

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 42—NO. 49

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1932.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

LEAGUE MAKES PLEA TO "SUPREME SENSE OF HONOR" OF JAPAN

Cannot Recognize Validity of Occupation of Shanghai; Sees Discord Unabated if State of Affairs Continues.

Geneva, Feb. 18.—Japan's "supreme sense of honor" was appealed to by the League of Nations in its latest note of protest requesting her to terminate hostilities at Shanghai, it was revealed Wednesday.

The communication as handed to Notake Sato, Japanese delegate, for transmission to Tokio, said the council was "well aware of Japan's grievances" but regretted she should "think herself unable to accept the method of peaceful settlement which the league covenant defines."

The twelve neutral members declared that out of respect for Article X of the covenant, guaranteeing the territorial integrity of all members of the league, it could not recognize the validity of Japanese occupation of the Shanghai area.

"We draw attention to these stipulations," the note said. "Encroachment on the integrity of member states will not be considered valid. The committee of twelve earnestly desires that Japan take a conciliatory and wise attitude in view of the fact that she is one of the members of the league and a permanent member of the league council."

"The committee of twelve earnestly trusts Japan will admit her obligations and justify the confidence reposed in her by the powers of the world. We point out that according to the Kellogg Pact all international disputes should be settled amicably."

WOULD HOLD JAPS LIABLE.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Secretary of State Stimson has been considering the notification of Japan that the United States will hold her responsible for damage to life and property in the international settlement in Shanghai, it was learned authoritatively today. Tokyo reports, however, that such warning already had been given were denied finally by the same authority. No decision on the point has been reached.

Musical Program by Presbyterian Choir On Sunday Evening

The interested public is cordially invited to hear a musical program, given by members of the Presbyterian choir on Sunday evening beginning at 7:30.

The program will be made up of solos, duets, instrumental numbers, anthems and chorus in mixed harmony of twenty-eight voices.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, February 16, 1912.)

All the B. O. O. M. members will please remember that Friday night is the regular meeting night. We have a wrestling match, Adams and Moore; boxing match, Lofton and Snaffer; debate, "Resolved, that the pen is mightier than the sword;" affirmative, Simpson Christopher, negative, Jno. Moore.

Abilene was honored by three auto parties Saturday and Sunday, the first one being composed of Mrs. J. W. Daniel, Miss Annie T. Daniel, Miss Willie Bigham and John Daniel, while on Sunday the first car's occupants were Misses Annie Lou O'Brian and Gertrude Thornton, Ross and Frank Ferrier. In a second car were Mr. and Mrs. Will Woodroof and Mr. and Mrs. Lanier Brown. All parties report a grand time owing to the picnic weather that prevailed.

Wednesday evening at her home in West Merkel Miss Margie Saffle, by the aid of St. Valentine, entertained. She began by giving the young ladies eight subjects, each dealing with some form of lover's delight, to be discussed with the young men. This soon grew into a dangerous stage for some of the leap year victims and the hostess was forced to call luncheon to avoid embarrassment. Those present were

LIMIT TO EACH FARMER IS \$400

\$50,000,000 Set Aside for 1932 Crop Production; Restriction As to Cotton Acreage.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Regulations placing a \$400 limit on individual loans to farmers from the \$50,000,000 set aside for 1932 crop production under the Reconstruction Finance corporation act were announced Friday by the agriculture department.

Farmers who apply for loans, which are available in every state except Connecticut and Pennsylvania, will be required to give a first mortgage on their crop and pay a 5-1/2 per cent interest rate. Connecticut and Pennsylvania state laws make no provision for such mortgages.

Southern cotton and tobacco planters cannot obtain loans on more than 65 per cent of their 1931 acreage unless they planted less than 10 acres of cotton or three acres of tobacco. A heavy surplus of both crops exists, and efforts have been made to reduce production by voluntary action and by state law.

Loans to tenants of any one land owner in a single county will be limited to \$1,600.

The eight regional offices will be located at Washington, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Memphis, Dallas, Salt Lake City, Spokane, and Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Rainfall for Week Over Inch and Half

Since Sunday night, the winter ground season has been augmented by moisture measuring 1 3/4 inches. Up to Tuesday morning, the precipitation totalled 1 1/2 inches and the slow, drizzling rains since that time have added another quarter of an inch, according to the gauge of Grover Hale, volunteer weather observer.

January rainfall for Merkel was 1 5/8 inches, making 3 3/8 inches for the year so far.

Growing grain, although not greatly in need at this time, has been greatly improved by the opportune rains of the current week.

To U. S. Supreme Court.

Washington, Feb. 18.—President Hoover has determined upon Judge Benjamin N. Cardozo, of New York, as successor to Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of the supreme court.

Misses Ora Teaff, Lurlyne Long, Mattie Murphy, Maude Martin, Mattie Taylor, Frances Burroughs, Murrice and Clara Saffle, Messrs Will Joe Largent, Robert Hicks, Oily Sharp, Homer Easterwood and Lester Ellis.

At 7:30 p. m. on the sixth of this month at the home of the bride's parents in Jefferson, Mr. Oscar Adams was married to Miss Florrie Faviell.

Lee Pribble of Trent, a tonsorial artist of no mean ability, was here Saturday.

Lester Ellis made a social call to the city of Abilene Sunday.

Felix R. Jones was among the visitors from Abilene this week.

L. E. Adrian of Trent was on our streets looking after business yesterday.

Thos. Jenkins of the Divide community was here the first of the week and judging from the smile on his face he is expecting the oat crop to be greatly benefitted by the rain.

Early Tuesday W. Parten received a message telling him of the death of his brother, Edgar Parten, formerly of this place, but now of Richmond.



PLANS TO SPEND FIFTY MILLION

Huge Amount of Construction Work Awarded in the South During January.

Baltimore, Feb. 18.—The Manufacturers Record in its current issue reports more than \$55,000,000 in new engineering construction and building work awarded and proposed during the first month of 1932 in the South and Southwest.

Oil refining plants lead the list of present and contemplated industrial construction reported in the survey which shows:

A \$3,000,000 plant at Houston being discussed by Pan-American Petroleum and Transport Company.

A refinery of 2,500-barrel daily crude oil capacity at La Porte, Texas, proposed by the La Porte Oil and Refining Company.

A \$3,500,000 refinery on the Neches river near Beaumont, said to be contemplated by the Hartman interests of Glendale, Cal.

A gasoline plant of 30,000 gallons daily capacity now under construction at Willow Springs, Texas, by the Arkansas Fuel Oil Company.

Chemical, mining, paper and textile interests also are contributing.

In that category outstanding projects are the Dow Chemical Company's bromine extraction plant at Wilmington, N. C., and the Southern Alkali Chemical Corporation project at Corpus Christi. Preliminary work began on both last year.

The Eagle Picher Mining and Smelting Company at Picher, Okla., is building an ore mill of 3,600 tons daily capacity.

An ultimate expenditure of \$2,000,000 is planned by the Texas Potash Corporation which soon will begin work on one mine near Odessa, Texas.

The Continental Can Company, preparing to let a contract for a \$400,000 plant at Harvey, La., is reported to have acquired a site for a similar project at Houston.

Utilities, the survey indicates, are keeping pace.

Warns Against Mailing Radio Lottery Answers

Through The Mail, Postmaster O. J. Adcock calls attention to a warning that has been issued by the post-office department with reference to persons joining in a lottery through the United States mail, thereby laying themselves liable to being involved in court action.

While no cases have come locally to the notice of the Merkel postmaster, it is reported that numbers of Abilenians have mailed letters addressed to a Mexican radio station or its agents and most of these have been returned marked "Fraudulent—Returned by order of the Postmaster General."

The station or agents are said to have been sending out receipts in a drawing contest to individuals whose names they had secured, asking them to remit \$1, or announcing over the air that upon receipt of \$1, a chance in the lottery would be mailed the individual. The government has fraud orders out against several addressees, but addressees have been changed so frequently that some mail has gotten by the department.

Stress is given to the warning that such is a violation of the law and eventually the station and its agents will be involved in a court suit during which persons joining in the scheme will more than likely be summoned.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Charged with the murder of O. L. Jones, Waco auto salesman, Sept. 3, W. C. Beck was found guilty and the death penalty was assessed.

Duwan E. Hughes, San Angelo banker and wool man, has been appointed a member of the regional board of the Finance Reconstruction Corporation at Dallas.

Dr. Morgan Callaway, Jr., of the University of Texas, ranks second in the nation in the length of service as a college English teacher, according to the English Journal, a publication for teachers.

Convicted of theft in connection with collection of fees as sheriff of Walker county, N. L. Speer has been sentenced to serve three years in the Texas penitentiary where he once ruled as warden.

Fritz R. Smith, 55, judge of the 32nd judicial district, died Sunday at his home in Snyder, his death having been brought about by a weakened heart condition, caused by several sieges of influenza.

With a capital stock of \$100,000 and a surplus and paid-in profit of \$20,000, the First Coleman National bank, successor to three Coleman banks, which suspended operations last October 9, opened Monday morning.

Believed to have been acting under a suicide agreement, Miss Anna Seydler, a 62-year-old spinster, hanged herself at Schulenburg and a rope was removed from the neck of her sister, Marie, 70, also unmarried, in time to save her life.

B. B. Samuels, former president of the defunct Texas National bank of Fort Worth, who was indicted with three other officers of the bank in connection with the bank's insolvency, has been stricken with blindness in a New York hospital.

Thomas A. Johnson, vice-president of the Collin County National bank of McKinney, and former Merkel banker, has been elected district chairman of the Texas Bankers association to succeed W. L. Peterson, president of the State National bank of Denison.

Nine directors of the closed City-Central Bank and Trust company of San Antonio and State Banking Commissioner James Shaw were again notified of charges of violating the state banking laws in the report of the ninety-fourth district court grand jury of Bexar county.

At a railway crossing at Clyde where another life was claimed less than two years ago, and within 200 yards of a crossing where three other persons have met death since 1922, Dr. John Houston Bailey, 61, prominent Clyde physician, was fatally injured Saturday morning.

Ocie James, 2-month-old boy, was burned to death Wednesday afternoon when fire destroyed the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. James, at Austin and Raymond D. James, his 2-year-old brother, probably was fatally burned when he was pulled from the building by neighbors.

At a meeting of the Sweetwater Board of City Development with Houston Harte, president of the WTCC; D. A. Bandoen, manager, and Maury Hopkins, assistant manager, at Sweetwater Sunday, May 12, 13 and 14 were selected as dates for the 13th general convention of the West Texas chamber of commerce.

Record of Births.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. John A. Woodard, Trent, Sunday, February 14, 1932.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Reddin, Stith, Monday, February 15, 1932.

MA FERGUSON ENTERS RACE FOR GOVERNOR ON LOWER TAX ISSUE

ASKS RE-ELECTION TO SENATE POST

Cunningham Again Wants to Represent 24th District; Submits Candidacy on Record.

Oliver Cunningham of Abilene has announced that he is a candidate to succeed himself as state senator of the 24th senatorial district, and submits his candidacy on the record he has made in that body during his first four-year term. He speaks particularly of his part in the cotton acreage control legislation, which he introduced in the senate.

Senator Cunningham advocates the payment of interest and sinking fund on county road bonds out of the state treasury, as a part of the highway income from gasoline.

Some of the salient features of his formal announcement are:

"High taxes are the necessary result of large public expenditures and the passage of huge appropriation bills. And the fight to keep taxes down should be made when budgets and appropriations are considered.

"A vigorous effort was made some three years ago, to move the penitentiary to a place near Austin. I opposed the movement with all the power I had, because the removal would have meant the junking of the prison properties at Huntsville; the sacrifice sale of more than seventy thousand acres of fine prison farm land; the purchase of new land at a high price, and the construction of new prisons, at a cost to the taxpayers of many millions of dollars.

"Last spring it became evident that the treasury would go on a deficit. With this as a moving argument,

those in the legislature who desired economy sought to cut expenses by a reduction of the salaries of all state employes receiving more than \$1,800.00 a year. I helped all I could in this effort, because it would have made a reduction of nearly two million dollars in the budget, or a saving of that amount to the taxpayers.

"For the past four years, I have

(Continued on Page Five.)

Starts Fourth Gubernatorial Campaign in Seven Years; Three Others in Race, With Sterling a Likely Entry.

Austin, Feb. 18.—Mrs. Miriam A. Ferguson, Texas' first woman governor, laid aside her housewife's apron today and began her fourth campaign in seven years for gubernatorial votes.

Mrs. Ferguson, wife of James E. Ferguson, also a former governor, was elected chief executive in 1924, but served only one term. Dan Moody, attorney general in her administration, defeated her for re-election. She ran against Governor R. S. Sterling, incumbent, in 1930 and went into a run-off primary with him, but was defeated.

Her formal statement follows: "Responding to the written request of more than 400 friends in 200 counties in Texas that I again enter the service of the state and pledging their active support, I hereby announce as candidate for governor. These friends assure me that there is an urgent demand for my candidacy not only from all former supporters, but from thousands who have heretofore opposed me. They further say that there is a wide-spread dissatisfaction with the present administration of state affairs and that the public is demanding relief from governmental inefficiency and extravagance.

"While I am not anxious to, nor will I enter into any scramble for office, yet I do not feel that any citizen is at liberty to decline to render public service in time of public need. My family having been in the past signalingly honored I recognize a special obligation to heed the call of the people of Texas if I am needed or wanted in the public service.

"I sincerely hope that the contest in which we are about to engage will be conducted on the basis of merit rather than personal antagonism. 'Who can best serve Texas' should be the uppermost thought in the minds of the voter when the time comes to cast the ballot in our democratic primary.

"In addition to my connection with and my experience in the governor's

(Continued on Page Five.)



MORALITY.

In Mary Roberts Rinehart's autobiography, My Story, occurs this reference to petticoats:

"They had to be made, two or three, very full . . . and generally a short flannel one to the knees . . ."

"Not long ago a young girl of my acquaintance was going through an old trunk of her mother's and came across a brief bit of embroidered flannel.

"What on earth is this?" she demanded.

"That? That was my flannel petticoat for my wedding."

"Whereupon the girl burst into shrieks of delighted laughter. I smiled when I heard the story," says Mary Rinehart. "I too have somewhere just such a garment. I scalloped and embroidered it myself for my wedding, and I should have felt a shameless woman without it."

Julia Ward Howe, when a little girl, grew weary from a long ride in the family coach, and allowed her knees to drop apart childwise. Instantly her father reproved her:

"My daughter, if you cannot sit like a lady we will stop at the next tailors and have you measured for a pair of pantaloons."

The characteristics which distinguish a "lady" and comprise her moral code have differed widely in different generations.

I remember the first girl I ever saw who cut off her hair. She worked in my office. The president of the company called me on the carpet and wanted me to fire the young lady, which I declined to do. To his way of thinking, bobbed hair was a sure sign of an abandoned woman.

I recall the first lady whom I ever saw lighting a cigarette. All of us who witnessed the performance were sure that she was no better than she ought to be.

Only recently I ran across an old copy of the Book of Rules issued by a coeducational college a quarter of a century ago. It consisted of thirty pages of "Thou shalt nots" and, having prohibited almost everything, it wound up with this blanket injunction:

"In addition to the foregoing rules, students are expected to refrain from card playing, dancing and theatre-attendance, and to observe the other common rules of morality."

The Old Testament contains many precepts, but in the book

(Continued on Page Two.)

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Senior Class of '32—Mrs. E. B. Irvin, sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Ida Mae Derstine. Assistant Editor—Lela Patterson. Society Editor—Mary Elizabeth Grimes. Sports Editor—Willie Evelyn Boaz. Assistant Sports Editor—Ross Ferrer. Joke Editor—Cephas Wozencraft.

THE T. A. C. CLUB.

Cephas Wozencraft. "Woody," as Cephas is called by a number of M. H. S. students, is operator of the famous Wozencraft's Store on the picturesque campus of M. H. S. Cephas is an industrial young gentleman. He is a letter man of the 1931 track team of M. H. S., a fighting basketballer, an industrious Senior, a member of the T. A. C. club, and joke editor of the "Badger Weekly." "Woody" is so industrious that he can not find enough vacant time in which to prepare his lessons, especially English. Cephas' main study period is the history period.

Davis Williams.

Oh, you girls, look whose name appears in the Badger Weekly. Many of you girls may not know "Red," but I recommend that you get acquainted with him at once. For particulars, see Mary Elizabeth Grimes. I am sure this young lady can answer all questions concerning "Red;" that is, she should be qualified to answer all them. Yes, and girls, Davis was high-point man in the recent Taylor county basketball meet. Davis is a letter man at end on the gridiron team, a letter man at forward in basketball, a brilliant Senior, a member of the Senior Boys' club, and a member of the T. A. D. C. (Thursday afternoon Detention Club). Good for you, Davis, you have made good, even in your transferring from Noodle to Merkel.

VACCINATIONS.

The first shot of the typhoid vaccine was given by one of the town's physicians who has offered his services in the giving of the vaccines. Dr. C. B. Gardner. Dr. Gardner was assisted by the United States Health nurse in giving two hundred and forty-one pupils and teachers the typhoid vaccine. This shot was given Friday, Feb. 12, in the Grammar School office. This vaccination seemed to have more reaction than the diphtheria, therefore, several students and teachers were ill over the week-end. The next shot of typhoid will be given on next Friday, Feb. 19.

DRAMATIC CLUB NEWS.

The fourth meeting of the Dramatic club was held Feb. 12 at the High School building. Margaret Miller, Imogene Middleton, Elleta Foster, Lela Patterson, Van Roberts, Red Williams and Cephas Wozencraft were the hostesses and hosts. The program was as follows: Colonial play, given by Margaret Miller, Imogene Middleton, Red Williams, and Elleta Foster; a talk on the art of cultivating friends by Albert Cade; a reading by Margaret Canon; duet by Margaret Miller and Mildred Richardson; and business meeting. Two one-act plays were presented for the Dramatic club: "Nevertheless" and "Farewell, Cruel World."

JOKES.

Mr. Riddle: "Give me a custom that you think existed in Biblical times." H. C.: "I think that the beds were very large, and about five people slept in each bed." Mr. Riddle: "What makes you think that?" H. C.: "Well, the Bible tells about Moses' sleeping with his forefathers."

Gerald: "What is the difference between a king's son, a monkey's mother a bald head, and an orphan?" B. P.: "A king's son is the heir apparent; a monkey's mother is a hairy parent; a bald head has no hair apparent; and an orphan has nary a parent."

Stanley: "Why do we admire the pretty feet of a young lady?" Lowell: "All's well that ends well."

Mr. Burgess: "Why do the American soldiers never run away?" Meyer: "I don't know; unless maybe, it's because they belong to the standing army."

SENIOR NEWS.

The Senior class seems to be the most popular class in M. H. S., as three out of the four favorites were chosen from this class: Nell Durham and Davis Williams as best-all-around students and Margaret Canon as queen. The football sweaters have arrived and we are certainly proud of the six that help to decorate our Senior room.

CHAPEL.

The Badgers of Merkel High school received their football sweaters Monday morning at chapel. Those receiv-

ing sweaters were: Paul Williams, Gerald Derrick, Red Williams, B. P. Middleton, David Gamble, Bessie Boaz, Albert Cade, Bud Toombs, Ross Ferrer, Woody Wilson and Marshall Shouse.

The boys are very proud of their sweaters, for they worked hard for them.

Everyone is wondering which girl will wear one first. Whoever it is, she will be highly honored.

TENNIS CLUB.

The grand champion in the basketball field in Merkel High school is about to be settled, and the grand champion in the tennis field in Merkel High school is about to be found. This tennis contest that is to be held is not for the purpose of deciding the racqueting champion of M. H. S., but it is to be held to decide the winning class. Maybe each class has a star performer, but when the star performer teams with a fellow classmate who may not be so brilliant a performer as he, he may lose; consequently, the champion performer of the school would not be fairly decided.

The likely challengers are: Williams and I. Mellinger from the Senior class, G. Derrick and M. Mellinger from the Junior class, Howard Carson and Tommy Jones from the Sophomore class, and Harry Boaz and someone to be decided later to represent the Freshman class.

The four-sided battle will be started as soon as Mother Nature permits. All you likely challengers beware. The Senior couple is hot and ready to go.

The Senior class has practically won the basketball laurels and is going to give the three competing teams plenty of competition.

If you are asked to carry the colors of your class, please do so to the best of your ability, even if it is limited.

JUNIOR NEWS.

The Juniors certainly do feel "swell." Can you guess why? Most popular boy? Certainly.

Yes, the Juniors are very proud that the most popular boy, Gerald Derrick, came from their class.

Then, there was a little leak in the hall Monday when it was raining, and we heard something about a Junior-Senior banquet!

A Junior got industrious the other day and figured up just how long it is until school will be out. It is only 141,120 seconds. Believe it or not, and if you don't, count it up for yourself.

SOPHS CHATTERBOX.

Does Billy Gardner seem disappointed about anything lately?

Did Caribel go to see the sick this week-end?

Two Sophomores have new football sweaters, David and Bud.

Wanda has a scrap book.

Julia has her spring haircut.

Lois received a sweet Valentine!



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Even the Sophomores grieve because Cullen has moved. Miss Patterson's nature is to be sweet. Bessylea can sing pretty alto. Duncan is between a rock and a hard place, kinda. David likes to work algebra since he has a new sweater. The depression hit Jack Patterson so hard he cannot buy a pencil for algebra.

FRESHMAN NEWS.

The Fish have two more Fish in the pond. Dot Swafford, who has been going to school at Sweetwater, and O. C. Johnson from Wilson, Texas.

The Freshmen beat the Sophomores in basketball 38-7. We are going to beat the others, too. Watch the Badger Weekly!

Jack S.: "Who is the straightest man in the Bible?"

Milton: "I don't know."

Jack: "Moses, because Pharaoh made him a ruler."

Jessie Margaret: "I bet I can thread a needle faster than you can?"

Lena Mae: "I guess you can. Every time I start to thread one it blinks its eye."

The Freshmen had only one boy to get a football sweater. Harry Boaz. We are proud of him and expect more to get a sweater next year.

ONE ACT PLAY.

The play that has been chosen to be given in the Interscholastic League contest is "Mansion." This is a play that was presented last year by the speech department and it has been chosen this year for the contest.

Those who are entering the contest are as follows: B. P. Middleton, Van

Roberts, Meyer Mellinger, W. M. Taylor, Monta J. Moore, H. C. Toombs, Marie Stanford, Frances Marie Church, Mildred Richardson, Duncan Briggs, Ida Mae Derstine, Sis Boaz, Ruth Calloway, Opal Huskey, Mary Elizabeth Grimes and Melba Taylor. The Merkel High school is expecting this play to win first place in the contest.

THE WAY OF LIFE

(Continued from Page One)

of Micah there is one verse which is a summary of them all. It reads:

"He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

This is the basis of all morality. This is fundamental and unchanging.

But whether hair or petticoats are long or short is nothing to worry about.

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"A searching survey of his administration reveals no act which his country would annul; no word spoken, no line written, no deed done by him which justice would reverse or wisdom deplore."
—George William Curtis.

This bank will observe Monday, February 22nd. (Washington's Birthday) as a legal holiday and will not be open for business.

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RAPTURE BEYOND

by KATHARINE NEWLIN BURT

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EIGHTH INSTALLMENT.
Fresh from a French convent, Jocelyn Harlowe returns to New York to her socially-elect mother, a religious, ambitious woman. The girl is hurried into an engagement with the wealthy Felix Kent. Her father, Nick Sandal, surreptitiously enters the girl's home one night. He tells her he used to call her Lynda Sandal. The girl is torn by her desire to see life in the raw and to become part of her mother's society. Her father studies her surroundings.

Lynda visits her father in his dingy quarters. She finds four men playing cards when she arrives. One of them, Jock Ayleward, her father tells her, is like a son to him, but warns the girl he is a trifter.

Lynda pays a second visit to her father and Jock takes her home, on the way stopping with her at an underworld cabaret.

Jock gets into a fight with a gangster who insists on dancing with Lynda. He then takes Lynda home. Later she mentions Felix's name to Jock and Ayleward's face displays his demoniac hatred of the millionaire.

Jock tells Lynda that Felix caused him to be sent to jail unjustly by fixing up his report on a mine. Lynda says she doesn't believe his story. She pays another visit to her father and goes to a cabaret with him and dances with Jock, who suddenly stops and tells her he is going to take her right home. He had seen Felix dancing with another woman.

Nick discovers Jock making love to Lynda when he returns home immediately after the others get there and reviles him for being a convict. Returning home Jocelyn finds her mother handling some immensely valuable jewels, hidden behind her prie dieu.

Felix tells Jocelyn that Jock is a worthless scamp. Later Lynda tells Jock she does not believe in his innocence but will try and find, through Felix, some letters Jock claims will clear his name.

Marcella finds her jewels stolen and hires a private detective, who uncovers the mysterious prowling of Lynda, without knowing who she is. Lynda suspects her father.

Jocelyn decides to marry Felix quickly and preparations are made for the wedding. She asks him to tell her the combination of his safe, as a mark of his confidence in her.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY—
"Spiritually? To know the combination of an office safe?"

"Well psychologically then. It would give me a feeling of knowing you better, of being in your confidence of being—" her voice fell, "really your wife..."

Felix lifted the hair from one of the delicate close-set ears and bending his mouth to it whispered, "Three-eight... three turns to the left... eight-five-two... two turns to the right. One-one-one-seven... six turns right. Turn to the left. Did you get that, my sweet foolish wife?"

"Say it again, Felix."

He repeated it and she in her brain of a schoolgirl conned it over and over, sick with her own deception. To lie so in a man's arms and to cajole his secrets from him for what might... no, she trusted him. "It is to prove my confidence in him... This conscience must be silenced! It is only to prove his honor in such a fashion that he may never know it has been questioned; to rid myself of this—Other... this Other... forever and forever—and forever."

Next day she wrote a line to Jock "If I succeed in arranging matters as I hope, I'll come to you tonight about eleven o'clock. I shall have to ask your help."

This she mailed with her own hand. Plending weariness, she asked Felix to stay away that evening and to her relief he decided that he would take advantage of this dismissal for one of his flying business trips.

At half past ten Jocelyn got up and locked her door. She took her disguise from its hiding place and dressed herself. She ran her fingers through her hair. For this one last time she must wear the dangerous semblance of that "conspicuous young woman."

As she stepped briskly out along the street past the awning of the apartment house she thought that a man emerged from the alley she had just left and walked, not very rapidly behind her.

Arrived at Nick's place, she ran

up to stairs and entered Nick's room.

Jock rose. He was dressed in a dark suit of rough tweed and took up a cap from the floor.

"Speak low," said Lynda. "Is Nick here?"

"No. I took him to a hospital for treatment. He'll be able to get out in a few days."

"I'm glad he isn't here. I've been followed. A man's across this alley in a doorway. My mother has engaged a private detective to find out who took her jewels. He must have seen me come out. In fact I know that I've been noticed already in this get-up. Jock, what shall we do? If we go out together now we'll both be arrested."

"Wouldn't it be better for me to put on some of Nick's clothes? They'll be looking for a woman."

"Good thought. You could wear them pretty well." His eyes impersonally measured her.

He took her into the bedroom, tumbled a suit from the closet to the bed, got a shirt, a tie and a soft hat and left her.

The clothes weren't such a bad fit. The felt hat, because of her thick hair, was a tight squeeze but she pulled it down. When she came out Jock smiled at her appearance.

"You'll do, I guess, on a foggy night. Where are we going to when we leave here?"

"Have you one of those small searchlights, Jock?"

"An electric torch? sure thing."

"Then take it. We're going to Felix's office downtown."

Three blocks away from the tall narrow tenement they took a taxicab.

Not many days before, Jocelyn Harlowe had driven through the diamond air of noon along one of the glittering avenues of the gaytown in Kent's smooth-running limousine, while his voice, eager and possessive, exulted in her ear. She could not avoid his lips, his touch. Now, plunging and jerking in the narrow stuffy darkness of the taxi, she crossed a city lurid and confused, whose air was a wandering marsh light across her face and hands, while the man beside her crouched forward, silent and controlled.

She said to herself, "After this ride I shall never be alone with him again. And I love him. And I have never given him a word of kindness. He will remember me only as one of many wounds." And the longing to speak softly to him took possession of her almost irresistibly.

Jock spoke: "I won't see you again," he said in his subdued voice.

"You won't forget me—no matter what is found—something or nothing. I can't help hoping that we'll find what is bound, I suppose, to hurt your happiness. But I must say two things to you: One—that I think you are brave. Very few women would have the courage and the honor to search out such a truth. And the other is... I love you. It can't hurt you to know that. Lynda, I love you."

She did not answer. The murky city went past their silence in blurred light. Speech of any sort would be disloyalty. She said at last, however, in a sweet muted voice, "It hurts me. It hurts me... that you love me."

"I'm a fool, Lynda. Not even prison has cured me of folly. I hope I'll die in the gutter hoping. Great things... like the possession of your love."

"You mustn't hope."

He drew one of her hands quickly over to his lips and let it go.

"Good-bye, Lynda Sandal," he said. "As long as you live, I'll hope."

In the darkness she took that hand he had kissed up to her mouth and set her teeth upon it. The action kept her from speech and tears.

It was more difficult than Jocelyn had foreseen, to locate the spot they wanted. But finally they found it.

At the foot of the fire escape they stood together looking up.

"You must wait her, Jock. I know just where the safe stands. I have memorized the combination. Let me have your torch."

"I must go up with you. You don't imagine that I'd let you take this chance alone?"

"You have to. If I am caught I've only to let them know who I am in order to be released. But if you are found in there..."

She took the light from him and felt the ice of his fingers.

She counted the windows and found the one to Felix's office. It moved up silently and she let herself down upon the office floor. She went softly over to the safe.

The electric torch, as she pressed it, gave out a round white spot which startled her with its precise revelation of the glittering knob of the safe.

She repeated to herself: "Three-eight... three turns to the left, eight-five-two. Two turns to the right one-one-one-seven. Six turns right. Turn to left." The thick door opened noiselessly.

The small compartments were labeled, not with letters or numbers, but with hieroglyphics which mean nothing. She took out bundles of papers and stealthily examined them. Bundle after bundle, with names and titles utterly unknown, contracts, letters, signed papers, she took them out, returned them. Suspense ate at her vitals.

She could not tell, with the failure of each inspection, whether her heart leaped up or dropped. Jock's eyes, Felix's clear profile, both were haunting her. She endured not only her own horrible suspense and fear of discovery but Jock's, where he stood down there in the chill fog, against the wall, waiting. No matter what his delusion, this search meant. He really hoped, he really feared. It was not, for him, only a test, a mad experiment; it was simply—life, or his death. It was shame or clean justification, a prison sentence wiped out, a curse lifted.

She thought she had imagined the words but her eyes had really picked them off a folded stiff sheet. She began to shake.

"Algernon Talley, Lost Valley Mine."

"I agree to give your engineer the kind of look-in you suggest, provided you come across with the million." Her sick eyes ran down the page. She saw his name, "Jock Ayleward." Another letter: "I've got him where we want him. It wasn't such easy doing either. He's a shrewd chap and knows his job. But I kept him away from a shaft and I let him go over—"

It was true. Felix Kent had baited

a trap for an unsuspecting friend, a boy he'd played with. Felix Kent had sent his scapegoat, an innocent man, to prison. The proof lay in her two cold hands.

It would mean, for Kent destruction. By her treachery. And he had chosen her to be his wife.

This was something that she could not do. She could tell him when he returned tomorrow, she could leave it to him. His face vividly replied with its shallow eyes and its hard mouth, "I ride life with a spur and a whip and I ride over fallen men." If she told him he would ride her down. And Jock would be trampled deeper into the bloody dust. Suppose that she had the papers and threatened Felix Kent... No. That was all moonshine all a girl's phantasy. No way to handle shrewd and scheming men. She must either put the papers back and keep silent for all her life, loyal to a knave, or she must stand up now and go over to that window and then down to the honorable man who waited at the bottom of the wall, the honorable man who had served a prison sentence while Felix enjoyed a million dollars in the sun.

She stood up, closed the safe and went over to the window. As she leaned out she heard a

sound behind her terribly close.

With no further hesitation she threw the heavy bundle of letters in their hand down to Jock Ayleward.

"Get out. Be quick," she called urgently. She had swung her leg out over the sill when heavy hands clutched at her and pulled her back and a weight crashed down upon her blinded head.

In the bedroom of a Washington hotel Felix Kent spent what was left of an active and wakeful night.

The spur of opportunity and of antagonistic forces, these were not the only fevers in his blood. His marriage was but a few hours ahead of him and the image of Jocelyn kept his pulses stirred.

After day break he fell asleep and was awakened by the sharp call of a telephone beside his bed. His watch on the night table showed him that it was already eight o'clock.

The voice was Becky Deal's.

"Is this you, Mr. Kent? Michael Rory has just telephoned from the police station. It seems that your office was entered last night. He caught a boy leaving by the win-

dow. I don't believe anything's been taken." Felix committed himself to an oath.

(Continued Next Week.)

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.

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.

Because the number of children under 5 years is decreasing in the United States, school officials figure on an appreciable decrease in the number of children entering first grade within the next ten years.

Office supplies—Mail office.

Washington

visioned a great country. He had the strength and courage to undergo untold suffering and privation, and see him through to final achievement.

It is times like these that test men, that bring out their finest qualities, that afford a more secure base for the greater success that the years ahead are practically certain to bring.

This Institution Will Not Be Open All Day

Monday, February 22nd

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

FARMERS STATE BANK IN MERKEL

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

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J. S. Swann, v-president. W. L. Diltz, Jr., cashier.

DIRECTORS

C. M. Largent, Dave Hendricks, J. S. Swann, Max Mellinger,
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Rheumatism	Toothache

No harmful after-effects follow its use. It does not depress the heart.

Page from the diary of a Modern Telephone



"9 o'clock... I ordered groceries brought to the back door. 9:30... the Missus found she was out of soap, added to the grocery order. 11:30... called Jack to remind him to bring home some stamps.

"1 o'clock... Mrs Bascom called to ask about the Missus' recipe for baked beans. 3 o'clock... the Missus called that woman down the street, asked her to come up tonight to play bridge. 5:30... the Missus is peeved. Jack just called. Be 20 minutes late. Delay dinner.

"6:30... told the druggist to send the boy over with a pint of ice cream. 8:30... the Missus' mother called from out-of-town inviting the folks up to help eat quail dinner Sunday."

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JOWERS-HOLLER.

The wedding ceremony of Miss Addie Holler and Ervin H. Jowers was solemnized early Sunday morning in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Pee, the Rev. R. A. Walker officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Pee were the only attendants.

Miss Addie Holler is the daughter of Mrs. H. Holler of Gail, where she was educated; graduating from high school she then attended business college in Abilene and has for the last few years been stenographer for the Farmers State Bank. In this capacity she is most affable and in all social and religious circles she is most popular.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Jowers, pioneer residents of Tye. He is a graduate of Abilene High School and is at present engaged in the filling station business at Tye. Mr. Jowers is well known in Merkel and a large number of friends extend congratulations to them both.

Mrs. Jowers will continue her duties at the Farmers State Bank and they will be at home in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Pee.

DINNER PARTY.

Members of the High School faculty were guests at dinner, Friday evening, of Dr. and Mrs. C. B. Gardner.

A colorful Valentine motif was employed in table decorations—a beautiful center of red carnations in crystal base augmented by four red tapers in crystal candleabra. Miss Wilma Gardner presided as hostess at the table, where a most delectable three course turkey menu was served.

Guests for this lovely affair were Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Irvin, Misses Julia Martin, Lucy Tracy, Helen Patterson, Laura Barnett, Dr. and Mrs. Gardner, Wilma and Becky.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Miss Naomi Grayson was a most surprised honoree on the evening of her birthday, Monday. A delightful evening of games was spent after which Miss Lena Webb served delicious cake and punch to Misses Clara and Edna Mae Marshall, Ruby and Pearl Davis, Etta and May Pruitt, Lottie McCoy, Messrs. Lendall and Rex Martin, Glenn Roberts, Ira Harshall, Raymond Stapleton, Norvell Dowell, Chester Bryant, Chester Rhea, Minter King, the honoree and hostess.

FETED WITH PARTY ON TWELFTH BIRTHDAY.

To honor her son, Perry Preston, Jr., on his birthday, Mrs. Perry Dickinson, assisted by Mrs. E. C. Davis, entertained a few of his friends at a party Sunday afternoon. Candy hearts with verses as favors, were presented at the refreshment hour when Valentine cakes and pink ice cream were served to Horace Boney, Bud Gambill, Robert Jr. Grimes, Murphy Dye, Ted Hamm, Marvin Hunter, Arthur Wiman and W. G. and Alford Dickinson.

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Misses Lillie Claude Barnett and Alice Reeves entertained in the home of Mrs. H. C. Barnett in honor of Novis Barnett's and Hail Derstine's birthday on Saturday night, February 13th.

Progressive "42" and other party games were enjoyed until a late hour, after which Novis Barnett and Hail Derstine cut the cakes, decorated with hearts to express their ages.

Many happy returns of the day were expressed to them as they were cutting the cakes, which were served with hot chocolate to the following: Misses Blanche, Ruby and Alice Carey, Hazel Reeves, Anna Mae Har-

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CHURCHES

Rev. W. C. Ashford in Charge of Services

The series of services that have been conducted in the Intermediate department for the last two Sundays will be continued through next Sunday. These services should be of interest to all of the young people of our church. We believe they will; therefore, arrangements have been made to continue these services through next week. Brother W. C. Ashford of the South Side Baptist church, Abilene, will conduct the services beginning Sunday night at 7:30 and each evening next week at the same time.

Brother Ashford is a young man who knows and loves young people. Every young person in Merkel should avail himself of this opportunity of hearing him. Though his messages are especially for the young people they are of interest to all. Everyone is invited.

Be in your place at Sunday School on time. Your department needs you; your class needs you and your teacher will miss you if you are not there.

Brother King will preach at the eleven o'clock hour on the subject, "The Spirit of Evangelism In Hell." Do you believe the world is lost without Christ? Then I urge you to hear our pastor on the above subject. Pastor will show that "Rich Man" had opportunity in life, but no "concern;" now he has "Concern" but no opportunity.

Tom D. Riddle, Director of Young People's Training Service.

SENIOR B. Y. P. U. PROGRAM.

Subject: "The Humanity of Jesus." Introduction, Fannie Bell Boaz. "The Bible Picture of Jesus," Carroll King. "Jesus Had a Real Human Body," Lucy Tracy. "Jesus Had a Human Soul," Sis Boaz. "Jesus, the Son of Man," Miss Parish. "Jesus, Humanity's Hope," Margaret Canon.

JUNIOR B. Y. P. U.

Song. Prayer. Playlet. Junior boy, Don Warren. Junior girl, Elma Mae Gamble. Betty Ross, De La Vergne Teague. Red, Arthur Wiman. White, L. B. Gibson. Blue, Pearl Matthews. Yellow, Lena Mae Moore. Angel, Murphy Dye. Poem, "Our Colors so True," Bud Gambill. Come and be with us at 6:30 Sunday evening.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

For the seventh Sunday in succession attendance at the five reporting Sunday Schools in Merkel exceeded the 700 mark, the attendance last Sunday being 708. The five Sundays in January showed an average of 714 and the first Sunday in February recorded 846.

ris, Messrs. Clements Carey, Leo Harris, W. J. Derstine, Paul Dunn, Eldon Reeves, Walter Barnett, S. G. Russell, Leonard Reeves and the honorees.

Methodist Ladies in All-Day Meet at Trent

Mrs. R. A. Burgess of Merkel was leader for an all-day meeting of the west zone of the Methodist Woman's Missionary societies, held at the Trent church on Thursday of last week. Rev. W. M. Marrell, presiding elder of the Abilene district, Mrs. Nat G. Rollins and Mrs. R. E. Rankin, all of Abilene, were the principal speakers for the day.

Reports of delegates from the auxiliaries and officers' training period concluded the day's program.

A covered dish luncheon was served at the noon hour to about fifty.

Among those going from Merkel were: Mesdames R. A. Burgess, L. D. Boyd, W. D. Hutcheson, B. M. Black, J. R. Pee, F. E. Church, D. H. Vaughn, Sid Roberts, Buck Mashburn, T. V. Touchstone, E. C. Richards, M. R. Hale, Sam Butman, Thos. Durham and Miss Lottie Butman.

METHODIST NEWS NOTES.

A young people's study course institute is to be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Tye. Three courses will be offered and quite a group of our local leaguers will attend.

We have special reasons for requesting every church official to be present next Sunday morning without fail.

Regular services morning and evening.

JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Leader, Mollie Frank Touchstone. Song. Prayer. Story, Marvin Hunter. Song. Benediction.

MEN'S PRAYER MEETING.

Scripture will be found in the fourth chapter of Romans, read by John Toombs. "The Value of a Men's Prayer Meeting" will be the subject of a talk by Bishop Hunter.

There will be special songs by singers from the various churches.

Last Sunday's meeting was well attended and enjoyed by all present, especially the talk by Rev. J. T. King.

If you missed that, you missed something worth while. Now that we are permanently located and better organized, the future looks bright for the greatest work the men of Merkel can do. —Reporter.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. The success of a church does not depend on dollars, but on loyal men and women. Washington's birthday program will be given by the young men's class at the Sunday School hour.

Preaching services at 11 a. m. At 7:30 a musical program will be given by the choir.

Prayer meeting Wednesday evening. Come be with us.

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

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR HOLDS COUNCIL MEETING.

Last Sunday, February 14, the Abilene district held a council meeting at the Central Presbyterian church in Abilene. The house was called to order by President Gordon Weir. Plans were completed for a district meeting that is to be held in Albany April 29-30 and May 1. Also a discussion

of the last Fifth Sunday meeting was heard. Reports were made by the different committees and societies. Those present were: Mary Pence, Mrs. Deavours, Gordon Weir, Huie Tucker and Hansel Granger, Abilene; Janette Holmes, Ranger; Zack Combes, Stamford, and Pat Patterson and Mike Vickers from Merkel.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE.

Why go to church? Because the church is the mightiest agency on earth for human help and progress. Go to church to feed your soul. Public worship brightens the sky. When a man tells you he absents himself from services because the church is full of hypocrites, tell him not to stay away on that account. There is always room for one more.

Sunday School 9:45. Preaching 11 a. m. N. Y. F. S. 7 p. m. Preaching 7:30 p. m. Ladies' cottage prayer meeting Tuesday 3 p. m. Thursday night prayer meeting 7:30. A hearty welcome to all.

Mrs. Ola Bolls, Pastor.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Bible study 9:45 a. m. Preaching and worship 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Training classes 6:30 p. m. Ladies Bible class Tuesday 2:45 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m. Come and enjoy these services with us. We are still having very fine crowds for prayer meetings. We are studying the "Gifts of the Holy Spirit," followed by other phases of the Holy Spirit in His work.

L. E. Carpenter, Minister.

FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Our meeting closed with 21 approved for baptism and a membership of 53. Brother Lovell from Trinity Baptist at Abilene preached a very soul-stirring gospel message Tuesday night.

On the fourth Thursday in each month our church will be on the air over KFYO from 1 to 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Preaching services every Saturday evening at 7:30, Sunday morning at 11, and Sunday evening at 7:30. Street services every Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Bible school at 9:45 each Sunday morning. Our goal for attendance next Sunday is 100. Everybody is welcome. Come, bring your Bibles.

Ernest C. Dowell, Pastor.

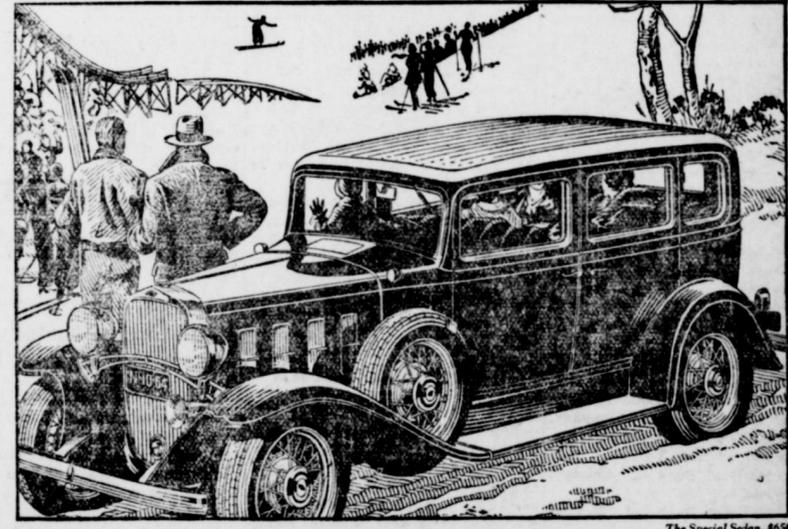
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BROOMS, 4 string, a dandy value	20c
CRACKERS, 3 pound box	34c
CRACKERS, 2 pound box	23c
SALT, table, 5 pounds	12c
DRIED APRICOTS, choice fruit, 2 lbs.	23c
DRIED PEACHES, choice fruit, 2 lbs.	23c
RICE, choice, 4 pounds	21c
SPINACH, No. 2 can, 2 for	23c
BEANS, cut, stringless, No. 2 can	10c
CORN, No. 2 can, 2 for	21c

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