

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 43—NO. 41.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1932.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

134 PUPILS ON HONOR ROLL OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

List Includes 46 in High and 88 in Grammar School; Lucille Campbell, a Senior, Has Highest Average.

For the second six-weeks, 134 pupils were on the honor roll of the Merkel Public schools, including 46 in the High school and 88 in the Grammar school. The number would have been even higher had it not been for sickness and absences.

The percentage of pupils in High school on the honor roll for this term was 27, while in the Grammar school the percentage was 23.

Lucille Campbell, a Senior, with 96, had the highest average, while the Senior class led with 42 per cent on the honor roll.

The list of names of pupils on the honor roll follows:

HIGH SCHOOL,
Eighth Grade.
Clifton Bellamy, 94; John Leonard, 94; Billie Woodrum, 93; Ora Derrick, 93; Mabel Maddox, 92; Harold Morgan, 92; Hugh Leonard, 91; Mollie Frank Touchstone, 91; Murry Toombs, 91.

Ninth Grade.
Louise Toombs, 94; Mary Helen Mashburn, 92; Clara Frances Largent, 92; Neil Durham, 92; Mildred West, 91; Aline McAninch, 91; Mary Helen Lancaster, 91; Truett Patterson, 91; J. V. Patterson, 91; Ima Ruth Brown, 90; Pauline Lasater, 90; Thelma Matthews, 90; Joe Warren Cook, 90; Ben Sublett, 90; Zerk Robertson, 90; Horace Daniels, 90.

Junior Class.
J. R. Graham, 94; Billy Gardner, (Continued on Page Two)

Teachers Leave for Holidays at Home

A number of the teachers in the Merkel Public schools will spend the holidays with relatives or at their homes in other cities.

Supt. and Mrs. Burgess left Wednesday for Lubbock to spend Christmas with their parents.

Mrs. Len Sublett will spend Christmas at Lamesa, visiting her sister, Mrs. Ralph Stuart, while Mr. and Mrs. H. Irvin will spend part of the holidays at Ovalo, visiting Mrs. Irvin's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Head.

Mrs. Helen Patterson goes to Temple to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Coffey, to Electra, Miss Virginia Welch to Colorado, and Ralph Duke to De Leon.

Miss Inice Brown will visit her sisters, Mesdames R. A. Bean and G. B. McNallen in Dallas.

ELECTION WAGER BRINGS ON RIDE IN WHEELBARROW

A free ride around the block in a wheelbarrow is the treat in store for Jim Moore of Blair, which ride will be made all the sweeter because R. E. Wells will push the vehicle. It's all because of an election bet in the recent heated Ferguson-Sterling clash.

The start will be made at 11:30 Saturday morning in front of the American Cafe and the wheelbarrow tour will circle the block, returning to the cafe where the loser is to be host for lunch.

Will Observe Monday As Christmas Holiday

With Christmas coming on Sunday this year, business houses will observe Monday following as a holiday and practically all the mercantile stores, including the banks and post-office, will remain closed all that day.

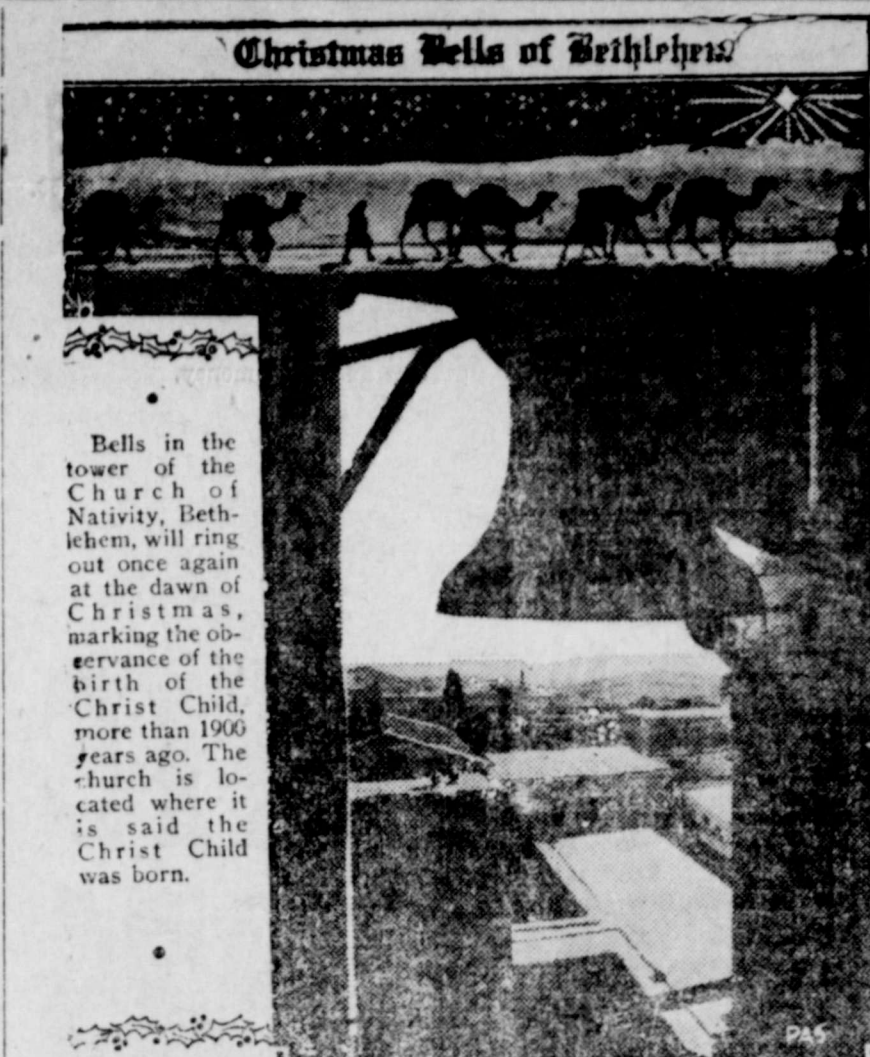
The public schools dismissed Wednesday, to resume on Monday, January 2.

Several of the church are planning special programs for Sunday morning, to be given at the Sunday School hour.

The following stores have signified their agreement to close next Monday: Bragg Dry Goods company, West company, J. T. Dennis, Bob Martin, Wheeler and Vaughn, Pett and West, Farmers and Merchants National bank, W. J. Sheppard, Max Mellinger, Case grocery, Bob McDonald, "M" System, Bullock Hardware company, A. R. Booth, Floyd McCoy, Farmers State bank, Barrow Furniture company, Brown's Bargain store, Bell and Buford, Patterson's market, McDonald grocery, Lackey Barber shop, Wood grocery, City Dry Cleaners, J. T. Darsey, Merkel Lumber company, City Furniture company, J. N. Carson, Blake's Dry Cleaners, Burton-Lingo company, Hughes Motor company, Merkel Motor company.

Hoyt Wayne Hassey.
Funeral services, conducted by Rev. R. A. Walker, pastor of the Presbyterian church, were held at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon at Rose Hill cemetery for little Hoyt Wayne, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Hassey. Born at 12:45 Saturday morning, he lived only five hours. The sympathy of many friends goes out to the bereaved parents in their sorrow.

Record of Births.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Patton, Sunday, December 18, 1932.
Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Arnold, Trent, Sunday, December 18, 1932.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martin, residing north of town, Sunday, December 18, 1932.
Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Smith, Golan, Wednesday, December 21, 1932.



Bells in the tower of the Church of Nativity, Bethlehem, will ring out once again at the dawn of Christmas, marking the observance of the birth of the Christ Child more than 1900 years ago. The church is located where it is said the Christ Child was born.

See, within the lantern's glow,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the tender lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years,
Sing, through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

REV. E. CASWELL

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

The area of Texas embraces 170,173,440 acres, including 167,934,720 acres of land and 2,238,720 acres of water surface.

Carl L. Estes, Tyler editor, was elected temporary chairman of the East Texas Producers and Royalty Owners association at its organization meeting in Tyler on Dec. 16.

L. O. Thompson, 66, pioneer Panhandle wholesale druggist and father of Ernest O. Thompson, member of the Texas railroad commission, died at his hotel in Amarillo Tuesday.

Due to the large number of absentees on account of influenza and in order to prevent spread of illness, the Abilene public schools were closed last Friday, one week earlier than expected.

Successful candidate from Texas for Rhodes scholarship in a recent examination at New Orleans was Wilson H. Elkins, 23, of San Antonio, University of Texas government student and now coach of Cisco High school.

Two pioneer residents of Grapevine, Mr. and Mrs. Zebulon Jenkins, who had been married 57 years and who died within less than 12 hours of each other, were buried side by side Sunday afternoon in the Grapevine cemetery.

After 42 years of service, elevator "A" of the Galveston Wharf company, constructed in 1890 with a capacity of 1,500,000 bushels, said at that time to hold the record of handling more grain per hour than any other port elevator in the United States, is being replaced by elevator "B" with a capacity of 6,000,000 bushels.

FORMER MERKEL HOTEL MAN DIES

W. R. Walker, Age 68, Member of Abilene Police Force, Taken By Heart Trouble.

W. R. Walker, member of the Abilene police force and a former prominent Merkel resident, died Saturday night at his home in Abilene. Death resulted from heart complications, following an attack of influenza.

Had he lived until Thursday of this week, Mr. Walker would have been 68 years of age. He operated the Walker cottage, which is now the Woodrum hotel, for 12 years, later removing to Abilene. For the past three years he had been on the Abilene police force, having also engaged in the insurance business.

Besides his wife, Mr. Walker is survived by one son, Jack Walker, of McCamey. A brother, John Walker, lives in Oklahoma.

Funeral services were held at the graveside in Rose Hill cemetery here Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with Dr. T. S. Knox, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Abilene, officiating. Burial was made beside the grave of a daughter, who died in babyhood.

Pallbearers were members of the police department: Chief W. R. Sibbey, T. A. Hackney, Charles Bracken, C. E. Ware, Ed Cornelius and W. B. Poston.

Five Liners Bring Gold to America

London, Dec. 22.—Five Transatlantic liners will be carrying \$95,550,000 in gold to the United States between now and the first of the year to meet the British war debt payment.

The bullion, now earmarked in the vaults of the Bank of England as the property of the United States, is to be shipped aboard the Majestic, sailing Dec. 21; the Lascatria, Dec. 24; the Mauretania, Dec. 28, and the Aurania and the Britannic, Dec. 31. Consignment of the various shipments to the different vessels was arranged after insurance had been underwritten.

Wanda Smith.
Wanda Smith, 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith of Compe, was claimed by the death angel Monday. Burial took place in the Compe cemetery. The Mail joins with a large circle of friends of the bereaved parents in extending sincerest sympathy.

DEC. 31 LAST DAY TO PAY ALL TAXES WITHOUT PENALTY

All delinquent taxes that are paid before December 31, 1932, may be paid without any penalty or interest attached. After that date a 10 per cent penalty plus interest from the date taxes become delinquent will be added on. Now is a good time to pay up all back taxes without penalty.

Before property is sold, title cannot be cleared until all back taxes are paid. This applies to all property, whether a homestead or not. The same law applies to homesteads as to any other property so far as taxes are concerned.

Tax collectors are ready to accept your payment of all back taxes now without penalty or interest. Do this before December 31st.

Money and Household Goods Are Stolen When 2 Homes Burglarized

Although the sheriff's department, with a finger print expert, has been assisting City Marshal Dickinson in the investigations, no clues have been found as to burglaries last Saturday night of two Merkel residences.

From Dr. Sadler's home the sum of \$15.00 was taken from his purse, which was left in his trouser's pocket, and the purse was found in the yard. Checks for \$22 were not taken.

The C. K. Russell home was ransacked from front to back, a quantity of household linens, silverware and canned goods being missing.

Death of Ruby Joe Suber.

Ruby Joe Suber, two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Helton Suber, died at an Abilene sanitarium Monday afternoon. Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Tuesday from the home of the little girl's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Suber, with Elder W. G. Cypert officiating. Interment was in Rose Hill cemetery. The loss of their sweet little girl has bereft the parents of the sunshine of her presence, but consolation is to be found in the love and esteem of many friends and relatives, so tenderly evidenced.

27,266 Bales Ginned.

In the two weeks since the last tabulation of ginnings by The Mail 468 bales have been handled by the six gins in Merkel and the three in adjoining communities, Blair, Stith and Noodle, bringing the season's total to 27,266 bales.

Slow Drizzle Begins.

Sleet and snow with the accompanying moisture last week amounted to three-eighths of an inch precipitation, according to the gauge of Volunteer Weather Observer Grover Hale. The year's total now stands at 43.48 inches, with a slow drizzle falling Thursday morning, to be accounted for later.

WELLS ORDERED TO REMAIN IDLE TILL JANUARY 1

Complete Shutdown of East Texas Field Closes 9,200 Wells; Purpose to Gauge Bottom Hole Pressure.

Austin, Dec. 22.—Flow of oil from the East Texas field, one of the most prolific petroleum pools ever uncovered, was ordered staunch by the Texas railroad commission, statutory guardian of the state's natural resources, Saturday.

The shut down was made effective at noon, to obtain until next January 1 at 7 a. m., unless rescinded. There were approximately 9,200 producing wells in the area, embracing five counties—Rusk, Gregg, Upshur, Smith and Cherokee. The field was producing under a state order limiting the output to 310,000 barrels daily.

The railroad commission said it acted to close the wells to permit its engineers to gauge bottom hole pressure of the wells and obtain other scientific data needed for consideration at a hearing set for December 28, when prorotation and operation problems, worry of all the Texas fields, would be discussed with those interested in production.

Abilene Bank Will Pay Off 8 Per Cent

Abilene, Dec. 22.—Depositors in the Abilene State bank, which closed its doors in August, 1931, are scheduled to receive a Christmas present—checks marking payment of an 8 per cent dividend. The total to be paid off will be approximately \$43,000, T. F. Pinckney, Jr., special liquidating agent for James Shaw, banking commissioner, said Saturday.

The 8 per cent payment will be the second since the bank closed, a 10 per cent dividend having been paid several months ago. Pinckney did not set a date for placing checks in the mail, but stated efforts are being made to have them to all depositors before Christmas.

350,000 Bales for Red Cross.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Immediate house action on the Jones bill donating 350,000 bales of Farm Board cotton to the Red Cross for relief purposes was promised Monday by Speaker Garner, who said he intended to call the measure up under suspension of the rules. Passage will require a two-third vote.

Prosperity Dollar Travels.

Miami, Fla., Dec. 22.—A prosperity dollar was spent in 148 different Miami business houses in a week of circulation.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail December 20, 1913.)

D. W. Patton, who has been here for several days visiting friends and looking after business, left for his home at Scott, N. M., Monday afternoon.

I have opened a new meat market and earnestly solicit a share of your patronage. Fresh meats at all times.

W. J. Campbell.

Oscar Pate was a social visitor in Abilene Sunday.

Miss Zora Coggin visited friends in Abilene Wednesday.

F. H. Duncan and W. E. Hamner of Trent were here Tuesday looking after business matters.

Good solid work horse for sale, guaranteed for good service; \$50.00 on fall time.

Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Mr. Roberts, the well known Spaulding man, was on the streets Monday.

Misses Clara Moore and Ether Williams were in Abilene Sunday visiting friends.

Mrs. C. E. Whitaker was in Abilene Sunday visiting friends.

Mrs. Hattie Barrett of Winters visited her sister, Mrs. Eli Case, last week.

Miss Charley Mae Largent of McKinney came in Tuesday to visit her cousin, Miss Leno Largent, during the holidays.

Misses Effie Hutson, Lizzie Calvert, Ona Johnson, Julia Martin and Mrs. Chas. Russell visited Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Calvert in Sweetwater Sunday, attending a birthday dinner honoring Mrs. Calvert.

J. T. Warren, H. F. Greene, Ira Armstrong, W. W. Wheeler, C. D. Mims and W. T. Potter were in Abilene Tuesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Mercherson of Escota were in Merkel Saturday visiting old friends and shopping.

Misses Maude Martin and Susie Penn were shopping in Abilene Saturday.

Sunday morning Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Daniel, their daughter, Mrs. Sterling Miller of Dallas, Miss Willie Bigham and John E. Daniel went to Rule. A dainty and tempting luncheon was served on the white sand in the Brazos river bed. The party stayed for the round-up Monday, returning home in the evening, John staying to ship out the cattle.

BRUCE BARTON

Writer of "THE MASTER EXECUTIVE"

Supplying a week-to-week inspiration for the heavy-burdened who will find every human trial paralleled in the experience of "The Man Nobody Knows."

TO BE CHEERFUL AND HAPPY.

Jesus was the center and soul of a glorious existence; a bringer of news so wonderful that those who received it should be marked by their radiance as by a badge. Of course he disregarded the narrow code of the Pharisees.

"You shall walk only so far on the Sabbath," said the Code. He walked as far as he liked.

"These things you may eat and these you shall not," said the Code.

"You're not defiled by what goes into your mouth," he answered, "but by what comes out."

"All prayers must be submitted according to the forms provided," said the Code. "None others are acceptable."

It was blasphemy to him. His God was no Bureau, no Rule Maker, no Accountant. "God is a spirit," he cried. "Between the great Spirit and the spirits of men—which are a tiny part of His—no one has the right to intervene with formulae and rules."

He told a story which must have outraged the self-righteous members of his audience. He said that a certain man had two sons. The elder, a perfectly proper and perfectly uninteresting young man, worked hard, saved his money, and conducted himself generally as a respectable member of society.

The younger son was a reckless ne'er-do-well, who took his portion of the estate and went into a far country where he led a wild life and presently was penniless and repentant. In that mood he proceeded to work his way back to his father's house. The father saw the boy coming a long way down the road, ran to him, threw his arms around his dusty shoulders, kissed his forehead.

"Bring a fatted calf," he cried. "Make a feast; call the neighbors to celebrate. For this my son which was gone has come back."

(Continued on Page Two.)

Honor Roll

(Continued From Page One)

93; Annie Lee Owens, 93; Rogene Dyre, 92; Bessylea Church, 91; Vivian Lasater, 91.

Senior Class.

Lucille Campbell, 96; Nell Hughes, 95; Mildred Richardson, 94; Van Roberts, 94; Albert Cade, 93; Gerald Derrick, 93; Meyer Mellinger, 93; Duncan Briggs, 93; Frances M. Church, 93; Imogene Middleton, 93; Florene Rider, 93; Faye Vantrees, 92; Margaret Miller, 92; Joyce Wheeler, 91; Mordell Shouse, 90.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

First Grade, Mrs. Nash.

R. C. Bryan, 97; R. V. Clark, 97; Lupe Duran, 95; Clarence Harrell, 95; Dorothy Nell Groene, 95; Dorothy Nell Haynes, 95; Doris Ruth Gilmore, 95; Billie Mae Cobb, 94; Helen Coats, 93; David Hayes, 92.

First Grade, Mrs. Teaff.

Ann Patricia Leonard, 97; George Mack Owens, 96; Don Hutcheson, 95; Avalene Mathews, 95; Willie Sue Morgan, 95; Allene Russell, 95; Johnnie McDonald, 94; Peggy Joyce Toombs, 94; Jack Haynes, 92; Matilene Londa, 92; Gene McGaughy, 91; Wamson Rutledge, 90.

Second Grade, Miss Swann.

Billy Clyde Haynes, 97; Billy Tom Hutcheson, 96; Marie Bland, 96; Wanda Dewitt, 95; Clara Belle Hawkins, 93; Joy Bland, 93; Bobby Lou Anderson, 93; Floyd Hutcheson, 93; Glynr Dunn, 93; Gwynn Dunn, 92; Joe Earl Kimbrough, 92; Micky Diltz, 91.

Second Grade, Miss Curb.

Wesley Owens, 92; Evelyn Sears, 92; Betty Jo Moore, 90.

Third Grade, Miss Brown.

Becky Gardner, 95; Dora Marie Gaitner, 94; Betty Lu Higgins, 92; Alene Cox, 91; Billy Jack Lancaster, 91; Lady Jane Anderson, 90; Walter Leonard, 90.

Third Grade, Miss Heizer.

Doris Clyde Miller, 96; Roy Owen, 95; O. C. Shouse, 95; Maurine Smith, 92.

Fourth Grade, Miss Hayes.

Ann Lee Blake, 93; Helen Heeter, 92; Jimmie McNeas, 93; Miriam Diltz, 92; Billy Cox, 91.

Fourth Grade, Miss Peterson.

Burt Reeves, 96; Doris Gay West, 95; Don Wood, 94; Donald Laster, 92; Geraldine Teague, 92; Sampie McGehee, 90.

Fifth Grade, Miss Coffey.

W. G. Dickinson, 93; Mildred Bird,

93; Comora Hughes, 92; Pearl Matthews, 92.

Fifth Grade, Miss Sloan.

Mary Jo Russell, 94; Billie Wood, 93; W. I. Wozencraft, 92; Mary Nell Morgan, 92; Frances Owens, 92; Fred Hokit, 90.

Sixth Grade, Miss Pinckley.

Dorothea Sue Bird, 95; Jannell Black, 95; Preston Dickinson, 90; Frank Dye, 90.

Sixth Grade, Miss Welch.

Dick West, 93; Rosemary Lassiter, 93; Frances Higgins, 90.

Seventh Grade, Mr. Duke.

Morris Wozencraft, 94; Sylvan Mellinger, 93; De La Verne Teague, 91; Vernon Mansfield, 90; Pauline McAninch, 90.

Seventh Grade, Mrs. Sublett.

Robert Grimes, Jr., 97; Betty Lou Grimes, 92; Murphy Dye, 91; Billie Dunning, 91; Laverne Hughes, 90; J. C. Foster, 90; Bud Gambill, 90.

BRUCE BARTON

(Continued from Page One.)

There were high doings in that house that day, and every one enjoyed them except the older son. He was sullen and self-pitying. "Here I work and save and have never had a good time. When he comes home, they give him a party. It's wrong."

The father did not defend the younger son, but he rebuked the elder. That was what hurt the smugly complacent members of the audience to whom Jesus told the story. The implication was too plain. "There are two ways in which a man may waste his life," the story said in effect. "One is to run away from your res-

THE SEASON'S GREETING

May the cheer of a bright, happy

Christmas light your way to health, contentment and prosperity during 1933.

McFARLAND GARAGE

DON'T SLEEP ON LEFT SIDE. GAS HURTS HEART

If stomach gas makes you restless and unable to sleep on right side, take Adlerika. One dose will rid you of gas or nervousness, and bring sound sleep. Merkel Drug Company.

NOT BECAUSE IT IS TIME-HONORED CUSTOM

But because we mean every word of it and because we feel at this very moment that whatever we may have accomplished in a business way, we owe to our patrons—that is why we send this little Christmas message. It may not be as large as some others, but it means as much as if it occupied a page.

HUGHES MOTOR CO.

CHEVROLET SALES AND SERVICE

GREETINGS

We not only wish you a very merry Xmas and a bright and prosperous New Year, but we want to thank you for your wonderful patronage during the year and we also want you to know that it is a great pleasure to serve you at all times.

We want you to feel with us and call to see us often, for we will always strive to please you.

Respectfully,

WIMAN'S CAFE

possibilities, causing sorrow to your parents and hurt to your associates, killing your finer nature. That is wrong, and a man must repent.

"But the other thing is equally wrong. They who neither laugh nor sing are out of tune with the Infinite. Those who find no pleasure and give none offer Him a constant affront. . . . Wee to you, Scribes and Pharisees. You are painfully careful to give exactly one-tenth of your incomes to the Temple, but you neglect to leave the world a little more cheerful.

This was his message—a happy God, wanting His sons and daughters to be happy.

NEXT WEEK: A Man, Sure of Himself.

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on the 10th day of January, 1933, at Six o'clock p. m., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

BOTH PAPERS FOR \$4.50.

Bargain days are here again. The Mail can now offer special clubbing proposition of \$4.50 for the Abilene Morning News and the Merkel Mail for one year. Renew through this office and save money.

Another Triumph!
GIGANTIC NEW YEARS EXCURSION

What an opportunity! Thousands will go! Get up a party and join in the happiest, gayest New Year's Celebration in years!

DALLAS or FT. WORTH

\$2.00

Round Trip

EL PASO

\$3.50

Round Trip

NEW ORLEANS

\$7.00

Round Trip

Join in the brilliant New Year's Celebrations at leading hotels. Dance to scintillating music by famous Orchestras . . . shows galore . . . something doing every minute.

Visit Juarez, across the border . . . See a thrilling Bull Fight . . . Take a beautiful scenic drive by bus to Carlsbad Caverns.

Enjoy a delightful holiday in romantic New Orleans . . . the Paris of America! The biggest horse races of the winter season will be in full swing during this excursion.

Leave **DEC. 29, 30, 31**
Be Back By **Jan. 4**
Allows five days at destination if desired.

Tickets Good in Coaches or Pullmans . . . Half Fare for Children . . . Baggage Checked

PLEASE BUY TICKETS EARLY!

Great crowds will take advantage of this sensational excursion. You will help us to provide adequate equipment by buying your tickets and Pullman reservations as early as possible.

ASK ABOUT DRASTIC REDUCTIONS IN PULLMAN FARES



WE CANNOT LET CHRISTMAS PASS

Without giving expression to the feeling of gratitude we have toward those who have made our business during the past year possible and to extend our very best wishes for your happiness and well-being during a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year.

CITY DRY CLEANERS

Phone Number 189

Kent Street



MERRY CHRISTMAS

The good will so generously accorded us in the past is genuinely appreciated by all the members of our bank family. Please accept our sincere wishes for a Merry, Merry Christmas—for you and yours.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
MERKEL, TEXAS

May The Star Guide You and Yours

May the Star of Hope and of Blessing which pointed the way of the Magi to the little camp yard at Bethlehem direct your footsteps into scenes of merriment and gladness during these Christmas times and into paths of perpetual Happiness during the progress of the coming year.

West Co.

"Forty-Two Years In Merkel"

PROFESSIONAL

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

Curley's Repair Shop
All kinds of auto work.
Generator and Starter Service especially featured

WILLARD BATTERIES
Wrecker Service Day or Night
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Civil Practice in all Courts. Special attention to land titles and probate matters.
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Dr. L. C. Zehnpfennig
Dentist
General Practice of Dentistry
Office, Merkel Sanitarium
Phone 163

Ernest Walter Wilson
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Insurance Law a Specialty
General Civil Practice
125½ Pine St. Abilene, Tex.

THE OTHER MAN

by RUBY M. AYRES
© DORLAND PUBLISHING CO.



THIRD INSTALLMENT.
SYNOPSIS: Pauline, sentimental, trustful, sincere and loving love, becomes engaged and marries Dennis O'Hara in the belief that their blissful happiness will continue unchanged thru all the years. On her wedding morning she awakens with a strange premonition that maybe love does change, a thought buried in her mind by a letter from her closest friend, Barbara the night before. Pauline adored Barbara who had been married, was the mother of a child which died, but now divorced and living a life which some of her friends could not understand. Between Dennis and Barbara is a seeming wall of personal dislike by both. Six months after Pauline's wedding, Barbara comes for a short stay. During this visit Barbara confesses to Pauline that there is a man she really loves, but she refuses to tell his name.
NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY.

"Oh, yes, at the Club."
 "Because I'd love to get you something to eat if you're hungry." She looked as if she hoped he would say he was.
 "No, thank you, dear!"
 The last little word was spoken unconsciously, but it warmed her heart. She perched herself on his knee and put her arms round his neck.
 "Have you missed me?"
 "You baby! What do you want me to say?"
 "That you love me."
 "Is it necessary? Of course I love you!"
 He put his arms round her little figure and drew her closer to him.
 "What have you been doing all day?"
 "Talking to Barbara and working."
 "Does Barbara ever do anything besides talk?"
 Pauline laughed. "Not often. I wish I could talk the way she does—she's so awfully clever."
 "Clever! Rubbish! She talks like a cheap novelette."
 "Dennis!"
 "So she does. All this stuff about love and marriage and twin souls."
 "She doesn't mean half she says," Pauline declared.
 "Let's hope she doesn't," Dennis answered drily. He set Pauline on her feet, his arm still round her. "Run up to bed, you'll take cold. I—"
 He broke off, as there was a slight sound in the doorway, and looking up he saw Barbara there.
 "So sorry," said Barbara, looking directly at him. "I came down for a book. I had no idea you were in. So sorry!" she added again, a little smile curving her lips, "Good night!" and she went away. Dennis looked angry, "Good-night," said Pauline.
 "She knew good and well we were here," he said. "Damn the woman!" he added under his breath.
 "I told you I knew Barbara wasn't happy," Pauline informed him later on when she was lying cozily in bed. "I wouldn't tell anyone but you, Dennis, darling, but she does love someone—frightfully!"
 "Half a dozen of 'em, I should think!"
 "No—seriously, one!" Pauline in-

sisted. "There was quite a different look about her when she told me."
 She lay still watching him with adoring eyes. Presently she said shyly, "Dennis?"
 "Um?"
 "You love me best in all the world, don't you?"
 "What would you do if I said the answer was in the negative?" he asked, teasingly.
 "Die," Pauline whispered.
 "Then you may safely live," he assured her.
 Pauline sighed and closed her eyes.
 It was no use; she realized that nothing on earth would ever make Dennis romantic.
 It was at breakfast the next morning that Barbara announced she must go home that day, "home" meaning the queerly furnished flat in Greenwich where she kept the clothes she was not wearing, and slept when she was not staying in other people's houses. Barbara did not often come down to breakfast, but this morning she was standing looking out of the window when Dennis came into the room whistling.
 When he saw her he broke off in dismay.
 "Hullo! Couldn't you sleep?" he asked, with a poor attempt at humor.
 Barbara met his eyes calmly.
 "I lay awake thinking of you," she said in her charming voice.
 Dennis flushed; not because he thought for a moment she meant it, but because everything she said and did for some reason or another irritated and annoyed him.
 "Indigestion," he said briefly.
 Barbara laughed—she was very difficult to offend.
 "No, we had a very good dinner," she answered seriously. "Spoiled by your vacant chair of course, but otherwise perfect."
 Dennis scowled and took up the paper. Barbara might be in love, he told himself, remembering Pauline's words last night, but that any man could possibly fall in love with her...
 Pauline came into the room at that moment.
 "Why—Barbara!" she said, amazed.
 "Yes—myself in the flesh," Barbara said calmly. "I had a wire this morning on urgent business. I must go back home."
 "Go back! You haven't been here a week."
 "I'll come back—never fear! Your spare-room bed is too comfortable to forget," said Barbara.
 Barbara was stirring her coffee with an irritating little tinkle of silver against the china cup. "I won-

der if I may ring up for a taxi presently," she said.
 "Dennis will drive you down," Pauline said quickly. "He has to go down to Albany on business this morning—you told me so last night," she added faintly, meeting her husband's annoyed eyes.
 "I said I might have to," he answered.
 "Well—you could take Barbara, couldn't you?" Pauline asked.
 "Delighted."
 (Continued Next Week.)

Why have a cold when you can prevent it with Hamm's Cold Capsules. Avoid the flu, aches and fever. Sold only on a money back guarantee at Sie Hamm Drug Co.

**Pledging You
 Renewed
 Efforts To
 Better
 Serve You
 In 1933!**

The best of luck and Christmas Cheer.

May this be the happiest Christmas you ever spent.

**PETTY & WEST
 Sanitary Barber Shop**

1932 MERRY CHRISTMAS 1933

TO OUR PATRONS AND FRIENDS:

We thank you for your business during the closing year.

We trust that we have been able to add to your enjoyment of life.

We wish for you plenty of good things of all kinds for Christmas and much success during New Year. We shall be glad to see you often in the future.

**FARMERS STATE BANK
 IN MERKEL**

1932 HAPPY NEW YEAR 1933

Our Wish For You

May this happy Yuletide bring you to new joys and rich experiences that will make life sweeter and better as you journey on in pleasant associations in which you may have many opportunities to gain happiness through a life that will add to the joys of others.

Not only to you, but to those who are near and dear to you we extend this wish for happiness and contentment for the Christmas season and for each day of the coming year.

And in this connection we want to thank you for your patronage and for every favor bestowed upon us.

MAX MELLINGER

As A Patron Of Ours

Because you have been a valued patron of our business we feel a special interest in your welfare and happiness at all times. It is but natural that we should. Our prosperity to some extent at least is linked with yours. So we lack nothing of sincerity when we trust that these days of Christmas festivity will bring you much that you desire of the good things of life, and that New Year's will send many an hour of Good Fortune.

Merkel Motor Company

Heartiest Greetings of the Season!

With best wishes for a Christmas filled with happiness and a New Year of Prosperity we extend the Heartiest Greetings of the season.

NICHOLS ICE CO.

May Supreme Happiness Always Smile On You!

This Christmas and all during the coming year, may your every wish come true.

Oasis Service Station
 Jimmie Toombs, Mgr.
 Phone Number 15

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
EARL TEAGUE
 Tinner and Plumber

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 \$2.00
(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.

**1933 Chevrolet Models
Shown on Display Here**

Saturday marked the showing of
the new 1933 Chevrolet models at the
salesrooms of the Hughes Motor com-
pany here.

While retaining the six cylinder mo-
tor in all its fundamentals, there are
many major developments and minor
refinements included in the 1933 mod-
els, making the most radically chang-
ed and improved cars since the first
Chevrolet Six.

Longer wheelbase, new "aer-
stream" styling, more power and
speed coupled with greater economy,
larger and lower Fisher bodies with
new Fisher "no-draft" ventilation,
shatterproof glass in windshield and
ventilators, cushion-balanced motor
mounting, improved free wheeling
plus synchro-mesh transmission with
silent second gear, and a "starterat-
or" for simplified starting are all list-
ed as new standard features includ-
ed in the list price.

Prices bring the new series into the
lowest range at which a Chevrolet
has ever sold.

Twenty manufacturing and as-
sembly plants operated by Chev-
rolet in the United States, many
other affiliated plants and several
hundred thousand people are at
work again as a result of the com-
pany's embarking on its new pro-
gram at this time.

Wheelbase has been extended to 110
inches. The engine has been stepped
up in horsepower to 65, mainly
through lengthening the stroke, of-
fering a present displacement of

206.8 cubic inches, and delivering a
top speed of well over 70 miles an
hour.

In appearance the car differs radi-
cally from any previous Chevrolet
model, the "aer-stream" styling rep-
resenting a medium between conven-
tional streamlining and modified "tear
drop" design. The motif of the new
leaning V-type radiator is carried
out through slanting hood doors and
sharply slanted windshield pillars on
to the rear end, where an extension
of the rear body panel sweeps out-
ward and downward, screening the
gasoline tank, and the axle and un-
der carriage of the car.

Skirted fenders which follow the
line of the front and rear tires and
a lower running board conceal all
working mechanism.

Your friendly patron-
age during the past year
is deeply appreciated.
Let us wish you in re-
turn a Jolly Christmas
and a prosperous and
hearty 1933.

DR. CURLEY



SINCERE GRATITUDE

Out of the fullness of our gratitude for the blessing
of the year now closing we are taking this public
means of expressing to our many customers and
other friends our appreciation of their courtesies
through the days gone by and wishing for them the
choicest blessings of hearth and home during the
current season and success during the year now at
the dawn.

FRUIT CAKE, pound 50c
XMAS CANDY, 8 pounds \$1.00

MERKEL DANDY BAKERY

GREETINGS:—

Try as we may, we can not get
away from the fact that no wish
can take the place of the simple,
but expressive, "Merry Christmas,
Happy New Year." We thank you
for your patronage and hope that
we have served you in such a way
that you will find it pleasant and
profitable to continue with us dur-
ing the coming year.

W. O. BONEY
FARM LOANS AND INSURANCE

**NOTICE STOCKHOLDERS
MEETING.**

Notice is hereby given that a meet-
ing of the stockholders of The Farm-
ers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel,
Texas, will be held at the office of said
bank the second Tuesday in January,
being the 10th day of the month at 4
o'clock p. m. for the purpose of elect-
ing directors for the ensuing year and
such other business as may come be-
fore the meeting.
W. L. Diltz, Cashier.

Christmas Cards, 5c, Merkel Mail.

RITZ
Abilene

Today and Saturday
"THE SAVAGE GIRL"

Rochelle Hudson-Walter By-
ron—you will want to go na-
tive, too!

Sun.-Mon.-Tues.

Edna Ferber's

"THE EXPERT"

Chic Sale-Dickie Moore

Laughs? Gosh, yes!

Wed.-Thurs.

"THE WOMAN FROM
MONTE CARLO"

We are keeping open at night
for convenience of those who
cannot do their Christmas shop-
ping during the day. Brown's
Bargain Store.

Beautiful Christmas Cards, 5 cents
each. Merkel Mail.

QUEEN
NOW SHOWING

The Peer of Funsters
HAROLD LLOYD
in

"MOVIE CRAZY"
Also Screen Sovenir
and Vitaphone Comedy

SATURDAY ONLY

TOM MIX
in

"THE RIDER OF DEATH
VALLEY"
Also Comedy and
"JUNGLE MYSTERY"

NOTICE

Due to mistake in bookings,
there will not be a Christmas
Midnight show Saturday as
was announced.

NEXT THURS. AND FRI.

"BLESSED EVENT"

WE WISH YOU

A Big Share of the Season's Merri-
ment and express the hope that
our friendly relations will con-
tinue to grow during 1933

Bob McDonald's Barber Shop

Please Accept

OUR BEST WISHES

For Christmas and the New Year, and our sincere

THANKS

For your patronage during the year now drawing to a close

SIE HAMM DRUG COMPANY

GREETINGS—

As the year draws to a close we pause to reflect on
the elements that have entered into it and it is
indeed a privilege to extend to you our Gratitude
for the success of our business, realizing full well
that you have played the leading role in making
our activity possible.

So it is with sincerest good wishes that we extend this
Merry Christmas greeting to all.

SINCLAIR REFINING C.

J. D. Porter, Agent

Phone 288

Merkel, Texas

HIGHWAY SERVICE STATION

B. P. Middleton, Prop.

THE RED & WHITE STORES

SPECIALS

FOR FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DECEMBER 23 AND 24

APPLES large Delicious dozen 29c

APPLES, fancy Winesap, dozen 23c

Oranges large California dozen 29c

ORANGES, fancy, small, each 1c

GRAPES 2 lbs. 15c

CRANBERRIES, pound 17c

CELERY stalk 10c

LETTUCE, 2 heads for 9c

SEE US FOR FULL ASSORTMENT OF
**CHRISTMAS CANDIES AND
NUTS AT ATTRACTIVE
PRICES**

DATES, 10 ounce package 19c

Raisins Sun Maid, 2 lb. package 19c

FIGS, 8 ounce brick 10c

SUGAR 10 lbs. cloth bags 45c

SUGAR, powdered or brown, 11b package
2 for 17c

Asparagus picnic size 17c

PEAS, R & W, No. 2 can 19c

Pumpkin No. 2 1-2 can 2 for 25c

Pineapple R & W, No 2 1-2 can 20c

OYSTERS, 4 ounce cans 10c

MAYONNAISE, R & W 8 oz. 17c—16 oz. 33c

CATSUP 14 ounce bottle 15c

GELATIN DESSERT, R & W, 2 pkgs. 15c

Marshmallow R & W, 1 lb. pkg. 20c

GRAPE JUICE, pints 17c

COFFEE R & W 1 lb. can 33c
2 lb. can 65c

CRACKERS, Salad Wafers, 2 lb. pkg. 25c

Compound 8 lbs. 47c

CHEESE, pound 20c

BACON sugar cured sliced, pound 15c



FOR SALE

FOR SALE OR TRADE—20,000 bundles of cane, extra good. See Pierce Horton.

FOR SALE OR TRADE. Model T Ford truck, priced to sell. 9-tube, all-electric Majestic radio, cabinet style. Will consider cows, heifers, feed or good piano.

Blue Front Motor Company.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Windmill and tower; would take good Jersey milk cow on trade. Burton-Lingo Co.

FOR SALE—Sweetwater kerosene 8 cents in barrel lots. We deliver. Satisfaction guaranteed. None better. Phone 101. Blue Front Motor Company.

FIRST CLASS SINCLAIR Kerosene, 7 cents delivered. J. D. Porter, Agent, Sinclair Refining Co. Phone 288.

FOR SALE—Bargain Burroughs adding machine and stand, excellent condition; price \$60, first cost \$170; steel filing cabinets, wood filing cabinets, typewriters and typewriter desk. Graphotype machine, Addressograph plates, Office desk, swivel chair, steel safe, lovely dining room suite, Frigidaire, all in excellent condition. Will consider trade. Address, Box 504, Stamford, Texas.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—South half of two story brick building on Kent street, also two furnished rooms at my residence. Mrs. A. H. Thornton.

FOR RENT—Six room house, all modern conveniences; four room house with lights and water; three room apartment, all modern conveniences. S. F. Haynes.

WANTED

MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE for elderly people, ages up to 80, maximum \$3,000. Write Postoffice box 764, Abilene, Texas.

IF YOU WANT rocking chairs repaired or upholstered, see J. T. Darsey; also all kinds of furniture repaired.

WANTED—To buy maize. Ted Nich-

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—Yale Key tied on brown handkerchief. Finder please return to Merkel Mail for reward.

CARD OF THANKS.

We want to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to our friends and neighbors, who so untiringly assisted us during the sudden illness and death of our dear little Wanda Jean, also for the many other kind deeds. May God's blessings rest with each and every one in our prayer.

Mr. and Mrs. George Smith and Family.
Mrs. N. C. Smith and Family.
Mr. and Mrs. T. K. Marshall and Family.

Beautiful Christmas Cards, 5 cents each. Merkel Mail.

Beautiful Christmas Cards, 5 cents each. Merkel Mail.

PERSONALS

Mrs. Beulah Ripston is at home after a few weeks' absence.

Doyle Garret is here to spend the holidays with the home folks.

R. S. Conder of Rosebud spent a few days the past week with his uncle, R. L. Griffin.

Miss Maimie Ellis, who is teaching at Fort Stockton, is home for the Christmas holidays.

Dr. H. P. Hulsey, ill since last Friday with pneumonia, was reported improving Thursday.

W. P. Derrington continued seriously ill, according to reports Wednesday from his bedside.

Mr. and Mrs. George Caple will leave Friday to spend the holidays with their parents in Waco.

Tom Brown is assisting his brother Yates Brown at Brown's Bargain store during the holiday rush.

Miss Ethel Hamilton arrived the first of the week from John Tarleton college to spend the holidays at home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Darsey, Jr., of Austin will spend Christmas week here with their parents, having arrived Monday.

Miss Christine Collins left Monday to spend the Christmas holidays with her sister, Mrs. Homer Easterwood, at Taft, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Murray and Joe Stalls attended the funeral of an old friend, M. G. (Glen) Jackson, at Shep Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Buford Smith and little son are here from Lubbock to spend the holidays with Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Conder.

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Murdock and Mrs. James Brown and son, Milton Lucas, of Golan were guests Saturday of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Griffin.

Week-end visitors in the home of Mrs. A. D. Williams were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Williams of Post, also Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Callahan and daughter, Nola Mae, of Post.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Murray and two children, Mabel and Gordon, left Wednesday for Pampa where they will spend the holidays with their son, Dean. They will be joined there by another daughter, Miss Madeline, who is attending teachers college at Canyon.

THE SHAKESPEARE CLUB.

The Shakespeare club had its regular interesting meeting Tuesday afternoon; the story, "As You Like It," was thoroughly told with much enthusiasm.

Sis Gamble's house was the scene for a very happy Christmas tree party, where everyone received gifts. Miss Sears had fruit wrapped in pretty paper for each club member.

All were wished "happy Christmas," and "prosperous New Year," after the club voted to adjourn during Christmas week, meeting again on January third.

Members present were: Lena Mae Moore, Mary Frances Cook, Gene Hulsey, Mollie Frank Touchstone, Miriam Lois and Doris Mae Diltz, Bettye Jane Diltz, Mary Jo Russell, Vernelle Sublett, Sis Gamble, Truett Patterson and A. C. Sears.

Sick members, Evelyn Sears, Clyde Sears, Jr., and P. A. Diltz were missed very much, and we hope they will be back for the next meeting.

—Reporter.

Beautiful Christmas Cards, 5 cents each. Merkel Mail.

Christmas Cards, 5c, Merkel Mail.

If you have any visitors. Phone 29 or 61.

Governor's Daughter Married in Mansion

Austin, Dec. 22.—Miss Norma Sterling, youngest daughter of Governor and Mrs. Sterling, was married in the executive mansion to Clee G. Miller of Corsicana Saturday.

The wedding was a quiet, simple one, with members of the two families and a few intimate friends in attendance. The ceremony was read by the Rev. H. C. Garrison, pastor of the Central Christian church.

The setting for the wedding was one of the drawing rooms of the historic mansion, where two other daughters of governors were married. It was the fifth wedding for the mansion, however.

Dry Law a Success, Morris Sheppard Says

Houston, Dec. 22.—Senator Morris Sheppard, co-author of the eighteenth amendment, looked back on more than a dozen years of prohibition here Saturday and then passed judgment on his creation.

"I think prohibition has been a wonderful benefit to the nation," Sheppard said.

He added he was undecided as to his course of action in regard to re-submission of the prohibition question to the states.

Beautiful Christmas Cards, 5 cents each. Merkel Mail.

Christmas Cards, 5c, Merkel Mail.

Iron spear heads have occasionally been found embedded in the tusks of elephants.

Find Tack In Lung.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 22.—When Dr. H. R. Edwards and other public health authorities proceeded to an X-ray examination of 5,000 school children, a routine procedure designed to detect signs of tuberculosis, they found one child had a carpet tack in its lung.

Christmas Cards, 5c, Merkel Mail.

Christmas Cards, 5c, Merkel Mail.

YULETIDE HAPPINESS

May your cup of happiness be overflowing with all things good at this joyous Yuletide season and the anticipation of the coming New Year be a feeling of sincere pleasure.

COTTON OWENS SANDWICH SHOP

SPECIAL HOLIDAY PRICES

Now While All the Family Are at Home Is a Good Time to Have Portraits Made.

You May Never Have the Chance Again, And What If Something "Should Happen," And You Didn't Have A Portrait of Them?

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

RODDEN STUDIO

Merkel, Texas

GREETINGS

We are reminded at this happy yuletide season of our pleasant relationship with our patrons in the past year. We wish you most heartily a Merry Christmas and a Happy Prosperous New Year.

BLAKE'S DRY CLEANERS

Phone 68 Next door to West Texas Utilities Co.

Holiday TRAVEL BARGAINS



Children half fare... convenient daily schedules
Terminal—Ferrier's Service Station—Phone 210

SOUTHLAND GREYHOUND Lines

CARD OF THANKS.

We want to express our sincere appreciation of the sympathy, kind words and aid extended us at the

time of our deep sorrow in the loss of our little boy; also for the beautiful floral offerings. May God's blessings be with you all.

Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Hassey.

CHRISTMAS 1932

We are indeed grateful for your splendid support and many friendly courtesies during the last year.

Accept this little greeting as a hearty "Thank You" for what you've done for us.

—And with the season's Greetings, we wish for you and yours a Prosperous and Happy New Year.

PATTERSON'S MARKET

Phone Number 9

Front Street

NOTICE!

The undersigned gins will close Friday night, Dec. 23, and remain closed until Tuesday morning, Dec. 27, so that all employees may have the privilege of enjoying Christmas and the holidays with their home folks. Wishing you, one and all, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- SOUTH SIDE GIN
- SAM SWANN GIN
- TEXAS COTTON GROWERS GIN
- GUITAR GIN
- F. P. HAMM
- PLANTERS GIN

OUR HEADLIGHT TEST STATION IS NOW OPEN

Avoid the rush by coming early; also we wish to remind you that A GENUINE FORD 13-PLATE BATTERY is your best assurance of quick cold weather starting.

RADIATOR ANTI-FREEZE

We are servicing many radiators with PRESTONE, DUPOIN METHANOL and ALCOHOL; may we service yours?

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

Ford Dealers
Parts, Accessories, Tires and Tubes

We Extend To You
The Compliments of the Season With Sincere Wishes that the New Year Will Bring You Much Happiness and Prosperity.

GULF SERVICE STATION

MORRIS HORTON, Mgr.

Phone 245

Merkel, Texas

Geetings

At this joyous Christmas season, I want to thank all my friends and customers for their liberal patronage in the past and, while the end of the year marks my withdrawal from long service in the gin business, I want you to know that I shall always be at your service.

As your county commissioner it will be my endeavor to use my very best efforts for your interest and for the welfare of this section of Taylor county.

Here's wishing you one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

A. J. Canon

THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Senior Class of '33—Mrs. R. B. Irvin, sponsor

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Mildred Richard. Sports Editor—Howard Stanley.
Assistant Editor—Florene Rider. Society Editor—Opal Huskey.
Joke Editor—Van Roberts.

CHAPEL

We aren't surprised any longer when we receive a summons to general assembly, but we do not mind because we usually miss part of some class. Three highway patrolmen visited us just after noon Friday and gave us a few pointers on driving which some of us need very much. One boy was heard to say several times in an undertone, "I do," when the question was asked, "Do you drive recklessly?" The speech hit some full in the face and most of us would not admit that we enjoyed it, but that is the kind of speech that most of us really and truly enjoy, whether we admit it or not.

THE SOPHOMORE NEWS.

The Sophs ranked second as a class this six weeks. The Seniors were the only class that beat us, but next time we want to be first. From the second lowest to the second highest on the honor roll is climbing up a little bit at a time.

A large number of Sophs has been absent on account of the little thing called "flu" and some are still absent, but nevertheless we hope they are back in school soon. We hope "flu" has gone never to come to the high school again.

This Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are the last three days before the Christmas holidays. We have only three or four weeks after the Christmas holidays, so come on, Sophs, let's beat the Seniors next time and be at the head of the list.

The Sophomores of Merkel High school wish each of you "A Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year." May each one come back to school January 2 with new resolutions to make better grades.

THE DRAMATIC CLUB.

Everyone seemed to have the Christmas spirit when he came to the meeting last Friday night.

The meeting was held in Mrs. Haynes' studio, which was beautifully decorated.

Games of forty-two, flinch, pit, but, tons and dominoes were enjoyed.

The program was as follows:
Violin solo, Opal Huskey.

Talk, "Dramatic Work," Jim Patterson.

Story, "The Night Before Christmas," Billy Gardner.

Songs, Frances Adcock, Margaret Miller, Mildred Richardson and Joyce Wheeler.

Because so many of our members were entertaining Mr. Flu, we were not able to have our play. Annie Lee Owens read the play, "More Blessed," to us.

The members were then served cheese sandwiches, jello and whip cream and mints.

The president took charge and attended to the usual business.

In appreciation of Mrs. Haynes' work with the Dramatic club, Frances Marie Church, as a club representative, presented Mrs. Haynes with a carving set.

We missed all of our members who could not be present, but we welcome ever visitor. The visitors this time were Mr. Haynes, Mr. Riddle, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin, Bessylea Church, Caribel Mansfield, Lona Bryan and Oscar Adcock.

The hosts and hostesses for this meeting were: Albert Cade, Terrell Mashburn, J. B. Moore, Bill Hamm, Florene Rider, Margaret Miller, Nell Hughes and Frances Marie Church.

The Dramatic club wishes the members of high school a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

TO SANTA CLAUS FROM A HOPEFUL STUDENT.

Dear Santa Claus:

I want to write you a very confidential letter. I am a pupil in Merkel High school, and not such a very good pupil, so I am writing you to tell you all about my troubles. You see that 71 I made in English just couldn't be helped. I read my lesson, but when I went to class, Mrs. Irvin's sweet voice put me to sleep. Then that 65 in geometry was just bad luck because we were studying triangles and Miss Patterson said my mind ran in circles. Anyone knows that 74 in Spanish is a fair grade when the teacher had had the flu. And, Santa, I found out too late that if you're bow-legged and stutter you shouldn't be disappointed with a 75 in public-speaking. Don't forget I made 80 in deportment, 83 in attendance, and 90 in punctual-

ity, and 90 in physical education which was the highest grade.

Santa, I do so want a new pair of socks for Christmas.

With love,
Your Friend.

Merkel, Texas, December 19, 1932.
Dearest Ole' Santa Claus:

I want so many things I do not know where to start to name them. Our superintendent said one morning in chapel that times were hard this year. If they are, Santa, I know you can not give me all I want, but here are a few things I want for myself and my friends:

Please bring:
Me a negro doll that tap dances.
Caribel and Sarah some tape so they can plaster up their mouth.
Pillie Bernice some knowledge about what Caribel is going to give her for Christmas.

Lois a date for Christmas night.
Mary Helen good health.
Julia a new car.
Joyce a green Ford.

Frances Adcock some wool socks to keep her feet from getting so cold in the middle of the night.

Margaret Miller a doll for Nell to play with.

Duncan a blonde wig and a remedy for a crick in her neck—a foolish request for the crick will probably be gone by the time you arrive.

Margaret Dean a French harp, a toy drum, a rattle and lots of firecrackers.

Maurine someone to sit close enough to her in the Senior room so she can talk. If you want to, you may bring her a tongue loose at both ends so she can talk some where else besides in the Senior room.

Faye wants you to bring her friend, Florene, a good history grade.

Santa, I guess this is all. Don't forget to bring some fruit, nuts and candy. I love you lots.
Mildred.

P. S. Dear Santa: I forgot to tell you but Imogene wants a great big football boy for a "feller". She also wants the following things for her bashful friends:

A little blonde-haired doll for Maddell.

A red airplane for Ouida Mae.

A blue wagon with red wheels for Sandifer.

A way to go to Abilene every Friday night for Jim.

A blue black speller and a slate for James.

Santa, there is a little poet in our class and she expressed her wishes in a poem. Here it is:

Merkel, Texas, December, 1932.

Santa!
My name's Nell
And that's a plenty.

All I want is a rubber doll
And I'm gonna call her Pol.

A "kiddie-kar" wouldn't be bad
If I don't get one I'll be sad.
James told me to tell you this
All he wants is a kiss
From— — — well,
That's yours to guess.

Please bring along plenty
Of fruits, nuts, turkey and candy.
If you do, you'll be a dandy.

I'll close this letter now
I'll be happy and how!
When I get the playthings
That for me you're going to bring.
Nell Hughes.

Appreciation! Greeting!

May we take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your friendship and business association during the past year and to wish for you a most enjoyable holiday season and a pleasant and more profitable

1933

THE MERKEL HOME LAUNDRY

Phone 77 Merkel, Texas

DID YOU SAY DUMB?

Johnnie believes soap is a sure cure for the flu—also dirt.

J. R. Higgins wanted to know if cows really give skimmed milk.

Jack Tucker wonders why a barometer can drop and not break. He dropped a hydrometer and it broke.

Duncan wanted to know if Christmas and New Years could not come on the same day.

SISTER SUES

Dear Sue: Why wasn't I born rich instead of so pretty? Annie Lee.

Dear Annie Lee: Were you blessed with good looks? Sue.

Dear Sue: What color is Joe Earl's new suit, carloroy? ???

Dear ????: Why do you care? Do you want one the same color? Sue.

Dear Sue: What does X equal to? I am very worried! ???

Dear ????: X is equal to an unknown number—now find it. Sue.

Dear Sue: How far ahead of sun time is radio time? Your friend.

Dear Friend: Just about that far. Sue.

Dear Sue: Please, whom do I remind Mr. Riddle of? Sarah.

Dear Sarah: Maybe you remind him of an escaped convict or an old

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.

sweetheart either. Wouldn't it be the same thing? Yours, Sue.

Dear Sue: Why did Miss Patterson go to sleep in 9-B algebra class last Monday week? A Pal.

Dear Pal: Perhaps anyone didn't knock a stool over in the laboratory that period! Sue.

Dear Sue: Why is it that boys are so conceited? Two girls in distress. Dear girls in distress: Ask one and see—then tell me what he says. Yours, Sue.

STOP

that aching, that hot-one-minute and freezing-the-next feeling. Hamm's Cold Capsules prevent flu, relieve colds and fever. Money back guarantee. Sold only by Sie Hamm Drug Co.

R & R PALACE Sweetwater

Saturday
Clive Brook
"NIGHT OF
JUNE 13"
Another of those mysterious murder stories.

Sunday-Monday
Janet Gaynor
Charles Farrell
"TESS OF THE
STORM COUNTRY"

Tuesday-Wednesday
George Raft
"UNDERCOVER MAN"
With each picture he grows more popular.

Thursday
HARLEY SADLER
AND HIS COMPANY
In a brand new play

HERE'S WISHING YOU

An Old Fashioned
Merrie Christmas
And a Happy New
Year

BURTON-LINGO CO.

Phone 74

Merkel, Texas

GOOD FRIENDS:

May this Christmas be cheerful and may the New Year be bountiful. This is our sincere wish to our many friends who have made our business a genuine pleasure.

WOOZY'S CAFE

"Merry Christmas . . ."

At this season of the year—when all West Texas is radiating the old pioneer Christmas spirit of "Good Will Toward Men"—it is this company's privilege to extend to its many friends and customers the sincere Christmas Greetings of its hundreds of loyal employes.

Throughout 1932, as in previous years, progressive cities, towns and communities in this "Land of Opportunity" have been served efficiently with dependable and inexpensive transmission line electric service from the three major generating stations of the West Texas Utilities Co.

Hundreds of farms, ranches and small communities also are served over the modern high tension transmission line system which, more than 2,500 miles in length, interlaces this vast empire.

To this progressive citizenry—with which the West Texas Utilities Company has at all times worked hand in hand for the greater development of West Texas—this company extends cordial Season's Greetings and best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**West Texas Utilities
Company**

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Gordon of Roscoe visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Neimire.

Mrs. Pate of Blackwell spent Saturday night and Sunday with her daughters here.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster Edwards visited with Mrs. Edwards' mother at Hamlin last Sunday.

Mrs. A. L. Awalt of Clovis, N. M., spent a few days last week with her sister, Mrs. W. A. Hogue. They anticipate a trip to Sherman and Dallas together during the holidays.

Miss Leona Laurie of Abilene was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bowers Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith and son of Lamesa are here for a few days visiting relatives.

Mrs. Roscoe Howell is visiting her mother, Mrs. Lige Howell, a few days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Fowler ofampa came in last Friday and returned the following day. On their return they were accompanied by Mrs. Fowler's mother and two sisters, Mrs. T. G. Walker, Misses Vivian and Natelyne, who will remain through the holidays and probably longer.

Mrs. Harold Bows and Baby Wilma of El Paso arrived last Saturday to remain a few days with Mrs. Bows' mother, Mrs. Pauline Freeman, before going on to Eastland where they expect to spend the holidays with Mr. Bows' parents, Mr. Bows joining them at Trent to continue the journey together.

Lenard Quattlebaum and family left Monday for Arkansas to spend Christmas with relatives.

Medeah Rawlings of McMurry spent this week at home.

Miss Marjorie Adrian of A. C. C. spent last week-end with home folks.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Armour were made happy last Saturday night by the appearance of a fine baby boy.

Mr. Clifford Cunningham spent two days in Abilene last week attending to business.

Mrs. George Howell and daughter Lucile left Wednesday for Honey Grove to spend Christmas with her daughter and family.

T. B. Sorrels of Fort Worth passed

through our city last Monday and visited a short time with relatives. Jack Bowers of Abilene Hi is home for the holidays. Abilene schools suspended last Friday for two weeks.

High School News.

The Trent school will turn out Friday for the Christmas holidays. It will reopen the second of January, giving the students ten days vacation.

All of our teachers are back in school now and we are very proud of this fact. Some of them were absent last week on account of the flu.

WHO CAN TELL—

Why Mr. Elliott blushes when Sylvester is mentioned.

Why Sarah Julia has been in such a big way?

Who it is that Sally has been missing at school?

Who it is that Foy Elliott has been making eyes at?

Who the boys were that went with

THANKS, FRIENDS

We try always to let our patrons know that we are thankful for patronage and for all favors, large or small, but we cannot let Christmas pass without expressing again our appreciation.

May the choicest delights the season affords be yours and may 1933 deal generously with you.

S. M. Hunter
L. C. & V. B. Sublett
Exide and Goodyear Service

Miss Powell and Miss Bailey to church last Sunday night?

Who it is that Gladys thinks is so cute?

Whether we will have a new pupil after Christmas or not?

Whom Doreen is making eyes at now?

Whether Luther will ever attract

the attention of Louise or not?

Why Mildred wants January 2nd to hurry and come?

If you have any visitors. Phone 29 or 61.

How One Woman Lost 20 Pounds of Fat

Lost Her Prominent Hips—Double Chin—Sluggishness

Gained Physical Vigor—A Shapely Figure.

If you're fat—first remove the cause!

Take one half teaspoonful of Kruschen Salts in a glass of hot water in the morning—in 3 weeks get on the scales and note how many pounds of fat have vanished.

Notice also that you have gained in energy—your skin is clearer—you feel younger in body—Kruschen will give any fat person a joyous surprise.

But be sure it's Kruschen—your health comes first—and SAFETY first is the Kruschen promise.

Get a bottle of Kruschen Salts from any leading druggist anywhere in America (lasts 4 weeks) and the cost is but little. If this first bottle doesn't convince you this is the easiest, SAFEST and surest way to lose fat—your money gladly returned.

ANY ARTICLE IN STOCK AT 20 TO 50 PER CENT DISCOUNT.

Buy your Christmas Gifts now and save this big discount.

C. M. PRESLEY
Jeweler
Watches—Diamonds—Silver-ware
Abilene, Texas 209 Pine St.

1933

The troop of new days are waiting at the gate to bring us untasted joys of the unseen future. Let us open to them with confidence. And may all your new days pile up enrichment to your life during 1933.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

HERE'S TO OUR FRIENDS

Life would not be worth-while without you. And strange to say practically all our friends are those we have made through business dealings. It is a matter of great satisfaction to us to feel that all our patrons are our friends. So, we say, to all our Friends, here's wishing you the merriest Christmas you ever experienced and a New Year that will bring you many happy surprises.

Wheeler & Vaughn Market

Wishing You

A JOLLY CHRISTMAS

and

A BRIGHT NEW YEAR

W. A. TURNIDGE, Prop.

Army Store

134 Pine Street

Abilene, Texas

This Is Just To Say A VERY MERRIE CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To Our Patrons Everywhere and to thank each of you for favors of the past. We'll be expecting you in 1933.

AMERICAN CAFE

FLOSSIE and MACK

To Wish You A Real Old-Fashioned MERRY CHRISTMAS . . . and a Happy Prosperous New Year!

In every language . . . in every tongue our wish is the same for all our loyal friends and patrons at this joyous Yuletide season . . . just a Real Old Fashioned Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CHAS. H. JONES, Agent
Magnolia Petroleum Co.

MAY CHRISTMAS 1932 AND THE NEW YEAR 1933

Be all that you could possibly want them to be. There's nothing too good for us to wish our friends. You have been loyal to us and it is our constant aim and desire to show you that we appreciate you.

Already we are at work on plans for 1933, and we know, without doubt that we are going to make some progress toward our goal of a perfect service to our patrons.

We thank you, one and all, for patronage of the past and most cordially solicit a continuation throughout 1933.

McDONALD GROCERY

A Mellow Christmas

There is something about the word "mellow" that appeals to us. Something of well-preparedness, full matured, all the best conserved, all the sunshine, showers and sweetness of the season gathered into one delectable bundle for the heightened enjoyment of a merited holiday. May your Christmas be such as this. And your new Year lightened with Hope.

We want to thank you for your 1932 patronage and to solicit your favors during the coming year.



Merkel Drug Company

Phone 105

Edwards Street



THE GLEANER CLASS.

With ideal Christmas weather prevailing, the spirit of the Yuletide entered into plans of the Gleaner class at their annual December meeting held Friday afternoon in the parlors of the church.

The devotional by Mrs. S. M. Hunter was the Christmas lesson followed by prayer by Mrs. L. D. Boyd. A duet by Mesdames Verner Sublett and Buck Mashburn and Christmas readings by Mrs. McSpadden and Mrs. D. H. Vaughn preceded the drawing of names from the home department as Sunshine sisters for the year.

A refreshment plate of cherry pie, topped with whipped cream, olives, nut bags and coffee was served to: Mesdames Hunter, Brown, Ferrier, Sublett, Case, Richardson, Guitar, Vaughn, Roberts, Earl Mashburn, Buck Mashburn, Church, Burgess, Boyd, McSpadden, Patterson and Briggs.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.

The Alathean and Dorcas classes met Thursday, Dec. 15, in the home of Mrs. W. O. Boney, with Mesdames J. T. Dennis and H. B. Chambliss as co-hostesses. After scripture reading by Mrs. Causseaux, prayer was offered by Mrs. Joyner. The class then entered into a business session when it was agreed for each member to give twenty-five cents as a birthday offering instead of the usual way. It was also agreed to send baskets of fruit and candy as Christmas cheer to the shut-in ladies of the town.

Delicious refreshments of cherry pie, with whipped cream and coffee, was served to: Mesdames Brown, Jones, Joyner, McDonald, Warren, Stephens, Causseaux, McCandless, Chunn, Dennis and Boney.

PHILATHEA CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The Philathea class of the Methodist church had a most delightful Christmas party Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Milton Case.

After the guests had assembled, Old Santa Claus himself appeared with a basket of delicious home-made candy, which he generously passed around. A luncheon followed, which consisted of the following menu: turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, olives, celery, creamed potatoes, creamed peas, green beans, gravy, scalded hot rolls, cake and coffee.

After "peppy" games of "42," Old Santa returned and gave out gifts from a well loaded and beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Guests enjoying this happy occasion were: Mesdames Cyrus, Pee, Floyd Davis, E. L. Yeats, Juanita Dowell, W. J.

ROUGH to your finger



ROUGH IN YOUR STOMACH

It's easy to say they're all alike—and easy to prove they are NOT. Dissolve a genuine Bayer Aspirin tablet in water, pour it off, feel the fine powder that coats the glass. Do this with some other tablet; see what coarse particles are left! They feel as sharp as sand, even to your finger. How must they affect those delicate membranes which line your throat—your stomach?

CHURCHES

METHODIST NEWS NOTES.

Our Christmas tree will be Sunday morning, 9:45 to 12. Everybody will be expected to remember some one with a present. A beautiful program with perfect decorations will greet you. Bring your present any time Saturday to the church.

Sunday night the Leaguers will favor us with a Christmas play. There are but few play subjects more fascinating than Christmas. You will be delighted with it. We thank the Leaguers in advance for this interest in making Christmas pleasant for us.

BAPTIST ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All regular services Sunday. Preaching by the pastor 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School at 10 o'clock. B. T. S. meets at 6 p. m. There will be no meeting of the W. M. U. Monday. Prayer meeting next Wednesday at 7 p. m. We invite you to our church on Christmas day.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE.

Rev. Cecil Ambrose, pastor of the local Church of the Nazarene, will discuss the reign of Christ in both sermons Sunday. At eleven o'clock he will speak on "The Prince of Peace." At 7:30, "God's Golden Age or Christ's reign as Lord of all 'the Earth,'" will be the subject.

The young people are to have an interesting program at 6:45. The pastor will continue to bring short messages to the young people each Sunday evening. All young people can be assured of a hearty welcome at each of the meetings. Mrs. Lois Henry is president.

Sunday School 9:45, Mrs. Fannie King superintendent, and she urges every one to be present at the opening song and prayer.

Sheppard, Jr., Floyd Newberry, Johnny Dunn, Cecil Guthrie, Claude Dye, Misses Sallie Curb, Mabel McRee, Lucy Patterson, Lottie Butman, Stella King, Mesdames Clark Munday, Velmer Shelton and Milton Case.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

There will be a special Christmas program in the church basement at the Sunday School hour next Sunday.

No preaching service, morning or evening, but the pastor will be present from the Sunday School program, as the regular Sunday services at Baird will not be held.

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

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Introduction, Mildred Richardson, leader.

First talk, Julia Proctor. Second talk, Duncan Briggs.

Third talk, Caribel Mansfield. Song.

Sentence prayers. Song.

Business. Benediction.

Everyone please make a greater effort to attend these meetings. If you have a part, please be there and don't fall down on your duty. Let's make the society a go.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you.

—Your Reporter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Last Sunday there were 616 present at their six reporting Sunday Schools in the city, as compared with 483 on the previous Sunday. On the same Sunday a year ago, which was rainy and bad, the attendance was cut to 417.

FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Next Sunday morning the pastor will be away as he goes to Abilene to preach at Trinity Baptist church. I have asked Brother Armstrong to preach in my place, so urge everyone to be at church and make the service a good one. There will be preaching Saturday night, also Sunday night.

Everybody be at Bible School Sunday at 10:15 a. m. Bring your Bibles and study Acts 26th chapter. We urge that every teacher be present Sunday.

Everybody welcome to our services. Ernest C. Dowell, Pastor.

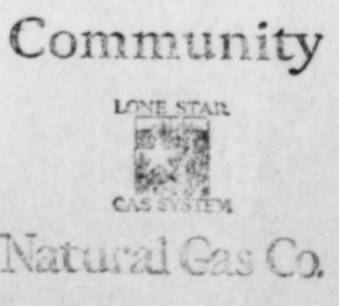
MERKEL CLUB AT SIMMONS. Some nine Merkel students have formed a Merkel club at Simmons university and all of them are home for the holidays. Club members are: Sis Boaz, Margaret Canon, Emma Joyner, Hollye Perry, Himalaya Swafford, Vernie Derrick, Beth Hamm, Benny Sheppard and H. C. Toombs.

We are keeping open at night for convenience of those who cannot do their Christmas shopping during the day. Brown's Bargain Store.

For less than it costs to mail a letter



... you can cook breakfast, lunch and dinner with natural gas. Having at each meal a variety of different things that would please the family and heap praise upon mother. It costs less than a third of a cent per person to cook a meal with natural gas. It saves you time and energy as well as money.



WE PAUSE

At this happy season to send our friends and patrons throughout the territory we serve, our very best wishes. We trust this will be a very happy Christmas for each of you. May 1933 hold for you and yours the fulfillment of every bright promise for your happiness and prosperity.

Continental Oil Co. J. M. Collins, Agent

SPECIALS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Table listing special prices for various goods: BANANAS, CRANBERRIES, FRESH COCOANUTS, ORANGES, LARD, SALT, FIGS, MARSHMELLOWS, SYRUP, PICKLES, MUSTARD, COFFEE, PUMPKIN, DATES.

SEE US FOR ADDED SPECIALS ELI CASE GROCERY "The Home of Good Groceries" Phone 234 Prompt Service

WE GIVE YOU THE BEST Throughout the days of the past year it has been our pleasure to give you the best service of which we are capable. We shall maintain the same high standard during the year that is so on to turn us a new page. And now at Christmas time we pass to you the best of our wishes for all the good things it will take to make you supremely happy.

ELI CASE GROCERY "The Home of Good Groceries"

AGAIN ON CHRISTMAS DAY A Big Turkey Dinner WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS FOR 25c Treat Your Family or Friends. Let Me Figure on Your Xmas Dinner. Turkeys Cooked to Your Order. GIVE US A TRIAL American Cafe FLOSSIE AND MACK

The Happier You Are— The Better We Shall Be Pleased—

Just because we are endeavoring to make a living from our business is not a reason why we should not be touched with the finer sentiments of life. Quite the contrary. We hope to succeed because we have learned the needs and wishes of the people of this community and because we know how to cater to their best interests.

Christmas is a sublime season with us, just as we want it to be with you. The more of Joy that you gather from the ensuing holidays, the better we shall be pleased.



BRAGG DRY GOODS CO.