

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 40—NO. 43

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1929.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

## OIL FIELD INDICATED SOUTH OF MERKEL

### FIFTY-FIVE ON HONOR ROLL FOR PAST SIX WEEKS

Thirty-three Per Cent of Merkel High Pupils Average 90 or More; Roll is Much Larger Than Ever Before.

The following students of the High School department of the Merkel schools have for the six-weeks period ending January 18th have been neither tardy nor absent, have made at least 90 in deportment, have not made less than 75 on any one subject, and have for the period averaged 90 or more. About thirty-three percent or one out of each three in high school have made the honor roll this time. The roll contains the names of fifty-five pupils. The Freshman class had fifteen pupils on the Honor Roll, or thirty-four per cent; the Sophomores had 24 pupils or 53 per cent; the Juniors had 8 or 23 per cent; while the Seniors had eight or 23 per cent. The roll is much larger this time than ever before.

*Eighth Grade, Miss Martin.*

Pauline Salter, 95; Ross Ferrier, 94; Woodrow Wilson, 93; Ida Mae Derstine, 93; Nell Durham, 93; Murrell Quate, 93; Lela Patterson, 92; Madeline Murray, 92; Kathleen Mashburn, 92; Alice Church, 92; Gerald Derrick, 92; Willie Evelyn Boaz, 91; Margaret Canon, 91; Ouida Mae Hulsey, 91; Rebba McLeod, 90.

*Ninth Grade, Roberta Sloan.*

Elvis Richardson, 97; Louise Booth, 95; Margaret Turner, 95; Thelma McAninch, 95; Vera Richie, 95; Audrey Farris, 95; Velma S. Dolden, 94; Alvin Parrack, 94; Ola Smith, 94; Elsie Lasater, 94; Joel Darsey, 93; Harold Leeton, 93; B. P. Middleton, 93; Jess Higgins, 93; Fred Baker, 92; Lucille Cole, 92; Mattilou Largent, 91; Truett Meeks, 91; Ash Ester, 91; Harold Boney, 90; Opal Farris, 90; Beter Dan, 90; Artie McCormick, 90; Martha Stamford, 90.

*Tenth Grade, Vera Baker.*

Hunter Beryl, 95; Hunter, Odell, 95; Darsey, J. T., 94; Vantress, Nina, 94; Darden, Lee, 93; Pinkley, Marcella, 92; Davis, Maurine, 90; Toombs, Pauline, 90.

*Eleventh Grade, Geneva Young.*

R. E. Cole, 96; Vernie Derrick, 96; Addie F. Patterson, 95; Roy Kelsoe, 91; Bernice Lasater, 91; Lois Suber, 91; Lola Shelton, 90; Thelma Lee Russell, 90.

### FIVE MEN HURT AS TRUCK TURNS OVER

Five men, employes of the Phillips Petroleum company, were injured about noon Tuesday when the truck in which they were riding backed down a hill on the Phillips lease and turned over after efforts to switch gears had failed.

All of the men were given emergency treatment at the Merkel sanitarium four being released. Fred Beal, the most painfully injured, suffered a wrenched knee and bruised hip and was forced to remain under treatment. His injuries are not serious.

Failure of the gears to work properly was assigned by the men as cause for the accident. The truck backed down the hill at a rapid rate, crashing into a pipe line and overturning. The men were on their way to lunch at the time.

### Niece Mrs. Hulsey Dies at Coleman

Dr. and Mrs. H. P. Hulsey returned Monday from Coleman, where they had gone to attend the funeral of Miss Blanche Sidall, niece of Mrs. Hulsey. Miss Sidall was a popular student of the Coleman High school, 17 years old. She was taken ill with influenza which developed into pneumonia and caused her death. Her condition was not considered serious until a short time before she passed away.

*WOMAN BADLY BURNED.*

Ranger, Tex., Jan. 32.—Mrs. T. C. Weeks was severely burned here when her dress caught fire as she stood before an open-front gas heater.

### FOR WHOM WAS MERKEL NAMED?

Has it ever occurred to the worthy citizens of Merkel that the town might have been named for one of the two eminent composers and teachers of music?

Gustav Merkel was born in 1827 and died in 1885. He was a German pianist and organist. His works are excellent for their purpose, though to our modern ears they seem lacking in spontaneity.

The second musician, Gottfried Merkel, was born in 1860 at Leipzig. He was a fine pianist and had a notable career; was author of a valuable treatise on counterpoint and taught in the school of music at Riga from 1888 to 1892, and later at Leipzig Conservatory. His compositions are pedagogically sound and interesting. His own teacher was the great Franz Liszt.

MRS. WILL D. WILLIAMS, Merkel, Texas, Jan. 31, 1929.

### PIONEER TEXAS MINISTER WILL PREACH SUNDAY

Rev. J. B. Parrack to Occupy Pulpit of His Son on Eighty-first Birthday.

Rev. J. B. Parrack, father of Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the local Baptist church, will preach from the pulpit of this church next Sunday, which will be his 81st birthday.

A year ago, when the father of the popular Baptist pastor preached a sermon on his eightieth birthday, it was announced that the father would be asked to preach on the Sunday nearest his birthday as long as both lived here. Next Sunday, Feb. 3, is the birthday of the father, and he will bring his annual message at that time.

Doubtless there are many who will hear the aged minister who heard him during his active days as a minister of the Gospel. He preached in this part of the state fifty years ago, riding horseback with his wardrobe in one saddle pocket and his library in the other. Often he found his congregation already assembled when he came to a settlement, the Indians having caused the gathering. He lived at Waco and made his circuit on horseback often being away from home for months. His circuit included the forts on the frontier and any other places where people had dared to settle. Fort Griffin and Fort Phantom Hill were two near-by appointments.

Elderly people and long residents are especially invited to hear the message of this venerable minister next Sunday. Men, women and children of all ages will want to hear this pioneer preacher who helped to spread the Gospel to the early settlers, suffering privation and innumerable dangers as he went about his work.

### OPEN BANKHEAD HIGHWAY FEB. 20

If favorable weather continues, the Bankhead highway between Merkel and Abilene will be open to travel by February 20, according to W. J. Van London, highway engineer.

Work of laying the concrete will be completed this week and the usual 20-day period allowed for hardening will allow for the opening of the highway to travel in twenty days from the first of the month.

When work was resumed Monday only a 3,000-foot strip remained to be concreted, this being between Elm and Catclaw creeks.

### 9,019 BALES OF COTTON TO DATE

Merkel's cotton receipts to date total 9,019 bales. J. C. Childress, railroad agent, reports that 8,189 bales have been shipped, and Thos. A. Bearden, public weigher, has in the yards at the present time 830 bales.

### LIONS HEAR OF WORK BY WEST TEXAS C. OF C.

L. B. Campbell of Organization Department Here in Interest of Membership Drive; County Agent Talks on Agriculture.

L. B. Campbell of Abilene, representing the organization section of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Merkel Lions club at the Tuesday meeting, outlining briefly some of the accomplishments of the organization during the ten years of its existence and mentioning some of the plans for future work.

Mr. Campbell came to Merkel in the interest of the annual membership drive. Approximately twenty annual memberships are among the business men of Merkel, and the object of his visit was to obtain renewals and to increase the Merkel list. He reviewed the growth of the organization from a small beginning until now it embraces over 10,000 members, representing 300 West Texas towns.

*LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES.*

Among other things now engaging the attention of the organization was the water bill before the legislature designed to preserve water rights on Texas streams for the domestic use of the citizens of both towns and country, and the bill to validate land titles in West Texas. Reviewing past accomplishments, he referred to the work of the agricultural department and the successful effort to prevent the raising of fire insurance rates in West Texas.

C. M. Heald, county agent, and L. B. Bracken, both of Abilene, were guests of the club. Mr. Heald spoke in behalf of uniform stable agriculture, saying that county agents could best serve the interest of their respective sections in assisting in the preservation of the soil. He deplored the one crop idea, which leads to deterioration of the land, and declared that it was the greatest mistake West Texas ever made when cotton was substituted for livestock.

*CREAM ROUTES PROFITABLE.*

Mr. Heald cited the two cream routes recently established in the county as constructive help to the farmer and to the different communities meaning ready money for the farmer and an all-year income.

L. B. Bracken, who accompanied Mr. Heald to Merkel, voiced the opinion that refrigeration plants, where poultry, vegetables and produce could be stored, was among the needs of West Texas. Bonded plants, he said, would enable the farmer to store his products and the bank would accept the receipts as collateral in much the same manner as now prevails on cotton placed in bonded warehouses.

### Merkelites Have Visit With Former Pastor

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson have returned from a visit to Roby and Rotan. At that latter place they had a very pleasant visit with Rev. W. J. Mayhew and family. Rev. Mayhew was formerly pastor of the Merkel Methodist church.

During the few months that he has been in Rotan Rev. Mayhew has made rapid strides toward removing a church debt and otherwise popularizing himself with his congregation.

Mrs. Hutcheson reports the Mayhews are pleasantly located and are well pleased with their new home.

### Pioneer Resident Buried at Merkel

Mrs. Mary Jane Dudley, 79, pioneer resident of this section, died at the home of her son-in-law, G. L. Anderson, in the Nubia settlement, January 18. Interment was in the Rose Hill cemetery at Merkel the following day, with Elder W. G. Cypert of the Church of Christ officiating.

Mrs. Dudley was born at Union City, Tenn., in 1850. She was married to J. M. Dudley in 1867, and there was born to this union nine children, three of whom were with her at her death. Mrs. Dudley became a Christian in 1880, and lived a consecrated Christian life until her death.

### MAJORITY SIGN IN FAVOR OF OAK STREET PAVING

Considerably More Than Half of Residents Approve Move to Pave; Number Property Owners Yet to Be Seen.

A majority of the property owners have requested that Oak street be paved, according to members of the committee circulating petitions in behalf of that project.

The committee has been unable to see all of the residents on that street, but the signatures now on the list represent considerably more than half of the number. The committee will see every property owner and get their approval or disapproval before the work is completed.

When this is done, the next move will be to present the petition to the city council. That body, following the usual course, will ask for bids on the different types of paving as may be suggested by the petitioners.

The majority having already signed in favor of the paving program, insures its presentation to the council at an early date, or as soon as all the property owners have been seen.

### BIG RUSH TO PAY TAXES LAST DAY

The time limit for the payment of city and county taxes without penalty for delinquency expired at midnight last night.

As an accommodation to last minute taxpayers, the county tax collector's office remained open until midnight last night. Merkel people who were in Abilene during the day reported that the collector's office was crowded throughout the day with tardy tax payers.

The great majority of residents of this section took advantage of the branch office in Merkel and paid their taxes here, L. R. Thompson being the deputy in charge of collection of tax money in the Merkel territory.

### SIE HAMM SELLS DRUG BUSINESS

Sie Hamm has disposed of his interest in the Hamm Drug Company to H. R. Phillips of Rotan, who has been the business partner of Mr. Hamm for the past four years. Mr. Phillips, who is in the drug business at Rotan, has designated C. E. Ogle as manager of the store. Mr. Ogle has assumed his duties here and will move his family to Merkel about the first of the month.

Mr. Hamm has not made known his future business plans, other than to say he expects to continue a resident of Merkel, which fact will be learned with pleasure by his host of friends throughout this section. He has been connected with the drug business in Merkel for the past ten years, all of the time in the same store.

Mr. Ogle, new manager of the store, has been connected with Mr. Phillips, the owner, for about nine years, and is an experienced druggist. Mr. Phillips announced while in Merkel the first of the week that there would be no change in the store personnel, all of the employes remaining in the same positions they occupied with Mr. Hamm.

### J. C. Moore Dies At Sierra Blanca

J. C. Moore, aged about 85, until three years ago a resident of Merkel, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Pat Jones, at Sierra Blanca, Wednesday.

Burial will take place at Gatesville, by the side of his wife, who died in Merkel several years ago.

Asa Sheppard of the Barrow Furniture company went to Sierra Blanca to embalm the body and prepare it for shipment to Gatesville.

The first German colony was found at the present site of Industry, Austin county, 1842.

### KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

A new traffic signal system is being installed at Floydada.

Contract has been let for a new high school building at Brady to cost \$95,000.

Abilene won the 1930 state water-works school at the convention held last week in Bryan.

The Gulf Refining company will erect a 5,000 barrel crude refining plant at Sweetwater.

Contract has been let for a new and modern city hall at Temple to cost approximately \$175,000.

Mrs. S. E. Stafford, one of the original settlers of Mineral Wells, died at her home in the resort city.

The West Texas Sheriffs' Association will hold their annual convention at Ballinger Feb. 14 and 15.

W. W. Ashworth of Weatherford was seriously injured when his car went into a ditch near Sweetwater.

A 17-year-old youth arrested at Abilene in connection with forging a check told police "he needed the money."

President John L. Lancaster of the Texas and Pacific has announced that work will start on a new passenger terminal at Fort Worth during 1929.

A. W. Miller, 30, of Trent, died in an Abilene sanitarium early Monday morning. The body was shipped to Oilton, Okla., his old home, for burial.

The Hotel Walton and the offices and showrooms of the O. F. Walton Lumber company at Terrell were damaged by fire to the extent of \$35,000.

Contract for an underpass on the Texas and Pacific railroad west of Loraine, on state highway No. 1, has been approved by the highway commission.

The house committee on constitutional amendments reported adversely on the state-wide good roads bond issue recommended by two committees appointed by Governor Moody.

Mrs. Alice Mitchell, 60, of Dallas, awoke to find two men in her bed room when she attempted to summon aid she was knocked in the head and seriously injured.

Two trainmen were killed when a Missouri Pacific freight train left the rails and piled up near Bryan. The dead are Conductor Perry, Houston, and brakeman Eitel, Mart.

Rev. H. H. Wallace lost his fight for the seat of A. S. Johnson of Winona in the Texas house of representatives. The contest was thrown out on the ground that Mr. Wallace had not complied with the law in giving notice of contest.

Officers at Rankin engaged in a gun battle with an unknown man after the Yates hotel had been robbed of a small amount of money. The man was finally arrested without bloodshed after eighteen shots had been exchanged.

Baylor College of Belton will send a letter to each of the Baptist pastors in Texas to be read to their congregations appealing for funds for relief and for the rebuilding of the dormitory recently destroyed by fire.

The Berkeley bill creating the 109th judicial district of Texas was approved by the legislature Wednesday. It now goes to Governor Moody for approval or disapproval. The new district would include five of the ten counties now composing the seventeenth district of West Texas.

The Texas senate committee on privileges and elections voted down five measures by Senator Thomas B. Love of Dallas, which had for their purpose the forestalling of democratic party punishment for those who voted as "Hoover democrats" in the November election.

### Auxiliary Program For Monday, Feb. 4

The following is the program for the Presbyterian Auxiliary meeting February 4. Subject, "The American Indian." Division on Stewardship, Mark 6-37; "The Child Wife," Mrs. Selma Russell; "Among the Dakotas," Mrs. R. O. Anderson; "No Slack Times," Miss Mary Kenny; "Bettering Our Work," by society. Closing prayer by Brother Walker. Business session.

### WILDCAT TEST ON TAYLOR FARM HAS 350 FEET OF OIL

Location is 12 Miles From Merkel and Approximately Twenty Miles From Nearest Production; Well Closely Watched

Oil interest in Merkel during the present week has been centered on the showing of the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Co., Taylor No. 1, about 12 miles south of Merkel, which gives promise of opening up an entirely new field, approximately 25 miles from production.

The first showing of oil in this wildcat test was encountered last Friday at 2386 feet. Some oil was bailed from the hole Saturday and Sunday, with good showing of oil standing in the test. Corrected test on the petroleum taken from the well showed 40.4 degrees gravity.

*OIL STANDING IN HOLE.*

Since the first showing, this wildcat test has attracted much attention. Oil was standing 350 feet in the early Thursday morning at a depth of 2391 feet, the lime being picked up at 2386 feet.

It will perhaps be several days before the full extent of the oil standing is known. Drilling is proceeding slowly, with the view of testing out every foot of the way. For this reason it is more or less uncertain when the well will be drilled in. At present the drill is five feet in the lime.

*LOOK PROMISING.*

While all is expectancy regarding the final showing of the wildcat in new territory, oil men are of the belief that it gives greater promise than any wildcat ever drilled in this territory. That this belief is general is evidenced by the heavy leasing and royalty deals as a result of the showing. Large crowds are at the well daily, closely watching developments.

If the well proves to be a producer of considerable size, Merkel is in position to reap untold benefits, being located half way between the latest test and the Noodle Dome field.

*NEW WELL ON BICKLEY.*

Snowden & McSweeney's No. 5 Bickley, on the west side of the Shaheen pool, came in during the week, producing 300 barrels. This well is an offset to Independent dry hole on the Smith tract, and will probably mean the drilling of another test on their property on the Bickley tract.

Phillips Petroleum Co. No. 1 Campbell, which some believed last week was a dry hole, is pumping 50 barrels of oil, leading to the belief that there will be further production in this area, which is half way between the Tiner and Noodle Dome areas.

Three new wells have been started in the past three days, two in the Noodle area and one in the Tiner. Grisham-Hunter, Tiner No. 1, is due to be drilled in within the next ten days.

### SMITH MURDER CASE AFFIRMED

Austin, Jan. 31.—The life sentence for murder given Lee Smith in Callahan county, for his alleged participation in a slaying claimed by Texas rangers to have been a conspiracy to collect bank robbery rewards offered by the Texas Bankers Association, was affirmed by the court of criminal appeals.

The indictment charged Smith with murder of Hilario Nunez, one of the three men shot while standing in front of the Home National Bank of Stanton, Martin county. Two of the men were killed and one was wounded. The case was sent from Martin to Taylor county, thence to Callahan county on change of venue.

### Play Tonight at Mt. Pleasant School

The Dramatic club will give a three-act play at the Mount Pleasant school house tonight at 8:30 o'clock, entitled, "Deacon Slips." There will be no admission fee and the general public is cordially invited. Nine members compose the cast.

## TAKE THE WISE COURSE

He who makes too big a show  
By reckless spending, soon will go;  
And when he's squandered all his cash  
It dawns on him he's been too rash.  
The other extreme is a man so tight  
That he grasps for every penny in sight;  
He also loses since life depends  
Not alone on money but also on friends.  
The Farmers State Bank need not advise  
You already know the course that is wise.

## The Farmers State Bank

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

J. S. SWANN, President  
R. O. ANDERSON, V. Pres.  
DAVID HENDRICKS, V. Pres.  
W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.

HERBERT PATTERSON,  
Assistant Cashier  
B. L. HAMILTON,  
Assistant Cashier

## AIR RAIL LINE IS T. & P. MOVE

Railroad Inaugurates Airplane Service Between Texas and Pacific Coast Points.

In recognition of the increasing demand for unified rail-air passenger transportation as a time saving factor in trans-continental travel, and in keeping with its progressive program along other lines, the Texas and Pacific railway has entered into an arrangement with the Standard Airlines, incorporated, which will enable passengers using its trains to or from El Paso to fly between that point and Los Angeles, Calif., Phoenix, Tucson and Douglas, Ariz.

The new service will start on Monday, February 4. The first westbound airplane will start from El Paso and the first eastbound airplane will start from Los Angeles on that date.

This will be the first regular trans-continental rail and air passenger service to and from California. Single motor Fokker Cabin planes, seating six and eight persons, will be used.

A limited amount of baggage will be handled for each passenger. Trunks will be handled by express between El Paso and destination.

Representatives of the railroad and plane companies will give personal attention to passengers at El Paso, thus making the trip a simple transfer from train to plane, or vice versa. Taxicabs will transfer passengers at El Paso between the Air Field and the Railway Station.

Westbound Sunshine Special from St. Louis, Memphis, New Orleans, Shreveport, Dallas and Fort Worth, arriving El Paso 8:00 a. m., will connect with plane departing 9:00 a. m. (mountain time), reaching Douglas 10:30 A. M., Tucson 11:50 A. M., Phoenix 1:10 P. M., and Los Angeles 4:30 P. M. (Pacific Time), or only eight and one-half hours, including stops.

Eastbound planes will leave Los Angeles 8:00 A. M. (Pacific Time), Phoenix 1:20 P. M., Tucson 2:40 P. M., Douglas 4:00 P. M., arriving El Paso 5:30 P. M. (Mountain Time), connecting with The Texan, leaving El Paso at 7:15 P. M. (Mountain time), with through sleeping cars to Fort Worth, Dallas, Memphis and St. Louis, with car to car transfer for Shreveport and New Orleans.

The charge for Air Trip between Los Angeles and El Paso will be on basis of less than 10c per mile, with 10 per cent reduction on round trip tickets, and reservations for seats will be handled by the representatives of the railroad or of the air line in the same manner as Pullman space is arranged for. Collections will be made for through trips at initial points and tickets issued to passengers as soon as reservations are confirmed.

## CANYON NEWS

The flu epidemic has just about left this community.

Uncle Jim Blackburn is still sick. Misses Lottie Butman, Novis and Modenia Whiteaker and Elma Hale spent the week-end at the latter's home in Abilene. Misses Whiteaker and Hale attended teachers institute while there.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Whitlock, Merkel, and Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Harris of Trent visited Mr. and Mrs. Sam Butman Jr. Sunday.

Raymond and John Russom, Herman Daey and Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Russom spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Huff of the Dora community.

Mrs. Ed Blackburn and daughter, Mrs. Earnest Meeks, had a short visit with her baby daughter, Mrs. Melvin Montgomery, at Abilene Monday while Mr. Blackburn attended court.

## Blair Items

Mrs. Jim Cavette left for Sweetwater Friday in response to a message informing her of the serious illness of her sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Garlie Dorgitz and family of new Mexico are spending an indefinite time with Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Brown and other relatives at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Silus Scott and son of Rotan are visiting relatives here this week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Moore are spending a few weeks visiting relatives in Seymour.

Luther Orsborn and Miss Una Bell Provine were united in matrimony at Sweetwater Saturday.

A crowd of young people enjoyed the social in the home of M. and Mrs. Adrem Farmers Friday night.

M. Keel, Santa Fe agent, left for the Temple sanitarium last week; Mr. Thornton of Waco is substitute.

The social given by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Friday night in honor of Miss

The Old Reliable has always advocated **DIVERSIFICATION** and is glad to assist in a program which will invariably reflect a profit to the farmer regardless of the seasonal success or failure of the cotton crop.



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WE WILL HELP YOU

## THE OLD RELIABLE Farmers & Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

"For the past quarter century"

## Announcing

—The Opening of the Service Parts Company, Wholesalers For Standard Replacement Parts For All Cars and Trucks.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS FOR

Perfect Circle Rings, Gates Fan Belts, Whittaker Battery Cables, Spencer-Smith Piston Rings and Pins, Allbestos Bra'xe Lining, Morse Timing Chains, Celeron Timing Gears, Timpkin Roller Bearings, New Departure Ball Bearings, Thompson Values and Bolts, A C Spark Plugs, Champion Spark Plugs and many other lines. We cordially invite you to visit our store. **TRY US.**

## Service Parts Company, Inc.

Wholesale Standard Replacement Parts For All Cars and Trucks

Telephone 8728  
701-7 Pine St.

ABILENE TEXAS

Opal Johnson was enjoyed by a crowd of young folks.

Lenard Moore left several days ago for California for an indefinite time.

### Preaching at Blair.

There will be Sunday school Sunday morning at 10 o'clock and preaching at 11 o'clock at the Blair Baptist church by Bro. Badgett of Abilene. Everybody invited to come.

H. E. Campbell, Supt.

### BANK NOTICE.

Beginning February 1, 1929, and until further notice, the undersigned banks will open at 8:00 a. m. and close promptly at 3:00 p. m.

Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas. Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Merkel, Texas.

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

Walker Estate is Valued at \$3,000,000

Fort Worth, Tex., Jan. 25.—An estate valued at approximately \$3,000,000 was left by Breckenridge S. Walker, 52, capitalist, oil operator and cattleman, who died Jan. 16, according to the application to probate the will filed with Deputy County Clerk T. Roddy. Attached to the will which was made Jan. 20, 1928, was a codicil which was written last July 16. Under provision of the documents practically all of the estate is left to the wife.

**T. C. WILSON**  
...JEWELER...  
DIAMONDS WATCHES  
116 Chestnut Street Abilene  
Phone 5227

of the deceased, with the exception of a few gifts to other relatives.

**Clifton Votes Sewer Bonds.**  
Clifton, Texas, Jan 31.—A \$30,000 sewer bond issue carried here by a vote of more than 2 to 1.

**Wanted—To buy maize heads.**  
\$18.00 per ton.  
Sam Swann

## DAPPER DAN



### Glad Joy!

"To see a man," says Dapper Dan,  
"In clothes from wrinkles free,  
"Engenders joy without alloy  
"Within the breast of me!"

We'll keep your clothing looking nice for such an unimportant price, we're really very much distressed when we see pants that should be pressed. The way apparel is neglected oft makes us gloomy and dejected. But we've no time for being blue; we have so very much to do!

**MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE**  
Phone 3

Across from Postoffice You'll like the plan of Dapper Dan. The clever Cleaning-Dyeing man!

## THANKS

I take this means of thanking all of my friends for their friendship and patronage given me in the past years.

I also hope you will welcome my successor as you have me.

To those indebted to the firm prior to Jan. 1st, I will thank you to see me or pay at the store.

Sincerely Yours,

**Sie Hamm**

### Employe West Texas Utilities Co. Averts Railroad Wreck

Abilene, Texas, January 31.—How J. Price Dukemenier of Childress, employe of the West Texas Utilities Company probably averted a railroad wreck, saved property of the Ft. Worth & Denver Railroad from fire, and a few days later extinguished flames which were threatening to destroy the Prairie Hill school house near Wellington, became known when he modestly exhibited a letter of thanks from an official of the railroad.

Driving along the highway beside the railroad right of way, Dukemenier discovered the railroad bridge spanning Red River afire. He jumped from his automobile, found water in the barrels alongside the bridge and extinguished the flames.

Several days later Dukemenier was driving past the Prairie Hill school and noticed smoke curling out from under the doors and windows. Investigating he found fire had broken out in the coal bin in the basement of the building. He had no firefighting apparatus, but called Wellington fire department. When the engines arrived the firemen found the smoke so dense it was difficult to enter the building. Dukemenier donned his gas mask, which is a part of his safety equipment, entered the building and extinguished the flames with chemicals.

#### CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank our neighbors and many friends of the Blair community for the help rendered and kindness shown us during our little daughter's illness. May God bless you.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bryan.

#### Dies at Buffalo Gap.

Mrs. Emily Jane Cox, 91, for the past 22 years a resident of the Neil community, died at the home of her son, I. C. Cox, near Buffalo Gap, Monday afternoon.

Funeral services were held at the South Side Baptist church in Abilene Tuesday morning with Rev. J. C. Burkett officiating.

Give us a chance to prove to you the superior quality of our meats and we believe you will become one of our regular customers. Wheeler and Vaughn Market.

### Movement Starts to Drop Turkey Games

Dallas, Texas, Jan. 31.—Proposals to abandon the Thanksgiving Day football date and play on the Saturday before and after Turkey day in order not to conflict with the annual Texas A. & M.-Texas University classic were considered at a meeting of officials of four other Southwest Conference Schools here Saturday.

The confab was attended by Dr. R. N. Blackwell and Ray Morrison of Southern Methodist University; Gaylord Johnson, of Rice Institute; L. C. Wright, of Texas Christian University and George Belew and Morley Jennings of Baylor University.

Saturday's meeting was unofficial and nothing definite was done. Representatives of each school will put the matter up to their athletic council. If the proposition is approved another meeting will be called to thresh out details.

#### BLACKSMITH WORK.

I have bought the Polly Blacksmith Shop and am prepared to do all kinds of Blacksmithing, Horseshoeing, Wood work and Acetylene Welding, with complete equipment. I am now installing a disc roller. I am prepared to give the very best of service and guarantee my work. I respectfully solicit the patronage of those in need of anything in my line.

J. H. MENGES & CO.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

### Highway Department and Board of Control Probe is Ordered

Austin, Texas, Jan. 31.—The highway department and the board of control will be investigated by a joint committee of four representatives and three senators to be appointed by the respective presiding officers under concurrent resolution adopted by the House and Senate Monday.

This makes three investigations ordered by this session, which cover some six departments of government. Added to it is the textbook investigation. There will be three separate committees delving into department matters. Previously an investigation had been provided of the General Land Office. Attorney General's Department, the University of Texas regents and the Governor as regards the recent attempted sales of oil and gas leases on university land.

The latest investigation ordered that of the Highway Department and Board of Control, originated in the House and the creating resolution was adopted Monday morning.

#### Milk Customers Wanted.

I am now able to supply a few more milk customers. Cows government tubercular tested. Tom Douglass, Phone 99.

The largest percentage of foreign white population in Texas is Mexican. Next come the Germans.

### Ex-Senator Oscar Underwood is Dead

Washington, Jan. 31.—Oscar W. Underwood, former senator from Alabama, and a powerful figure in American political life for twenty years, died at his home in Woodlawn, Va., after a long illness. He would have been 67 years old on May 6 of this year.

Cerebral hemorrhage early in December, a stroke of paralysis two weeks later, from which he rallied, and a fatal relapse a few days ago brought his distinguished career to an end.

#### BANK NOTICE.

Beginning February 1, 1929, and until further notice, the undersigned banks will open at 8:00 a. m. and close promptly at 3:00 p. m. Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas. Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Merkel, Texas.

The city of New Braunfels was established by Germans colonists in 1845.



LOOKING INTO THINGS.

That's the safe way—and we cordially invite you to "look into" our method of doing business, investigate and test out the quality of our goods and our service. A complete filling station and garage service, handling only the choicest products plus courteous attendants. Brunswick Tires will make motoring a joy; they are light on the pocketbook.

EXPERT REPAIRING GREASING, ETC.

Everybody's Garage TELEPHONE 72

### Abilene Christian College Fire Loss Estimated \$100,000

Abilene, Texas, Jan. 31.—The administration building of the Abilene Christian college burned between 1 and 2 a. m. Monday.

The fire was discovered by Paul Southern, who had arrived at the college from a visit to his home, in the front part of the building. He turned in the alarm but too late to save the building.

Nothing in the building was saved except a portion of the library and all the records. Loss is estimated at \$100,000 or more.

President Batsell Baxter and Dean J. Fox made statements that the school work would continue.

### Noodle Dome Royalty Lease \$700 Per Acre

Interest in royalty under the J. C. Mason lease, in the Noodle Creek pool has been sold by W. J. Behrens and C. M. Caldwell of Abilene to Judge Wheeler and associates of Orange, Texas, at a reported price of \$700 per acre. The deal involved royalty under producers of the Marland Production company and the Phillips Petroleum company.

We appreciate your business, large or small, and endeavor to merit your patronage by always giving courteous service and quality meats. Wheeler and Vaughn Market.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

## Your Big Chance

# 25%

Reduction on all sizes of Portraits during the month of February.

Now is the time for that Portrait of Mother and Dad or that family group you have been thinking of.

WE WILL BE RUSHED—MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT EARLY

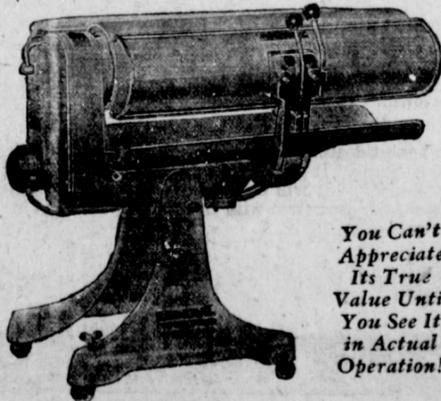
## RODDEN STUDIO

**Buck BRAND WORK CLOTHES FIT AND WEAR**

**BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY**  
Merkel, Texas

## YOU Shouldn't Be Without a Folding Electric Ironer

WHAT a whale of a difference there is between this wonderful Electric Ironer and the "Sad" Irons of other days. . . . With this Folding Electric Ironer you save many, many hours of drudgery, and what is more it irons your clothes and linens just the way you want them ironed at a very small cost. . . . It can be folded to a vertical position when not in use, thus requiring very little space. . . . Every home should be equipped with one of these ironers that iron EVERYTHING perfectly!



You Can't Appreciate Its True Value Until You See It in Actual Operation!

Ask for FREE Demonstration

# West Texas Utilities Company

### new lower prices

# PLYMOUTH

## Now

# \$655

AND UPWARDS

## Values Greater than Ever

Plymouth Prices Effective December 20th f. o. b. Detroit

Coupe	\$655
Roadster (with rumble seat)	675
2-Door Sedan	675
Touring	695
DeLuxe Coupe (with rumble seat)	695
4-Door Sedan	695

#### A Chrysler Motors Product

Plymouth offers typical Chrysler performance, being Chrysler-engineered and including such modern improvements as weatherproof hydraulic four-wheel brakes, high-compression L-head 45 h. p. engine, rubber engine mountings, aluminum alloy pistons, torque reaction neutralizer, full pressure-feed lubrication.

EMPHASIZING its value leadership, making it plainer than ever, are Plymouth's new lower prices representing savings of \$25 to \$40 on popular models.

Plymouth quality has not been changed in the least—it remains the same fine quality which has given this car an international repute for economy of operation and upkeep.

In the lowest-priced field, Plymouth is still the outstanding full-size car giving ample room for five grown-ups; it is still the only car near its price equipped with weatherproof hydraulic four-wheel brakes;

it is still the one big buy at its price combining modern engineering improvements and performance with modern style and luxury.

See the Plymouth. Compare it, try to equal it among cars selling under \$850 — and inevitably you will rank it first and foremost in every element that determines true motor-car value.

# MAVERICK MOTOR COMPANY

Chrysler-Plymouth Sales and Service

**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.

**CUT IN CRUDE OIL.**

Central and Central West Texas areas are among the heaviest sufferers from the recent price cut in crude oil. These sections felt the full blow of the reduced price—approximately 16 cents per barrel on the average grade.

Much has been said and done about proration, or the curtailment of production, but the fact remains that it is the consumer who is paying the freight. A general cut in the price of crude should mean a corresponding cut in the price of the finished product.

The oil industry should awaken to the fact that it is the public with whom they are dealing. If it is necessary to curtail production by lowering the price, the public should be given the benefit of such reduction. If the industry receives a fair return on its investment under the established prices for crude—and there has been no complaint on that score—then why should not the industry lower its price on the finished product when a cut in crude is necessary?

The public is willing to pay a fair profit and encourage industry as long as such industry plays fair. The motor driven vehicle has reached the stage of necessity and owners comprise a large per cent of the public. Hence the men who control the oil industry have more to look forward to than the profits, no matter how large, by sweeping reduction of the crude product.

The case of the railroads can be cited as an example. The time was when the railroads thought only of profits and their attitude was one of arrogance. To get a civil answer from a railroad man was an exception not so many years in the past. This attitude and the utter disregard of public welfare brought about regulations which have made the railroads realize they are serving the public. Be it said to the credit of the railroads, they acquiesced heartily to public demand once their shortcomings were brought forcibly to their attention. The great railroad systems of the country were brought to realize that the public is what makes all industry possible.

We predict the same "entangling alliance" for the oil industry unless something is done to bridge the great difference in price of the crude and finished product. Regulation will follow when the public is aroused as in the case of the railroads.

Past history should be a warning to the men and groups of men who control the oil industry, and it is clear to all that a sweeping reduction in the price of crude without a corresponding reduction in the price of the finished product is not in keeping with the well established law of supply and demand.

**MERKEL MAIL ECHOES.**

Cities and towns all over the United States are fast realizing the advantages to come from permanent paved streets. In many cases a town is judged by the type of its streets. Aside from the beauty and convenience paved streets give to a town, increased property values often offset the cost.—Merkel Mail.

This much is certain beyond the intrusion of a doubt—you can't have a city unless you have paving. The ancient cities, perhaps the wicked cities of the plain, censurable Sodom and reprehensible Gomorrah, probably were unpaved. The custom then was to build towns with streets so narrow wheeled traffic could not use them. Paving was not much of a problem to the ancients, a few stepping stones for use in rainy weather being all the surfacing needed. But even the old cities, including Damascus, said to be the oldest of all, are learning the value and beauty of street paving. They have automobiles in Damascus now, and they whiz along the street called "Straight," past the place where Saint Peter had his lodging and was granted the miracle of the heavenly hamper. Some say modern improvements spoil ancient towns, but we imagine it is a matter of individual choice. Casual tourists, who are looking for what they call quaintness and charm, may not object to the squalor in which the natives of ancient towns live, but if the tourists had to live in the native quarter of Damascus, for example, they would mighty soon be agitating for public utilities. Good streets and good roads do cost a lot of money. But any luxury is expensive, and the final question is as to whether money spent for good thoroughfares is as well invested as money spent for

fresh purple, fine linen and fried pies.—Dallas News.

We cannot avoid thinking and talking about the big electric sign that is so badly needed at the intersection of Merkel's main street with the Bankhead highway. The electric illumination of many Texas towns during the Christmas season only emphasizes the importance and value of such signs.—Merkel Mail.

It is hardly worth mentioning to those who know Waco well, and who know of recent newspaper events at Merkel, to state that the name of J. J. Hutchison appearing at the masthead of the Merkel Mail as editor, accounts for the above. Most of the signs out of Waco, in the different counties, especially those advertising the Texas Cotton Palace, were due to the efforts of Mr. Hutchison. He will prove a power in helping to advertise west Texas, it is safe to say, along with C. J. Glover Jr., and George Caple.—Waco News-Tribune.

**TROUBLES—AND HOW!**

Life of a photographer as recorded by an exchange:

"Rub off a tiny little bit of the forehead near the eyes, so that it won't be bulging so. Take off some of the upper lip, and quite a lot off the front of the neck and take the double chin off entirely. Make a shadow jaw line. Rub a little off of the left shoulder and make shadow arm lines that make arms look smaller. Rub a great deal off of the back of the neck and shoulders to make my neck look smaller and make me look as though I was sitting up straighter, and of course, take the wrinkles out of my neck. Darken the hairpins so that they won't show so plainly. Make the lip lines more pronounced and turn the mouth up at the corners a little to make a more pleasant expression. If possible, and if desirable, make the eyelashes show more at the corners of the eyes, and, if you can, put a lighter and brighter look in the eyes. Make the edge of the neck of my dress a little smoother; it is not even."

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef, Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market. Phone No. 2.

The University of Texas at Austin was established in 1883.

**TEXAS SENATORS IN U. S. CONGRESS**

(Copyright, 1928, by Alva O. Hearne)

**JAMES WINRIGHT FLANAGHAN. 1870-1875**

James Winright Flanaghan was born in Gordonsville, Orange county, Virginia, on September 5, 1805. In 1814 he moved with his parents to Cloverport, Breckenridge county, Kentucky, where he received a limited education, and engaged in mercantile pursuits. He was justice of the peace from 1823 to 1833, during which time he studied law and was admitted to the bar. He practiced in the circuit court of Breckenridge county, Kentucky from 1833 to 1843, when he removed to Harrison county, Kentucky. After spending one year there he settled in Henderson, Rusk county, Texas, where it is recorded, he was the first to sell merchandise. He also interested himself in cotton planting.

Mr. Flanaghan was a member of the state house of representatives in 1851-1852, and served in the state senate in 1855-1856. He was a presidential elector on the Fillmore ticket in 1857. In 1866-1868 he was a member of the state constitutional convention, and in 1869 he served as lieutenant-governor of the state.

He was elected to the Forty-first congress from the state at large, but did not take his seat in the house of representatives. He was elected as a republican to the United States senate on the reconstruction of Texas, and took his seat on March 31, 1870. He served as chairman of the committee on education and labor, besides working as a member of the committee on mines and mining, and post-offices.

When his term of office in the United States senate expired, on March 3, 1875, Senator Flanaghan retired to his farm near Longview, Texas, and occasionally appeared in court notwithstanding his advanced age of eighty years. He was an "old-line whig" before he united with the republican party.

Senator Flanaghan died September 28, 1887.

Webster, a son of Senator Flanaghan, was born in Cloverport, Kentucky on June 9, 1832, received a liberal education, studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1851. Webster Flanaghan became a prominent politician. In 1865 he was made judge of the 5th judicial district of Texas. He

was elected to the state constitutional convention in 1859, and in 1871 he became lieutenant-governor of the state an office which his father had held in 1869.

Webster Flanaghan was chairman of the republican convention which met in Philadelphia in 1872. He served as a member of the Texas senate until 1875. In 1880 he was a Texas member of the "Grant guard" at the Chicago convention. He was a delegate to the Chicago convention of 1884 and supported General Arthur, who appointed him collector of internal revenue for the 4th district of Texas in 1884, which office he held for a year, and thereafter devoted himself to his stock farm, introducing fine horses and Jersey cattle into the state. From 1876 to 1880 Webster Flanaghan was president of the Henderson and Overton railroad.

**Notice to Odd Fellows.**

All Odd Fellows are urged to be present next Monday night, as the Taylor county Federation meets with Merkel lodge on that night.

W. M. Elliott, Sec.

Will have car Colorado Hulls and Meal first part of next week. Swafford. Phone 44.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

**"FEDERATED"**

This Means—

Good Goods for Less Money.



If you pay cash why not trade at a Cash Store and Reap the Benefit!!

**New Manager For Merkel Produce Co.**

S. O. Nations, for the past eighteen months located at Sweetwater, has been made manager of the Merkel Produce Co. and has assumed his duties here, succeeding I. S. Simpson. Mr. Nations, who is an experienced produce, poultry and creamery man,

is extending every effort to become acquainted with the producers in this section. He believes that he can render co-operative service and his efforts will be directed to that end.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

**QUEEN**

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

KEN MAYNARD IN

**"THE UPLAND RIDER"**

Greatest picture Ken ever made. More riding thrills, more fighting, more comedy and a great endurance horse race over the open range that will give you your biggest movie thrill.

Also the last chapter of "The Scarlet Arrow" and Comedy

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

A Hit Again! As Big As The Racket

THOMAS MEIGHAN IN

**"THE MATING CALL"**

A Melodrama of a young husband who discovers his wife unfaithful return, you will always remember, it has everything big to make it while he is overseas, and the heart-touching tragedy that occurs on his good.

Also Comedy, "Feed 'Em and Weep," and News Reel

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

BILL CODY AND DUANE THOMPSON IN

**"THE PRICE OF FEAR"**

An Underworld thrill feature that has the speed and excitement of the best you have seen.

CHINA NIGHTS

FREE Chinaware to each lady present on Wednesday and Thursday Nights.

COMING THE BEST OF THE BIG ONES

FAY WRAY AND GARRY COOPER IN

**"THE LEGION OF THE CONDEMNED"**

**AN APPRECIATION**

WE ARE INDEED GRATEFUL FOR THE CORDIAL RECEPTION EXTENDED BY THE POULTRY AND CREAM PRODUCERS OF THIS SECTION.

Since our announcement last week of the assumption of the management of the Merkel Produce Co., we have been more than pleased with the reception accorded us both by the producers and buying public.

We announced as our motto: "MAKE A FRIEND," and we feel that during the past week we have more than lived up to our motto, evidenced by the hearty co-operation shown us in our efforts to give to Merkel and this section a cream and poultry depot in keeping with the market advantages of the town.

By fair, honest dealing we hope to make a friend of every person with whom we do business. It is only in this way that we can hope to achieve the greatest success. It will be our purpose to pay the highest possible price to the producer consistent with the market value and in turn sell same at a small margin of profit.

It is on this basis that we intend to conduct our business.

We are now offering for Heavy Hens 17c; Light Hens and Leghorns 14c. COME TO SEE US.

**MERKEL PRODUCE CO.**

Phone 106

S. O. Nations, Manager

**TRY OUR**

**T. P. OIL AND GASOLINE**

A quality product, insuring perfect motor satisfaction

**GOODYEAR TIRES**

Make the old car run better and longer. Your car equipped with Goodyears means perfect tire satisfaction.

**IRA WINDHAM'S GARAGE AND SERVICE STATION**

**PLAN FOR YOUR HOME**



**WHEN THE PLANS ARE**

**OK**

—building material is the next thing to consider. Lumber forms a big part of the house, and should be selected with care. Don't waste good labor on poor material. Let a reliable yard furnish your lumber, and you will be sure of good quality at reasonable cost. Carey Blue Ribbon Paint and Roofing and Sheet Rock.

**MERKEL LUMBER COMPANY**

Established 1881

Phone No. 62

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## FOR SALE

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

TWELVE 2-year old Monthly Blooming Roses, \$3.00; money back, if not satisfied. Cash with order. A. C. Bengé, Arlington, Texas.

FOR SALE—A few more nice Nagansett Turkey Gobblers at \$6.00 Mrs. W. E. Petty, Route 4.

FOR SALE—Dark Cornish Game cockrels and pullets. See Robert Hicks.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Just completed, brand new, compact, bungalow home, 4 rooms and bath, all conveniences, close to school. Will sell on liberal terms or trade for equity in good farm. Booth Warren.

## Used Cars with an O. K. That Counts

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

- 1927 Chevrolet Roadster, good rubber
- 1924 Chevrolet Roadster, good condition \$85.00
- 1925 Chevrolet Touring—O.K. (License Paid) \$185.00
- Good rubber, new paint, new top
- Dodge Touring, new top, new paint motor O. K. a good serviceable car \$175.00

### FORDS

- Late 1924 Ford Sedan, none better \$180.00
- 1923 Ford Touring, a good one \$50.00
- 1925 Ford Touring \$90.00
- 1927 Ford Truck, stake body-cab none better \$225.00
- 1927 Essex Four Door Sedan, (License Paid) a good looking, clean serviceable car \$475.00
- Several cheap cars \$25 and \$50

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.

"Home of Better Used Cars"

FOR SALE—Two incubators, 250 egg capacity each. Both in good condition; at reduced price. W. A. Campbell. Merkel, route 5.

BABY CHICKS from M. Johnson Imperial and Star mating strains: 100, \$15.50; 300, \$15.00; 500, \$14.50; 1000, \$14.00 per hundred. J. S. Touchstone, Hawley, Texas, Box 77. Phone 9056F13 Anson, Texas.

FOR SALE—Span five year mare mules; one smooth mouth mule; one bay mare; a bargain for some one. See Bill Haynes. Merkel Motor Co.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—86 acre farm, well improved; will rent, if can't trade. L. B. Scott. Merkel Motor Co.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Dafon Radio complete with two loud speakers; will trade for stock. L. B. Scott. Merkel Motor Co.

TWO BLACK medium sized mules for sale at reasonable price. R. E. Cole Merkel.

HOME FOR SALE, five rooms, bath, electric lights, gas, one block of school. Mrs. T. F. Compton.

## FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Three unfurnished rooms, also one bed room; close in. C. S. Higgins Garage.

FOR RENT—24x50 stucco building; concrete floor; on front street; suitable for shop. Phone 286W.

FOR RENT—Unfurnished rooms 75c per week; good clean beds 25c per night. Mrs. A. E. Barker on Noodle Dorne Highway.

TWO FURNISHED rooms, water, gas, lights. B. M. Black.

FOR RENT—House with all modern conveniences near school and churches S. F. Haynes.

FURNISHED apartment, all modern conveniences. Mrs. E. D. Coats, Phone 7.

FOR RENT—Four room house, close in, gas and lights; garage. Phone 272 City Furniture Co. Joe Garland.

FOR RENT—Three room apartment furnished; all modern conveniences. Mrs. S. F. Haynes.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

## WANTED

WANTED—20 acres grubbing done at one. See Booth Warren.

WANTED—Housework by young lady; experienced, Phone 9039F3.

## LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Fountain pen. Lynn McSpadden. Phone 115.

STRAYED—Red muley cow, branded 7Y on left hip. Notify W. H. Laney.

WHITE GOLD DIAMOND bar pin lost on streets of Merkel. Return to Farmers State Bank for reward.

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Communion at close of service. Offering for Reynold's Home. Evening service at 7:45 Meeting of the session Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:15. Strangers in town and visitors are welcomed to worship with us.

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

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.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

Will have car. Colorado Hulls and Meal first part of next week. Swafford. Phone 44.

## "The Upland Rider" With Ken Maynard, is Stampede of Thrills

A western picture that will enthuse from the opening flash to the final fadeout, is an apt description of Ken Maynard's latest production "The Upland Riders" at the Queen Theatre Friday and Saturday.

The picture abounds in thrills and trick riding. It shows Maynard at his best for the highlight and main feature is that of a cross-country horse race that by far is the most daring thing this popular star has done to date. The story is an original by Marion Jackson. It tells of two rival ranches of the southwest, whose main occupation is that of raising and breeding horses for the work market. One of these ranches specializes in the tough reliable cow-pony while the other is endeavoring to replace it with another breed of Arabian strain. The question of superiority is settled by this cross-country race in which there are seven participants. Ken riding Tarzan and falling over cliffs, swimming streams, riding at break-neck speed down steep embankments, are just a few of the thrilling episodes he performs. It is pictures of this caliber that are making Maynard one of the foremost western stars of the screen.

## Singing at Noodle Tonight.

Preparations are being made for a large crowd at the singing at Noodle tonight, according to W. J. Bicknell. Singers are expected from Salt Branch, Truby and Anson.

The singing class at Noodle is fast increasing in numbers and in popularity. The public is cordially invited to attend the singing tonight.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

## Interscholastic Meet For County to Be Held March 22-23

March 22 and 23 have been designated as dates for Taylor county's annual interscholastic meet, this having been decided at a meeting of the executive committee held at Abilene. The meet will be at Abilene, in a building yet to be selected.

Intellectual events will be held on March 22 and athletic events on March 23. Volley ball, tennis and playground ball eliminations will be staged a week in advance, on March 16, in order to relieve the crowded schedule of the regular meet.

Teachers whose pupils will enter the regular meet must send in the names of their contestants by March 12 to E. H. Boulter, Tuscola, county league director general. Names of contestants in the three events to be held March 16 will be sent to W. S. Cunningham, Trent, athletic director for the county, ten days prior to the staging of these contests.

Relative to fees, the committee decided to charge each contestant twenty-five cents for the first event and five cents for each additional event entered. Medals will be given first, second and third winners in the intellectual contests, and cups will go to athletic champions.

Particular interest is being shown

by schools in intellectual events this year, according to Mr. Boulter, and a record number of students is expected to participate.

## Church of Christ.

Elder W. G. Cypert has recovered from a slight illness and will preach at the Church of Christ Sunday. A good service and satisfactory attendance was had last Sunday. The public is cordially invited to attend all the services of this church.

## BANK NOTICE.

Beginning February 1, 1929, and until further notice, the undersigned banks will open at 8:00 a. m. and close promptly at 3:00 p. m. Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas. Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Merkel, Texas.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

## Rev. S. T. Morris is Buried at Tye

Funeral services were held at Tye Wednesday for Rev. S. T. Morris, 83, Confederate veteran and Methodist minister for 40 years, who died at his home at Tye early Wednesday morning. Rev. C. S. Cameron of Abilene and Rev. M. H. Hudson of Hermligh officiated.

Deceased had been a resident of Taylor county for 26 years and served as minister of a number of churches in this section. He was born in Alabama. Surviving are his widow, two sons and five daughters.

Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

# MERKEL THEATER

"The Best of Pictures to the Best of People"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

ZANE GREY'S

## "THE LONE STAR RANGER"

With Tom Mix

Serial Comedy News

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

## "SOME ONE TO LOVE"

With Mary Brian and Charles Rodgers

Comedy News

WEDNESDAY—THURSDAY

## "HUNTINGTOWER"

The only Picture Sir Harry Lauder ever Made

Comedy Varieties

Watch for "The Shop Worn Angel," "Wings" "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Sins of the Father."

**LAST CHANCE**  
to get more of those  
**9 CENT BARGAINS**  
Again Saturday we will have  
**TOWELS FOR 9 CENTS**  
also  
**DECORATED BOWL FOR 9 CENTS**

The sale where your dimes have more cents

## SEARS VARIETY STORE

Merkel, Texas



You'll Hear Great Music! You'll See A Great Picture! The Dream of Youth

Mother love... Brother love... Sweetheart love... rich in joys and sorrows that will tug at your heart strings.

FOX MOVIE TONE Presentation

## "FOUR SONS"

With MARGARET MANN JAMES HALL Francis X. Bushman, Jr. GEORGE MEEKER CHARLES MORTON

Musical Accompaniment by Roxy's 110 piece orchestra brought to you through

MOVIE TONE!

See and Hear

FOX

MOVIE TONE

TALKING

NEWS

GUS EDWARDS

Via

MOVIE TONE

A Big Time Act and a National Favorite.

ONE WEEK

**MAJESTIC**

ABILENE COMMENCING MONDAY, FEB 4.

# Raise Chickens

Come in and let us sell you an Incubator.

We sell the AUTOMATIC INCUBATOR which has the best heat regulation you will find on any Incubator.

We also sell the SAFETY HATCH INCUBATOR which is a well and favorably known machine.

# RADIOS

We have the Agency for the ATWATER KENT RADIOS and can now furnish you with most any style Radio you would like in this well known make of Radio. We can sell you a Radio with or without Cabinet. We can also furnish you with the Dynamic Speakers and Sets in the latest designs.

Come to see us for what you need in Hardware.

# Crown Hardware Co.

### WHAT'S DOING In West Texas

One of the major projects of the Rock Springs vocational agriculture class is the construction of kid shelter boxes for ranchmen. This is done with no expense to the ranchmen provided they supply the desired amount of material.

The building of the new modern two story brick Masonic hall at Falls is under way, the corner stone having been laid recently. The building is to cost \$20,000, the upper story to be used exclusively for lodge activities and to include lodge rooms, banquet rooms, kitchenette, and modern conveniences.

Guy Powell is the new Wise county, county agent, according to the Decatur News. He has had practical and college experience in every department of farm and rural life, having graduated from A. & M. He was manager of the first cow testing association organized in Texas.

A swimming pool to cost approximately \$20,000 is one of the objectives of the Kerrville Chamber of Commerce. Visiting engineers assure the city of a supply of water that will be as pure as drinking water. This will be the initial step in the building of a large recreation center.

The work of remodeling and enlarging the showroom for the Morgan Chevrolet company at Olney has just about been completed, and the new arrangement will more than double the floor space. A hundred foot frontage completely enclosed in plate glass is one of the features of the building.

A \$75,000 school building program is now under way at Stamford, and will be completed by March 1. A manual training building, a home economics department, a new elementary school, and a keepers cottage are being erected on the campus. An addition is also being built on the high school.

Work is to start on road paving in Fabens according to County Judge E. B. McClinton and County Engineer Fred Wilson. The paving will extend from below the Fabens Compress through town, and to the Hasen road on the Island.

Because there were no destructive fires last year Moran was granted a 3 per cent reduction in fire insurance key rate the first of the year. Moran also has a fire marshal and an active fire department.

#### Life Pen Term.

Fort Worth, Tex., Jan. 31.—S. H. Newton, 50, Weatherford contractor, was given a 99-year penitentiary term in Criminal District Court on a charge of slaying J. P. Arnold, 64, employe of the North Texas Iron and Steel Company, here last October 8. The jury was out an hour and 20 minutes.

#### Named Division Engineer.

Harry O. Cox, who has been stationed at Plainview as resident engineer, has been named division engineer for the state highway department, with headquarters at Abilene, succeeding J. B. Early, who has been made state maintenance engineer.

I am in the market for some good butcher hogs, and cattle. O. F. Weidenbach at Quality Market.

### Dormitory at Baylor College Destroyed By Fire, Loss \$250,000

Belton, Texas, Jan. 31.—Luther hall four-story dormitory and music building of Baylor college for women, was destroyed by fire early Saturday morning with practically all of the furniture and musical equipment with which the dormitory and music rooms were equipped, but with no loss of life or serious injuries to the girl students. A large store of groceries in the basement of the kitchen at the back of the building was a complete loss, their value being estimated by college authorities at from ten to twenty thousand dollars. The loss of the building, with furniture and supplies, is estimated at \$250,000.

Luther Has was occupied by 135 girls, all of whom escaped without injuries of any nature except Miss Dorothy Williams of Dallas, who jumped from the third story of the building and sustained slight injuries when the improvised net of blankets failed to hold her. Mrs. Taylor of Seymour had a narrow escape and her hair and clothing were slightly burned as she escaped by a stairway.

### Dora Doings

J. M. Bryson's condition remains critical. All his children are at his bedside.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Mallon are moving over near Clyde this week.

Bert Bryson and sister of Bryson, Texas, were at the bedside of his uncle, J. M. Bryson, Saturday and Sunday. While here he received a long distance telephone message stating an oil well had come in on his place Sunday morning.

Bill Jones of Abilene bought several good teams of mules in this district last week.

We are glad to report R. L. Ford able to sit up after several weeks of illness.

Our basketball teams, both boys and girls, defeated champions here last week. Boys 36 to 6; girls 25 to 6. Mrs. Dug Hannah improves very slowly after an attack of flu and pneumonia.

The Odd Fellows are wrecking the hall, moving it to a new location and will make improvements to the building.

Bro. M. A. Quinlin of Winters was visiting friends and relatives last week-end.

We welcome the Arnold family to our community. They come from Roscoe and will live on the E. F. Good-night place.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rhoades and children of Guion were calling here Sunday.

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

There are 106 daily newspapers in Texas.

### WOMAN EATS ONLY BABY FOOD 3 YEARS

"For 3 years I ate only baby food, everything else formed gas. Now, thanks to Adlerika, I eat everything and enjoy life."—Mrs. M. Gunn.

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

### Three Killed in Texas Plane Crash

San Angelo, Jan. 31.—Three Fort Worth men were killed instantly in an airplane crash at the municipal flying field here. The ship apparently was attempting to land with the wind when it sideslipped.

The dead: Al Henley, Dole race flier. W. E. (Chick) Shytle, manager of the Majestic Theatre.

Don Frazee, outfielder on the Shreveport baseball team and former baseball player at Texas Christian University.

### West Texas Utilities Elects Gallagher As Secretary-Treasurer

Abilene, Texas, Jan. 31.—Dan A. Gallagher of Clinton, Illinois, was elected secretary-treasurer of the West Texas Utilities Company at a meeting of the board of directors. R. M. Wolfe, who has held this position since 1923, was named auditor of the company. H. A. Lepper, who has been acting auditor for some time, becomes assistant auditor. These changes become effective February 1st.

### HIGH GRADE COTTON SEED.

Carefully selected, well matured, cleaned from cotton which made from 1-2 to 1.1-2 bales per acre. Of the Western Wonder variety. Not bad to fall out. 40 per cent and better lint, good staple, matures two weeks earlier than any cotton grown in the East or South. Free from insects.

Write Hall County Seed Co., Memphis, Texas, for prices and information.

The old capitol of Texas burned in 1881 and the present capitol at Austin was completed in 1888. The present structure was built at a cost of 3,000,000 acres of land.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

### Trent to Be Host to Sweetwater Baptist Workers Conference

The Workers conference of the Sweetwater Baptist Association will convene with the Trent Baptist church Monday, February 4, with the following program:

10:00 A. M.—Devotional—Fred McFerson.

10:20 A. M.—Duty and Value of Co-operation in Kingdom Work—C. G. Sewell.

10:40 A. M.—God's Financial Plan for Southern Baptists—J. Perry King.

11:10 A. M.—Sermon—Lawrence Fitzgerald.

### NOON LUNCH

1:00 P. M.—Meetings of W. M. S. and Executive Board.

2:00 P. M.—Devotional—G. W. Lowrie.

2:15 P. M. How to Put on the Budget in a Local Church—Ira L. Parrack.

2:35 P. M.—The Budget and the W. M. S.—Mrs. Chas. T. Whaley.

2:50 P. M.—The B. Y. P. U. and the Budget—E. K. Daugherty.

3:10 P. M.—Inspirational Address—W. H. Howell.

### BANK NOTICE.

Beginning February 1, 1929, and until further notice, the undersigned banks will open at 8:00 a. m. and close promptly at 3:00 p. m.

Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas. Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Merkel, Texas.

### Sore Gums Now Curable

You won't be ashamed to smile again after you use Leto's Pyorrhea Remedy. This preparation is used and recommended by leading dentists and cannot fail to benefit you. Druggist return money if it fails. Hamm Drug Co. Adv.

### Girl is Killed in Sweetwater Crash

Sweetwater, Texas, Jan. 31.—Maurine Greenshaw, 4-year-old daughter of J. J. Greenhaw of Meadow, Texas, was instantly killed at the intersection of Hailey street and East Broadway at 5 o'clock Friday evening when a Cadillac eight roadster and a Ford touring car crashed.

The Ford was occupied only by Mr. Greenhaw and his daughter. They had driven here from Brownfield and Mr. Greenhaw was expecting to find work in or near Sweetwater.

The Cadillac was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Grimes of Evanston, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. They were driving west with their destination El Paso.

### Ferguson Forum Revived.

Austin, Jan. 31.—With the announced purpose of "making war" on the present operation of the prohibition laws, the Sterling \$350,000,000 state bond issues plan and other things former Governor James E. Ferguson has revived his "Ferguson Forum." It had suspended publication shortly after the run-off primary last August.

Get a roast or steak from our choice Home Fed Baby Beef, Chickens and Turkeys dressed to order. Fresh Oysters and Cat Fish. Quality Market. Phone No. 2.

**APORNELIUS**  
JEWELER  
At Hamm Drug Co.  
MERKEL, TEXAS  
HIGH GRADE WATCH AND JEWELRY REPAIRING  
GUARANTEED.

### House Resolution Would Bar Preachers From State Office

Austin, Texas, Jan. 31.—Expressing the belief that clergymen have gone far afield in political affairs violating the principle of the separation of church and state, Representative J. Lewis Thompson of Houston proposed a constitutional amendment making ministers and priests of any denomination ineligible to the office of Governor or member of the Legislature. The joint resolution fixes the election on the proposed amendment for the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1929.

The Rev. B. J. Forbes, member from Weatherford said that adoption of the provision would cause a revolution.

**Wanted—To buy maize heads. \$18.00 per ton. Sam Swann**

The Texas Railroad Commission was established in Gov. Jim Hogg's administration in 1891.

**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  
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Upstairs over City Hall  
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TRENT, TEXAS  
Where Everybody Goes—Always a Good Show—Fine Music!  
TODAY, FRIDAY, FEB. 1st  
Carl Laemmle presents Glen Tryon with Marion Nixon in  
"HOW TO HANDLE WOMEN"  
Fresh Laughs every minute. Also last and final chapter of "Eagle of the Night" and M-G-M News  
SATURDAY  
William Fox presents  
REX BELL IN "THE GIRL SHY COWBOY"  
A picture to suit every one. Comedy "Husbands Won't Tell"  
MONDAY AND TUESDAY  
William Fox presents  
"THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER"  
With an all-star cast. If you like lots of fun, "The Farmer's Daughter" will furnish it for you. Comedy "Scrambled Weddings"  
WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY  
A Paramount Special  
Esther Ralston with James Hall in  
"THE CASE OF LENA SMITH"  
Miss Ralston's first big special production. You cannot afford to miss it. Comedy "His Lucky Night" and Paramount News

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**SECRETS OF TOMORROW**  
Tomorrow never tells you what is coming. All may be well but all may not be well. Tomorrow holds no worries for the man whose home, property, valuables and business are fully insured. We cannot tell you of the secrets of tomorrow but we can protect you against tomorrow's possible misfortune.  
Ask us today.  
**W. O. BONEY**  
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MERKEL, TEXAS  
Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

**Dry Cleaning Service!**  
We spank the spots and remove the wrinkles from all apparel—Men's, Women's and Children's—all become rejuvenated by our careful cleaning process.  
**CITY DRY CLEANERS**  
"Sudden Service" Kent Street  
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**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**  
This is to advise that I have purchased the Clarence Saunders Grocery Store, formerly owned and operated by J. A. Collum, the change in ownership becoming effective January 18, 1929.  
**J. M. COLLINS**

You children change so fast that new impressions crowd out the old and you can't remember their cunning baby ways—unless you have a picture record.  
Let us make that new photograph of your children today.  
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Build Her a Home First.  
For the Best Material, See  
**CLAY LUMBER COMPANY**

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**Hit the Deck**  
with A COMPANY OF 60  
A notable cast of stars and large singing and dancing chorus  
ONE WHOLE YEAR IN NEW YORK  
SEATS NOW  
MAIL ORDERS NOW TO H. M. ROGERS  
PRICES \$1.00 \$2.00 \$2.50 \$3.00

# THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '29—Vera Baker sponsor.

### The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—J. T. Darsey Jr. Miss. Editor—Frances Frederickson.  
 Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Milton Case Senior Reporter—Raymond Earthman.  
 Sport Editor—J. D. Ashby. Junior Reporter—J. T. Darsey Jr.  
 Humor Editor—Willie Harris. Sophomore Reporter—Louise Booth  
 Society Editor—Dorice Brown. Freshman Reporter.  
 Willie Evelyn Boaz, Freshman Reporter.

### ANNUAL NEWS.

The beauty contest of M. H. S. is now history, but many will long remember that eventful Friday morning during which the "battle that comes but once in a lifetime" was staged between the Senior and Freshman classes.

Monday morning each class selected the beauty whom they wished to represent them. It was evident from the very start that a lively contest was in prospect, for each contestant was well worthy of the prize, and ones to be backed and fought for by their respective classes. The contestants were:

Freshman Class, Oleta Moore.  
 Sophomore class, Marlene Partridge.  
 Junior class, Missie Dye.  
 Senior class, Norma Shannon.

During the first day of the contest votes were cast according to the amount paid on the annual of each voter, each dollar counting one hundred votes. On the second day the contest assumed a cash basis, each dollar counting one thousand votes. The contest continued until Friday morning, 10:45 o'clock. The votes were then counted and the winner announced.

At the beginning of the contest the Senior and Freshman candidates were running a close race and continued to do so until Friday morning, last day of the contest. The Junior class then allied with the Freshmen in a desperate effort to "down the Seniors." To counterbalance this, the Sophomores lined up with the Seniors against their foes, the Freshmen. The race was then on—a race in which each side was determined not to be outdone by the other. At the beginning of the chapel period, the Freshmen were only a few votes ahead of the Seniors. The firing then started and the fight was on!

Each side put forth their entire strength and no one could tell who would be victorious. Time was called at 10:45 and then followed 5 minutes of breathtaking suspense while the votes were counted. A death-like silence fell over the Seniors and the Freshmen experienced the thrill of a glorious victory as the score was read: Seniors, thirty-seven thousand, and Freshmen, forty-seven thousand.

The annual staff wishes to say this for the Freshmen class: "They showed true sportsmanship and fought with a determination that well deserved their reward. It was this same fighting spirit that won for them the half holiday in the annual selling contest and we are almost tempted to bet on them in the future contest."

It seemed as though the entire school needed a rest after all the excitement, therefore no contests were staged this week that our nerves might again calm down and the Seniors be given a chance to recuperate.

But this was only "round one" in the battle to see "who is who" in M. H. S. More contests are to follow;

contests that may prove even more exciting than the past one.

### SPEAKER FROM ABILENE.

As an unusual attraction during the regular chapel period Monday morning we had as our speaker and visitor Rev. Willis P. Gerhart, rector of the Church of the Heavenly Rest, Episcopal, Abilene, who delivered a most interesting talk. Taking the scripture lesson from the carrying of Joseph's bones from Egypt back to the Promised Land, Dr. Gerhart showed how it is well for us to have certain standards and ideals handed down to us by our fathers which we may follow. He showed how popularity brought influence and an opportunity to lead the "crowd" to the best paths. Interest was added to the lecture by a small hand carved statue of King Tut's mother-in-law, brought from abroad, and a picture in color of King Tut.

We sincerely hope that we may have the pleasure of hearing Rev. Gerhart again.

### SAY, DIDJA' KNOW—

—That the high school beauty contest sponsored by the annual staff went over big and got up more pep than anything this year?

—That the Junior class has a new student, Miss Willie Mae Swartz, recently of Abilene High?

—That we believe this will be one of the best issues of the "Badger Weekly" yet published, even though the Fish have charge of it?

—That in the recent beauty contest, out of the four contestants, there were three brunettes and only one blonde?

—That Mr. D. O. Huddleston and J. B. Tittle of Abilene were over here visiting last week-end?

—That the Freshmen class has a new member, Mr. Paul Collins from Lamesa.

### SENIOR NEWS.

Even though the Senior class went down in defeat in the recent beauty contest, it was a glorious defeat. And even as we leave the field of battle, we gaze with admiration upon the line-up of brave little fish who fought with such courage and valor that we wipe away the sweat of despair that we may give them the congratulations of the entire Senior class.

The shock of this defeat awakens us to the fact that this makes the second successive victory for the Freshman class, and shall serve as a tonic to us as we roll up our sleeves and dive into the next contest with grave determination and the battle cry, "Victory or Flat Pocketbooks." The Senior class can be surpassed by none, when our fighting spirit is aroused.

As the shock of defeat aroused their interest in the annual contest; so does the shock rendered by the recent report. Cards serve to push the Seniors forward in their struggle toward graduation.

Mr. Burgess delivered to the Sen-

ior class a very emotional, and yet emphatic oration at a recent chapel period, on the much discussed question of graduation. So emotional and forceful were the words of the speaker that many were seen to wipe their tear-stained eyes as he placed before our minds the pitiful picture of the dejected Senior who is brutally refused admittance through the golden gate of graduation.

But his efforts were not in vain and his "appeal" seemed to have the desired effect, for it was a very serious minded Senior class with a business-like manner that held a class meeting last Thursday week that they might select the type and price of the diplomas they wish to usher them into the cruel business world.

—Reporter

### JUNIOR NEWS.

The Friday morning chapel period was devoted to speech-making in behalf of the several participants of the M. H. S. beauty contest. Near the close of the period a short time was given over to the conclusion of the contest.

Missie Dye, the Junior class candidate, and the only "blonde" participating, had the enthusiastic support of numerous students, although it was not sufficient to capture the honor. Those speaking in her behalf were Nadine Tippet, Milton Case, and Lee Darden. The oration of the Junior supporters lacked neither enthusiasm nor cleverness. Nadine Tippet introduced the Junior candidate, Missie Dye, remarking that "gentlemen prefer blondes," and that "blonde" women, as a general rule, were more beautiful than their "brunette" sisters.

Milton Case followed with a general history of the "blonde" recalling the names of beautiful and prominent "blonde" characters of historical importance of both ancient and modern history. Our designated High school orator (who by the way, we are proud to claim as a Junior), very heartily supported the class nominee describing her in somewhat the following manner:

"She is distinguished" he said, "by her beautiful blue eyes, fair and velvety soft skin, shining hair, resembling fine spun gold, and glistening pearl like teeth."

Now, dear readers, the Junior class believes that had beauty been rewarded, our "blue eyed maid" of indisputable beauty would have been as sure of being chosen as would either Helen of Troy or Cleopatra had they been participating.

—Miss Editor

### S. P. CLUB ON HIKE.

Last Saturday the members of the S. P. club hiked to Blowout.

A regular feast was served about 12 o'clock, consisting of sandwiches, olives, pickles, potato chips, marshmallows, and cakes.

To be sure, eating was a great pleasure to the hungry bunch, but a lot of fun was had by taking pictures.

Those hiking were: Mary Elizabeth gent, Neil Durham, Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Hazel Leslie, Dahlia Watkins, and Nadine Tippet.

### FRESHMEN NEWS.

Well! Well! "The Fish" won the beauty contest. I knew we would all the time. It takes the beautiful black curly locks to put anything over (ahem!)

We are all very proud of Oleta (the High school beauty). All of us

worked very hard to put her over. We want to thank everyone that helped us during this contest.

When you see our beautiful picture in the annual then I am sure you will not regret that you voted for her. We think the other candidate that ran were very pretty, but "The Fish" all thought our candidate was the prettiest.

We are all very glad to have Miss Ida Mae Derstine, Pauline Salter, and Nina Montandom back with us.

### SIMMONS SCRUBBS VS. MERKEL.

On Friday, January 25, in Cowboy corral the Merkel Badgers lost a doubleheader to the Simmons scrubs.

It was opened as a close contest, both sides taking many shots, but looping few goals.

The starting lineup was: Simmons, Deebney, r. f.; Gregg, l. f.; McEacheny, c.; Evans, l. g.; Wilson, r. g.

Merkel, Williams, r. f.; Cade, l. f.; Beene, c.; Tittle, l. g.; Sloan, r. g.

The Merkel boys were off their shooting, as they missed enough cup shots to win a game.

Cade was high point man for the Badgers with 5 points out of the first 8, followed by a lone 1 for fouling by Beene, Sloan and Williams. The final score was 23-8.

Second game was a repetition of the first, except Merkel held the lead until closing moments of the game.

Coach Davis was using all his men in the games seeking a working combination that will make a winning team in the county meet Feb. 15-16.

Final scores: 23-8 and 14-10 with the Simmons boys on the big end of both contests.

### MERKEL VS. STITH.

On Monday of last week the Mer-

kel Badgers battled the Stith High school basketball team in a hard fought game. Merkel's second team started the game against Stith's first team and held them a quarter to a score of six to two in favor of Stith. In about two minutes Merkel's first team went into the game and took a two point lead. The last half of the game was a see-saw, one team leading and then another. The last quarter featured long shots by Cade of Merkel and Wiggins, and Kelso for Stith. The starting lineup for Merkel was: Forwards, Darden and C. Chancey; guards, Stephenson and J. Chancey, and center, Whiteaker. The starting lineup for Stith was: Forward, D. Wiggins and Kelso; guards, Mundy and Spurgins, and center was Amiceino. Substitutes for Merkel were: for Darden at forward was Williams; and for C. Chancey was Cade. For Whiteaker at center was Beene. For J. Chancey at guard was Tittle, and for Stephenson was Sloan. Points scored by Merkel players were: Williams one field goal; Cade, one field goal; Beene, three field goals and one free pitch, and Stephenson one field goal. Points scored by Stith players were: D. Wiggins, four goals, and Kelso, four field goals.

### FRIDAY RECITAL DAY.

Every Friday is recital day for the High school public speaking class. On last Friday Jessie Margaret Berry read a poem, "My Sister's Best Fel-

ler," and Clara Frances Largent told a story, "They Never Quarreled." Both were enjoyed very much. Every member of the class must appear at least once in chapel during the year.

Next Monday we are going to hear some stories and poems from several members of the class.

## What the Gray House Hid

The Mystery of a Haunted Mansion  
 by Wyndham Martyn

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STARTLING story of mystery; of a house within a house. The owner was totally unaware of the uninvited guests he sheltered. Romance, strange events and sinister proceedings all find lodgment in a charming old mansion, the country residence of a millionaire. You will be fascinated by the mystery and delighted with the plot and characters.

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## DON'T

Turn Him Out to Die When He Gets Old

## Grind His Feed

And He Will Stay

## FAT

## Sam Swan

### SWEETWATER HATCHERY

The Sweetwater Hatchery wishes to state to their many friends and customers of Merkel and vicinity that they are open for business at their new location at the end of Fourth Street, where they are better equipped than ever before to care for their trade. We have opened Receiving Stations where we will receive eggs for custom hatching and also carry a stock of baby chicks for sale in electric storage brooders. We have taken in this new territory to be able to procure eggs from the very best full blood flocks for our baby chick trade. These receiving stations are located at Merkel, Roby, Hermligh and Blackwell.

The Merkel Station is in charge of the McDonald Grocery Company. Call on them and make arrangements.

We have added some new incubators of the sectional type which is supposed to be the latest improved method of hatching Turkey and Duck eggs. We now have a capacity of over 40,000 every three weeks. When in Sweetwater, call at the Hatchery and look our plant over.

### SWEETWATER HATCHERY

### DRESSMAKING

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 Phone 164J



**THURSDAY NIGHT BRIDGE CLUB KEEPS OPEN HOUSE.**

Members of the Thursday night bridge club delightfully entertained their husbands and gentlemen friends on last Friday evening in the home of Miss Melba West. A color scheme of pink and green furnished inspiration for pretty table and party accessories at bridge games. Radio victrola and piano numbers helped to make the evening's entertainment especially pleasant and at the refreshment hour a dainty salad plate on which the favored colors of the evening were reflected was passed to Misses Iva Bragg, Christine Collins, Mary Cleo Booth, Roberta Sloan Vera Baker, Mona Margaret Jones, Evelyn Curb, Melba West, and Messrs. and Mesdames Lige Gamble, Jack Anderson, Claude Young, Henry West, Messrs. Olan Lusby, Ralph Duke, Chesby Patterson, Dr. Sadler, Wren Durham, Fred Duff, W. S. Cunningham.

**IDLEWISE**

Members of the Idlewise bridge club entertained their husbands and gentlemen friends with a pretty night party on Monday evening in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George White. Radio music interspersed progressions of auction bridge games throughout the evening. Dainty refreshments of chicken salad sandwiches, individual cherry pies, olives and coffee were passed to Misses Iva Bragg, Boag Sears, Mary Cleo Booth, Mary Eula Sears, Melba West, Christine Collins, Messrs and Mesdames W. S. J. Brown, Roy Largent, Harry Cookston, George White, Messrs Ralph Duke, Wren Durham, Olan Lusby, Dr. Sadler, Mesdames Jim Sears and Warren Smith.

**CHILI SUPPER.**

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Jones were most graciously entertained on last Saturday evening with a chili supper. Colorful decorations of Spanish significance were in evidence throughout the entertaining rooms and Misses Boag Sears, Melba West, Evelyn Curb and Mona Margaret Jones in Spanish regalia helped with the services of the three course Spanish menu.

Games of bridge gave out happy diversion during the evening and Miss Mona Margaret Jones entertained with several Spanish songs. Guests for this delightful affair were Messrs. and Mesdames Wesley Edwards of Mary Neil, George White, Harvey, Sam Cummings, R. I. Grimes, L. B. Scott, Lige Gamble, F. C. McFarland, C. E. Gardner, Charlie Jones, Misses Boag Sears, Melba West, Mona Margaret Jones, Mary Eula Sears, and Evelyn Curb.

**MERKEL LADY FETED IN ABILENE.**

Mrs. H. L. Propst, who is leaving Merkel this week to make her home in Abilene, was most graciously entertained Tuesday afternoon by Mrs. C. B. Gardner at the Hilton Hotel in Abilene. The party was given in the Crystal ball room with a lovely color scheme of pink and green reflected in lights, massed carnations and ferns. Merkel ladies who helped in receiving on the mezzanine floor were Mesdames W. S. J. Brown, Roy Largent, Dee Grimes and John West. Mrs. Propst and Mrs. Gardner greeted guests at the stairway.

Diversion for the afternoon was in the nature of a musical preceded by games of 42. Miss Mona Margaret Jones gave two beautiful numbers, "Ishtar" and "Lullaby" from Jocelyn. Miss Edua Marie Jones gave as her piano number Chopin's "Etude" Miss Boag Sears sang "One Fine Day" from Madame Butterfly and "Kiss Me Again," waltz song. Miss Lucy Tracey contributed two highly enjoyable readings. Dainty refreshments in which the favored colors were re-

flected in salads, sandwiches and ices were passed to Mrs. Propst, Misses Mary Eula Sears, Mary Cleo Booth, Edna Marie Jones, Mona Margaret Jones, Lucy Tracey, Boag Sears, Mesdames W. J. Largent, Roy Largent, Tom Largent, Hamm, Huddleston, Brown, Guitar, Dennis, Jones, McDonald, Grimes, Golliday, John West, Russell, Dye, Scott, Haynes, Hughes, Lowe, Turner, Sutphen, George West, Martin, Teague, Brackeen, Thornton, Harkrider, Tom Warren, Booth Warren, Henry West, Dee Grimes, Sam Swann, Jim Swann, Ferrier, Gamble, Anderson, Diltz, McFarland, Booth, Lassiter, Collins, Sears, Touchstone, Petty, Amy Sears, Beckett, Gaither, Bayes, Cookston, Burgess, Groene, Harvey, Bearden and Gardner.

**CARIS-BLAIR.**

A wedding, coming as a surprise to their many friends, was that of Harold Caris, of Finley, Ohio, and Miss Dixie Blair of this city, the wedding taking place on Monday night, January 21, in the home of Justice of Peace P. B. Ford of Abilene.

The bride is the charming and popular daughter of Mrs. J. S. Blair. She is a graduate of Merkel high school and of Draughon's Business College of Abilene, and was a student at Texas Tech. last year.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Caris of Finley, Ohio. He is a graduate of the Finley High school and came here three months ago, where he is an employee of the Phillips Oil Co.

The young couple are making their home in Merkel.

Their many friends join in wishing them much happiness and prosperity in the years to come.

**MERKEL GIRL TO WED ABILENE MAN.**

Friends have been advised of the approaching marriage of Miss Lillian Watts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A.

Watts of Merkel, to Mr. Sherman J. Lane of Abilene.

The ceremony will be performed at the Methodist church in Merkel Sunday morning at 8 o'clock, with relatives and a few close friends in attendance.

Miss Watts has lived in Merkel most of her life and is quite popular with a host of friends. She is a graduate of Merkel High school, and later attended Sullens College in Virginia and McMurry College in Abilene. Recently she has occupied responsible secretarial positions with Merkel business firms, displaying unusual proficiency. This, together with her cheerful manner and the happy faculty of making friends with all whom she came in contact, has endeared her to the people of this community.

Mr. Lane, the groom-to-be, is a popular contractor of Abilene, where he has been living for the past five years.

Many friends both in Merkel and Abilene will wish for them all possible happiness. They will reside in Abilene.

**WEDDING BELLS**

Mr. Barney Jack of Lamesa, and Miss Mattie Lee Giles of Merkel were quietly united in holy matrimony January 24.

The ceremony was performed at the Nazarene parsonage, the Nazarene pastor officiating.

This promising young couple are to make their home in San Angelo after the first of February where he has a good position.

Their host of friends and relatives wish for them a delightful and successful voyage on the sea of matrimony.

Teach your children thrift—to pay cash and trade at the Boston Bargain Store.

Will have car Colorado Hulls and Meal first part of next week. Swafford. Phone 44.

**Personal Mention**

Mr. and Mrs. Mose C. Cauthern returned last Thursday to their home in Alamogordo, New Mexico, after a visit with her mother, Mrs. T. J. Coombs, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Easterwood of Taft, Texas, are announcing the arrival of a boy, Homer Cage Easterwood. Mr. H. L. Easterwood will be remembered as one of the former owners of the Merkel Mail.

Mr. and Mrs. Len Subblett and Mr. and Mrs. Bryan McPherson visited at Lamesa during the last week-end, the guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Christopher and their grandmother, Mrs. M. E. Simpson.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Largent have returned from a two months' visit to

Corpus Christi. Mr. Largent said they were glad to get back to Merkel and to their friends. Both were ill with the "flu" while in the coast city.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Yates Brown are spending this week in Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. V. P. Tippett of San Angelo visited their mother, Mrs. E. N. Brown, last week. On their return they were accompanied by Mrs. Brown who will remain for an indefinite stay.

Miss Jöhnnie Sears left Tuesday to join a party of vacationists enroute to Cuba. The party will sail from New Orleans, spend a week in Havana and will probably return by way of New York.

Warren Smith left last week for Fort Worth, where he will attend a pharmaceutical school for four months. Lige Gamble is hunting on the

Sears ranch near Stanton this week. Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Hamilton have returned from Whitney where they attended the funeral of Mr. Hamilton's uncle, A. L. Hamilton, who was superintendent of the M. K. & T. A Whitney and who dropped dead at De Leon early Monday morning while on duty. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Hamilton of Abilene.

**CARD OF THANKS.**

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to our many friends and neighbors for every kind word spoken and deed done during the illness and death of our husband and father; also for the beautiful floral offerings. May God's blessing rest on each one of you.

Mrs. E. L. Ash and family.

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Implements at prices and terms easy. Let us explain them to you.

A few Incubators left.

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