

SUMMER PLANS VACATION LURES OF OUR TEACHERS

Pacific Coast, Colorado Mountains and Gulf Resorts; Some Will Teach And Others Attend Summer Schools.

Now that only the exercises incident to the closing of the school year remain on the calendar, it is interesting to turn one's thoughts to vacation, especially to find out just what are the plans of the teachers, the superintendent and the principals of the Merkel Public Schools. To some the pleasures of the Pacific coast beckon, others will satisfy themselves at Texas coast resorts, a number will continue studies in the summer schools while, still others will teach in the summer sessions. Several will remain at their homes here, according to their present announcements.

Melvin S. Davis and Mrs. Davis will spend the summer at the University of Colorado where he will take work under Coach Hall Potts of University of Colorado in track and first aid. He will also take work under Coach Beresford, University of Chicago, in basket ball and work in football under Coach Thistlethwaite of Wisconsin. Mrs. Davis will go to school at the University of Colorado, Boulder, Colo.

Mrs. Geneva Young, after teaching summer school here, will go on a short vacation to visit her parents and to several other points in East Texas and Oklahoma.

Miss Roberta Sloan will visit home-folks at Whitewright until June 3 and then attend nine weeks of summer school at C. I. A. She expects to spend two weeks in Galveston during the month of August.

The plans of Miss Christine Collins are indefinite but she expects to visit her home and spend some time at the latter part of the summer.

Miss Imogene Hays will be in school at the North Texas Teachers' college at Denton.

Miss Winnie Heizer will be in school at San Marcus this summer.

Miss Jessie Rodden will spend two weeks with her sister, Mrs. M. W. Knight of Dallas and then attend the North Texas State Teachers' college at Denton.

Mrs. Len Sublett will spend part of the summer visiting in Los Angeles, San Diego and other places of interest along the California coast.

Supt. and Mrs. Burgess will be in Merkel most of the summer. Mr. Burgess will teach in the summer school of Simmons University until August 19. During the summer, too, he will be busy with plans for the repairs of the Grammar school building, which was authorized by the recent bond election.

Mrs. Jack Anderson will attend Simmons University all summer; Miss Minnie Coates will go to McMurry the first term and remain at home the rest of the summer; Ralph Duke will be in Abilene for the summer; Miss Melba West will attend summer school; Miss Vera Baker will teach in summer school at Merkel High school, while Miss Eunice Russell will teach a kindergarten here.

Misses Lucy Tracy, Julia Martin and Alzada Logue and Mrs. Holland Teaff and Mrs. Alice Cookston are among those who will remain at home for the summer.

CONTRIBUTORS TO CEMETERY FUND

Following is the list of contributors and the amount of each to the cemetery fund, as reported to the committee up to Thursday morning, together with the amount previously collected:

Mrs. N. Causseaux	\$2.00
Dr. W. V. Crawford	5.00
Mrs. S. C. Keith (Meridian Tex.)	5.00
J. T. Coats	5.00
Mrs. M. E. Simpson	2.00
Tom Douglas	5.00
Total for week	\$24.00
Previously reported	271.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$295.50

"A Son's Letter"

Such Heroes We Honor on Memorial Day

In a little volume of "Four Minute Essays" by the late Dr. Frank Crane, there appears one under the caption, "A Son's Letter", which the essayist stated that he saw in an Isle of Wight newspaper. It was further stated that the young writer of these lines was killed in action shortly after initiating them. The hundreds of fathers whose sons have paid "the last full measure of devotion" may find help and comfort in this youth's last words on this Memorial Day:

"To My Father:—This is a final message for you to read when I am dead. There will be so little else—just the brief official notification, 'The Secretary of State for War regrets . . . ' may be a belated letter or two, speaking only of the small beginnings of the day; perhaps the tale of a brother officer as to how I fell; beyond that, nothing. And therefore now, beforehand, I say farewell.

"There is no need of many words. But I want first to thank you as your son. You have been to me the best father a fellow could wish. I want to thank you for the gift of a clean and strong and vigorous and healthy body, straight limbs and thews that could serve England at her need. For the gift of a powerful intellect and a discerning mind—thank you. For the long years of self-denial that made my education possible; for the guidance and teaching that kept me straight in the days of youth; for the counsel and help ever freely offered when I asked; for all noble things in your example—again and most earnestly, thank you.

"Secondly, as to my death. Inasmuch as we be men together, there is little need of words. It is in a good cause that I lay down my life. All the things that I hold dear in life I willingly give up since it is required of me. I am proud and glad to be one of those whom England takes, who in their bodies pay the price of her honor. And though in your heart there will be sorrow, you will also be proud and you will not grieve overmuch.

"All good things be unto you! May the coming years bring wider fields of service; honor, and honorable work, strength, and wisdom to perform it; and in the end peace, and contentment, and quiet rest! Your son, a soldier of England, salutes you. Farewell!"

PLAY STARTS WITH MIXED FOURSOME

By Saturday night, all qualifying scores will have been turned in and President Diltz of the Merkel Golf Club announced at the Lions Club luncheon on Tuesday that the grouping of the players in the two flights arranged for the local tournament will be posted on a chart at the Merkel Drug Store.

The tournament will start Sunday with an exhibition foursome in which the four best scores will participate. This will really be the first two matches in the first flight, but at the same time these four will play for medalist score and prize.

On the following Sunday there will be a long drive contest, with a trophy for the longest drive. Each player will drive three balls and the winner will be determined by the total of the drives in the fairway.

The finals will be staged on the third Sunday.

Most of the program at the weekly meeting of the Lions club this week was given over to the plans of the Golf Club and Booth Warren, secretary-treasurer, made an announcement in regard to the tournament at Stamford as well as giving further details of the local tournament.

In the absence of Sam Swann, who was to have been toastmaster, 'Sie Hamm capably took his place. After the invocation by Rev. Ira L. Parrack, E. Yates Brown led a song rally, with Miss Lucy Tracy at the piano. This was one of the ideas gathered from one of the model luncheons at the State Convention of Lions Clubs in San Angelo recently.

Grand Jury Reconvened.
The Taylor County grand jury, which was reconvened has recessed until today. Four Merkel men are members of this body: Charlie Russell, Owen Ellis, Fred Hughes and R. O. Anderson, the latter being foreman.

CRUDE PRICE HIKE WILL ADD MILLIONS FOR OIL PRODUCERS

Expected That Price Increase Will Bring Revival of Wildcatting in This Section; Two Jones County Tests Watched.

The long-expected upward movement in the price of crude oil seems definitely under way; with three major companies posting advances ranging from 17 to 41 cents. These were Prairie Oil & Gas, which started the movement Monday; Magnolia Petroleum company; and Humble Oil & Refining company.

Posting of the increase for West Texas heavy oils, by Humble Oil & Refining Company means increased income to independent producers of about \$30,000 daily, or nearly \$1,000,000 monthly, based on present production.

Operators are agreed that the price increase will bring a revival of wildcatting, which in the past has meant so much in the life of the West Texas community.

JONES COUNTY TESTS.

Attention of oil operators turned during the week again to Southwestern Jones county where the two tests of the Phillips and the Texas company were being deepened to the 3,000 foot horizon.

The Texas Co. No. 6 Carter, which was completed about a month ago for approximately 250 barrels from the Stephens pay at 2740, was deepened after the oil decreased to 15 barrels and then to only 6. The new showing encountered at 2892-2893 feet swabbed 71 barrels of oil in six hours Wednesday afternoon.

The Phillips Petroleum No. 1 Walters topped what is apparently the same pay as that found in Texas Co. No. 6 Carter at a depth of 2865 feet and drilled a foot into the pay. Oil rose 1,000 feet in the hole and a swabbing test showed 30 barrels of oil. It is planned to raise the casing about four feet to see if the pipe had not been set in such a manner as to shut off part of the pay.

Phillips Petroleum company completed their No. 3 Pomroy last week for an estimated 100 barrels daily and is building rig for their No. 5 Pomroy, offsetting north.

Lowe, Delaney and Carter have completed rig for Grisham-Hunter's No. 2 offset in the Tiner field.

V. M. Sutphen, Former Merkel Man is Elected Cashier Valley Bank

V. M. Sutphen, who started his banking career with the Farmers and Merchants National Bank here, has been elected cashier of the Delta State Bank at Edcouch, a prosperous and growing city of the Rio Grande Valley. Mr. Sutphen is the son of Mrs. J. P. Sutphen, who resides in Merkel and who has just returned from a visit with her son and his family.

All told, Mr. Sutphen has been engaged in the banking business about 22 years. After leaving Merkel, he went to Meridian and for the last three years he has been associated with E. C. Couch in the Delta Development company. In connection with his election as cashier of the Delta State Bank and his removal to Edcouch, Mr. Sutphen has purchased the home of E. E. Black, formerly cashier of the same bank.

West Texas Chamber Meets October 24-26

Vernon, May 23.—Dates for the eleventh annual West Texas Chamber of Commerce convention were set for October 24, 25, 26 by the advisory board in session here today. The tentative dates of July 2, 3, 4 suggested by the Seymour district convention last week were abandoned in deference to numerous protests from secretaries who had local celebrations already planned.

A definite statement from George Akerson, secretary to President Hoover, to the effect that the president is going to visit Texas this year was read by D. A. Banden of El Paso, and the October dates were selected with the reservation that in case President Hoover wanted an earlier date, such could be arranged.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Abilene was selected for the hand meeting of the Texas Federation of Labor.

Walter R. Carothers, farm hand near Adrain, Deaf Smith county, was killed by lightning while operating a tractor.

Ignacio Balli, Jr., 2 year old child at McAllen, was injured fatally when struck by an automobile. The driver was declared blameless.

Frank Trentacosto, Italian merchant and farmer at Mudville in the Brazos bottom near Bryan, was killed by lightning during a rainstorm.

Injuries sustained when he slipped and fell in the bathtub of his home proved fatal later for Andrew Jackson Scott, 62, mayor of Tioga.

Homer J. Rader, piloting a biplane from Fort Worth, escaped with minor injuries when his plane crashed into Davis mountain near Van Horn.

O. W. McDonald, prominent gin and mill man, was elected mayor of Brownwood at the special election to fill the unexpired term of P. C. McInnis, resigned.

Refusing the body of her son, shot while attempting to escape prison, the mother of Raymond Sellers wired authorities at Wichita Falls to dispose of the body as they saw fit.

W. N. Durham has been appointed city manager of Amarillo to succeed J. B. Patterson who stated in resigning that he would not be an office boy to Amarillo's new mayor, E. O. Thompson.

Swallowing of a small nail proved fatal to Lawrence Duff, four-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Duff of Big Spring, when the lad's death followed a second operation for removal of the nail.

Robert M. Payne of Malakoff was elected president of the University of Texas Student association, defeating Spurgeon Bell of Abilene in a run-off campus election after the two had tied in the general election.

Triple charges resulted from an affray at Texarkana, when charges of assault with intent to kill his brother, assault and battery on his brother's wife and carrying a pistol were filed against the alleged offender.

Plans have been announced by the Central Power and Light company for the construction of a \$1,500,000 power plant on Devil's River near Del Rio. It is said it will take 30 men seven months to build the plant.

Three Abilene men, Major O. H. Cooper, Bernard Hanks and Lieut. General R. A. Miller, have been appointed aides-de-camp on the official staff of Major General W. M. Atkinson of Gonzales, commanding the Texas division, United Confederate Veterans.

The same negro truckman at Lufkin injured two boys in two different accidents, almost a day apart. One boy was struck down as he was crossing the street Saturday night and the other was walking along a sidewalk when the truck crashed into another car and the second car hit the boy.

LIST OF TEACHERS FOR NEXT SESSION

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Merkel Independent School district, the following teachers were elected to comprise the faculty for 1929-30:

- First Grade—Eunice V. Russell, Mrs. Holland Teaff.
- Second Grade—Alzada Pogue, Evelyn Curb.
- Third Grade—Mrs. Jack Anderson, Vennie Heizer.
- Fourth Grade—Addie Williams, Mrs. Alice Cookston.
- Fifth Grade—Imogene Hayes, Mrs. Melvin Davis.
- Sixth Grade—Ora L. McDonald, Jessie Rodden.
- Seventh Grade—Ralph Duke, Mrs. Len Sublett, Principal.

HIGH SCHOOL.
Lucy Tracy—English, Expression.
Mrs. Geneva Young—Spanish.
Roberta Sloan—History, Mathematics.

Vera Baker—English, Pl. Geometry.
Julia Martin—English, History.
Melvin Davis—Science, Principal.
Roger A. Burgess, Superintendent.

R. E. COLE AND VERNIE DERRICK ARE AWARDED HONORS MERKEL HIGH

SENIOR PLAYERS IN "A FULL HOUSE"

Class Play Successfully Staged Before Large Audience With Miss Mangum in Songs.

Received with generous applause and compliments on every side, the Senior Class play, "A Full House", was presented at the Merkel Theater last night to a large audience. The farce in three acts is by Fred Jackson and the play was produced by special arrangement with Samuel French.

The young actors gave a good account of themselves in their respective parts, evidencing in a pointed way the good results of their training under the direction of Miss Lucy Tracy, and along with many other happy associations of their graduation days. Seniors of the class of 1929 will have just cause to remember their successful staging of "A Full House."

Miss Ima Gene Mangum, as soloist, accompanied by Miss Christine Collins, rendered several numbers in most pleasing manner, among them being: "My Lindy Lou", "Howdy do, Miss Spring Time", "Precious Little Thing Called Love" and "Honey."

For the presentation of the play, Leon McDonald was stage manager and the following served as ushers: Lola Shelton, Vivian Berger, William Sheppard, Clyde Chaney.

The cast in the order in which they first appeared is as follows:

- Parks, an English servant—Robert Riney.
- Susie, from Sioux City, a maid—Ruby Patton.
- Ottily Howell, a bride—Eunalea Gilmore.
- Mrs. Winnecker, of Yorlkers, the aunt—Vernie Derrick.
- Daphne Charters, Ottily's sister—Norma Shannon.
- Nicholas King, a stranger—Lester Patterson.
- Ned Pembroke, Jr., an only son—Roy Kelson.
- Geo. Howell, a bridegroom—Ruskin Smith.
- Dougherty, a police sergeant—R. E. Cole.
- Jim Mooney, a policeman—Lois Suber.
- Kearney, a policeman—Helen McCormack.
- Mrs. Fleming, who owns the apartment—Addie Fae Patterson.
- Vera Vernon, a show girl—Velma Walker.
- Mrs. Pembroke, of Boston—Wanna Spurgin.

The scene represents the drawing room of Mrs. Fleming's apartment on Riverside Drive, New York City. The time is the present.

Legislature Called Third Session June 3

Austin, May 23.—Members of the 41st legislature went to their homes Tuesday with knowledge that they would be reconvened in a second special session on June 3.

Governor Dan Moody sent word to both houses by the committees which went to notify him they were ready to adjourn sine die that he had definitely decided on that date for bringing them back to pass the general appropriation bills, provide adequate revenue for a highway construction program and consider such other subjects as he may submit.

Resident Engineer Coming.
H. H. Hester, superintendent in charge of construction for the General Construction company, who have the contract for paving Oak street, was in the City Monday and Tuesday, making preliminary arrangements and will return today.

Mr. Hester stated that G. M. Parkhill, resident engineer, would arrive Monday and that necessary equipment was expected at that time, or at least early next week, when the work of grading and excavating will begin.

Car Mixed Cattle Shipped.
McCoy and Lackey shipped a car of mixed cattle to Fort Worth on Wednesday, which was the only cattle shipped from this point for the week.

Thirty Graduates Will Receive Diplomas at Commencement Exercises Monday Night.

R. E. Cole, Jr., will be valedictorian of the graduating class of the Merkel High school and Miss Vernie Derrick will be salutatorian, according to the report of Supt. Roger Burgess on Thursday morning. With a year's average of 95.7857, young Cole's record exceeded that of Miss Derrick by .3257, only one-third of one per cent, which is unusually close, Miss Derrick's average being 95.4600.

R. E. Cole, Jr. is the son of Mrs. R. E. Cole, with a splendid record throughout his four years in High school, and Miss Vernie Derrick is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claud Derrick. The latter finished high school work in three years, the usual course covering a period of four years. She entered the county meet twice and won first place in spelling both years.

Thirty graduates of Merkel High school will receive their diplomas at the commencement exercises which will be held at the Methodist church on Monday night. Dr. Rupert N. Richardson, vice-president of Simmons University, will deliver the commencement address. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached by Bishop E. Cecil Seaman on Sunday night at the Methodist church.

The complete programs for the commencement exercises, baccalaureate and Grammar School graduation follow:

- GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**
- The Grammar School graduations will be held at the Methodist church, Monday evening, at 8:15, with the following program:
- Invocation—Rev. T. C. Willett.
- Song—"Spring."
- Salutatory—Imogene Middleton.
- Address—Rev. Ira L. Parrack.
- Presentation of Diplomas—Supt. Roger A. Burgess.
- Valedictory—Nell Hughes.
- Song—"Faithy Song."
- Benediction—Rev. R. A. Walker.

- BACCALAUREATE.**
- The baccalaureate sermon and services will take place Sunday evening at 8:15 o'clock, with the following program:
- Processional—Winnie Lou Compere.
- Invocation—Rev. Ira L. Parrack.
- Hymn—"Day is Dying in the West"—Choir.
- Vocal Solo, "Hold Thou My Hand"—Mona Margaret Jones.
- Anthem, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"—Choir.
- Sermon—Bishop E. Cecil Seaman.
- Hymn, "Love Divine"—Choir.
- Benediction.

COMMENCEMENT.
The commencement exercises will be held on Monday evening at 8:15 at the Methodist church, with the following program:

- Processional—Winnie Lou Compere.
- Invocation—W. G. Cypert.
- "Awake, Arise"—Senior Class.
- Commencement address—Dr. Rupert N. Richardson, vice-president Simmons University.
- Presentation of Diplomas—Oscar J. Adcock, president of School Board.
- Awarding of Honors and Certificates—Supt. Roger A. Burgess.
- Benediction—Senior Class.

Rainfall for Month Exceeds Two Inches

Following the one inch rain of Wednesday, May 16, three-eighths of an inch fell on Thursday night of last week, followed by seven-eighths on Friday, May 17, making a total rainfall for the month of 2 1-2 inches according to B. M. Black, volunteer weather observer.

The rains falling at just the right time have been highly beneficial to the growing crops as well as of great value in seasoning the ground for planting.

Band Concert.
On Friday of next week, May 31, the Merkel Booster Band will give a concert on the streets of Merkel, beginning at 8 p. m. Every one is invited to attend and it is assured that a pleasing program of popular numbers will be rendered.

JACK OF ALL TRADES

The world is full of things to do,
Some job is waiting now for you
But you must be an expert now
And show for sure that you know how.
Jack of all trades has no show,
It takes a specialist now to go.
That's why the world, all lines of trade
Have such tremendous progress made.
The Farmers State Bank has a specialty man
Who on finance will help you plan.

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

Ice Water in Rooms, But Not Cracked Ice

Chicago, May 23.—The bogey of the government padlock has poked its way into the world's largest hotel and Thursday the voluntary order went out to stop the service of the set-ups to hotel guests.

The Stevens hotel was the latest of a series of hotels, clubs and cabarets to apply the blotter and mop lest theirs be the fate of the score of night clubs closed by federal injunction because their patrons illicitly spiked the intoxicating beverages they served.

"Ice water will still go to the rooms," the order read, "but not bowls of ice."

Man O'War's Son Wins 55th Kentucky Derby

Churchill Downs, Louisville, Ky., May 23.—Clyde Van Dusen, son of the renowned Man O'War, wearing the colors of Herbert Gardner of Amsterdam, N. Y., won the fifty-fifth Kentucky Derby Saturday in a driving rain and through a field of mud.

The winner gained an early lead and set the pace nearly all the way, winning approximately two lengths from Naishapur, the far Western hope which carried the colors of Chaffee Earl of San Francisco. Panchio, representing the Three D's Stock Farm of Fort Worth, Texas, finished third. The favorite, E. R. Bradley's Blue Larkspur, was fourth.

How Many Hot Dogs Eaten by Tourists

Washington, May 23.—King Hot Dog, who holds sway among the Nation's arterial highways, is devoting some of his leisure time and wealth to art and heavy.

New roadside stands, combining beauty with utility, are replacing the unsightly ones of the past.

The American Automobile Association reported that the campaign inaugurated by the Art Center in 1927 upon the initiative of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr., is producing notable results in all parts of the country. Unsightly stands are being torn down and more artistic ones are being erected.

The automobile association estimated that 59,000 roadside stands did a \$250,000,000 business last year in catering to tourists. The number of hot dogs consumed is estimated at 880,000,000.

Rumored Jack Dempsey Plans Re-Enter Ring

Reno, Nev., May 23.—Jack Dempsey, dethroned king of heavy-weight battlers, will enter the ring again at Agua Caliente, Tia Juana's neighboring rival in Mexico, in an attempt to regain world's championship honors, said an announcement here today by Gene Normile, Dempsey's manager for the first Tunney fight.

Schedule Changes Announced.

Due to the fact that Ticket Agent J. C. Childress of the Texas and Pacific Railway did not receive the announcement of the change in the train schedules until after last week's issue of the Mail had been published, the first published schedule showing the changes is herewith announced, the new time table having gone into effect Sunday, May 19:

No. 3 will leave Merkel at 3:45 p. m. instead of 4:37 p. m.
No. 9 will leave Merkel at 5:55 a. m. instead of 5:05 a. m.
No. 4 will leave Merkel at 1:20 p. m. instead of 11:59 a. m.
No. 10 will leave Merkel at 9:33 a. m. instead of 2:52 a. m.

Union Ridge School Closes.

The Union Ridge school closed a successful term last Friday with exercises consisting of short plays and readings. Lunch was served at noon which was enjoyed by all present.

The teachers have now left for their homes; Mr. Bolin, to Grand Saline, Texas; Miss Rogers, to Dora, Texas, and Miss Middleton, who resides in Merkel.

Honor pupils were announced as follows: First grade—Sybil Harris, Wilma McAninch, Effiebell Pannell, Laverne Harwell, Fay Oliver, Ruth Oliver and Marvis Kelso; Second Grade—Clyde Jones, Robbie Lee Kelso; Third grade—J. T. Oliver, Reed Whately, Gordon Hass; Fifth grade—Alice Carey, Ruby Carey, Alice McAninch; Seventh grade—Mary Bell Douglas, Lillie Claud Barnett; Eighth grade—Bessie Jones, Clements Carey, Bernice Clark, Bessie Lou Pannell.

Automotive freight carried by railroads during 1928 amounted to more than 3,500,000 carloads.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

Accidental Deaths in Texas Total 51 in Week

Fifty-one persons met accidental death in Texas during the week of May 1, says a statement just released by the Texas Council of Safety. Automobile crashes killed 25 and railway trains 2.

One person was injured during the week in an airplane fall which did not prove fatal. No street car accidents were reported. A fall killed one person and one died of burns. Three were the victims of drownings and firearms killed two. One fatality was due to an explosion.

Since Jan. 1, 4,241 persons have been injured and 746 killed in Texas. The corresponding period of last year listed 2,117 injured and 569 killed.

Motor vehicle taxes in 1928 amounted to \$808,000,000.

STAR DIARRHOEA TABLETS
Stops diarrhoea and saves the baby-chicks or your money back. Merkel Drug Co.



The way many things are changing but once a user of our Conoco Gas and Oils, there is no changing. Perfect motor satisfaction is our constant aim, and how well we have succeeded is best demonstrated by the fact that our customers continue to be patrons day after day, week after week, and month after month. We will be glad to number you among them.

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



"In Flanders Field the Poppies Blow"

EACH memorial day brings to us afresh these familiar words.

And always in the background, appears the dauntless courage with which these fallen heroes of the past faced the foes of right and justice, and triumphed in victory.

We owe them much and at this opportune time, our allegiance goes out to their memory.

THE OLD RELIABLE
FARMERS AND MERCHANTS
NATIONAL BANK
Merkel, Texas

"FOR THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY"

SCHEDULE CHANGE

Effective Sunday, May 19th.



No. 3 will leave Merkel 3:45 P. M. instead 4:37 P. M.
No. 9 will leave Merkel 5:55 A. M. instead 5:05 A. M.
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For Particulars Consult

J. C. CHILDRESS

Ticket Agent

ANNOUNCING

In connection with our Chick Hatchery, we have installed the first unit of a thousand gallon aquarium for our Gold Fish Hatchery.

We will have a full line of Gold and Tropical Fish. Also complete stock of Fish and Bird Supplies.

ABILENE HATCHERY & SEED STORE

318 Mesquite St. Phone 7492

A SIGN OF QUALITY and VALUE to thousands of satisfied USED CAR BUYERS



LOOK at these Outstanding Used Car Values

1927 Chevrolet Roadster, good rubber, good finish, mechanically O. K. Look for price tag on car.

1928 Chevrolet Coach, upholstery, body, finish, rubber and motor perfect, a good one—Price on car.

1928 Chevrolet Coupe, snubbers, bumpers, motometer, good rubber and mechanically O. K.—Price tag on car.

Late 1927 Chevrolet Imperial Landau—a good clean car, in good condition, You'll like it—Look for the O. K. price tag.

1927 Ford Touring, new rubber, new top, new Duco and mechanically O. K. One price to all.

Large assortment of Used Cars to select from.



This Red Tag
"with an OK that Counts"
is Your Assurance of
Honest Used Car Values

You can have perfect confidence in your purchase of a used car that has attached to its radiator cap the Chevrolet red "O. K. that Counts" tag. This tag, used exclusively by Chevrolet dealers, is attached only to cars that have been thoroughly reconditioned and checked "O. K." by expert Chevrolet mechanics. To thousands of satisfied used car buyers it has proved a sign of outstanding quality and value. We now have on hand a wide selection of these fine "O. K." used cars—priced for quick sale. Come in today.

Brackeen-Hughes Chevrolet Co.

Merkel, Texas

USED CARS with an OK that counts

PIONEER DAYS IN TEXAS

(By Bernice Clark, Eight Grade Pupil of Union Ridge School)

The early days of Texas were quite different to our modern times. The pioneers endured many hardships that today we know nothing of, but they faced them bravely and won out in the end. They have helped to make Texas what she is today and many of our modern conveniences are due to the early people of Texas. The pioneers in moving from place to place had very uncomfortable ways to travel and then they had to figure ways in which to secure shelter, food and clothing.

In thinking of homes the early people had many difficulties. There were no lumber mills from which they could get their lumber. They had to clear a place for the house. Of course, this had to be done with their hands and what instruments they had to work with.

Then the lumber had to be secured. For this they used logs and called them houses "log houses". A house like this when completed would contain one or two rooms, most of them just had one, one window, which had no pane—just a shutter to keep the rain out—and one door. In one end or side there was a fire place where the family received their warmth and cooked their meals. The people of modern times think it a thrill to see a house like this but they would not like so much to live in one like it.

The pioneers got most of their food easily. For they raised the largest part of it in their fields and gardens. They raised all kinds of vegetables. If they raised something not needed they would take it to the city and exchange it for what they did need.

The pioneers raised wheat and corn, took it to the mill and had it made into flour and meal. This furnished them bread until next year, or until the next crop was made. They also raised all their meat. So they had little to buy.

The people who came to Texas in early days had no good or comfortable way to travel. The only way they had was in a wagon or on horse back. But although they had no good ways to go from place to place they always went to church on Sunday. Probably it would take them all day to make the round trip and attend the service but nevertheless they always attended.

The rate of travel was about fifteen miles per day. This would seem rather slow to our modern ways of travel, when an automobile will make three or four times that rate per hour. But the people then knew nothing of any faster way and thought that fast enough.

The pioneers made all their clothing. They used the kind of material that was most serviceable, for making clothes was not very easy, and they had to raise the raw materials. They raised the cotton, picked the seed from it with their hands, spun the cotton

into thread, and then the thread into cloth. From this they made their garments. Of course, all of this had to be done by hand and it took a long time and lots of hard work. And with a large family it kept the mother and older girls busy to get clothing made for the other members of the family. The girls did well if they got as many as two new dresses a year.

The boys and girls who came to Texas in the early days did not get much education. For there were no public schools, and the boys had to help their fathers with the field work, while the girls were busy with the housework. The pioneers did not consider an education as important as we do today. The parents thought if the children had as much education as they had that was enough.

The boys and girls of pioneer days received most of their education at home, their parents taught them all they knew and if they were poor people that was all they ever got.

There is much to compare between pioneer days and the present time. For example, the roads. There were no public roads and in muddy weather the roads would be so bad that a team of mules could hardly pull an empty wagon over them. When the road needed any work done on it each man

that used it had to put in so much time and a team. If they were not physically able to work he was to put a team on it anyway. This would look rather crude today for we have public roads and state highways, also gravel roads through the country. If they need repairing the state or county put men there with tractors to work them and pays them a good salary. This is much easier and quicker than the primitive way.

The schools and colleges of today are quite different also. In pioneer days there were no colleges at all and very few public schools. Anyone then who thought himself smart enough to handle the job might get a school and teach the pupils what they wanted to. But now you must have a first grade certificate before you may even get a school. Texas now has some of the best and largest schools, colleges and universities in the United States.

Durhams Move to Albany.

Thomas Durham, for many years editor of the Merkel Mail and now the editor of the Albany News, came over last Saturday and moved his family and household goods to Albany. His family had remained here until the school term was out.

Delicious Banana Split Saturday and Sunday 19c at Phillips Drug Store.

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

For Tin, Plumbing And Repair Work See EARL TEAGUE

Tinner and Plumber
Phone 176W
Satisfaction Guaranteed

Get Up in The Morning Feeling DIZZY

"I began to suffer with headache and illness," says Mr. John C. Malone, of Buena Vista, Ohio. "I had a hurting through the middle part of my body which seemed to come from indigestion. I would get constipated, and then feel all out of sorts. I would get up in the morning feeling dizzy, and everything I ate would disagree with me. 'Someone asked me why I did not try Black-Draught. I found it to be just the medicine I needed. When I feel a spell coming on, I begin by taking a dose of Black-Draught, dry, at night. I continue to take it for several days, and in a short while I am feeling fine. It is all the medicine I need.' Costs only 1 cent a dose.

THEDFORD'S
Black-Draught

For CONSTIPATION
INDIGESTION, BILIOUSNESS

WOMEN who need a tonic should take Cardul. In use over 50 years. g-11

You can bank on the quality of a cigarette that continues to be the biggest success in smoking history

CAMEL CIGARETTES

WHY CAMELS ARE THE BETTER CIGARETTE

Camels contain the choicest tobaccos grown . . . expertly blended for matchless taste and fragrance.

They have a welcome mellowness and mildness that you will find in no other cigarette. Smoke them as often as you like, Camels never tire your taste.

The quality of Camels is never permitted to vary.

Only a superior cigarette could have won and held world leadership for all these years as Camel has done.



© 1929, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Friend Husband— Help your wife stay young!

FREE!

With the Purchase of a Hotpoint Electric Range we give absolutely free



A Complete Set of Beautiful Aluminum Ware!

If you could but realize the strain of long tedious hours "she" spends in the kitchen, you would surely take steps to make her cooking hours more pleasant by getting her a Hotpoint Electric Range.

—What is more, once you have tasted food cooked on a HOTPOINT Electric Range you will agree that she is right in wanting to cook in a more modern way—a way that cooks foods right the FIRST time and EVERY TIME.

—With the Hotpoint Automatic Electric Range you don't even need to watch the cooking—just place your foods on the stove when convenient and it will be cooked to perfection by the time you are ready to serve. Allow us to show you the HOTPOINT—the Range that cooks foods in a more delicious and palatable manner.

\$5.00 Down

Puts a Hotpoint in Your Home— Balance in 17 Monthly Payments.

West Texas Utilities Company

Quality

LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS AT LOWEST PRICES

CLAY LUMBER CO.

"Make her happy. Build a home first."

Free! Free! Free!

This Month Only

BEGINNING MAY 10th

One Large Portrait Given Free with Each Dozen Portraits, Any Size

Rodden Studio

THE MERKEL MAIL
Published Every Friday Morning
Glover and Caple, Publishers.

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.

WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF WEST TEXAS.

The West Texas Chamber of Commerce, which is competent to know its own confines, lays claim for West Texas proper to all that area of Grand Old Texas west of the M. K. and T. Railroad to Waco and thence southwest through Fredericksburg to Del Rio. It includes 135 counties, containing approximately 91,000,000 acres.

Into this area could be dropped the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Delaware and Maryland, and still leave unoccupied 10,000 square miles or eight more Rhode Islands.

It is this part of Texas which in a few short years, considerably less than two decades, has caused the rest of Texas to take notice. Populous and prosperous cities have sprung up, a veritable network of railroads have changed the wide open spaces to centers of industry. Farming goes hand in hand with cattle raising and below the surface which has merely been scratched streams of liquid gold have poured forth to enrich the land-owners.

The West Texas Chamber of Commerce has persistently sowed seeds of publicity and it's planting time all the year round for that organization. West Texas is reaping bountifully, that West Texas has not yet fully realized its vast resources. Granted the boundary of West Texas, as outlined above, who is there can tell all that is yet within its bounds?

Mrs. Houston Martin Is Claimed by Death

Mrs. Willie Audra Reynolds Martin, wife of Houston Martin, prominent farmer of this section, died in Abilene Thursday afternoon of last week and was buried at White church Friday afternoon, Rev. Ira L. Parrack of the Baptist church of Merkel officiating.

Mrs. Martin was born at Texarkana in 1892 and moved to Taylor county with her parents when she was only three years old. She was married Nov. 17, 1916, and, besides her husband, she is survived by her mother, Mrs. Lucy Blackburn, one brother and three sisters, B. B. Reynolds of Merkel; Mrs. Mae Cargill also of Merkel, Mrs. Hosié Dunlap of Amherst, Texas and Mrs. Effie Brooks of Hot Springs, Calif., all of whom were present at the time of her death except the sister in California.

Deceased had lived practically all her life in Taylor county and had won the love and esteem of all with whom she came in contact. Her husband, mother and brother and sisters have the sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement.

Fireboys Match Game With Golloday's Fats

The Fireboys Baseball team was organized Monday night with Charlie Jones, manager; Bob Dennis, secretary and treasurer, and Clifford Garner, captain. At the initial meeting, Ollie Sanders was elected to take care of the babies—a sort of nursery for the benefit of spectators whose babies get disgusted with the diamond performance.

First practice was held Tuesday afternoon and sufficient progress was made in the training to justify a matched game for this afternoon when the Fireboys team will meet Frank Golloday's Fats. A fast and thrilling exhibition is promised and games with other cities will be arranged from time to time.

Boys Skull Fractured.
After an operation that lifted the bone and relieved the pressure, Tura, the 11 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Williams of Noodle Dome, was sufficiently recovered to be removed to his home Wednesday. He fractured his skull when he was thrown riding a calf.

BANK NOTICE.
Thursday, May 30, 1929, (Decoration Day) being a legal holiday, the undersigned banks will be closed. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK. FARMERS STATE BANK.
Try a Classified Ad for Results Use The Mail Want Ads.

PUPIL'S RECITAL MUSICAL TREAT

Voice and Piano Pupils of Miss Christine Collins Presented in Artistic Program.

From the opening numbers of "The Ghost" and "Jolly Raindrops," which introduced one of the younger pupils and which was followed by equally fascinating selections by other artists in the same group on through the progression of lifting melodies embodied in "The Linnet" and "Japanese Love Song" to the more difficult concluding numbers of "O, Dry Those Tears" and "Hark the Thrush at Eve," the large audience gathered at the Grammar School auditorium Tuesday evening for the musicale by the voice and piano pupils of Miss Christine Collins were wrapt listeners and gave voice to their appreciation in no uncertain way.

The program was happily arranged, both as to choice and variety of numbers and the fitness of the individual for the requirements of voice and harmony, with the effect that naturalness on the part of the younger pupils was not lost while the more advanced vocalists found themselves all the more at ease because of the suggestive association of lines and rhythm.

The program follows:
(a.) The Ghost, (Hueter)— (b.) Jolly Raindrops, (Mana-Zucca)— Rachel Patterson.

In Slumberland, (Geo. L. Spaulding)—Pauline Leslie.

(a.) The Birdie in the Tree—(Spaulding)—(b.) Big Brown Bear—(Mana-Zucca)—Vincent Barnett.

Dance of the Rosebuds, (Frederick Keats)—Billie Bernice Gamble.

Wishing, (Naumann)—Hazel Leslie.

Cheerfulness, (Danil Rowe)—Christine Rister.

Jovial Gypsy, (Theodora Dutton)—Bertie Mae Leslie.

The Linnet, (Conningsby Clarke)—Lola Shelton.

(a.) Scarf Dance, (C. Chaminade)—(b.) The Black Forest Clock, (Schwarzwald)—Irene Rister.

La Sereñeta, (Tosti)—Nina Montandon.

Japanese Love Song, (Clayton Thomas)—Doris Brown.

In The Luxemburg Gardens, (Manning)—Venice Bell.

(a.) Hear a Thrush at Eve, (Cadmán)—(b.) Dainty Damosel, (Ivor Novello)—Ima Gene Mangum.

O'Dry Those Tears, (Teresa Del Riego)—Edith Baker.

Country Gardens, (Ambrose)—Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Auto Strikes Bridge To Avoid Collision

In order to avoid collision with another car that was coming toward them and passing a third car on the outside, Newton Cobb who was driving a truck Sunday night accompanied by L. T. Toombs crashed into the end of the concrete bridge crossing Lytle creek on the highway and the two young men sustained minor injuries. Mr. Cobb was carried to the Baptist Sanitarium in Abilene with his left leg badly crushed and bruised, but an X-ray disclosed that no bones were broken.

Merkel Girl Plays Role Prince at C.I.A.

The little city of Clint in El Paso county can boast of a woman cashier, who holds this position with the First National Bank at that place. Her name is Miss Virgie Mae Campbell and friends of the young lady, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Campbell, live near Merkel, will be glad to know of her success.

Miss Campbell joined the First National Bank at Clint in August, 1926, as bookkeeper and jumped from there to her present position. The bank was organized April 29, 1925.

Hamblet Brothers and Sisters Have Re-Union

Mr. and Mrs. Quay Hamblet, accompanied by their father, W. F. Hamblet, were guests Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Hamblet at Breckenridge where a family reunion was held. Besides the two brothers mentioned, another brother, Loring Hamblet, and his wife of Ranger were present, also three sisters, Miss Vannie Hamblet of Dallas, Miss Venona Hamblet of Dallas and Mrs. Willie Addington of Fort Worth.

Music Recital.
Mrs. J. Samuel Rider will present her music pupils in recital at the Presbyterian church Tuesday evening, May 28, at 8 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

Association of Rural Letter Carriers Will Meet at Sweetwater

Members of the Rural Letter Carriers' Association of the 17th Congressional district will meet in annual convention at Sweetwater on Thursday, May 30, for a one day session. It will be remembered that the convention for each of the past two years was held in Merkel and Postmaster O. J. Adecock and all rural carriers as well expect to attend the Sweetwater meeting.

The program committee consists of R. L. Adecock, Merkel, J. C. Howell, Abilene, and Joe Nally, Trent. W. L. Fletcher, Jr. of Hamlin, is president, and L. F. Spencer, secretary of the district association.

The sessions will be held at the Municipal auditorium in Sweetwater, beginning at 9 o'clock, and members will register at the entrance. C. W. Bryant, mayor of Sweetwater will deliver the welcome address and the response will be made by R. L. Beaman, carrier, Coleman. On the program for the morning session, Mrs. Joe Nally of Trent will speak on "What the Ladies Auxiliary is Doing" and Miss Berdelle Adecock of Merkel and Miss Doris Crownover of El Paso will give readings.

Luncheon will be served on the roof garden of the Blue Bonnet and there will be a musical program at this hour.

Postmaster O. J. Adecock of Merkel will open the afternoon session with an address and Miss Ouida Campbell of Merkel is also on program for a reading. Discussion on "The Reward of Service" will be led Carriers Adecock and Nally. One of the interesting addresses to be delivered is one by Editor Slater of Clyde on "The Texas Carrier and His Progress."

The convention will conclude with a business session.

Abilene Man Buys Ira Windham Garage

The announcement was made Tuesday that T. J. Land of Abilene had purchased the Ira Windham Garage and Service Station and Mr. Land took possession at once. He will continue the business under the same name and states that he expects to move his family to Merkel in the near future.

The people of Merkel will be glad to know that Mr. Windham and his wife will remain as residents here and Mr. Windham will devote his entire time to his trucking business.

In reference to the sale of the garage and service station, Mr. Windham expressed gratification for the splendid patronage he had received and bespoke the same cordial treatment for his successor in business.

Delicious Banana Split Saturday and Sunday 19c at Phillips Drug Store.

HEBRON NEWS

The Union Ridge school closed Friday with a program and picnic, followed by a good rain.

Mrs. Thomas Harris entertained a few of her friends Saturday night with a slumber party, serving refreshments at 11 o'clock to Misses Winnie Bayless, Bessielou Pannell, Bessie Jones, Ruby Hass, Mildred Sharp and Anna Mae Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris visited Mr. and Mrs. James Harris at Abilene, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie West of Merkel were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Huston Clark, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. ack Pannell were shopping in Abilene Wednesday.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENT.

Last Sunday was a good day with us in all the services. We had an increase in attendance and a fine spirit at all services. Every department in the Sunday school showed an increase. We were delighted to have Judge E. S. Cummings of Abilene with us Sunday. He spoke to the Business Men's Bible class with some 35 present. He also brought a word of greeting from the University Baptist church to our entire congregation. He brought with him a male quartet that delighted our people both at the Sunday School hour and at the preaching hour with a number of well rendered songs. We will be glad to have them back again soon.

All regular services Sunday except the evening preaching; on account of the special school service we will not have the evening preaching service.

We will have our B. Y. P. U. service beginning promptly at 7:30 and closing at 8 to give every one a chance to go to the other service in time to get a comfortable seat.

We will be glad to have every one of visitors and all the members of every department present Sunday. Also other friends and visitors will be welcomed. Come find a place to serve. Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

Slumber Party.

Miss Ola Smith gave a slumber party at her home in honor of her cousin, Miss Lola May Duckett. Scarcely had the guests arrived than they decided to have a weiner roast. So they were soon on a truck and driven to a pretty place where a big bonfire was built. Those enjoying the slumber party and weiner roast were Misses Lola May Duckett, Audrey Farris, Hasseltine Farris, Venice Bell, Oleta Moor, Vera Richie, Eloise Mancell Madeline Murray and the hostess. Chaperones were Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Jones.

Automotive products rank first in export of manufactured articles, with a value of \$500,174,431.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

Celebrates Seventh Birthday.
In compliment to her son, Dee, on his seventh birthday, Mrs. Reece Hall entertained with a party for twenty-one children. After games and contests were enjoyed, emblems were found in the cake topped with candles, which was put and served with ice cream and punch. Dainty favors went to each guest. Those present were

Ethelda Tucker, Dana Derstine, Lavada and Don Willis Barbee, Ann Leopard, Ima Gene Hulsey, Mary Jo Russell, Mary Love Tipton, Conora Hughes, Don and Billy Woods, Billie George Gant, Marvin Hunter, Otho Suber, Joe and Charlie Young, Billie Schultz, Hail Derstine, Jack Tucker, W. D. Bland and Mrs. W. H. Derstine and Ida Mae Derstine.

= Gafton =
TRENT, TEXAS
OUR MOTTO BETTER SHOWS

TODAY, FRIDAY, MAY 24
F. B. O. PRESENTS
"CONEY ISLAND"
With Lois Wilson and big cast
We know you will like it
"Tarzan the Mighty" No. 14—Comedy and News

SATURDAY
A WILLIAM FOX SPECIAL
"THE AIR CIRCUS"
With Sue Carroll, Arthur Lake, David Rollins, Marie Dressler
Young America flies to conquer . . . Our first special for use on Saturday. See It Two Part Comedy and News

MONDAY AND TUESDAY
THE SHOW FOR EVERYBODY
"ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"
Nancy Carroll, Buddy Rogers, Jean Hersholt and others
It is a pleasure to present such a fine picture to our patrons.
ONLY TWO DAYS—COME EARLY
Jack Duffy Comedy

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
CARL LAEMMLE PRESENTS
"JAZZ MAD"
With George Lewis, Marian Nixon, Jean Hersholt
Fast moving story of today's younger set
Two Part Comedy and News
ON THE STAGE
BIG NIGGER MINSTREL
Home Talent

MAJESTIC
—ABILENE—

It's Always 72 Degrees Cool In The Majestic

Now Playing
LAST TIMES SATURDAY
All Talking!
A plunge into the heart of the criminal world with the law's most daring detective.
"ALIBI"
with CHESTER MORRIS MAE BUSH ELEANOR GRIFFITH
"Alibi" is a thrilling, exceptionally excellent and beautifully done picture. It made me scream, laugh and cry.
—Mary Pickford.
—Also Hear—
"THE RIGHT BED"
All-talking comedy with Edward Everett Horton
Fox Movietone News
Note: "Alibi" is an unusually long picture, and your enjoyment of it will be greatest if you see it from the beginning.

4 DAYS STARTING MONDAY
All Talking!
The most astonishing dramatic performance ever offered on stage or screen.
"The LETTER"
with JEANNE EAGLES
Famous star of the Stage Play, "Rain."
"The Letter" is the first legitimate production of a stage play for presentation via the "talking screen."
—Also Hear—
"Crooning Melodies"
Music As You Like It
EDDIE PEABODY
"The Music Master"
"The Jimtown Cabaret"
Fun with Miller and Lyles
Fox Movietone News

Prices 15-40-60. Shows from 1:30 to 11:30 P. M.

QUEEN
Showing the Pick of the Pictures

FRIDAY
BILL CODY
—IN—
"THE EYES OF THE UNDERWORLD"
An honest to goodness real action picture
Also the first chapter of the popular Serial, William Desmond in "The Mystery Rider"
And a good two reel Comedy

FREE **FREE**
All children under twelve years of age will be admitted
Free of charge

SATURDAY
WALLY WALES
—IN—
"THE FLYING BUCKAROO"
A Western Melodrama that hits the high spots.
Also William Desmond in "The Mystery Rider"
And Comedy "Button My Back"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY
JOAN CRAWFORD AND NILES ASTHER
—IN—
"DREAM OF LOVE"
A Melodrama of unusual nature with a kingdom for a background and a beautiful love story.
Also Comedy "Wrong Again" and News Reel

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
AL WILSON
—IN—
"THE SKY SKIDDER"
An astounding aviation picture at its best
Also Comedy and Kinogram Free Chinaware

Trunks Suitable for the Automobile
Any Size You Want Can Be Found at

THE ARMY STORE
Small Wardrobe Trunks, several kinds, Army Lockers, Metal Covered Lockers, Gladstones and Traveling Bags

SPECIALS
Good Size Metal Covered Lockers for the Car \$4.25
Leather Lockers, Gladstones and Traveling Bags \$4.95

CAMPING EQUIPMENT
Don't Buy Your Camping Equipment Until You Have Figured With Us.

THE ABILENE ARMY STORE
Phone 8292 915 South First

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Bundle and headed feed; double row cultivator and planter; part time or will trade for cow. T. W. Collins, near Stith.

FOR SALE—Hen house 30x12. 3 miles north and 1 mile east. Joe Higgins, Route 1.

FOR SALE—179 3-10 acres of land joining Merkel on the West about 70 acres in cultivation if interested make me a bid. Vol Martin, address 5437 8th Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

WHY DREAD WASHDAY? Let McCannon's Cleanser do the work. Dan Reidenbach, agent.

FOR SALE—Second hand windmill and tower, 100 feet of 2 inch pipe, deep well cylinder, tank tower. Apply Box 445, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—About six tons good maize. Burton-Lingo Co.

FOR SALE My home on Oak street. O. R. Dye.

FOR SALE—New 12 gauge Remington Automatic shot gun. O. R. Dye.

McGEE TOMATO plants. Mrs. Annis, six blocks South of Burton-Lingo Co., also rooms for rent.

FOR SALE—Player piano, Singer sewing machine, Apex sweeper and other furniture at Mrs. Barker's on Noodle Dome Highway.

WANTED

WASHING AND GREASING Modern grease rack. Cars washed and greased the right way. Highway Service Station. J. C. White, Manager.

WANTED TO BUY Clean Rags—Will pay 5 cents per pound. Merkel Mail office.

WANTED—Good heavy maize. Will pay \$16.00 ton at barn. Notify E. M. West, Merkel Route 1, or Phone #025—22.

FOR RENT

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

NEW TWO ROOM apartment; nicely furnished; modern; also bedroom adjoining bath. Mrs. C. L. Boswell. Phone 171W.

FURNISHED apartment for rent. Mrs. Duncan Briggs.

TWO LIGHT housekeeping rooms. furnished. Mrs. Walter Boden.

HOUSE FOR RENT. See Mrs. J. R. Pee.

FOR RENT—One large room furnished complete, for housekeeping. Mrs. Bradshaw.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Some one has borrowed one 2-horse fresno and failed to return it. Information leading to recovery will be appreciated. Charlie Russell.

LODGE NOTICES

Merkel Chapter Royal Arch Masons meets on first Thursday night of each month. Visitors cordially invited.

J. A. Patterson, H. P.
O. R. Dye, Secretary.

Willing Workers Meet.

The willing Workers class were royally entertained Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. S. G. Russell, assisted by her daughter, Miss Selma Lee. An interesting program was given by the class and all present enjoyed the reading by Mrs. McConnell and the devotional given by Mrs. E. Tucker. After the program, refreshments were served to Mesdames E. Tucker, S. A. Derstine, R. A. Walker, W. M. Elliott, Fannie McCormick, Butler, J. L. Tucker, Jim Sears, John Russell, L. Murray, Stalls, T. M. Smith, Ponder, O'Donel, Misses Mary, Jenny and Lizzie Kiney and the hostesses.

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F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Trent News and Personal Notes

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Boyd are rejoicing over the arrival of a new grandson born last Thursday to Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Johnson of Abilene. Mother and baby are doing nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy McCool and son Harry of Dallas and Miss Virgie Strawn of Greenville visited with their brother, John Strawn and family a few days last week.

Ethel McGowan and Mr. and Mrs. Rochelle McGowan visiting relatives and old friends in Trent last Saturday. They were returning to their home at Ft. Worth after a visit with their father and family, E. B. McGowan of Lamesa.

Mr. and Mrs. Wash and family attended the singing convention at Dora last Sunday. They report that Trent is to have the convention the 5th Sunday in June.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wilson and son Mack, Mrs. Buena McLeod and Helen left Monday for Mineral Wells. They will also visit Miss Odessa Moon of Graham before returning home.

A surprise birthday dinner was given Mrs. W. E. Shouse at her home Sunday honoring her 68th birthday. Those present were her sons, Andy, Clyde and family, two daughters, Mrs. C. T. McCormick and family, Mrs. Joe Payne and family, her brother, Jno. Moore, wife and son of Roscoe, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kelso, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Tom Green of Merkel. A little granddaughter, Minnie Evelyn McCormick celebrated her second birthday with grandmother.

Miss Gertrude Dowdy of Abilene was in our city Monday assisting Miss Lillian McRee in the postoffice work.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Murdock and children of Big Spring spent the week-end with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Royce Dowdy and Mr. and Mrs. Bert McRee left the first of the week for a ten days' trip to Mexico.

Mrs. Bruce Cole and daughters of Wasstella visited Mrs. J. T. Archer Monday.

Mrs. Watts and daughter, Bettie Iva, are away for an extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Johnson of Belton.

Mrs. Homer Terry, Jean and Junior of Sweetwater are spending several days here visiting friends and relatives.

Buddie Burks and Miss Faye Hamner are announcing their marriage which took place on the thirteenth of March.

Sam Browning of Sweetwater was in our city last Tuesday.

Mrs. R. B. McRee, Mrs. Hale McRee and Virginia Cloe were in Sweetwater Tuesday on business.

A number of Trent people went to

Abilene Tuesday night to hear Rev. Frank Norris speak.

Mrs. Davis Jones and son of Abilene visited her sister, Mrs. Jack Freeman last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellery Smith and family have returned from a few days' visit with their daughter, Mrs. Pete Rutherford of Tuxedo.

Mr. O'Kelley and family of Abilene visited his son Hurler and family Sunday.

Mr. Seal and M. G. Scott made a business trip to Cisco Tuesday.

Zion Chapel News

The farmers were very glad to see the good rains.

Mrs. M. K. Milner spent the week-end at Abilene.

Miss Nina McAninch visited over the week-end with home folks.

Miss Ruby Evans and Flora Adkins spent Sunday with Eva Lou Allred.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Dee Price spent Saturday night and Sunday at Bradshaw.

We will all be glad when Thursday comes since that is the last day of school.

Several from this community saw the play at Truby Monday night. All reported a fine play.

We had a fine crowd at Sunday school. Every one is invited to come back.

Next Sunday night is regular singing night at Comere. Everyone is invited.

Brewster—with an area of 3,798,400 acres—is the largest Texas county.

DAPPER DAN



Milady's Hat

Says Dapper Dan: "If wifey's bonnet Has little specks of dirt upon it, She needn't cry and fret and worry— We'll take them off in quite a hurry."

Did you know that our cleaning department can take an old, faded, last-year's chapeau and clean and reblock it until it looks better than it did when it was purchased? That's just one of our many services. Let's get acquainted.

MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE Phone 3

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

Theford's
Black-Draught
A Purely Vegetable Remedy for
CONSTIPATION
INDIGESTION
BILIOUSNESS

Bowers & Hamner's Big Round-Up Sale Still Going Good

Plenty of bargains in both Men's and Ladies apparel also everything nice for the Home—Curtains—Fancy Oil Cloth—Squares—Sheets—Pillow Cases, etc.

Everything Marked Down. Come.

Bowers & Hamner

Trent, Texas

Blair Items

We have had good rains; a considerable portion of the cotton crop has been planted, and much of it is up. The rest will be put in right away and it will have a good season to come up on.

Mrs. R. J. Meeks from the Plains is visiting her children, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Barnes and Mr. and Mrs. John Meeks.

Mesdames Dave Henson and Frank Jacobs of Cisco were guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Farmer Monday.

Mrs. Beecham and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Collie of Paris visited Monday with their sister, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. D. Chapple.

Brother Brannon and wife of Abilene were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson of Post City are visiting the latter's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Brown.

Floyd Bryant, who suffered the misfortune of breaking his arm recently, is getting along nicely.

Tim Moore, Marshall Owens, Pat



NEW HEELS

not only add to your comfort, but to your appearance; for a shoe is known by its heel, and the wearer is known by the shoe. Let us repair your shoes.

Satisfaction Guaranteed

CITY SHOE SHOP
Clarence Perry, Prop.
KEEP FEET NEAT
KENT ST.

Allison, Jim Cavette, D. C. Doan, Joe Abbott, S. J. Scroggins and Mr. Kell enjoyed a fishing trip Monday.

Missionary Society

Following is the program for the Missionary Society of the Methodist church Monday, May 27: leader, Mrs. B. L. Hamilton; song, prayer, devotional, "A Boy's Will," Luke 2:40-51, by Mrs. Beene; "Broken Homes", first part, Mrs. Touchstone, second part, Mrs. Whitely; duet, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Pee; "What Makes or Breaks

a Home," discussed by Mesdames M. Armstrong, Pee, Burgess and Ellis; solo, Mrs. F. C. Hughes.

Whiteheart-Rightmer.

On Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock Ollie Whiteheart and Miss Elsie Rightmer, both of Dora, were united in marriage at the residence of W. G. Cypert, who also officiated.

Delicious Banana Split Saturday and Sunday 15c at Phillips Drug Store.



Digestible Hot Breads

are always assured when leavened with Rumford. Piping hot homemade rolls, crisp golden corn bread or bran muffins round out the breakfast and start the man of the house on a successful day.



RUMFORD
The Wholesome
BAKING POWDER

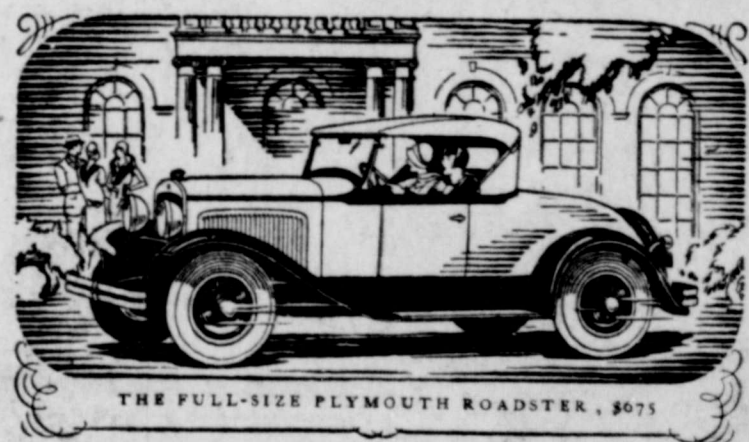
Dry Cleaning Service!

It surely makes a big difference when your clothes are neatly pressed and free from dirt and spots. Phone us today and let us demonstrate our superior service.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

"Sudden Service" Kent Street
Phone 139

Smooth at all speeds— Quiet, Quick and Flexible!



THE FULL-SIZE PLYMOUTH ROADSTER, \$675

YOU can have no conception of the high quality of Plymouth's behavior until you have driven this amazing Chrysler-built car.

For today's improved Plymouth—with its many recent engineering refinements—affords an utterly new and higher standard of smooth, silent operation unusual in cars of similar low price.

Plymouth is smooth at all speeds—and amazingly quiet and flexible. Take the wheel—drive as you will, where you will. Throttle it down—step it up—run the whole range of speed. Not a flutter—not a tremor. Chrysler engineering built smoothness into this remarkable car.

\$1,000 A DAY
Public recognition of Plymouth's extraordinary merit is indicated by the great growth of Plymouth sales. In April, Plymouth production hit a stride of 1,000 cars a day—and Plymouth is less than a year old!

A new crankshaft—dynamically and statically balanced; lengthened engine stroke and increased piston displacement; larger main bearings and connecting rods and light aluminum-alloy pistons—all these play a big part in creating Plymouth's new smoothness.

The engine is insulated by live, resilient rubber, while a body impulse neutralizer is added as a further guarantee of smooth operation.

Plymouth eclipses the entire low-priced field in value.

Coupe, \$655; Roadster (with rumble seat), \$675; 2-Door Sedan, \$675; Touring, \$695; De Luxe Coupe (with rumble seat), \$695; 4-Door Sedan, \$725. All prices f. o. b. factory. Plymouth dealers extend the convenience of time payments.

PLYMOUTH
AMERICA'S LOWEST-PRICED FULL-SIZE CAR

MAVERICK MOTOR COMPANY

Chrysler-Plymouth Sales and Service

Girl at Big Spring Shot Accidentally

Big Spring, May 23.—Loretta Jenkins, 16-year-old high school student, is in a serious condition in a local hospital from a wound inflicted accidentally here Monday afternoon at a friend's home.

With her roommate and two young men, all high school students, Miss Jenkins was dancing. Doyle Cox, her partner, was wearing a .41 Colt in his belt, having borrowed the weapon from his father for the purpose of rehearsing a school play later in the day.

The gun became cumbersome while he was dancing, said Cox, and as he lifted it to a shelf it was discharged. The bullet struck the girl in the abdomen.

Sheriff Jess Slaughter announced after a thorough investigation that no charges would be filed, his finding being that the shot was accidental.

CARD OF THANKS.

We take this opportunity of expressing thanks to our many friends for their help and sympathy during the illness and death of our beloved wife, daughter and sister. Especially do we wish to thank the ones that so kindly stood by and assisted in every way; words cannot express our feelings. May God's richest blessings rest on one and all.

E. H. Martin,
Mrs. Lucy Blackburn,
Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Reynolds and Children,
Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Dunlap and Children,
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Cargill and Children.

Transfer Fees Raised.

Austin, May 23.—The house Monday passed finally the Love senate bill fixing tuition of rural school students who move out of their communities to attend recognized high schools at \$7.50 monthly. The previous fee was \$5.

There are 92,000 motor busses in the nation.

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.

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

Try a Classified Ad for Results

Eats Big Steak and Fried Onions—No Gas

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

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



SERVICES MAY BE HAD AT MY BARN FROM

Black Hawk Registered Percheron Stallion and Black Mammoth Jack; also Registered O. I. C. Boar.

LEE BAKER



Marriage By Proxy.

San Antonio, May 23.—Although separated by more than 3000 miles, Mrs. Laurencia Jackson-Burns Yarbrough, 30, of San Antonio, and Capt. Manuel Eclante, 31, of the Peruvian army, were married Sunday at 12:30 in the afternoon.

The marriage was by proxy, Fred C. Groos, 516 East Husache avenue, acting as proxy for Captain Ecalante. He was authorized by a power of attorney drawn by Miss Della Guerra, who arranged the legal technicalities in connection with the unique wedding. Immediately after the wedding Mrs. Ecalante cabled her husband, notifying him that he was married.

Business Change.

C. E. McGehee has purchased Mack's Cafe on Kent street and has removed to Merkel with his family. Mr. and Mrs. McGehee were both reared in Merkel and are not strangers here.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Fowler, former owners of the cafe, have not announced their plans definitely, but will probably spend the summer in Corpus Christi.

Seventy steam railroads are using motor trucks for short hauls and terminal service.

Delicious Banana Split Saturday and Sunday 19c at Phillips Drug Store.

Calles Quits War Position.

Mexico City, May 23.—General Plutarco Elias Calles, minister of war and former president of Mexico, has resigned his portfolio and will retire to the country to rest.

Official announcements said General Calles, Mexico's "iron man" whose ruthless handling brought a speedy termination to the recent military revolt, gave his resignation to president Portes Gil Saturday and would turn over the office to General Joaquin Amaro.

Warren School Closes.

The Warren school, which is in charge of Miss Allyn Riley, assisted by Miss Nora Foster, closed its year on May 16th, with the class play, "Madam the Boss," being presented on Saturday night by the advanced pupils. The elementary classes also presented a short play, "An Irish Alibi." Miss Riley will leave the first of June for summer study in the North Texas State Teachers college at Denton.

KINDERGARTEN.

Beginning June 3, 1929, I shall teach a kindergarten. The term will be six weeks. The work will consist of: hand-work, games, story telling, health work, music, and objective counting. Tuition rate \$10.00 per child.
EUNICE RUSSELL.

Use The Mail Want Ads.

\$1.00 Day Specials
SPECIALS - SPECIALS
Saturday is \$1.00
Day at
Phillips Drug Store

- O. J.'s Beauty Lotion, 75c size, 2 for \$1.00
- Pound Cans Rexall Theatrical Cold Cream—A Cold and Cleansing Cream, 75c size, 2 for \$1.00
- Monarch Pound Paper with box envelopes to match, \$1.50 value for \$1.00
- Samson Electric Curling and Waving Iron, \$1.50 value for \$1.00
- \$1.20 Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin \$1.00
- \$1.25 B. & M. External Liniment \$1.00
- 1 Quart (Petrol) Pure White (American) Mineral Oil, \$1.25 value for \$1.00
- Mi, 31. Solution, Mouth Antiseptic, and Deodorant, 16 Oz. size 60c, 2 for \$1.00
- Quart Cenol Fly Spray, \$1.25 size \$1.00
- International Poultry Tonic, \$1.20 size \$1.00

Phillips Drug Store
The Rexall Store

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

DRESS SALE

EVERY DRESS IS SMART!
EVERY DRESS IS NEW!

A SPECIAL PURCHASE
of
TAFFETA PARTY DRESSES
GEORGETTE EVENING DRESSES
and
SLEEVELESS SPORT DRESSES
In all the wanted shades in Pastel and Prints
AT BARGAIN PRICES

Jones Dry Goods

ARTHUR EMERY Manager
W. A. FOSDICK Supt. Agents

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
New York, May 6, 1929

ARTHUR EMERY, Manager, The MANHATTAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Dallas, Texas.

Heartiest congratulations to you and all the members of your Agency Force for wonderful showing made during April. Present month the best April in SEVENTY-NINE YEARS of Company's history. Your Agency stands first in the Southwest-Territory. I thank you. **THOMAS E. LOVEJOY, President.**

"First in the Southwest Territory"

We thank our Agents and our Policyholders for their co-operation during April, enabling us to keep the Texas Agency in the lead.

This April it is also my pleasure to celebrate my THIRTY-FIRST year of service with the "OLD RELIABLE" and its Texas Policyholders.

The Manhattan Life is the only New York company doing business in Texas. Our Company was in compliance with the investment feature of the Robertson Law when enacted. We have invested millions of dollars in Texas loans; have never foreclosed on a piece of property nor lost a dollar on any Texas investment.

The same conservatism is shown in every Department of the Company. Not "HOW BIG" but "HOW SAFE" is our motto.

ARTHUR EMERY, Manager for Texas

The MANHATTAN LIFE INSURANCE CO.
American Exchange Bank Bldg. Dallas

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REPRESENT THIS FINE OLD COMPANY IN SOME SECTION OF WEST TEXAS

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PATRO
Cleveland.
MRS. CH
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C. W. S
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SARAF.
BANET.
J. BARK

What the Gray House Hid



The Mystery of a Haunted Mansion

by Wyndham Martyn

(Continued from Last Week)

When the door opened, Burton stood up and clenched his fists. He knew that some day Luigi's inherent love of torture would lapse into some such exhibition of violence as would kill him. Burton had great ideas of Nordic racial pre-eminence. He would show it at even in their moments of dying, the Nordic strain was the thoroughbred one.

"Ah!" he said satirically. "The gentle Luigi! Good morrow, Callab."

Not until that moment had Hanby really liked Burton. It was as he saw him standing braced for punishment, and unafraid, that there came a change of heart.

"Tom, old man," he said, "Junior, Bill, and I are here. We've trussed up two gallow's birds. How many more are there?"

When the light was turned on, it was seen that Tom Burton had suffered at his warder's hands. His face was thin and lined, his body bruised and aching. There were tears in his eyes as he shook his rescuers' hands.

Burton had little to tell. He knew only that the infamous Appleton, who had tipped him into the pit, ruled here absolutely. Burton had seen only Luigi, Jim, and Smucker. There might be others of whom he had not heard. He had no idea for what purpose Appleton had made his home here, or that he had been imprisoned beneath his cousin's house.

"We're here to clean out this place," Hanby said. "You'd better come along with us."

The searchers made slow progress, because they were as yet unaware of the number of inhabitants this subterranean fastness concealed. The general layout was speedily made clear. The large cellar with the lumber was the main feature. Then there were three little cells, a kitchen, a storeroom, and one other apartment. It was through the doors of this last that by straining their ears they could hear the faint hum of human voices.

While they were wondering whether to attempt to force an entrance, or to wait until the people within came out, they were relieved of making the decision. Mr. Appleton stepped out. He looked into the mouth of an automatic pistol in Hilton Hanby's hand.

For a moment flaming hate looked out of his eyes; then it died away. He was again the bland and suave little man whom they had known so long.

"I dislike revolvers," he said gently. "Furthermore, I am unarmed. You have something to say to me?"

"Quite a lot," said Hanby. "I trust you and your friends have been comfortable in my house. I begin to understand now on what you expended so much money. Mr. Douglas was puzzled about it. You are going to tell me why you spent it?"

There was no question but that a look of relief passed over Appleton's face at what was virtually a confession that his purpose remained a secret.

"Call it a fad," he observed benevolently. "This living underground is nothing new. The famous duke of Portland, as you no doubt remember, constructed a ballroom and a riding school under the lake of his famous Welbeck Abbey estate. Consider me a humble disciple."

"He did what he chose on his own property. You are trespassing on mine."

Appleton sighed profoundly.

"That makes a difference. I admit. Well, Mr. Hanby, charge me what you think is a fair price for my tenancy, and I will pay."

"There's another charge, too," Hanby reminded him. "Murder! It doesn't matter whether you strangled Smucker or your strong-arm men did it. You'll have trouble dodging the chair!"

"When you have made a complete confession, duly witnessed and signed, I shall turn you over to the police. Appleton, your goose is cooked, and you ought to have sense enough to know it. Why have you been scheming for years to get possession of this place? Why did you keep tenants away?"

"It was a fad," Appleton returned blandly. "Every man has one. You, for example, desired to be the owner of an estate. Well, that was my ambition, too. I have lost. You have won. Why, then, not be generous and let me go?"

He made a movement as if he wished to lead them away from the door. He did not notice that Pelham slipped behind him and produced a bunch of keys. Appleton was only aware that the door opened suddenly and he was pushed into the room.

It was the only apartment well furnished. Breakfast things were on a small table. In a chair a woman, still pretty, but no longer young, was smoking a cigarette. She jumped up in alarm.

"What's the matter, Fred?" she cried. "Who are these men?"

"Mr. Hanby," Appleton began amiably, "is incensed at discovering our retreat. Having found nothing irregular, he decides to accuse us all of murder. You are witness that this poor creature—he pointed to Burton—assaulted a giant huckleberry hawk intent on his destruction."

"My G—d!" cried Burton, incoherent in his anger. "He asked me to look at a giant fuchsia moth!"

"There is no such thing, of course," Appleton said pityingly. "You can see that his mind has gone. I had him put under partial guard. I shall admit that he suffered from a homicidal mania? He assaulted Smucker directly he came in, and later, unfortunately, he killed the poor fellow. There are witnesses to this."

"All d—d lies!" roared the professor. "Execrable falsehoods!"

"As to Smucker," continued Appleton, "he came here for the sole purpose of setting fire to the Gray house and killing its owner and all its inmates. I kept him here because I liked and respected Mr. Hanby and his family." Appleton's keen eyes were fixed on Hanby's face. "If Mr. Hanby denies knowledge of Smucker's avowed enmity, I shall be greatly surprised."

"We found him with matches and gasoline all ready to set fire to your house," the woman contributed.

"I don't doubt it," Pelham said dryly; "and I don't doubt that you were glad enough to stop him. If he had burned the Gray house, you would have died in its ruins. So far you haven't made out a case."

She shrugged her shoulders.

"If you don't want to be reasonable," she said, "that is your affair. If you want a murder trial, with a relative of the Hanbys in danger of hanging, call in the police. Two credible witnesses saw the murder committed."

"Madam," said the professor coldly, "you lie!"

"'Poor old huckleberry hawk!' she mocked. 'You've probably forgotten very conveniently, but you'll be hanged, for all that, if the police ever

"Quite the best thing to do," said the woman, "is to let us go away. I have a good many things here, but I could leave tonight. I say tonight, because we don't want to be seen. These people—the professor and that nice-looking boy—have grievances against us, I admit, but in both instances it was their own fault. The boy assaulted a friend and almost killed him."

"Did you, Les?" Junior demanded.

"It was some fellow who hung around the house at night. Celia saw him, and called him a wild faun. Naturally I wasn't going to stand for that, so I laid for him and started something."

"Very jolly of you!" said the woman, smiling. "Wouldn't the yellow papers enjoy writing about it? I think you acted splendidly, but the reporters wouldn't. They make most fearful fun of youth and moonlight and romance. I'm sure Miss Hanby would enjoy it. We'll promise to be gone before daybreak tomorrow. You see, we haven't done any damage. Mr. Hanby, what is it to be?"

"I'll have to talk this over in private," he decided.

"We will await your decision," Appleton said, smiling.

"But not here," returned Hanby. "I'm going to lock you up till I know what is to be the outcome." He smiled a little, and looked at the woman. "I'm a little afraid of you. I think you may be the brains of this whole affair. You shall occupy Leslie's cell for a while."

The laughing look died from her face. Hanby had been right in thinking her a dangerous person.

"I won't go!" she cried.

But in the end Appleton persuaded her. His attitude was perfect. He commended Hanby on his decision.

"You are quite justified," he said benignly. "We are admitted trespassers, and have no locus standi. I consider that you are well within your rights. Come, Belle, don't be silly! It will only be for a little while."

Belle, who knew him and his moods better than anyone else, was not deceived, as were the others. The men, watching, thought they saw Appleton serene in the consciousness of having committed no heinous sins. Belle knew that murder was in his heart at that moment.

"Now, Les and Junior," said Hanby, when the doors had been shut on the captured pair, "go down and bring up the wild faun. Stick your guns in his ribs. If he has any sense, he'll come quietly."

"I'll go, too," said Bill Pelham. "I tied those knots."

When they had gone, Burton turned to his cousin.

"Bill," he cried, "you don't think I killed that man?"

"Not for a minute; but you might have a lot of trouble explaining things, all the same. I'm relieved at his death. I'll admit. I didn't tell Dina, or even Bill, but Mrs. Smucker warned me that he had stolen some money from his old father, and had probably bought a gun. He was seen at the Grand Central, where he inquired how to get to Pine Plains. Mrs. Smucker said he had made threats to kill me. That ties up with Appleton's story. No matter what other reasons he had, I believe he did keep Smucker from trying to kill me."

"Do you mean to let them go, then?"

"It will depend on what we get from this thug that Les and Junior are bringing."

(Continued Next Week.)



"Poor Old Huckleberry Hawk!" She Mocked.

know about it!" There was a certain insolence about her that compelled admiration. "We may as well tell the truth," she went on. "Fred and I have been fond of each other for years. His wife wouldn't consent to a divorce, and my husband can't be located. Fred arranged this place where we could be undisturbed. He didn't fill in the lake completely, as you've no doubt found out. He fenced it with barbed wire, and planted thorn hedges to keep out trespassers."

Hanby interrupted her.

"Who was it telephoned me all that stuff about keeping it a bird sanctuary?"

"Fred did," she answered. "I suggested it, and got the data out of a magazine. Rather clever, wasn't it? We were dreadfully upset when you bought it. You wouldn't have done so if you hadn't known Douglas personally, because everything, as a rule, went through Fred's hands. We tried everything—threats of violence, attempts to prey on your superstition. Everything failed but the attempt to make you feel that you were doing a noble thing in protecting the birds. She had a musical laugh. 'You don't mind my laughing, do you?' she asked of Hanby. 'It really was so quaint!'"

"Go ahead!" he said grimly. "The laugh was on me then, but there's a useful old proverb about those who laugh last."

"What's the matter, Fred?" she cried. "Who are these men?"

"Mr. Hanby," Appleton began amiably, "is incensed at discovering our retreat. Having found nothing irregular, he decides to accuse us all of murder. You are witness that this poor creature—he pointed to Burton—assaulted a giant huckleberry hawk intent on his destruction."

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Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Second sheets at Merkel Mail office.

666 is a Prescription for Colds, Grippe, Flu, Dengue, Bilious Fever and Malaria. It is the most speedy remedy known.

BURTON-LINGO COMPANY Lumber and Building Materials

Low Bros. High Standard Paints and Varnishes

Phone 74 Merkel, Texas

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"If you don't want to be reasonable," she said, "that is your affair. If you want a murder trial, with a relative of the Hanbys in danger of hanging, call in the police. Two credible witnesses saw the murder committed."

"Madam," said the professor coldly, "you lie!"

"'Poor old huckleberry hawk!' she mocked. 'You've probably forgotten very conveniently, but you'll be hanged, for all that, if the police ever

Coin Detector Ends Plugged Nickel Racket

New York, May 23.—There rang out in Times Square the death knell of the "plugged nickel" and other forms of "wooden money."

In a drug store in that district was installed the first automatic bogus coin detector, a machine that not only detects but tells all about it in a loud voice.

The first "robot" slug detective was attached to an automatic change maker, but is adapted to any slot machine. If a bad coin, even though of proper size and weight, is dropped in the slot, it is deflected from the course of good coins by an electro-

Bleeding Gums Healed

The sight of sore gums is sickening. Reliable dentists often report the successful use of Leto's Pyorrhoea Remedy on their very worst cases. If you will get a bottle and use as directed druggists will return money if it fails. Phillips Drug Store.

STAR PARASITE REMOVER

Will keep your chickens free of lice, mites, fleas, blue-bugs, healthier and producing more eggs or your money back. Merkel Drug Co.

West Texas Maternity Rescue Home

Open to receive any unfortunate girl needing help and seclusion. Strictly private. Address: Lock Box 877, Sweetwater, Texas.

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

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

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JEWELER "Watches that Run" On the dot when we repair it. All work guaranteed. AT PHILLIPS DRUG STORE Merkel Texas

32 Lots in Merkel FOR SALE

These lots will be sold to the highest bidder. Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 Blk A. All of Block "B" being 12 lots. Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 Block "C." Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Block "E." All in the G. F. West Addition to town of Merkel, Taylor Co. Texas. Free of all indebtedness, abstract brought down to date, title clear. Mail your bid immediately, highest bidder gets them. One half cash, balance 6 months 6 per cent.

H. B. Houghton

BOX 1536, Oklahoma City Okla.

FREE FROM FLIES

2 EASIER WAYS TO KILL INSECTS

KILLS—Flies—Mosquitoes—Bedbugs—Roaches—Moths—Ants—Fleas Waterbugs—Crickets and many other insects Write for educational booklet, McCormick & Co., Baltimore, Md.

Bee Brand INSECT POWDER or Liquid Spray

If your dealer cannot furnish, we will supply direct by Parcel Post at regular prices

Liquid—50c, 75c and \$1.25. Gum—30c Powder—10c, 25c, 50c and \$1.00 Gum—25c

BURTON-LINGO COMPANY

Lumber and Building Materials

Low Bros. High Standard Paints and Varnishes

Phone 74 Merkel, Texas



IDLEWISE.

Misses Mary Eula and Boog Sears were hostesses to members of the Idlewise club and a number of tea hour guests on Tuesday afternoon.

A pastel color scheme of pink and orchid was evidenced in flowers arranged throughout the entertaining rooms and in the game appointments.

Games of bridge progressed until tea time when a refreshing ice course with plate favors of tiny corsages of pansies was served to Mesdames S. D. Gamble, Tom Largent, Jim Sears, Sam Cummings, Roy Largent, W. T. Sadler, L. B. Scott, Edward McCrary, Misses Melba West, Iva Bragg Christine Collins and Martha Bird. Tea hour guests were Mesdames Ross Ferrer, W. J. Largent, Sam Swann, Booth Warren, Dee Grimes, Misses Mona Margaret Jones, Roberta Sloan, Vera Baker.

BUFFET BRIDGE.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cummings extended hospitality to guests on last Saturday evening, entertaining at dinner served buffet-style followed by bridge games. The guest list for this enjoyable occasion included Mrs. W. V. Ramsey, Abilene, Mrs. Owen Rankin, Mr. and Mrs. Westley Edwards of Mary Neil, Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Grissom of Abilene, Messrs. and Mesdames W. T. Sadler, George White, C. B. Gardner, Harry Cookston, and the host and hostess.

THE GLEANER CLASS.

Mesdames R. R. Buford, Oscar Buford, Lee Lipton and Homer Dunn were joint hostesses Tuesday afternoon to members of the Gleaner class in the attractive home of Mrs. Oscar Buford. The devotional was led by Mrs. R. A. Burgess and the business session was conducted by Mrs. B. L. Hamilton, the president. Two interesting contests were enjoyed, Mrs. William Gambill and Mrs. Frank Iddings each winning a handsome prize as reward.

A delicious salad course with ice tea was passed to Mesdames R. A. Burgess, Eli Case, A. H. Brackeen, Will Dunn, Ross Ferrer, William Gambill, B. L. Hamilton, Frank Iddings, Herbert Patterson, Clyde Sears, Len Sublett, Fred Latham, L. R. Thompson, C. E. Ogle, D. H. Vaughn, Tom Allday, Buford, Jim Brown, Ferrer, Oscar Buford, R. R. Buford, Lee Lipton and Homer Dunn.

Junior League Program.

Song, prayer, roll call; Scripture, Luke 10, 25-28, by leader, Marie Stanford; song; story, "The Prince Who Took Time to Pray," by Lois Whiteley; "Happy Dan" by Duncan Briggs; Bible story, by Mildred Richardson; piano solo, by Mary Grace Dunn; benediction.

THE METHODIST REPORT.

Everyone enjoyed the worship hours last Sunday morning at the Methodist church. The weather, after our recent rain, was beautiful, and our lessons very interesting.

Miss Martha Bird is back from her school in Graham, Texas.

Miss Mary Frances Patton, of Rotan, was the guest of Miss Arline Willett over the week-end.

We are very glad to have Mrs. W. R. McSpadden back in our midst again after her illness. She has resumed her position as teacher of the Blue Bird class.

Don't miss the sermon next Sunday night at the Methodist church.

—Reporter.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Be on time not only to count but for the mutual help to you and the Sunday school. Preaching service 11 a. m. No evening service on account of commencement sermon at the Methodist church. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. You are invited to attend all our services.

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

BANK NOTICE.

Thursday, May 30, 1929, (Decoration Day) being a legal holiday, the undersigned banks will be closed. Patrons will please take notice and make their arrangements in accordance.

F. & M. NATIONAL BANK.
FARMERS STATE BANK.

Total registration of motor vehicles is 24,493,124.

PERSONAL NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Curry is visiting her mother, Mrs. W. H. Pogue.

C. L. Boswell was a business visitor to Winters on Tuesday.

Mrs. Ollie Shaffer, of El Paso, is visiting Mr. Jim West and children.

Miss Adine Howe of Loraine is visiting Miss Mollye Shannon this week.

Miss Mary Frances Patton of Rotan is the guest of Miss Arline Willett.

Fred Groene has returned from an extended business trip to Cuba and Panama.

Mrs. Owen of Rankin, Texas, was the week-end guest of Mrs. Harry Cookston.

Miss Zada Bell of Trent was the guest of Miss Venice Bell last week-end.

Mrs. J. L. Richardson of Lampasas is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Reagh.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson visited friends in Abilene the first of the week.

Miss Oleta McClesky of McMurry college was the week-end guest of Miss Nina McAninch.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cotton of Arlington are visiting their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Roberts.

Mrs. W. H. Casey and Mrs. L. O. Neill of Abilene were week-end visitors with Miss Nola Neill.

Miss Lola May Duckett of Sweetwater is spending the week with her cousin, Miss Ola Smith.

Mrs. R. O. Anderson has returned from an extended visit with her father and sister at Haskell.

Mr. and Mrs. George Overton of Sweetwater were guests of friends here Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Fry and Miss Eula Fry were visitors in Abilene Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. T. C. Boswell from Barry in Navarro county is the guest of her son, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Boswell.

A. T. Sheppard left Monday for Houston to be in attendance at the State Convention of Undertakers.

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Herring, of San Mrs. Judd Sheppard this week. Herring is a nephew of Mrs. Sheppard.

Mr and Mrs. O. F. Weidenbach have

returned from a visit with Mr. Weidenbach's brother and sister at Wichita, Kansas.

The friends of Mrs. J. D. Boring will be glad to learn that she is slowly improving. She is now with her daughter, Mrs. Louis Marten at Handley, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. V. Harris of Eliasville and Mrs. and Mrs. W. P. Duckett and children were guests Sunday in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris.

Miss Mary Parrack visited last week-end with her sister, Miss Ima Parrack, and other friends at Simmons university.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Golloday, daughter and granddaughter, spent the week-end visiting W. L. Johnson, Jr. at Fort Worth.

Miss Juanita Pearce of Abilene was visiting friends in Merkel this week. Miss Pearce was formerly a teacher in the Merkel schools.

L. B. Scott and Hurley Toombs made an extended trip to the plains this week looking after their land interests in that section.

Miss Ruby Joe Higgins, who underwent an operation for appendicitis recently, was able to be removed to her home on Wednesday.

Miss Flossie Campbell has returned from Ysletta, where she has been teaching the past two years. She expects to attend summer school.

Miss Martha Bird has returned from Graham, where she taught in the public schools of that place, to spend the summer with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Holloway, accompanied by their daughters, Mrs. Grover Gilbert and Mrs. S. O. Owen, have been visiting another daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George Groene at Taylor, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Windham have returned from Beggs, Okla., where they were called by the serious illness of Mr. Windham's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Windham. The latter is now greatly improved.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Hutchison of Abilene and Mr. and Mrs. William McCorkle of Fort Worth, the latter the

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jackson last Sunday.

Dexter McCarty and Aline McCarty, nephew and niece of C. L. Boswell, are visitors in the Boswell home, returning from Byers. Miss McCarty teaches school there and Mr. McCarty teaches in Ellis county.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell will leave the last of the week for Canyon to be present at the closing exercises of the West Texas State Teachers' College where their two daughters will receive degrees, Miss Mary receiving a B. S. and Miss Ouida a B. A. degree.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Largent and daughter will leave Sunday for an extended trip through Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri, stopping at Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Wichita and Kansas City enroute to Boonville, Mo. to be present at the graduation of Joe Largent from Kemper college. After graduation, Joe will join them and they will return leisurely through the Ozarks testing out the fishing resorts of that section and enjoying the beautiful scenery.

AT THE METHODIST CHURCH.

"The author of that pageant certainly knew his business," "the most touching play-pageant I ever heard," "the best service I was ever in," "the characters were admirably fitted for their part," "that would move the heart of any man," were some of the expressions heard at the close of the service at the Methodist church last Sunday evening. It was an inspiring service from beginning to end. The choir platform was literally crowded with men from the Business Men's Bible Class who gave us a great fifteen minute song service led by Brooks Patterson and Colonel Church. Then came the pageant which held the large audience spell-bound for about forty minutes. At times the congregation seemed not to breathe—it was so still and at other time stillness was only broken by sobs. The following made up the cast: Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hughes, Mrs. Beene, Tom Allday, L.

R. Thompson, Miss Boog Sears, Floyd Dowell, Cyrus Pee and Prof. R. A. Burgess. The whole church extends thanks and appreciation for the splendid service. The pastor will be in the pulpit next Sunday morning. Commencement sermon at evening hour. T. C. Willett, Pastor.

Singing at Cross Roads.
There will be singing at Cross Roads, one mile south of Nubia, Sunday afternoon, beginning at 3 o'clock. All other communities are invited to come and bring their books.
Fresh berries and plums at Merkel Fruit and Vegetable Co.



Let it rain,
Let it pour,
She knows what
The telephone's for!
JUST SAY 234.

Disagreeable winds . . . a hard driving rain . . . don't expose yourself to the inclement weather to shop for your foodstuffs. Phone us your order. Our selection is reliable, our delivery prompt.

DON'T FORGET 234

That's the number that gets the best groceries. When better groceries can be bought we will have them.

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

CASE CASH GROCERY

Successor to Hamilton & Case

**REMEMBER
WHEN YOU WERE
A GRADUATE?**



Final exams . . . the class play . . . the banquet . . . class day, and a riot of fun . . . and then the commencement exercises, and your name being called for a diploma . . . Remember?

It's one of the big occasions of a lifetime. But for that boy or girl of yours—or for that young friend whose friendship you value and whom you want to start in the right direction—you can make it an important occasion for him or her by the right kind of a gift.

IT'S EASY TO MAKE A SELECTION AT OUR STORE
Toilet Sets, Comb and Brush Sets, a Beautiful Strap—or Bracelet Watch, Vanities, Perfumes, Jewelry.

CITY DRUG STORE

NOTICE

We will open for business Saturday morning with a brand new stock of Confections.

Will Appreciate Your Patronage

Queen Sandwich Shop

In Queen Theatre Building

HOOVERIZE
Your Garden Products

We have just received a large shipment of "Fruit Jars" in pint, quart and half gallon sizes. We also stock Pressure Cookers and Canners, Sealers, Cans, Lids, Fruit Jar Lids, Rubbers and Caps, Cappers, Kegs, Large Stone Jars and Lids for Pickling.

Preserving Kettles, Collanders, Sieves and anything else you may need to take care of your surplus Vegetables, Meats, Fruits, etc.

Take care of what you grow and live at home, and eat out of the Kitchen.

OUR STOCK IS COMPLETE IN ALL LINES.
WATCH OUR WINDOWS FOR SPECIALS WITH A REAL PRICE

LIBERTY
Hardware Co.

"If It's Hardware, We Have It"

"ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"--GAFTON THEATRE
NANCY CARROLL--BUDDY ROGERS--MONDAY, TUESDAY, MAY 27-28

TRENT TEXAS