

ANNUAL "OPEN TO THE WORLD" POULTRY SHOW

Comes Jan. 15, 16, 17 and 18: Competition Wide Open in This Famed West Texas Exhibition of Feathered Tribe.

Jan. 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1936, were set as the dates for Merkel's Sixth Annual Poultry Show and Auction Sale at a called session of the Merkel Poultry association held at the city hall Tuesday night.

With President R. A. Ellis presiding, Ari Sharp was elected temporary secretary, and plans were completed for the coming show, which is open to the world for competition in exhibits.

Henry Rose of Sweetwater was selected as the judge for this show. Judging will probably be done on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 16 and 17.

A soliciting committee composed of Byers Petty and Stanley King, named by the Lions club, and Raymond Ferguson, Ari Sharp, Rev. R. A. Walker and Marvin Smith, representing the poultry association, will call upon the various business interests of the town to support this show as they have so successfully done in the past few years.

Merchants are requested to compile a list of their customers who are interested in better poultry and who would appreciate a catalogue and the secretary will mail them one with the compliments of that firm.

Contract for printing the catalogue was awarded to the Merkel Mail and these books will be off the press about the first of the New Year.

Named Director of Rhythm Band Contest

Supt. R. A. Burgess of the Merkel schools has been asked to serve as director of a rhythm band contest, to be sponsored by the Taylor County Primary Teachers association. He was selected by a committee, headed by Mrs. O. L. Reaves of Trent, at a meeting in Abilene Saturday.

Rhythm bands from all county schools will be invited to participate in the contest, which will be held a short time before the spring inter-scholastic league events.

Record of Births.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. James H. West, Friday, Dec. 13, 1935. Girl, to Rev. and Mrs. Bill Dowell, Friday, Dec. 13, 1935. Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Carter, Trent, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1935. Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. John Terry, Trent, Saturday, Dec. 14, 1935. Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Humphreys, Sunday, Dec. 15, 1935. Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Hawkins, Monday, Dec. 16, 1935. Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cox, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1935. Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Cox, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1935.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Texas' general fund entered the Christmas period Monday with a deficit of \$11,683,969.45, compared with \$9,855,377.32 on Nov. 30.

C. G. Karr, 32, policeman and flying enthusiast, and W. W. Slater, also a flier, both of Dallas, were killed when their plane crashed Tuesday near Dallas.

Berry Brown, a busy business man and former tax assessor of Shackelford county, has been appointed supervisor of district No. 13 in the national tax survey.

A district court jury at Amarillo acquitted Herman Wachtendorf, former deputy constable, of murder for the night club slaying of R. W. (Pat) Graves last Sept. 18.

John Williamson, 19, wanderer, was held under \$5,000 bond at Houston after he admitted he attempted to extort \$500 from John A. Wilkins, president of the State National bank of Houston.

A radiogram was received at Haskell telling of the death of Cowles Kaigler, 33, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Kaigler, aboard the Munson steamship line SS Pan-American Wednesday morning.

The sight of one eye may be lost to W. M. Livingston, 32, of Terrell, who was hit in the eye by a torpedo thrown by a child Monday and who was carried to Baylor hospital, Dallas, for treatment.

A reprieve until Feb. 14, 1936, was granted by Governor James V. Allred to Paul Galvan, sentenced to die in the electric chair at Huntsville Dec. 18 for the slaying of Ivan Scotten, border patrolman, in 1929.

Bobby Ray Sutherland, 7-week-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Armour Sutherland, was burned to death in his crib, when fire of undetermined origin destroyed the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Sutherland, at Bowie.

C. B. Bass, Jr., 27-year-old telephone company lineman at Mexia, was killed when a power pole on which he was stringing a temporary telephone wire to the football stadium broke and crushed his skull as it crashed to the ground.

A Houston boy, Alba H. Warren, now a student at Princeton university, is one of four students selected by the sixth district committee meeting at New Orleans to receive scholarship awards to Oxford university, England.

The brush-snagged, battered body of Gabe Beauchamp, ranch foreman who became entangled in his rope and was dragged to death by his frightened horse, was found Thursday on the W. H. Green ranch, 10 miles south of Albany.

Annual meeting of the Oil Belt Teachers association will be held Mar. 13 and 14, in Abilene, the dates having been set Tuesday night at a meeting in Abilene of the executive committee, of which T. M. McGehee, Taylor county superintendent, is a member.

WHAT THE OLD AGE PENSION ACT PROVIDES

Amplification of the Various Sections of the Texas Act Made by State Auditor Carpenter, New Pension Chief.

Austin, Dec. 19.—"Many provisions of the Texas Old Age Assistance Law were taken directly from laws previously existing in other states or from the Social Security Act, which President Roosevelt sponsored," State Auditor Orville S. Carpenter, appointed pension chief, said this week.

"Major provisions are the following:

1. A qualified applicant must be 65 years of age and a citizen of the United States.
2. He must have lived in Texas five out of the last nine years, and have lived in the state continuously one year preceding application.
3. He must not at time of receiving aid be an inmate of a public or private institution.
4. He must not have made a voluntary transfer or assignment of property to qualify for aid.
5. He must not be a habitual criminal or habitual drunkard.
6. He or she is not eligible if he or she has a husband or wife able to furnish him or her adequate support.

"The property restriction," Mr. Carpenter continued, "as well as that of cash or security ownership, must be clearly understood."

"A qualified old-age pension applicant— "Does not own property, real, personal, or mixed, the fair value of which, taking into consideration assessed valuations for state and county tax purposes less all incumbrances and liens, exceeds, if the applicant is single, \$5,000, or if married, \$7,500. "Does not have or own cash or marketable securities, the fair value of which exceeds \$500 if the applicant is single, or if married, \$1,000," Mr. Carpenter stated.

"An important restriction concerns incomes of qualified applicants. Incomes of applicants must not exceed, from any and all sources, \$360 yearly, if single; and the combined incomes of both spouses, from any and all sources, must not exceed \$720 yearly, if applicant is married," Mr. Carpenter explained. "A sworn statement of all income during the preceding two years must accompany the application."

"All applications will be handled through local agents after the new law goes into effect February 14," he added.

J. E. Adison, Another Old Timer, Succumbs

J. E. Adison, 70, retired stockman and resident of this section for 51 years, died at 10:15 p. m. Wednesday at a local sanitarium, where he had been for the last four weeks, of an illness that covered several months.

Funeral services were to be held at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon from the home of C. P. Stevens, where he had resided of recent years, with Rev. C. R. Joyner, pastor of the First Baptist church, officiating, assisted by other local pastors. Interment is to be in Rose Hill cemetery.

Mr. Adison never married, and his only near kin surviving is a niece, Mrs. L. T. McKibban, of Pasadena, Calif. Survivors, however, include a number of life-long friends, among them, Joe Garland, Sid Criswell and G. W. Boyce, who with families in the neighborhood in which he lived and with the attending physician and hospital attendants did everything possible to make his last days as comfortable as possible.

Divorce Holiday.

Tulsa, Okla., Dec. 19.—Tulsa county's four district judges will grant no divorces this week. "It's a week of make-up—not break up," they agreed.

Backing Safety Drive.

Chicago Ill., Dec. 19.—Forty-one states and the District of Columbia are now recruits in an unprecedented drive to reduce the nation's 98-death-a-day traffic toll, the National Safety Council announced Tuesday night.

ALL-STARS TO TAKE ON ANSON OPPOSITION

Will Meet All-Stars of Jones Capital on Friday of this Week At Anson; Object, to Buy Sweaters for Boys.

The Merkel All-Stars are playing the Anson All-Stars in Anson at 3:30 on Friday afternoon of this week.

Last week the Merkel boys journeyed to Hamlin and took the flute-playing boys 6 to 0.

The Anson Lions club is sponsoring the game in Anson and their share of the gate is to aid in keeping an Anson citizen "paid up" in a hospital. The cause is worthy and it is hoped that a good crowd will turn out. Last week the Anson Lions club sponsored a game in Anson which was well attended.

The Merkel boys are preparing to buy sweaters for the 1935 Badger letterman, and in this connection Coach Hutto wishes to take opportunity of thanking the following fellows who volunteered their services at Hamlin last week: Orion Tittle, Bud Toombs, "Kit" Carson, William Sheppard, Duane Pangle, Benny Sheppard, Cade, Z. Robertson, R. T. Blair, Oscar Adcock and J. E. Boaz, Jr.

The following business men volunteered the services of their cars, which were greatly appreciated: T. G. Bragg, S. D. Gamble, Rev. C. R. Joyner and Fred Hughes.

The Merkel lads will assemble at the gym at 2 p. m. Friday and soon thereafter will leave to take on those "Anson Tigers."

Lions Club Set Date January Seventh for New Year's Party

Five students from Merkel High school, those making highest grades for the second six-weeks term in the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th grades, were guests of honor of the Lions club at Tuesday's luncheon at Ed's cafe.

These students, their averages and the grades in which they were the leaders, are: Mary Jo Russell and Billie Wood, 8th, 95, (this was a tie); Janell Black, 9th, 97; Roy Hagler, 10th, 96; Juanita Huskey, 11th, 97. The latter two were also in the group of honor guests for highest averages during the first six weeks period.

Only three members of the club were absent when roll was called by Secretary Brown. Nathan Wood, a new member was received, bringing the club roster to 31 members.

Following invocation by Rev. John H. Crow, President Reid called for reports from chairmen of recent activities: R. T. Gray and Bill Haynes, decorating the Christmas tree; Dr. L. C. Zehnpennig, stock and poultry show, trades day and quilt show, and R. O. Pearson, Christmas street lighting.

Byers Petty and Stanley King were named as club members to co-operate with the poultry association in putting on their annual "open to the world" show in January.

First member of the Merkel Lions "Liars Club," sponsored by Dr. L. C. Zehnpennig, tail twister, was enrolled with a real Baron Munchausen as told by Allen McGehee.

In lieu of the regular luncheon the first Tuesday in Jan., the seventh, it was decided to have a New Year's party to be held on the night of the seventh. Committee on program and arrangements, appointed by President Reid, consists of Booth Warren, chairman, Stanley King and Wrenn Durham.

At the conclusion of the luncheon and program, Herbert Patterson was called upon for a prayer of thanksgiving in keeping with the Christmas season.

Decrease in Suicides.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Suicides and business failures have decreased proportionately since 1933, Prof. William Fielding Ogburn of the University of Chicago reported Tuesday.

New Public Works Bill.

Washington, Dec. 19.—President Roosevelt said Tuesday a public works bill involving probably somewhat less than \$500,000,000 would be submitted at the next session of congress.

18 BADGERS OF 1935 AWARDED SCHOOL LETTER

The 1935 season produced eighteen lettermen among the Badger squad, as announced by Coach Emil Hutto at the Pep Squad-Football banquet Friday night of last week.

They are: Captain Robert Higgins, Co-Captain Zerk Robertson, Duane Pangle, Kermit Pangle, Victor Joyner, R. T. Blair, Willie B. Toombs, Robert Grimes, Jr., Paul Riney, Stanley Toombs, Miller Patton, Griffin Barnett, Vincent Barnett, Murry Toombs, L. V. Moore, Pete Morgan, Winston Polley and Lloyd Vick.

Out of the eighteen to whom '35 letters were awarded, twelve will not be back next year: Higgins, Robertson, D. Pangle, Joyner, Blair, W. B. Toombs, Riney, Patton, M. Toombs, L. V. Moore, Morgan and Polley.

Badger Squad Starts Basketball Practice

The Merkel Badgers basketball squad had their first practice on Monday, Dec. 9. According to early prospects, there will be an excellent club this year.

The squad is augmented with several good players from Stith and Noodle and some from the other surrounding schools.

The boys are really going in to win the county meet this year. In addition, they have been invited to attend the tournament at Colorado in Jan. Merkel won third last year, but they expect to bring back higher this year. Lacking in practice at first, the boys say they are going to work hard to make up for that.

A special request is made of the Pep Squad to attend the basketball games and yell and back the Badgers with the same spirit that they put the football players onward.

Special Program of Christmas Carols

Uniting in a co-operative service, the Methodist and Presbyterian churches will join in a program of Christmas carols and special numbers at the Methodist church at 7:15 Sunday evening.

Every one is invited to come and enjoy this special Christmas service.

Senior Play at Goodman.

"Silas Smidge from Turnip Ridge" is the title of the Senior play to be presented at Goodman High school on Friday night of this week. Admission is 10 and 15 cents.

Admits Mercy Killing.

Woonsoket, R. I., Dec. 19.—A Manchester, N. H., practical nurse confessed Monday night, police said, to the "mercy killing" last Wednesday of Mrs. J. Valmore Normandin, 36, wife of a former city auditor here.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, December 17, 1915.)

HON. J. J. STALLINGS, MAYOR.

To him we credit excellent management of our town during the last three years. It was he who so gracefully took the reins of our city government when W. T. Potter resigned that place. Mayor Stallings came to Merkel in 1890. He was always progressive and soon after his arrival in this country made purchase of a brand new cart. In those days most people walked, some of them were fortunate enough to ride a horse bare back while others had wagons, but with all these modes of conveyance Mayor Stallings wanted more and added a jump seat to the pleasure crafts of his home.

J. B. FERRIER.

He has seen more rough and tumble days than any other man in Taylor, Jones, Nolan counties. While a very small boy he was a deck hand and roustabout on a steamboat on the Ohio river. Immediately following the war Mr. Ferrier came to Texas. He was in the vicinity of San Antonio in the beginning of the '70's and it was there he suffered the loss of his left limb. It came about when a noted tough decided to kill our esteemed townsmen. He was all but successful and shot Mr. Ferrier from his horse but was not successful in escaping.

LET CONTRACTS FOR ADDITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Four More Class Rooms Provided; Work Starts Soon After Christmas; To Be Completed in 135 Working Days.

Contracts for construction of a four room addition to the Merkel High school building, totaling \$13,148, were awarded Thursday, Dec. 12, by the board of trustees.

Work is expected to begin immediately after the Christmas holidays and is to be completed in 135 working days.

General construction contract was awarded to W. R. Truss of Abilene on his bid of \$11,166. A. P. Kasch of Big Spring received the electrical contract, \$650, and the plumbing contract, \$660. The heating system will be installed by the Cogdell Plumbing company of Abilene on their bid of \$997.

David S. Castle of Abilene is the architect for the project, made possible by a bond issue of \$9,000, voted Nov. 14, augmented by a PWA grant of \$7,393.

The addition to the present school building will consist of four rooms of the same brick construction as the present structure.

Contract for purchase of equipment will be awarded later, said Superintendent Burgess.

Area Ginnings Go Over 13,000 Bales to Date

Total area ginnings passed the 13,000 bale mark with tabulations by The Mail this week of figures from the six gins here and those at Stith, Blair and Noodle, the exact total being 13,022 bales, with all the crop not gathered yet.

Final figure for the 1934 crop was 7,920 bales.

Free Christmas Show For Kiddies Saturday

A free Christmas show for the kiddies at 10 a. m. Saturday is announced by Manager S. P. Nesmith of the Queen theatre. The special film, "The Home of Santa Claus," is to be shown and, if necessary to accommodate the crowds, a second showing will be screened. Candy will also be given to the little tots, so a good time is in store for everybody.

As a special attraction for Christmas, "Alice Adams," starring Kathryn Hepburn and Fred McMurray, will be shown at the Queen for a preview Tuesday night at 11 o'clock. Wednesday, Christmas day, matinee 2 p. m. and night.

A REAL GIFT FOR CHRISTMAS

Did you ever think how acceptable a subscription to the Merkel Mail would be to that son or daughter, brother or sister, living away from "the home town"?

Or you might take advantage of one of the magazine clubbing offers, or daily papers, in connection with your renewal to The Mail at your home.

BARGAIN RATES NOW IN EFFECT

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Millionth Car to Be Gift to Owner Oldest Chevrolet

Chevrolet's one millionth car of 1935 production is to be presented to the owner of the oldest Chevrolet licensed and in regular use in the United States, and the cooperation of America's leading newspapers and every one of the 10,000 Chevrolet dealers has been enlisted to discover this car and its owner.

The one millionth Chevrolet built within the current year came off the assembly line at Flint, Mich., on Dec. 12, just eight days after Chevrolet produced its eleven millionth car since the beginning of the company.

Presentation of the millionth car of the year—a 1935 Standard coach—will be made to the owner whose Chevrolet is discovered, between Dec. 16 and midnight Jan. 15, to be the oldest model licensed and in regular service.

It is specified that, to win, the old-timer Chevrolet must have been regularly licensed for operation during the current year, possessing its own 1935 license tags issued before December 1. It must, also, have been licensed as a passenger car, and be equipped with a complete passenger car body. It must bear the original engine and chassis numbers, legible and unaltered.

To enter a Chevrolet for consideration, the owner need only drive it to any Chevrolet dealer's salesroom and submit it for examination, receiving a blank on which he will report the engine and chassis numbers of the car to the Chevrolet Motor company at Detroit, where the company's records will determine which is the very oldest in service.

Although the presentation will be made as a New Year's gift the time for submitting cars of consideration has been extended to include Jan. 15, because of the short period between Dec. 12, the birthday of the millionth car of the year, and the first of the year. Announcement of the award will be made on or about Jan. 22 as soon as the records can be carefully studied to determine exactly who has the oldest Chevrolet in active service.

Two full lines of cosmetics—Marie Tomlin's and Boyer's—Vick Drug Company.

The plowing season is now on. Bring your dull Discs to C. P. Stevens and have them rolled.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
The Mail will run a news mention free of charge of box suppers and benefits in any community, but, if desired more than once, the second publication will be charged for.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mrs. Roger Williams and Mrs. John Payne attended the council meeting of the Taylor County Demonstration clubs in Abilene Saturday.

Mrs. C. H. Howell, Mrs. H. H. Jones and Mrs. Henry Lee Tittle were shopping in Abilene Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Terry are announcing the birth of an 8 1-2 pound girl on Saturday, Dec. 14.

About 18 ladies from here attended the G. and G. Supreme Forest Woodmen Circle convention at Big Spring on last Friday.

Carl Murdock, who recently sold his barber shop to Allen Terry, has opened up a shop next door to Woods grocery and invites the public to visit him.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crawford of Avoca were Sunday guests in the home neapolis is guests of his mother, Mrs. T. L. Stevens.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Archer of Minneapolis are guests of his mother, Mrs. Mary Archer.

Mrs. T. G. Hamner was called to Sweetwater Saturday night to be at the bedside of her father, E. K. So-Relle, who was hurt in a car accident and who is reported to be in a serious condition.

Messrs. S. E. Armstrong and Lesley Beasley were called to Bryan to attend Walter Armstrong, who was crit-

ically ill and who died and was buried Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Jodie Scott and Mrs. Warren Kelly of Farwell were guests the first of the week of relatives here and at Merkel.

C. C. Ross of South America was a recent guest in the home of his cousin, Mrs. G. Bryan and J. L. Nalley. It had been 18 years since he had visited here.

George Helen Lee of Abilene High was the week-end guest of home folks.

Dr. and Mrs. A. L. Anderson of Brownwood were guests Friday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Gafford. On Saturday they all went to Vernon where they were guests in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Tude Keltz and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hardison, returning Sunday.

Clarence Grayson Here For Visit With Parents

Clarence Grayson from Tulare, Calif., is here for a few days visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Grayson. Two of his sisters, Mrs. Leon Bigbee of the Hodges community and Mrs. Ernst Hill of Burleson, came in for a few days to be with their brother.

All the children were present Sunday evening except Floyd L. Grayson, who was unable to be here.

Two full lines of cosmetics—Marie Tomlin's and Boyer's—Vick Drug Company.

Eleven Students from Taylor Co. Enrolled At John Tarleton

Stephenville, Dec. 19.—Eleven students from Taylor county are enrolled this fall in John Tarleton Agricultural college. The college has a total enrollment of 1,000 with students from 138 counties of Texas and two other states.

Taylor county students are as follows: Bill Guest, James Harris, John Loftis, Wayne Low and A. N. Norman, Abilene; Harry H. Boaz, Mary Helen Lancaster, Cal McAninch, Margaret Miller and Lloyd Robertson, Merkel; Viola Fisher, Ovalo.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, 1936, being the 14th day of the month, for the election of directors. Polls open between 2 p. m. and 5 p. m.

Joe P. Self, Cashier.

The Home of COMFORT COURTESY FRIENDLINESS



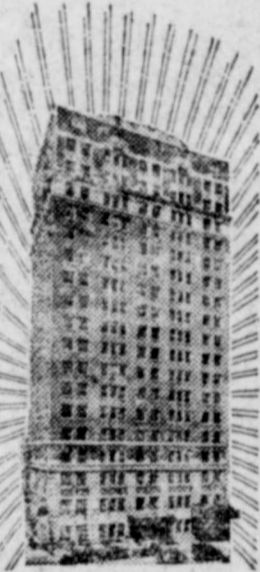
JACK FARRELL, Manager

"Friendly" is the word here. Smiling attendants greet you everywhere. It's a pleasure to stay here. Ask anyone!

18

Floors of Cheerful Guest Rooms All With Bath

50 And Up



A Most Acceptable Christmas Gift!

If you contemplate giving money as a Christmas Gift this year—Our Tellers will be happy to supply you with new, clean, crisp currency which has not heretofore been in circulation.

Also we will furnish, at no extra expense as long as they last, appropriate Christmas Greeting Envelopes the same size as the currency.

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

"THIRTY YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED SERVICE"

The Loveliest Gift in the World!



GRUEN MAYFLOWER... A slender stylish GRUEN timekeeping masterpiece, white or yellow gold filled. \$32.50



COLONIAL... This GRUEN is up-to-the-minute in style and accuracy, yellow gold filled, 15 jewels \$35

SOME gifts are useful! Others are pretty! But that gift which combines extreme usefulness and smart style... adding to the daily joy of possession... can truly be called "The Loveliest Gift in the World." Such are our new Gruen Watches which we want you to see. Their new low prices are a revelation—\$24.75 and up.

W. C. FISHER

Jeweler and Optometrist

126 Pine

Abilene, Texas

"OVER A QUARTER CENTURY"

Why not get your 1936 FORD V-8 in time for Christmas?

A gift that all the family will love

A 1936 model—all latest improvements

A liberal allowance for your old car if traded now

Easier terms than you may think

THE 1936 Ford V-8 is the finest Ford ever built. It goes farther than ever beyond the accepted standards of its price class. In engine performance, riding comfort, roominess—it may be compared with cars costing hundreds of dollars more. Today's Ford is backed by over 2,000,000 Ford V-8's on the road in America alone. Here are its most outstanding values—many brand new this year.

V-8 ENGINE PERFORMANCE—smoothness, pick-up and power with proved V-8 economy.

25% EASIER STEERING—the result of two new roller-type bearings, a longer steering knuckle-arm and an increased steering ratio.

SUPER-SAFETY BRAKES—with exceptionally large braking surface (186 square inches).

EASIER, SYNCHRONIZED SHIFTING—QUIETER GEARS—Silent, helical gears for all speeds.

NEW FREEDOM FROM NOISE—specially insulated, welded-steel body, reinforced with steel.

NEW DRAWN-STEEL WHEELS—add comfort to riding—are easier on tires.

Arrange a demonstration today with YOUR FORD DEALER

Ford V-8 for 1936

\$510 AND UP, F.O.B. DETROIT. Standard accessory group including bumper and spare tire extra. Easy terms through Universal Credit Co., Authorized Ford Finance Plan.

MERKEL MOTOR CO.

Merkel, Texas

CUSTOM HATCHING And BABY CHICKS

Eggs and chick orders received at Garrett's Feed Store each Saturday.

Abilene Hatchery & Seed Store

318 Mesquite St. Abilene, Texas Phone 7492

SPECIAL OFFER

SEMI-WEEKLY FARM NEWS

and

MERKEL MAIL

Both Papers, one year, for

\$1.50

THE MERKEL MAIL

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THE BADGER WEEKLY

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and Sponsored by the Senior Class of '36—Miss Alycen Ater, sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Mabel Maddox. Society Editor—Janet Hayes.
Assistant Editor—Juanita Huskey. Sports Editor—Oscar Adcock.
Joke Editor—Horace Boney

Special Edition

(Edited by Juanita Huskey.)

PEP SQUAD-FOOTBALL BANQUET.

Last Friday evening at 7:30 the 1935 High School Girls Pep Squad royally entertained the 1935 Badgers in the High School gym with a banquet and snappy program.

Miss Betty Grimes acted as toastmistress and directed the program like a veteran. The invocation was given by Herbert Patterson. The Pep Squad and their sponsor, Miss Helen Patterson, teacher of mathematics in the High School, had spent much time and planning for the event as evidenced by the best planned and most elaborate banquet ever. The gym was decorated beautifully in a Christmas setting.

Delicious food was served in abundance in the order of: fruit cocktail, turkey and dressing, peas, potatoes, hot rolls, cranberry jelly, combination salad, coffee and cherry pie. Favors in the form of toys were distributed from a Christmas tree by the waitresses.

Mary Frances Cook gave a toast to the 1935 Badgers, to which Captain Higgins gave an excellent response. Co-Captain Zerk Robertson paid a great tribute to Coach Hutto, to which the coach responded with a speech of appreciation to the school board, Supt. Burgess, the faculty, Pep Squad and students for their loyal support of the Badgers. The coach also announced the lettermen.

R. T. Blair gave a toast to Coach Myers, to which he gave a good response. Murry Toombs gave his appreciation on behalf of the football team, to the Pep Squad, to which Opal Buzbee responded. The Pep leaders for '36 were announced by Betty Grimes, toastmistress and head yell leader this season and for next. The other leaders for 1936 are "Sis" Gamble and Hollie Perry. Both gave pledges of loyalty to the school.

Oscar Adcock gave an excellent resume of the 1935 Badger season, and a sextet, consisting of "Sis" Gamble, Mildred Soesbee, Hollis Perry, Pauline Joyner, Frances Higgins and Mary Frances Cook sang "Merkel High School" and "Little Town of Bethlehem."

An entertaining football play entitled "Touchdown" was given by the following: Murphy Dye, Zerk Robertson, Missie Spurgin, Mary Helen Mashburn, Sylvan Mellingier, Dick West, Junior Grimes, Horace Boney and John Malone.

The main speaker was Carl Andersen, attorney of Sweetwater, and former athletic coach. Mr. Andersen gave an interesting talk on the history of football.

As a courtesy from the Pep Squad an "Evening in Paris" set was presented to Miss Patterson, the sponsor.

The guests honoring the Pep Squad and football boys were the following board of education members, Messrs. and Mesdames O. J. Adcock, Herbert Patterson, C. P. Church, S. D. Gamble. Other guests were: Coach Hutto, Coach Myers and wife, Superintendent Burgess and wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Coffman, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Andersen.

Those serving were: Lucy Fae Higgins, Jane Ferguson, Mattie Ford, Eva Fae Bush, Janet Berry, Edith Atkins, Genevieve Cox, Elizabeth Cypert, Janell Black, Ruth Smith and Margie Hogan.

There were also two ex-student guests in Beth Hamm and Sarah Sheppard who sat in box seats behind the curtain on the stage. They would never have been discovered had they not yelled when the "flash" picture was made of the banquet.

CHAPEL.
The student body met for a short assembly in the study hall on Tuesday, Dec. 10. The object of this meeting was to let the students know about the 1935-1936 "Badger," which the Senior class of 1935-1936 will publish. Oscar Adcock, president of the Senior class, was master of ceremonies and the program was as follows:
Contents of the 1935-1936 "Badger". Juanita Huskey.
Why anyone Should Buy an Annual. John Leonard.
An Annual, Zerk Robertson.
Warren spoke in behalf of the

ALL-STAR GAME.

The Merkel All-Stars, composed of High School Seniors and former football players, went to Hamlin Friday afternoon to defeat the Hamlin All-Stars 6 to 0. The crowd was small, but those Badgers didn't let that slow them down and fought to the finish to keep down a last minute aerial attack by the Pipers that almost netted them a touchdown.

All the Merkel lads played good except Emil Hutto and, of course, he was the star of the game due to the fact that he stayed on the sidelines most of the time and let the substitutes play.

The All-Stars will probably play at home Christmas day.

The starting line-up was: Tittle, lg; Sheppard, lt; K. Pangle, lg; D. Pangle, c; Z. Robertson, rg; Carson, rt; Sheppard, re; Rex Myers, qb; Adcock, fb; Blair, hb; Cade, hb.

Freshman class.

Francis Higgins spoke in behalf of the Sophomore class.

Doyle Gray spoke in behalf of the Junior class.

What the 1935-1936 "Badger" will mean to us in later years, Mabel Maddox and Janet Hayes.

The student body met in the Grammar School auditorium Friday, Dec. 20, for chapel. The program was as follows:
The Christmas Story read from "The Bible," Mr. Burgess.

A short play "The Christmas Guest." Cast: Juanita Huskey, Missie Spurgin, Janet Berry, Janet Hayes, Clifton Bellamy, Roy Hagler, and Sylvan Mellingier.

Christmas Carols, group of girls. Visiting speaker.

SPANISH CLUB NEWS.

Who doesn't like a good time? If you do, then join the Spanish club and you'll get your share of the fun. The third year Spanish class are the charter members, but that doesn't mean that it is merely their club! All Spanish students making an average of B and who are willing to pay the insignificant sum of 25c to join, may join this club. Officers were elected Friday, Dec. 13. They are: Ora Derrick, president; Alice Carey, vice-president; Winston Polley, secretary-treasurer, and Ruth Kyle, reporter.

This third year class has charge of the first program—the initiation of the other members. After the initiation committees will be chosen to plan the programs, so you see it is all the Spanish members' club! Spanish plays and programs will be the feature in this club. So students, brush up on your Spanish and really work so that you can participate in the activities of this club. I'm sure this club will be remembered long after the present members are gone from M. H. S. And another thing that's interesting about this club is they will be represented in the Annual of 1936, with a picture. Probably the most interesting fact is that Mr. Hutto is the sponsor. So join the club and in doing so, join in the fun!

HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL OF THE CLASS OF '36.
Our Annuals are started. Yes, an outline for the work and routine of this year's Annuals has been laid down and the first steps have been made. After deciding upon an Annual some two months ago the class elected an editorial staff. By some remarkable coincidence the representative from the Steck company at Austin happened around that very same Tuesday morning and met with the staff directly after the election. The staff were shown the various models, dummies and charts to be used in arranging the Annuals. Mr. Allan's models were liked so well by the staff that the staff were obliged to vote upon them. Medium grained red leather covers with a black overtone were chosen. Subscriptions for these Annuals are for sale. Be sure to get yours now.

Sore Gums—Pyorrhoea
Foul breath, loose teeth or sore Gums are disgusting to behold, all will agree. LETO'S PYORRHOEA REMEDY is highly recommended by leading druggists and never disappoints. Druggists return money if it fails. Merkel Drug Co.

Pierson Cantrell, 39, slayer of Frank Guy, 70-year-old Edgewood farmer, was electrocuted early Friday morning, Dec. 6, in the state prison after calmly denying his guilt to the five legal witnesses to his execution.

Bobby Wilson, all-American half-back of the S. M. U. Mustangs, is the winner of the 1935 Houston Post trophy awarded annually to the South-west Conference's outstanding and most valuable player.

JUNIOR NEWS.
Opal Palmer has returned to our Junior class after an absence of several days. The Juniors were well represented

Our Seniors

Janet Hayes.

Introducing, Janet Hayes, four years a Merkel High School student, two years a member of the Choral club, one year a member of the Pep Squad, and one year a member of the M. H. S. Players' club. Also, she is assistant business manager of the Badger and society editor of the Badger Weekly. She plays indoor baseball, volleyball and tennis, having played on the tennis teams that won second places in the Interscholastic League events two years in succession (first year in singles and second in doubles). She is a good student and the Senior class members are proud of her. Becoming a beauty parlor operator is the goal toward which she is working.

Eva Faye Bush.

Introducing, Eva Faye Bush, from I. X. L., three years a Merkel High School student, three years a Choral singer, two years a member of the M. H. S. Players' club, and one year a member of the Pep Squad. As a Freshman, she was a member of the Interscholastic League indoor baseball team that competed at county meet. As a Sophomore, she was vice-president of the ninth grade English club and Sophomore beauty. As a Junior, she again competed at county meet, this time in extemporaneous speaking, in which event she won first place. As a result, she had the honor of competing at district meet in Sweetwater. However she was defeated there. Besides the above mentioned activities, she plays the piano, was secretary of the Choral club one year, and is now vice-president of the M. H. S. Players' club. She says she wants to be a "hard-boiled English teacher." She has the qualities of a good English teacher all right, but the reporter doubts that she will be "hard-boiled."

Reporter's note: Did you wonder why the long report? You guessed it! The reporter has "news fever." But really, no partiality is intended in the difference in length of the various write-ups of "Our Seniors." The number of activities in which a student has taken part naturally lengthens or limits the record of his High school course. Please do not judge the qualities of our Seniors by the length of these reports. When the reporter recovers from the "news fever" they will be more moderate. Thank you.

at the football banquet. Eight members of the Junior class lettered for the season of 1935. These were Robert Higgins, Junior Grimes, Lloyd Vick, Stanley Toombs, Paul Riney, Duane Pangle, Miller Patton and L. V. Moore.

On Monday evening, Dec. 9, the Junior class held a meeting to elect a member to represent the Junior class in this year's Annual. Sylvan Mellingier, Murphy Dye, Doyle Gray and Roy Hagler were nominated. Doyle was elected.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS.
The time to "turn over a new leaf" has about rolled around again, and a few resolutions have been made. They are not guaranteed to stick.
Mr. Hutto resolves to have no tied football games next year.
Ruth Kyle resolves not to lose her temper more than twice a week.
Thelma Patterson resolves not to talk so much without saying anything.
Sis Gamble resolves to eat less candy and take more exercise.
Ora Derrick resolves to put more interest in school and less interest in red-wheeled Chevrolets.
R. T. Blair resolves to talk less in English class.
Nell Pruitt resolves to act more lady-like.
Bryan Higgins resolves to have but six days a week instead of seven.
Juanita Huskey resolves to quit making such low grades.

Shop at PRESLEY'S For Real Values

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

He who gives, with his alms feeds three. Himself, his hungering neighbor, and me.

The Christmas spirit is in the air. Even the faculty and the board members are conscious of it.

Mrs. R. A. Burgess, Mrs. Herbert Patterson and Miss Julia Martin are to be hostesses Tuesday evening at a Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Burgess for the faculty, their husbands and wives and the board members and their wives.

Santa Claus has promised to be there and each one is hoping that Santa's pack contains "Just what I want."

CHRISTMAS.

December 25, Christmas day. Another national holiday, marked by the following observances: Filling the young and helpless with a lot of fiction about Santa Claus, the old chimney-fakir, who went up the flue long ago; making a clothesline of the mantelpiece and robbing the forest of its young; swapping several things we'd like to keep for a lot of stuff we don't want; and finally, putting on in church on Sunday night performance of light opera, known as "The Sabbath School Concert."—from "The Foolish Dictionary," by Gideon Wurdz.

(Editor's note: Is that your idea of Christmas?)

TO SAINT NICK.

Dear Santa Claus:

I've been a good boy all the year, specially the last few days, so I think I have a right to ask you to bring me a few little things for Christmas. I want a big waste basket, new blackboard, box of chalk, balloon, cowboy suit, horsie, arch-supporters, hound puppy, megaphone, tin horn, cowbell, bass drum, policeman's whistle, fireworks, toy gun, alarm clock, parrot, radio, bagpipe, steam piano, jazzbo, tin pan, phonograph, banjo, street grader, fog horn, brass band, fire whistle, steam shovel, oil drill, locomotive, sawmill, rock crusher, saxophone and ear muffs.

I will hang my stocking by the chimney—and, for pete's sake, be quiet when you come down. My wife is very nervous.

Hopefully,
J. Lee Coffman.
P. S. Bring Mr. Hutto a switch.

Dear Santa Claus:

Remember I'm at Merkel this year, at Mr. Bires Petty's on Oak Street. Please bring me a pair of house slippers, lounging jacket, cozy chair, big chocolate nut cake, date loaf, malted milk, sak of potatoes, pekan pie, fudje, Postum, ize kreem, karmel pie, quart of honey, yeast, Ovaltine, frute cake, whipt kreem, five-pound box of chocolates, and reducing machine.
Give my luv to Mizrez Santa Claws and all the littel raider.

Merry Christmas,
Emil Hutto, age 4.
P. S. Bring Mr. Coughman a napsak, burro, and rode map to Timbucktoo.

Shop at **PRESLEY'S** For Real Values



1-3 OFF

On a limited number of fine **SWISS WATCHES**

- \$25.00 value 6-Diamond Set...\$21
- 32-Piece Breakfast Set, special...\$4.95
- Special—26-piece Silver, Wm. Rogers A-1...\$11.45
- Special on two patterns of Crystal, as long as they last, 28c each, per dozen...\$3.00

We have many other values in China, Glass, Silver and Pottery.

Beautiful Gifts in Pottery
Luggage 1-4 off

G. M. Presley Jeweler
209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

Do Your Christmas Shopping At Home!

Prices are right. Quality is right. You can see what you are getting. You get it right away.

In addition, your trade helps the whole community.

Do your Christmas Shopping at Home and help the Home Town.

FARMERS STATE BANK

Deposits Insured by Fed. Dep. Ins. Corp. Up to \$5,000

CONSIDER THE NAME

of the Agency to whom you entrust the protection of your Home, your Automobile, and other Valuables.

This agency stands for the soundest in protection and the utmost in fair dealing.

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Farm Loans and all kinds of Insurance
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FOR RESULTS—PHONE 61

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Published Every Friday Morning
C. J. GLOVER, Editor
TELEPHONE NO. 61

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones Counties \$1.00
Anywhere else \$1.50
(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.

RURAL SOCIETY

MISCELLANEOUS SHOWER.

In honor of the newlyweds, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Perry, (Mrs. Perry was the former Miss Braunnell Armstrong.) Mrs. Dee Teaff opened her home on Wednesday afternoon of last week for a miscellaneous shower.

In rooms made cheery and bright with Christmas colors, gifts were presented Mrs. Perry from a beautifully decorated Christmas tree. At the tea hour cake and hot chocolate were served to:

Mesdames Theo Newton, W. C. Lee, J. S. Pinckley, Ted Bigham, Bill Hayes, J. O. Armstrong, Wesley Rister, Jettie Rister, A. Parker, Abilene, Wayne Smith, Willie Dixon, Jay McCartney, Blanche Teaff, Walter Hammond, Walter Teaff, A. V. Teaff, J. J. McCartney, R. W. Holder, W. O. Perry, Jeff Hinds, G. W. Teaff, Myrtle Pitts, W. E. Joiner, G. A. Joiner, Clyde Newton, R. F. England, R. J. Smith, Hubert McCartney, Roy Patterson, Joe Higgins; Misses Ruby Perry, Loucell Teaff, Loneita Teaff, Marie McCartney, Lorena McCartney, Ruth Pinckley, Fay Perry, Lorene England, Gladys Newton, Alleta Askins, Julia Ella Holder.

The following sent gifts: Mesdames Joe Amason, Baylor Amason, T. J. Amason, Vernon Hudson, Ruthie Bigham, M. F. Smith, Thelma Bigham, Dee Moore, H. B. Smith, Will Hays, Angus Garvin, Harry Rister, Miss Lula Rister.

SALT BRANCH CLUB.

The Salt Branch Demonstration Club met Monday, Dec. 16, in called meeting at the home of Mrs. J. S. Pinckley to elect officers.

The following were elected: Miss Ceila Rister, president; Mrs. Ollie Higgins, vice-president; Mrs. Ray Harrell, secretary and reporter; Mrs. Wilma Robertson, council member; Mrs. J. S. Pinckley, bedroom demonstrator, and Mrs. T. C. Allen, food demonstrator.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

On Saturday night, Dec. 7, a birthday party was given in honor of Miss Mae Reed and Berlon Mullins, who were 15 years of age, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Reed of White Church. Games were played and enjoyed by all, and a prize was given to the one that blew the candles out of their birthday cake first.

Cake and punch were served to the following guests: Mr. and Mrs. A. D. King and son, Junior, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mullins, Linton, Berlon and Billie Mullins, Mrs. O. W. Reed, Jack, Olive Mae, Hardin and Frank Reed, Miss Lois Orand, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Mainard and Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Reed, Mary Alice and Pauline Reed.

BLAIR DEMONSTRATION CLUB.

On Thursday, Dec. 12, the Blair Home Demonstration club met in the

SPECIAL

We want to thank the good people in and around Merkel for the nice business you have given us since we came into your nice little city.

We feel very grateful to each one who has made our business good. We want to give each and every one a special invitation to come back and bring some one with you.

WE SERVE

- Delicious Plate Lunches 25c
- Big, Juicy Hamburgers 10c
- Chili 15c
- Irish Stew 25c
- Cheese Sandwiches and Ham Sandwiches 15c

Call for any other short order you want

J. Y. MELTON
GOOD EATS CAFE

On Front Street Merkel, Texas

home of Mrs. Dusek where every one enjoyed a delightful meeting.

Two demonstrators were elected for the new year: Mrs. Charles Gates as bedroom demonstrator and Mrs. Luther Orsborne as the food demonstrator.

Mrs. Blanche Campbell was elected as the new council member after Mrs. Luther Orsborne's resignation was approved.

A prayer service was held instead of the regular recreation period.

Plans for a Christmas party to be held in the home of Mrs. E. J. Orsborne were made, after which punch and cake were served by the hostess.

Members present were Mesdames Spears, Will Campbell, Jim Campbell, Gates, O. B. Moore, E. J. Orsborne, Luther Orsborne, Brooks, Harris, Fay Doan, Will Whatley, Hugh Campbell, H. C. King and Dusek.

The next regular meeting of the club will be held in the home of Mrs. Spears.

DARDEN-HOGAN.

Miss Eleanor Mae Hogan and Lee Darden, popular young people of the Mt. Pleasant community, were married Saturday afternoon by Justice of the Peace James Bledsoe at his office in the courthouse, Abilene.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Hogan, while the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Darden, both prominent families in their community and well known throughout the county.

The young couple will reside on route 1, out of Tye.

PHILLIPS-MITCHELL.

Mr. Bob Phillips of Blair and Miss Edna Mitchell of Itaan were united in marriage on Nov. 4 at Big Spring, with Rev. C. A. Bickley officiating. Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Phillips witnessed the ceremony.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Phillips of the Blair community, who left several weeks ago for California, where he had accepted employment. The bride arrived here from her home at Itaan a week ago for an indefinite stay with Mr. and Mrs. Phillips and will soon follow her husband and join him in their new home. She seems like a mighty fine young lady and is very accomplished. Very best wishes for their happiness and success are being extended by their many friends.

ness and success are being extended by their many friends.

UNION RIDGE CLUB.

(Omitted Last Week.)
The Union Ridge Home Demonstration club met Friday in the home of Mrs. Lee Tipton, with the new president, Miss Mabel McRee, in charge. Plans for a Christmas tree in the McRee home were formulated, with members to present gifts to their "pals" on that occasion. Mrs. M. E. Carey was presented a quilt top and materials for quilting it, in appreciation of her service as past president.

Those present were Mesdams J. H. Clark, S. O. Patton, Kenneth Pee, W. A. Harris, M. L. Douglas, O. R. Douglas, O. E. Harwell, J. L. McRee, Carey, Misses McRee, Norma Patton and Mary Bell Douglas.

Merkel 20 Years Ago

(Continued from Page One)
around until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning while some old timer called "Swing that Gal, that purty little Gal, that Gal you left behind you, whos purty in the face and slim around the waist, that Gal you left behind you!" Yes, J. D. was around the place and has danced many a set with the daughters of the early settlers. In '88 he purchased and raised 32 head of horses, he bought 100 acres of land where he now lives and married Miss Fannie Brandon. To this union were born 12 children.

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

NOODLE NEWS

Boll pulling is the order of the day; the majority of the farmers will finish this week if the weather stays favorable.

Mrs. Jack Sharp was painfully injured when the car in which she was riding collided with another car Sunday morning, about one mile north of Noodle.

E. L. Eason is sick with pneumonia at the home of his son in Abilene.

Porter Strange and family of near Hico visited in the home of his sister, Mrs. Jess Bird, Sunday.

C. S. Herring and wife of Robstown are the guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Herring.

Joe B. Sosebee and family returned Sunday from the El Paso valley, where he has been employed as a ginmer the last three months. They were accompanied by Mrs. Sosebee's father, E. A. Shepherd, of Corpus Christi.

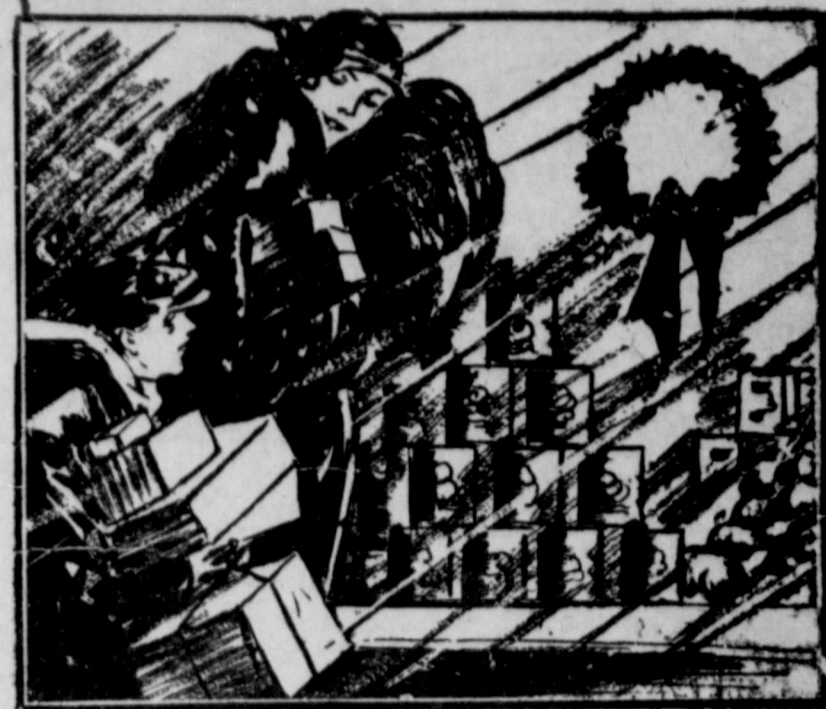
Mrs. Pauline Bryson of Brownfield visited here Sunday. She was accompanied home by her sister, Mrs. Porter Strange.

Mrs. M. R. Herring and little son left Monday for Robstown to spend the holidays with her parents.

The school faculty and high school students, and some of the patrons enjoyed a picnic dinner near Sweetwater Sunday. The object of the trip was to secure a Christmas tree for the school.

Burnell Crow and wife spent the week-end with friends near Trent.

Use The Mail Want Ads.



HOLIDAY FOOD FOR ALL THE FAMILY

- PINEAPPLE, crushed, 3 for 23c
- SUGAR, 25 pounds pure cane \$1.37
- MINCE MEAT, 3 packages 25c
- XMAS CANDIES, 2 lbs. 25c
- WALNUTS, No. 1 Emerald, lb. 20c
- BRAZIL NUTS, pound 20c
- PECANS Jumbo, pound 20c
Medium, 2 pounds 25c
Full of meat, 3 pounds 25c
- COCONUTS, large size 10c
- PEANUTS, roasted, pound 15c
- GRAPEFRUIT, large seedless, doz. 40c
- ORANGES, any size—ALL PRICES
- APPLES, box or doz.—Winesaps or Del.
- CRANBERRIES, pound 27c

- STEAK Seven and Chuck, lb. 15c
Loin and T-Bone, 2 pounds 35c
Round, pound 20c
- SLICED BACON, pound 29c
- ROAST Rib, pound 10c
Chuck or Seven, pound 14c

CAMPBELL'S GROCERY And MARKET

We Are Headquarters For

FIRE WORKS

COME EARLY

WE WILL HAVE FULL DISPLAY IN FRONT OF OUR STORE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST.

WEST COMPANY

CHRISTMAS CARDS

In Broken Lots

5c Each

Make Your XMAS GIFT FURNITURE

SOMETHING TO BE REMEMBERED FOR YEARS TO COME. NOTHING MORE APPROPRIATE THAN A NICE PIECE OF FURNITURE FOR ANY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.

COME IN—LET US SHOW YOU OUR WONDERFUL DISPLAY OF BEAUTIFUL XMAS GIFTS.

Prices Are Reasonable
Barrow Furniture Co.
Merkel, Texas

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SORE Nothing stant reli Mop, the remedy. or purcha Drug Co.
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FOR SAL gallon cov ow cultiv sets of h brick on apartment Thornton.
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Clyde L. C fourth term land county unty Judge ation of Te ate in next 1 from the

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

DON'T SCRATCH—Get Paracide Ointment, the guaranteed itch remedy. Paracide Ointment is guaranteed to relieve itch, eczema, itching piles or skin irritations, or money refunded. Large jar 50c at Merkel Drug Co.

SORE THROAT—TONSILLITIS!—Nothing equals a good mop and instant relief is afforded by Anesthesia-Mop, the wonderful new sore throat remedy. Positive relief guaranteed or purchase price refunded by Vick Drug Co.

FARM FOR SALE—Possession Jan. 1, 1936, 320 acres, maize, cotton and corn land; two sets fair improvements, plenty water, 150 acres cultivation; good grass; low taxes; \$12.00 acre with some terms. Why rent? Write owner, L. B. Howard, Box 112, Vernon, Texas.

FOR SALE—Two good mules, a 4-gallon cow, 3 milk goats, one single row cultivator, one single row planter, 4 sets of harness; for rent—two-story brick on Kent street; two furnished apartments January 1. Mrs. A. H. Thornton.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—1935 Ford V-8 coach; also 157 acre farm 3 miles southeast of Hamlin on pavement; also 100 acre farm west of Merkel on pavement; easy terms; will sell or trade either. W. E. Lowe, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Several head of stock; all kinds of farm implements; worth the money. Dave Hendricks, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—Good O. I. C. pigs, priced reasonable. Tom Russom, Merkel, Texas, Route 4.

FOR SALE—Two burner gas hot plate, child's bed, one burner oil heater. Mrs. Sie Hamm.

FOR SALE

HORSES AND MULES USED IMPLEMENTS AND TRACTORS

WEST COMPANY, INC.

WANTED

WILL DO Custom Grinding; all kinds of feed; Mondays only. Vernon Hudson, Merkel, Texas, Route 2.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—15-jewel Waltham watch, Huntington case, somewhere in Merkel. Reward. See V. L. Merritt, Merkel, Texas, Route 2.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

A trio of local deer hunters returned Friday night from the border country. Included in the party were A. R. Booth, Paul Douglas and P. A. Diltz, the latter bringing back a five-point buck.

As a member of the Music Unit of the Woman's Forum, Abilene, who were hostesses to 116 guests Friday night for their annual Christmas party carrying the Spanish note, at the Wooten hotel, Miss Christine Collins appeared on the entertainment program as one of the soloists, singing "Eres Tu." At the regular meeting of the Music Unit on the previous Wednesday Miss Collins was also on program, singing "The Maiden's Wish." Miss Marjorie Bland of Abilene was accompanist on both occasions.

Stanford, formerly in the filling station business here, is now proprietor of the Pitts Eat Shop, which he will continue to operate under the same name. Paul will be glad to have all his friends call to see him, as well as all the old customers of the Pitts Eat Shop.

With the removal of the W. L. Diltz family to Ballinger, the Tom Durham family are now occupying the Diltz stucco home on West Elm street.

Having just completed a masseur's course in Abilene under Dr. Ernest Weitmer, of Nevada, Mo., president and owner of the largest and oldest masseur school in America, Mrs. W. B. Stephens has received her diploma as a masseur.

Clyde L. Garrett, now serving his fourth term as county judge of Eastland county and president of the county Judges and Commissioners association of Texas, may become a candidate in next year's race for congress from the 17th district.

Pneumonia Claims Mrs. Will Tucker

Mrs. Will Tucker, age 47, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter, died of pneumonia on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at her home in Fulbright in East Texas.

The funeral, which was held at 2 p. m. Wednesday, Dec. 11, from the Baptist church at Fulbright, was attended by her two sisters, Miss May Lassiter, Merkel, and Mrs. M. A. Ribble, Abilene, and a brother, Earl Lassiter, who is now employed at Glade-water.

Mrs. Ribble and Miss Lassiter had only recently returned from a visit with their sister, when she was enjoying her usual good health and news of her attack with pneumonia came as a distinct shock; her two sisters were returning to be with her when death came.

Mrs. Tucker, who came here with her parents in 1905 from Fulbright, was married the following year and returned to Fulbright to make her home. Besides her parents, she is survived by the two sisters and one brother, mentioned above, four children and one granddaughter.

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Blair Farmers Hear Talk on Agriculture

More than fifty were in attendance at the meeting of the farm association at Blair, held Tuesday night at the school house, with Z. V. Moore presiding.

Leon C. Ransom, assistant county agent, was the principal speaker, as he outlined a unified agriculture program for Taylor county. He told of plans for furthering dairy and herd improvement, poultry work, 4-H clubs and terracing during the coming year.

The group voted to hold a terracing school soon after the first of the year, with Mr. Ransom and Knox Parr, county agent, in charge. Mr. Ransom also was invited to organize a 4-H club in the Blair school.

Students from the school sang several selections, as an entertainment feature on the program.

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To Assist Methodist Pastor at Hereford

Succeeding Rev. Paul Collins, Rev. Roy Patterson, a Merkel boy, has gone to Hereford to serve as assistant pastor of the Methodist church.

It is learned that Paul Collins, also a Merkel boy, was transferred to a pastorate at Cloud Chief, Okla., where he and his wife are now located.

Buy an Annual! Help the Seniors. Do yourself a favor.

We carry gray edged sympathy cards in stock, also regular mourning correspondence cards. The Merkel Mail.

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Honor Roll

The following pupils were on the honor roll of the Blair school for the first and second months this year:

First month: Eighth grade—Joy Doan, 95; David Reidenbach, 93; Louise Addison, 95.

Second month: Eighth grade—Joy Doan, 95; David Reidenbach, 92; Louise Addison, 94.

Sixth grade—Madlyn Brown, 94; Evelyn Latimer, 94.

Fourth grade—Donnie Melton, 90; Third grade—Orvel Brown, 92; Betty Alice Patterson, 91; Willie Dean Doan, 91; Annie Clara Doan, 91;

Second grade—Jackie Melton, 91. Low first—Patsy Nell Thomas, 92; Mary Elizabeth Melton, 90; Vaughn Doan, 92.

High first—Charles Derington, 90; Otille Doan, 92; Delwee Melton, 90.

Sixth grade—Madlyn Brown, 94; Mary Lou Hughes, 90.

Fifth grade—Geraldine Cox, 90; Gladys Whatley, 90.

Third grade—Orvel Brown, 92; Jimmie Campbell, 90; Donna D. Doan, 92; Annie Clara Doan, 92; Carlene Hughes, 92; Billie Jean Melton, 90.

Second grade—Jackie Melton, 91. High first—Billie Ann Reidenbach, 90; Delwee Melton, 90; Otille Doan, 93; Milburn Latimer, 91.

Low first—Bonnie Patterson, 90; Mary Elizabeth Melton, 90; Edwin Dusek, 90; Vaughn Doan, 92.

WARREN SCHOOL: The following pupils were on the honor roll of the Warren school for the second month this year:

First grade—Erna Joe Ely, 96; Warren Jerrel Stallo, 93.

Fourth grade—Mitchell Chancey, 92.

Fifth grade—Jeanette Neff, 95; Orval Ely, 95.

Sixth grade—Loyce Chancey, 91.

WHITE CHURCH SCHOOL: The honor roll for the second month of the White Church school is as follows:

First grade—Fay Frazier, Jean Pressly, Margie Brock.

Third grade—Dorothy Joe Weston.

Fourth grade—John Riggs.

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.

County Council Name Committee Chairmen

Committee chairmen for the coming year were appointed Saturday afternoon at a meeting of the Taylor county home demonstration council held in Abilene.

Miss Lola Ohlhausen, president of the organization, selected the following women to head committees: Mrs. E. F. Shotwell, North Park, marketing; Mrs. Phil Jefferies, Turner's chapel, education; Mrs. Hoyt McBride, Turner's chapel, recreation; Mrs. J. T. Cotman, Elmdale, expansion; Mrs. H. B. Robertson, Salt Branch, sponsor of girls' work; Mrs. John Payne, Trent, reporters' school.

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TV

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POWDER

Fine Serial Fiction in a new form . . . Three Prize Short Stories (of four installments each) by a master story-teller. . . They're Rex Beach at his best.

IN FOUR INSTALLMENTS.

SYNOPSIS: Ben Furlong, a young but practical oil man and driller from the Pennsylvania field, drifted into the Texas oil country, broke and looking for work. Finally he fetched up at the Durham home where live an elderly aunt, shortly widowed by the explosion of a powder wagon, and her niece, pretty Betty Durham. . . Perhaps because of his smile, Betty cooks some food for Ben and while he eats he learns the aunt, in town on business, has an oil man, Tiller Maddox, sinking an oil well for her. . . A short 6 inch bolt worked loose from the rigging and is in the bottom of the well. Work has been suspended for days as the crew "fish" for the bolt and operating funds dwindle away. . . Furlong offers to give a hand but Maddox objects. . . Betty insists and overrules Maddox so Furlong fashions a tool which he has just lowered into the well, hoping to fish out the bolt. . . On the order of Betty's aunt, Furlong is given a job. . . Maddox shows his dislike for the new hand, especially because Ben and Betty are so friendly. While the two are in town shopping one evening, Maddox calls upon the aunt, demanding she help his case with Betty or there will be no well. . .

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY.

THIRD INSTALLMENT.

"Did you drop that bolt in the well?" Mrs. Durham bleated, in dismay.

"I ain't sayin' I did or I didn't. But remember, if this well ain't a producer you're blown up, and it ain't a-goin' to produce till there's a Mrs. Tiller Maddox to see it and to get her share! We bargained that out, long ago. Yes, an' I ain't afraid of you goin' back on our deal, either. You don't dast."

"I—I'll try again."

"You better do more'n try. I'll give you just one more chance. If she don't come across, I want you to go visit your folks Saturday evenin', an' leave her home. Understand?"

For a moment Mrs. Durham stared at the speaker, then she said:

"Tiller Maddox, you're a dirty dog!"

"Say! I've stood all the back talk I can stand for one day. You heard me. You do like I tell you, an' you needn't to get back from your visit till Monday."

Not until Ben and Betty had finished their shopping and were on their way home did he tell her about the trouble he had had with Maddox that morning.

"He let on he was fooling, but of course he'll fire me the first chance he gets," Furlong predicted.

"Oh, Ben! Why did you do it?"

"We were bound to tie into each other sooner or later. You can't choose a time to get fighting mad; it's as much as you can do to pick good footing."

"Aunt Mary won't let him fire you. She doesn't trust him any more than

I do."

"Say! What has he got on her?"

The girl did not look up from her driving. She fetched a deep breath as she said: "I'd dearly love to know. There's something queer about it. . . Uncle Joe was a sweet, easy-going man and she rode him with a Spanish bit. She never would have let him take me in, when my folks died, only I did all the work. But he sure loved me. When the oil excitement came they rowed and fought for months. When ever he got an offer she claimed he was trying to give the farm away and threatened to go to law. I told you about that. He stood it as long as he could; then he up and announced that I'd been more of a daughter to him than she'd been a wife and he aimed to give most of his money to me anyhow, and then he made that lease with the Planet people. That's how Maddox came. I think she'd have poisoned me, if she dared, after what uncle said. When he was killed I supposed, of course, she'd throw me out, but she didn't. No use to do it, I suppose, inasmuch as he hadn't left any

writing. As a matter of fact, she was better to me than she'd ever been. That's what makes me wonder sometimes—"

"Wonder what?"

"If he didn't tell Tiller something. Something that makes her scared of him. Sometimes she acts like it's only because of him that she's nice to me. . . I don't know what I'd do if she sent me away. I haven't got a red cent. There isn't a living soul I could—"

Ben passed his arm around the slim, girlish figure and drew it to him. "That'll be about all for you!" He kissed the cheek next to his and Betty hungrily pressed her face closer. "Good thing you aren't an heiress—and me with less than a hundred dollars!"

"You behave yourself, or you'll wreck this car," the girl warned him. Maddox carried out his intention. He discharged Furlong on Friday night, explaining that the well was closed, and the next morning Ben broke the news to his sweetheart. Betty was indignant. She was for appealing to her aunt, but he refused to permit her.

He promised to let her hear from him in a day or so.

Betty's face was flushed, her eyes were shining, when she entered the house after he had gone. She was surprised to find her aunt awaiting her. "Tiller came over the other night when you was in town," Mrs. Durham began.

"Did he?"

"He talked a lot about you, Tiller's fine man, dearie—"

Betty broke out irritably: "Don't let's start that all over again."

"Oh, your head's full of Furlong, I suppose! But what's he got? Nothing. Not even a job. Now Tiller wants to marry you and—you better do it."

"You know very well I'll do nothing of the sort."

"Maybe you won't and maybe you will," Mrs. Durham's lips set themselves in lines of inflexibility. "If you got a smitch of sense you will. D'you want to be poor all your life or d'you want to be rich?"

"I tell you I won't! I won't!" declared the girl. "The big, black, greasy brute!"

"Now don't fly off the handle till I'm through. I've been pretty good to you—"

"I've earned my keep ever since I came. You'd have paid more for a hired girl than I cost."

"Oh, hush up and let me finish. We allus fight like this. Your Uncle Joe cared a lot for you and—and I want to respect his wishes. When that well comes in this farm'll be worth—I don't know what. Anyhow, my heart's

set on seeing you get a good home and have everything. How'd you like to live in a fine house in Dallas?"

"What ails you? Are you losing your mind, Aunt Mary?"

"And you can have 'em if you marry Tiller. Marry Furlong and you'll spend you life over a cook stove."

"How can Tiller give me things like that?"

"I'll give 'em to you."

After a moment Betty inquired, curiously, "How much will you give?"

It was Mrs. Durham's time to hesitate, her words came with an effort. "I don't know—mebbe a quarter interest."

"Humph!" The exclamation was one of scorn.

"There's gratitude for you! Mebbe if it's a real big well I'd do better. You—you've got to do it, Betty!" the widow cried in disacration. "If you don't he'll ruin everything. He said so. If that well don't come in the farm ain't worth—"

"So! That's why you're so generous. Now you listen to me. I wouldn't mar-

ry Tiller Maddox, not for all the Texas, not if it was to save your life."

"Wait! Don't make up your mind in a hurry. I—I'm going over to Cousin Anna's—"

"When? What for?"

"Right after dinner. You think it over while I'm gone, dearie. I feel like you was my own kin. I want to do right by you and—"

"Rats!" said the girl.

The town lay hot and gasping under the sun. There was no shade out-of-doors, for nothing grew in the streets, not even grass; its cinder yards, its board walls and iron roofs radiated waves of heat like those from a stove.

Late in the afternoon Ben Furlong entered the skating rink, paid his admission at the turnstile, and went

(Continued on Page Seven)

GROVER GILBERT
Merkel Representative

ABILENE LAUNDRY
Every day in week, (except Saturday)

Phone 50

Miserable with backache?

WHEN kidneys function badly and you suffer a nagging backache with dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination and getting up at night when you feel tired, nervous, all upset, use Doan's Pills.

Doan's are especially for poorly working kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

MARIAM PRICE
says . . . "THERE'S

New Loveliness



FOR YOU IN THIS

"AMAZING NEW CREAM"

"Your new cream cleanses especially well. It has softened and cleared my skin—brought me a new loveliness. Used at night, it makes my skin feel young and look young when I get up."

Wouldn't you, too, like to try this "complete facial in one jar"? Just ask for

ARMAND BLENDED CREAM

20c 50c 75c \$1.00

For Sale at
MERKEL DRUG CO.

What about . . .

TEMPERATURE?



Any sudden change in temperature as you go from a warm room into a cold one disturbs the heat regulating apparatus of the body and makes it susceptible to cold germ attacks.

Protect your family against becoming overheated or chilled. Give them the benefit of healthful, pure, warmed air throughout the house. If you are not keeping a comfortable and even temperature in every room don't go through the winter without this health protection.

If your home is inadequately heated . . . if you "huddle" in one or two rooms, sudden temperature changes are unavoidable. Your family goes from a heated room into a cold hall or adjoining room. Then, shivering and chilled, they return to the heated room. This happens many times a day, and each time they have unnecessarily subjected themselves to conditions that make them susceptible to highly communicable diseases. America's Public Health Enemy Number One, the common cold germ, finds a fertile field in inadequately heated and poorly ventilated homes.

Keep comfortable temperatures and adequate ventilation throughout your home. You will find that it will add to your happiness as well as assist you to protect your health and that of your loved ones.

. . . Community Natural Gas Co.



Don't gamble with a "cold"! Consult your family doctor before it has an opportunity to undermine your health. Tune in each Thursday night at 6:30, WFAA-WBAA, for helpful information from a leading physician that will assist you to guard against the common cold germ.

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"POWDER"

(Continued From Page 6.)
through. Here, at least, was a place to sit down out of the sun.
Out of the whirling throng upon the floor shot a figure; it was Ben's friend, the engineer of the Maddox rig. He rolled up to the bench where Furlong sat and collapsed upon it.
"Whew! It's hard work havin' a good time in this town," he panted. "Landed a job yet?"
"I've got some prospects lined up. What's the matter? You fired, too?"
" Naw! Maddox laid us off for the day. Miz' Durham brought us in."
"Did Betty come with her?" Ben eagerly inquired.
The engineer shook his head; a grin spread over his face. "Say! You know how scared Tiller is of nitroglycerine? When we left he was hidin' out in the brush like a quail. The powder wagon came an' he took it on the run."
"Powder wagon? What's a powder wagon doing there?" Ben inquired.
" Why, he aims to shoot the well. He got a permit an' the stuff's on the ground, ready for the men."
" He's crazy if he shoots that well," Furlong declared. "What's he thinking about?"
" So I told him. 'Leave her alone an' she'll blow herself in.' I says to him. She's coughin' now, an' I bet as many wells has been ruined by that stuff as they is wells that's been made.
" I'm going to see Mrs. Durham." Ben rose, but the other explained:
" She's gone away over Sunday to visit her kinfolks."
" Who's looking out for Betty?"
" I dunno. Tiller, I reckon."
Furlong frowned. For a while he listened inattentively to his companion, then he rose and left the rink.
Conditions all over the oil fields, as he well knew, were unsettled, and he did not relish the thought of Betty out here alone in that farmhouse; but even more disturbing was the fact that Maddox proposed to shoot the Durham well. What ailed the man?
After some indecision Ben decided to warn Betty. It was none of his business, to be sure, but a word from her might induce the aunt to go slowly and perhaps save the cost of the well. It would be criminal to leave her in ignorance of the risks she ran. He decided to hire a car to run him back out to the farm, but what few were out, and it was some time before he could discover a truck

that was later going in that direction. It was considerably after dark when Furlong left Opportunity; he had to walk the last three miles, so it was late bedtime when he finally arrived at the Durham homestead.
Evidently Betty was asleep; at any rate, the farmhouse windows were dark and Ben wondered how he could best awaken her without causing alarm. Visitors in the country at this time of night were not common. He decided to call softly from outside her window, so he closed the gate quietly behind him and made his way around the house.
He paused in surprise when he had turned the corner of the building, for the kitchen door was open. A momentary panic swept over him; then he drew a breath of relief, for at that moment he heard the girl's muffled voice.
"Who's there?" she cried.
He opened his lips to speak reassuringly, but the sound died in his throat, for inside Betty's room he heard a man's voice, then a stir, a movement. This was followed by a crash, as if a chair had been overturned, then a scream.
Furlong uttered a shout; he leaped forward. Some marauder had entered the house just ahead of him. Incredible as it seemed, he had arrived barely in time.
"Betty!" he yelled. "Betty!" He made for the door beyond.
That throaty clamor from the girl's room, meanwhile, continued. There were hasty movements, the sounds of a struggle.
Furlong had never been inside the front part of the house, but its plan was simple and he was guided by those shrieks of terror. The door to Betty's room was closed, but it opened when he found the knob. He glimpsed the dim square of a window opposite and silhouetted against it he saw the girl.

herself, then blackness engulfed him.
The next he knew Betty Durham was holding his head in her lap and splashing water into his face. It struck him as queer that the lamp should be burning when only the fraction of an instant before all had been darkness. (Continued Next Week.)
ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.
Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday the 14th day of January, 1936, at 6 o'clock p. m., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.
Booth Warren, Cashier.

Judge Marcus Weathered of Coleman was elected grand master of the Masonic Grand lodge of Texas at the annual sessions in Waco. Galloway Calhoun of Tyler having been advanced from senior grand warden to deputy grand master.

HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS
ROUND TRIPS FOR
1 1/2 times regular low one way fares
BY GREYHOUND
These special holiday fares are good to most points. On sale until January 1st... good every schedule. Liberal return privileges.
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BUSINESS EFFICIENCY

HELEN GAIL ROBINSON, A. B., President
161 1-2 Cedar Abilene, Texas Box 980

WHY?

- 1. All graduates and advanced students employed—100%
(a) Gail College is only 4 years old, yet students are employed in the Revenue Department, Washington, D. C., the Department of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Dallas, State Legislature, and the best firms in Abilene.
2. Individual Instruction from Efficient Teachers.
3. New Equipment.
4. Select Student Body.
5. Low Tuition Rates (\$10—\$175).

COST?

Table with 2 columns: Course Name and Cost. Includes 3 Months (1-3 subjects), 1 Year Courses (Stenographic, Salesmanship, Accountancy), 2 Year Courses (Secretarial Science, Business Administration), and Civil Service Training (\$30).

What better Christmas Present could you give a boy or girl than tuition in Gail College?
Invest a few weeks' earnings and give them a training that they can use the rest of their lives—a training that becomes more valuable the longer they use it.

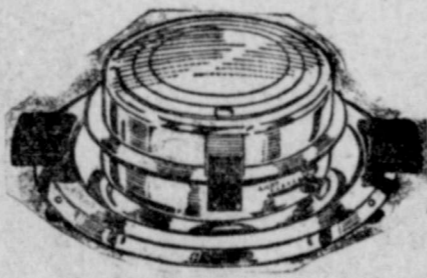
For Terms and Information Write Box 980, Abilene, Tex.

New Term Starts Jan. 2

Choose Electrical Gifts for Xmas

AUTOMATIC WAFFLE IRON

Look! An Automatic Waffle Iron. A red light at the top glows until the waffle is finished. No more "spoiled" waffles. And no more mess. This waffle has a special rim to catch batter overflow.



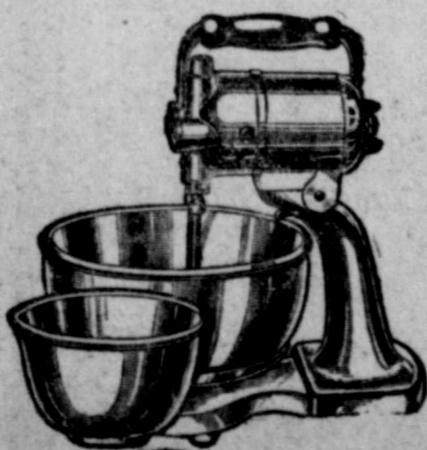
BUFFET SERVICE

You can not go wrong if you choose this beautiful Buffet Service. It will simplify and add charm to your service. An excellent gift that will please the particular person.



THE AUTOMATIC MIXMASTER

The new Automatic Mixmaster has ten speeds and 60 per cent more power. Every speed has full power automatically maintained. Here's a gift that will be a remembrance for years to come. This marvelous mixer will relieve many hours of arm-tiring labor. See it on display!



West Texas Utilities Company

FULL SPEED AHEAD

YOU CAN'T PASS UP MAGAZINE VALUES LIKE THESE

OFFER No. 3: Progressive Farmer, 1 year; Good Stages, 1 year; Country Home, 1 year; The Farm Journal, 1 year; AND THIS NEWSPAPER For One Year. ALL FIVE FOR ONLY \$1.80.
OFFER No. 4: Southern Agriculturalist, 1 year; Country Home, 1 year; The Farm Journal, 1 year; AND THIS NEWSPAPER For One Year. ALL FOUR FOR ONLY \$1.80.

OFFER NO. 1
THIS NEWSPAPER for 1 year and 3 Big Magazines \$2.50

THIS NEWSPAPER for one full year And 4 Big Magazines \$2.00
1 Magazine from Group A; 3 Magazines from Group B; 4 in all

- Select Any 3 Magazines From This List
True Story 1 year
Better Homes & Gardens 1 year
Christian Herald 1 year
Flower Grower 5 mos.
Household Magazine 1 year
Junior Home (for Mothers) 1 year
McCall's Magazine 1 year
Movie Classic 1 year
Neolecraft 1 year
Open Road (Boys) 2 years
Parents' Magazine 5 mos.
Pathfinder (weekly) 1 year
Pictorial Review 1 year
Progressive Farmer 1 year
Romantic Stories 1 year
Screen Book 1 year
Southern Agriculturalist 1 year
True Confessions 1 year
Woman's World 1 year
NOTE—Check one of the following instead of True Story if you wish. Only one substitution allowed.
Modern Mechanic & Inv. 1 year
American Girl 1 year
Delineator 1 year
Judge 1 year
Physical Culture 1 year

- GROUP A: Select One Magazine
Better Homes & Gardens 1 yr
Christian Herald 1 yr
Flower Grower 5 mos
Household Magazine 1 yr
Junior Home (for Mothers) 1 yr
McCall's Magazine 1 yr
Movie Classic 1 yr
Open Road (Boys) 2 yrs
Parents' Magazine 1 yr
Pathfinder (weekly) 1 yr
Pictorial Review 1 yr
Romantic Stories 1 yr
Screen Book 1 yr
True Confessions 1 yr
Southern Agriculturalist 1 yr
Country Home 1 yr
The Farm Journal 1 yr
Progressive Farmer 1 yr
Southern Agriculturalist 1 yr
GROUP B: Select Three Magazines
American Poultry Journal 1 yr
Country Home 1 yr
Dixie Poultry Journal 1 yr
The Farm Journal 1 yr
Good Stories 1 yr
Home Circle 1 yr
Home Friend 1 yr
Illustrated Magazine 1 yr
Illustrated Mechanics 1 yr
Mother's House Life 1 yr
Neolecraft 1 yr
Poultry 1 yr
Progressive Farmer 1 yr
Southern Agriculturalist 1 yr
Successful Farming 1 yr
Woman's World 1 yr
Circular Review 1 yr
Everybody's Poultry Mag. 1 yr

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READER GIVES CHRISTMAS PROGRAM.

The home of Mrs. W. S. J. Brown was the scene of an unusually lovely Christmas party last Monday evening for members of the Fortnightly Study club. The entertaining rooms were beautifully decorated in Yuletide motif in which silver and white were stressed. White tapers burned in silver holders, blending cozily with the flickering light of an open fire.

Resumes of preceding chapters in Texas history were given by Mesdames E. Clyde Smith, S. D. Gamble and R. I. Grimes. Final instructions were given concerning the club Christmas cheer box by Mrs. West, the president.

A short history of the Christmas Carol was given by Mrs. C. B. Gardner.

Mrs. R. O. Pearson, Jr., talented reader, had the program for the evening. For the first half of her program she gave a most ambitious play, let "The Wise Man and the Fool." Mrs. C. B. Gardner played "O Come All Ye Faithful" before Mrs. Pearson resumed with a beautiful interpretation of "The Other Wise Man." As a timely closing of this program Christine Collins led in singing "Silent Night."

Delicious home-made Christmas candies were passed to Mesdames Robert Terrell, Warren Smith, John West, guests, and the following club members: Mesdames West, Sheppard, Sadler, Pearson, Largent, Jones, Hughes, Grimes, Gardner, Gamble, Burgess, Warren, Swann, Brown, Misses Evelyn Curb, Christine Collins, Alyeen Ater, Dota Garoutte, Stel Ledger, Julia Martin, Helen Patterson.

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley King extended gracious hospitality on Tuesday evening of last week, entertaining with a Christmas party. The entertaining rooms were colorfully done, chrysanthemums and roses sharing in the holiday decorations which featured small Christmas trees and reindeer and forming a pretty setting for tables appointed for games of "84."

Misses Leta Faye Barbee and Mildred Sosebee assisted in serving a refreshment plate of fruit cake, sandwiches and coffee; plate favors were miniature Santa Claus on candy sleds. The guest list included Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Warren, Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. Williams, Abilene, Messrs. and Mesdames W. E. Lowe, S. D. Gamble and V. B. Sublett.

FACULTY AND SCHOOL BOARD HONORED.

Mrs. Herbert Patterson, Miss Julia Martin and Mrs. R. A. Burgess were co-hostesses in entertaining on Tuesday evening in the home of Mrs. Burgess, with an elaborate Christmas party, naming members of the Merkel school faculty and board members and their wives as guests.

A brilliant Christmas tree was glorified by other decorations of autumn leaves, mistletoe and poinsettias. Progressive "42" proved happy diversion during the game hour. A delightful musical program was given by Miss Emma Joyner, piano; duet by Miss Sybil Smith and Mrs. Elsie Nash and a reading by Mrs. Comer Haynes. A humorous note was introduced by the reading of Christmas letters to Santa Claus, after which Santa appeared in person with gifts to all.

Delicious refreshments were served to Misses Alzada Pogue, Evelyn Curb, Emme Joyner, Kathryn McQuary, Ella Mae Hogan, Imogene Hayes, Sybil Smith, Stel Ledger, Alyeen Ater, Helen Patterson, Julia Martin, Mesdames Elsie Nash and Len Sublett, Emil Hutto, Messrs. and Mesdames Spencer Bird, Elmo Collins, Comer Haynes, Rex Myers, J. Lee Coffman, Fred Hughes, O. J. Adecock, Lige Gamble, C. P. Church, Herbert Patterson, Supt. and Mrs. R. A. Burgess.

GLENER CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Members of the Gleaner Sunday School class held their annual Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Fred Guilan on Oak street with Mesdames D. H. Vaughn and Clyde Sears assisting as hostesses on Thursday afternoon of last week. A brilliant Christmas tree furnished inspiration for a Yuletide motif in all party decorations. Mrs. Jim Cook brought the devotional, after which the hostesses had arranged a very enjoyable hour of games.

Gifts were dispersed from the tree and a dainty refreshment plate of chicken salad, wafers, potato chips, Burr Gerkins, fruit cake and hot cho-

CHURCH SERVICES

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

There were 662 present at the six Sunday Schools here last Sunday, as compared with 646 on the previous Sunday. On the same Sunday a year ago the attendance was 799.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Herbert Patterson, general superintendent. Morning worship 11 a. m. Sermon by the pastor. Text, Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called wonderful, counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting father, the prince of peace."

Evening worship 7:15 p. m., a cooperative service with the Presbyterian people. If you like good music, don't miss this service.

John H. Crow, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. No preaching Sunday morning, as pastor will be at Baird, but he will return for the Christmas program in which the Presbyterian and Methodist

colate was passed to Mesdames Hale Lancaster and Robert Eddings, of Sweetwater, guests, and the following class members: Mesdames W. S. J. Brown, L. C. Rea, Eli Case, Duncan Briggs, Jim Cook, Fred Latham, R. F. Mashburn, Mack Buzbee, O. E. Harrell, Robert Hicks, W. W. Wood, R. A. Burgess, Dee Grimes, Ross Ferrier, John Shannon, Herbert Patterson, Frank Iddings, F. E. Church, Ed Turner, S. M. Turner, Fred Hughes, Denzel Cox, Earl Mashburn, Len Sublett, John Crow, Miss Mobbie Sears and the hostesses.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

On Thursday, Dec. 12, the friends and neighbors of Mrs. C. B. Smith surprised her by appearing at the noon hour with well filled baskets of chicken and dressing and other holiday viands, it being the occasion of her 67th birthday. They also brought a huge birthday cake and topping it with its lighted candles, all sang "Happy Birthday," and many happy returns of the day were expressed by the following sincere friends who remained for a most pleasant day and departed singing "Your Friends are My Friends." Mrs. Smith's friends were Mrs. W. R. Williams of Little Rock, Ark., Mrs. J. R. and Myrtle Barnett, Mesdames Woozencraft, Moore, Patterson, H. C. Barnett, W. H. Barnett, Norris Barnett, Harry Barnett, Bob McDonald and William Smith, her son.

KING'S DAUGHTERS.

Mesdames Rainbolt, Russell, Sutphen, Curb, Pee and H. C. Williams were hostesses to the King's Daughters class on Wednesday afternoon of last week at the Methodist church.

Christmas decorations were artistically done in Yuletide colors. Mrs. Allday read the scripture of "The Babe in the Manger," bringing beautiful thoughts of the true ideals of celebrating the birth of the Christ Child.

A program of music and readings with a contest of Christmas menu was enjoyed. "Santa", in all his dignity, was there with a Christmas box of presents for the following: Mesdames Coats, Hutcheson, Durham, Cox, Estes, Patterson, Allday, Williams, Hale, McSpadden, visitors, Mesdames Vaughn, Crow, Latham, Miss Gwendolyn Vaughn, and the hostesses.

YOUNG PEOPLE ENTERTAINED.

Members of the young people's class of the First Methodist church were entertained at a Christmas party Friday night at the home of Miss Mary Collins.

For the festivity the Collins home was gay with holiday decorations. Playing of novelty games, singing of carols and exchanging of gifts provided entertainment for the evening.

A plate consisting of sandwiches, fruit cake, mints and coffee with miniature candles as favors was served to the members.

A box was filled with toys that were brought by the class members, and it will be delivered to some family on Christmas Eve.

The Annual this year contains an individual picture of every student in Merkel High school, plus many added attractions. Be sure to get yours. Subscribe now.

churches will unite at the Methodist church at 7:15 p. m.

R. A. Walker, Pastor.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Special Christmas program Sunday evening at 7:15. BTS at 6:15 p. m. Sunday. WMU at 3 o'clock Monday.

ALATHEAN CLASS.

Class in action—What should best characterize a Bible class on Sunday morning and throughout the week—in action; doing things; accomplishing something. So come, find and fill your place; be you an officer or teacher, there is that place for you. If you are not in any Sunday School, then come and worship with us. All are welcome.

Class President.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Bible study 10 a. m. Lord's day, preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. by Brother A. J. Rollins, young people's program 6 p. m.

A young preacher from A. C. C. will preach Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock.

The Elders.

NORTHSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.

A preacher from Abilene will probably fill the pulpit of the Northside Baptist church Sunday. We invite every one to attend.

Prayer meeting Wednesday evening 7:15. Bible School Sunday 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m.

NAZARENE CHURCH.

Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. NYPS 6:50 and preaching 7:30 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock. The Sunday School will have a Christmas tree Saturday night, and all are invited.

We had 42 in Sunday School last Sunday. Don't forget the revival starts Jan. 1.

R. T. Smith, Pastor.

The 1936 Texas Centennial Annual makes a wonderful Christmas present. Buy yours now!

QUEEN THEATRE

Merkel, Texas

"Showing the Pick of the Pictures"

Friday-Saturday

"The Cowboy Millionaire"
With George O'Brien and Final Chapter "Miracle Rider"
Two-Reel Comedy "Hayseed Romance"

SPECIAL NOTICE

FREE—FREE
Christmas Show for the Kiddies will be given Saturday at 10 a. m. FREE CANDY for the children. Be sure to attend.

Saturday Night Preview 11 P. M.

Monday and Tuesday
Shirley Temple in
"CURLY TOP"
Comedies, "Foxy Fox" and "Life of the Party"

Tuesday Night Preview 11 P. M.

Wednesday Mat. 2 P. M.
and Night
Kathryn Hepburn and Fred McMurray in
"ALICE ADAMS"
Comedy, "The Rag Doll"

Thursday

"SHANGHAI"
With Charles Boyer and Loretta Young
Also Comedies

Don't Forget Thursday Night

FLOWERS

For ALL OCCASIONS

MISSIE'S FLORAL SHOP

PERSONALS

Bob Sheppard, of Fort Worth, was a visitor the first of the week with the Sheppard family here.

Mrs. E. E. Tankersley and three children of Fort Worth are here for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker, and will remain over Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Doss Sheppard and daughter, Miss Marian, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sheppard and daughter, Miss Modene, of Dallas, were week-end guests with their mother, Mrs. S. W. Sheppard, and other relatives.

Mrs. L. A. Dunn and family of Southland were week-end guests in the home of her son, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Dunn. Little Tommy Scott Goolsby, a niece of Mr. Dunn, will remain with them through the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Lang and children of Jayton were week-end guests of Mrs. Lang's brother, Manager S. P. Nesmith of the Queen theatre and Mrs. Nesmith. They were accompanied by a brother of Mr. Lang, Herbert Lang, of Whittier, Calif.

Mrs. Sie Hamm and children have returned from a visit to Baird and Albany. At the former place they visited her husband, who is now employed with the Holmes Drug company there, while in Albany they visited her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Echols.

Upon receipt of news that his son-in-law, Dan Rhodes, was critically ill with pneumonia, R. C. Reagh left Wednesday morning for Overton to be with him and his family. Another son-in-law, Dewey Turner, accompanied by Jimmy Brooks, both of Overton, drove here after Mr. Reagh.

CARD OF THANKS.

We express our thanks to our pastor and friends who came to our home and spoke words of sympathy in the passing away of our daughter and sister.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter And Family.

For Your

Christmas Dinner

SPECIALS

FRUIT CAKES

POUND CAKES

LAYER CAKES

NUT CAKES

DATE CAKES

A VARIETY OF PIES

AND COOKIES

HOME MADE CANDIES

BREAD AND ROLLS

Dandy Bakery

Phone 56

At the

New R & R Texas Theatre

Sweetwater "West Texas' Finest"

Friday-Saturday

Sylvia Sidney in
"MARY BURNS, FUGITIVE"

Sunday-Monday

Dick Powell—Ruby Keeler in
"SHIPMATES FOREVER"

Tuesday-Wednesday

Jean Arthur—Herbert Marshall in
"IF YOU COULD ONLY COOK"

Thursday Only

"THE VIRGINIA JUDGE"
With Walter C. Kelly

R. & R. RITZ

Friday-Saturday
George O'Brien in
"WHISPERS SPEAKS"

30 West Texas Towns Represented at Circle District Convention

On Friday, Dec. 13, Mae Seago, Willie Douglass, Norma Patton, Margaret Turner, Nancy Polley, Blanche Carey, Claudia B. Barnett and Lila Rea, all of Merkel Grove No. 565, motored to Big Spring to attend the first West Texas district convention of the Supreme Forest Woodmen Circle held in the Goldsticker-Garner district.

This convention convened in the ball room of the Settles hotel, and Mrs. Tressie Goldsticker, presiding officer of the day, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock in the morning. Mrs. Etta Davidson, state manager, was named as its honor guest.

There were members in attendance from 30 West Texas towns and the following drill teams took an active part in the meeting: Roby drill team presented the national and state officers; Big Spring, the flag; Merkel, assisted by Trent officers, the initiation; Big Spring, assisted by Lila Rea, guardian of Merkel Grove, the junior graduation; the floor work and fancy drills were put on by the Big Spring, Trent, Roby and Sweetwater drill teams.

The purpose of the meeting was to organize a G and G convention, which will meet every six months. The 18 district officers named by the nominating committee were installed by Mrs. Letha Miller of Fort Worth, state

president, and will hold their respective offices until another district convention gathers. Registration, resolution and by-laws committees were appointed and reports from each committee given. The officers from Trent Grove were awarded proficiency certificates. Merkel Grove was honored by having three members named as district officers: Norma Patton, district musician; Mae Seago, district inner sentinel, and Margaret Turner, district auditor.

Mrs. Jannie B. Garner was toastmistress at the 12:15 luncheon given at the Settles hotel. Mrs. Beatrice Reeves of Trent Grove gave a toast complimenting the 28th anniversary of Big Spring Grove No. 663, and vocal solo. "Smiling Through," rendered by Mrs. Otera Green of Big Spring.

The evening meeting was opened which was followed by a dance.

The 1936 Texas Centennial Annual are the best ever put out by Merkel High school. Buy one.

Appointment of Caleb W. Re Abilene merchant, as supervisor in even counties for the forthcoming United States business census was announced by Secretary of Commerce Daniel C. Roper.

Complete line of office supplies Mail office.

Adding machine rolls at Merkel Mail office.

Christmas FOOD SPECIALS

Nice and Crisp Lettuce, head ... 5c	Large Yellow Fruit Bananas, doz. ... 15c
Fresh Dug N. Potatoes, lb. ... 5c	Med. Size Delicious Apples, dozen ... 15c
Large Bunches Carrots, ... 5c	Med. Size Oranges, doz. ... 25c
Extra Fancy Tomatoes, 2 lbs. 25c	Fresh, Large Size Coconuts, 3 for 25c
Large Jumbo Celery, stalk ... 20c	Med. Size Soft Shell Pecans, 2 lbs. ... 25c

GREEN BEANS, extra nice, pound 10c

EXTRA NICE ASSORTMENTS OF XMAS FRUITS, NUTS, CANDIES AND ETC.

FOLGER'S COFFEE, 2 lb. can 59c

Marshmallows

Angelus

Lb. pkg. 20c

CANDY

Fancy Xmas Mixed

Lb. 15c

STICK CANDY Peanut Butter or Pure Sugar Stick, lb. pkg. 20c

ELFOOD BEANS & PEAS, 3 cans 25c

CRACKERS

A-1 Saltines

2 lb. box 19c

PEANUT BUTT

A Good One

2 lb. qt. jar 29c

SWEET MILK, BUTTER MILK, WHIPPING CREAM AND FANCY CURED MEATS OF ALL KINDS.

PEARS Fancy grade, packed in Heavy Syrup, No. 2 1-2 2 FOR 45c

Tomato Juice, 2 for 15c

Cake Flour, pkg. 33c

Pork & Beans, 16 oz. 5c

Soap Flakes, 5 lbs. 35c

Gelatine Dessert 5c

Oats, 3 lb. pkg. 19c

Sunbrite Cleanser 5c

Gold Dust, lge. size 19c

PEACHES Fancy Grade, packed in Heavy Syrup, No. 2 1-2 2 FOR 35c

Complete asst. of Xmas packages of TOBACCOS, CIGARS, CIGARETTES, E

ELFOOD SALAD DRESSING, qt. jar

ELI CASE & SON

Groceries, Fresh Produce, Feeds

Phone 234 Prompt Ser

VOL. 4
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State Relief of Un Date.

Austin, playables rolls of this week close all files Jan. by Adam Johnson made aft unemployment for various the Work and other public work Limited able, it w at which t will have organizati Countie by Dec. 20 be used a of the re mated to b mailed the state. The stat trict offic steps will sonnel for tions by 3, \$375,000 t Unempl able to tal at home, work beca terfering t physical h have estim households classificati of an avei for unemp located to t 1936, after become the munities ir said, unles are made April 1.

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