

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 40—NO. 50

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1929.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

MARCH RAINS TO MAKE WEST TEXAS BLOOM THIS YEAR

Best Seasoning in Years is Opinion of Merkel Farmers; Estimate 75 Per Cent of Ground Already Plowed.

The best season in the ground and consequently the best early crop prospects in several years, is the opinion of farmers of this section, following the 2-inch rain of last week and the slow rain which fell all day Tuesday, estimated at a quarter of an inch. According to oldtimers, the ground has been given a soaking which is unusual in West Texas for the month of March.

Opinions differ as to the percentage of land already plowed in the Merkel section, but 75 per cent seems to be the generally accepted average. George Moore, well known farmer, said that while he had not been over all the territory, he believed the average would be close to 75 per cent, with some sections further advanced than others.

Beginning April 1, the maize planting season begins in earnest, and the ground soaking will be of incalculable benefit to this crop. Cotton farmers say that the ground will be in excellent condition for planting during April and May, which is the heavy cotton planting season for this section.

Tanks and cisterns have been filled by the March rains, which is another reason for rejoicing in this territory. Ranges will be in excellent condition.

Dr. Atticus Webb to Speak in Merkel Wednesday, April 3

Announcement has been made that Dr. Atticus Webb of Dallas will speak in Merkel at the Presbyterian church Wednesday evening, April 3, at 7:30 p. m. at a community service on temperance and law enforcement.

The program, it is said, will be two—address and a moving picture. The address is intended to help public sentiment to think clearly on the problems that have arisen in connection with the enforcement of the dry laws. The five-reel movie is a temperance lesson, and said to be quite interesting.

Eastern Star Chief Will Be Visitor to Merkel Next Tuesday

Members of Eastern Star chapter are urged to attend the regular meeting Saturday afternoon at 2:30, at which time arrangements will be perfected for the coming visit, Tuesday afternoon, March 26, of the assistant deputy grand matron, Mrs. Florence Read of Cahoma.

Mrs. Reed is making her official visit to the Merkel Eastern Star chapter, and local and visiting members are cordially invited and urged to be present and greet the deputy grand matron.

Utilities Company Will Move to Modern Home Here April 1

The Merkel store of the West Texas Utilities Co. will be housed, after April 1, in the building across the street from their present location, which has been practically rebuilt and modernized to meet the needs of the Merkel store.

The new building is of Spanish style and terra cotta finish. Large show windows have been installed for the display of merchandise, while the entire interior of the building has been so arranged as to allow for the attractive showing of the many electrical devices sold by the West Texas Utilities Co.

It is said that the Merkel Store, when completed, will be among the most attractive in the West Texas territory.

Intermediate B. Y. P. U.
Subject, "The Call of the Bed Man."
Part 1, Bernie Derrick; part 2, Hima-laya Swafford; part 3, Bennie Sheppard; part 4, Harry Boaz; part 5, Doyle Morrison; part 6, Kennedy Whiteley; part 7, Howard Carson; part 8, Ida Mae Derstine.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

W. M. Calvert, 63, former mayor of Electra, died at a hospital at that place.

D. Whitfield, 30, sustained fatal injuries in a fall from a tractor near Colorado.

San Antonio has a woman candidate for mayor in the person of Mrs. E. P. Butler.

A uniform system of street and house numbering is being installed at Sweetwater.

Thirty-eight rural schools in Jones county are to receive state aid aggregating \$19,064.00.

W. F. Colquitt, 65, brother of former Governor O. B. Colquitt, died at his Corsicana home.

The Sherman city council has contracted for free moving pictures in the parks of that city during the summer.

Bishop Adams, negro voodoo doctor, was sentenced to death on charges of murdering Wm. Globler, Austin merchant.

Jes Prothro, living near Midland, dropped poisoned corn behind his plow and shortly afterward counted 40 dead crows.

C. C. Kirkpatrick, for 22 years superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school at San Angelo, was buried in that city Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Poston of Fort Worth have announced their intention to give a hospital to the Reynolds Presbyterian orphanage.

A fully developed case of smallpox in the Dallas county jail resulted in strict quarantine of the county bastille, requiring all who enter to remain.

Argument over a young woman in a Dallas office building resulted in the death of Andrew M. Blue. G. M. Pierce, insurance man, was arrested.

Sweetwater citizens will vote April 12 in a bond election to provide extensions of the water department, sewer system and street improvements.

A jury at San Marcos assessed a penalty of 99 years in the penitentiary against Percy Garnett, farmer, convicted of the killing of Robert Calhoun, a neighbor.

J. L. Lancaster, president of the T. & F. railway, has announced the immediate construction of roundhouse, machine shop, freight depot and warehouse at Big Spring.

The new ward for white women at Wichita Falls state hospital is ready for occupancy. It will care for all white women now in the jails of Texas awaiting hospital entrance.

Shackelford county commissioners have taken action toward securing additional ground for a 100-foot right-of-way on the Bankhead highway from county line to county line.

A negro bandit at Galveston was killed when he and a companion attempted to rob A. Flores, owner of a butcher shop. A butcher knife inflicted the fatal wounds.

John A. (Pete) McKenzie, sentenced to death for the murder of Sam Streetman, chief of detectives of San Antonio in 1927, and scheduled to die Saturday, has been given a reprieve of two months by Governor Moody.

Taylor County Road Bond Sale Delayed

Lack of bidders for \$275,000 worth of Taylor county road bonds at 4 1-2 and 4 3-4 per cent caused the County Commissioners Monday to postpone the sale until Saturday, when the bonds will be offered at 5 per cent. Unsettled condition of the bond market was given as the cause. The bonds were a part of a \$1,000,000 issue of October, 1927.

County Agent Aids War on Prairie Dogs

Starting Monday, C. Metz Heald, county farm agent, began a county-wide war on prairie dogs and similar rodents who have caused great loss to the farmers of the county.

Aid of farmers in behalf of the extermination war have been enlisted and a poisonous grain mixture, compounded by R. B. Dickerson of the United States department of biological survey, is the weapon.

The county agent is visiting different farms and distributing the poison, the price of which is the cost of the ingredients.

MERKEL FRIENDS GRIEVE AT DEATH OF ARTHUR SEARS

Former Popular Merkel Citizen and West Texas Leader Expires Suddenly at His Home in Abilene Early Wednesday.

Arthur Sears, 55, of Abilene, until a few years ago one of the most prominent and highly esteemed citizens of Merkel, died suddenly at his Abilene home early Wednesday morning. He was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage shortly after eating breakfast and expired in a few minutes.

Funeral services were held from St. Paul's Methodist church at Abilene Thursday afternoon, with Dr. J. Richard Spann, the pastor, officiating, assisted by Dr. J. C. Burnett, pastor of the Southside Baptist church; Dr. J. W. Hunt, president of McMurry College, and F. B. Shepard, minister of the Cypress Street Church of Christ.

POPULAR IN MERKEL.

The death of Mr. Sears cast a shadow of sorrow over Merkel, where he was universally loved and esteemed, and where he spent a good portion of his life. His mother, Mrs. Frank Sears, a brother and three sisters are still residents of Merkel. The mother has been quite ill at her home here.

Mr. Sears came to this section with his parents from Grayson county when a boy, the family first settling in Jones county, near Truby, later moving to Merkel, where he lived until thirteen years ago, then moving to Abilene. He was married to Miss May Winter, member of a prominent Jones county family, in 1904, and to this union seven children were born. The youngest are twins, four years old, and the oldest a son, Lance. The children are Lance, Vivian, Mollie, Jewell, Billy Louise, Margaret and Marjorie.

WEST TEXAS LEADER.

In ranching and business circles Mr. Sears was a leader. He owned ranches and business property in half a dozen different West Texas counties, and only recently bought the Grace hotel building at Abilene, and was a director of the Central State Bank of that city.

Pallbearers were: B. Miller, T. P. Davidson, E. W. Douthit, Mack Merchant, C. M. Caldwell and Jack Parramore. Honorary: W. H. Free, W. J. Behrens, Lewis J. Ackers, A. K. Dess, W. I. Hughes, C. T. Hutchison, J. V. Howart, Dr. J. G. Dodge, E. N. McClesky, Phil Ford, all of Abilene; Dr. L. R. Scarborough of Fort Worth, Wes Edwards and Price Maddox of Marysville, Edward Boaz of Merkel, Stark Dougherty of Anson and Otis Smith of Trent.

Surviving brothers are Clyde Sears of Merkel and Bud of Abilene. The sisters are Eula and Mollie Sears of Merkel; Mrs. Virgil Touchstone of Merkel; Mrs. Easton Campbell of Paducah, and Mrs. D. J. Matthews of Chandler, Ariz.

State Inspector Pleased With Rural Schools of County

Frank Wan Winkle, state rural school inspector, last week completed his tour of Taylor county rural schools and declared before leaving for similar work in Fisher county that the schools of Taylor county are in excellent condition. He said further that he had comparatively few recommendations to make for the improvement of the schools. Pleasant Hill, Neill, North Park, Potosi and Moro were given the highest possible rating. In the other 28 schools of the county suggested improvements, mostly in drinking fountains and toilets, were made.

As a result of the tour of the schools the inspector will recommend \$17,146 for state aid in this county.

Lawn Girl Hurt in Basketball Game Has Her Arm Amputated

Florida Scott, 16-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Scott of Lawn, whose injuries in a basketball game several weeks ago necessitated the amputation of her arm early this week is reported as resting well in the Baptist hospital at Abilene. She was brought to the hospital following a dislocation of the collar bone and a fracture of the arm near the shoulder. Infection had set in, necessitating removal of the arm near the shoulder.

MAY START BUILDING NEW HOTEL ON MAY 1

F. R. Young, architect, and M. B. Showalter, attorney, representing Mrs. Elva Harrington, who has made the proposition to build a new and modern hotel in Merkel, were in the city Tuesday and announced that their plans were being rapidly crystallized.

According to the terms of the agreement, Merkel is to raise a bonus of \$12,500 for the new hotel builders. Approximately \$11,000 of this amount

has been pledged, leaving a balance of \$1500 yet to be pledged.

Mr. Young, while here, indicated that if there was no further delay actual construction should begin by May 1, and he estimates that it will require about six months to complete the building.

As matters now stand, \$1500 are needed to assure the new hotel, according to R. O. Anderson, chairman of the hotel committee.

DENNY RESIGNS AS CITY MARSHAL

D. W. Denny, for the past two years Merkel city marshal, tendered his resignation to the city council Wednesday night to take effect at once. The resignation was accepted, but no successor was appointed.

According to Mayor H. C. West, it is probable no one will be chosen for city marshal until after the election on April 2. Appointment of a marshal will be one of the first duties of the new council.

NEW 100-BARREL WELL THIS WEEK

One producing well and two dry holes were recorded in the Merkel oil field during the week. Roser-Pendleton, Grayson No. 4, came in Monday for an estimated production of 100 barrels. The well is in the Tiner area.

Cosden Co., Brown No. 1, in the Bickley area, proved to be dry, as did the Midsun Oil Co. wildcat test, 12 miles north of the Bickley area after picking up the Noodle Creek sand.

A new location has been made by the Texas Co., which is a west offset of Snowden-McSweeney No. 6. Work of digging the cellar and building the rig is now in progress.

The Humble Oil Co. has made a new location on the Bickley tract and starting to rig.

Conder Petroleum Co., McDonald No. 1, one mile north of Stith, spudded in during the week.

The South Taylor county wildcat test near View is stringing 5-inch pipe at a depth of approximately 2970 feet.

NUMEROUS GIFTS FOR DR. SADLER

Lions Club Members Remember Newly-wed With "All Kinds Presents" in Fun Program.

The Lions club made merry at their Tuesday meeting, and all at the expense of Dr. W. T. Sadler, one of its prominent members, who last week descended theunks of bachelorhood and was married to Miss Mary Cleo Booth of this city.

Early in the proceedings Dr. Sadler admitted that he had been "framed" by his fellow Lions. Word had been passed around that each member was expected to bring a present, and they came in such an array that it required a "four-wheel-vehicle" to bring them to the dining room for presentation. A. H. Brackeen had been selected as master of ceremonies, and after tracing Dr. Sadler's life from babyhood to the present time, enumerating his many accomplishments, requested that he open the presents that had been supplied by members of the club, reading the inscription on each.

With the fun over, Mr. Brackeen, in behalf of the club, presented to Dr. Sadler a handsome library lamp, in token of the esteem of each member, and wishing for Dr. and Mrs. Sadler an abundance of life's blessings. Dr. Sadler thanked the club for the many "gifts," saying that he was glad it was over, and declaring that he was glad he was privileged to be the "goat" for the fun-making program.

Marshal Foch Dead.
Marshal Ferdinand Foch, generalissimo of the allied armies in the world war, died Wednesday at his home in Paris at the age of 78.

Baby Girl.
Mr. and Mrs. Granville Grayson of Shiloh are the proud parents of a baby girl, born on March 11.

INJURIES FATAL FOR R. E. COLE AS TEAM RUNS AWAY

Well Known Farmer and Dairyman Thrown From Wagon on His Farm Near Merkel; Lives Only Short Time.

R. E. Cole, well known farmer and dairyman, received fatal injuries last Friday afternoon when his team ran away, throwing him from the wagon on his farm north of Merkel. Funeral services were held at the Methodist church Saturday afternoon, with Rev. T. C. Willett, pastor, officiating. Interment was in the local cemetery.

Mr. Cole was in his pasture alone at the time of the accident, having gone to his place to haul wood. Mrs. Cole was at the farm house, and when her attention was attracted by the noise made by the run-away team, she rushed to the pasture in her car. Neighbors in the field had been attracted by the team running away and, together with Mrs. Cole, found Mr. Cole lying unconscious in the weeds, where he had been thrown from the wagon. Together with Oliver Carey, a friend and neighbor, Mrs. Cole rushed her husband to Merkel in her car, but he died before reaching the hospital.

INTERNAL INJURIES.

It was at first thought Mr. Cole's neck was broken, but examination by a physician revealed the fact that death probably resulted from internal injuries. Slight bruises were sustained about the head and body, but it was not believed these were severe enough to have caused death. Since Mr. Cole was alone at the time of the accident, no one knows exactly how it occurred. Examination of the team and wagon revealed that one of the lines was broken near the hames, and this is believed by some as the reason why Mr. Cole could not bring the team under control.

POPULAR IN MERKEL.

Universal sorrow was expressed over the tragic death of Mr. Cole, who had long been a familiar figure on the streets of Merkel. His dairy business gave him a wide acquaintance with the people of this section, and he was universally popular with all who knew him. His kindly disposition has endeared him to a wide circle of friends in Merkel and this territory, where he had lived for the past fifteen years.

Survivors are his wife and four children, two girls and two boys—Lillian, Lucille, Eldon and R. E. Jr., all of Merkel. Out of town relatives attending the funeral were Mrs. Capas Cole of Roscoe and Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Hamblin of Stamford. Mrs. Hamblin is a sister of Mrs. Cole.

Baby Crawls Into Open Fireplace; Is Burned to Death

Grapevine, Tarrant Co., Texas, March 21.—Creeping around on a four of investigation, Dorothy Juanita Allen, 9-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Allen, living four miles north of here, crawled close to an open fireplace and burned to death. The baby had been left in charge of her 5-year-old brother. He went to a neighbor's house, was gone only a few minutes, but long enough for his little sister's clothing to catch fire and the inflicting of fatal burns.

Transfers For West Texas Utilities Men

Abilene, March 21.—Six transfers affecting districts A, B, K, and general office have been announced by Joe A. White, commercial manager of the West Texas Utilities Company. All changes are effective March 15th.

T. E. Kuykendall, who for the past several months has been general campaign manager, has been appointed appliance agent for Abilene district, appliance agent for the Abilene district. H. H. Lamb, appliance agent for Abilene district has been transferred to Cisco in a similar position with District B.

W. R. Mulroy, appliance agent at Cisco, goes to San Angelo as appliance agent for District K. Geo. L. Murphy, commercial manager of District K, succeeds Kuykendall in the general office as campaign manager. Henry Batjer of San Angelo becomes commercial manager of District K, and Oran Shackelford of San Angelo is made assistant to Batjer.

CANON IS OUT OF MAYOR'S RACE

A. J. Canon, announced by his friends as a candidate for mayor two weeks ago, has announced his withdrawal from the race in the following letter addressed to this paper:

Merkel, Tex., March 20, 1929.

To the Merkel Mail:

I am deeply grateful for the confidence of my friends in naming me through your columns as a candidate for mayor, but I am compelled to decline to make the race for the reason that I am employed regularly and those who employ me are entitled to all my time. The duties of the office would require more attention than I would be able to give them under the circumstances and I take this means of asking that my name be dropped from the list of candidates and kept off the ballot, and to assure my friends of my appreciation of their confidence and good will.

Yours truly,
A. J. Canon.

PUBLIC PAVING HEARING APRIL 8

At a special meeting of the city council, held Wednesday night, the contract and bond of the General Construction Co. of Fort Worth for the paving of Oak street was approved.

At the same time a public hearing was ordered by the council for Wednesday, April 8, at 7 p. m., at which street paving program will be heard.

Rev. Ira Parrack Conducts Training School at Hodges

Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the local Baptist church, is conducting a training class for Sunday school workers at Hodges, in Jones county, this week, and will preach for them Sunday and Sunday evening.

He reports a very fine class with more than fifty in attendance, and good interest. Rev. J. Perry King of Abilene is pastor of the Hodges church and has been for nine years. Under his leadership the church has erected one of the most modern church buildings to be found anywhere in the west. They have an A. 1 Standard Sunday school and in many ways the Hodges church is one of the best churches in Jones county.

Federal Court at Abilene April 8

Judge James C. Wilson of Fort Worth has advised Ida M. James, deputy county clerk, of the opening of United States District court at Abilene April 8.

Cases in equity will occupy the time of the court the first week, and the criminal docket will open April 15.

Oklahoma Governor Ousted.
Oklahoma City, March 21.—Harry S. Johnson was removed Wednesday as governor of Oklahoma by the senate court of impeachment. He was found guilty of a charge of general incompetency.

Little Girl Ill.

Dorothy Nell, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Haynes, has been quite ill since Sunday, suffering from an influenza relapse. Her condition was somewhat improved Thursday.

Students' Finance Fund.

Write for details of loan plan to help worthy students prepare for business positions thru approved schools. Address H. G. Payne, Trustee, Students' Finance Fund, Abilene, Texas.

WE THANK YOU

We have a lot of friends to thank
 Who are so loyal to our bank,
 We want you every one to know
 That it is you who helps us grow,
 That makes us always want to try
 To set and keep our standard high,
 That makes us always want to be
 A help to our community.
 The Farmers State Bank wants you to know
 That it has faith in you also.

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

Presbyterian Church.
 Sunday school at 10 a. m. Attendance good last Sunday and interest fine. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. Come worship with us in all the services.

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

Car Plunges Into River.
 San Antonio, Texas, March 21.—George D. Campbell, 52, chairman of the board of directors of the Guaranty State Bank, was drowned here when his automobile crashed through the iron railing at the west side of the municipal auditorium and dropped fifteen feet into the San Antonio River, pinning him beneath the wreckage.

ONCE AN EXIDE ALWAYS AN EXIDE

Our Prices Are From
\$5.00 to \$500

Better Equipped Than Ever Before

Exide SERVICE STATION BATTERIES

S. M. HUNTER

"THE MAN BEH'ND THE BAT"
 At Everybody's Garage
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Before you Build a Home See

CLAY LUMBER CO.

We can help you finance it, can give you service, furnish you with best grade of any kind of material and save you money.

WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SAVING AND BUY FROM

CLAY LUMBER CO.

"Make her happy. Build a home first."

MERKEL VICTOR IN COUNTY-WIDE ATHLETIC TILTS

Both Boys and Girls Heavy Winners in Events Staged at Simmons University.

Merkel was the heaviest winner in the Taylor county athletic events staged at Simmons University Saturday, carrying off the honors in junior boys' and girls' playground ball, and in senior boys' tennis, double and singles.

Oak Lawn took junior boys' singles and doubles, and Bradshaw was the winner of senior girls' singles and doubles, and in senior girls' volley ball.

Junior boys of Merkel defeated Lawn 8 to 6 in the final game of playground ball tournament in which ten teams entered. The Merkel senior boys trimmed Pleasant Hill, 19 to 11, in the final round of the same sport.

Sheppard and Case, Merkel senior boys' doubles team, took three sets of five from Bradshaw to win the county championship. Case, playing in the senior singles, won in two straight sets from the Bradshaw representative.

In both singles and doubles of junior boys' tennis, Oak Cliff won in straight sets from Pleasant Hill. The Bradshaw senior girls' doubles entry defeated Pleasant Hill two sets in three; Bradshaw won in senior girls' singles by default.

Hamby was defeated by Bradshaw in the senior girls' volley ball final.

Victories in Saturday's events are to be figured in the all-round county championship. Intellectual contests are scheduled for today, and the track and field contests are to be staged tomorrow.

Junior League Program.

Song; prayer; roll call; Scripture John 15:11, by leader, Ina Mae Berryman; "The Worthless Branch," by Odell Hunter; "The Good Branch," by Louise Kerr; "In Life," by Cullen Tittle; "Everyone's Task," by Marie Stanford; "How We Can Bear Fruit," by Vivian Lasater; Bible Story—Jack Stanford; Reading, Mollie Frank Touchstone; benediction.

Twenty Years For Murder.

Henrietta, Texas, March 21.—Carl Goodspeed was given twenty years by a jury which found him guilty of the murder of A. T. Gooch, Nocona city marshal, at Nocona Jan. 19. The jury had deliberated more than twenty-four hours.

Double Killing.

Fort Worth, Texas, March 21.—Mrs. Mildred E. Williams, 33, a widow, mother of four children, and Herod Freeman, 54, her landlord and father of nine children, are dead as a result of shots fired in front of the Williams residence Monday morning.

Fall From Window Fatal.

Fort Worth, Texas, March 21.—A man who registered as E. R. Young of Austin, about 50 years old, fell from the window of a room on the fifth floor of the Texas Hotel on Main street. His skull was fractured, his legs broken and he received internal injuries from which he died fifteen minutes after an ambulance took him to a hospital.

Swallows Open Safety Pin.

Taylor, March 21.—Pauline Moegle, 5, is recovering from an operation to remove an open safety pin from her intestines, which she swallowed. She told her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Moegle, that she had swallowed it and that it was open. It had reached the stomach when the X-ray examination was made.

Floodlights For Courthouse.

Eastland, March 21.—Arrangements have been completed whereby in the immediate future 14 huge floodlights will illuminate Eastland County's \$300,000 courthouse. It will be the only floodlighted courthouse along the entire length of the Broadway of America, which is 3,500 miles long.

The Lions club sponsored the undertaking.

Appropriations for extension of telephone equipment in New York City alone during 1928 amounted to nearly 54 million dollars.

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.

For Aggrassin Blackleg Vaccine see Phillips Drug Store

Willing Workers Meet With Mrs. W. M. Elliott

The Willing Workers' class of the Presbyterian church met with Mrs. W. M. Elliott on Tuesday afternoon. The home was beautifully decorated with the Easter motif throughout.

The following program was carried out:

Song: "He Lives on High."
 Easter Message, "Christ is Risen"—Mrs. Walker.

Prayer—Mrs. George West.

"The Resurrection," Mrs. Walker.
 Responsive Scripture reading by class, on stewardship and missions.

After a contest led by the hostess, a very delectable refreshment course was served to the following guests and members: Misses Lizzie, Jennie and Mary Keny; Mesdames West, Tucker, Smith, Russell, Butler, Baker, Jackson, Murray, Stalls, Shelton, Waiker, and the hostess.

Methodist Sunday School.

More than 300 members of our Sunday school responded to the Sabbath day call last Sunday morning. We had a very enjoyable hour of study and worship.

Among those unable to attend our school were Mrs. Frank Galliday, a teacher in the Intermediate department, who was visiting out of town; Miss Mary Eula Sears, teacher of the Banner class was also out of town; and R. A. Burgess, teacher of the Business Men's class, who, with his wife, visited Lubbock during the weekend.

We are very glad to learn that Mrs. McSpadden is recovering from her recent illness and we welcome her back to our midst. Mrs. W. S. J. Brown has been kindly substituting for Mrs. McSpadden as teacher of the Bluebird class during her absence.

Miss Hazel Lee Rainbolt, from McMurry, was a visitor in our school last Sunday.

Our pastor has been conducting a training class of officers and teachers during the last week who have had an interesting and profitable study period of "The Pupil." We hope that every pupil receives a credit for his work.

The opening service of the Sunday school will be conducted by the young people's department under Roy Largent, the following two Sundays. The surprising talent and cheerful ability of this group of young people enables them to give very interesting programs.

You are welcome at our Sunday services. Come and help us enjoy them.

The Reporter.

Save money by trading with us. Cash Coupons are money. Sears Variety Store.

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

DAPPER DAN



Keep Classy!

"Now, every man can be well dressed;
 "The way I'll tell to you;
 "Be sure your clothes are clean and pressed;
 "That's all you have to do!"
 —DAPPER DAN.

In business or in social life, a man now-a-days must look just as well as the women with whom he comes in contact. It's one of the first requisites to success. It's no trouble and not at all expensive if you let DAPPER DAN do it for you. And don't forget our snappy delivery service!

MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE
 Phone 3

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

WHEN YOU TELL YOUR FRIENDS

You may modestly feel that it is a little thing when you tell your friends and neighbors where you bank and how well you like the service and treatment.

But we do not think it is a little thing.

We appreciate your kindness and cooperation at their true value. We know that every such recommendation makes this a stronger bank, better able to serve you and this community.

We realize that fully 50 per cent of our new business comes directly from these recommendations.

We thank you for them.

The Old Reliable

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

Directors

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

"Never missed a dividend—never assessed a shareholder"

Organized

1904

Special Offer Extended

On Account of the Bad Weather During February and Because of Numerous Requests of Our Patrons, We Have Extended Our

25%

Reduction on all sizes of Portraits during the month of March

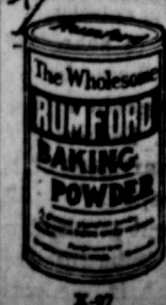
Now is the time for that Portrait of Mother and Dad or that family group you have been thinking of.

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The Health Claims

of Rumford, the baking powder with real food value, make a strong appeal to women of keen judgment. Rumford is not merely wholesome in itself; it adds to foods with which it is used, those vitally necessary phosphates so essential to upbuilding the bodily structure.



RUMFORD

The Wholesome BAKING POWDER

BADGES, CARDS FOR BOY SCOUTS

With Troop Joins With Merkel Scout of Honor Ceremony Held Here.

Scouts from the newly organized troop at Stith joined with Merkel scouts last week at a scout of honor ceremony held at the Presbyterian church. Herbert Patterson presided and Ed Shumway, scout executive of the Chisholm Trail area, awarded the badges and cards.

Stith scouts receiving their tenderfoot badges and cards were: Wrathel Womack, Ray Ford, Charlie Munday, Frank Munday and Ray Munday.

Merkel scouts receiving second class badges and card were: David Gambel, Glenn Enes, Jack West and Howard Carson. Mordell Shouse appeared for merit badge in firemanship.

Ross Ferrier received first class badge and card, firemanship merit badge and card, personal health merit badge and card, public health merit badge and card, civics merit badge and

card, pathfinding merit badge and card, star scout badge and card.

Benjamin Sheppard appeared for firemanship badge and card, aviation merit badge and card, civics merit badge and card, electricity merit badge and card, first aid merit badge and card, handicraft merit badge and card, personal health merit badge and card, public health merit badge and card, poultry keeping merit badge and card, scholarship merit badge and card, camping merit badge and card, bird study merit badge and card.

The regular meeting of the Merkel scout troop will be held tonight at 7:30 at the Presbyterian church, and members and visitors are urged to attend.

Santa Anna Paving.

A contract has been let for the paving of four and one-half blocks of street in the main business section of Santa Anna. At the time the paving is done the water main will be replaced with an eight inch pipe which will cause the insurance fire rate to be reduced.

Money saved is money made. Use Cash Coupons when buying. Sears Variety Store.

Where cold drinks are colder. Phillips Drug Store.

Shiloh Happenings

Farmers are all busy since the fine rains.

Rev. O. B. Tatum filled his regular appointment Saturday night and Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson visited Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Grayson and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Deaver Sunday.

Amazell Seago spent Sunday with Pauline Tiner.

Mrs. B. L. James, Miss Florence James, Robert James and Mesdames Tom Greene and C. W. Seago visited Mr. and Mrs. M. L. James Sunday.

Earnie Rutledge of Texico, N. M., spent the week-end with his father and brother of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beal spent Sat-

urday night with Mr. and Mrs. Bill James near Hebron.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardie Rutledge and family, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Rutledge and family, and F. C. Rutledge spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Rutledge Sunday.

Mrs. Bill Grayson is slowly improving from an attack of flu.

Mrs. Earnest Hill and baby left for their home at Burleson Sunday, after several weeks' visit in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Grayson.

There will be a cemetery working at Shiloh Thursday, May 16. Everybody invited to come and bring working tools—there's lots to be done, and if not too much to ask everybody bring a full basket: Will have preaching at the 11 o'clock hour by a pioneer preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beal visited in

the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lovel Rutledge Sunday.

Mesdames M. L. James and Tom Greene visited Mrs. C. W. Seago Monday evening.

Rev. O. B. Tatum spent Saturday

night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Grayson.

Nothing like a refreshing drink. Try our fountain service. Phillips Drug Store.

QUEEN

SHOWING THE PICK OF PICTURES

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

TOM MIX

-IN-

"OUTLAWED"

Tom's newest picture with a thousand thrills Also The Jungle Serial, "Tarzan The Mighty," No. 7 And Good Two Reel Comedy "Misplaced Husbands"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

OLIVE BORDEN AND JACK PICKFORD

-IN-

"GANG WAR"

There is plenty of war in this picture taken from the story of a real underworld tribe. Also Comedy "We Faw Down" and International News

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

PATSY RUTH MILLER

-IN-

"TROPICAL NIGHTS"

Southern Skies, a tender Love Story and Such Adventures you would never think of seeing. Also Comedy "What a Trip" and Kinogram

Free CHINAWARE to each lady present

COMING—APRIL 1st and 2nd

"THE RESCUE"

YOUR DOCTOR'S ADVICE

Follow what your Doctor would advise, if you called him in counsel now.

After the winter colds, flu, fever and various other ailments, tone up your system. Enrich your blood, put new life in your body, and life will take on new light for you.

PEPTONA

Enriches the Blood, Builds rundown tissues and is a general down and out condition Tonic.

Peptona Now on Sale at

PHILLIPS DRUG STORE

The *Rexall* Store

SERVICE AND SATISFACTION

Early EASTER



And that means a rush for new Spring Merchandise. We are ready. Pay us a visit Pre-Easter week and let us help you.

BOWERS & HAMNER
TRENT, TEXAS

= Gafton =

TRENT, TEXAS

OUR MOTTO BETTER SHOWS

TODAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd
A PARAMOUNT SPECIAL

"BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES"

Actually photographed on the battle field of the great war—German war secrets exposed—Why they did not take Paris. Also "Tarzan the Mighty" Chapter 5 and Comedy

SATURDAY

FRED THOMPSON AND SILVER KING IN

"DAN MIKE"

One of Fred's Best
Fine Comedy and News

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

A BIG ONE—RICHARD DIX IN HIS NEW SPECIAL

"REDSKIN"

Most all of it in beautiful color—made on "Vanishing American Scale"—You'll miss it if you miss it
Also Selected Short Subjects

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, MARCH 27-28
The One You Have Been Waiting For

CARL LAEMMLE'S TWO MILLION DOLLAR SPECIAL
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN"

Two years in the making—Big Cast—Big Every Way—See It.

PRICES 15c-50c

Matinee Wednesday 2 p. m.

COMING

"FOUR SONS"

"THE WOLF OF WALL STREET"

Get Your Information From Us or any of Your Leading Magazines About the

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY PRIZES

1223 Prizes Amounting to \$30,000.00 Given Away

1 Grand Prize	\$2,500
11 Prizes	500
11 Prizes	250
125 Prizes	100
275 Prizes	10
800 Prizes	5

WE WOULD BE GLAD TO HELP YOU PICK YOUR BEST NEGATIVES.

RODDEN STUDIO

Merkel, Texas

Dry Cleaning Service!

Every spot and stain is removed without leaving a telltale trace. Colors are brightened and give renewed luster. And all done without the least harm to the most delicate fabrics.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

"Sudden Service"

Phone 189

Kent Street

ANOTHER GREAT FOUR UNIT SOUND PROGRAM

MAGNETIC THEATRE
Abilene
All Next Week

CONRAD NAGEL
Dolores Costello
in
"The Redeeming Sin"
Powerful drama of a woman's sin, set against the background of the wickedest spot on earth, the Apache quarter of Paris.

"UKELELE IKE"
Sings In His Own Inimitable way.

"HABEAS CORPUS"
Stan Laurel-Oliver Hardy in a screamingly funny two-part sound comedy.

Fox Movietone Talking News
"All the World in Sound"

Now Playing **WILLIAM HAINES—Talking in "Alias Jimmy Valentine"**

NOTICE FARMERS

PLANTING SEED

Have plenty of the well known Mebane seed on hand and expect a car of ANTON any day. Both are Pedigreed seed, early maturing and large bolls. It is hard to find a better Cotton than either of these strains. You will find them at the Farm Bureau Gin where Ginning is an Art and Service a Pleasure.

A. J. CANON

"Uncle Tom's Cabin"

GAFTON THEATER
Trent--Wed., Thurs.
March 27-28

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.

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

(Copyright, 1928, by Alva O. Hearne)

**JOHN HENNINGER REAGAN,
(1887-1891)**

John Henninger Reagan was born in Sevier county, Tennessee, on October 8, 1818. His parents were very poor. In his youth his time was divided between assisting his father in a tan-yard and in going to school until he was about sixteen years old, when he was given permission to secure his own education. He commenced by working on a farm for nine dollars a month. Then, entering an academic school, he paid for his board by working mornings, evenings and Saturdays. He attended Southwestern College at Marysville, Tennessee, for something over a year. For a few months after leaving college he sold goods in a country store. He was later offered favorable inducements to proceed to Texas and sell goods. The project ended in disappointment, but it landed Reagan in Texas without money or friends.

When he reached Nacogdoches war was impending between the Cherokee and other Indian tribes and the people of Texas. He joined the Texan army, intending at the close of the campaign to return to the United States. He was in the battles of the 15th and 16th of July, 1839, and behaved so gallantly that on the morning of the second battle General Albert Sidney Johnston, then secretary of war in Texas, and acting-president Burnet requested his presence at headquarters and tendered him an appointment as junior second-lieutenant in the regular army. He declined, however, and devoted himself to the study of surveying.

He was soon appointed deputy surveyor of public lands and did some work as such in what is now Angelina county. He later did considerable surveying in what is now Nacogdoches, Houston, Anderson, Henderson and Kaufman counties, and during the time participated in several campaigns against hostile Indians, did farm work, made rails and drove oxen.

In the fall of 1844 Reagan became one of the pioneer settlers in the present Kaufman county, having in the meantime been captain of a militia company and served as justice of the peace. He commenced reading law in 1845. In 1847 he was elected to the state legislature and took an active part in committee work and the proceedings of that body. In 1848 he received a permanent license to practice law. In 1852 he was chosen as judge of the ninth judicial district of Texas for six years, but in 1856 he resigned only to be re-elected for a like term.

In 1857 Judge Reagan was elected to the United States congress, defeating the Know Nothing or American candidate, the sitting member, by a good majority. He was re-elected in 1859. Before his last election he had taken a firm stand against filibustering and the opening of the African slave-trade. Though he was criticised bitterly by politicians and newspapers for his stand on these questions, he took the issue to the people and was re-elected by an overwhelming majority. This brought him into the midst of the fierce controversies of the four years immediately preceding the civil war of 1861-65.

In 1861 Judge Reagan was chosen a member of what was known as the secession convention of Texas and was later elected to the provisional congress of the Confederacy. In March, 1861, he was appointed postmaster-general of the Confederacy by President Davis and served until 1865. In the last months of the Confederacy President Davis appointed him secretary of the treasury a interim, at the same time insisting that he continue to perform the duties of postmaster-general.

In May, 1865, Reagan was made a prisoner of war along with President Davis and was taken first to Hampton Roads, Virginia, and then to Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, Mass., where he was held until released by order of President Johnson in October, 1865. While in confinement he wrote to the people of Texas what is known as his "Fort Warren letter." Its object was to advise the people of Texas that it would be best for them to accept without unreasonable delay the inevitable results of the war so as to avoid military government and the danger of universal negro suffrage.

But upon his return to Texas Re-

gan found the people unprepared to accept the principles urged in his letter, and his fidelity to his section was doubted for having written it. Seeing that any effort in that direction was at that time useless, he withdrew to his farm near Palestine, in Anderson county, hired some hands and went to work in the field with them. He later returned to the practice of law and kept up his farming interests and had a lucrative practice until 1874, when he was elected to congress. He had continued disenfranchised under the reconstruction laws until a short time before his election to Congress. He was re-elected to the six succeeding congresses.

In 1887 Judge Reagan was elected to the United States senate for the term of six years. He was a sincere believer in the views of Thomas Jefferson as to the constitutional powers and rights and duties of the state and federal governments, respectively. On June 10, 1891, he resigned his seat in the United States senate to accept the chairmanship of the railroad commission of the State, thus relinquishing a position of greater dignity and emolument for one of less. To quote his own words:

"I resigned my place in the senate and accepted the chairmanship of the commission both from a sense of duty to the state and of gratitude to the people who have honored and trusted me so long and in so many ways."

Senator Reagan died at Palestine, Texas, on March 6, 1905.

**Trent News and
Personal Notes**

Mrs. Billing and Miss Evelyn Howell of Abilene were in our city Saturday.

Ledo Dowdy who has been working for Loveless Drug, has gone to Throckmorton to work.

Mrs. Frank Stevens and children are moving to Dallas. Sorry to have her leave; but wish her success in her new home.

Mrs. Johnson and baby of Abilene spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Boyd.

The banquet given by the T. E. L. class was enjoyed to the limit by the winners; can't say how well the losers enjoyed it. Brother McGinus and Brother Tarpley of Abilene made some good talks, also Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Blankenship.

Sam McLeod is recovering from injuries received in a car accident last week.

Miss Mary Boyd of Simmons University was home for the week-end.

Boy Scouts met Friday night with a good attendance. It seems as if we are going to have a live scout troop at Trent soon.

Miss Dess Craig is visiting her brother, A. W. Craig. We are always happy to have Miss Craig in our city.

Mrs. Dollie Blankenship of White Flat was in town shopping Saturday. She reports her mother, Mrs. Pursie improving slowly.

Mrs. Jno. West and little Miss Gay of Merkel spent a few hours Saturday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Johnson.

Carl Atwell sold his tailor shop to Steve Payne and J. P. Stevens. Mr. and Mrs. Atwell will leave in a few days for Vernon, Wichita Falls and Fort Worth.

An old time revival meeting is in progress at the Methodist church. Brother Bell is doing some fine preaching.

Mrs. W. A. Abbott is home after an extended visit with relatives at Forney.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Bonner and daughter of Clyde spent a few hours in our midst Sunday.

Grandma Steadman, who has been confined to her bed for some five weeks, is slowly improving.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail



RECENT BRIDE COMPLIMENTED

Members of the Thursday Night Bridge club honored one of their members, Mrs. W. T. Sadler, with a lovely bride and shower on last Saturday afternoon in the home of Mrs. R. O. Anderson. The affair was given in the form of an Easter party, culminating in an Easter egg hunt in which only the honoree participated. Candies, cut flowers and game appointments were in yellow and green at table arranged for games of bridge and 42. A beautiful array of gifts was displayed and at the refreshment hour an ice course consisting of Easter lilies molded of cream, angel food squares and dainty Easter baskets of salted nuts were passed to Mesdames W. T. Sadler, A. R. Booth, Bob Mayfield, R. O. Anderson, Henry West, Ross, Ferrier, John West, T. E. Collins, Ollie Dye, L. B. Scott, E. Yates Brown, Dee Grimes, Sam Swann, F. C. McFarland, Lige Gamble, Sam Cummings, Emmett Grimes, W. V. Ramsey of Abilene, Kirby Beckett, W. S. J. Brown, Warren Smith, George White, Roy Largent, R. I. Grimes, C. H. Jones, Misses Louise Booth, Vennie Heizer, Lucy Tracey, Martha Bird, Johnnie Sears, Lola Dennis, Mona Margaret Jones and the hostesses: Mesdames Jack Anderson, Claude Young, Misses Vera Baker, Iva Bragg, Christine Collins, Roberta Sloan and Melba West.

DINNER BRIDGE.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cookston entertained guests at dinner on last Saturday evening with a pretty St. Patrick's party. Lovely cut flowers centered the table where a delectable three course dinner was served. All table and game favors were in St. Patrick design. Games of auction furnished after dinner diversion for Messrs. and Mesdames Sam Cummings, R. I. Grimes, W. T. Sadler, C. H. Jones, George White, Gene Harvey, John West, C. B. Gardner, Westley Edwards of Mary Neil, Roy Largent and W. S. J. Brown.

DINNER GUESTS.

Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sadler extended hospitality to guests at dinner on Tuesday evening in their attractive apartment on Oak street. A sumptuous two course dinner preceded bridge games as an after-dinner diversion for Messrs. and Mesdames Harry Cookston, George White, R. I. Grimes and the host and hostess.

THURSDAY CLUB.

Mrs. R. O. Anderson was hostess to members of the Thursday club at a pretty Easter party on Wednesday afternoon of this week. Tables arranged for games of 42 were appointed in Easter decoration and at the tea hour a lovely salad plate with Easter favors was served to Mesdames A. R. Booth, Twyman Collins, Dennis, Dye, Gamble, Hamilton, Gardner, Grimes, Hicks, Huddleston, ones, Lassiter, Tom Largent, W. J. Largent, Lowe, Scott, George White, McFarland, Thompson, Warren, West, Cummings, Brown, Petye, Anderson, Sadler, Young, Misses Roberta Sloan and Addie Holder.

COMPLIMENTARY BRIDGE.

Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Bass entertained on last Thursday evening complimenting Preston Clark of El Paso. Games of auction bridge progressed happily throughout the evening and at the refreshment hour a delicious salad course was served with coffee to Messrs. and Mesdames Lon Clark, Bill Du Bois, Alec Schultz, S. T. Bass, Misses Melba West, Vera Baker, Evelyn Curb, Messrs. Preston Clark, Wren Durham and Ralph Duke.

Every week is thrift week at our store. Cash Coupons are money saved. Sears Variety Store.

FOR ECONOMICAL TRANSPORTATION



**A
Quarter
Million
NEW SIX CYLINDER
CHEVROLETS on the road
since JAN. 1st**

To satisfy the overwhelming public demand for the new Chevrolet Six, the Chevrolet Motor Company has accomplished one of the most remarkable industrial achievements of all time. In less than three months after the first Chevrolet Six was delivered to the public, the Chevrolet factories are producing 6,000 cars a day. As a result, more than a quarter-million new Chevrolet Sixes have been delivered to date—and this tremendous popularity is increasing every day! If you have not yet seen and driven this remarkable car—come in for a demonstration!

The Roadster, \$525; The Phaeton, \$535; The Coach, \$595; The Coupe, \$595; The Sedan, \$675; The Sport Cabriolet, \$695; The Convertible Landau, \$725; Sedan Delivery, \$595; Light Delivery Chassis, \$400; 1 1/2 Ton Chassis, \$545; 1 1/2 Ton Chassis with Cab, \$650. All prices f. o. b. factory, Flint, Mich.

-a Six in the price range of the four
Brackeen-Hughes Chevrolet Co.
Merkel, Texas

QUALITY AT LOW COST



**The Age
of Power**

It is frequently stated that the age in which we live is a "machine age." This is only partially correct. Actually, the present age is a POWER AGE.

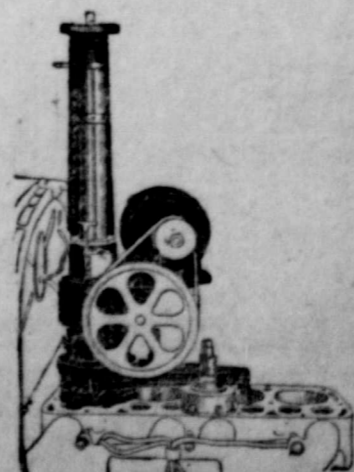
Its tempo, its achievements, its prosperity—all emanate to a very great degree from the abundance of cheap electrical power available in this country.

And West Texas realizes this fact, if not more, than any other part of the country. The growth and expansion of this section of the state within the past few years has been almost miraculous.

It is the happy privilege of the West Texas Utilities Company to contribute its part to the prosperity of West Texas. Its great metallic highways are carrying a new civilization to isolated villages, towns and hamlets. With 70,000 available horsepower of electrical energy from three big generating stations and 15 auxiliary plants this company provides uninterrupted service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

**West Texas Utilities
Company**

STORMIZING
ADDS 20,000 MILES TO THE LIFE OF YOUR MOTOR



Stormizing
with 20,000 miles
to the life of your car

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.
MERKEL, TEXAS

OFFICIAL NOTICE

I, Pauline Johnson, City Secretary of the City of Merkel, Texas, do, pursuant to the hereinafter set out ordinance, give notice of the matters and things therein contained.

PAULINE JOHNSON, City Secretary.

FINANCE of the city council of the City of Merkel, Texas, determining the necessity for levying an assessment against the property and owners thereof on a portion of Oak street, in the City of Merkel, for a part of the cost of improving said street, and fixing a time for a hearing of the owners or agents of said owners of said property, or of any persons interested in said improvements, as provided by Articles 1086 to 1096, both inclusive, and articles 1104 and 1105, Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1925, and directing the City Secretary to give notice of said hearing, and examining and approving the report or statement of the consulting engineer, and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL: That, whereas, the City Council of the City of Merkel has heretofore by ordinance duly passed and approved ordered the improvement of

OAK STREET from 2' south of the most southerly rail of the Texas and Pacific's south passing track to the south line of Coombs Street in the City of Merkel; and,

WHEREAS, plans and specifications for the improvement of said Street have been duly prepared and approved as required by Articles 1086 to 1096, both inclusive, and Articles 1104 and 1105, Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1925, which is usually known as the General Paving Law, and was formerly shown as Chapter 11, Title 22, Revised Statutes of the State of Texas, of 1911; and,

WHEREAS, said work of improvement was let to General Construction Co. to improve with a 6-inch plain concrete pavement, including excavating, grading and filling, constructing concrete curb and gutter and other necessary work in connection therewith, in accordance with said plans and specifications; and,

WHEREAS, written contract has been entered into by and between the City of Merkel and General Construction Company for the construction of said improvement; Therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL: That the report or statement of the Consulting Engineer filed with the City Council, describing the abutting property and giving the names of property owners and number of front feet and the cost of improvement chargeable against each abutting property and its owner, has been duly examined and is hereby approved; that the City Council does hereby determine to assess three-fourths of the total cost of said improvement against the owners of the property abutting on said Street, and against their proportionate share of the cost thereof in accordance with the provisions of Articles 1086 to 1096, both inclusive, and Articles 1104 and 1105, Revised Civil Statutes of the State of 1925; That the said assessments shall be made after the notice to property owners and all interested persons, and the hearing herein provided, and that the said portion of the cost of improvement to be assessed against such property owners of their property shall be in accordance with the Front Foot Rule Plan, in the proportion that the frontage of the property of each owner bears to the frontage to the whole property to be assessed, provided, that after such hearing, if such plan or apportionment be found to be not just and equitable in particular instances, the City Council shall so apportion all said cost as to produce a substantial equality between all such property owners abutting on said street, having in view the enhanced value of that property and the benefits derived from such improvement, and the burdens imposed upon them by such assessment, and that in no event shall any assessment be made against any owner or his property in excess of the enhanced value of such property by reason of such improvement; That the proportionate cost of such improvement which is contemplated to be assessed against such owners and their properties shall become due and payable as follows: One-sixth thirty days after the completion and acceptance by the City of

Merkel of the improvement, one-sixth one year after said date of acceptance, one-sixth two years after said date of acceptance, one-sixth three years after said date of acceptance, one-sixth four years after said date of acceptance, and one-sixth five years after

Oak Street, from 2' south of the most southerly rail of the Texas & Pacific's south passing track to the south line of Coombs Street.

Table with columns: NAME OF OWNER-DESCRIPTION, Front Feet, Rate Per Front Ft., Amount. Lists various property owners and their assessed amounts.

ter date of acceptance, together with interest from said date of acceptance at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, payable annually, and reasonable attorney's fees and all costs of collection in case of default; That the total proportionate part of such cost which is contemplated to be assessed against such owners and their respective properties and the names of the owners of property abutting upon said street aforesaid, properties to be improved, and the description of that property and the several amounts proposed to be assessed against them respectively for the paving, curb and gutter and the grand total thereof, is as follows:

Table with columns: NAME OF OWNER-DESCRIPTION, Front Feet, Rate Per Front Ft., Amount. Continuation of property assessments.

prescribed by the provisions of Articles 1086 to 1096, both inclusive, and Articles 1104 and 1105, Revised Civil Statutes of the State of Texas of 1925, by publishing said notice three times in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Merkel, the first of said publications to be made at least ten days before the date set for the hearing. Said City Secretary may also mail a copy of said notice by registered letter to each of said property owners, if known, or their agents or attorneys, if known, said letters to be deposited in a postoffice in the City of Merkel at least ten days before the date set for the hearing. However, said notice by letter shall be cumulative only, and notice by publication shall be full, due and proper notice of said hearing. It shall not be necessary to the validity of said notice of hearing to name any property owner abutting on said streets, and the fact that any such property owner or owners are incorrectly named or not named at all shall in no wise affect the validity of the assessment against said property, nor the personal liability against the real and true owner or owners of said property. No error or omissions in the description of the properties abutting on said street shall in any wise invalidate said assessment or any certificate issued in evidence thereof.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERKEL: That the fact that said portion of said street is in such urgent need of repair creates an emergency and imperative public necessity for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health and safety requiring that the rules providing that ordinances be read more than one time and at more than one meeting, be and the same are hereby suspended, and that this ordinance shall be passed and take effect as an emergency measure, and take effect and be in full force from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 20th day of March, 1929. H. C. WEST Mayor

ATTEST: PAULINE JOHNSON, City Secretary. (Seal)

Money saved is money made. Use Cash Coupons when buying. Sears Variety Store.

Brackeen-Hughes Add New Machine

In another column of this paper will be found the advertisement of Brackeen-Hughes Chevrolet Co., calling attention to the fact that they have installed a new Storm Electric Boring Machine, the very latest thing in automobile mechanic equipment. The purpose of this machine is to true the walls of the cylinders, which in time wear irregular. The hone is used only to polish the cylinder. Pistons are fit like they are fit at the factory. The new machine has attachments for all sizes and can be used on any motor, thus enabling car owners to have their reboring done at home without having to take it to Abilene or some other place. The addition of this machine gives Brackeen-Hughes one of the most modern and complete repair departments in this section of West Texas.

CARD OF THANKS.

We thank one and all for the kind words of sympathy and deeds shown us during the sudden death of our dear husband and father and also for the beautiful floral offerings. May God's blessings be upon each one of you. Mrs. R. E. Cole and children.

Save money by trading with us. Cash Coupons are money. Sears Variety Store.

Plainview "Dresses Up" Band

Seventy-five new uniforms with which to dress up Plainview's 2 municipal bands have been ordered by the board of city development. This includes 35 men's uniforms and 40 scarlet caps and capes for the younger band.

Hotel Nearing Completion.

Work is drawing to a close on the new two-story Lockney hotel. It will have fifteen guest rooms, a dining room, coffee shop, lobby, barber shop and some stores on the ground floor. It may be decided to put another story of fifteen rooms on the building.

Loans Money to Pave.

The Brady Building and Loan Ass'n. has announced that it will lend money to Brady citizens, enabling them to pave streets, adjoining their premises at \$1.58 per month on every \$100 loaned. Forty blocks of resident paving have been completed and more contracted for.

Pecos Store Improves.

The Pecos Mercantile company is to install more than \$15,000 worth of new equipment with a new mezzanine floor, a new men's shoe department. This store when built twenty years ago was considered one of the most modern in West Texas.

Texas population density is 20.9 per square mile, about half the density of population of the entire nation.

Texas has 8.8 per cent of the land area of the United States.

R. & R. PALACE SWEETWATER VITAPHONE AND MOVIE TONE PICTURES OPENING FRIDAY MARCH 22nd HEAR AND SEE

HOLD OIL OUTPUT TO 1928 FIGURE

Houston, Texas, March 21.—Leaders of the oil world, meeting here at the call of President E. B. Reeser of the American Petroleum Institute, decided to hold crude oil production during 1929 to the 1928 figure of 2,000,000 barrels daily. The average for 1929 so far has been 2,600,000 barrels a day.

With this decision the conference, which began Friday morning, was adjourned and members scattered to their homes over the Nation.

In addition to adoption of the production maximum, the conference approved the general committee's resolution to the American Petroleum Institute that a number of permanent committees be appointed to study all phases of the conservation movement, not only as to production, but as to use of petroleum products.

Dora Doings

We are glad to report W. T. Hardy doing nicely after an operation for appendicitis at the Sweetwater sanitarium last Wednesday night.

Evelyn Ensminger and Olton Whiteaker were among the Merkel students spend the week-end with home folks.

Roy Laine and Earl Wallis report a nice catch on their fishing trip to Paint Rock last week-end.

Sy Dennis continues to improve slowly at the Scott and White hospital in Temple.

Mrs. Jim Hamilton was called to the bedside of her father, Mr. Janning, at Blackwell, who is very sick.

Those on the sick list are Vard Tyrone, Martha E. Elliott, Willis and Jewel Perry, Billie Dunagan.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Bryan lost their house and most of the contents early Monday morning in a fire, thought to have started from a defective flue.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Moore attended the funeral of her uncle, Mr. Carson of Hylton, last Tuesday.

Mrs. Delia Perry and children were visiting in the White Church community last Sunday.

Every one is invited to the singing next Sunday afternoon at the Dora Baptist church. We are expecting a good singing. Sweetwater, Winters, Shep, Wingate and Nolan classes are expected to be there.

Negro Confesses to Double Killing

Waco, March 21.—Mystery concerning the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Pedigo, farmers residing near Moody, found shot to death in their home on the morning of March 8, was cleared when Jordan Scott, negro 27, confessed to the killings.

The confession came after hours of questioning by District Attorney Dick Holt and Sheriff Leslie Stegall. Murder charges have been filed and the district attorney said he would ask a grand jury next week.

Scott told officers he killed Pedigo because the farmer had refused him a drink of water two days prior to the shooting and ordered him to keep away from his farm. He said he killed the woman because she had recognized him when he shot her husband.

Extreme activity in Wall Street Stock Market has made necessary additions to telephone service in that district amounting to \$3,000,000. An entire new exchange will be created.

Our Cash Coupons pay you interest on the money you spend with us. Sears Variety Store.

Prompt, efficient prescription service. Phillips Drug Store.

BLOOMER SALE REPEATED

Boston Bargain Store Makes Apologies.

The bloomer sale last Saturday at the Boston Store only lasted two hours, because by ten o'clock every bloomer had been sold.

Readers of last week's paper will remember that this sale featured two pairs of Ladies' 36 gauge bloomers for one dollar, and this store wishes to apologize for having disappointed so many ladies who came in after the supply had been exhausted.

However, Mr. Brown has been able to secure an additional seventy-two pairs and these will go on sale at nine o'clock Saturday morning.

It will be necessary this time, to limit only two pair to a customer.

Advertising.

ZION CHAPEL NEWS

Everyone enjoyed the program rendered at the P. T. A. Friday night by High school pupils and also the fine talk given by L. R. Thompson of Merkel.

A. F. Terry and children spent Sunday with W. C. Mattingly and family of Noodle.

Misses Ruby Evans and Nina McAninch attended the Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth Saturday.

C. B. Lucas and wife and Mrs. T. R. Marshall visited in the home of Frank Cading and wife at Trent Sunday.

D. W. Ashby visited his daughter at Anson Saturday.

M. and Mrs. McCreary of Merkel visited Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Chancey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Smith of Roscoe

visited the latter's sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Foster, Saturday night and Sunday.

Grandma Harris of Anson is visiting D. W. Ashby this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Bond visited the latter's mother, Mrs. E. B. Wilburn, Sunday.

The singing at Zion Chapel Sunday night was well attended.

Scatters Brother's Ashes From Airplane

Waco, Texas, March 21.—An agreement made fifteen years ago when Lee W. Rawlings and his brother, Paul P. Rawlings, were lads together in the Methodist Orphans' Home, Waco, was fulfilled when Paul flew over Waco in an airplane and scattered the ashes of his brother.

Lee Rawlings, 27, died Sunday afternoon in Houston from a gunshot wound received four months ago, and his body was cremated in San Antonio and the ashes sent to Waco. When the two were boys in the orphanage they agreed that the body of the one who died first would be cremated and his ashes taken up in an airplane and scattered by the surviving brother. It was stipulated by Paul that this should be done in Waco.

Watch these columns for something big coming to Phillips Drug Store.

QUITE NATURALLY YOU SELECT

Nunnally's

For EASTER GREETINGS

FOR MOTHER FOR WIFE FOR SWEETHEART

We have just received a large shipment in special Easter boxes. NUNNALLY'S is also appropriate for Mother's Day.

City Drug Store

Did You Ever Stop To Think

That every cent spent in Merkel for Merkel products helps to build the town?

That every time you spend ten cents or any other amount for merchandise that can be bought at home you are holding back your own town and helping to build up another?

That if citizens of a town do not patronize their own merchants and industries there is small chance of ever attracting new citizens and new capital?

That, for instance, Abilene, Sweetwater or Big Spring people do not do their banking business in Merkel, and neither do they patronize our local merchants?

Are You Eating Merkel-Made BREAD

If so, you are helping to build Merkel. If not, you are helping to build some other town. THINK IT OVER.

Insist on Merkel Made Bread

Quality Bakery

We Appreciate Your Patronage

John Deere IMPLEMENTS

See the new John Deere Beam Hitch Planter before you buy. It is lighter in draft, heavier in construction, and longer life.

Cultivators

John Deere Two Row Cultivators are better, easier to operate, and guaranteed to give you complete satisfaction. Ask any user about John Deere Implements—they are our best salesmen.

Eclipse Lawn Mowers

are Guaranteed to give 10 years of service. Self sharpeners, ball bearings, and many other features complete the Eclipse Mowers. We also have a line of cheap Lawn Mowers at attractive prices.

Goodyear Water Hose

5 ply—50 feet \$5.00

CROWN HARDWARE CO.

Noticeable Price Features For Saturday Only

EASTER EGGS	FOR THE KIDDIES	9c
	Penny Size. Dozen	
EASTER CHICKS	FOR THE KIDDIES	20c
	Each	
SPUDS	Idaho's No. 1's. 25 Pounds. One to a Customer	.50c
	Sweet. Kiln Dried. Bushel	\$2.65
	Sweet. Kiln Dried. Pound	7c
CORN	Primrose. No. 2 Cans. Can	14c
	Clarion. No. 2 Cans. Standard Can	11c
BACON	Hormel's. Dry Salt. Nice Square Cuts. Pound	20c
	Hormel's. Breakfast. Sugar Cured Sides. Pound	28c
COFFEE	Maxwell House. Good to the Last Drop. 3 Pound Can	\$1.48
	Folgers. 2 Pound Cans. Can	\$1.05
SYRUP	Brer Rabbit. Gallon Cans	85c
	Ber Rabbit. Half Gallon Cans	45c
PEACHES	DELMONTE	21c
	No. 2 Cans. Halves or Sliced, Can	
GRAPE FRUIT	NICE FRESH TEXAS STOCK	4c
	126's Each	
ORANGES	CALIFORNIA'S	39c
	176's Dozen	

CLARENCE SAUNDERS

SOLE OWNER OF MY NAME

Phone 69 Pay Cash and Pay Less We Deliver

JOIN THE **EASTER PARADE** TO THIS STORE

See the Great Display of **NEW SPRING MERCHANDISE**

We have anticipated as never before the needs of our customers in New Spring and Easter apparel. Personal visitations to the leading markets and inspection of the latest styles and materials has enabled us to assemble the most extraordinary display of Spring Merchandise that it has ever been our pleasure to show. COATS, FROCKS, MILLINERY—all are here in great profusion—ready for the approval of the women of the Merkel trade territory. This is a bargain event extraordinary that you cannot afford to miss.

We Have Planned to Make This the Greatest Sale In the History of the

JONES DRY GOODS CO.

Commencing Saturday, March 23, Closing Saturday, March 30th



SPRING'S VERY NEWEST HATS

You will have to see the new Millinery creations to appreciate their beauty. We have on display for your approval a big stock of the new styles and colors for you to choose from—brimmed and brimless models and in every new straw. You can now make your Easter selection with the assurance that the style is correct—and all are being offered at

GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

We Save You Money In This Easter Sale

You may wonder how we can offer the choicest Spring Merchandise at Greatly Reduced Prices right at the beginning of the Easter buying season.

OUR TEN STORE BUYING POWER is the answer. Buying for ten stores we naturally bought heavily, and the savings made on our purchases we are determined to pass on to our customers.

Volume buying made necessary this great Easter Sale. We bought heavily, knowing that the unusual purchases would enable us to supply the people of this section with the needed merchandise at a considerable saving. We anticipated that purchases would be more liberal by reason of the **GREATLY REDUCED PRICES** at which we are selling because of volume purchases.

We cordially invite the people of this section to call and view our showing of Spring Merchandise—see for yourself the wide variety of selection, the excellence of the styles; and last, but not by no means least, let us tell you about the **REDUCED PRICE.**

EASTER COATS

For Every Spring Occasion



Reasonably Priced

We are showing a very remarkable collection of stunning new coat models for Spring—and the materials are such as to meet with your approval. Brilliant and subdued colors, and of course, black.

ALL ARE SPRING COATS TO BE CLOSED OUT AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

SILK DRESSES

One lot of attractive Ladies' Silk Dresses, all colors. New Spring styles, all go in this big Easter Sale at

\$5.95

SILK DRESSES

Another big Easter value; one lot in solid colors, large sizes 40 to 50, regular \$12.50 value, special for this big Easter Sale

\$7.95

MEN'S DRESS SHIRTS

Five dozen Men's Dress Shirts, values up to \$1.50, specially priced in this big Easter Sale

\$1.00

PRINTED SILKS

A beautiful assortment, and in the most appealing colors—all quality material—and greatly reduced for **OUR BIG EASTER SALE.**

WASH DRESSES

Fifty Ladies' fast colored Printed Wash Dresses, well made and excellent values, special in this Big Easter Sale

\$1.00

CHINTZ PRINTS

One lot yard wide Chintz Prints, good quality and excellent patterns, this big Easter Sale per yard

15c

MERKEL TEXAS

JONES DRY GOODS CO.

TEN STORES BUYING POWER

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

DECLAMATION CONTESTS.

Monday evening the declamation contest was held at the Merkel theatre. The winners of first place in each contest will represent Merkel schools at the Taylor county meet at Abilene on Friday, March 23.

The following program was given. Short one-act play, "Sounding Brass" Song—by the expression department
 Sub. Junior Girls' Declamations—
 1. Mollie Frank Touchstone.
 2. Clara Frances Largent.
 Sub. Junior Boys' Declamation—
 1. Truett Patterson.

Interscholastic League Contest.

Junior Girls' Declamations—

1. Nell Hughes.
2. Jessie M. Berry.
3. Thelma Patterson.
4. Margaret Miller.
5. Mary Eva Miller.
6. Jackie Slater.
7. Dot Swafford.

Junior Boys' Declamations—

1. J. W. Adcock.
2. Ben Sublett.

Reading — Clara Francis Largent

Senior Girls' Declamations—

1. Beryl Hunter.
2. Ruby Patton.
3. Wanna Spurgin.
4. Pauline Toombs.
5. Helen McCormick.
6. Bernice Lasater.
7. Lois Suber.
8. Odell Hunter.
9. Vernie Derrick.

Clown Dance — Expression Pupils

Senior Boys' Declamation—

1. Carlos Montandon.

Song — Expression Department

The judges were L. R. Thompson, A. H. Brackeen and F. C. Hughes.

Following are the results of the contest:

Sub. Junior Girls' Declamation—

1. Mollie Frank Touchstone.
2. Clara Frances Largent.

Sub. Junior oys' Declamation—

1. Truett Patterson.

Junior Girls' Declamation—

1. Nell Hughes.
2. Three tied for second place, Margaret Miller, Thelma Patterson, Jessie M. Berry.

Junior Boys' Declamation—

1. J. W. Adcock.
2. Ben Sublett.

Senior Girls' Declamation—

1. Odell Hunter.
2. Pauline Toombs.
3. Bernice Lasater.

Senior Boys'—

1. Carlos Montandon.

SAY, DIDJA' KNOW—

—That Supt. and Mrs. R. A. Burgess visited at Lubbock last week-end?

—That Merkel won the lions share of the honors last Saturday at the county meet?

—That Merkel intends to show up well next Saturday in the track and field events?

—That there are some real speakers in M. H. S. as shown in the declamation contest Monday night?

—That since there is a regular passenger route over Merkel now, we wonder if Merkel couldn't manage some way to get a landing field, even tho' it is nothing more than a few acres of an unused cotton patch?

—That this is to be one of the banner years of the M. H. S. in every way, with a large graduating class, a good annual and a large enrollment?

—That in the aforesaid declamation contest, the Juniors won two first places and one second?

are interested in growth in the school-room. The farmer considers growth when buying a pig or a cow.

"I wish," he said, "to emphasize physical growth, but also intellectual growth. Everything that you actually learn will never leave you. I learned to mount a horse and to swim when a youngster, and never shall I forget it. Learning because a part of you—learning is changing. As you learn you change the way you look at the world. Be sure you get what you get."

"How much are you changed by the pages you read? Can you look through the page and picture what you read? Do you get the thought?"

"A characteristic of change is that it takes place slowly. We cannot see one grow physically, intellectually, socially, or spiritually. There is no end to intellectual growth."

Speaking of spiritual growth he said that we must learn to appreciate high ideals, the nobler and higher things of life. "Remember," he said, "the biggest thing in life is living."

The following is an educational test prepared by an elder professor which Dean Wiggins read at the conclusion of his talk:

Has education given you a sympathy with all good causes and made you espouse them?

Has it made you public spirited? Has it made you a brother to the weak?

Have you learned to make friends and keep them?

Do you know what it is to be a friend to yourself?

Can you look an honest man or a pure woman straight in the eye?

Do you see anything to love in a little child?

Will a lonely dog follow you in the street?

Are you good for anything to yourself?

Can you be happy alone?

Can you look out over the world and see anything but dollars and cents?

Can you look into a mudpuddle by the wayside and see clear sky?

SENIOR NEWS.

It takes self confidence to get anywhere and the Seniors are getting a good start: They are now paying the two dollars for their diplomas and sincerely hoping for them to be delivered on the night of May 27. According to the way some of the report cards are showing up, there may be a few of us who will later wish that we had donated the two frogskins to the home for blind mice.

At a secret meeting several days ago, a powerful yet mysterious organization came into being in the form of the K. O. A. Club. The purpose of

DISCRIMINATION.



Every day motorists are realizing the importance of discriminating between the inferior and the best gasoline and motor oils. It is the motorist who wants us to prove our products that we like to serve. Conoco Gasoline is a product we are proud to recommend, while the oils and service sold by us is in keeping with the same high quality—and garage service, too.

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

this organization is to lift the moral standards of M. H. S. and to investigate several complaints, offered by members of the older generation, in regard to "petting" and drinking. Should it be found that these evils cannot be suppressed they shall at least be carried on according to the best laws of etiquette and in secret. This is a Gentleman's club, being composed of Senior boys only. The motto, "Good to the Last Drop and the Last Drop's Good too," was selected. The "Corn-tassel" was decided upon as the club flower, and "Red and Yellow" as the club colors.

Soon after the organization of the K. O. A. Club, the Senior girls organized the K. I. D. Club. This meeting was hardly as secret as the K. O. A. meeting and was called to order for the third time by Mrs. Young.

CARD OF THANKS.

To our neighbors and dear friends: We take this method of offering you our heartfelt thanks for every deed of kindness shown us in every way during the illness and death of our dear little boy. May the Lord repay all of you for the donations which we so badly needed at that time. May the Lord bless all of you in our prayer.

Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Beall and children.
 Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Cogburn and children.

Not a single hydro-electric plant is scheduled for completion in 1929 on the Pacific Coast, the most highly developed water power section of the country. Reason: the decreased cost of steam-generated power is turning investment toward the steam plant. What price Boulder Dam?

Attention, Men.
 Give your cook a Holiday Saturday, March 30th. Take dinner with the Methodist ladies. Lions Club Hall. Price 50c

Umpire Staff For Texas League Named

Dallas, March 21.—The complete staff of umpires for the Texas League has been signed and their contracts are in the Texas League office, it was announced here by William B. Ruggles, secretary of the loop.

Ruggles stated that the assignments for the opening games of the season would be made in a few days. The umpires held over from 1928, are: Hunter Hill, Harry Kane, M. R. Donahue, C. H. Donnelly, Tom Erwin, Cecil Griggs and George Barr. New

men are: Ziggy Sears, former Tex League outfield star, and Bus Estil who officiated in the circuit several years ago.

There are now 18,151,000 teleph stations compared with approximately 9,000,000 in 1922.

A complete stock of fresh drugs and everything in medicines. Phillips Drug Store.

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

NO OBLIGATION

"An inquiry entails no obligation" holds good in this office.

You can come in and ask us for information and advice on any insurance matter without feeling in any way committed to taking a policy.

If you need insurance, however, we will give you dependable insurance.

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

Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer

News For Housewives

We offer a Blanket and Curtain Service to our Abilene and nearby Friends that is new to Abilene. We have installed this new equipment in our New Plant and we are now ready to offer this splendid new service in a way we are sure will please. Let us have a trial and we feel sure you will be highly pleased.



Blanket Brush

To the left is a picture of our new Blanket Brush. After a Blanket is properly cleansed and dried it is then brushed which loosens up all the Nap and makes a Blanket look and feel just like it did when new. Send us a trial Blanket and we are sure you will then send us all you have for there is no other process that does the work so well.

Curtain Dryer

Below we show a picture of our new Curtain Dryer. When we receive your Curtains we measure their length and width insuring their proper size when they are returned to you. This process also returns your Curtains square with no scallops or long corners. We are sure you will be pleased with this service when you have once tried it.



Abilene Laundry Co.

Laundriers and Dry Cleaners of the Dependable Type

REPAIRS

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

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

C. S. HIGGINS GARAGE

Back of Postoffice

We are stocking a full line of FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS

in connection with our Hatchery and Seed Store.

We are handling the Square Brand seeds, a Hi-Germinating seed tested for the southwest.

GIVE US A TRIAL!

ABILENE HATCHERY & SEED STORE

318 Mesquite St.

Phone 7492

What the Gray House Hid



The Mystery of a Haunted Mansion

by Wyndham Martyn

W.N.U. SERVICE
Copyright by Wyndham Martyn

Chapter I—Hilton Hanby, prosperous New York merchant, has realized a long-cherished ambition by purchasing a country place—the Gray House, near Pine Plains. An unknown woman, who gives her name as Miss Selenos, a former tenant of the Gray House, calls at his office and warns him that the house is under a curse. Further alarming details are impressed upon Adolf Smucker, Hanby's secretary, by a man who claims to have been chauffeur for Sir Stamford Seymour, former occupant of the place.

Chapter II—The Hanbys laugh off the warnings they have received both from Miss Selenos and from Smucker's acquaintance, as some form of practical joke, but they are shocked when they hear that the caretaker whom they have put in charge of the Gray House, a man named Kerr, has been mysteriously murdered. Declining to be terrorized, however, they go out to their new home, with their two sons, Junior and Jim, and their elder daughter, Celia.

Chapter III—Appleton, a clerk of Douglas and Smith, the agents through whom Hanby bought the Gray House, explains to Pelham, that a dangerous pond near the house, in which several children have been drowned, has since been filled in, but he urges Pelham to dissuade Hanby from occupying the Gray house. Hanby and Junior learn that the caretaker was known to the police as "Red Chapin" and had a bad record. Chapin had stolen references from a man named Kerr to secure the caretaker's job. Hanby considers asking Leslie Barron, long an admirer of Celia, and a husky youth, to join the house party.

Chapter IV—Mrs. Hanby declares the house and will not be entered into giving it up Pelham as a member of the household the official title of "house detective."

"Hello!" said Hanby a few seconds later. "Yes, this is he speaking." The voice that answered seemed far away but very distinct. It was plainly that of an educated woman. "I saw you at Pine Plains this afternoon. You are interested in the murder?" "Naturally," he replied. "May I ask to whom I'm talking?" "The name would convey nothing. Besides, it would not be the true one." "Why not?" "You'll see presently. Are you still determined to live at the Gray house?" "Why not? I bought the place for that purpose."

"When you bought it, you had no idea of its history. You did not then know that it takes toll of every family inhabiting it. Happy families have gone there, but never a happy family left it."

"I am satisfied that with proper care these accidents could have been avoided."

"That's what the real estate people said when I wanted you to buy the place. They lied, naturally. All they want is their commission. Mr. Hanby, in your heart of hearts you know there is some inexplicable but dreadful curse on it."

had hair of reddish brown, and carried himself very erect. This was a pose. He was pretending to be an ex-soldier. His usual habit was to slink along furtively, like the murderer he was. Now, Mr. Hanby, you are six feet in height, and you walk as erectly as ever a West Pointer did. We did not know you had engaged a man to watch the Gray house. Red Chapin was not killed because of a vendetta. He was mistaken for you!"

"I don't believe a word of it!" Hanby said violently. "It would be safer for you and your family if you did. Next time there will be no mistake!"

"Are you threatening to kill me?" Again the musical laugh was heard. "That would be most unwise over the telephone wires, wouldn't it? No—we are warning you that it would be safer to take your family somewhere else. Why not a trip round the world? Or there are wonderful places in Long Island. You will find Pine Plains very cold in winter."

"If this is a joke, it's a rotten one!" Hanby cried angrily. "It is more a joke to me than to you," said the unseen woman. "I scarcely think your family will consider it a joke when you are found dead; but perhaps they may. One never knows. Well, this is your last warning."

At this point Hanby was cut off. He shouted for Junior, Junior, started by the unusual vigor of his father's voice, came running. "I've just had a long-distance," said his father. "It is very important that I should trace from what station it was sent. Now, Father Sherlock, do your stuff!"

"You bet!" replied Junior eagerly. "It was a woman who spoke—an educated woman with a youngish voice," continued Hanby. "I was in the library with Mr. Pelham. Let me know what happens."

Pelham looked up as his friend entered. There was something different about him now. The look of indecision was gone. "Hil, you look as if you were about to scrap with some one, and rather enjoyed the prospect."

"That's exactly how I feel," Hanby said. "Bill, it is nothing new to a five-dollar-a-day detective to hear that his client has been threatened with violent death, so you won't be shocked to learn the sad news."

"What the devil do you mean?" "Simply this—a woman with a charming voice—Junior's trying to find where she talked from—said that Red Chapin was killed because they mistook him for me. My turn, it appears, is next on the list. All will be forgiven if I take the family to Europe or buy something on Long Island." Hanby squared his shoulders. "The old subconscious mind was right—I am in danger; but now that I know it consciously, the feeling of depression has gone. Bill, your salary is now five dollars and twenty-five cents a day. You can use the extra quarter for an insurance policy. You probably won't need any more clothes. Not a word! Dina's coming."

The two men stood up as Mrs. Hanby came into the room. "I've never been so thrilled in my life!" she cried. "The impertinence of the creature, in assuming that your death would be a joke!" Hanby groaned. He saw it all. Dina had picked up the telephone upstairs in her bedroom, and had listened to the whole conversation.

"Which is it to be?" he asked. "Around the world or Long Island?" "It's going to be Pine Plains," she declared. "Hil, you didn't recognize the voice, did you?" "Never heard it before. I could only recognize that it was the voice of an educated woman, youngish and perfectly at ease."

"It was an Englishwoman's voice," Dina asserted. "I'm not sure. The inflection might have been put on to deceive. Moreover, lots of our actresses get into that way of talking. You'd surely think that throaty contralto of Elsie Ferguson's was English, if you didn't know that she was born in Manhattan."

"This woman was English," Dina said, "and I'll prove it. She didn't say, as we do, 'around the world.' She said 'round the world.' The English always do that. An American woman would say 'on Long Island.' If you recall it, she said 'in Long Island.' That's like the English. They say 'in the street' when we say 'on the street.' I'm certain it was an Englishwoman."

"Why did you say I was wanted on the long-distance?" he inquired, when the maid appeared. "The lady said, 'This is long-distance. I want Mr. Hilton Hanby.'"

When Mary had gone, Hanby turned to his wife. "The woman must have spoken some distance from the instrument, because it sounded like a long-distance. Very carefully done! Dina, do you still want to go through with it?"

"Of course I do! Do you suppose I'll have any other woman threatening my man?" Dina's eyes flashed. Pelham looked at her closely. It was a new Dina to him. It was a woman who would fight like a tigress to save the man who was dear to her.

Pelham knew that no word of his would sway the Hanbys. Standing together, as they invariably did, they were not to be deterred. "As the house detective," he said, "I realize that my clients have stumped. I only recommend that no member of this household should go up there alone. Safety in numbers! All expeditions are to be accompanied by the house detective, or he resigns. All traveling expenses incurred by the said detective must be paid for by his principals."

Celia and Leslie Barron interrupted them. Celia, at nineteen, was one of those lovely, vital children of the age, incapable of fatigue, eager for fun, gifted with much wisdom where men were concerned, and intolerant of an age where chaperonage flourished and young people went to bed early.

Leslie Barron was a silent youth. Through family influence he might some day occupy a distinguished position in his father's bank. New Haven had just lost him, but he liked college so well that he was returning for postgraduate work—which, he thought, would be less tedious than work in the elder Barron's bank. It was his aim in life to marry Celia, but of her consent he was not yet sure.

"Well, Dina darling," said Celia, putting her arm about her mother. "Why this high color and the sparkling eyes? Has dad found out that you love Bill?" "I'm fighting mad because I listened in and found your father talking to an Englishwoman with a lovely voice."

"Dad's perfectly safe," Celia retorted. "Sometimes I think we're not modern enough. I don't know a single household where the father and mother are like you two. Wandering parents, all of them. Sometimes I think mother is a sort of ingrowing vamp."

"She is," laughed Hanby. "Whenever I try to escape, she practices her devilish wiles on me. Do you think you can stand Les for a whole summer? I want him up at Pine Plains."

"You must dilute him with other boys," she retorted. "I couldn't stand having nothing but Les all that time." Celia looked at him, laughing. "See how eagerly he snaps at your invitation!"

"I accepted last week," said Les. "As soon as Junior knew about this new house, I've made plans for a golf course already."

"Who was the lady with the lovely voice?" Celia asked. She knew that she had interrupted an unusual conversation. "I'm not going to give myself away before your mother and all these witnesses. Go away and dance. We will join you presently."

When she had gone, Hanby turned to Pelham. "Dina and I don't want Celia and the others to know. Junior is different. We shan't be going for a month, and things may have explained themselves by then."

"I hope not," said Bill Pelham. "I want to earn my money." (Continued Next Week.)

Salt Branch News

Seven B. Y. P. U. members of Salt Branch were present at the B. Y. P. U. District No. 1 meeting at Abilene. They were: Austin Robertson, Austin Petty, and Misses Martha Brooks, Pauline and Marcella Pinkley, Bramell Armstrong and Gladys Petty.

Mrs. Hogg has returned to Mrs. Houston Robertson's from a visit on the plains.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Hays were recent visitors to Denton.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Petty and family, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Robertson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Houston Robertson and son, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Engraham, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Baker and children, Mr. and Mrs. Elsie Boland, and children were the recent guests of Mr. and Ms. Hobson Robertson and family. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Painer and two sons, Arel and Norvel, and Miss Hancock of Floydada, were guests at the same time.

Garrett Pinckley was a recent visitor with her sister, Marie, in Denton.

Miss Braunell Armstrong was the guest of Miss Gladys Petty.

Horrance Armstrong was a recent guest of Glen Robertson.

Billie Brackenridge entertained a number of his friends with a party recently.

Mrs. W. E. Petty, Mrs. W. M. Hays and Mrs. J. S. Pinckley were the recent guests of Mrs. J. O. Armstrong.

Ladies. Watch for the Methodist ladies cap and apron sale and 50c dinner March 30th Saturday. Take a rest and bring the family out to dine with us.

NOTICE. I have purchased the Riddle Garage and Wrecking Shop; have lots of good used parts; located four blocks south, one east from east railroad crossing.

O. F. FOX. Our Cash Coupons pay you interest on the money you spend with us. Sears Variety Store.

Watch these columns for something big coming to Phillips Drug Store.

Have your prescriptions filled at Phillips Drug Store. Registered pharmacists.

Methodist Church. Our teacher-training class last week went over fine, ten taking the examination. Fine day last Sunday. You will enjoy the happy association and the helpful services at the Methodist church. Sermon subject for next Sunday morning: "What Doest Thou Heer, Elijah." Come and worship with us. T. C. Willett, Pastor.

Missionary Society Program. Following is the program for the Woman's Missionary society of the Methodist church March 25. Music; hymn; Bible lesson, by Mrs. C. B. Smith; prayer, by Mrs. Richards; some missionary points, by Mrs. B. L. Hamilton; solo, by Miss Sallie Brown; harmonica solo, by Mrs. Chas. Russell; duet, by Mrs. Bob Martin and Mrs. Pee; business meeting.



Cut Flowers Potted Plants Designs

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"Dad's Perfectly Safe," Celia Retorted. devilish wiles on me. Do you think you can stand Les for a whole summer? I want him up at Pine Plains."

"I'm not going to give myself away before your mother and all these witnesses. Go away and dance. We will join you presently."

BONELESS ROCK FISH

Every Saturday 25c per Pound R. A. Tarbutton

AVERY FARM IMPLEMENTS

Better equipment means better crops

The farmer of today who would succeed must look to the quality as well as the quantity of the crops he raises. Good implements mean good crops and large crops.

The Avery line of farm equipment is made by a house with over 100 years of building America's finest implements. See these splendid tools today.

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO. Merkel, Texas

NOTICE

Since moving to Abilene, I take this method of announcing to my friends that I have formed a partnership business with Mr. V. W. Young, succeeding the firm name of CASEY & YOUNG, Real Estate, Fire Insurance and Farm, Ranch and City Loans.

We can make you loans on farm and ranch property at the rate of 6% to 8%. We have a few cash buyers for tracts of land, ranging from 160 to 640 acres, located within 15 or 20 miles of Abilene.

For further information, call, write or phone us at our expense.

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505 Alexander Bldg. P. O. Box 343 Abilene, Texas V. W. YOUNG H. L. PROPST

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Used Cars with an O. K. That Counts

CHEVROLETS
 1926 Roadster, new top new paint, a good serviceable car \$235.00
 1927 Roadster, good condition \$250.00
 1925 Chevrolet touring, reconditioned, \$165.00
 1928 Chevrolet truck and cab and body \$400.00

FORDS
 1926 Ford Roadster, a good one \$165.00
 1924 Ford Tourings \$35.00 to \$100.00
 1925 Roadster, a pickup, \$75.00

MISCELLANEOUS
 1926 Dodge coupe, reconditioned, \$325.00
 1924 Dodge touring, reconditioned, \$175.00

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.

"Home of Better Used Cars"

FOR SALE—Second year Kasch and Qualla cotton seed; \$1.50 per bushel. J. D. Sandusky. See samples at South Side Gin.

QUALLA SEED FOR SALE—Second season; \$1.50 per bushel. J. J. Pribble. Merkel, Texas, Route 3.

FOR SALE—Pure Red top cane Seed. Blue Front Service Station.

FOR SALE—Windmill and tower in good shape. Apply Asa Sheppard, at Barrow Furniture Co.

FOR SALE—Heavy Bright Red Maize. \$20.00 per ton at my farm, 3 miles East Merkel on Hi Way. J. T. Warren.

FOR SALE—R C A radio; 7 tube, all electric. Claude Dye.

FOR SALE—120 egg electric incubator at a bargain. Herbert Patterson

FOR SALE—Dark Cornish game eggs. See Robert Hicks.

MULE FOR SALE—Also maize heads and good bundle stuff. A. W. Hunter, 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 9036F13 Anson, Texas.

FOR SALE—Good used Ford cars. Blue Front Service Station.

FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red Eggs for setting, Owens farm strain, 75 cents per setting. Bill Harwell Merkel, Route 1.

FOR SALE—Single comb, blood-tested, Rhode Island Reds, 75 cents per setting. Mrs. W. A. Campbell, Route 5.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—New 4-room house, bath and all conveniences, \$30. Booth Warren.

FOR RENT—Four room house, close in. S. F. Haynes.

FOR RENT—Grayson Tourist Camp, one mile west of town. S. L. Grayson.

BLAIR HOTEL—Room and board \$10.50 per week. Also furnished rooms.

WANTED

WANTED—Team for its feed; horses or mules; will keep till fall. Phone 9043 F 23.

WANTED—A girl for general house work in small family. Telephone 164W or see Mrs. Len Sublett.

WANTED—Furnished apartment two or three rooms, modern and reasonable. Box 37, Merkel.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Parker fountain pen. Lynn McSpadden Phone 115.

LOST—Double String of pearls at Stith, (at track meet) Wednesday. Finder please leave at Merkel Mail office and receive reward. Mrs. Homer McLeod.

Personal Mention

Miss Vera Baker visited last week-end in Abilene.

F. H. Buckels of Baird spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Dunning.

Miss Martha Bird of Graham was the guest of her parents last week-end.

Mrs. J. J. Hutchison is visiting her daughter, Mrs. William McCorkille, in Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Largent returned Sunday from the Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth.

Mrs. Amy Sears and daughters, Misses Mary Eula and Boog, spent last week in Dallas.

Miss Pauline Dunning of Roscoe spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Dunning.

Mrs. George Caple and Mrs. H. A. Brubeck were visitors with Ft. worth and Dallas friends last week-end.

Miss Lola Dennis of Simmons University spent last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis.

C. E. Ogle of the Phillips Drug Store was in Dallas this week attending the state convention of Rexall dealers.

Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Dowell and daughter, Miss Ally and Miss Gladys Middleton were Fat Stock Show visitors last week-end.

Mrs. S. P. Martin left Monday for Lockney to visit a sister and brother, the latter of whom she had not seen in 34 years.

Mrs. J. L. Pollard and Miss Fannie McConnell, who have been visiting their brother J. W. McConnell and family, for the past two months, have returned to their home in Princeton, Ky. They were accompanied as far as Baird by F. H. Buckles.

Miss Mary Parrack, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Ira L. Parrack of the local Baptist church, has completed the work for the A. B. degree from Simmons University of Abilene and is home enjoying a few days' rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Golladay and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson and little daughter, Mary Faye, were Fat Stock Show visitors last week. Mr. Johnson remained in Fort Worth where he will be a student at the Burton Barber College.

Revival Meeting at the Nazarene Church

The revival meeting at the Nazarene church began last night. The workers for the meeting are known as the Edward Quartette. This band is composed of musicians, singers and evangelists. Sister Edwards is the leading Evangelist, Sister Lewis is a trained children's worker and will have charge of that part of the work. All of the band are trained musicians and singers. They are of national reputation and come to us highly recommended.

If you fail to hear this band you are missing something worth while.

Services each night 7:30. Day services to be announced later.

Leona Forbes, Pastor.

Nursery Training For Scouts.

R. L. Caskey, boy scout manager at Guymon, is planning to secure a plot of ground to be used as a nursery for shade trees, with the boy scouts to be drilled in the care of the plants. He will help with the seeding and care of ground around the courthouse.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upon solicitation of his friends H. C. WEST has consented to his candidacy for re-election as Mayor of the City of Merkel, April 2, 1929, and the Merkel Mail has been authorized to make formal announcement of such.

The friends of J. P. SHARP announce him as candidate for Mayor of Merkel at the ensuing city election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

The Merkel Mail is authorized by the friends of W. O. BONEY to announce his candidacy for alderman in the city election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

Friends of A. T. SHEPPARD have authorized the announcement of his candidacy for re-election as alderman in the election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

Friends have authorized the Merkel Mail to announce B. T. SUBLETT as a candidate for alderman in the ensuing city election to be held on April 2.

At the solicitation of friends, MISS PAULINE JOHNSON has consented to allow the use of her name for re-election as City Secretary and Tax Collector ex-officio, and her friends make this announcement.

Rev. J. Perry King Will Preach Sunday at Baptist Church

Rev. J. Perry King of Abilene will supply the pulpit at the local Baptist church both hours Sunday.

Reverend King is one our best preachers, and always brings a message worth while. Those who heard him when he was here before will not need to be urged to hear him again. Others will do well to avail themselves of the opportunity to hear him.

All other services as usual. W. J. Largent will be back in charge of the Sunday school and wishes to see a full attendance in every department.

The public is generally invited to hear our visiting preacher Sunday. A cordial welcome awaits all who come. Strangers, visitors or people without a church home in Merkel are urged to come and worship with us.

Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

STUDIO RECITAL.

Voice and piano pupils of Miss Christine Collins participated in a recital on Friday afternoon of last week and at the culmination of the program plans were formulated whereby the affair might be made a monthly tea and at the same time organize a Study club. Members of the new club are Doris Brown, Hazel Leslie, Ima Gene Mangum, Lola Shelton, Venice Bell, Nina Montandon, Christine and Irene Rister, Mrs. Homer Patterson, Pauline and Bertie Maye Leslie, Billie Bernice Gamble, Vincent Barnett, Rachael Patterson, Baylor Anson and Ralph Duke. Refreshments were served to the members.

Every week is thrift week at our store. Cash Coupons are money saved. Sears Variety Store.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

ANNOUNCING

Our New Washing, Greasing and Duco Service

We have just installed a new Wash Rack and are now prepared to give our customers and the general public **FIRST CLASS WASHING, GREASING AND DUCO SERVICE.**

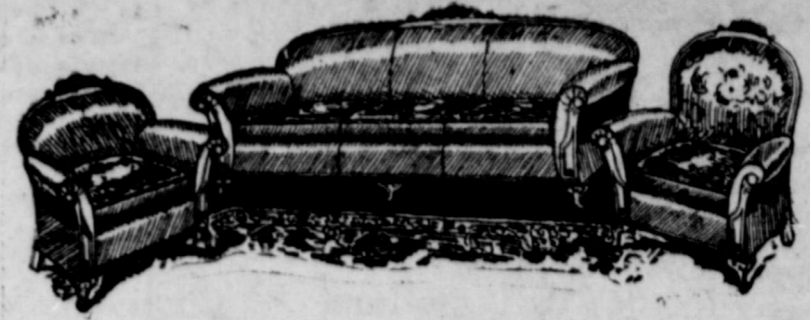
We will appreciate a part of your patronage in the above service as well as any other attention that your car may require.

We will strive to give the best of service at all times. When in need call

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION

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Ben F. Bird, Retail Agent



ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS

Are you proud of your home with its furnishings of comfort and beauty when friends drop in for a social visit?

OR

Do you hesitate to entertain because you are ashamed of your old, out-of-style, shabby furniture?

O

Does your son or daughter bring friends into your home because it is a gay and cheerful place to spend the evenings?

OR

Do they spend the evenings out driving, meet their friends downtown, or go to some other home because they are ashamed of the appearance of their own home

Think This Over!

You can furnish your entire home in keeping with present day styles and decorative ideas at a very nominal cost here.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

Merkel, Texas Funeral Directors and Embalmers

PERFORMANCE Is the True Test

MODEL A FORD IN GOOD CONDITION AFTER RUNNING 105,000 MILES—GOOD FOR ANOTHER 100,000

(Copy)

HUBB DIGGS COMPANY
 Fort Worth, Texas

February 2, 1929.

Ford Motor Co.,
 Dallas,
 Texas

Attention: Mr. W. C. Proctor

Gentlemen:

We are mailing you today under separate cover, photograph of the Montgomery-Ward car which they are using for testing Riverside Tires. At the time this picture was taken, the car had been 105,000 miles and is still in the best of running condition and appears to be good for more than another 100,000 miles. The morning the picture was made, we washed the car for the first time since delivery; to look at it, drive it and hear the motor run, you would think it had been no more than 15,000 miles.

It was purchased in Mansfield, Ohio, during May, 1928. The driver states that he is using on an average of about two quarts of oil each 500 miles, the car being driven 500 miles each day. It is driven 250 miles during the daytime by one driver and the same distance at night by another. They are using the second battery; however, the Manager of these test-cars states that the switch was left on over night, which he thinks is possibly the reason for having to purchase a new battery. They are changing oil every 1,000 miles; the same fan belt is being used and doesn't look worn. They are giving the car a general greasing every 1750 miles and up to the first 100,000 miles had spent a little less than \$150 on repairs, etc. The rear axle has never been down; they have used two sets of brake-linings, one set of pistons and rings, replaced clutch once, and have only used one extra hose connection.

The original speedometer was replaced by us yesterday, as it had registered 109,450 miles. It reset correctly at the end of the 100,000 miles but later began to skip or lose from twenty to twenty-five miles each day. The car has been driven at an average speed of forty miles an hour. The wheels are still tight and running true, and bearings have never been replaced. We have been unable to secure information as to how many miles the tires have been averaging.

We have permission from the Riverside Tire Company to use the picture and also the above information as an advertising feature, if so desired.

Yours very truly,
 HUBB DIGGS COMPANY
 By: D. V. Brooks, Manager.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 40—NO. 51

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1929.

On the "Broadway of America"

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PETITION FOR SCHOOL BOND ELECTION

New Hotel Building is to Be Six Stories

ANOTHER FLOOR WILL BE ADDED FOR MORE ROOM

Builders Vision Necessity For Additional Space Since Hospital is to Occupy Top Floor; Soon to Start Construction.

The new Merkel Hotel will be six stories high.

This decision was reached Wednesday at a conference between F. R. Young, architect, and the local hotel committee, with the approval of Mrs. Elva Harrington, maker of the offer to build.

Plans for the sixth story have been under consideration since Drs. Grimes and Sadler agreed to lease the top floor for their sanitarium. It was the opinion of Mr. Young, Mrs. Harrington and the local committee, of which R. O. Anderson is chairman, that five stories, with the sanitarium occupying the fifth floor, would not leave sufficient hotel room.

SIXTH FLOOR FOR HOSPITAL.
Mrs. Harrington and her associates, in order to overcome this obstacle, decided to add the sixth story for the use of Drs. Grimes and Sadler, thus providing the use of the fifth floor for hotel purposes and the addition of several guest rooms.

The proposal at once met with the approval of the local hotel committee, and it will cost to build a six-story structure instead of five, and without additional cost. All that is asked of the city is the \$12,500 bonus, as proposed under the original plan to build a four-story structure.

LIGHT CHANGES NECESSARY.
It was learned from Mr. Young and R. Showalter, attorney, who conferred with the local committee this week, that the apparent delay had been caused by the decision to add the sixth story, necessitating some changes in the original plans and incurring considerable additional expense.

According to Mr. Young, actual construction should begin in about thirty days, and he estimates that it will require from five to six months to have the building ready for occupancy. Work will start, he said, as soon as material can be assembled after the local hotel committee has completed the raising of the bonus fund, of which only \$1500 is lacking.

Eggs and Poultry Boost For Merkel

From March 5 to 25, a period of twenty days, the Merkel Produce Co. handled a total of 467 cases of eggs—14,010 dozen—or 168,000 eggs, according to S. O. Nations, manager.
Total cost of eggs and poultry bought by this firm alone during the same twenty-day period amounted to \$5,775.01.

Local Men Plan to Attend Presbytery

The next meeting of Abilene Presbytery will be held at Anson Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 9, 10 and 11. James H. West and Rev. R. A. Walker of the local church will attend the sessions and perhaps others will go. Mr. West is on the first day's program for an address, his subject being, "Value of a Layman's Organization to the Local Church."

Easter Program at Methodist Church, 9:45 Sunday Morning

Opening song, 105; scripture, Mrs. Richards; welcome address, Justin D. Sandusky; Welcome Easter Day, Billy Geo. Gant; piano solo, Mary Grace Dunn; Easter Lilies, Clara J. Cox; song; reading, Nell Hughes; dialogue, two girls; song; reading, W. M. Taylor; special reading, Baraccas; reading, Truett Patterson.

MAYOR AND TWO ALDERMEN TO BE CHOSEN TUESDAY

Everything is in readiness for the city election to be held in Merkel next Tuesday, at which time city officers for the ensuing two years are to be chosen. Polls will open at the city hall at 8 a. m. and close at 6 p. m.

Voters will express their choice for mayor between two candidates—H. C. West, present incumbent, and J. P. Sharp. Two aldermen are to be elected, with four candidates in the field—A. T. Sheppard, asking re-election, and W. O. Boney, B. T. Sublett and Brooks Patterson. There is one vacancy, H. L. Propst having resigned several weeks ago on account of moving to Abilene. Miss Pauline Johnson has no opposition for city secretary and tax collector ex-officio.

Unless there are some last minute entries, the ballot for Tuesday's voting will be as follows:

For Mayor—H. C. West, J. P. Sharp.

For Aldermen—W. O. Boney, A. T. Sheppard, B. T. Sublett, Brooks Patterson.

For City Secretary and Tax Collector ex-officio—Miss Pauline Johnson.

Accident Followed By Pneumonia Causes Death of Stith Boy

Accidental injuries sustained while at play on the Stith school grounds a week previous, followed by the development of pneumonia, resulted in the death early Monday morning of Howard Jones, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Jones of Stith.

Funeral services were held at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon, burial being in the Merkel cemetery, with Rev. R. H. Williams in charge.

The youth is survived by his father and mother, one brother, Burton Lee, and two sisters, Zelma and Ira Bell; also his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Jones of Stith and Mr. and Mrs. F. Jeffrey of Golden.

Wesley Brotherhood Hears McMurry Dean

The Wesley Brotherhood met at the Methodist church Tuesday night, with an address by Dean McCowan of McMurry College as the feature of the program. The address dealt with brotherhood work, and proved of great interest to every member present.

In addition to Dean McCowan, three other visitors from Abilene were present. Round table discussion of Brotherhood affairs was followed by the serving of sandwiches. Bishop Hunter, president of the Brotherhood, presided.

Mrs. Wood Recovering.

Mrs. G. F. Wood, who underwent a serious operation several weeks ago at the Scott and White sanitarium in Temple, was able to go to the home of her mother in Abilene last Sunday. She is recuperating nicely, and it is expected that she will be able to return to her home in Merkel in the next two weeks.

Rev. Parrack to Speak.

Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the Baptist church, will attend the Sunday school and B. Y. P. U. convention of district No. 13, which meets at Cisco April 2 and 3. Rev. Parrack is on the program for an address the first day. It is expected that several members of the local Baptist church will attend.

Aged Resident Dies.

James B. Raynes, 75, a resident of Taylor county for 27 years, died at his home in Abilene Monday. Funeral services were held at Abilene Tuesday, burial being in the Cedar Hill cemetery.

Besides his wife, four sons and two daughters survive.

FARMERS INVITED TO FREE AUCTION SALE IN MERKEL

Urged to Bring Anything They Have For Sale to Merkel on April 8 to be Auctioned Off Without Cost.

Beginning the second Monday of next month, April 8, business firms of Merkel will sponsor a trades day on the second Monday of each month, at which time the farmers of this section are urged to bring to Merkel anything they may have to sell, such as livestock, farm products or implements.

A free auction is to be the feature of the trades days. Such articles as the farmers bring to town on trades day will be auctioned off without cost to the farmer. Arrangements have been made with Col. Joe Seale and Col. W. F. Casey, both of Lubbock and widely known in West Texas as auctioneers, to have charge of this part of the program. F. C. Hale of Trent, also well known as an auctioneer, has volunteered to assist in the Merkel programs.

Messrs. Seale and Casey have directed a number of similar trades days and auction sales at various points in West Texas, all with great success. It has the effect of bringing buyer and seller together and in all cases both are benefited. According to Col. Casey in numbers of places where he has held similar free auction sales, the value of the livestock and goods changing hands amounted to several thousand dollars.

Farmers of this section are urged to take advantage of the free auction sales in Merkel, the first of which will be on April 8. Anything that they have for sale will be disposed of on that date, and every effort will be made to obtain its full worth.

Noodle Girl Hurt Playing Basketball

Aletha Foster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Foster of Noodle, was able to leave the hospital in Merkel this week after being treated for several days for a compound fracture of the left arm. She was injured in a basketball game at Hamlin some time ago, and it was necessary to open the arm and scrape the bone. It looked for a time like the arm might have to be amputated, but she is now reported as well on the road to complete recovery.

Mission Society Meets Presbyterian Church Next Monday

The program for the Presbyterian Ladies' Missionary society, which meets Monday, April 1, at 3 p. m. at the church, is as follows:
Song—"Help Somebody Today."
Devotional—Led by Mrs. Etta Tucker.

"Where Background Counts"—Mrs. R. A. Walker.

"The Source of Christian Leadership"—Mrs. S. G. Russell.

A Unique Mission Study Class—Mrs. T. M. Smith.

A Negro Woman in Her Church—Miss Mary Keny.

Business meeting.

Closing prayer.

Abilene Teacher Dead.

Mrs. Myra Cooper, 28, teacher in the College Heights school at Abilene, died suddenly at her home Sunday, death being attributed to heart failure. The body was shipped to Linden, her old home, for burial.

Buffalo Gap Man Dead.

Following an illness of three months, Thomas J. Watson, 67, resident of the Buffalo Gap community for 21 years, died at his home Tuesday morning. Funeral services were held at the home Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. Mr. Dowell officiating.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Roofs were caved in and all vegetation leveled by a severe hail storm near Lufkin.

John W. Clark, 78, teacher in Texas for 50 years, died last week at his home in Georgetown.

A sixteen-story hotel, containing 682 rooms, is to be built by Bluebonnet Hotels, Inc., at Dallas.

Burglars entered a Big Spring store and got away with merchandise valued at between \$600 and \$700.

Fred A. Brock Jr., 4-year-old Dallas boy, was killed when hit by a truck in front of his home Tuesday afternoon.

A pistol under the seat of his auto exploded and killed W. F. Williams, superintendent of icing docks at Crystal City.

S. A. Braswell died this week at Galveston from a broken neck sustained last August while playing on Galveston beach.

James Warbritton, 20, student at the Pythian Home near Weatherford, was instantly killed when his neck was broken in a fall while hurdlung.

Five near Ranger consumed tank car shops, two carloads of natural gasoline and several empty tank cars. The damage is estimated at \$100,000.

Edward A. Newman, 44, hotel man and alderman of Seymour, died suddenly at Waxahachie, where he had gone to attend a family reunion.

Sandy McDonald and Mrs. Billie Porch lost their lives in a fire which destroyed the Orient hotel at San Angelo early Tuesday morning.

Mrs. David L. Hollis, 31, and Mrs. G. W. Cheving, 30, both of Amarillo, were killed when a Santa Fe passenger train struck their automobile.

An unidentified man was burned to death, and a woman also unidentified, was seriously burned in a fire which destroyed the Orient hotel at San Angelo.

Plans have been completed for a new city lake at Hamlin, to hold sufficient water to supply a city of 25,000 people. Work is to start in the next few days.

Loys Wilson is on trial at Tyler on charges of shooting to death Rev. Fount Wallace, Troup Baptist minister. The unwritten law is indicated as a part of the defense.

Edward J. Wall has resigned as manager of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce and will return to Chicago to manage the real estate department for a large motion picture company.

Charles Fahrenkamp of New York was attacked as he prepared to enter his room at a Fort Worth hotel, bound and gagged and robbed of \$750 in cash, a diamond ring valued at \$1,300, and a diamond stick pin.

School Enumerator Asks Help Parents

In order that every child of school age in Merkel may be listed, request is made to phone 167 or 174 if the enumerator has missed your home or children. Also if a blank has been left by the enumerator, the request is made that it be filled out and sent to the superintendent.

Infant Buried Here.

Rennie Marguerite, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Keifer, died at Big Spring last week and the body was shipped to Merkel and buried in the local cemetery Saturday. W. G. Cybert of the Church of Christ was officiating minister. Mrs. Keifer was formerly Miss Rennie Burns of Merkel. The infant lived 17 days.

T. & P. Men Favor Strike.

Dallas, March 28.—More than 4,000 trainmen of the Texas & Pacific railroad voted to go on strike because of refusal of the company to meet their demands, Brotherhood officials announced on completion of the count of the strike ballot taken among employees.

URGENT REPAIRS AT GRAMMAR SCHOOL TO COST TOTAL \$16,000

Board Members Point Out That Building is in Bad State of Repair; Contemplated Improvements Call for Complete Remodeling; New Roof, New Sewerage and Modern Heating System.

Petitions are being circulated, with the required number of signatures already attached, asking the school board to call an election for the near future, at which the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$16,000 for improvements to the Grammar school building will be the issue.

O. J. Adcock, president of the school board; R. A. Burgess, superintendent, and Mrs. Len Sublett, principal of the Grammar school, appeared before the Lions club at the Tuesday luncheon an acquainted the members with the deplorable conditions of the Grammar school building and the necessity for immediate repairs.

Mr. Burgess, urging the need for relief, said that in the Grammar school building there were about 500 pupils, with 14 teachers, all of whom were suffering from poor heating facilities, leaky roofs and a general run-down condition of the Grammar school building.

REMODELING IS NECESSARY.

Contemplated and necessary improvements were outlined by Mr. Burgess, Mr. Adcock and Mrs. Sublett, which embrace a practical remodeling of the entire interior. Mr. Burgess explained that the building was erected 13 years ago and that practically no work had been done on it since that time. He said 17 stoves were in use at the present time, which were both costly to operate as well as unsatisfactory from the standpoint of health; that the sewerage system was antiquated and unsanitary, and the roof was in a bad state of repair. In the opinion of the board, it was necessary both in the interest of economy and in safeguarding the health of the children, to make the building modern in every respect, and architect's figures indicated that this could be done for \$16,000.

"Something must be done about the Grammar school building before the opening of another school term begins," Mr. Adcock declared, "and the only solution, in the opinion of the board, is to vote the \$16,000 bond issue as proposed."

Mrs. Sublett told of the inconveniences suffered by the children and teachers and voiced the hope that the citizens of Merkel would see the necessity of providing comfortable quarters for the Grammar school children.

ELECTION AT EARLY DATE.

The signatures of twenty property tax paying citizens are required on the petition to the school board calling for the bond election. Considerably more than this number has already been secured. It is probable that the school board will meet in the next few days, receive the petitions and order the vote, which will be within 30 days from the time the board meets and orders the election.

The school board has an itemized list of the contemplated improvements, together with the cost of each, making a total of \$16,000. The items of greatest importance are the heating system, sewerage improvements and an entirely new roof. It is also planned to improve the auditorium and increase the seating capacity.

BUILDING CAN BE SAVED.

According to members of the school board, the building can now be made modern with comparatively small outlay, while to delay the improvements means a sacrifice of the health of the children and costly as well. They point out that the walls are now in good shape, but delay in making the necessary repairs will mean a complete new Grammar school building in the not distant future.

Several members of the Lions club spoke in favor of the proposed bond issue.

(Continued on Page 10.)

TOTAL RAINFALL FOR MONTH 2.63

Rainfall in Merkel Wednesday and Wednesday night totaled .37, according to the measurements of B. M. Black, voluntary weather observer, bringing the total for the month of March to 2.63.

Farmers in all sections of the county declare that the seasonizing this spring is the best this section has known in years. Plowing is far advanced, and there is a general spirit of optimism throughout this section as each succeeding rain brings prospects for a bumper crop in 1929.

GOOD SHOWING IN MIDSUN OIL TEST

Midsun Oil Corporation, No. 1 Hoehn, west central Jones county oil test, picked up a show of free oil Sunday night at 2,886 feet. Three barrels full of crude oil were taken from the hole. A pipe will be run to the bottom of the hole to thoroughly test the producing formation.

A new location has been made by Phillips Petroleum Co. for a well half way between Noodle Creek and the Campbell well.

Phillips Petroleum Co., Windham No. 2 in the Noodle Creek area, will drill in during the next few days.

B. Y. P. U. Association Meets With Merkel Church Next Sunday

The Sweetwater Baptist Association of B. Y. P. U. will convene with the Merkel Baptist church next Sunday, beginning at 2 p. m., with the following program:

2:00 P. M.—Devotional.—Clarence Wood, Simmons University.

2:10 P. M.—Election of Associational President and Secretary.

2:15 P. M.—Special Music.—First Baptist church, Sweetwater.

2:20 P. M.—Our Associational B. Y. P. U., Its purpose and How to Make it Go.—Fred McPherson, Abilene.

2:35 P. M.—Special Music.—First Baptist Quartet, Abilene.

2:40 P. M.—Intermediate and Junior Sword-drill Contest Between Districts One and Two. (a) Intermediate Sword-drill (10 minutes), Conducted by Mrs. Yates Brown of Merkel. (b) Junior Sword-drill (10 minutes), Conducted by Mrs. E. K. Daugherty, Sweetwater.

3:00 P. M.—Business Session. (a) "All A-board for District Meeting at Cisco, April 2-3, 1929."—M. B. Sasse, Sweetwater. (b) Report of District Presidents and Secretaries. (c) Miscellaneous Business. Offering and Banners, etc.

Occupy New Home.

Bishop Hunter and family are now occupying their modern new home erected in South Merkel. It consists of five rooms and presents a most attractive appearance. It was built by T. H. Douglas.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Used Cars with an O. K. That Counts

CHEVROLETS
 1926 Roadster, new top new paint, a good serviceable car\$235.00
 1927 Roadster, good condition \$250.00
 1925 Chevrolet touring, reconditioned,\$165.00
 1928 Chevrolet truck and cab and body\$400.00

FORDS
 1926 Ford Roadster, a good one\$165.00
 1924 Ford Tourings \$35.00 to \$100.00
 1925 Roadster, a pickup,\$75.00

MISCELLANEOUS
 1926 Dodge coupe, reconditioned,\$325.00
 1924 Dodge touring, reconditioned,\$175.00

BRACKEEN-HUGHES CHEVROLET CO.

"Home of Better Used Cars"

FOR SALE—Second year Kasch and Qualla cotton seed; \$1.50 per bushel. J. D. Sandusky. See samples at South Side Gin.

QUALLA SEED FOR SALE—Second season; \$1.50 per bushel. J. J. Pribble. Merkel, Texas, Route 3.

FOR SALE—Pure Red top cane Seed. Blue Front Service Station.

FOR SALE—Windmill and tower in good shape. Apply Asa Sheppard, at Barrow Furniture Co.

FOR SALE—Heavy Bright Red Maize. \$20.00 per ton at my farm, 3 miles East Merkel on Hi Way. J. T. Warren.

FOR SALE—R C A radio; 7 tube, all electric. Claude Dye.

FOR SALE—120 egg electric incubator at a bargain. Herbert Patterson

FOR SALE—Dark Cornish game eggs. See Robert Hicks.

MULE FOR SALE—Also maize heads and good bundle stuff. A. W. Hunter, 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 9036F13 Anson, Texas.

FOR SALE—Good used Ford cars. Blue Front Service Station.

FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red Eggs for setting, Owens farm strain, 75 cents per setting. Bill Harwell Merkel, Route 1.

FOR SALE—Single comb, blood-tested, Rhode Island Reds, 75 cents per setting. Mrs. W. A. Campbell, Route 5.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—New 4-room house, bath and all conveniences, \$30. Booth Warren.

FOR RENT—Four room house, close in. S. F. Haynes.

FOR RENT—Grayson Tourist Camp, one mile west of town. S. L. Grayson.

BLAIR HOTEL—Room and board \$10.50 per week. Also furnished rooms.

WANTED

WANTED—Team for its feed; horses or mules; will keep till fall. Phone 9043 F 23.

WANTED—A girl for general house work in small family. Telephone 164W or see Mrs. Len Sublett.

WANTED—Furnished apartment two or three rooms, modern and reasonable. Box 37, Merkel.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Parker fountain pen. Lynn McSpadden Phone 115.

LOST—Double String of pearls at Stith, (at track meet) Wednesday. Finder please leave at Merkel Mail office and receive reward. Mrs. Homer McLeod.

Personal Mention

Miss Vera Baker visited last week-end in Abilene.

F. H. Buckels of Baird spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Dunning.

Miss Martha Bird of Graham was the guest of her parents last week-end. Mrs. J. J. Hutchison is visiting her daughter, Mrs. William McCorkille, in Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Largent returned Sunday from the Fat Stock Show at Fort Worth.

Mrs. Amy Sears and daughters, Misses Mary Eula and Boog, spent last week in Dallas.

Miss Pauline Dunning of Roscoe spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Dunning.

Mrs. George Caple and Mrs. H. A. Brubeck were visitors with Ft. Worth and Dallas friends last week-end.

Miss Lola Dennis of Simmons University spent last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis.

C. E. Ogle of the Phillips Drug Store was in Dallas this week attending the state convention of Rexall dealers.

Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Dowell and daughter, Miss Ally and Miss Gladys Middleton were Fat Stock Show visitors last week-end.

Mrs. S. P. Martin left Monday for Lockney to visit a sister and brother, the latter of whom she had not seen in 34 years.

Mrs. J. L. Pollard and Miss Fannie McConnell, who have been visiting their brother J. W. McConnell and family, for the past two months, have returned to their home in Princeton, Ky. They were accompanied as far as Baird by F. H. Buckles.

Miss Mary Parrack, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Ira L. Parrack of the local Baptist church, has completed the work for the A. B. degree from Simmons University of Abilene and is home enjoying a few days' rest.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Golladay and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson and little daughter, Mary Faye, were Fat Stock Show visitors last week. Mr. Johnson remained in Fort Worth where he will be a student at the Burton Barber College.

Revival Meeting at the Nazarene Church

The revival meeting at the Nazarene church began last night. The workers for the meeting are known as the Edward Quartette. This band is composed of musicians, singers and evangelists. Sister Edwards is the leading Evangelist, Sister Lewis is a trained children's worker and will have charge of that part of the work. All of the band are trained musicians and singers. They are of national reputation and come to us highly recommended.

If you fail to hear this band you are missing something worth while. Services each night 7:30. Day services to be announced later.

Leona Forbes, Pastor.

Nursery Training For Scouts.

R. L. Caskey, boy scout manager at Guymon, is planning to secure a plot of ground to be used as a nursery for shade trees, with the boy scouts to be drilled in the care of the plants. He will help with the seeding and care of ground around the courthouse.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upon solicitation of his friends H. C. WEST has consented to his candidacy for re-election as Mayor of the City of Merkel, April 2, 1929, and the Merkel Mail has been authorized to make formal announcement of such.

The friends of J. P. SHARP announce him as candidate for Mayor of Merkel at the ensuing city election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

The Merkel Mail is authorized by the friends of W. O. BONEY to announce his candidacy for alderman in the city election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

Friends of A. T. SHEPPARD have authorized the announcement of his candidacy for re-election as alderman in the election to be held Tuesday, April 2, 1929.

Friends have authorized the Merkel Mail to announce B. T. SUBLETT as a candidate for alderman in the ensuing city election to be held on April 2.

At the solicitation of friends, MISS PAULINE JOHNSON has consented to allow the use of her name for re-election as City Secretary and Tax Collector ex-officio, and her friends make this announcement.

Rev. J. Perry King Will Preach Sunday at Baptist Church

Rev. J. Perry King of Abilene will supply the pulpit at the local Baptist church both hours Sunday.

Reverend King is one our best preachers, and always brings a message worth while. Those who heard him when he was here before will not need to be urged to hear him again. Others will do well to avail themselves of the opportunity to hear him.

All other services as usual. W. J. Largent will be back in charge of the Sunday school and wishes to see a full attendance in every department.

The public is generally invited to hear our visiting preacher Sunday. A cordial welcome awaits all who come. Strangers, visitors or people without a church home in Merkel are urged to come and worship with us.

Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

STUDIO RECITAL.

Voice and piano pupils of Miss Christine Collins participated in a recital on Friday afternoon of last week and at the culmination of the program plans were formulated whereby the affair might be made a monthly tea and at the same time organize a Study club. Members of the new club are Doris Brown, Hazel Leslie, Ima Gene Mangum, Lola Shelton, Venice Bell, Nina Montandon, Christine and Irene Rister, Mrs. Homer Patterson, Pauline and Bertie Maye Leslie, Billie Bernice Gamble, Vincent Barnett, Rachael Patterson, Baylor Amson and Ralph Duke. Refreshments were served to the members.

Every week is thrift week at our store. Cash Coupons are money saved. Sears Variety Store.

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

ANNOUNCING

Our New Washing, Greasing and Duco Service

We have just installed a new Wash Rack and are now prepared to give our customers and the general public **FIRST CLASS WASHING, GREASING AND DUCO SERVICE.**

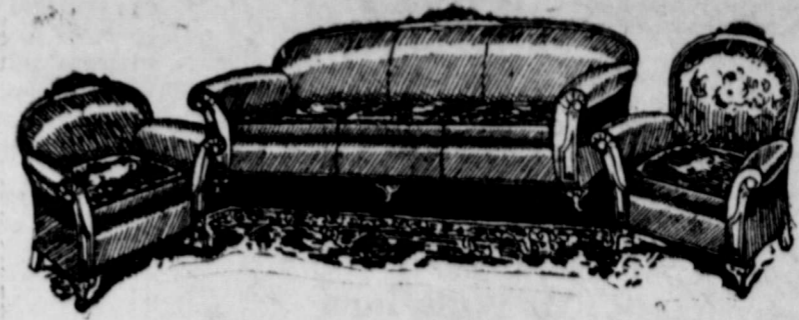
We will appreciate a part of your patronage in the above service as well as any other attention that your car may require.

We will strive to give the best of service at all times. When in need call

MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION

Phone 159

Ben F. Bird, Retail Agent



ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS

Are you proud of your home with its furnishings of comfort and beauty when friends drop in for a social visit?

OR

Do you hesitate to entertain because you are ashamed of your old, out-of-style, shabby furniture?

O

Does your son or daughter bring friends into your home because it is a gay and cheerful place to spend the evenings?

OR

Do they spend the evenings out driving, meet their friends downtown, or go to some other home because they are ashamed of the appearance of their own home

Think This Over!

You can furnish your entire home in keeping with present day styles and decorative ideas at a very nominal cost here.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

Merkel, Texas Funeral Directors and Embalmers

PERFORMANCE Is the True Test

MODEL A FORD IN GOOD CONDITION AFTER RUNNING 105,000 MILES—GOOD FOR ANOTHER 100,000

(Copy)

HUBB DIGGS COMPANY
 Fort Worth, Texas

February 2, 1929.

Ford Motor Co.,
 Dallas,
 Texas

Attention: Mr. W. C. Proctor

Gentlemen:

We are mailing you today under separate cover, photograph of the Montgomery-Ward car which they are using for testing Riverside Tires. At the time this picture was taken, the car had been 105,000 miles and is still in the best of running condition and appears to be good for more than another 100,000 miles. The morning the picture was made, we washed the car for the first time since delivery; to look at it, drive it and hear the motor run, you would think it had been no more than 15,000 miles.

It was purchased in Mansfield, Ohio, during May, 1928. The driver states that he is using on an average of about two quarts of oil each 500 miles, the car being driven 500 miles each day. It is driven 250 miles during the daytime by one driver and the same distance at night by another. They are using the second battery; however, the Manager of these test-cars states that the switch was left on over night, which he thinks is possibly the reason for having to purchase a new battery. They are changing oil every 1,000 miles; the same fan belt is being used and doesn't look worn. They are giving the car a general greasing every 1750 miles and up to the first 100,000 miles had spent a little less than \$150 on repairs, etc. The rear axle has never been down; they have used two sets of brake-linings, one set of pistons and rings, replaced clutch once, and have only used one extra hose connection.

The original speedometer was replaced by us yesterday, as it had registered 109,450 miles. It reset correctly at the end of the 100,000 miles but later began to skip or lose from twenty to twenty-five miles each day. The car has been driven at an average speed of forty miles an hour. The wheels are still tight and running true, and bearings have never been replaced. We have been unable to secure information as to how many miles the tires have been averaging.

We have permission from the Riverside Tire Company to use the picture and also the above information as an advertising feature, if so desired.

Yours very truly,
HUBB DIGGS COMPANY
 By: D. V. Brooks, Manager.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.