

THE MERKEL MAIL

OL. 41—NO. 36.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1929.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

DEPUTY DISTRICT GOVERNOR GUEST OF LOCAL LIONS

Tom N. Carswell of Abilene in Attendance on Group Meeting Here Makes Helpful Address; Other Guests From Abilene.

T. N. Carswell, deputy district governor of the Lions club and secretary of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, was the principal speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Lions club, which was attended by more than the number usually present and which was an occasion that proved both pleasant and profitable to all. Other Lions present were Guy McCarty, cashier of the Abilene State bank and president of the Abilene Lions club, and Claud Cuthrell, business man of Abilene and also a member of the Lions.

The date was the time set for the meeting of Group 24 of this district of Lions Clubs, of which Booth Warren is chairman and Sam Swann is secretary, but due to force of circumstances representatives from the other cities in the group were prevented from attending.

In his brief remarks, Mr. Carswell referred to the fact that the Lions club is one of the things that is putting men to work in a recreational way. "While the daily grind gets monotonous at times, the Lions club furnished an avenue of approach to community service," he said. The speaker cited the many constructive things already done by the Merkel Lions club. With the comment that "buildings, highways, railroads, all are but dreams come true," he took occasion to predict that, while the local hotel project did not materialize as the city builders had planned, a modern hotel would yet be realized in this city.

The club singing was led by E. Yates Brown, with Mrs. Brown at the piano. The invocation was delivered by Rev. Ira L. Parrack and Rev. R. A. Walker was toastmaster for the day.

One of the entertainment features of the program was selections by the Choral and Glee clubs of the High school under the direction of Miss Loyless. The first number was "Waiting in the Shadows," and the second number, "Singin' in the Rain," which was sung by a foursome before the Pep Squad banquet the previous week. The entire Choral and Glee club appeared first in this popular song and then the four, E. L. Turner, Willie Evelyn Boaz, Thelma Leach and Byron Patterson, repeated it, with appropriate costume of raincoats and umbrellas. Another of the enjoyable features of the program was a reading by Miss

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Merkel Hatchery Leases Building On Front Street

The Daniels building on Front street, just east of the former Maverick Motor company location, has been leased by C. D. Smith of Lorraine, for the location of the Merkel Hatchery, which is the name of the new enterprise to start operation here about the first of the year. The lease was arranged through G. W. Boyce and covers a period of one year.

As stated in the Merkel Mail last week, Mr. Smith will install a 16-128 egg hatchery and a 900 chick electric brooder here, both to be in operation by the beginning of the new year.

Musical Program For Sunday Night Service

The following special program is to be rendered at the Sunday evening service at the Methodist church:

- Invocation, by the pastor.
- Violin solo, Dee Hail.
- Piano solo, Mabel Corinne Morton.
- Violin duet, Billie Woodrum, Dee Hail.
- Saxophone solo, Dorothy Ector.
- Trio, Clayton Leach, Lottie Butman, Mrs. Rider at the piano.
- Orchestra, selected.
- Piano duet, Thelma Leach, Sybil Stuart.
- Zylophone solo, "Rugged Cross," accompanied by orchestra.
- Orchestra, selected.
- Vocal solo, Ethel Hamilton.
- Hawaiian Guitar trio, Lottie Butman, Mary Ector and Opal Archer.
- Saxophone Solo Mable Corinne Morton.
- Orchestra, selected.
- Saxophone trio, Mable Corinne Morton, Mary Louise Moore and Dorothy Nell Ector.

Sanitarium Notes.

Bill Halsted, who resides east of town and who underwent an appendix operation at the Merkel Sanitarium a few days ago, is doing nicely and will soon be able to return to his home.

After being cared for at the Merkel Sanitarium for the past two weeks for case of typhoid fever, Hosse Windom returned to his home near Blair Wednesday.

Sunday School Attendance.

The attendance at the Sunday School in Merkel last Sunday showed a response to the beautiful weather of the day, when 789 were present at the five churches here. The Methodists led with an attendance of 286, followed by the Baptists with 280. Attendance at the other Sunday Schools was Church of Christ 99, Presbyterian 76 and Nazarene 48.

BLANTON DECIDES TO SEEK ELECTION TO CONGRESS AGAIN

Former Member of Lower House From 17th District for Twelve Years Announces Intention to Re-enter Politics.

Thomas L. Blanton, who voluntarily retired from congress after twelve years of service in the lower house to make the race last year for United States senator, authorized the announcement Wednesday that he will ask the voters of the 17th district to return him to his old seat in congress next year in a statement to the Abilene Reporter, which appeared in that newspaper Wednesday. The statement in part follows:

"You ask me the direct question whether I will run for re-election to Congress in the coming Democratic primary. Although rather early, I answer 'Yes.' Since retiring from Congress, constituents generally have continued to call on me when needing service. I couldn't refuse them. I can't turn down ex-service men who are in distress and need urgent help. I can't turn down former constituents who call on me.

"This work, gratuitously done takes valuable time from my law practice, and has hardly allowed me a breathing spell. In other words, I am doing another work every day for which another draws the pay. I am not financially able to give this time. Therefore I am going to ask the voters of the 17 district to return me to congress.

"I am willing to serve if they want me. I want all of my supporters to know that I highly appreciate their continued confidence in asking me to run, and that I will be grateful to them for giving me their usual help and active support. If elected, as I did formerly, I will give them the very best that is in me."

The Abilenean was first elected to Congress in 1917, serving the old 16th (Jumbo) district which extended from Mineral Wells to El Paso, the largest in the United States before it was carved down by the state legislature. The re-districting made Blanton's the 17th, now taking in the counties of Brown, Burnet, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Concho, Eastland, Jones, Lampasas, Llano, McCulloch, Mills, Nolan, Palo Pinto, Runnels, San Saba, Shackelford, Stephens and Taylor.

The seat which Judge Blanton will seek and which he held for twelve years, will be disputed by the incumbent, R. Q. Lee of Cisco, who is serving his first term. Colonel Lee advising the Reporter by wire Wednesday that he will be a candidate to succeed himself, his formal announcement to be made later.

Walter C. Woodward, state senator from Coleman, Wednesday "scotched" reports that he, too, would be a candidate for congress.

"I have no intention of making the race, and never have had," he said.

Decide to Employ Two County Trappers

The Taylor county commissioners court, in session Tuesday morning, voted to hire two county trappers for a period of six months, rather than one trapper for 12 months, following a petition from the Taylor County Sheep and Goat Raisers association.

L. S. Munger of Abilene, president, and Lem Dudley of the Chaney ranch, south of Merkel, secretary, headed a delegation of more than 10 ranchers who met with the commissioners.

The county commissioners also gave attention to landscaping the court house square and J. R. Masterson, Abilene nurseryman, was authorized to do this work, which will include resetting of a number of plants and putting out new shrubbery. Mr. Masterson will begin the work at once, County Judge Tom K. Eplen said.

Men's Prayer Meeting.

W. W. Haynes is to be the leader at the men's prayer service to be held at the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The service last Sunday was held at the First Baptist church with W. I. Crane as leader and was largely attended.

Teaching Class at Caps.

Rev. Ira L. Parrack, pastor of the First Baptist church of Merkel, is teaching a class at the Baptist church at Caps each evening this week, the subject being "Introducing the Old Testament." About 60 were present Tuesday evening and much interest is being manifested.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Robert Eikel, son of Mrs. Beatrice Eikel of Sherman and a senior in the law school at the University of Texas, has been awarded the Rhodes scholarship for Texas.

Thrown from his truck when an automobile crashed into it during a heavy fog, Frank J. Vernon of Vernon received a broken neck and died a short while afterward.

Dr. John H. Brice, who has served as city health officer for Cisco for the past three years, was found dead Saturday night in a swivel chair in his office, with a bullet wound in the center of his forehead.

Sue Katherine Cornelius, 2-year old Beaumont child, sustained a badly mangled right arm when she was attacked by a black bear at the city zoo while feeding the bear acorns through a heavy mesh wire cage.

Lloyd Henson, 30, pilot, and Miss Winnie Williams, 34, passenger, were killed Sunday evening when the plane in which they were riding crashed at the Stamford airport and caught fire, burning their bodies to a crisp.

A group of small boys playing in a community close to Price cross road, about 14 miles east of Ennis, found the body of an unidentified Mexican woman, about whose neck a wire had been twisted, under a vacant house.

Hangar No. 1 at Love Field, Dallas, belonging to Good and Foster Aero Service company, and twelve airplanes, belonging to private operators, were destroyed by fire Saturday night, the estimated damage being \$200,000.

Young Brothers dry goods store at Hamlin was burglarized sometime Monday night, the store being thoroughly ransacked, with the loss consisting of men's clothing, underwear and shoes estimated at \$2,500.

H. C. Meacham, Fort Worth's first mayor under the city manager plan, and prominent in the prosecution of Frank Norris for the killing of D. E. Chipps, died at his home in Ft. Worth last Saturday after an illness of only a few days.

Final receipts of the ticket sale for the 1929 Thanksgiving game between Texas and A. & M., played on Kyle field at College Station, as announced by James Sullivan, business manager of athletics at A. & M. college, show a total of \$69,306, the largest gate in the history of the Longhorn-Aggie frays at College Station.

Two fatalities resulted from the explosion and burning of a Pickwick stage motor bus on the Fredericksburg road out of San Antonio, the fire being caused, it is said, by the explosion of moving picture films. Those fatally burned were Mrs. Toss Forrester of Nixon and B. J. Morgan of San Angelo.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS.

A. W. Hunter, one of the substantial and successful business men of the Canyon, was in town Friday, the first to purchase the 1930 automobile license, according to L. R. Thompson. Mr. Hunter reports that the pipe has been distributed for the loading rack from the Hunter No. 1 to the T. and P. line directly north of the well.

D. O. Huddleston reports that those who are tilling his farms are busy plowing and he gives it as his opinion that these fine days should be employed in preparing the soil to hold the moisture that may fall between now and planting time.

M. P. Latimer was in town last week and registered a new Chevrolet for the month of December.

Dee Teaff, a substantial farmer of Cross Roads district, was transacting business in Merkel Wednesday.

Record of Births.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Barnes, residing near Tye, a baby boy, Dec. 6, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Reeves of Philadelphia, Pa., at the home of Mrs. Hugh Campbell at Blair, a baby girl, Dec. 5, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Ragsdale, residing in the canyon, a baby boy, Dec. 8, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan C. Swindle, residing in the canyon, a baby boy, Dec. 5, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Caris, Trent, a baby girl, Dec. 8, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gay, a baby boy, Dec. 10, 1929.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rudolph Shannon, Trent, a baby boy, Dec. 11, 1929.

250 FARMERS ASSEMBLED IN MASS MEETING FAVOR PLANTING BETTER SEED

CALLED SESSION PRESBYTERY HELD

Fifteen Churches Represented at Abilene Meeting, With Jas. H. West of Merkel Presiding.

Twenty-four pastors and elders representing 15 churches in the Abilene Presbytery were present at a called session held in Abilene Tuesday afternoon. Jas. H. West, elder of the Presbyterian church here, is moderator and Rev. Fred S. Rogers is stated clerk.

The Presbytery declined to dissolve pastoral relationship between the Central Presbyterian church at Stamford and the Rev. Mr. Rogers, who had accepted a call to the First Presbyterian church at Butler, Mo., pending action of the Presbytery and the latter will continue at Stamford by mutual agreement.

Charles S. Wood, member of the Abilene Central Presbyterian church, was received as a candidate for the ministry and three dismissals to other Presbyteries were made as follows: Rev. Glenn Harris of Strawn, now a student in the Princeton Theological Seminary, dismissed to the presbytery of New Brunswick, N. J.; Rev. B. Berryhill of Rochester, to the Waco presbytery; Rev. James H. Tate of Fluvanna, to the Riverside, California presbytery.

Those in attendance from Merkel besides Mr. West, were Rev. R. A. Walker, the pastor, W. L. Diltz, Sr., and W. M. Elliott.

Choral Club Presents Pageant Tonight at 8

The Choral and Glee clubs of the Merkel High school are giving a pageant at 8 o'clock this Friday evening at the Grammar School building, directed by Miss Loyless. Miss Lucy Tracy has consented to give readings as part of the program. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

PERSONAL NEWS NOTES

Mrs. J. C. White has returned from a visit to Denison.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson were Abilene visitors Wednesday.

Miss Iva Bragg is visiting in Glen Rose and Stephenville this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell spent Sunday at Loving in Young county.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Brubeck are here from Eldorado, Texas, for a few days.

J. S. Thomas is in Fort Worth visiting in the home of his son, Byron Thomas.

Miss Mona Margaret Jones spent last week-end with Miss Melba West at Baird.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Partridge have returned from a visit of several weeks in Houston.

Mrs. George Overton of Sweetwater is the guest for a few days of her aunt, Mrs. Fred Groene.

O. R. Rodden, accompanied by his sister, Miss Jessie Rodden, left for Dallas Wednesday.

L. R. Thompson was in attendance at a meeting of Taylor County Board of Education at Abilene Saturday.

Mrs. M. E. Young, whose home is in Mesquite, will spend the winter here with her daughter, Mrs. F. A. Polley.

L. R. Thompson was in Abilene Tuesday evening to hear Dr. Fred Warde's lecture on the Shakespearean drama.

John Banner and family of Rotan were guests Sunday in the home of Mr. Banner's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Banner.

Mrs. T. V. Touchstone is attending the state convention of agents of the Southwestern Life Insurance company at Dallas this week.

Bill Kidd, Burl Walker, Mrs. Bill Ponder and Miss Cora Ponder of Abilene were recent visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Walker and Mrs. George L. Reeves.

Miss Christine Collins visited in Abilene this week. She was accompanied home by Miss Edna Marie Jones, who remained as her guest for the week-end.

Mrs. C. K. Russell and daughter, Miss Anna Lou, accompanied by Mrs.

Committee of Twelve Named to Work With Similar Committee From Lions.

"Sounding the death-knell to half-and-half," as one speaker referred to the movement to plant better cotton seed which is being actively pushed in the Merkel territory at this time, the mass meeting of farmers at the Queen theatre Monday afternoon was attended by approximately 250 men, all interested in the same object, ways and means to produce better staple.

A committee of three from the Merkel Lions club, R. O. Anderson, Sam Swann and Rufe Tittle, had been appointed to work with the president, Booth Warren, in this campaign and the mass meeting named a committee of twelve selected from different localities to serve with these representatives on a joint committee to work out details as to the choice of seed, the method of making these seed available, etc. Those named were Jim Moore, Blair; Eli Cordell, Nubia Hamilton Chancey, Comper; Joe Winters, Noodle; H. A. Deavers Shiloh; J. W. Teaff, Salt Branch; Watt Blair, Merkel; Dave Anderson; Mc. Pleasant; Millard King, Frenx pasture; J. A. Horton, Mulberry school; Fred Kelso, Stith, and Co Hamner, Trent.

By action of the mass meeting Sam Swann was named general chairman of the joint committee and he called this committee to meet this Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Lion club banquet hall, at which time reports are to be made from each locality by the committeemen selected.

It was suggested by L. L. Murray that the committeemen hold their meetings at the school houses in their various localities and obtain sentiment and practical endorsement at the earliest date.

Eli Cordell, the Nubia committeeman, called his sectional meeting at the Cross Roads school house for Thursday night and Jim Moore called a meeting at the Blair school house for Wednesday night.

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MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of the Merkel Mail December 10, 1909.)

AGED MERKEL COUPLE CELEBRATE THEIR 53 ANNIVERSARY.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Coggin, Merkel citizens of more than half a century, have the following children with them for a happy reunion: T. J. Coggin and family, Mrs. L. S. Caruth, Mrs. S. M. Tow, Mrs. Cordell, Mrs. Easterwood, Mrs. Barbee, C. M. Coggin, Mrs. W. C. Hill.

We have just opened the most complete line of Art Goods ever exhibited in Merkel, consisting of Burnt Leather Goods, Stamped Wood, Jardineres, Post Card Albums, and Stereoscopes and Views. Your Christmas problem is solved—Groene's Studio.

Reid Alsbrook and Charley Bankhead returned from Abilene Monday.

Bishop Hunter stopped off here Saturday to visit home folks while enroute to Odessa from Kansas City.

25 to 50 per cent discount in all departments of our store until Christmas—J. P. Sharp & Co.

Rotan Cypert, accompanied by his sister, Miss Eufie Cypert, left on an early morning train yesterday for Rochester, Texas.

Judge Mims and daughter, Miss Ruth, were interested Abilene visitors Tuesday.

THE FIRST NUPTIAL KNOT TIED BY MERKEL'S FIRST JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

In speaking of John Dilmeth, Merkel's first justice of the peace, in my last communication I was reminded of his first call to marry a couple.

The call to perform the ceremony came from a prominent family in the canyon and Dilmeth was the only chance—so it was up to him to tie the matrimonial knot. After tanking up for several hours on Flannigan's Best (or worst—I do not know which) he thought that he could go through with the ceremony all right until some of the cowboys reminded that after the ceremony he would be compelled to offer prayer for the future happiness and prosperity of the newly-wedded couple. He said that knocked him out, for praying was clear out of his line but proposed to get Mr. J. L. Vaughan to go along and do the praying as he was Sunday School Superintendent and was used to praying but Mr. Vaughan was passenger and freight agent, day and night operator, postmaster, photographer and sometimes physician and veterinary surgeon and he could not spare the time to go.

But by the time for departure, Mr. Dilmeth had taken on considerable more courage and felt that he was equal to the whole emergency of the situation and with one or two cowboys departed for the canyon. When they returned the boys said that the Justice performed the ceremony all right and offered up a pretty good prayer, besides playing the part of the best man at the supper table.

Our Farmer Friends

look to us for the kind of specialized banking service that will best serve their interests.

They know that we understand farming, that we are heartily in sympathy with all agricultural progress and that we are alert at all times to extend cooperation worthy of a responsible bank.

Why not let us serve you, too?

The Farmers State Bank

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

J. S. SWANN, President	HERBERT PATTERSON, Assistant Cashier
R. O. ANDERSON, V. Pres.	B. L. HAMILTON, Assistant Cashier
DAVID HENDRICKS, V. Pres.	
W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.	

SATURDAY, DEC. 14, IS LAST DATE WE CAN ACCEPT ORDERS AND GUARANTEE DELIVERY OF

Engraved Christmas Cards

We Have a Splendid Assortment of Other Christmas Cards and can print them for you at any time.



MERKEL MAIL

Vet Mail Carrier in Service for 26 Years Voluntarily Retires

Bowie, Dec. 12.—Twenty-six years and 16 days on the job as a rural mail carrier—more than 10 times the distance around the earth.

This is the record of Renne Allred Sr., driver on the first rural mail route in Montague county, who celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday and voluntarily retired from service Tuesday.

Allred came to Bowie in a prairie schooner, drawn by a pair of small mules, with his wife and three small children, in 1893. He had but \$3 in his pocket and was in debt. His first job was hauling rock, for which he received 75 cents a day. For more than 10 years he worked as a day laborer and farmer and then personally circulated a petition for the first rural mail route out of Bowie.

When the postmaster and some of the Bowie merchants heard that the petition was being circulated, Allred was accused of "trying to kill the town." Merchants contended that if farmers got their mail at their doors, they would have no occasion to come to town and "bats would roost in their stores."

Despite the opposition the petition for the route was soon approved and out of 26 applicants who took the examination, Allred was appointed. On Nov. 16, 1903, he carried the first mail out of the town of Bowie in an old-fashioned mail-wagon with glass doors, drawn by a pair of sorrel mules. Heavy sand beds and rough roads soon proved the mail wagon impractical and Allred shifted to a little cart, in which he carried the mail winter and summer, for nearly 20 years.

Little short of the remarkable record of Allred is that of his bay mare "Ginger," which he drove practically every day for 18 years. Allred estimates that "Ginger" traveled more than 100,000 miles over the same route. So accustomed was she to the trip that often when she was being driven to other places, she balked unless allowed to first go by the post office.

After highways were improved late in 1925, "Ginger" was replaced by an automobile, in which the veteran carrier wound up his remarkable record of service. She was placed in a pasture to enjoy her well-earned rest, but from grief or old age, she died within a few months after going out of service. She was 27 years old at the time of her death. There was no common burial for her, no bleaching of her faithful bones under the scorching Texas sun. She was given a regular funeral and burial on the Allred farm. Only 11 of the original patrons on the route are still getting their mail on rural route No. 1. Forty-five have died while Allred has been their carrier, the rest have moved away.

Allred has reared a large family of five sons and two daughters. All of the sons are practicing attorneys in Texas and all have served as prosecuting attorneys. After his retirement, Allred plans to spend his winters in the Rio Grande Valley and his summers in Bowie.

Bakersfield Increases WTUC List to Total 112

Abilene, Texas, Dec. 12.—Bakersfield has been officially added to the properties increasing the list of cities, towns and communities served by the West Texas Utilities Company to 112.

This new town is located about 18 miles southwest of McCamey. Into this booming West Texas oil center, the company extended its transmission lines and on the 18th of September energized them. Since that date a total of 89 customers has been added to the lines with each week bringing many more.

Six months ago the site now known as Bakersfield was a barren prairie with an occasional mesquite patch. Sensing the presence of oil, the Taylor-Link Oil company investigated and toward the latter part of July brought in the exceptional discovery well. Oil men poured in and activity abounded on every side with the result that there are approximately sixty business enterprises flourishing in the town today.

Bakersfield, laid out by two Fort Stockton ranchmen, Baker and Walker, has a varying population estimated at 500. The town, while booming at present, has every indication of becoming one of the permanent West Texas oil centers.

I will have the Tax Rolls again after the first of the year and will be glad to write your tax receipts after that time.

L. R. THOMPSON.

Will Hold Bazar Saturday.
The White Church Parent-Teachers association will hold a Bazar in front of the Max Mellinger store on Saturday, Dec. 14, for the benefit of the White Church school. Your patronage is earnestly solicited.

Million Offered For Horse But Refused

Chicago, Dec. 12.—The \$1,000,000 offer of a Texas multimillionaire for Reigh Count, winner of the 1928 Kentucky Derby, has been refused by John D. Hertz, the owner.

"I think a fellow who would pay \$1,000,000 for a horse ought to have his head examined," Hertz said. Then added: "and the man who turned it down must be absolutely unbalanced."

The bid, which was made by W. T. Waggoner, Arlington, Texas, was \$400,000 greater than any ever before made for a horse.

NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, being the 14th day of the month at 4 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and such other business as may come before the meeting.

R. O. Anderson, V. P.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

DAPPER DAN



D. A. N.

Broadcasting

When your best pantaloons you rend,
Just laugh it off and fix to send
Them to our tailor for to mend,
And there your troubles all will end!

Slipshod repairing never comes from this shop. Our expert tailor goes over every garment that is sent to us for cleaning or pressing, and when he gets thru with them nobody ever could find the mend without a microscope.

MODERN DRY CLEANERS OF COURSE

Phone 3

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



"A BROKEN WHEEL—
WHAT SHALL WE DO?
Ah, there's Warren Higgins Garage the welding shop, now I know we're saved. He won't take long to weld this broken axle, hub or whatever it is that broke down, and then we'll be on our way. Welding is a great thing for cars. Saves a lot of time, money and worry.

GENERAL REPAIR WORK
ALSO BATTERY SERVICE

Warren Higgins Garage
Phone 91

Nature's Best Food
PURE MILK
A Few More Customers
Wanted.

CITY DAIRY

Lee Baker, Prop.
Merkel, Texas



COW DAY

A READY RESPONSE

THE community of Merkel always finds the Farmers and Merchants Merchants National Bank ready to respond with hearty co-operation where community interests are concerned.

In building for the future, we realize that we must not build for ourselves alone. That a better community means better financial institutions, and consequently increased patronage for our bank.

We are always glad to promote community interests.

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Merkel, Texas

"FOR THE PAST QUARTER CENTURY"

Buck BRAND WORK CLOTHES FIT AND WEAR



Bragg Dry Goods Company—Merkel, Texas

Just Received

Complete Line of
HIGH POWERED

Shot Gun Shells

CLAY LUMBER CO.

PIERCE PETROLEUM CORPORATION

WE DELIVER ANY AMOUNT THE DAY YOU WANT IT
JUST PHONE 288 OR LEAVE ORDER AT THE
PENNANT SERVICE STATION
KEROSENE OILS GASOLINE

MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS FOR RESULTS

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Junior Class of '30—Vera Baker sponsor.

The Staff:

- Editor-in-Chief—Audrey Farris.
- Asst. Editor-in-Chief—Elvis Richardson.
- Sports Editor—Byron Patterson.
- Jokes Editor—Earl Watts.
- Misc. Editor—Vera Richie.
- Society Editor—Mattie Lou Largent.
- Senior Reporter—Doris Brown.
- Sophomore Reporter—Ida Mae Derstine.
- Freshman Reporter—Silas Stevens.
- Baseball Club—Imogene Middleton.
- Choral and Glee Clubs—Artilee Simmons.
- Pep Squad Reporters—Tracy Campbell and Edwin Watson.

PEP SQUAD AND FOOTBALL BANQUET.

On Friday evening, December 6, the Pep Squad and Football banquet was given in the Lions Hall under the direction of Miss Sloan. The hall and the tables were very attractively decorated in the school colors, purple and gold. On every hand compliments were heard about the girls who all looked so beautiful in their evening dresses. The plate favors were miniature footballs and the place cards were pictures of the football boy and his girl friend. Brother Willett gave the invocation. The menu consisted of:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Turkey | Dressing |
| Carrots | Salad |
| Cranberry Sauce | Peas |
| Celery | Olives |
| | Hot Chocolate |
| | Heavenly Hash |

This menu was very attractively served by Mrs. McFarland and the Pep Squad members of last year.

After the feast Mr. and Mrs. Scott sang a duet, "My Little Gypsy Sweetheart." Miss Tracy then gave a Christmas reading which everyone enjoyed very much. A foursome from the Choral and Glee club sang, "Singing in the Rain" with clever effect. They were E. L. Turner, Willie Evelyn Boaz, Byron Patterson and Thelma Leach.

Coach Medley of McMurry was the principal speaker. He made a very interesting talk. He said never play-dirty football—if you do while one side is planning to hurt a man on the other side—that side will win. He said that in football a man has to think quick and act quick and that it is the same all through life. He made the statement that when the opposing team was doped to win his team won, and when his team was doped to win, the opposing team won. He gave several examples of this. He said that good officials should be obtained in a football game and it was not the coach's place to disagree with them unless they had misinterpreted a rule.

After Coach Medley's talk the Pep leaders made a short talk and then each of the boys said a few words. The boys were: Fred Guitar, captain, J. E. Boaz, Raymond Petree, Joel Darsey, Orion Tittle, J. D. Ashby, Terrell Mashburn, Fred Baker, Milton Case, Lee Darden, W. J. Derstine, Paul Collins, Jeff Chancey, Byron Patterson, Gerald Derrick, S. G. Russell, B. P. Middleton, Ross Ferrier, Benny Shepard and H. C. Toombs. Coach Davis then made a talk. The votes were counted to determine the captain for next year, Joel Darsey was elected.

Short talks were made by Messrs. Booth Warren, Herbert Patterson, Eli Case, Lige Gambill and W. O. Boney. The Pep Squad gave several yells and sang songs, and the Football boys gave fifteen rahs for the Pep Squad. To conclude the program everyone sang "The Eyes of Texas."

CHAPEL FRIDAY.

Friday morning, Dec. 6, from 10:45 to 11:15 o'clock was a most exciting period for all concerned. Everyone met for chapel, with all the cash he could beg or borrow, knowing that it would determine the most beautiful girl of Merkel High. Of course, every

class was confident it would win. Perhaps to incite more interest and as is the custom, the Frosh were called on to say anything they saw fit in behalf of their candidate, Miss Joyce Wheeler. Misses Imogene Middleton, the president, and Nell Hughes certainly "saw fit" to say plenty. The Sophs rendered a very clever program in honor of their candidate, Miss Artilee Simmons. Willie Evelyn Boaz, the gentleman judge, was aided in his selection by models, representatives for the four candidates and by the maid, Leila Patterson. The models were: Ida Mae Derstine, representing the Freshmen; Oleta Moore, Sophomores; Madelene Murray, Juniors; and Mary Elizabeth Grimes, Senior. Of course, the gentleman chose the Sophomore model, requesting her to appear in different costumes. The changes were represented by Zada Bell, Margaret Canon and Bessie Lou Pannell.

Then came the Junior program. Of course a Junior can not be expected to judge that, but we think we did well in holding up our candidate, Miss Thelma McAninch. A play was prepared with the aid of Miss Lucy Tracy and was as follows: Mattielou Largent, as Miss Merkel High School, is helped by her secretary, Andrew, Fred Guitar. She receives letters from different persons and these letters are brought in by the authors. Among them were: The Prince of Wales, played by Elvis Richardson; Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Lona Bryan; Edgar A. Guest, Joel Darsey; Nancy Carroll, Beth Hamm; Joan Crawford, Ola Smith; Buddy Rogers, H. H. Copeland; Colleen Moore, Audrey Farris, Charley Chaplin, Benjamin Sheppard; and Will Rogers, Ford Smith. All letters from these notables were written favoring Thelma McAninch.

The Seniors, who had been patiently—but, we imagine, nervously waiting, did their best to make us change our minds and vote for Louise Booth. Verna Tee Beasley first gave us a short talk and Lee Darden further worked on our conscience by giving the record of "Redheads" in history. The very appropriate song "Louise" was sung by E. L. Turner, Buster Horton, Willie Mae Swartz, Doris Brown, and Verna Tee Beasley with Nadine Tippet at the piano. Doris Brown finished the program with a speech.

Then came the exciting time—the gathering of votes for the finish. The last round showed Louise ahead followed by a close second and third, Artilee and Thelma.

Everyone seemed to take his defeat in a sportsmanlike way and was glad that Louise was elected the most beautiful girl.

CHORAL CLUB AT LIONS LUNCHEON.

The Choral and Glee clubs sang two numbers at the Lions club Tuesday, at the invitation of Rev. R. A. Walker and Booth Warren, president of that organization.

The Christmas Pageant is dated Friday night, Dec. 13 at 8 o'clock. The public is cordially invited. Saturday evening, Dec. 14, at 7:30 is the time set for the club social. The dif-

ferent characters were posted Tuesday morning. The club is proud of their new members. The last three to join were Mattielou Largent, Lois Clark and Fred Guitar.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS.

Dear Santa Claus: Will you please bring me a pop gun and little red wagon. Bring me lots of candies, nuts, and fruits. I don't want to be selfish so I am asking you to bring the Senior class president a little red wagon also and the rest of the Senior class a stick of candy each and bring Mr. Davis a whistle.

Sincerely yours,
"A Fish"

Dear Santa Claus: I'm a little "fish." They all call me that but next spring I'll be a big "fish." Canny cause, I want a rubber doll for Christmas but lots a nuts and fruit, and candy because I've been hungry ever since last Xmas and I don't want anything else but a good grade in Spanish.

Lots of love,
Nell Hughes.

F. S. Be good to all the rest of the little "fishes."

JUNIOR NEWS.

We Juniors didn't make a very good showing in Chapel Friday, as to the votes for our beauty, but in our minds we had the best program. We can further show our willingness to work together and this time put over our candidate, J. E. Boaz, for most popular boy.

In a short class meeting Monday J. E. was chosen from our class of many popular boys on account of his merits set forth by our president, Joel Darsey, who was presiding.

J. E. is beyond doubt popular with all the students. He is secretary of the Junior class and the football hero of the school.

We know our candidate should win, not only in a class race, but in a merit race of the whole school and we are going to put him in the annual beside his beauty.

Vote for the Juniors most popular boy and you will not vote wrong!

THE BRUNETTE BEAUTY.

(By Ola Smith and Audrey Farris—dedicated to Thelma McAninch, Junior class beauty.)

She is my ideal of modern youth
And if Ziegfield would tell the truth
He'd choose her not for wealth
But for her beauty and wonderful health.

Her picture shows a beautiful form
And in her eyes I view her charm.
As her eyes are of brown,
She must be the favorite of our town.

And her perfect nose
Does not contrast with her graceful pose.
And of rose-buds, her lips do remind
Of charms that cannot be changed by time.

This brunette girl
Is the beauty of the world.
And in her cheeks, dimples I see;
In fact, her whole appearance entrances me.

MOCK TRIAL.

Mr. Burgess, in order to try to get his civics class to learn something about trials has provided a mock criminal trial for this class for the class period Thursday morning.

The court is the district court of Merkel Texas. The case is the State of Texas vs. Alvin Parrack. The charge is the stealing of a Nile green Ford sedan by defendant from Harold Boney. The officials presiding will be: Elvis Richardson district judge; Joel

Darsey district attorney; Byron Patterson assistant district attorney; B. P. Middleton attorney for defendant; H. H. Copeland assistant attorney; Alvin Parrack defendant; Ola Smith, sheriff; Audrey Farris, district clerk; Margaret Turner, foreman of jury. The witnesses for both sides and the jurors will be summoned as soon as possible. If you are summoned, please do not fail to appear in court Thursday, Dec. 12, 11:15 to 12:15 o'clock.

THE SOPHOMORES.

Some people ask the Sophomores if they didn't feel hurt because they did not win the beauty contest, but the answer is, "I should say not, we are going to win the most popular boy contest."

Gerald Derrick was chosen our candidate and I'm sure you all will agree that he really is the most popular boy in high school.

He was on our football team and is going to play on the basketball team, he is also in all of the school activities.

This bunch put their beauty candidate over last year and why not put Gerald over this year. We are very sure the Fish, Juniors, and Seniors will not have an easy rival because we

are all standing in one body ready to put Gerald over big.

JOKE

Miss Sloan: "Cephus, did you spit that gum out?"
Cephus: "Yes'um, it's over there in the waste basket. Do you want it?"

FISH NEWS.

Ooo-La-La hot dog! And other Idiotic expressions—Christmas is about to slip upon us, so if we hurry to send our letters off to St. Nick, all will be well—the early bird gets the worm—you know—the Fishes were called to a meeting Monday morning and the purpose of this was to elect the most popular boy—to make everything complete we elected Wayne Nicholson for the honor. We were all glad that our M. H. S. Beauty was to be of the Senior class but, of course, we'd have been more pleased if our candidate could have had the honor, to be sure—

HAPPENINGS OF SCHOOL LIFE.

Twelve basketball boys reported Monday afternoon for practice.

Louise Booth is the most beautiful girl in High School.

Choral and Glee clubs sang "Sing-

in' in the Rain" for the Lions Tuesday. Everywhere you go you are panned upon by members of the Badger Staff for a picture. They are very anxious to get the Annual ready for the gravers by Saturday.

There have been several additions to the Badger Weekly Staff, such as the reporters for the Senior girls and Junior girls clubs.

The contest for the most popular boy is now on. Wayne Nicholson is running for the Freshmen; Gerald Derrick, for the Sophomores; J. E. Boaz, for the Juniors; and Orion Tittle for the Seniors.

Tracy Campbell was recently initiated into the "Old Hen's Society."

I will have the Tax Rolls again after the first of the year and will be glad to write your tax receipts after that time.

L. R. THOMPSON.

EASY MONEY.

If you want that cheap, long-time Federal Land Bank money, only 5% percent, on farm and ranch land, see W. Homer Shanks, room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail



Santa Welcomes You to TOY TOWN

Come see the wonderful Toys and Dolls. Bring the children and let them gaze on the new things this year. Bigger Stocks, Lower Prices than ever before—Try us first and you will save money on TOYS—DOLLS—WAGONS—TRICYCLES—CHAIRS—DISHES—DOLL BUGGIES—PICTURES—FANCY GLASS AND CHINAWARE, VASES—TOILET SETS—PERFUME SETS—HOSIERY—SILK UNDERWEAR—
Gifts for the entire Family

SANTA CLAUS WILL BE AT OUR STORE

SATURDAY, MONDAY AND CHRISTMAS EVE, DEC. 21st, DEC. 23rd and Dec. 24th he will entertain the children and will have free gifts for girls and boys.

Visit Our Store, always something new to show you—Our Prices will Please You.

Starr's Variety Store

THE CHRISTMAS STORE

MERKEL, TEXAS



NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY YOUR SHOES
BOSTON BARGAIN STORE

E MERKEL MAIL

Published Every Friday Morning
Hoyer and Caple, Publishers.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
For and Jones counties \$1.50
where else \$2.00
(In Advance)

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

**50 Farmers Attend
Mass Meeting Here**

(Continued from Page One)
Other meetings were held in various communities, the one at Noodle, Joe Inters chairman, being attended Wednesday night by 65 farmers.

Booth Warren called the mass meeting to order and was named permanent chairman. After depicting local conditions in the cotton market, as compared to that of a few years ago, he introduced two speakers, who brought appropriate messages from their fund of experience along the lines of planting better cotton and producing better staple.

One of these speakers, C. C. Wilson, is associated with Judge Caldwell on the Caldwell-Wilson Cotton Seed Breeding farm near Abilene. He stated that the department of agriculture at Washington had estimated that the farmer could increase the value of his cotton at least 10 per cent by a uniform variety and a uniform staple. Then by growing better cotton due to the fact that he had planted better seed the farmer could add another 10 per cent. The best and most economic solution is a uniform variety, standardized cotton, he said, and he strongly favored community standardization as is contemplated by the leaders in the movement in this section.

Another speaker with a fund of valuable information for those present at the gathering was W. O. Ansley, Jr., a wholesale cotton man of Abilene. He had letters and reports from Texas Cotton Association and from other growers which deplored the notable deterioration of the staple in West Texas, the loss on the 1,000,000 bales marketed in this section ranging about \$15,000,000 each year, due to the short staple.

The joint committee is expected to meet at 5 o'clock this Friday afternoon and a workable plan will no doubt be evolved and put into operation at once to make possible the selection of a uniform seed to be planted in this section.

**Citizens Hear Deputy
District Governor**

(Continued from Page One)
Lucy Tracy, "The Ruggles' Dinner Party," by Kate Douglas Wiggin.

Rev. Ira L. Parrack was chosen to deliver the address of welcome to the visitors and in doing so he enumerated the many assets that make Merkel "the best little town in Texas," such as paved streets, adequate water system and adequate water, its wonderful trade territory, its cattle-raising and oil industries, its homes, churches and schools.

Besides the guests from Abilene, other guests introduced were Miss Alta Rowan of Fort Worth and Buck Moore, well known farmer.

E. Yates Brown is to be toastmaster at next weeks meeting.

LETTERS TO SANTA CLAUS.

Dear Santa Claus: I am a little girl three years old. I live in Merkel. Please bring me a pair of houseslipper doll clothes. My name is Marjorie Wayne Dunn.

Dear Santa Claus: Will you please bring me a football and an airgun and a bow and arrow. If I am not at Merkel, Texas, please come to Clovis, New Mex. I have tried to be good all year. Thank you, Santa Claus. Robert Morris Rodden.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE.

All the regular services will be conducted at the usual time except the W. F. M. Society which meets at 1:30 on Tuesday afternoon instead of 2:30. We were delighted with the good increase in attendance for the church services last Sunday morning and trust each one will try to come earlier next Sunday and be present for the Sunday school hour also.

There is to be a special missionary service at the church Thursday at 7 p. m. One of our returned missionaries, Miss Carpenter, who has spent fifteen years as a missionary in India is to be with us and will speak at that hour. There will also be a service for women only. Friday afternoon Miss Carpenter will arrange the hour and make further announcement Thursday night. We trust that as many as possible of our friends and the community will attend.

Anna Fisher, Pastor.



THURSDAY NIGHT BRIDGE CLUB.

Members of the Thursday night Bridge club were delightfully entertained by Miss Vera Baker on last Thursday evening in the home of Mrs. Claude Young. Christmas decorations were used in colorful display in the entertaining rooms where bridge games, interspersed with radio music, progressed until a late hour when a delicious sandwich course and refreshing drink was served to Misses Christine Collins, Iva Bragg, Mona Margaret Jones, Roberta Sloan, Johnnie Sears, Lola Dennis, Evelyn Curb, Dona Loyless, Vera Baker and Mrs. Claude Young.

TEA PARTY.

Mrs. C. B. Gardner celebrated her little daughter, Becky's, birthday on last Thursday afternoon with a tea party.

A beautiful color scheme of yellow was stressed in all party appointments and cut flowers. An afternoon of old-fashioned games, the writing of letters to Santa Claus, and presentation of gifts to the little hostess furnished happy diversion till tea time when the dining room was opened, revealing a table beautifully laid in yellow crepe with yellow roses, chrysanthemums, yellow candles topped a yellow birthday cake and yellow jello molds at places for little Misses Mary George Howard, Annie Laurie Howard, Geraldine Teague and Laverne Teague, Marion and Marie Delmer, Molly Frank Touchstone, Nancy Jean Scott, Mary Zoe West, Betty Lou and Marilyn Sue Grimes, Dora Marie Gaither, Doris Clyde Miller, Doris Gay West, Billie and Becky Gardner.

W. W. CLASS MEETING.

The Willing Workers class met at the home of Mrs. W. D. Butler Tuesday and an interesting Christmas program was given. The devotional, "The Birth of Christ," was read by Mrs. Ethel Tucker. Christmas stories were read and an interesting contest about Santa was given in which Miss Jennie Kenney won.

Refreshments consisting of sandwiches, cake and hot chocolate were served to the following guests: Mesdames Ethel Tucker, S. A. Derstine, T. M. Smith, J. L. Tucker, W. M. Elliott, John Russell, Jas. Patterson, Selma Russell and L. L. Murray, Misses Mary Kenny, Jennie Kenney and Lizzie Kenney. The visitors were Miss Dora Baroutte, Mrs. Dean Higgins and little Misses Louise Patterson and Enid Weidenbach.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY.

On Monday afternoon, Mrs. Earl Walker and Mrs. George L. Reeves entertained a number of guests at the home of Mrs. Hugh Campbell of Elain, celebrating the birthday of William O. (Billie) Reeves, Jr., Ruby Jean Reeves, who was born last Thursday, was honored with a shower of beautiful gifts.

Ruby Jean and Billie are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. O. Reeves of Philadelphia, Penn. Mrs. Reeves and children came here to visit Mr. Reeves' mother, Mrs. G. L. Reeves and other friends and relatives. At present she is with Mrs. Campbell of Blair. Mrs. Reeves and children will return to their home soon after the holidays. Refreshments were served to the following: Mrs. Z. V. Moore, Mrs. Emmet Myres, Mrs. Riley James, Mrs. P. M. McCain, Mrs. Sam Phillips, Mrs. McKinsey, Mrs. G. L. Reeves, Mrs. Earl Walker, Othell Reeves, Earlene and Jimmy Walker, Mrs. W. O. Reeves, Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Blanche and Opal Fae Reeves.

CHOIR SOCIAL.

Members of the Baptist church choir were most delightfully entertained in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Burl Scott on last Tuesday evening.

Costumes representing a period of fifteen years ago were worn and much merriment was provoked upon the arrival of each guest. Old-fashioned games and stunts were played throughout the evening and at the refreshment hour delicious fruit whip angel food and chocolate were served to Messrs. and Mesdames C. M. Largent, Earl Lassiter, E. Yates Brown, Rufe Tittle, Byers Petty, John Toombs, Burl Scott, Mesdames L. E. Howard, R. J. Miller, E. N. Brown, A. R. Booth, Misses Roberta Sloan, Dona Loyless, Alta Rowan, Willie Evelyn Boaz, Fannie Belle Boaz, Lucy Tracy, Vennie Heizer, Margaret Canon, Addie Holler and Addie Williams.

With Scott's Garage.

A business card in this issue of the Merkel Mail calls attention to the fact that Vernon Sublett, for several years engaged in the garage and automobile repair business here, is now connected with Scott's Garage, 151 Cedar St., Abilene, Texas.

**Speech Arts Class
In Program Monday**

Members of the Speech Arts class will bring to the public an evening of Christmas cheer Monday evening at seven-thirty o'clock in the Grammar School auditorium.

Those who will appear are: Billy Wood, A. C. Sears, Mollie Frank Touchstone, Carl Jackson, Junior, Betty Lou Grimes, Louise Toombs, Clyde Sears, Alta Muri Hyatt, Margaret Miller, Pauline Toombs, and Artilee Simmons.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

We are pleased to report that the largest audience since the present ministry began attended services last Lord's day. But the calling of the roll indicated that some of the members were either lost, stray or stolen. It is very important to have a church home, a regular place to go for spiritual food and spiritual work. It is well to visit occasionally, but too much visiting weakens the individual and the home congregation. Your home is what the inmates make it; so the church is what the members make it.

Bible school attendance also reached the highest mark, with 99 present, and we could count over a hundred by counting babies, and a few who did not go to class. We ought to have 150 in regular attendance; let's make it 125 next Lord's day.

Our classes for development of the young members begins at six o'clock, and we are well pleased with the progress being made. Be sure to get into one of these classes. Be a Bible reader, be a Bible thinker, be a Bible doer. "Come thou with us, and we will do thee good."

J. C. Malphurs, Minister.

Attend Brotherhood Meet.

Among those in attendance from Merkel at the joint session of the men's brotherhoods from several of the churches in surrounding towns at the Central Presbyterian church in Abilene Tuesday evening were Rev. R. A. Walker, pastor of the Presbyterian church here, Jas. H. West, W. M. Elliott, W. L. Diltz, Sr., Mrs. Jim Tucker, Miss Elma Tucker, Miss Eunice Russell and Mrs. E. B. Tucker. A banquet was enjoyed and pictures were shown as the special feature on the program. Dr. E. B. Surface, pastor of the Abilene church, presided.

Zion Chapel News

The F. T. A. met last Thursday night and reorganized for the year. The next regular meeting night will be a box supper on the 12th. There will also be a box supper and pie and sandwich sale on Friday night, the 13th. The teachers are expecting a good attendance. So don't disappoint them.

Little Jewell Chauncey has been real sick for several days but is some better at this writing.

There was a good sized crowd out to hear Rev. R. A. Walker from Merkel Sunday night.

A large crowd enjoyed the party at Mr. W. S. Allred's Friday night. Mr. and Mrs. Cook entertained with a party Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lanier spent the week-end with relatives in Abilene.

H. L. Tarvin and family visited homefolks here Sunday. Mrs. R. R. Spurgin spent several days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Gene Spurgin and family of Anson.

Several from here enjoyed dinner with Mrs. Lucas at Noodle Sunday.

The Four Corner singing will be held at the Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon. Everyone is invited to attend.

Boyd Tarpley is very sick at this writing.

Cecil Schoolcraft was a visitor in this community Saturday night and Sunday.

Several of the young folks attended the show in Merkel Saturday night.

Etyel Spurgin, who attends school in Merkel spent the week-end with homefolks here.

Arthur Cranston was a visitor in our community last Wednesday.

The farmers are beginning to put up their land here in preparation for their next crop. Some are still gathering cotton.

A Correction.

Through a typographical error in the publication of the Honor Roll of the Merkel Public schools in our last issue, the average of Jannell Black, (third grade, Miss Heizer's room,) was given as 91 when it should have been 96. An average of 96 is unusually high and regret is expressed by the Mail for the error in tabulation.

Some Chinese cities have streets that are only three feet wide.

**Roscoe Plowboys to
Meet Ballinger Today**

Roscoe, Texas, December 12.—The Roscoe Plowboys and the Ballinger Bearcats will meet on Parks Field at Roscoe Friday afternoon, December 13.

Roscoe is champion of districts eight and nine while Ballinger is champion of districts ten and eleven. The game Friday will be played for the championship of Central West Texas.

Both teams are exceptionally strong and Friday's game is expected to be a hard fought one from start to finish.

The Bearcats have a much heavier team than the Plowboys.

Cattle Movement.

Three carloads of mixed cattle were shipped from Merkel during the week, one being shipped by W. H. Laney to Sylvester and the other two being shipped to Fort Worth. Of the latter cars, Baker and Collins shipped one and S. M. Morrison shipped the other.

Birds Attack Refuges.

Sidney, N. S. W.—Passengers of a wrecked steamer were attacked by birds and some seriously injured when they landed on Mellish Reef.

**SPECIALS FOR
Friday and Saturday**

- COFFEE, Peaberry bulk, 3 lbs. 95c
- COFFEE, Morning Joy, 2 1-2 lbs. With Cup and Saucer \$1.40
- COCOA, Hershey, 1-2 lb. 18c
- RAISINS, Sun Made, 15 oz. pkg. 12c
- COCOANUT, Durham's, 1-4 lb. pkg. 9c
- CORN FLAKES, Jersey or Kellogg's, 2 packages 21c
- COMPOUND, Cooklite Sealed Tins, 8 lb. \$1.05
- COMPOUND, Cooklite Sealed Tins, 4 lb. 55c
- PEACHES, Delmonte, 2 1-2 lb. can 23c
- SPUDS, No. 1 stock, 10 lbs. 40c
- BANANAS, Golden Green tips, doz. 19c
- ORANGES, California Valencias, 288's doz. 19c
- BACON, Sugar Cured, Sinclairs, lb. 24c
- CHEESE, Longhorn, Wisconsin, lb. 30c
- SOAP, P. & G. or C. W., 6 bars 25c
- SOAP, Palm Olive, 4 bars 25c

SOLE OWNER
CLARENCE SAUNDERS
OF MY NAME

Phone 69 We Deliver

**Read This Message
The Merkel Hatchery**

will be the firm name of my Hatchery in Merkel. We are going to give away

200 BABY CHICKS

of any breed we sell to be delivered any time during hatching season that suits you.

We will be in our building, located on Front street, Bankhead Highway, just east of the old Maverick Motor Company building, on

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 AND
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27**
and we will be glad to explain details.

Contest closes at 3:30 p. m. Friday, December 27.

There is no cost attached to this offer and it will not cost you anything.

**WILL ALSO WANT TO BUY SOME
HATCHING EGGS FROM SOME REAL
GOOD BLOODED FLOCKS OF POP-
ULAR BREEDS.**

Come in and let's get acquainted.

C. D. SMITH

Gift Ideas

FOR the economical Shopper we have a
Variety of Christmas Gifts
From Which to Make
Your Selection.

**MAKE YOUR SELECTIONS
EARLY**

City Drug Store

"If we fail to thank you your purchase price refunded"

**Farm Fuel Relief
in Magnolia Coke**

No Soot—No Smoke—Almost No
ASHES—More heat than any Coal—
Save at least 25 per cent.

Expect Car about 20th.

SWAFFORD, Phone 44

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

SALE OR TRADE—Milk cows; want to buy your cows and hogs. McCoy and Lowe.

SCHOOL—For sale at Merkel Grammar School at reduced price. Phone 174.

FOR SALE—Pair mules, sulky plow with buster attachment, some bundle feed. J. F. Abernathy, Trent, Texas.

I HAVE ABOUT 150 tons of maze head in Lubbock Co.; price \$20.00 per ton at barn. J. W. Keeling, Lubbock, Texas, Route 4.

FOR SALE—Two single row cultivators, one John Deere press wheeler, one double row planter, one John Deere double disc. D. D. Coats.

FOR SALE—Bundled cane. See A. Johnston at Delaney-Delmer C.vrolet Co.

FOR SALE—Good second hand Eclipse windmill and 24 foot tower, at a bargain. See Sid Criswell.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Bunch of keys on ring; Coca Cola puller in set; postoffice key, included. Return to Merkel Mail Office.

LEGAL NOTICE.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS, Abilene Division

The Brown-Crummer Investment Co., plaintiff, vs. The City of Trent, Texas, a Municipal Corporation, W. E. Hamner and Tom Vessel, City Commissioners of said City, and G. H. Stutts, City Secretary and Treasurer of said City, and the Inhabitants and Taxpayers of the City of

City of Trent Waterworks System Warrants, Series 1926.	
30 Coupons, numbered 3, due September 1, 1928, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	\$900.00
30 Coupons, numbered 4, due March 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	900.00
30 Coupons, numbered 5, due September 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 1 to 30, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	900.00
City of Trent Waterworks Extension Warrants, Series 1927.	
Warrant numbered 2, due March 1, 1929,	1000.00
5 Coupons, numbered 2, due September 1, 1928, from Warrants Nos. 2 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	150.00
5 Coupons, numbered 3, due March 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 2 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	150.00
4 Coupons, numbered 4, due September 1, 1929, from Warrants Nos. 3 to 6, both inclusive, \$30.00 each,	120.00
	\$4120.00
Attorneys' Fees, at 10%	412.00
	\$4532.00

and further praying for judgement for interest upon the above described warrant and coupons from the date of their maturity, at the rate of six per cent (6%) per annum, and attorneys' fees at the rate of ten per cent (10%) of the face thereof, together with interest at the rate of six per cent (6%) per annum on said attorneys' fees from the date of the filing of said suit, to-wit, the 16th day of November, 1929; that said Bill further prays for the appointment of a Receiver for the City of Trent, Texas, and for a restraining order, restraining the City and its said officials from expending any funds in the City Treasury for any purpose, pending the final hearing of said cause, and a permanent injunction restraining the said City and its said officials from expending any of said funds, save and except for the payment of the above described two series of warrants, and for such other and further relief as the premises may warrant. And you are hereby comman-

FOR RENT

FURNISHED ROOMS for rent See W. E. Lowe.

FOR RENT—Seven room house, 2 blocks north business section. See Harry Woodrum.

FOR RENT—Neatly furnished apartment; close in on pavement; gas; lights, telephone and garage furnished. Jas. H. West.

FOR RENT—January 1st corner store building now occupied by Clarence Saunders Store. See Max Mellinger.

FOR RENT—Furnished bedroom with bath; modern; private entrance. Mrs. Fred Guitar.

NEW TWO ROOM apartment, nicely furnished, private entrance, adjoining bath; gas, hot and cold water. Mrs. C. L. Boswell. Phone 171W.

FURNISHED HOUSE for rent, 4 rooms and bath, Oak street. See Mrs. V. B. Sublett.

FOR RENT—Good 5 room house, barn, garage, gas, lights, cistern and well water; reasonable. J. F. Abernathy, Trent, Texas.

FOR RENT—Former Sie Hamm home; 4 rooms and bath. See B. H. Lancaster at Clay Lumber Co.

FOR RENT—6 room house on Oak street, close in, modern, available January 1st. Dr. Gardner.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—A good farm, one mile south of Trent, 130 acres, 125 in cultivation, to a man that can give good references and can run himself. See S. F. Haynes or Phone 265J.

WANTED

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

WANTED—To buy a good used piano. Phone 174.

WANTED—Tenants for houses. See John S. Hughes.

LODGE NOTICES

Merkel Chapter Royal Arch Masons meets on first Thursday night of each month. Visitors cordially invited. Joe Hartley, H. P. O. R. Dye, Secretary

Typewriting paper at Merkel Mail office.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All regular services Sunday and during the week. Our Superintendent is home and will be glad to welcome a full house Sunday morning. Last Sunday we had two 100 per cent departments, let's see if we can't have four this time. We are counting on that 300 Sunday morning. Will you be one of them? Preaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. All B. Y. P. U.s promptly at 6 p. m. Strangers and visitors are always welcomed to any of our services. Come find a place to serve and a place to worship.

Preaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. All B. Y. P. U.s promptly at 6 p. m.

Strangers and visitors are always welcomed to any of our services. Come find a place to serve and a place to worship.

Ira L. Parrack, Pastor.

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, 1930, at 5:00 o'clock P. M., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Booth Warren, Cashier.

Try a Classified Ad for Results

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. The Sunday School attendance and interest depends on every member of the church and others you might ask to attend with you. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. Visitors always welcome in all of our services.

W. M. Elliott, Supt. R. A. Walker, Pastor.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY.

If you will give us a trial, you will find that our work is satisfactory, our service prompt and our prices reasonable. We call for and deliver and can refer you to a large list of satisfied customers. It is a pleasure to continue to serve our old customers and they are our best advertisement. Our phone number is 294J.

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY. Mrs. Jay, Manager.

To My Merkel Friends

I am pleased to announce that I am now working with SCOTTS STORAGE, 151 Cedar St., Abilene, Texas, and hereby invite you to call on us for anything for your automobile. We offer the same dependable repair work at reasonable prices.

Vernon Sublett

SANTA SUGGESTS FURNITURE

Give FURNITURE

Everything Priced Special For Christmas

You can find what you want at Sacrifice Prices. Spend your Money for something useful.

Barrow Furniture Co.

TEXAS

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor County, Greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon Henry Lewis by making publication of this Citation one in each week for four successive weeks previous to the return day thereof, in some newspaper published in your County, if there be a newspaper published there; if not, then in the nearest newspaper where a newspaper is published at the next regular term of the 42nd District Court of Taylor County, to be holden at the Court House, in Abilene, Texas, on Monday in January A. D. 1930, the 6th day of January, A. D. 1930, then and there to answer the petition filed in said Court on 1 day of December A. D. 1929, numbered on the docket of

said Court as No. 8358-A, wherein Mamie Lewis is Plaintiff, and Henry Lewis is Defendant, and said petition alleging that plaintiff and defendant were married on or about the 1st day of July 1928, and separated on or about the 15th day of August, 1928. Plaintiff sues for a divorce on the grounds of cruel treatment, all of which is fully alleged in her Original Petition.

Herein Fail Not, and have you before said Court, at its aforesaid next regular term, this writ with your return thereon, showing how you have executed the same.

Given Under My Hand and the Seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this 3rd day of December, A. D. 1929.

Belle Wellborn, Clerk, District Court, Taylor County. (Seal) By Birdie Wilson, Deputy.

Hurley Appointed By Hoover As Successor Late Secretary Good

Washington, Dec. 12.—Patrick Jay Hurley, 46, of Oklahoma, lawyer, soldier and executive, has been appointed by President Hoover as secretary of war, a post in which he has been acting since the death of James W. Good last month.

Thus the chief executive gave effect to the wish of the southern states for a cabinet member and selected a man from one of the states of the south which gave him its electoral vote a year ago.

Secretary Hurley was summoned to the White House an hour before the appointment was announced and conferred with the president who advised him definitely of his elevation to the higher post. As he left the executive offices, Hurley smiled broadly but kept his own counsel.

Hurley was born in the Choctaw nation, Indian territory, January 3, 1883. He was graduated from Bacon college, Indian territory, in 1905, and began the practice of law at Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1908. Four years later he became attorney for the Choctaw nation.

The new secretary's military service began in 1902 as a captain of cavalry of the Indian territory volunteer militia. Later he was a captain in the Oklahoma national guard and during the world war reached the grade of lieutenant colonel. He was awarded the distinguished service medal and the silver star citation for gallantry in action near Louppy, France, on Armistice Day.

In 1927 he became president of the First Trust and Savings bank, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and also has been a director of the First National bank in that city.

Secretary Hurley on December 5, 1919, married Miss Ruth Wilson, daughter of Rear Admiral Henry B. Wilson, U. S. N., retired. They have three children, Patricia, Ruth and Wilson.

O. E. S. Meeting.

Order of the Eastern Star meets December 16 at 2 p. m. All members are requested to be present.

Willie Neill, W. M.

The new Auto License Plates for 1930. You can purchase these at any time.

L. R. THOMPSON.

As Cheerful As A School Girl, Says Greenville Woman

Wants to Tell Every Woman In Texas What Orgatone Has Done For Her.

"I didn't know what it was to get a good night's rest nor enjoy a square meal for years before I started taking Orgatone," said Mrs. Jim Cobb, wife of a well-known carpenter residing at 3521 Dalton St., Greenville, Texas, a few days ago.

"There wasn't a day in all that time that I didn't suffer misery from indigestion and kidney trouble also nervousness," she continued. "And the more I suffered the more run-down I got, until I just couldn't see how I ever would be well again, as the doctors had about given my case up. My nerves were so torn up that I would jump and start at the least little sound, and long into the night I had lain awake unable to rest. In the morning I would get up all sluggish and drowsy and tired and I grew so dependent that I didn't think I could stand it much longer.

"But a person wouldn't believe that to look at me now! I have only been taking Orgatone about two weeks, but I haven't had a spell of indigestion since the first few doses I took, and I can just feel my strength and energy coming back to me every day I live. When I sit down to the table, I can relish every bite I take. Instead of being blue and worried like I used to be, I go at my house work as bright and cheerful as a school girl at play, and when night comes I sleep like a baby, for my nerves are as steady as a clock since my troubles have disappeared and best of all I have gained several pounds in weight.

"Orgatone has sure been a blessing to me and I would like to tell every woman in Texas who suffers like I did, what it has done for me."

Genuine Orgatone may be bought in Merkel at Phillips Drug Store.

6 6 6

is a Prescription for

Flu, Dengue, and Malaria.

Largent Wins Four Chicago Show Awards

Chicago, Dec. 12.—C. M. Largent and Sons of Merkel, Texas, won four awards in the livestock judging, Hereford cattle division, at the International Livestock show here. They took second for aged bull, second for bull two and one-half to three and one-half years old, third for bull year and a half to two years, and third for bull 12 to 14 month old.

The same firm also took third for aged herd in the breeding Hereford awards.

Twelve dollars a pound for beef

steaks—this epitomizes what occurred at the stock yards when Elliott Brown, 20 year old Iowa farm youth, sold his grand champion steer of the live stock show to a New York millionaire for \$7,837.

The actual price paid was \$8.25 per pound on the hoof, for 950 pounds of beef, but after the steak is dressed, the steaks and roasts would have to retail at \$12 to keep from showing a loss. However, the chances are there'll be no loss, because J. C. Penney, the chain store merchant and former farm boy who out-bid several other millionaires to buy the steer, donated the animal of the united chari-

ties of Chicago who announced the steer would be sold again to enrich the Christmas fund.

The grand champion carload of cattle of the stock show produced by Ed P. Hall, of Mechanicsburg, Ill., was sold to Abergast and Bastian of Allentown, Pa., a packing house firm for \$35 per hundred pounds. Hall is regarded as the dean of stock feeders, his carloads having won the grand championship at ten of the thirty annual livestock shows.

There are 2,050,000 Texans "gainfully employed" under the Census Bureau definition of that phrase.

League Program.

Song, Prayer, Song, "Holy, Holy, Holy." Scripture Lesson—Luke 4:16-21; John 2:13-17, by leader, Wanda Hunter. "Resisting the Devil," by Nell Hughes. "The Power of Worship," by Mary Helen Lancaster. "In His Early Home," by Wilbur Willett. "In the Temple," by A. C. Sears. Bible story, by Fern Toombs. Benediction.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.

New Officers Assume Masonic Leadership

Waco, Dec. 13.—With new officials at the helm, Masons attending the grand lodge of Texas, meeting here, engaged in a school of instruction. Judge Hiram F. Lively of Dallas was named most worshipful grand master. Other grand officers chosen were: Deputy grand master, J. McLendon, Austin; senior ward, Alva Bryan, Waco; junior ward, Wallace Hughston, of McKinney; treasurer, H. C. Talbot, Houston; secretary, W. B. Pearson, Waco.

COME FOR 50 MILES! RINGS | WATCHES | DIAMONDS | SILVERWARE

Extra Special!

BE HERE TOMORROW SELLING STARTS 9 A. M. CHRISTMAS ONLY TEN MORE SHOPPING DAYS AWAY AND THE OUTSTANDING



SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS

In Christmas Box

Beautiful Silver Plated designs, \$4.00 values, your choice, sale price

\$1.45

RATHER THAN CARRY OVER THIS STOCK WE PASS THE SAVINGS ON TO YOU AT CHRISTMAS!

JEWELRY

AND

SILVERWARE

Alluring in their grace of line and sparkle of substance, items of Jewelry and Silverware make charming gifts. Their permanence and utility add to their value. As usual the choicest assortment is available at this store.

Wm. Rogers Set

\$16.25 Silver; including 6 teaspoons, Value 6 tablespoons, 6 knives, 6 26-Pc. forks sugar shell and butter Set spreader \$11.65

Silver Bread Tray \$2.95
Well and Tree Platter \$2.85
Tea or Coffee Set \$15.85

EXTRA SPECIAL

Beautiful 26 Piece Set of Silverware in case, \$10.00 value \$6.95

COMPACTS

These are beauties \$3.00 and \$3.50 values
Sale Price \$1.45

"MANDALIAN"

Whiting and Davis MESH BAGS \$4.00 values \$1.95

THE XMAS STORE



WRIST WATCHES

WATCHES THE GIFT SUPREME

A New Model for Women

A lasting and useful gift, one that will always linger in her memory. Special this sale.

\$11.45

"Croydon"

Wrist Watches special

\$7.45

Men's Famous Elgin Wrist Watches

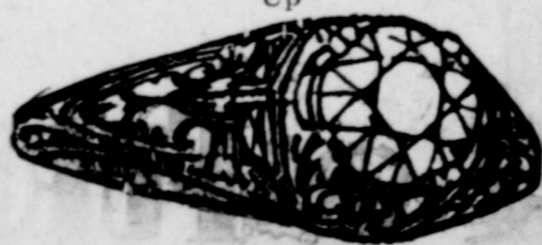
This is THE gift for him. He'll cherish it. The one featured is a rare bargain.

\$18.95

LEATHER BAGS HAND TOOLED

Genuine Steer Hide Hand Laced

\$4.95



Magnificent

DIAMONDS

You never saw as gorgeous a ring as this. Genuine diamond. In solid white gold mountings—very specially priced at

\$59.50

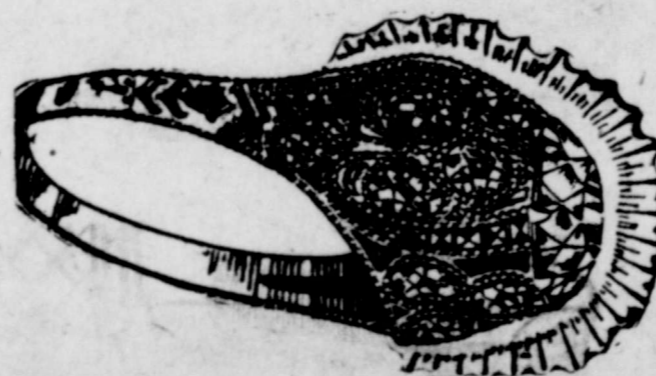
\$75.00 VALUE

EVERY DIAMOND IN THIS STOCK REDUCED

SPOONS

Beautiful Silver Plated Spoons. Limit, 6 to a customer

10c EACH



\$7.85 \$11.45

SURPRISE HER WITH A Diamond Ring

that comes from our store! Genuine blue white gems set in mountings of solid white gold, distinctively carved and richly filigreed.

\$25.00 Diamond Rings 18 Karat, White Gold Mountings at \$17.50

JOE ELLIS

GUARANTEED VALUE AND VOGUE

178 CYPRESS—ABILENE

NOTICE: STORE OPEN—SALE ON EVERY EVENING UNTIL XMAS

MEN'S ELGIN WATCH

Special at

\$11.45



Thin size—handsomely engraved and carved white gold case. Full jewel guaranteed movement.

BUY NOW AND SAVE

Helbros \$25 & \$28 Values



Ladies' Wrist WATCH

A new smart shape, white gold engraved case. Full jewel guaranteed movement. \$16.95



\$7.00 Water Pitchers Silver Plated Sale Price

\$4.85

Seth Thomas Mantel Clocks \$16.50 Value Single rod strike, Sale Price

\$13.45

\$5.00 STERLING SILVER HANDLE

CAKE or PIE SERVERS—While they last, your choice

\$1.45

STERLING SILVER THIMBLES

50c value—Now

15c EACH

Ventriloquist's Dummy Gives "Hoss" Laugh to Pair City Detectives

Newark, N. J., Dec. 12.—Detectives James Aldi and Joseph Corrigan halt their automobile beside a man who carrying a suspicious-looking suitcase.

"Let's have a look at your bag," gested Aldi.

The pedestrian protested, but the majesty of the law swept him aside and Corrigan threw open the bag.

"My God," he shouted peering at the body of a boy, face down and fully clothed, "it's murder."

Aldi, his brain working like lightning, seized the pedestrian and threw him in the police automobile. Corrigan gingerly placed the suitcase in the front seat and started for headquarters.

Just then a voice floated out of the suitcase.

"Hey, you dicks leave my pappy alone. He ain't done nothing."

"I," said the prisoner, who by this time was laughing himself to the verge of apoplexy, "am Phil Schaefer, the ventriloquist, and the young man in the bag is Jerry, my dummy. Jerry, I want you to meet Sherlock Holmes and S. S. Van Dyne. Talk to the nice detectives, Jerry."

West Texas Maternity Rescue Home

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

Salt Branch News

The children of Mrs. W. S. Taylor of Sweetwater gave her a surprise birthday dinner on last Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Austin Robertson. Plenty of turkey and other good eats were to be had. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Taylor, and daughter Vera; Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Clay; Mrs. Lambert and two children, all of Sweetwater; Mr. and Mrs. Owen Taylor and children of Lamesa, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Higgins and children and Mr. and Mrs. Austin Robertson and children. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Petty were visitors in the afternoon.

The weather the past week has been fine for hog-killing.

Miss Beulah Wilson entertained a number of her friends with a party Tuesday night of last week. Everyone enjoyed the many games that were played.

We had a nice crowd present and a fine singing last Sunday evening.

Mrs. W. L. Law and granddaughter

Sore Gums Now Curable

You won't be ashamed to smile again after you use Leto's Pyorrhoea Remedy. This preparation is used and recommended by leading dentists and cannot fail to benefit you. Drug-gist return money if it fails. Phillips Drug Store.

DOES YOUR CAR HEAT?

We have the latest equipment for cleaning radiators.
 H. H. HAND
 Welding and Vulcanizing

of Belton have been visiting W. E. Petty and family.

Mrs. C. M. Lyles of Floydada spent Thanksgiving with the Robertson family.

Misses Nora Foster and Pauline Pinckley attended the State Teachers association at Dallas last week-end. They were accompanied by Jarrett Pinckley, Jr.

W. E. Petty is attending court at Abilene this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Byers Petty of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Petty of Snyder, Mrs. J. E. Petty and son, Porter, were the guests of W. E. Petty and family for Thanksgiving.

Miss Dottie Rister, who is attending school at Hawley, spent the week-end at home.

We will have regular preaching next Saturday morning and night and Sunday morning and night.

WOODMEN CIRCLE.
 Regular meeting time has been changed from 3 p. m. to 2 p. m. on the first and third Friday's.

I now have the Auto License Plates for 1930. You can purchase these at any time.

L. R. THOMPSON.

**For Tin, Plumbing
 And Repair Work
 See
 EARL TEAGUE
 Tinner and Plumber
 Phone 100
 Satisfaction Guaranteed**

Dry Cleaning Service!

Our careful dry cleaning service is 100 per cent efficient and leaves the fabrics unharmed. A telephone call will bring our dust-proof motor car to your home.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

"Sudden Service" Kent Street
 Phone 189



DALLAS LUBBOCK WICHITA FALLS ABILENE, TEXAS

\$150 A MONTH Our Affiliated Employment Departments, in closer touch with thousands of business concerns than any other, has evolved a plan that enables many young people, still in their teens, to command salaries of \$1,500 to \$2,400 a year in positions that are golden with opportunities for still further promotion. Hundreds of positions annually to select from when you master the nationally known Draughon Training. Mail coupon for details of this unusual plan today.

Name _____ Address _____ Age _____ (MM)

CHRISTMAS PORTRAITS

50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50

Give Something Different this Year.

Make an appointment today

Rodden Studio

Merkel, Texas

IT'S AN ILL WIND, ETC.


There's never a fire or a destructive accident that doesn't bring home to somebody—sometimes the property owner involved, sometimes just a casual observer—the vital importance of adequate, dependable insurance. But why wait for the ill wind to blow in your direction? Why not find out now about property protection and the type of insurance that best meets your particular needs?

A talk with us entails no charge or obligation.


W. O. BONEY

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
 FIRE INSURANCE
 MERKEL, TEXAS

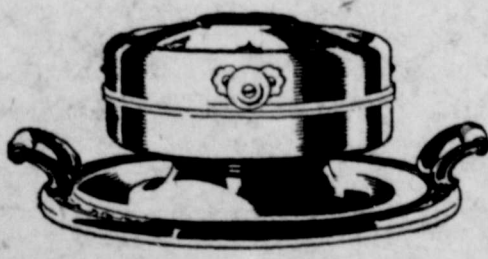
Consult Your Insurance Agent As You Would Your Lawyer



Special Prices on Electrical Merchandise



Reduced prices on a splendid assortment of Electrical Christmas Gifts — from now until Christmas.



Beautiful Percolators and Percolator Sets, Waffle Irons, Floor and Bridge Lamps, Toasters, Heating Pads, and numerous other appliances.

See our windows and showroom— you are sure to find just the present you want—Attractively priced.

West Texas Utilities Company

PROFESSIONAL

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

FREE! FREE!
 One Large 8x10 Enlargement with each \$5.00 worth of Kodak Finishing

RODDEN'S STUDIO
 Roll Developed 10c; Prints 3,4,5c
 —ONE DAY SERVICE—
 All Work Strictly Guaranteed

Drs. Grimes & Sadler
 PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS
 HOSPITAL FACILITIES
 —X-RAY—
 PHONE DR. GRIMES DR. SADLER
 Res. 165 Of. 163 Res. 136 Of. 143

PAULINE JOHNSON
 Successor to
 G. W. JOHNSON
 Insurance—Notary Public
 In New City Hall—Front St.
 Merkel — Texas

LEE R. YORK JOHN L. CAMP
YORK AND CAMP
 Attorneys-at-Law
 Civil Practice in all Courts. Special attention to land titles and probate matters.
 711 and 712 Mims Building
 ABILENE, TEXAS

JOE E. BUSBY
 CHIROPRACTOR & MASSEUR
 Reputable, Competent, Reliable
 Mims Bldg. Abilene, Texas

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

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

Dr. W. A. BUCKNER
 Dentist
 Office, Farmers State Bank Bldg.
 Phone, Office 195 Residence 231

EXIDE BATTERIES
 HUNTER & SERVICE
 THAT'S US.
 Phone 72 Everybody's G

Trent News and Personal Notes

Mrs. J. J. Peay and daughter, Aline, of Clyde spent Saturday afternoon in our city greeting old friends, going to Abilene to spend Saturday night and the next day with Mrs. Billings and her daughter, Mrs. Cecil Rutherford. Mrs. Rutherford favored them Sunday with a joint birthday dinner; both ladies being the same age, one cake was used, which was a lovely one decorated in white and pink with 47 pink and blue candles thereon. A bountiful dinner was served in a most charming way to Mrs. J. J. Peay, Miss Aline Peay of Clyde, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Billings, Cecil Rutherford, Cecil, Jr. and the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Nally, accompanied by Miss Thelma Nally, motored to Abilene Sunday afternoon.

Miss Maggie Payne, who is teaching school at Oplin, spent the last week-end with her mother, Mrs. Lydia Payne.

Mrs. J. B. Winn entertained the T. E. L. Sunday School class Friday evening with a social, which was largely attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry and family motored to Moro last Sunday to eat dinner with their daughter, Miss Estelle Terry, who is teaching school there, the occasion being notable as her nineteenth birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Shannon are happy to announce the arrival of a nine-pound boy, born Tuesday night. Mother and baby are doing nicely.

Buster Rogers, who is attending Draughon's Business college at Abilene, spent the week-end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Good are away for an extended visit with their son and family of Rochester. They will also visit relatives in Electra before returning home.

Mrs. Davis Jones and son of Graham are spending a few days with relatives here.

W. L. Boyd attended to business matters in Lamesa and Littlefield this week.

J. B. Winn and son made a trip to Fort Worth last week-end.

J. P. Stephens, who has been at

ABOVE REPROACH.



We just heard of a doctor being asked if it was true that people are occasionally buried alive. "It never happens to my patients," was the doctor's reply. Something that never happens to our customers is their failure to be satisfied with Conoco Gasoline, our standard oils and courteous garage service.

EXPERT REPAIRING
GREASING, ETC.

Everybody's Garage
TELEPHONE 72

QUEEN THEATRE

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Dec. 13-14

KEN MAYNARD

In

"The California Mail"

Also

An Adventure Serial
"The Vanishing West,"
Chapter 8

With

2 Reel Comedy
"Hubby's Latest Alibi"

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Dec. 16-17

"The Unholy Night"

With

Ernest Torrence, Dorothy Sebastian and Roland Young.

Also 2 Reel Comedy

"Putting Pants on Phillip"
Tuesday is Family Night

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY

Dec. 18-19

"The Viking"

The Real Good Picture you Have been wanting to see.

Also

International News

Graham for some weeks, returned home Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joyce of Snyder, old-time residents of our city, passed through last Monday stopping awhile to greet old friends. They were en route to Clyde to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Thompson a few days.

Mrs. John Skillern and son, Jim, spent Thursday of last week with her daughter, Mrs. Finton Boyd.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Murdock of Big Spring visited relatives here last week-end.

Rev. John Reynolds and family of Abilene, visited their parents here Sunday. Brother Reynolds filled the Baptist pulpit at the 11 o'clock hour Sunday.

Abilene Jeweler is Featuring Big Sale

Elsewhere in this issue of the Merkel Mail will be found the Christmas advertisement of Joe Ellis, Abilene, jeweler, located at 178 Cypress street. This is styled "Joe Ellis Jewelry Removal Sale" and the large stock of rings, watches, diamonds, silverware and leatherbags carried by this enterprising merchant has been placed on sale during this period at special prices.

One-third of the silk used in the United States is artificial.

Comes Home From T. C. U. For Xmas

(From News Service of Texas Christian University.)

Fort Worth, Dec. 12.—Miss Frances Anderson daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson of Merkel, a junior in Texas Christian University here, will leave for home for the Christmas holidays on Friday, Dec. 20, when T. C. U. dismisses classes for the Christmas recess.

Holidays at T. C. U. this year extend from 4 o'clock on Friday, Dec. 20, to 8 a. m., Jan. 2.

Miss Anderson is enrolled in history, Spanish, education and English. She is majoring in English. Her extracurricular activities include the Riding Club, Uperettes and the Spanish Club.

Merkel Doctor Proud Of 108 Pound Tarpon

Hanging in a conspicuous position on the wall in the reception room of the Merkel Sanitarium is the mammoth tarpon, captured by Dr. R. I. Grimes 18 miles out in Corpus Christi Bay on Nov. 1. It measures 5 feet and 5 inches in length and its weight is 108 pounds. Dr. Grimes has had his tarpon stuffed and mounted and friends can be shown as well as told of his success as a fisherman.

Xmas Headquarters
A FEW OF THE MANY THINGS

Diamond Rings	Silverware Sets at a special price
Ruby Rings	Smoke Stands
Men's Rings	Bridge Sets
Watches, Bands	Bridge Table Covers
Chains, Stationery	Genuine Lucite
Shaving Sets	Ivory
Military Sets	Dresser Sets
Console Sets	Book-Ends
Community Plate	Diaries and Kodak Albums

A Complete Line of Gift Goods
Come in and examine them. It is a pleasure to show Our Wonderful Line of Xmas Goods.

Phillips Drug Store

Real Used Car Values

We have a large stock Completely Renewed Hups, Buicks, Chevrolets, Chryslers, Oldsmobiles and several others.

Several Good Cheap Cars in stock.

VERY LIBERAL TERMS
We will trade for some livestock

SEE
W. C. LEPARD
1/2 Block West Chevrolet Agency
Res. Phone 129 Merkel, Texas Bus. Phone 56

Dunnam Bros. SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

SPUDS	10 lbs. for	39c
CABBAGE	nice, firm heads, per lb.	4c
CARROTS	2 bunches for	15c
CAULIFLOWER	per lb.	15c
APPLES	for cooking, per peck	40c
COOKIES	Pilgrim, per package	19c
TOMATOES	No. 2 cans	9c
MILK	tall cans	8c
SOAP	Lighthouse, 26 bars, one pkg. clothespins	\$1.00
HOMINY	Goblin, No. 2 1-2 cans	12c
GRAHAM CRACKERS	2 lb. box	36c
OATFLAKES	large package	22c
BACON	dry salt, per lb.	15c
BACON	smoked, per lb.	22c
BUTTER	Country, per lb.	25c

Dunnam Bros.

E. M. BAKER, Manager.

Abilene

Winters

Eliasville

Merkel

Answering the
GIFT QUESTION

Why Worry

Here are Gifts for Everyone on Your List

From our large and complete stock of Dry Goods, Clothing, Millinery, Shoes, Ladies' Coats and Furs, Blankets you cannot fail to find just the gift you are searching for and the prices are moderate.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS

For Her

For Him

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Silk Kimonas | Shirts |
| Silk Robes | Ties |
| Beautiful Underthings | Mufflers |
| House Shoes | Gloves |
| Kid Gloves | Handkerchiefs |
| Silk Hose | Hose |
| Furs | House Shoes |
| Hat Boxes | Smoking Jackets |
| Overnight Bags | Handbags |
| Handkerchiefs | Lounging Robes |
| Purses | Belts and Buckles |

Only Ten More Shopping Days until Christmas. Come and Make your Selections Now. There are many more gift items just as appropriate as those listed above.

Max Mellinger