

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 42—NO. 41.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1931.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

TITLE MEET AT FORT WORTH ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Abilene Eagles to Battle Beaumont High at 2:30 Friday; T. C. U. Field Setting for 1931 Championship Game.

Abilene, Dec. 23.—T. C. U. stadium, Fort Worth, will be the site of the twelfth annual Texas high school championship football game. It will be played Friday, Christmas day, at 2:30, and the contenders, of course, will be the Abilene Eagles and the Royal Purple of Beaumont.

Abilene got the verdict over Greenville in a 0-0 draw in Friday's game played at Abilene, with four entrances of the enemy's 20-yard line, while on a muddy field and under a slow, cold December rain the gallant little Corsicana high school eleven fell Saturday before Beaumont, 13-6.

Arrangements for the game were made late Sunday night in a meeting of high school officials at Fort Worth, and Monday plans were set in motion for this city's invasion of the North Texas city.

Tickets for the game will be handled, as usual, by Weeks drug store No. 5, in the Alexander building. Every seat in the stadium is reserved, and the price will be \$1, except for box seats, which will be \$1.50. Student tickets will be only fifty cents.

Frank Myers, manager of the Weeks stores here, announces that no seats will be held. Purchasers must appear with the cash. One thousand tickets for adult fans, and five hundred for students were ordered by Abilene. Beaumont took 500 and 200. The local sale will close Thursday morning, when the tickets must be returned to Fort Worth.

Fort Worth is host to the state championship game for the second successive year, and if the weather is favorable a record crowd will attend, judging from the gate at the 1930 contest. Amarillo and Tyler last December had a paid attendance of 17,000, and the game was played on Saturday—not on a holiday. This is the third straight season the titular match has been staged on a neutral field. The Breckenridge-Port Arthur contest of 1929 was played at Waco, which also placed a bid for the Abilene-Beaumont tussle.

Abilene and Beaumont exchanged invitations to play on home fields Sunday night, but neither accepted. It was agreed that it would be better to play on neutral grounds, and if there was any discussion of tossing for the site, it was not reported. Only Fort Worth was considered, and no date other than Christmas. It was pointed out that a larger crowd could be had that day rather than on December 26.

A dry field for the engagement (Continued on Page Five.)



PRESIDENT SIGNS VET LOAN ACT

Makes Fund of \$200,000,000 Available to Continue Payments on Certificates.

Washington, Dec. 23.—President Hoover got out his bill signing pen Monday and approved three measures, one of which may make many a veteran's Christmas holiday happier.

It makes available \$200,000,000 to replenish the almost exhausted coffers of the veterans bureau and continue payments on bonus certificates. Administrator Hines has estimated the drain at \$25,000,000 a month, and the bureau did not have that amount.

Another of the measures provides the department of labor immediately with \$120,000 to extend its employment services. Testimony was given congress that 3,000,000 jobs had been found by federal employment workers.

The third measure extended by 90 days the time in which the war policies commission must submit a final report. A preliminary report already has come from this body, but more time was desired for a full statement of its findings.

Noted Woman Novelist



Starting the New Year, The Mail will begin the publication of a new and powerful love story by Katherine Newlin Burt, widely successful writer for leading magazines, whose name carries its own guarantee.

"Rapture Beyond" is the story of a girl who must choose between two fates, personified in the two men who seek to marry her—Felix Kent, Wall Street millionaire, and Joek Ayleward, ex-convict and gambler.

To the social world, she is Jocelyn Harlowe, beautiful debutante, daughter of a proud, cold and wealthy mother, Marcella Harlowe. But to her father and his friends, she is Lynda Sandal, who craves the excitement of another life.

The author, who lives with her husband on a western ranch, knows high society intimately and "Rapture Beyond," centering in this strange and beautiful girl, who is torn between two opposing fates, is packed with suspense and adventure that will hold your interest to the very end.

Be sure not to miss the first installment in the issue of The Mail next week.

Several From Merkel For Opening Program Ogene Co. Over XER

Dr. and Mrs. W. M. Gambill, Rev. J. T. King and Carl Thomas returned home Tuesday night from Del Rio where they attended the opening Ogene program over XER Monday night.

The entertainers were Bobby Burns, radio artist and movie star of Hollywood, Calif., with Mrs. C. W. Delmer of Merkel, as accompanist, and also in piano numbers.

Monday night's program is the first of a series of radio programs sponsored by the Ogene company of California. The hour is from 10:30 to 11 o'clock each evening.

Merkel Girls on Honor Roll. Stephenville, Dec. 23.—Eleanor Mae Hamilton and Ethel Hamilton, daughters of Mrs. Seth Hamilton of Merkel, were on the honor roll for the second preliminary report at John Tarleton Agricultural college, according to announcement just made from the office of Charlie S. Wilkins, registrar.

DEBT HOLIDAY GETS APPROVAL

Senate and House Concur in Ratifying the One-Year Intergovernmental Moratorium.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The senate Tuesday night approved the one-year intergovernmental debt moratorium. The house resolution of ratification was adopted without change. This completed formal congressional approval of the debt holiday.

The senate accepted the house provision banning further revision of the war debts of their cancellation without even discussing it.

Several amendments proposed from the senate floor were voted down in rapid order prior to the final roll call.

The vote was 69 for ratification and 12 against.

CONGRESS IN RECESS. Following ratification of the moratorium proposal the senate agreed to the house resolution recessing congress until January 4. An effort to shorten the holiday to December 28 was defeated.

The vote followed an all-day attack on the debt holiday led by Senator Johnson of California who accused President Hoover of violating the constitution by putting it into effect without formal approval of congress.

Demanding more attention to domestic affairs, the Californian attracted attention with a declaration, "I am ready to stand before the American people upon a proposition such as that advanced here today." He has been mentioned as an opponent of Hoover for president.

From California, also, came the first defense in the two days of debate for the moratorium, Senator Shortridge, a republican, asserting the debt suspension was a help and in no way modified the existing debt agreements with the other powers.

ONE YEAR HOLIDAY. The moratorium formally suspends most of Germany's reparations payments to the allies and all war debt payments by the allies to the United States from last July 1 to next July 1.

The proposal was advanced by President Hoover last June 20, and went into effect last July 1, after he had secured the pledges of support of a majority of congress and approval of the foreign nations.

By foregoing war debt payments this year, the United States failed to collect \$250,000,000 due it. However, this money is to be paid over a period of ten years from next July 1.

Foreign debt payments due the United States were payable December 15 and had been excused by the United States pending formal ratification of the moratorium.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Will Fritts, 41, of Haskell county, and Barney Lee Ross, 22, negro circus hanger-on, of Daingerfield, were electrocuted in the state penitentiary at Huntsville early Friday morning.

John Cerinos Strickland, 56, was killed and P. H. Bennett suffered concussion of the brain when their automobile collided with an ambulance in the business district of Dallas Sunday.

After 75 days of diligent effort by its officers and directors, the Commonwealth Bank and Trust company of San Antonio, which closed October 6, was scheduled to reopen at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Seven men, including Schuyler Marshall, Jr., former Dallas county sheriff, were indicted Tuesday by the Tarrant county grand jury on charges of robbery and conspiracy to commit burglary in the alleged Mansfield bank plot case.

Winners in the state-wide old fiddlers' contest held at Mineral Wells last week were: Joe Hughes, Forney, first; John Dalton, Alla Stephens, Mineral Wells, second, third, and Ike Emory, Handley, fourth.

The cheese factory at Round Rock, near Austin, was burglarized Sunday and a 5,000 pound hunk of cheese was taken. It was the second time in the past few days the cheese factory had been invaded, the first haul netting 2,500 pounds of cheese.

A Civil War veteran, Indian fighter and former Texas ranger, John C. Ware, 92, Uvalde county's oldest frontiersman, whose father fought with Ben Milam at San Antonio and San Jacinto in the Texas revolution, died Sunday at his home in Utopia.

Sim O'Neal, secretary of the Coleman chamber of commerce, who recently tendered his resignation, effective January 1, has been notified of his appointment as an assistant deputy oil and gas supervisor of the railroad commission, with headquarters at Big Spring.

As he and an employe of the Penn Oil company were returning to Bledsoe in Cochran county after inspecting a wildcat test, Robert R. Penn, 41, wealthy oil man of Dallas, was fatally wounded Saturday when a shotgun he was carrying for a hunting trip was accidentally discharged.

LADIES PROVIDE CHRISTMAS CHEER BOXES FOR NEEDY

True Spirit of Christmas Shown In Efforts to Aid Those Less Fortunate; Lodging Also for Extreme Cases.

Christmas, the holy day celebrated throughout civilized lands in commemoration of the humble birth of the glorious Saviour—the time of family home-comings, when the children and the children's children gather around the festive table in the old home for the turkey dinner, so happily synonymous with the occasion—has taken on even deeper meaning in these distressing times of trial, privation and testing of man's souls. It seems that even more than ever before the people of all communities have centered their efforts in true Christmas spirit in helping others, in aiding the needy and in bringing joy to those whose circumstances in life permit of no outward recognition of the Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS CHEER BOXES.

In Merkel, instead of the usual municipal Christmas tree, which for the past two years has been the keystone of the city's celebration, it was deemed advisable to concentrate all activities on the Christmas Cheer boxes—a plan so effectively followed last year by the ladies of the various churches—and to this end the cash funds raised and the merchandise donated by the merchants of the city through a committee from the Lions club are being used to provide articles of clothing and food and toys to fill the Christmas Cheer boxes, to be distributed by the ladies' organization under the general chairmanship of Mrs. Frank McFarland.

Something more than \$70.00 in cash and enough merchandise to make the total close to \$100 were contributed to the committee from the Lions club, consisting of Rev. E. L. Yeats, Dee Grimes and Booth Warren, assisted by the club president, S. D. Gamble.

CHOIR ENSEMBLE. For the first time that a Christmas choir ensemble has ever been given in Merkel, the massed choirs numbering more than sixty voices combined in a city-wide service at the Baptist church last Sunday evening. Despite the very inclement weather, the church auditorium was almost completely filled and the program, replete with songs and hymns, was a complete success. (Continued on Page Five.)

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, December 22, 1911.)

THE FARMERS BANK MOVES TO MERKEL.

Arrangements have been made for the removal of the Farmers State Bank from Trent to Merkel.

The bank is organized under the state law and operates under the "Guaranty Fund" feature. The new bank will be located in the building now occupied by W. L. Harkrider. President J. S. Swann is a Merkel citizen and R. O. Anderson in active charge is too well known for an introduction. He is a successful banker and has many friends in town and in the country.

Mrs. W. J. Behrens came in from Abilene the first of the week to visit with Mrs. E. P. McMillen.

Mrs. J. S. Bond left the first of the week to visit her mother at Santo.

Miss Fannie Pearl Moore is expected here Sunday to spend the Christmas holidays with friends and relatives.

The stark visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp last week leaving with them a fine baby girl.

H. L. Propst was in our little city from Trent Wednesday feeling fine over the good rains.

Miss Faye Lowrey will spend the holidays in Aquilla with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. T. N. Lowrey.

Mrs. Victor Harris and little daughter, Ruby, left the first of this week for Dallas to spend Christmas with relatives.

A most beautiful and valuable Christmas gift was that left at the home of Mayor and Mrs. C. D. Mims. She is a girl, and our good wishes are for you, "Miss Merkel," and may you never favor your dad.

Joe Winters, Bob and Mark Malone, Rapp Green and Lon Martin were transacting business in Abilene Monday.

M. M. Hamill, Lige Gamble and Miss Bess McMurray of Colorado City were week-end guests of Mrs. Daniel and Miss Annie T. Daniel.

Miss Valeria Dye will spend the holidays with Dr. and Mrs. G. H. Klutts in San Angelo.



PROPHETS.

A man who was an officer in France told me this story which is interesting and may be true.

He said that on November 10, 1918, a friend of his went into our headquarters and stopped beside the desk of an officer who was engaged in statistical work. The officer had been so busy with his charts and figures that he hardly left his office for days.

The visitors said to him: "Well, I guess it's about all over."

"What do you mean?" asked the statistician.

"Why, the armistice will be declared tomorrow."

"Nonsense," the statistician exclaimed. "This war is going on for another five years." Whereupon he drew out his graphs and his charts and proceeded to prove it.

Here's another story, told me by a banker.

In November, 1930, the ten leading economists of the United States held a secret conclave and took a ballot on how long the business depression would last.

One of them said it would be over in six months.

Four said it would last from one to three years.

The other five said it would last from three to five years.

"If they are right, the outlook is pretty gloomy, isn't it?"

I said it certainly was.

"There is just one joker in the story as I told it," he added.

"That the meeting was not held in November, 1930. It was held in November, 1920. And that depression came to a close, as we now know, in August, 1921."

Looking back over history, we can see that prophecy has always been a dangerous business. But as between the optimistic prophets and the pessimistic the balance is in favor of the optimists.

Old Mother Shipton, in the early 1500's, prophesied that "iron upon the sea would float as easily as a wooden boat." She foretold the airplane, the submarine, and the telephone. She was suspected then of being crazy, but she does not look so crazy now.

John Law, of Mississippi Bubble fame, sold shares in his vast concessions on this continent. Speculation ran them up to wild prices, and the ensuing panic ruined thousands. But those concessions represented the richest part of the United States. Even at their highest prices they would be cheap today.

I do not intend to join the ill-fated company of prophets.

(Continued on Page Two.)

WHAT'S DOING IN WEST TEXAS

Sixty head of baby beeves are being used in feeding experiments at the government station in Big Spring.

Eight carloads of calves were shipped from Spur recently to northern points for winter feeding.

A feeding pen accommodating thirty-five hundred cattle is in operation at Lubbock.

A modern lime kiln is to be built at Big Spring.

A new high school building is under construction at Seminole costing fifty thousand dollars.

The Spur station of the Texas-Agricultural Experiment station is conducting livestock feeding experiments again using one hundred Hereford steers.

A telephone line is being built from Olton to Littlefield in Lamb county.

The total enrollment at Texas Technological college, Lubbock, is over eighteen hundred for the present regular session.

Lubbock is seeking a Federal rating for its municipal airport.

Fifteen carloads of cattle have been shipped into Tulia recently for winter feeding.

A grain sorghum seed analyst is being sought by the Lubbock chamber of commerce.

Alfalfa is being grown successfully in Hall county on sub-irrigated land.

Hardeman county production loan borrowers have repaid approximately half their loans to date.

Young County taxpayers had paid three times as many taxes into the county on December first as last year at the same time.

Twelve additional miles of paving on Highway 28 between Crowell and

Paducah were opened to traffic recently.

A railroad at Quannah reports sixty per cent more business for October this year over October a year ago.

A seventy-five thousand dollar federal appropriation is being sought for housing non-commissioned officers at Fort Bliss, El Paso.

Eight large conventions will be held in Mineral Wells during 1932.

Fort Worth now boasts the largest highway underpass in Texas, costing half a million dollars.

The Stratford Star, Stratford's newspaper, celebrated its thirtieth anniversary recently.

A ton of pinto beans was purchased recently by the commissioners court of Ochiltree county for winter charity uses.

Fort Worth recently celebrated the completion of the Union Terminal, built at a cost of thirteen million dollars.

A new postoffice building is under construction at McCamey.

DON'T FORGET

Dec. 31st is positively the last day to take advantage of special offer of the Merkel Mail for one year for one dollar, in Merkel and within a radius of fifty miles, (outside, \$1.50.) Special clubbing rates on Texas dailies and the Semi-Weekly Farm News. Pay before Dec. 31st and save.

Why Take

Your Shoes

To Abilene

When you can get just as good work at home

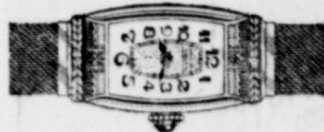
CITY SHOE SHOP
J. M. Ricker, Prop.
Kent Street

King George Sells Horses.
Newmarket, England, Dec. 23.—King George, continuing his personal economy move, disposed of several horses of his stables at the December blood stock sales.

Christmas Gifts at reasonable prices and a big assortment to select from at Brown's Bargain Store.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.



C. M. PRESLEY
Jeweler

Watches—Diamonds—Silverware

Abilene, Texas 209 Pine St.

THE WAY OF LIFE

(Continued from Page One)

I merely record my general agreement with the late P. T. Barnum, who said:

"If the truth were known I think it would be found that in this wide-awake country more people are fooled by believing too little than ever were fooled by believing too much."

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office.



EL PASO'S NEWEST AND FINEST

El Paso Headquarters

National Aeronautical Association

300 ROOMS . . . \$2 up

all outside with bath 2 up

Only hotel in city using soft water

When in El Paso meet your friends in our Lobby and Lounge. Make yourself at home whether you stop with us over night or not.

HARRY L. HUSSMANN, President

HOTEL HUSSMANN

"On the Plaza"

EL PASO, TEXAS

Ride the T and P



for COMFORT SPEED AND SAFETY ONE WAY COACH FARES REDUCED 33% MORE THAN 14¢ now! HALF! WORLD'S FINEST TRANSPORTATION AT LOWEST FARES IN HISTORY

On Sale Every Day ONE WAY COACH FARES

BETWEEN EL PASO, DALLAS AND INTERMEDIATE STATIONS. ALSO BETWEEN FORT WORTH, TEXARKANA AND INTERMEDIATE STATIONS VIA SHERMAN AND PARIS

20 miles . . . 35c	100 miles . . . \$1.75
40 miles . . . 70c	150 miles . . . \$2.65
60 miles . . . \$1.05	200 miles . . . \$3.50
80 miles . . . \$1.40	250 miles . . . \$4.40

Not Good on TEXAN or SUNSHINE SPECIAL
100 lbs. baggage checked free
HALF FARE FOR CHILDREN

WHEN YOU RIDE THE TRAIN YOU CAN relax!

THE SAFE, DEPENDABLE WAY TO GO.

FRANK JENSEN G.R.A.
DALLAS, TEXAS.

NOTICE POULTRYMEN

The Merkel Hatchery will start the 1932 Hatchery season January 2nd. Same location—same courteous service as last year.

I am in need of Hatchery Eggs for this season.

FRANK W. IRVINE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THE OLD RELIABLE

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

FRIENDS OLD AND NEW

We try each day to make new friends. We feel a keen pride in the friends this business has made in years past. We are proud of our friends and of our new friends. To us there is more in business than money. WE REALLY ENJOY OUR BUSINESS.

Right now we are thinking of these friends and wishing each of you a MERRY CHRISTMAS. May you and your's enjoy the yuletide season to the utmost.

W. O. BONEY
Merkel, Texas

Farm Loans and All Kinds of Insurance

PROFESSIONAL

PAULINE JOHNSON
Successor to
G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance—Notary Public
In new location, next door to McDonald Barber Shop—Elm St.
Merkel, Texas

LEN SUBLETT
Water Well Driller, all work guaranteed first class
Merkel, Texas
Phone 164w P. O. Box 224

BATTERIES
13-Plate now from \$4.00 exchange up.
BUY AT HOME
S. M. HUNTER
Phone 25 Corner Garage

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

Curley's Repair Shop
All kinds of auto work.
Generator and Starter Service especially featured
Wrecker Service Day or Night
At Corner Garage Phone 25

Dr. L. C. Zehnpfennig
Dentist
General Practice of Dentistry
Office, Merkel Sanitarium
Phone 163

SWEETWATER MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS
for
MEMORIALS OF MARBLE OR GRANITE
ALSO CONCRETE COPING
J. T. COATS, Local Rep.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 274W.

What is "Merry Christmas" worth?

Is there someone this Christmastide who means more to you than a mere Christmas "greeting" can express? Is it mother . . . father . . . sister . . . brother . . . an old friend?

Here's a suggestion for a remembrance whose value can't be measured in terms of dollars and cents. And yet it costs comparatively little.

Go to the telephone Christmas Day. Call the home folks. Talk to Mother, Dad, Mary, Bill, . . . Talk to your chum. Talk to your sweetheart. Talk to your friends. Think of the surprise and the thrill they'll get out of hearing your voice . . . and think of the pleasure you'll get out of hearing them.

What price can measure the value of a talk between Mother and Son? What price on a child's laugh heard a thousand miles away? What price on a hundred words exchanged by separated lovers?

And yet, your "Merry Christmas", spoken along the wires after 3:30 p. m., goes 100 miles for 35 cents. (station-to-station rate) The Long Distance operator will gladly tell you the cost of a three-minute conversation to any point.

Many Cities in West Texas Saying "Merry Christmas" in Lights

Welcoming Saint Nicholas with streamers of sparkling lights, brilliantly decorated trees and festoons, of red and green electric lamps, at least 24 cities of West Texas are exhibiting their Christmas spirit with attractive street light programs.

A number of cities are even staging Christmas lighting contests, for which attractive prizes have been set up in two classifications—residential and business lighting.

Abilene is sponsoring the largest program of lighting, according to information carried in the December issue of the West Texas Utilities News. The West Texas company serves the 24 lighted cities, and has aided in securing the lighting equipment and in decorating the streets and buildings.

More than 6,500 colored lamp globes were used in decorating the Abilene streets, the plan having been worked out as a municipal-wide project. Nearly five miles of wire was used. The city also is using cedar Christmas trees in front of each business house, and many of these carry decorations.

At Dalhart, the chamber of commerce is sponsoring a contest, with separate classifications for residential and commercial lighting. The streets of Dalhart have been festooned, and many Christmas trees adorn the streets.

Other cities radiating the spirit of Christmas with lighting programs are: Merkel, Stamford, Hamlin, Haskell, Cross Plains, Rising Star, Albany, Cisco, Baird, Wellington, Shamrock, Clarendon, McCamey, Quanah, Vernon, Chillicothe, Munday, Ballinger, Winters, Coleman, Santa Anna, Brady and Junction.

The Utility News indicates Quanah will be the most brilliantly decorated city of that territory. In addition to heavy festoons and streamers of colored electric lights, more than seventy trees have been installed and a

big "Merry Christmas" sign has been erected on the courthouse lawn.

Vernon, Brady and Ballinger are staging special contests and encouraging special window displays by all merchants, the News says.

Outdoor Christmas lighting for homes in Abilene increases annually, it is reported. Hardly an Abilene street is without an outdoor Christmas tree or other brilliant Yuletide decoration.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

5 1-2 per cent Federal Loans are Better Loans. Longer time, lower rates; plenty of money; never come due. W. Homer Shanks, Sec'y.-Treas., Citizens N. F. L. A. Farms, Ranches, Business Property for sale or exchange. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail

Many Others Can Buy Larger Ads Than This

But no one, regardless of size, can wish you any more happiness than we do. Nor can anyone be more thankful than we are for your past patronage.

We are looking to the pleasure of serving you during 1932.

CITY SHOE SHOP

Prison Population Shows Steady Growth

Austin, Dec. 23.—A steady increase in the number of convicts sent to the penitentiary is shown in the monthly report sent to Gov. Ross S. Sterling by the prison manager. There was a net increase of fifty-six during November, with 5,466 at the end of that month. The number will steadily increase now that the court of criminal appeals is affirming cases and mandates are being issued making sentences compulsory. There are 389 more convicts this November than in November, 1930.

More convicts were recaptured in November than had escaped. There were eight escapes and twelve recaptures.

During the month, 265 new convicts were received, nine returned by sheriffs, one from parole, four from furlough and two because of furlough violations. Against this 157 were discharged, two died, eight were delivered to sheriffs, forty-five paroled and eighteen furloughed.

Christmas Gifts at reasonable prices and a big assortment to select from at Brown's Bargain Store.

DON'T FORGET

Dec. 31st is positively the last day to take advantage of special offer of the Merkel Mail for one year for one dollar, in Merkel and within a radius of fifty miles, (outside, \$1.50.) Special clubbing rates on Texas dailies and the Semi-Weekly Farm News. Pay before Dec. 31st and save.

GREETINGS!

We are thankful for the holidays for many reasons, not the least of which is the opportunity afforded us to send greetings and good wishes to our friends and patrons.

We hope this will be a most JOYOUS CHRISTMAS for you and that THE NEW YEAR will be filled with HAPPY SURPRISES FOR YOU.

—And remember — we're counting on you in 1932.

MARVIN SMITH

Day Phone 27 Res. Phone 205



New Low Prices
Matinee, 10c, 25c Night 10c, 35c

WE WISH EVERYBODY A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

BOB McDONALD BARBER SHOP

APPRECIATION

We know we have our shortcomings, as most people do, but we have never been accused of lacking in appreciation. We honestly and conscientiously feel grateful to our patrons and while we have tried in the past to show that we do appreciate you, yet we want you to know that we are going to try even harder in the future.

In this connection we welcome the opportunity to send you the SEASON'S MOST CORDIAL GREETINGS and EVERY GOOD WISH, not only for Christmas but for 1932 as well.

McDONALD GROCERY

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART AND IN A WAY WE HOPE YOU'LL UNDERSTAND THAT WE MEAN IT:

WE WISH YOU A MOST JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND A BRIGHT HAPPY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

CHRISTMAS

the one day of the year when we can put our cares and troubles aside, and join in the universal spirit of goodfellowship and friendship for all mankind.

Do your best to make others happy this holiday season and you will appreciate better than ever before the real meaning of Christmas.

This Institution Will Not Be Opened All Day.

CHRISTMAS DAY
Friday, December 25th

FARMERS STATE BANK IN MERKEL

Capital \$40,000.00
Paid-in Surplus \$10,000.00

OFFICERS

C. M. Largent, President Dave Hendricks, v-president.
J. S. Swann, v-president. W. L. Diltz, Jr., cashier.

DIRECTORS

C. M. Largent, Dave Hendricks, J. S. Swann, Max Mellinger, W. L. Diltz, Jr.,

We're All Set For Another Year

Let the good old earth keep spinning, we are ready to take the changes as they come; ready to do our part in the work and business of the community, ready to bear our share of the burdens and responsibilities.

The confidence and friendship of our large patronage through the months that have gone encourage us to prepare for better things in the future and inspire us to attempt an even better service.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ELI CASE GROCERY

"Home of Good Groceries"

Prompt Service

Phone 234

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

If you have a furnished apartment or furnished rooms for rent, why not try a classified advertisement in the Merkel Mail? It will cost only 25 cents per insertion.

PHONE 61

If We Did Not Mean It We Would NOT BUY THIS SPACE TO SAY IT

We really wish we had the capacity to pay a personal visit to every person, with whom we have dealt in the past year, but this we cannot do. So, we do the next best thing: We send you this message, conveying the SEASON'S GREETINGS AND EVERY GOOD WISH, not only for Christmas but for the coming NEW YEAR as well.

DANDY BAKERY

Phone 56

Merkel, Texas

AN OPEN LETTER:

Dear Friends and Patrons:—
We take this means of sending a message of thanks to each of you and to tell you that we are thinking of you and wishing you a lot of happiness during this Christmas season. We appreciate your patronage of the past and respectfully solicit your 1932 business.

WIMAN'S CAFE

Sincere and Hearty Wishes for A Very Merry Christmas from

Kilgore Jewelry Co.

110 Cypress

Abilene, Texas

THE MERKEL MAIL
Published Every Friday Morning
Glover and Caple, Publishers.
TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second class mail.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones counties ---\$1.50
Anywhere else ---\$2.60
(In Advance)

Advertising Rates On Application.

All obituaries, resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, etc., are classed as advertising, and will be charged for at 1c per word.

A former Merkel boy is coming back for the holidays. He is to be honored by members of the Methodist church of which he was a member and from which he grew into the ministry. Next Sunday is to be Landreth day at the local Methodist church and the occasion is expected to bring forth a large crowd. One of the features of the day will be a covered dish lunch, after the services, for the relatives and old acquaintances of Rev. E. D. Landreth, now pastor of the church at Wheeler.

Japan is facing a rice shortage—we didn't know that Will Rogers could consume so much rice in so short a time.

An increase of 18 per cent in the number of pupils attending the Merkel Public schools this year as compared with the corresponding date last year is noted in the report furnished The Mail by Superintendent R. A. Burgess, printed in last week's paper. A 32 per cent increase is reported in the High School attendance, while the grammar grades show 11 per cent increase.

Setting an example of economy in governmental expenditure, Speaker Garner has decided to forego the special automobile that goes along with the speakership. Those knowing the Texas congressman can testify that this is not just a gesture but comes from a conscientious adherence to duty and recognition of the need of coming to the relief of the tax-payers, even to the smallest item.

Governor Ross Sterling has issued a proclamation calling for the planting of trees in Texas now, to be dedicated as Washington memorial trees on February 22. The request was addressed particularly to the school children. It is a subject that is dear to the hearts of many Texans and the governor is right in urging the planting of more trees.

Letters From Readers

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS?

Do we ever pause to think of this great day which is the anniversary of our dear blessed Savior. This day creates in one all that is generous and tolerant; we realize that being loved is the "gift of gifts." There is the sweet story of Santa Claus so dear to the childish heart—kindly intentioned but nevertheless a myth. Suddenly—they slip over the line, no longer children, and often wonder what a Christmas this would be for the whole world if each one would wrap up the secret worry of depression, the impatience or hatred, (if any.) To do all these things would bring joy, satisfaction and peace. Thus—Christmas would be to each and all just what we make it—a Merry Christmas.

—Mrs. Will D. Williams.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

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 offerings of their goods.

Use The Mail Want Ads.
If you have any visitors. Phone 29 or 61.

TELEPHONE THE MAIL

The Mail will be glad to receive news of entertainments or visitors in Merkel homes, as well as other news items of a general nature. If you have company, entertain friends or return from a trip please telephone 61 or 29.

CHURCHES

Merkel Methodists to Observe Landreth Day

Rev. Elmer D. Landreth, former member of our local church and at present pastor of the Methodist church at Wheeler, will fill our pulpit Sunday morning. This will be "Landreth Day" and we are planning a great day with an overflow crowd. It is planned that a covered dish lunch will be served at the church, after services, for the Landreth relatives and old acquaintances.

It should be a great day for a church to have the honor of a homecoming by one of their former members who is now a minister and our church so looks upon Rev. Landreth's coming.

It is a compliment to any church to have so conducted church life and kept the fires of God so burning that young men will be called from its altars into the ministry.

It is hoped that Elmer will preach at both services, but we have a definite promise for the morning service. E. L. Yeats, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 9:45 a. m. Promptness in attendance is urged and it is hoped that all classes will report a full attendance.

There will be no preaching service Sunday, as the pastor will be at Baird.

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Bible study 9:45 a. m. Worship 10:45 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. Training service 6:15 p. m. Ladies' Bible class Tuesday 2:45 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday 7 p. m.

L. E. Carpenter, Minister.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

To Our Church Members: While others are sending their good wishes and expressing their goodwill, we want you to know we are thinking of you.

Subject for sermon Sunday morning will be "The Relation of the Christian to Christ."

We come to the glad season convinced overwhelmingly that the world cannot get along without Christ. May the Lord Himself so help us, as church and pastor, to so unfold His blessed truth that men may see and accept it.

May all that is best in Christmas and all that is most hopeful in the New Year come to you and all of those dear to your heart.

J. T. King, Pastor.

SENIOR B. Y. P. U. PROGRAM.

Subject: "Progress in the Far East."

Introduction, Fannie Belle Boaz. Scripture lesson, Lucy Tracy. "Beginning at Jerusalem," Carroll King.

"From Jerusalem—the First Century," Comer Haynes. "The Spread of the Gospel by Centuries," Mr. Gibson.

India, Joe Riney. China, Janie Escue. Japan, Benny Sheppard. "Back to Jerusalem," Ted McGehee. "The World Seeks the Star of Hope," Margaret Canon.

N. Y. P. S. program for Sunday, 6 p. m.

Leader, John Reigh. Subject: "Objectives for 1932. What Am I Living For?" First, "To Glorify God." 1 Pet. 4:11; 1 Cor. 6:20.

Second, "To Study the Bible for God's Approval." 2 Tim. 2:15; Prov. 2:2-6. "Be ready always." 1 Pet. 3:15. Third, "Prayer and Faith." Heb. 11:6. "For personal Testimony." Acts 1:8; Rev. 12:11.

Fourth, "To Be a Blessing to Others." Rom. 12:10-21.

Another Atteberry gave a very fine message Tuesday night.

Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday 7 p. m.

Mrs. Ola Bolls, Pastor.
Mrs. Fannie King, Supt.

To open auto traffic between Mexico City and the United States as soon as possible Mexico is concentrating its road building activities on the Mexico City-Laredo highway

The first telephone service in the Island of Mull, Scotland, has just been opened.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

E. F. Harrison, inventor of the gas mask, entered the English army as a private.

MEN'S PRAYER MEETING.

A special 30 minute song service will feature the opening of the Men's Sunday Afternoon Prayer service at the Methodist church next Sunday. The lesson will be the 25th chapter of Acts and the service will be in charge of three laymen, John Toombs, L. L. Murray and S. M. Hunter. For the coming year a special committee on programs has been named as follows: John Toombs, Wm. M. Elliott and Tom Coats.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

On account of the rainy, bad weather, Sunday School attendance at the four reporting Sunday Schools in Merkel was cut last Sunday to 417, as compared with 738 on the previous Sunday.

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF BROTHER B. M. BLACK.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brothers of Merkel lodge No. 710 A. F. & A. M., we, your committee, appointed to draft resolutions in memory of our deceased brother, B. M. Black, beg to submit the following:

Whereas, on the 5th day of Dec. 1931, it pleased the Grand Master of the Universe in His infinite wisdom to remove from among us our dear brother, B. M. Black, and to transplant him a member of the Celestial lodge above, where the Supreme Architect of the Universe presides, and whereas Brother Black had passed the three score and ten mark, and had been a member of our beloved order since young manhood, being at all times loyal to the principles of the order, during his membership was punctual in attendance until his age and health prevented his being out at night;

And, whereas, in the death of our brother this lodge has lost a worthy member, one who lived and practiced the true principle of our order and in his everyday life an example of those great tenets Faith, Hope and Charity, having Faith in God, Hope in immortality and Charity towards all mankind, ever ready to lend a helping hand to a brother or friend, to aid him in his efforts at reformation, and while we drop a sympathetic tear for his bereaved ones, in the loss that has come to them and to us in his passing, we bow our heads in humble submission to the will of our Maker, and leave in his hands the soul of our deceased brother;

Therefore, be it resolved that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this lodge, a copy delivered to the family of the deceased brother, and a copy published in the Merkel Mail, and the members of this lodge wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Signed
C. L. Boswell.
W. W. Wheeler.
E. O. Carson.

Approved this the 19th day of Dec. A. D. 1931.
Attest: C. L. Boswell,
Sec. Merkel Lodge
(Seal)

5 1-2 per cent Federal Loans are Better Loans. Longer time, lower rates; plenty of money; never come due. W. Homer Shanks, Sec'y-Treas. Citizens N. F. L. A. Farms, Ranches, Business Property for sale or exchange. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the firm of Delaney-Delmer Chevrolet company has been dissolved and I will not be responsible for any purchases or accounts contracted from this date. All outstanding accounts, due to the Delaney-Delmer Chevrolet company, are payable to L. A. Delaney, Rising Star, Texas.

Dec. 21, 1931. L. A. Delaney.

Advertise in the Merkel Mail.

SOCIETY

TITTLE-TIPPETT.

The marriage of Miss Nadine Tippet and Orion Tittle was solemnized in a pretty home wedding Sunday morning at 6:30 at the home of the bride's aunt, Mrs. W. L. Harkrider. The Rev. E. L. Yeats officiated, reading a beautiful ring ceremony. Mrs. Harkrider was the only guest present.

Miss Nadine Tippet is one of the most popular girls ever to graduate from Merkel High school. She is the only daughter of Mr. John Tippet of San Angelo and has made her home with Mrs. Harkrider for several years before removing to Houston where she attended business college. Because of her talents and gracious personality she has made an enviable place for herself in the social, religious and musical circles of the town.

Orion Tittle is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Tittle, also a graduate of Merkel High school, and later attended Simmons university. He is a most popular member of the younger set and a promising young farmer.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Tittle have a host of friends who offer sincerest congratulations for their married life.

After a brief automobile trip to Mineral Wells they will return here to make their home.

STUDIO PARTY.

Miss Christine Collins complimented her pupils on Saturday afternoon with a Christmas party in her studio from 4:30 to 6 o'clock. The house was colorfully decorated with Christmas decorations. The program for the afternoon was opened with the singing of "Jingle Bells" by the class, followed by "Christmas Bells" by Mary Love Tipton. "The New Year" was next played by Eloise Mansell and Miss Vernie Derrick next delighted the class by singing "Silent Night" in Spanish. "Big Bass Singer" was next played by Rachael Patterson.

An original composition, "Christmas Praises," was then played and sung by Hollie Perry. "The Candlestick Maker" by Ora Derrick was next followed by "Drifting" by Mary Love Tipton. "Land of The Sky-blue Water" was sung by Vernie Derrick. "Dancing Rhymes" was played by Hollie Perry. "Starling" by Mollie Frank Touchstone was followed by "Ah Sweet Mystery of Life" sung by Eloise Mansell. Misses Mamie and Vera Walker sang in duet arrangement "Luther's Cradle Hymn" and Miss Vernie Derrick played "Etude." "Nursery Rhymes" by Marian Delmer and Mollie Frank Touchstone and "Animal Crackers" by Marian was followed by "My Old Rag Doll" sung by Mollie Frank and played by Norma King and "Elfin Dance" and "Prelude" were played by Norman King. "Cheerful Little Earful" by Miss Maurine Tipton and "Our Yesterdays" by Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Miss Iva Bragg assisted Miss Collins in serving a sandwich course and fruit cake with hot chocolate and lighted candles as plate favors.

J. U. G.

Members of the J. U. G. club were entertained by Miss Helen Heeter, assisted by the club sponsor, Missie Dye, on Saturday afternoon. A large and beautifully decorated Christmas tree was the incentive for Santa Claus to pay a visit and, after promising to be good girls until next Christmas, he distributed gifts to all the little guests.

At the refreshment hour delicious jello salad and cake was served to Misses Billy McGehee, Becky Gardner, Geraldine Teague, Dorothy Lee Shannon, Ann Leopard, Sue Sue Grimes, Dora Marie Gaither, Anna Lee Blake, Mabel Murray, Frances Star, Texas. Owens, Bettye Jane Diltz, Mary Joe Russell, Doris Gay West and the hostesses.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

On Friday of last week, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Buford celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in the home of their son, O. N. Buford. Highly esteemed pioneer residents of Merkel, they were married on December 18 in 1881 at Saialdo, Bell county, Texas.

Mrs. Buford was attired in a part of her wedding regalia and she and Mr. Buford greeted guests for a sumptuous turkey dinner. Both are active here in church and social affairs and Mr. Buford still carries on his vocation as a farmer.

Three sons, J. C. Buford of Fort Worth; R. R. and O. N. Buford of this city, together with their families were present at the dinner, besides the following friends and relatives: Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff McKee, Mr. and Mrs. Bob McKee, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Smith and sons, Mrs. J. E. Pope, and Mrs. W. G. Pope, all of Haskell; Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Goode, Noodle; Rev. W. G. Cyfert, Mrs. P. T. Allday, Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Allday and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Banner, Miss Maxie Banner, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Reid, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell of Merkel.

CLASS MEETING.

The Alethean and Dorcas class met at the Baptist church Thursday, Dec. 18. After the singing of the class song, "The Life Boat," scripture was read by Mrs. Brown, followed by prayer offered by Mrs. Meeks. Miss

Edith Baker favored the class with two solos, "The Birthday of Christ" and "The Heavenly Stranger." Mrs. Ann Brown played two piano numbers, "Silent Night" and "The Holy City."

After several interesting contests, numbers were drawn for Christmas presents. Refreshments consisting of pumpkin pie and coffee were served by the hostesses, Mesdames Jones and Ashby, to Mesdames Causseaux, Baker, Meeks, Risinger, Stephens, Brown and the hostesses. Mrs. Ann Brown and Miss Edith Baker were visitors.

NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, being the 12th 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.

W. L. Diltz, cahier.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

The word "cop" originated from the initials c. o. p., meaning constable of police.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

THE GREATEST HAPPINESS COMES FROM DOING FOR OTHERS

We therefore express the hope that this Christmas season will afford you many opportunities for happiness by making those about you happy.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the people of this community that we can never pay in full, but believe us when we say that we are going to give you the best we have each day of the coming year.

MERKEL ICE COMPANY

L. L. MURRAY, Prop.

Kent Street

Phone 98

WE ARE WORKING AND PLANNING FOR YOU DURING 1932

Never before have we been more anxious to improve our business and to give a greater measure of service than we are right now. This desire has been inspired by the loyalty of our patrons during the past year.

Count on us for a brand of service and values that will meet your every expectation during 1932 and you will not be disappointed.

May the New Year be one of Peace, Happiness and Prosperity.

MERKEL PRODUCE CO.

JOHN DUNN, JR., Manager

THE TIME WHEN WE THINK OF OTHERS

Christmas makes the world happier because it turns our minds from selfish pursuits and makes us think of OTHERS. It is so with us. We are glad of the season that magnifies friendship and fellowship. We appreciate our friends and want each of you to know that you have our best wishes for a very happy Christmas and a New Year of Peace, Health and Plenty.

BURTON-LINGO CO.

May the Joy Bells Ring For You

May the ringing cheer of this most joyous holiday season be so real to you that you can and will take with you happy thoughts that will linger throughout the days of the year ahead. Friends, we thank you a thousand times for your favors of the past. Naturally we'll be looking for you during 1932.

BLAKE'S DRY CLEANERS

Phone 68

Opposite Postoffice

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

RED SEED OATS, 25c per bushel; no Johnson grass. J. S. Touchstone, Hawley, Route 2.

Twelve assorted flowering shrubs, blue from twenty-five to thirty-five cents each, prepaid to any address for only \$1.50.

Money Back if Not Satisfied. WHALEY FARM NURSERIES. Hooks, Texas.

FOR SALE—Seed oats, maize, good late cane, 6 mules and harness; also two row planter and cultivator. See R. B. Wells.

One hundred peach trees, two to three feet high, Elbertas, Indian Cling, Mamie Ross, Early Wheeler, Heath Cling and many others, only \$7.50.

Money Back if Not Satisfied. WHALEY FARM NURSERIES. Hooks, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two row beam hitch planter and single row cultivator, used two years, good as new, J. T. Blackburn, Merkel, Texas, Route 5.

Elberta Peach Trees, six to nine feet high, the kind that sell for One Dollar or more each everywhere, as long as they last only Three Dollars per dozen. No less than one dozen sold at these prices.

Money Back if Not Satisfied. WHALEY FARM NURSERIES. Hooks, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two saddle ponies; will sell one or both. See Mrs. Roland B. Rains, Merkel, Texas, Route 1 Box 93.

WANTED

FOR LEASE—179 acres of land, joining Merkel on west, 70 acres in cultivation; balance in pasture. Make a bid. Vol Martin, 5437 Eighth Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.

WANTED—Place to work on halves; can handle 200 acres. Phone 51.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Corner part of building now occupied by Barrow Furniture company. Write E. G. Neely, 4311 Hall St., Dallas, Texas.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Green Sheaffer fountain pen. Notify W. F. Golladay.

BOTH FOR \$1.50.

From now until December 31st, the clubbing price for the Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.50. Don't fail to renew during this time. If you want to subscribe to the Semi-Weekly Farm News, you can save one dollar by this deal.

DON'T FORGET

Dec. 31st is positively the last day to take advantage of special offer of the Merkel Mail for one year for one dollar, in Merkel and within a radius of fifty miles, (outside, \$1.50.) Special clubbing rates on Texas dailies and the Semi-Weekly Farm News. Pay before Dec. 31st and save.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

Obituary

The following obituary for Mrs. Abigail J. Brown, grandmother of Mrs. C. E. Gardner, was published in the Martinsville Republican of Martinsville, Ind., of December 17, in the column reporting the news from Paragon, Ind.:

The funeral of Mrs. Abbie Brown, widow of the late George Brown, of Morgan county, was held in the Baptist church here Saturday morning in charge of Rev. J. N. A. Downey, of Bloomfield, assisted by Rev. Wales Smith, pastor of the Christian church. E. Hendrickson and daughter sang the hymns, accompanied at the piano by Miss Helena Randall. Mrs. Brown died at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Pearl Brown Gardner, in Merkel, Texas, from a stroke. Mrs. Gardner came alone with the body of her grandmother that she might be laid in the family burial lot at the Mt. Gilead church near Browns' Crossing. A sister of Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Georgie Brown Sims, and her husband, of Chicago, met her here for the funeral. A large number of friends living in Indianapolis and Martinsville came for the funeral. Those from Indianapolis were Mrs. Sarah Walters, Mrs. Mary Stoute, Mrs. Rose Sandy Boyce, Mrs. Rilla Davee, Mrs. Gilner Davee, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Canatsey, Mrs. C. W. Nean, Mrs. Estella Brown and Prof. Harry Brown; from Martinsville were Mrs. C. O. Abbott, Mrs. Tunia Humphreys, Mrs. Fanny Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Canatsey, Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Dutton, Mrs. Carl Willey, Mrs. Moran and also Mrs. Ezekiel Brown and daughter, of Dugger.

Among those who came for the funeral was Harry Abbott of Pittsburgh, whom Mrs. Brown assisted in rearing and who looked upon her as his mother.

Nearly two tons of copper coins were collected by Cambridge, England, students in a one-day drive for funds for ex-soldiers.

Legal covers at Merkel Mail office

Queen Theatre

"Showing all Talking Pictures"

Friday Night, December 25th, and Saturday

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

Richard Dix, the Luminous Star of "Cimarron" and "Donovan's Kid," in

"The Public Defender"

A Great Star in a Wonderful and Gripping Role. You will not be disappointed in this picture.

Extra "Socially Correct" 2 Reel Comedy

Admission Only 10c-25c

COMING

Jan. 1-2—"Huckleberry Finn"

TITLE MEET

(Continued from Page One.) has been made a practical certainty. The big tarpaulin used to protect Kyle field at Texas A. & M. from the elements was removed to Fort Worth Monday, and was to be placed on the Horned Frog grid as soon as it dried from rains of last week-end.

Christmas Boxes

(Continued from Page One.)

vealing as it did the abundance of highly trained voices in our city, proved further Merkel's enviable prestige as a city of churches and schools, the home of fine, cultured people and high ideals.

LOGGINGS FOR DESTITUTE TRANSIENTS. Through the initiative of City Marshal P. P. Dickinson, aided by the pastors and ladies from the churches of the city, a room downtown has been equipped with a bed and gas stove for heating to provide for those who arrive in the city in absolute want and without any means of securing lodgings for the night. Mr. Dickinson has requested The Mail to say that more bedding is needed, also another bedstead and mattress. Those wishing to aid by supplying any needed articles can notify the city marshal.

GENERAL HOLIDAY.

The public schools dismissed Wednesday afternoon to resume on Monday, January 4, and the postoffice, banks and business houses generally will be closed all day Christmas Day.

When Lieutenant Donald M. Yates, whose home is in Bangor, Me., fell out of a plane at about 2,000 feet altitude during a training maneuver with his instructor, Lieut. G. H. McNair, he released his parachute and floated to a safe landing, becoming the first member of the Randolph Field Caterpillar club.

Harry Barnett Again In Employ of West Co.

Effective with the New Year, the West company will again be the local representatives of the International Harvester company and the firm announces that within a few days they will have a line of these goods, with Harry Barnett in charge.

Harry, who was formerly in the employ of the West company for fourteen years, has been manager for the past year for Adams and Leverett, handling the International Harvester line. The latter will discontinue their Merkel store at the end of the year.

In connection with the addition of the International Harvester line, work will start at once remodeling that portion of the West company building devoted to implements and extensive improvements are to be made.

Ft. Worth Livestock

Fort Worth, Dec. 23.—Another very short run reached the cattle division. Tuesday's receipts being estimated at 900 head including 200 calves. As a direct result of the scarcity of supplies, the market scored an advance of 25c on all fat classes, calves excepted, and not enough calves were here to really afford a test of values.

Two cars of fed steers brought \$5.40 and four loads went at \$5, other sales being down to \$3.75. Fat cows sold in carloads up to \$3.15, good butchered cows went at \$2.75 to \$3, cutters notched \$2.50 to \$2.65 and canners sold at \$1.75 to \$2.25. Yearlings were scarce with nothing choice available. One load went at \$5.25. A short car of bulls cleared at \$2.50. Fat calves moved around \$3.75 to \$4.25.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail

Read Merkel Mail Want Ads

First Meeting of New Year.

The Salt Branch Home Demonstration club will meet at the home of Mrs. J. E. Higgins Friday, January 1, 1932. The program that would have been given at the last meeting will be present and start the New Year right.

Piece of Bark Causes Death.

A piece of bark, which lodged in his lung six weeks ago, while he was playing about the kitchen stove, causing pneumonia to develop, resulted in the death Monday of Max, 10-month-old

son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Johnson of Cisco. The child died at Fort Worth where he had been carried in an effort to save his life.

Record of Births.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Floyd, Monday, December 21, 1931.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Wills, Tuesday, December 22, 1931.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. C. Noal Armwine, Stith, Tuesday, December 22, 1931.

Typewriting and carbon paper at Mail office.

BEST WISHES FOR THE YULETIDE

Here's just a little Christmas greeting from our firm to our many friends and patrons everywhere. We just wanted to let you know how much we have enjoyed our relations with you and how much we think of your splendid patronage.

May we serve you better in every way is our Christmas wish.

SINCLAIR REFINING CO.

H. C. FOSTER, Agent

Phone 288

Merkel, Texas

Greetings For Christmas

When the hurry and rush and bustle of the shopping season is over and for a day we are secluded with our friends and loved ones to enjoy that high measure of blissful satisfaction which Christmas Day brings around to us only once in the year we wish for you the fruition of your best hopes, the realization of your most cherished desires, beginning now and continuing through the light and dark of the New Year.

The Merkel Mail

Glover and Caple, Publishers

NEXT THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Is the

LAST DAY OF THE MAIL'S SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

of

\$1.00 PER YEAR

(\$1.50 per year outside of Taylor and Adjacent Counties.)

Money-saving clubbing offers with the Texas dailies and Semi-Weekly Farm News.

SEE US BEFORE DECEMBER 31st

THE MERKEL MAIL

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

School dismissed on Friday, the 13th, for the holidays and will take up on Monday, the 28th. The programs on Friday afternoon and at night were well attended in spite of the bad weather. The teachers left for various places to spend the holidays: Ross Jenkins, wife and son to DeLeon, Roy Elliott to Seminole, Mr. and Mrs. Garland Franks to Coleman, Mrs. Reaves and son, Glen to Mt. Pleasant, Miss V. Strawn to Greenville, Misses Burgess and Shepherd to Abilene and Mrs. B. Reynolds and husband to Weatherford.

Miss Louise Matheny of Albany was a recent guest of her sister, Mrs. Cecil McRee.

Andrew Archer of Dallas was the recent guest of his mother, Mrs. J. T. Archer.

O. L. Bishop has bought out the Corner Cafe and has moved his meat market, which he will operate in connection with the cafe.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Young have moved to the Cousseaux farm west of town.

Mrs. Toliver Walker received a message Saturday from the doctor at Wichita Falls informing her that her husband, who has been in the hospital there for some few months, was critically ill. She left immediately, accompanied by her brother, Dr. Cop McLeod, and Milton Sherman. They were expected to arrive back home on Monday and are bringing Mr. Walker with them.

Elbert Rogers of Lamesa and A. J. English of Hermligh spent a few days here last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Winn.

W. J. Beckham of Lamesa was the guest Sunday night of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Beckham.

Mrs. B. Billings and little Master Billie Joe Bowers spent Monday in Abilene.

Mrs. R. Reaves and daughter, Lilian Grace, and Mrs. T. L. Stevens were Abilene visitors Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Dowdy have as their guest through the holidays Miss Winnifred Davenport of Stanton.

Messrs. G. Franks, Dug Franks and Ben Butman and Mesdames G. Franks and Ben Butman were guests over the week-end of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Sloan of Big Spring.

Mrs. Fannie Norman and her son,

Gus, of Thorndale were recent guests of Mrs. R. B. McRee. Cletus Feazel of Fort Worth was the passing guest of relatives here last Thursday.

BUTMAN-RENEAU.

On last Saturday at noon Miss Ada Mae Reneau and Mr. Ben Butman of Merkel were married at the Methodist parsonage, Rev. U. S. Sherrill officiating. The bride is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Reneau and has grown up in our midst. She numbers her friends by her acquaintances. They have a host of friends here and at Merkel who wish for them a happy married life. They will be at home in Merkel after the holiday.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

L. E. Carpenter, Minister. Bible study 10 a. m. Preaching and worship 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Tuesday 7 p. m. Ladies' Bible class Thursday 2 p. m.

BLAIR ITEMS

In spite of all the signs to be seen on every hand, it is hard to realize Christmas is upon us. The decorated stores go far to indicate the Yuletide to the shoppers and every newspaper and magazine gives the news with graphic illustrations. Plans for the celebration in this community are well advanced. A Christmas program will be sponsored by the grades and high school at the school auditorium Wednesday evening.

Guthrie Keel is back on duty as Santa Fe agent after several months' stay at Kemper.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jones of Dora have moved to Mrs. Minnie Reeves' place for the coming year.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Farmer and family have moved to the White Church community. They are not moving very far away and probably they will come back often.

Jim Moore and son, Arthur, and R. B. Horton made a business trip to Abilene Saturday.

Well, although we are having some very disagreeable weather at this writing, maybe Old Santa will get around to us "after all," kiddies. Just the same, we are wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mail want ads pay dividends.

Advertise in the Merkel Mail.

White Church News

We have been enjoying a very fine snow. We sure have been having the rain.

W. A. Harrison and W. L. Brown are both sick with pneumonia, but they are doing very well at this time.

We did not have preaching or Sunday School Sunday on account of the bad day.

Mrs. B. D. Pressley and little daughter, Jean, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Harrison of Buffalo Gap. Lynwood Harrison is also a visitor in this home. Elmer has been real sick, but is reported as being better at this time.

Quite a few of the patrons of our school enjoyed a nice program and Christmas tree at the schoolhouse Friday evening. Our teachers have gone to their homes for the holidays.

Mesdames A. D. Barnes and E. J. Patterson accompanied Mrs. Bob Malone and her nieces to Abilene Saturday to attend the council meeting from the Blair club.

Mose Brown was called from Big Spring last week to be at the bedside of his son.

Clovia Harrison has returned home from Eastland for the holidays.

Leon Coats has accepted employ-

ment in Big Spring.

Several in our community have been canning calves.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Turner and children were shopping in Abilene Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harris entertained with a party recently and everyone reported a fine time.

Here's wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Christmas Gifts at reasonable prices and a big assortment to select from at Brown's Bargain Store.

WE GREET YOU AND WE THANK YOU

May this Christmas be all that you could hope it to be and may the year 1932 be one of continued happiness, peace and prosperity for each of you.

MACK'S CAFE

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year EARL TEAGUE

DON'T FORGET

Dec. 31st is positively the last day to take advantage of special offer of the Merkel Mail for one year for one dollar, in Merkel and within a radius of fifty miles, (outside, \$1.50). Spec-

ial clubbing rates on Texas dailies and the Semi-Weekly Farm News. Pay before Dec. 31st and save.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

NOTICE

We are overstocked on BABY CHICKS and must sell at some price.

COME DOWN AND LOOK THEM OVER

KIRK'S HATCHERY

606 Mockingbird Lane

Abilene, Texas

AVOID THE RUSH

It is again time to have your headlights tested. Our screen is ready, our receipt books are here, our service is snappy.

We have a good line of tires, tubes and batteries to offer you at money-saving prices.

TIRE VULCANIZING First Class Repair Work

Blue Front Motor Co.

J. J. Barron, Manager

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BRING HAPPINESS

Sleigh bells . . . shining snows . . . gleaming candles . . . holly . . . and through the night come voices singing the beautiful carols of Christmas. "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men!"

HAPPY

CHRISTMAS

1931

1932

GREETINGS

As another year starts we take this chance to express to you our thanks for your hearty support, and to extend all good wishes for a new year of peace and plenty.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BRING HAPPINESS

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

Merkel, Texas

Holiday Greetings



"Merry Christmas . . . Happy New Year . . ."

Throughout each of our homes, each of our neighborhoods, each of our towns, these glad wishes are making old hearts young—young hearts happy. And it is a time to be happy, too. . . . A time when our spiritual, mental and physical beings are uplifted . . . when there's a song in our hearts, a twinkle in our eyes, and a hearty grip in our hand for our fellowmen.



On this Day of Days, we extend to our many friends—throughout the 125 cities and towns, and in the hundreds of smaller communities,



farm and ranch homes served by this company—a "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

West Texas Utilities Company