rendered by the school children in connection with the meeting of the Salt Branch Parent-Teachers' Association.

A number of B. Y. P. U. members went to Blair recently and gave a program at the Baptist church there.

Several of the Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. workers attended the Sweetwater Association meeting at Merkel and brought away the attendance banner.

Salt Branch school children are rejoicing over the erection of a merry-go-round.

The small daughter of John Richardson was taken to Dallas for treatment.

Miss Ruth Pinckley, who is teaching at Castle Peak, was a recent visitor with home folks here.

Mrs. Henry Hester recently visited her father, W. M. Hays.

**Rev. T. C. Willett Assumes Pastorate Methodist Church**

Rev. T. C. Willett, new pastor of the Methodist church, arrived with his family last Friday, and are domiciled in the Methodist parsonage in South Merkel.

Rev. Willett assumed his new duties here with the Sunday services, preaching to two large congregations both morning and night. As a courtesy to the new minister, both the Baptist and Presbyterian congregations canceled their services for Sunday night and pastors and members attended the Methodist church.

Rev. Willett was busy the first of this week meeting the members of his own congregation and the citizenship generally. He expressed himself as being well pleased with Merkel and the cordial welcome extended to himself and family.

**Bargains:** We have connections with oil companies, oil brokers and investors in real estate. It will pay you to list your holdings with us. **Thompson and Boswell**

**Tate-Lax**

(Sweet or Bitter)

For Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Headache, Constipation, Stomach, Liver and Kidney Disorders

Satisfaction Guaranteed by **Hamm Drug Company**

The Dr. N. F. Tate Medicine Co., Waco, Texas

**New Pontiac Six to Be Shown January 1**

Pontiac, Mich., Dec. 6.—A Pontiac Six, new in practically everything but name, shortly will appear on the market, it was announced here today by the Oakland Motor Car Company.

A bigger, smarter, more powerful and more luxurious Pontiac, bringing big car features within the price range of the small six, was promised by the Oakland company.

This announcement comes near the close of the most successful year in the company's history with an estimated total output for 1928 of close to 270,000 units forty percent above 1927.

In preparation for 1929, extensive building projects under way here for some time past now are practically completed, and will give the Oakland-

Pontiac plant a capacity next year in excess of 350,000 cars.

Production of parts for the new car is now under way at the company plant, said to be the most modern and best equipped in the industry. The new Pontiac Six will be built almost entirely in factories owned by the Oakland Motor Company and the Fisher body plant at Pontiac, because the opening of new production units will enable Oakland in 1929 to build parts formerly manufactured elsewhere.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts. **Boston Bargain Store.**

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 Per Ton **Sam Swann**

Try a Classified Ad for Results

**MERKEL THEATRE**

Under New Management  
SHOWING GOOD PICTURES IN A GOOD TOWN.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, DEC. 7 and 8

3 Act Vaudeville 3

**HAPPY DOC HOLLAND AND HIS MERRY MAKERS**

SINGING DANCING BLACK FACE

On the Screen

**"CODE OF THE AIR"**

A Thrilling Melodrama of the Air  
Airplanes, Thrills and Action Galore  
ADMISSION 10c—35c

MONDAY and TUESDAY, DEC. 10 and 11

**"THE HAUNTED HOUSE"**

With Chester Conklin and Thelma Todd  
Something Spooky About this Picture.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, DEC. 12-13

**"OUTCAST"**

With Corine Griffith

Remember our FAMILY NIGHTS. TAKE Advantage of Them

COMING

**"COMPANIONATE MARRIAGE"**

**"THE FLEET'S IN"**

MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS FOR RESULTS

for Economical Transportation



*Place your order Now.*

*The Outstanding Chevrolet of Chevrolet History*

*- a Six in the price range of the four!*

Since the announcement of The Outstanding Chevrolet of Chevrolet History, tens of thousands of people have placed their orders for this sensational new car! Never before has any new Chevrolet ever won such tremendous public acceptance in so short a time!

The new Chevrolet six-cylinder valve-in-head motor is an engineering masterpiece. Not only does it develop 32% more power than any previous Chevrolet motor... not only does it offer sensationally increased speed and faster acceleration—but it provides this amazing performance with such outstanding economy that it delivers an average of better than 20 miles to the gallon of gasoline!

This spectacular performance and economy have been achieved as a result of the greatest group of engine advancements that Chevrolet has ever announced—typified by a new heavier crankshaft... new carburetor, with venturi choke and automatic accelerating pump... new camshaft... automatic rocker arm lubrication... gasoline pump and filter... semi-automatic spark control... and hot spot manifold.

The marvelous new bodies by Fisher are designed for distinctive beauty and style as well as exceptional comfort and safety.

Come in and learn the full and significant story of this greatest of all Chevrolets!

**Advance Showings**

The Outstanding Chevrolet of Chevrolet History will be displayed in a series of advance showings in the cities listed below:

- Washington, Dec. 1-4, Mayflower Hotel
- Chicago, Dec. 1-6, Pure Oil Bldg., Wacker Dr. and Wabash Ave.
- Los Angeles, Dec. 1-6, Ambassador Hotel Auditorium
- San Francisco, Dec. 8-13, Civic Auditorium, Larkin Hall
- Cincinnati, Dec. 8-14, Hotel Sinton
- St. Louis, Dec. 8-14, Arcadia Ballroom, 3515 Olive St.
- Atlanta, Dec. 18-22, Auditorium-Armory
- Dallas, Dec. 18-22, Adolphus Hotel, Junior Ballroom
- Portland, Ore., Dec. 18-22, Public Auditorium.



The COACH \$595

Job. Flint, Mich.

The ROADSTER	\$525
The PHAETON	\$525
The COUPE	\$595
The SEDAN	\$675
The Sport CABRIOLET	\$695
The Convertible LANDAU	\$725
SEDAN DELIVERY	\$595
LIGHT DELIVERY CHASSIS	\$400
1 1/4 TON CHASSIS	\$545
1 1/4 TON CHASSIS WITH CAB	\$650
All prices f. o. b. Flint, Mich.	

**Brackeen-Hughes Chevrolet Company**

Merkel, Texas

QUALITY AT LOW COST



STAR-TELEGRAM RECORD-TELEGRAM

**Why Not Read a Big Metropolitan Newspaper?**

The most complete news service ever published by a Southern newspaper. Twenty-four hour, Triple Wire Associated Press Service, with editions based on train departures from Fort Worth, insuring the LAST NEWS—FIRST.

Many Comics daily and eight full pages Sunday including The Gumps, Jiggs, Mutt and Jeff, Winnie Winkle, Walt, Smitty, Abie, Krazy Kat, Moon Mullins and others.

SELECT THE NEWSPAPER WHICH MEANS MOST TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

**BARGAIN DAYS ARE HERE!**

Daily With Sunday (Seven Days a Week) Bargain Days Price

\$745

Regular Price \$10.00 You Save \$2.55



Rates in Texas Oklahoma and New Mexico



Daily Only (Six Days a Week) Bargain Days Price

\$595

Regular Price \$8.00 You Save \$2.05

Order at This Office

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM and Fort Worth Record

AMON C. CARTER, President

THE MERKEL MAIL  
Published Every Friday Morning  
J.J.HUTCHISON, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Taylor and Jones counties \$1.50  
Anywhere else \$2.00  
(In Advance)

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

The district convention of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, assembled in Merkel Thursday, will be of incalculable benefit to this community. Leaders of West Texas thought and action were in attendance and gave valuable suggestions on matters pertaining to the development of this section. The influence left by the convention will no doubt prove an inspiration to Merkel's civic leaders.

L. R. Thompson deserves much credit for bringing the West Texas convention to Merkel. He has worked industriously to this end, and the manner in which Merkel looked after the comfort and pleasure of the visitors is no doubt pleasing to him.

Many were the expressions of surprise at the extent of the oil field near Merkel from Chamber of Commerce visitors. The high grade oil, as well as the number of producing wells in the field, were a revelation to men who reside at no great distance from Merkel.

Merkel did itself proud in caring for convention visitors. Only one thing was lacking, and that was the modern hotel. Our have been talking so much about. Other conventions will follow the building of a new hotel.



ABILENE VISITOR FETED.  
Mrs. W. V. Ramsey of Abilene, guest of Miss Mary Cleo Booth, is the inspiration for a pretty party in the home of Mrs. R. I. Grimes on Wednesday afternoon of last week. The attractive home was done in seasonal decorations of berries and flowers and game tables were arranged for bridge. At the culmination of the games a refreshment of salads, sandwiches and coffee was served to Mrs. Ramsey, Misses Mary Eula and Boog Sears, Mary Cleo Booth; Mesdames Jean Harvey, F. C. McFarland, Sam Cummings, Harry Cookston, W. S. J. Brown, Warren Smith, Bob Mayfield, Geo. White, Edward McCrary, Matt Dillingham, Jim Sears, Tom Largent, R. I. Grimes.

AFTERNOON LUNCHEON.  
Mrs. D. A. Lee entertained with a luncheon party Thursday afternoon at her home in honor of Mrs. N. C. Gailey.

The house was beautifully decorated with bowls and vases of white and red chrysanthemums.

The entertainment for the occasion consisted of several interesting games and contests, Mrs. Stark McQuain and Mrs. N. C. Gailey winning first and second prizes.

A delicious salad plate was passed to the following: Mesdames Yates Brown, Allen, Buzbee, Owens, Bolliff, Gibson, Gates, Ellerbee, Hampton, Ruth Sharp of Fort Worth, Gailey, Ivey, McQuain and Lee.

HOME LAUNDRY.  
We are prepared to meet your laundry needs of every kind. Prices reasonable. Best of service. Will call for and deliver. Give us a trial and we feel sure you will be pleased. Located just south of the school building.  
ALLINE SHELBURNE.

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '25—Vera Baker sponsor.  
The Staff:  
Editor-in-Chief—J. T. Darsey Jr.  
Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Milton Case  
Sport Editor—J. D. Ashby.  
Humor Editor—Willie Harris.  
Society Editor—Dorice Brown.  
Miss. Editor—Frances Frederickson.  
Senior Reporter—Raymond Earthman.  
Junior Reporter—J. T. Darsey Jr.  
Sophomore Reporter—Laurie Booth  
Willie Evelyn Boaz, Freshman Reporter.

SPANISH CLUB ORGANIZED.

The Spanish club was organized Tuesday morning with twenty-six students enrolled. The members were from all Spanish 1, 2 and 3 classes. The membership is based on scholarship; each student must have a yearly average of 85 before he is allowed to belong to the club.

A name is to be submitted by each member of the club and at the next meeting of the club the name of the club will be chosen by vote.

Officers were elected. They are: Addie Fae Patterson, president and Lee Darden, secretary and treasurer. Other members of the club are: Elvis Richardson, Eleanor Mae Hamilton, Elsie Lasater, Thelma McAninch, Tula Miller, Harold Chaney, Weldon Coates, Lela Patterson, Ross Ferrier, Harold Leeton, Alvin Parrack, Joel Darsey, Aubrey Farris, Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Velma Lee Holden, Vera Richie, R. E. Cole, Roy Kelso, Robert Riney, Marcella Pinckley, Frances Frederickson, Beryl Hunter, Odella Hunter, Nina Vantvase, and Sponsor Mrs. Young.

A FORTY-TWO PARTY.

Arrangements have been made by the Junior class for a forty-two party Friday evening from seven o'clock until ten, at the home of Miss Melba West.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

Whereas, The Grim Reaper has again entered the ranks of Odd Fellowship and Merkel Lodge No. 355, removing from our ranks Brother J. R. Pee; and

Whereas, Brother Pee had long been one of the most active and devoted members of Odd Fellowship and this lodge, giving of his time, thought and very best efforts. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That Merkel Lodge No. 355, I.O.O.F., express its heartfelt sorrow at the taking away from its ranks of Brother Pee, realizing that they have suffered an irreparable loss, the community a most upright citizen, and humanity in general a true and loving friend. Be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this lodge; that a copy be sent to the bereaved family, that they may know the high esteem in which their loved one was held by his associates in the lodge; and that they may know further that we commend his exemplary life as one in every way worthy to be emulated by this as well as future generations. Fraternally,  
L. L. MURRAY,  
J. E. HIGGINS,  
S. P. FOSTER,  
Committee.

Sister Merkel Woman Hurt.

Word has been received that Mrs. J. E. Newby of Harlingen, sister of Mrs. M. C. Graham, living near Merkel, was hurt in an automobile accident Monday of this week. No details of the accident have reached Merkel, but it is understood that Mrs. Newby's condition is not serious. Three other persons who were in the car at the time of the accident were injured.

NOTICE—If you suffer with Rupture ask to see our Trusses Hamm Drug Company.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 Per Ton Sam Swann

BADGERS CRUSH SYLVESTER.

The Merkel Badgers met the Sylvester Cardinals on their home field for the last game of the season Thanksgiving.

It was also the last game of High School football to be played by a member of the Merkel Squad.

The game was a hard fought one from the beginning until the end.

Merkel started out, like it was going to be a race track for them, but were soon checked.

Most of the game was played in the center of the field until the last quarter when long runs made by Boaz, Sloan, Cade and Guitard brought the ball near the goal, and Sloan received a pass which gave a touchdown to Merkel.

Sylvester kicked to Merkel, but Harold was held for downs and the ball went to Sylvester.

Boaz intercepted a pass and ran 37 yards for a touchdown, and then he gained the extra point by kicking.

The ball was put in motion again but never to a score. The game ended 13 to 0 in favor of the Badgers.

The school and the town are proud of the sportsmanship and good playing which the team has shown.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All regular services Sunday and during the week. Sunday school 10 a. m. with evangelistic classes and trained teachers for all who may come. Teaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. B. Y. P. U. meetings 8 p. m. Come and a welcome and a place to worship the Lord.  
Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

Notice to Odd Fellows

All members of Merkel Lodge No. 355, I. O. O. F., are earnestly urged to attend the regular meeting of the lodge Monday night, Dec. 10. Business of special importance is to be transacted, in which each and every member is interested.

A turkey feed will follow the business session.  
Merkel Lodge No. 355,  
I. O. O. F.,  
W. M. Wilson, Sec.

Buy Abilene Home.

J. M. Chasen, Merkel ranchman, has bought the D. S. Kirk home in Abilene at a reported price of \$18,500, and will remove with his family to the latter city.

College advantages offered by Abilene prompted the removal from Merkel.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

MAJESTIC  
ABILENE  
ONE WEEK Starting Monday, Dec. 10th  
STREET ANGEL  
With a Beautiful Musical Score Played by ROXY'S 116 Piece Orchestra Synchronized On FOX MOVIE TONE

Merkelites Return From Hunting Trip On Mexican Border

S. F. Nesmith and H. G. Hodge returned from a week's hunt along the Mexican border Tuesday night, reporting a most delightful time but poor hunting luck. An abundance of game was sighted, Mr. Nesmith said, but they did not shoot on account of being afraid they would scare the deer away. They saw plenty of does but no bucks. A plentiful supply of ducks and birds was their only reward.

Crossing the river at Presidio on a trip into Old Mexico, they saw lots of Mexican lions, wildcats and foxes.

TO THE PUBLIC.

My Jersey herd has been tested by the state and declared free from tuberculosis. This is to notify the public that unless cows have been tested by the state I will be prohibited from breeding.

JOHN S. HUGHES.

Collection Agency Opens.

The Western Collection Agency is the latest acquisition to Merkel's business enterprises, being under the management of A. B. McPherson recently of Los Angeles, Calif. He is experienced in the collection agency business and announces that he is prepared to collect accounts, both large and small, through co-operation with similar agencies in other cities.

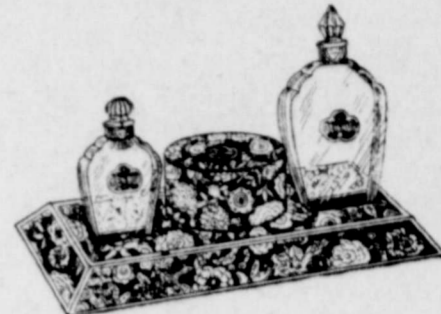
Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 Per Ton Sam Swann

Take home a box of good candy, our candy is fresh—Hamm Drug Co.

Music Store For Merkel.

Foster's music store, located on Kent street, is a new business enterprise for Merkel. The new store will specialize in Culbransen pianos,

Standardyne radios, Portable talking machines, records and sheet music, besides doing general repair work on musical instruments.



1c SALE ON BEN HUR BEN HUR VANITY SET

In two designs in the New Art Moderne Color. Makes an excellent Xmas Gift.

Call in and see them.

\$3.00 each

Two for \$3.01

HAMM DRUG COMPANY

Come Look Buy!

Your Xmas Money Will Do Double Duty Here

Our Anniversary Sale

MEANS BIG SAVINGS TO HOLIDAY SHOPPERS

Think of what it means to buy all of your Christmas needs at the extremely low prices in effect during our big Anniversary Sale. No need to spend money foolishly when you can secure such unusual bargains on everything that Man, Woman and Child wears.

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, MILLINERY, SHOES, BLANKETS, LADIES' COATS AND FURS—in fact, everything in this big store is on sale at Anniversary prices.

Christmas Gift Suggestions

See our beautiful line of GLOVES FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, SILK UNDERWEAR, HOSIERY, HOUSE SLIPPERS, PURSES, HAT BOXES, TIES, SCARFS, LOUNGING SETS, MEN'S AND WOMEN'S HANDKERCHIEFS IN HOLIDAY BOXES, and a thousand and one other gift items.

NEVER BEFORE HAVE YOU HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE SO MUCH MONEY ON YOUR CHRISTMAS PURCHASES.

Max Mellinger

Dry Cleaning Service!

To the man or woman who prides himself on his appearance, dry cleaning of his garments is an important consideration. We invite the most critical inspection of our work.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

"Sudden Service" Phone 189 Kent Street

CLARA BOW IN "THE FLEET'S IN" Gafton Theatre-Tre Mon.-Tues.-Dec. 10

### TERRELL WINTER DIES AT NOODLE

Was Pioneer Resident of This Section, Having Lived Here For Nearly 40 Years.

Another Merkel pioneer was called to his reward with the death last Sunday of Terrell Winter. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon from the Baptist church, conducted by Rev. W. K. Horn, assisted by Rev. Ira L. Parrack, Rev. Houston Scott and Rev. J. J. Gentry. The Masonic fraternity had charge of the services at the grave. Interment was in the local cemetery.

The large crowd of sorrowing friends who attended the funeral and followed the body to its last resting place testified to the esteem in which Terrell Winter was held. A resident of this section since 1889, he had endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact.

Mr. Winter was 77 years old at the time of his death. He had lived at the home place near Noodle, where he died, for 39 years, being engaged for the greater part of this time in farming and ranching. He was married in 1876 to Miss Susan Isabel Williams, and to this union thirteen children were born, twelve of whom are still living—six boys and six girls

all of whom were present when their father died, also five brothers and three sisters.

Joining the Baptist church when 25 years old, Mr. Winter had since that time been a conscientious Christian, devoted to all activities of the church. In the church and in the Masonic order, of which he had long been a member, he was an active worker so long as his health permitted.

Surviving children are Marion and Roy, Lubbock; Tom, Joe and Bill, Merkel; John, Abilene. Daughters: Mrs. E. L. Eason and Mrs. W. A. Phillips, Abilene; Mrs. J. E. White, Ovalo; Mrs. Otto Bicknell and Mrs. Waldo Cox, Merkel; Mrs. C. J. Lawlis, Sylvester. Surviving sisters are Mrs. Phoebe Green, Merkel; Mrs. M. J. McReanel, Sweetwater; Mrs. S. A. Walling, Orange. Brothers: G. W. Winter, Anson; Marvin Winter Childress; Sam Winter, Merkel; Billie Winter, Tahoka and Joe Winter, Noodle Dome.

#### CARD OF THANKS.

I have sold my interest in the Baker and Wheeler meat market and take this means of thanking my friends and the general public for the liberal patronage accorded the firm during my connection with it. During the three years that I have been permitted to serve the people of this section as a member of the above firm I have strived to merit the public confidence, and the increased business leads me to believe that I have been successful.

FRED A. BAKER.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

All regular services Sunday beginning with the Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching service at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. Glad to have visitors and strangers with us in all the services.

Wm. Elliott, Supt.  
R. A. Walker, pastor.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.



### WHAT OUR BEAUTY SHOP

Offers to the Women

of  
**MERKEL**

- A Smart Bob
- A Perfect Manicure
- A Chic Finger Wave
- A Fascinating Marcel
- A Healthful Shampoo
- A Natural Permanent
- and
- Arnao Steamer
- Scalp Treatment

**Genuine Eugene  
Wave \$8.00**

The expertness of our operators and our moderate prices insure your complete satisfaction.

Phone for Appointment

**Marinello Shop**

Mollye Shannon

Phone 123

Put your best Christmas wish  
into a sparkling diamond!



Diamond rings  
in a wide choice  
of design, \$50,  
\$75, \$100

What other gift will tell the story of your love or regard so beautifully—so constantly?

Our diamonds are pure in texture, perfect in cut, specially selected from the finest of the world's markets. In a modish ring, bracelet, or brooch—or as the exquisite adornment of a Gruen Wrist Watch—these beautiful gems are fitting remembrances for the first name on your Christmas list. Why not visit us today?

**REX A. SMITH**  
JEWELER

The Diamond Merchant  
243 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

**FOR A FEW DAYS  
ONLY!**

**1929  
all  
electric  
MODEL  
40**

**ATWATER  
KENT  
RADIO**



MODEL 40 A. C. SET

Uses 1 rectifying and  
6 A. C. tubes. Less tubes, \$77.  
Radio Speaker—3 sizes, each \$20.

Now it's easy to own 1929 Atwater Kent Radio. The low price is as pleasing as the day after day performance. It is in an all-steel dust proof case, full vision dial, and very simple to operate. What could be a more pleasing Christmas gift?

SEE US FOR—

SILVERWARE, DISHES, CUTLERY, GUNS,  
AMMUNITION, TOY WAGONS, TRICYCLES  
AND SCOOTERS, ETC.

FOR YOUR HOLIDAY GIFTS.

**Crown Hardware Co.**

# HALF PRICE SALE

## Dresses and Coats

The most remarkable sale of Dresses and Coats ever before offered in this city. High class garments of the very latest style and every one an extra value at usual prices. Think of what it means to buy such garments at half the regular price at this season of the year.



## CLEARANCE of Smart FROCKS

Wonderful  
Values at

**1-2**

**Price**

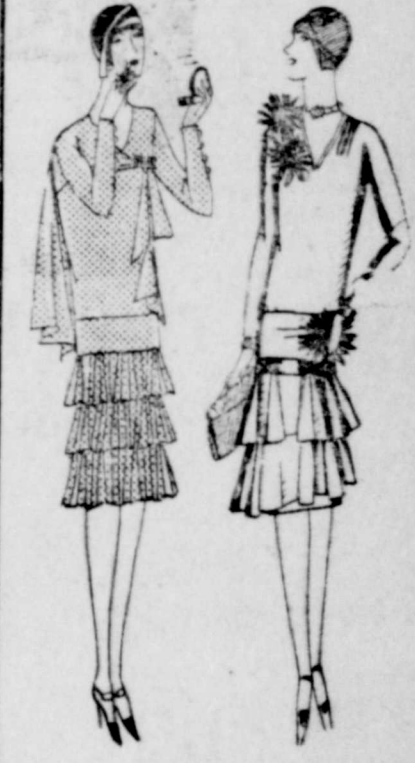


Every Frock  
Reduced!

Many of the smart dresses included in this clearance sale tomorrow have been marked as high as \$25. All are superlative values and will go quickly

**1/2 PRICE**

- Satins
- Crepes
- Velvets
- Chiffons



## 75 Ladies and Children

SILK AND WOOL

**Dresses**

Your Choice of the lot

**1/2 Price**

75 LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S

**Coats**

**1/2 Price**



**Jones Dry Goods Co.**

Ten Stores Buying Power

Merkel, Texas

### MERKEL PIONEER CALLED BY DEATH

#### J. R. Pee Succumbs After Long Illness; Resident of County For Forty Years.

All Merkel was saddened last week with the announcement of the death of J. R. Pee, one of the county's earliest pioneers, who died at his home here at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, November 28, following an illness of several months. Funeral services were held from the Methodist church at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. J. Mayhew, assisted by Revs. Ira L. Parrack, R. A. Walker and O. B. Tatum. Services at the grave were under the auspices of the I.O.O.F., deceased having long been an active member of this order.

Mr. Pee was born July 7, 1857, in Kascinsko, Mississippi, where he lived until 1889. At the age of 22 he was converted and joined the Methodist church and was intensely interested in church activities until the time of his death.

In 1888 Mr. Pee was married to Miss Eula Harris, and the following year he and his bride turned their backs toward the open country of the west, stopping at Merkel and settling three miles northeast of town. He resided in the Union Ridge community for 30 years, where he reared his family, consisting of three boys and two girls, as follows: Mrs. M. A. Dunn, Ralls, Texas; Mason Poe, Sweetwater;

Kenneth Poe, Spur; Cyrus Pee, Merkel, and Miss Eddie Pee, who preceded him to the life beyond in 1905. All the children grew up in the pale of the Methodist church, their father leading them in religious activities while serving as Sunday school superintendent for a period of twenty-two years.

Following the death of the wife and mother in 1917, the family moved to Merkel, which has since been their home. In 1918 Mr. Pee was married to Mrs. Gertie Pike. To this union was born one child, Gertie Lou, who at the time of her father's death was six years old. Besides his wife and the children above named, Mr. Pee leaves to mourn his departure a number of brothers and sisters, Mrs. Babe Thompson, and Mrs. Sallie Lord, Kascinsko, Miss.; Mrs. Eddie Guest, Bonham, Texas; Joe Pee, Clyde, Texas, and John Pee, Kascinsko, Miss.

The large concourse of sorrowing friends who attended the funeral and the beautiful floral offerings bore testimony to the esteem in which deceased was held. It was said by many to have been one of the longest funeral processions Merkel had ever witnessed. As a mark of respect, members of Merkel's volunteer fire department served as officers and directed traffic at street intersections and along the route to the cemetery.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts. Boston Bargain Store.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$17.50 Per Ton Sam Swann

### Fire in Fuel Tank Caused Plane Crash and Death Five Men

Dallas, Dec. 6.—Fire, which broke out in a compartment of a tri-motored plane, spread to the fuel tank which exploded, ripping the plane apart, and sent five men to their deaths in a plane crash near Spur Saturday night.

R. C. Hazen, department of Commerce air inspector, said in a report of the crash sent to Washington. The plane left San Antonio on Saturday for Tulsa and Denver. In it were: Homer D. Ballard of San Antonio and Denver; Matthew Watson, Austin, pilot; James O'Brien, Denver; Willis Washburn, San Antonio, and a Filipino cook, all of whom probably were dead when the plane crashed to earth, Hazen said.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

### Beaumont Gets Big Charity Benefit Fund

Beaumont, Dec. 6.—By an unusual gift to the city, Beaumont has a fund of \$10,199,698.50 to be distributed to charities during a period of 99 years.

The unusual condition was brought about by a gift to the city several years ago, of a downtown three story building known as the "Temperance Hall." It was built when a fight for prohibition was at its height and at about the same period when George W. Carroll of this city was the prohibition candidate for president of the United States.

The structure was the home of the Jefferson County temperance organization and when the need for such an organization ceased the physical property was given to the city, with the understanding that all income was to be distributed to various charities. It

was used as a city hall until the present new municipal building was constructed. Then it became necessary to make some disposition of the structure.

A lease has just been signed with a graduated scale estimated to bring the amount named above in the 99-year period of the lease.

The present value of the property is estimated at \$130,000 and it is estimated that at the end of 99 years it will increase to \$5,386,816.

Read the advertisements in this paper. There's a message in every one of them that may enable you to save money. At least you will know where to find what you want without doing a lot of hunting and asking questions, and you also know the merchants appreciate your patronage because they solicit your business and make special offers.

### Union Ridge School Honors

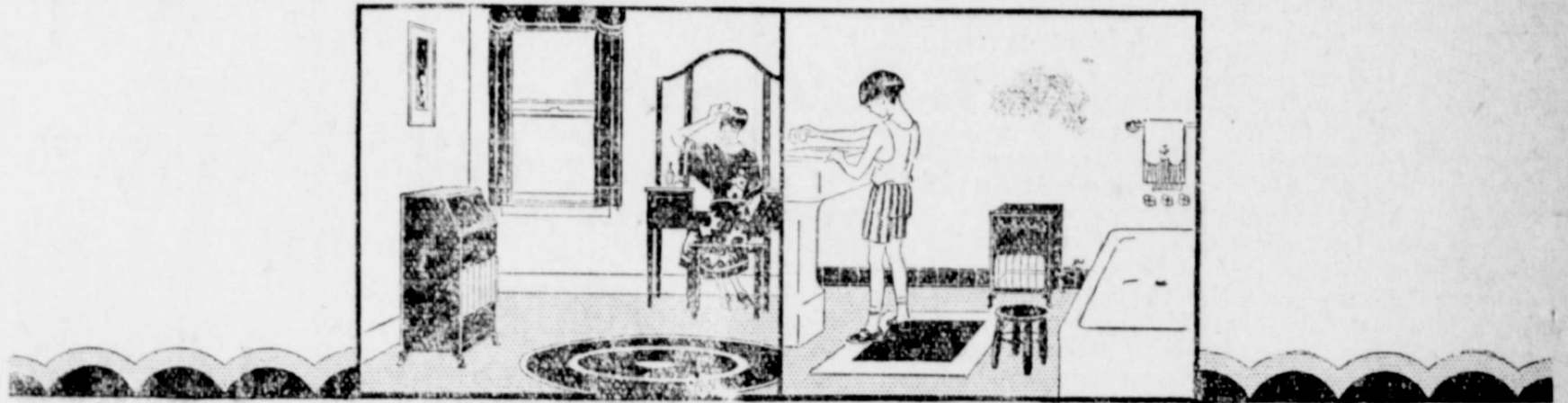
Irregular attendance, caused by the gathering of crops reduced the number of honor students for November. Those on the honor roll for the month are:

First Grade: LaVerne Harwell, L. S. Tipton Jr.; seventh grade: Mary Bell Douglas; eighth grade: Bernice Clark, Margaret Dean, Bessie Lou Pannell.

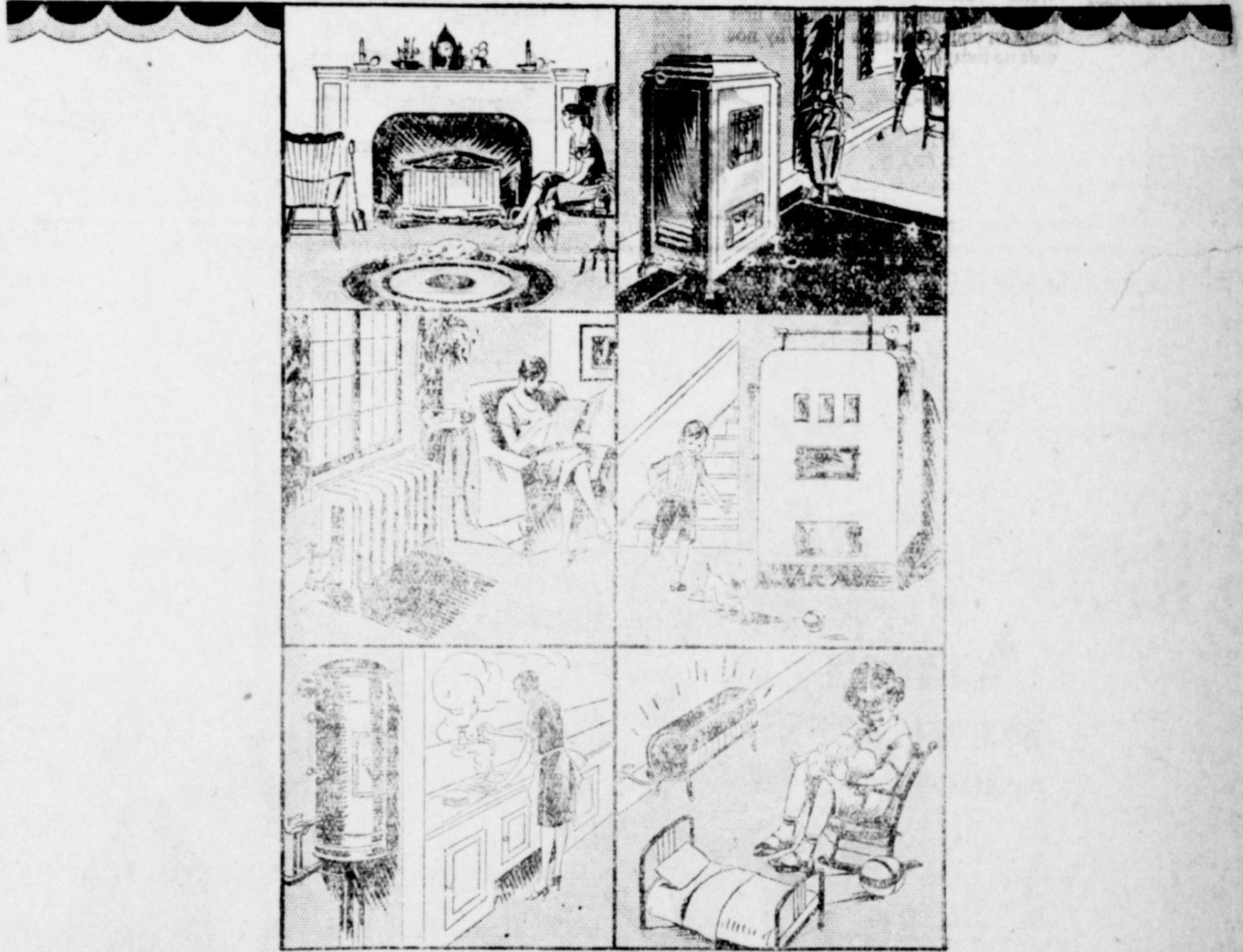
### ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 8th day January, 1929, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.



# Natural Gas for every HEATING need



THE CONVENIENCE, cleanliness and cheapness of gas have prompted inventive minds to devise many ways of utilizing the heating as well as cooking value of this care-free fuel. There's a type of gas heating unit to meet every need—from the small bath room heater to the modern gas furnace that heats a large house or building. The exact fitness for its purpose of each type of heater does much to make gas completely satisfying to you.

Look over your gas heating equipment. Per-

haps some portion of it may have outlived its principal usefulness. A new heater, or a new type of heater, may much more than justify its cost to you, either in greater satisfaction or fuel economy. Responsible heating equipment dealers and distributors will help you determine the exact type of heater for your special needs. Or, your local gas company will gladly advise you. Enjoy to the fullest the heating advantages of natural gas, by making sure of your heating equipment.

## Lone Star Gas Company



### Bring Your Letters to



### SANTA CLAUS HEADQUARTERS At Toy Town

He will be expecting to hear from you. So write him what you want him to bring you.

### GIFTS FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

Shop Early and Avoid the Rush

### Sears Variety Store

## Baby for Sale!

Father a college professor; mother cultured and refined; heredity guaranteed. Price—\$30,000.

PASSIONATELY devoted to her husband, Marjorie often said she would sacrifice anything for his success and happiness. And now, as he faces failure, disillusionment, despair—all for a lack of money—she sees only one way out. She has heard of women, rich and childless, who would give thousands of dollars if they could adopt a baby, and be sure of its heredity. But as the golden dreams of approaching motherhood fill her soul, she wonders if she can go through with it.

True, the secret of her coming baby is still her own. Even her husband does not know—and never know. But can she resist the loving touch of tiny, helpless baby hands that are already closing tightly around her heart? Can she sell her unborn child?

Even while she prays for courage to make this terrible sacrifice, she is thinking that perhaps the rich woman who comes to her aid could take her abroad, "for a few months' travel." There her baby could be born—to become the other woman's baby.

It all seems so easy. Still, as she visions the helpless little mite of humanity that lives close to her heart—she wonders if she can do it. Can anything ever take the place of that little life that, for her, will die the moment it is born?

Read her piteous story, "Nature's Vengeance," in January True Story Magazine.

Tune in on the True Story Hour broadcast every Friday night over WOR and the Columbia Chain. Consult Your Paper for Exact Time.

#### Partial Contents for January

I Wanted a Husband  
My Price of Redemption  
Sacred and Profane Love  
The Woman Who Conquered Shame  
After The Elopement  
—and eight other stories

Out Now!

January

## True Story

at All News

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Cole heater, good as new. C. S. Higgins Garage.

FOR SALE—Old papers, 15 cents per bundle of 100. Apply Merkel Mail.

WOOD FOR SALE—\$2.00 per Mexican cord; 2 1-2 miles northeast of Merkel. L. B. McClain, Route 4.

FOR SALE—Coal hot blast stove, practically new. Charlie Jones.

FOR SALE—Two complete dump gravel beds. See W. W. Wallis.

FOR SALE—Jersey heifers, heavy springers, the good kind. At my place at Noodle. T. C. Jinkens.

## O. K. USED CARS.

Three days' trial. If not satisfied can put car in on any new or used car for price paid.

- 1928 Model A Ford Tudor .....\$525.00
- 1926 Ford Roadster .....\$135.00
- 1925 Ford Touring, a good one \$75.00
- 1927 Chevrolet Sedan .....\$465.00
- 1927 Buick Coupe .....\$500.00
- 1926 Chevrolet Touring .....\$250.00
- 1925 Chevrolet Touring .....\$200.00
- 1924 Dodge Sedan .....\$250.00

These cars are in good condition ready to go. Other cheap cars.

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.  
Home of O. K. Used Cars.

FARM 240 acres, for lease or rent east of Stanton. A. R. Johnson at Chevrolet Co.

FOR SALE—Bundled sorghum 5c per bushel delivered in Merkel. C. B. Williams, Merkel, Texas Route 1.

FOR SALE—One thrivable standard disc plow; \$35.00. E. L. Berry, Rt. 4 Merkel, Texas.

## FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Extra good pair of mules, 5 and 6 years old, weight 1100 and 1200. Will sell at bargain if sold at once. J. H. Menges & Co.

FOR SALE—Teams, tools and feed. One hundred acres choice land to rent. See Sam Butman Jr.

BARRED ROCK pullets for sale, \$1.00 each. J. H. Madderra, Merkel, Route 5.

## FOR RENT

FOR RENT—160 acre farm. C. A. Duncan, Trent, Texas Route 2.

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms with gas, lights, and water. See J. C. Tucker at home of Mrs. E. D. Coats.

FURNISHED rooms and board. Phone 286W. Mrs. Stephenson.

TWO UNFURNISHED rooms, gas, water and lights. Mrs. J. H. McDonald. Phone 259.

FOR RENT—Two room furnished apartment; all modern conveniences. Riddle Garage No. 53.

FOR RENT—Three upstairs unfurnished rooms near churches and schools. S. F. Haynes.

FOR RENT—Two light housekeeping rooms or bedroom; close in. Mrs. A. J. Cannon.

## WANTED

TO TRADE—House and lot in Abilene for home in Merkel or lots. E. O. Carson.

B. M. BLACK does upholstering, re-modelling or remantelling, old or new furniture.

## LOST AND FOUND

LOST—One navy blue slipper, between barber shop and my residence. Please return to H. C. West.

Wanted—To buy maize heads, \$17.50 Per Ton  
Sam Swann

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

## Trench Mouth Healed

Your friends dare not say so but your sore gums and foul breath don't make folks like you any better. Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy heals worst cases if used as directed. It is not a mouth wash or paste, and is sold on a money back guarantee. Hamm Drug Company.

## Blair Items

Mrs. Sam Jones, and daughter of Arkansas are spending an indefinite time with her parents; Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Logan.

Mrs. Ashley Bryant left a few days ago to spend several weeks visiting relatives in Louisiana.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mayfield motored to Hamlin to visit relatives Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes and family of Abilene dined with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Meeks and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Meeks of Hamlin, visited Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Meeks Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dug Hannah of Dora spent Sunday with their sister, Mrs. Eula Provine and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Abbott of Tye visited their son, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Abbott Sunday.

Henry Spears of Valera spent Sunday afternoon with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spears.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Brewer have a baby girl. The little lady has been christened "Lora Fay."

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sandusky are the proud parents of a fine baby girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Alva Eland and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Mayfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Doan and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Price Melton and family Sunday.

Bro. Ray of Abilene dined with Mr. and Mrs. Pat Addison Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Murie Farmer spent one day the past week with her sister Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Whisenhunt of Dora.

Mr. and Mrs. John Rossen motored to Abilene Sunday.

Rev. Owen and Louder Milk of Abilene dined with Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Scoggins Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Chappell spent the week-end visiting friends in Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Ransom Meeks have moved to their new home on the Plains the past week.

## JUNIOR LEAGUE PROGRAM.

Song.

Prayer

Roll call

Scripture, 1 Corinthians 9; 24, 25, by leader, Imogene Middleton.

Prayer, by leader.

Cassette's Christmas, by Odell Hunter.

The adventures of James in Japan, October Juniors, page 9, by Vivian Lasater.

The adventures of James in Japan, November Junior, page 8, by Louise Kerr.

The adventures of James in Japan, December Juniors, page 14, by Wanda Hunter.

Reading, "Be strong," by Mollie Frank Touchstone.

Bible story by Duncan Briggs.

Benediction.

## Eats Big Steak and Fried Onions—No Gas

"Every time I ate I had terrible stomach gas. Now, thanks to Adlerika, I eat steak and fried onions and feel fine." Mrs. J. Julian.

Just ONE spoonful Adlerika relieves gas and that bloated feeling so that you can eat and sleep well. Acts on BOTH upper and lower bowels and removes old waste matter you never thought was there. No matter what you have tried for your stomach and bowels, Adlerika will surprise you. Merkel Drug Co.

## Man Hurt, Score In Danger as Gun Accidentally Shot

San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 6.—J. F. Madden, agent of the Prudential Life Insurance Company, was cut on the left hand and the lives of a score of other persons were endangered when a riot gun in the hands of Detective R. F. Tate was accidentally discharged at the detective bureau here.

The buckshot from the gun crashed through a window in detective bureau and spattered the exterior wall of the

## Prudential Life Insurance Company Building across the street. Mr. Madden's hand was cut when a shot broke a window in the building and showered him with broken glass.

## Live Oak Revival.

A revival meeting will begin at Live Oak, 11 miles south of Merkel, in the Mulberry Canyon section, next Sunday, with Rev. Smith doing the preaching. The meeting is to last one week if the weather is favorable, and everybody is invited.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

# QUEEN

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

**FRIDAY**

Will Rogers  
—in—  
"A Texas Steer"

**SATURDAY**

Hoot Gibson  
—in—  
'Riding for Fame'

**Monday & Tuesday**

William Haines  
—in—  
"Excess Baggage"

**Wednesday & Thurs**

Mary Astor and  
Gilbert Roland  
—in—  
"Rose of the  
Golden West"

Also "The Scarlet Arrow"  
And Comedy "Girl's Behave"

Also the second chapter  
"The Scarlet Arrow"

And 2-reel Comedy—

**INCOMPARABLE**

# PIORITA

A Chattering Galaxy  
of Glorified Girls

7 YEARS IN NEW YORK

**WORLD'S  
GREATEST  
ORCHESTRA**

ROGER WOLFE KAHNS—SERENADERS

**MAIL ORDERS—NOW!**

MAIN FLOOR \$3.00, \$2.50 and \$2.00  
BALCONY \$2.50, \$2.00 and \$1.00

Mail Orders will be filled in rotation. Send  
Draft or Money Order to Weeks Drug Store.

**FAIR PARK  
AUDITORIUM** **Mon. Dec. 10**

ABILENE

Come to

# DUNN BROTHERS

Friday and Saturday

We are going to close out our Grocery Stock—everything at wholesale prices.

Mayro's best Flour at	\$1.70
West Texas Syrup, per gallon	90c
P. & G. Soap, 24 bars for	\$1.00
Lard Cans, 10, 8 and 3 gal. size, from 45 to	65c
Best Meat Salt, 70-lb. sack	\$1.20
No. 2 Tomatoes, 8 1-3c per can; per case	\$2.00
Primrose Corn, per dozen	\$1.80
Hershey Cocoa, 5 for	\$1.00
Nice assortment Glenrose Preserves, worth the Money.	
Del Monte Peaches, per can	22½c

Just a few of the many bargains. It all goes. All must be cash.

# DUNN BROTHERS

# FOSTER'S Music Store

CULBRANSEN PIANOS  
STANDARDYNE RADIOS  
PORTABLE TALKING  
MACHINES  
LATEST RECORDS, SHEET  
MUSIC

Radios, Victrolas and Guns repaired.

LOCATED ON KENT STREET  
Telephone 232.

## It Won't Be Long Now

CHRISTMAS TIME IS ALMOST  
HERE

You have an Invitation to Visit Us and See  
the many gifts we have for your selection.

We have it for the YOUNGEST and the  
OLDEST

# City Drug Store

"Santa's Headquarters"



**HAWK  
BRAND  
WORK CLOTHES**

**THEY WEAR  
—LONGER—**

JONES DRY GOODS, Merkel, Texas

**Beginning Today---December 7th.**

**BARROW'S BIG**

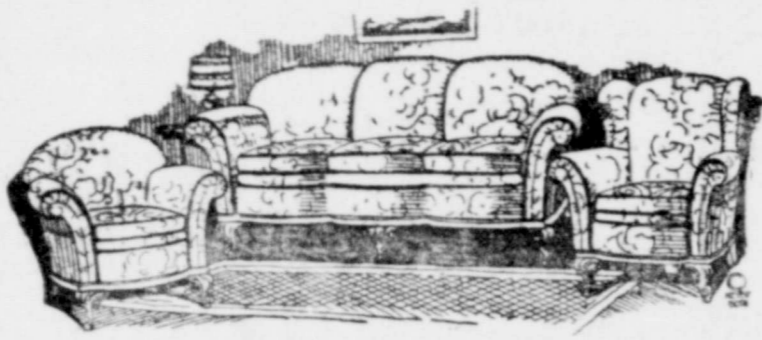
**Pre-Holiday  
Furniture Sale**

Here is a money saving event of interest to every man and woman in Merkel trade territory—a sale of beautiful furniture, coming right at this season of the year when you want to refurnish your home for the Holidays and buy gifts that will bring happiness, comfort and cheerfulness to your home and to the homes of your friends at Christmas Time.

**Make This a Furniture Christmas!  
GIVE GIFTS THAT ALL THE FAMILY WILL ENJOY**

Furniture is always the most highly appreciated gift, because it adds comfort and beauty to the Home for years to come. You will find our stocks complete with delightful and appropriate gifts for every member of your family—and for all your friends.

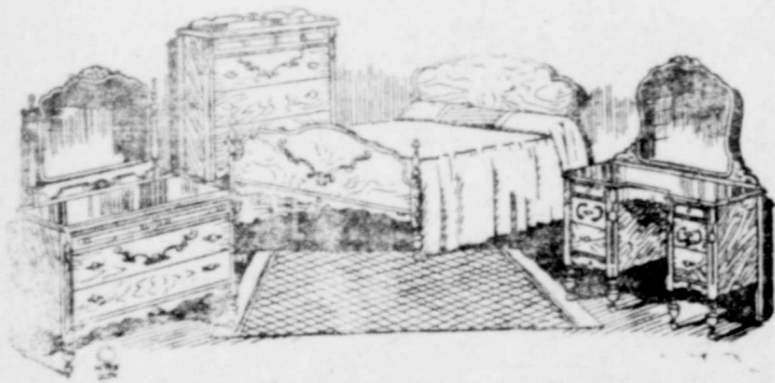
**BUY WHILE THESE SALE PRICES PREVAIL---SAVE THE DIFFERENCE**



**LIVING ROOM SUITES**

- 3-piece overstuffed jacquard velour living room suite, a very pretty one, to sell in pre-Holiday sale **\$89.50**
- 3-piece overstuffed jacquard velour suite, wellmade, will give many years of service, to sell in this sale at **\$99.50**
- Living room suites of 3-pieces, covered in jacquard velour, exposed wood rail, to sell for **\$119.50**

ALL OTHER LIVING ROOM SUITES AT 20 PERCENT DISCOUNT FOR CASH



**BED ROOM SUITES**

- 3-piece bedroom suites in enamel finish, your choice blue, green or Cafe Au Lait—pre-Holiday Sale at only **\$49.50**
- 4-piece bedroom suites, combination of colors with decoration, selling in our pre-Holiday Sale at the very low price of, each **\$79.50**
- 4-piece beautiful walnut bedroom suite with poster bed, a new style and indeed a value that you should not overlook at this price... **\$89.50**

ANY OTHER BEDROOM SUITE IN OUR LARGE STOCK AT 20 PERCENT DISCOUNT FOR CASH

**ODD CHAIRS**

We have over a hundred odd chairs, including big easy chairs, rockers and straight chairs in many new and pretty styles. Of outstanding attractiveness are the Art Moderne styles just recently put in stock.

EVERY ONE

**SPECIALY PRICED**



**FLOOR AND BRIDGE LAMPS**

We have recently received a large shipment of new and beautiful lamps featuring the slender, graceful metal stands with very charming silk shades in harmonizing color combinations and the popular Italian beaded fringe. Make your selections now for your home and for gifts while these pre-Holiday Sale Prices prevail.

SALE PRICE RANGE

**\$5.75 AND UP**



**BEAUTIFUL MIRRORS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

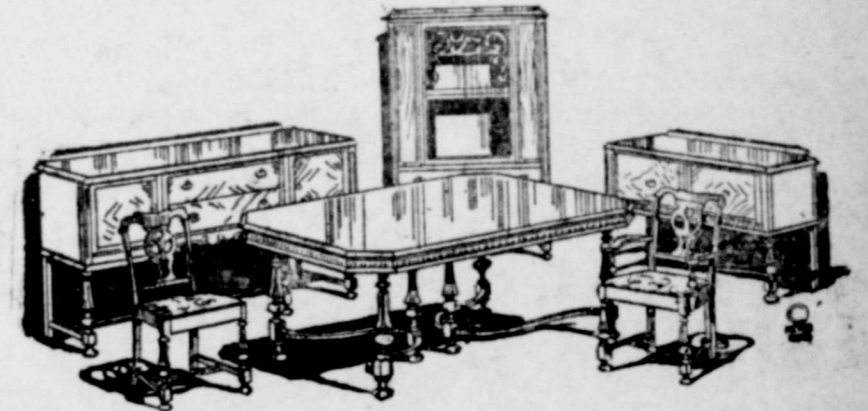
Let mirrors reflect beauty from the walls of every room in your home . . . and don't forget that they are always appreciated as gifts at Christmas time. Our selection of mirrors is unusually wide. You can find just the ones you want for your own home or for gifts

**20 PER CENT DISCOUNT**

**9x12 GOLD SEAL ART RUGS**

**\$8.95**

Pretty new patterns in these well known, guaranteed rugs are offered in this pre-Holiday Sale at only, each **\$8.95**



**DINING ROOM SUITES**

Eight-piece walnut dining room suite, consisting of extension table, buffet, six chairs—to sell during this pre-Holiday Sale at only **\$89.50**

**DINETTE SUITES**

5-piece suite, including extension table and four chairs, decorated natural oak, to sell during our pre-Holiday Sale at **\$36.95**

6-piece suite, including table, four chairs and buffet, a very pretty combination color finish. Specially priced in this Sale at only **\$59.95**

ANY OTHER DINING ROOM OR DINETTE SUITE IN OUR STOCK AT 20 PERCENT DISCOUNT FOR CASH

**BEAUTIFUL RUGS**

9x12 Axminsters very pretty patterns

**\$24.75 and up**

9x12 Fringed Wilton Velvets

**\$59.75 and up**

**ALL OTHER RUGS  
SPECIALLY PRICED**

For Our Pre-Holiday Sale

Sale Prices Are for Cash Only—All Purchases for Credit Will Be Charged at Regular Prices

**Barrow Furniture Co., Inc.**

—The Store That Sells for Less—

Merkel, Texas

Early  
Choosing  
Assures  
Best  
Selections

Early  
Choosing  
Assures  
Best  
Selections



**Taylor County Soil Aided By Hard Work Brings Prosperity**

J. D. Porter and family are moving into a beautiful new modern home on Oak street, just completed and finished in the latest style, and containing every convenience.

This fact is related as another example of what thrift and a start with Taylor county soil will do.

Mr. Porter came fromARRANT county with his bride 26 years ago in a covered wagon drawn by four fine cow ponies. He bought 80 acres of land near Dora, on the Divide. On this rocky piece of land was a one-room shack in which he and his bride set up housekeeping. The land was farmed with a Georgia stock plow and walking cultivator. The cow ponies had never drawn a plow, so instead of walking along peacefully, they foxtrotted what time they were not "bucking."

To help things along, Mrs. Porter taught the Prairie High school. On every day that Mr. Porter could spare from his own farm, he worked on the Butman ranch at \$1.00 per day and boarded himself. (This was the customary price at that time.) Relating to his friends some of the hardships of a quarter of a century ago, Mr. Porter said: "At one time we were without groceries and only had \$2.50 in the bank, but my wife's school teacher saved the situation."

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Porter is a B. A. student of Simmons university, and now teaching in one of the best schools in Jones county. In addition to his Merkel and Taylor county property, Mr. Porter has holding at Lubbock and Tulsa, Okla., the combined value reaching well into the six-figure mark, and all the outgrowth of a start with Taylor county soil, under hardships so prevalent in this section 26 years ago.

**O. E. S. CHAPTER.**

The Eastern Star Chapter meets Saturday night at 7 o'clock. All members are requested to be present, as there is some important business, also some initiation work. The chapter cordially invites all visitors. There will be refreshments.

Mrs. Aurra Johnson, W. M.  
Mrs. May Lee, Sec'y

**ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.**

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 8th day January, 1929, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

This is to notify you that our store will be headquarters for reasonable Xmas Gifts. Boston Bargain Store.

**COMPERE NEWS**

Next Sunday is singing evening at Compere. Everyone enjoyed the last Compere brought by Brother Parrack last Sunday.

There will be a box supper at Compere Friday of next week. Everyone is invited to come and bring a box. A social meeting has been organized at Compere, and the box supper will be the first meeting. Twice a month meetings are planned, and everybody is invited. These are the officers: President, Charlie Childress; vice president, Lee Stanley; secretary, Miss Ruby Evans; committee, R. D. Price, Miss Ruby Evans, Miss McAninch.

Raymond Adkins is still on the sick list this week.

Misses Norma Dee and Leta B. Wilborn visited Misses Sara Lee and Kathleen Lucas Sunday.

Miss Winnie Fay Lucas spent Saturday with Miss Zenefie Lucas.

**Merkelites Present at Wedding Anniversary**

Mr. and Mrs. Jasper McCaleb were greatly surprised when their children entertained with open house, at their home in Anson in honor of their fortieth wedding Anniversary, Wednesday, November 21st.

A host of friends and relatives sent throughout the day. Others sent messages. Many lovely gifts and good wishes were received.

Out of town friends who called were: Messrs and Mesdames Walter Vantrees, Fred Kelso and Clyde Jones of Stith; Mrs. Baunna Benton, Mrs. Roland Calvert, Ed Vantrees, Gilbert Benton and wife of Marrs; Mrs. Eugene Regeon, Mrs. Anna Regeon and daughter, Lois of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Welch, Ozie Cook, wife and little daughter, Margaret, of Hodges.

Three of the children not attending as follows: W. A. McCaleb of Long Beach, California, Mrs. Ben Elliot and Erwin McCaleb of Wichita Falls, Texas.

**CARD OF THANKS.**

We are taking this means to thank all those who were so kind in their helpfulness and tender expressions of sympathy during the recent illness and death of our beloved husband and father.

Mrs. J. R. Pee and Children

**Sentenced to Die For Hatchet Slaying**

San Angelo, Dec. 6.—For the hatchet slaying of Myrna Juergens, 12, Floyd Newton Byrnes must die on Friday, Jan. 11

Byrnes, who confessed to the slaying of the girl, her mother and her grandmother, Mrs. Rose Schirra, here in March, had been convicted, but sentence was not passed until Monday, awaiting action by the Court of Criminal Appeals on an appeal. The conviction was affirmed and Byrnes was brought to San Angelo from Huntsville for sentencing.

Byrnes smiled wryly when the judge set the date for his execution. He was remanded to the custody of the sheriff here to be held until he can be returned to Huntsville.

**Boiler Blast Fatal.**

Borger, Dec. 6.—C. T. Procter was scalded to death when a boiler at the Armstrong lease, Moore county field near here, exploded.



NO MAGNIFYING GLASS NEEDED.

To see the satisfaction on the faces of the patrons of Everybody's Garage. Handling only the standard high grade Oils and Greases and with a personnel trained to give the very best possible service to every motorist, our Garage and Filling Station is constantly growing in popularity. Brunswick Tires are helping to make this the favorite stopping place for motorists.

**EXPERT REPAIRING GREASING, ETC. Everybody's Garage TELEPHONE 72**

"Your Friends Can Buy Anything You Can Give Them Except Yours Photograph"

**RODDEN'S STUDIO**

O. R. RODDEN, PROP.

MERKEL, TEXAS

November 25, 1928.

Mr. & Mrs. Public,  
Merkel, Tex.

Dear Folks:

One month till Christmas! It seems like a long time, but you will be surprised how quickly it passes. Why, even now you can feel the Holiday Spirit spreading. Thank-giving just makes a convenient stepping-stone to Christmas.

You ought to start thinking now about the gifts you're going to give. We want to suggest photographs. That will be something different this year. All your friends and all your family would enjoy having a real portrait of you. A portrait represents the essence of Christmas - - A personal Greeting.

You've no doubt seen portraits by Rodden and liked them. They're high in quality and moderate in price. Drop in this week and arrange for your Christmas portraits. Then you will avoid the worry and rush that start next month. Remember "Photographs Live Forever."

Very Truly Yours,  
RODDEN STUDIO.

**CHRISTMAS IS NEAR And a Nice BOUQUET OF FLOWERS**

Will Make a Wonderful Gift

Give your orders to Mrs. F. C. MFARLAND, your home agent. You are welcome at our place when in Abilene.

**UNIVERSITY FLORIST**

1204 Ambler Street Phone 7458  
On Simmons University Campus  
**O. L. DOWDY**

**Three Men Hurt in Sweetwater Crash**

Sweetwater, Texas, Dec. 6.—James O'Malley, 26, Bisbee Ariz. was perhaps fatally hurt and two companions received minor injuries when an automobile in which they were riding collided with another car containing five negroes near here Monday.

The two other injured men, Clive McCaslin, who said he was from Pennsylvania, and Joe Scarrietta, Lynn, Mass., were enroute to Arizona to work in the mines. All three were recent graduates, they said, of a Chicago electrical school.

Wanted—To buy maize heads.  
\$17.50 Per Ton  
Sam Swann

**Boswell Attending Masonic Grand Lodge Convention at Waco**

C. L. Boswell left Tuesday for Waco, where on Wednesday and Thursday he attended the sessions of the Masonic Grand Lodge as the representative of Merkel Lodge No. 710. He expected to join delegates from Abilene and other West Texas points.

More than 1,000 lodges, located in every section of the state, will be represented by one or more members at this year's session of the Grand Lodge.

Adding Machine paper—Typewriter paper and ribbons—Loose leaf folders and all kind of office supplies—Hamm Drug Co.

**PROFESSIONAL**

**M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.**  
Office Over Farmers State Bank.  
Res. Phone 12. Office 196.  
Local Surg. on T. & P. For Last 10 Years.  
Furnish Drugs From Office.

**Dr's. Grimes & Sadler**  
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS  
HOSPITAL FACILITIES  
—X-RAY—  
PHONE DR. GRIMES Res. 165 Of. 163  
PHONE DR. SADLER Res. 136 Of. 163

**PAULINE JOHNSON**  
Successor to  
**G. W. JOHNSON**  
Insurance—Notary Public  
In New City Hall—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

**Lee R. York**  
LAWYER  
Civil Practice in all Courts. Special attention to land titles and probate matters.  
711 and 712 Nims Building  
ABILENE, TEXAS

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

**Dr. Chas. E. Harrison**  
Practice Limited to  
The Eye and its Errors of Refraction  
Eyes Examined and Glasses Fitted  
PHONE 2026  
209 Clinton Bldg. Over Brooks D.G.  
ABILENE, TEXAS

**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

**J. T. (Tom) COATS**  
WATER WELL DRILLER  
My Work As Good As The Best.  
Phone 274W  
Merkel, - Texas

**Len Sublett**  
Water well Driller,  
all work guaranteed  
first-class.

**Merkel, Texas**  
Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

**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.

**Dr. W. A. BUCKNER**  
Dentist  
Office, Farmers State Bank Bldg.  
Phone, Office 195 Residence 223

**= Gafton =**  
TRENT, TEXAS  
Where Everybody Goes—Always a Good Show—Fine Music!  
TODAY—FRIDAY, DEC. 7  
Carl Laemmle presents  
"BUCK PRIVATES"  
A story of three Buck Privates and a Frisky Little Fraulein, who hadn't been through the war for nothing. You'll laugh plenty.  
Also George Chandler, Western Ace, in "Saps and Saddles" and Chapter 2, Eagle of the Night, "Snatched into Space" and News  
SATURDAY, DEC. 8  
Fred Thompson and Silver King in  
"A REGULAR SCOUT"  
One of Fred's greatest.  
Comedy and Buster's Whippet Race and News  
MONDAY and TUESDAY, DEC. 10 and 11  
Look Who's Here Clara Bow in Her Newest and Cutest  
"THE FLEET'S IN"  
with James Hall  
Oedles of Red Hair and Enough of "IT" to float a battleship. In this picture you will see why Clara gets 35,000 letters each month from her admirers.  
Also Our Gang Comedy—"Barnum and Ringling."  
WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, DEC. 12 and 13  
Reginald Denny with a great cast in  
"THE NIGHTBIRD"  
Now you will see what Night Life really is.  
Comedy, Bobby Vernon in 'Horse Shy' and Paramount News  
COMING  
William Haines in "WEST POINT"  
Lon Chaney in "LAUGH, CLOWN, LAUGH"

**PROPRIA**  
GATHERING GALAXY OF GLORIFIED GIRLS  
2 YEARS IN NEW YORK  
WORLD'S GREATEST ORCHESTRA  
ROGER WOLFE KAHNS-SERENADERS  
MAIL ORDERS-NOW!  
Same Management as Follies that played here last year.  
PRICES \$3.00, \$2.50, \$2.00 and \$1.00  
Orders will be filled in rotation. Send check, Money Order, Draft with stamped envelope to H. M. ROGERS

**AUDITORIUM SWEETWATER TUES. DEC. 11**

**DIAMONDS T.C. WILSON WATCHES JEWELER**  
TELEPHONE 6 118 Chestnut Street  
ABILENE, TEXAS.

# MERKEL'S UNION THANKSGIVING

### Capacity Crowd Attends Services at Methodist Church; Goodby to Rev. Mayhew.

A capacity crowd attended the Thanksgiving services in Merkel at the Methodist church, participated in by the pastors and members of four church congregations.

Rev. W. J. Mayhew, until recently pastor of the Methodist church, was in charge of the service. Rev. R. A. Walker delivered an eloquent sermon, with a text and theme appropriate to the occasion. The Scripture reading was by Rev. W. G. Cypert, pastor of the Church of Christ, and the closing prayer by Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the Baptist church. An excellent musical program under the direction of Miss Christine Collins, with voices from every choir in the city, contributed immeasurably to the success of the Thanksgiving service.

At the close of the service, Rev. Parrack called attention to the fact that it was the best service in which Rev. Mayhew would participate as pastor of the local Methodist church, and suggested that the large crowd bid the departing minister and his wife good-bye with a hearty handshake and best wishes for happiness and success in their new work at Rotan. Rev. and Mrs. Mayhew stood in front of the pulpit while the large crowd marched by to wish them success in their new field of labor.

### 127 on Honor Roll In Merkel Schools

(Continued From Page One.)

ris, 95; Louise Booth, 95; Thelma McAnninch, 94; Elsie Lasaster, 93; Velma T. Holden, 93; Alvin Parrack, 93; Benj. Sheppard, 93; Vera Richie, 92; Jess Higgins, 92; Ola Smith, 91; Mary Turner, 91; Harold Boney, 90; Harold Cheney, 90; Joel Darsey, 90; Lucille Cole, 90; Beth Ham, 90.

#### Tenth Grade, Miss Baker.

Thad Doty, 95; Frances Fredrickson, 95; Odell Hunter, 95; Bery Hunter, 94; Nina Vantresse, 93; Lee Darden, 92; Marcella Pinkley, 91; J. T. Darsey, 90.

#### Eleventh Grade, Mrs. Young.

Vernie Derrick, 96; R. E. Cole, 95; Addie Fae Patterson, 95; Roy Kelson, 91; Ruby Patton, 91; Una Lea Gilmore, 90; Raymond Earthman, 90; Lois Suber, 90.

#### CHURCH OF CRIST.

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at the North Side Church of Christ at 11 o'clock and in the evening at 7 o'clock. Sunday School 10 a. m. Come and be with us at each service.

Your favorite cigar is always moist when you buy it at—Hamm Drug Co.

## PERSONAL NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Largent, for the holidays.

Miss Vera Baker spent the Thanksgiving vacation in Abilene.

Charles Largent of T. C. U., Fort Worth, was the guest of his parents,

John D. Coats, Simmons, spent the past holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Coats.

Miss Edna Marie Jones of Abilene spent Thanksgiving with Miss Christine Collins.

Mrs. W. V. Ramsey of Abilene was the house guest of Miss Mary Cleo Booth last week.

Miss Mary Hutchison of McMurray College was the guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Hutchison.

Mrs. Clarence Walden of Abilene is a guest in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Watts.

Miss Marthyle Bridwell attended the States Teachers' Convention in San Antonio last week-end.

Sie Hamm was in Fort Worth and Dallas the first of the week making Christmas purchases for his firm.

Miss Mary Anna Mayfield entertained as her guest last week Miss Evelyn Scarborough of Midland.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fay of Lorraine visited Mrs. Fay's sister, Mrs. T. T. Davis, the first part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Weis were Abilene visitors Wednesday. Mr. Weis is field superintendent for the Cosden Oil Corporation.

Miss Mildred Hamm of Simmons University spent the past holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm.

Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Davis and children, Alton, Nell Marie and Curtis Woodrow, visited with Mrs. J. E.

Badgley at Roscoe Thanksgiving, enjoying a family re-union and the usual good dinner.

Delbert Polley was home from N. T. A. C. at Arlington with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Polley, for Thanksgiving holidays.

Mrs. M. M. Leeman and son, Alford of Pecos, came over for Thanksgiving week with her sister, Mrs. G. W. Boyce, returning Wednesday.

Sterling Sheppard, who is attending S. M. U. at Dallas, was a Thanksgiving visitor with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ace Sheppard.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg and Mr. and Mrs. Dee Grimes and Bettie Lou drove to Abilene Monday evening to see and hear "The Singing Fool."

Miss Aileen Childress, a student at Baylor University at Waco, was home for the Thanksgiving holidays with her mother, Mrs. John Childress.

Miss Elizabeth Harkrider of McMurray College, accompanied by Miss Margaret Love, also of McMurray, spent the Thanksgiving holidays with Mrs. W. L. Harkrider.

Mrs. Calvert, accompanied by C. K. Russell and family and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson, were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Calvert of Nolan county Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Twyman Collins had as her guests for the Abilene-Cisco game Thanksgiving day at Cisco, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Mayfield and Miss Cleo Booth.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Caple and C. J. Glover Jr. spent the Thanksgiving holidays in Waco. Mr. Glover attended the Texas-A. & M. football game at Austin.



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ABILENE  
ONE WEEK  
Commencing  
MONDAY, DEC. 10

SEE and HEAR  
**AL JOLSON**  
The Singing Fool  
with BETTY BAKER and JOSEPHINE QUINN  
and LOVE BACON

Hear the peer of entertainers singing "Sonny Boy" in this most realistic of life dramas.  
With 75 Piece Vitaphone Orchestra