

Scoop

THE MERKEL MAIL

IN THE FRIENDLY TOWN

VOL. 66.—No. 10.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1955.

On the Broadway
of America

5c A COPY

BADGERS DISTRICT CHAMPS

Everyone is feeling better after the good fellow above blessed us with much needed rains recently. We only hope that more will come this month, making it possible for the crops to get a good start this season. It was sorta irony last week that some areas got as much as 2.50 to 6 inches of rain, while others right here in the vicinity got only a half inch or so.

The Lions club, custodians of the Community Center, will seek the approval of other clubs in town to get permission to make certain changes for the Community center when it is used. For many months now the Lions have footed most of the bills, and have spent a lot of money, and now they are asking that other clubs and persons using the building help defray the expenses which pile up each year. We believe that most everyone will be willing to pay a nominal fee for use of the building, as it takes money to keep it up and keep up the repairs.

Watch Coach Tommy Ellis' baseballers! They'll make Merkel pretty proud Saturday night when they meet Childress in a playoff game in Merkel. Plan now to get out and see this high school classic. Merkel has fared pretty well this year, leading in literary events, basketball and baseball and did more than hold its own in football. With a new plant coming up, Merkel will have a school system next year that she can be even more proud than we are this year.

Jack Miller the Chevrolet man sorta doubts our fishing ability, but we didn't get a chance to tell him about the crappie that broke our anchor chair when it struck. Floyd Green says that trout fishing is excellent now, but we didn't see the 57 catfish he was talking about.

Graduation Exercise Set for Friday at 8



DR. HAROLD G. COOK
Commencement Speaker



PAKA NEWBY
Valedictorian



MARY ROBBINS
Salutatorian

Merkel schools ring down another year with commencement exercises Friday night.

Students will have something to look forward to, however, with the construction of several new buildings during the year.

The baccalaureate was held last

Sunday in the Auditorium with Minister E. R. Watson delivering the sermon. Rev. H. S. Earp presented the invocation and Rev. Sam Tullock gave the benediction.

Mrs. Edwin Read, violinist, and Mrs. Comer Haynes, pianist, presented the recessional and processional for both the baccalaureate and the commencement exercises.

Dr. Harold Cook, president of McMurry college at Abilene, will deliver the commencement address.

Mary Robbins will give the salutatory address, and Paka Newby will present the valedictory entitled "Youth Seeks A New Working Principle." "Thrill of an Idea" is the title of the salutatory. Invocation will be by Rev. Aubrey White and benediction by Rev. John Ferguson.

Supt. Mack Fisher will introduce the speaker and Edwin Read, principal, will present special awards and scholarships.

Honor students are Paka Newby, valedictorian, and Mary Robbins salutatorian.

Miss Newby is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Newby here. Her average for two years is 94.66. Miss Robbins has an average of 93.16. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Robbins of Route 3, Merkel.

The senior class roll consists of the following: Letha Ann Baker, Freddie Lee Boone, Kenneth Richard Collier, Britta Kay Denton, Jimmy Wayne Doan, Imogene Dye, Billy Allen Fisher, Billy Mack Gilbert, Gwendola LaVerne Hagar, Gene Hal Hargrove.

Mary Ellen Harris, Carroll Elton Hays, Jackie Hogan, William Ray Horton, Ila Jeanne Irvin, Roberta Kay James, Phyllis Jean Kilpatrick, Grady Knight, Patsy Melton, Nadine Laverne Middlebrook, Kenneth Boyce Moore.

James Erall O'Brien, Paka Deloris Newby, Patricia Ann Palmier, Glenda Ann Pangle, Iva Raedeen Perry, Glenda Lue Petty, Mary Elizabeth Robbins, Eddie Glenn Sandusky, Samuel Payton Scott, Ruby Emma Stephan, and Gloria Annette Teaff.

Competes In California Races

Doyle Jones, University of Houston sprinter, who last week competed in the Missouri Valley track meet at Tulsa, joins his teammates this week for a trek to California where they will compete in the star-spangled Coliseum relays Friday night.

Jones, enroute back to Houston, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Odda Jones Sunday.

At Tulsa, Jones placed fourth in the 100-yard dash won by Larry McBride of Houston in 9.7 seconds. He also placed third in the 220-yard dash, which was won by J. W. Mashburn, Oklahoma A. and M. star, in 21.1 seconds. In the 220 dash, Houston runners placed second, third and fourth.

Late June Date Set For Turning On Water Mains

Thirty five members of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce met Tuesday evening in the Community center to discuss the coming celebration designed to announce the coming of water through the pipeline to Abilene.

Mayor Fred Starbuck told the group that the expected completion date of the pipe line is late in June. Plans were made for a Queen's contest and election for a Water Festival Queen for the day of Celebration. The Queen chosen will receive a \$100 scholarship to the school of her choice. The Queen's show is slated as an afternoon event in which the Queens will be interviewed and give a special part on the program.

A barbecue dinner will be served at six o'clock. Plans and special arrangements for the dinner are being made by a committee headed by Earl Hughes, local manager of the West Texas Utilities Co.

An Amateur contest will furnish the entertainment of the evening. \$100 in prizes will be given to the winners of the amateur contest. All neighboring towns will be invited to be represented by their choice of Queen and amateur.

President David Gamble of the Chamber of Commerce gave a report of activities of the chamber stating that the membership committee had been very active and is doing a very good job of membership organization. Report of the retail trade extension committee is giving emphasis on the advantages of Merkel as a shopping center. This committee is outlining a special trades day program to be announced soon. This group is also working on a retail trade survey that is designed to show the needs of Merkel as well as the advantages.

The Industrial development committee is making a survey that is recommended by the Texas Bank and Trust Co. of Dallas for use in industrial development. This is a very complete survey that will show the resources of this entire trade territory.

The housing committee report is that plans for improving the housing facilities in Merkel are progressing nicely and in the near future expects a housing development to start. This committee is making a survey of the rental property in town and expects to keep a permanent file on all rooms and apartments that are for rent. The meeting adjourned at nine o'clock.

The following people have subscribed to The Merkel Mail in the past week: B. H. Stallo, Rt. 4. Mrs. J. R. Walling, Rt. 2. A. V. Dick, 1420 N. 1st. L. P. Halbrooks, Rt. 1, Trent. Mrs. Mabel Dorton, 4th & Ash. Bill Stuts. Mrs. J. O. Armstrong, 202 El Paso. A. B. Patterson. Dale Parker, Rt. 3. Mrs. N. D. Cobb 301 Lamar. H. G. Miles, Rt. 4. G. C. Gilbert. Mrs. Lula Bray, Tempe, Ariz.

Honor Roll

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Hospital Notes

Admissions to the Sadler hospital last week were: John B. Hughes Mrs. Pinky Sypret Helen Conley Mrs. Bill Patterson Mrs. R. H. Connell Mrs. Johnny Jacobs Leo Harris Mrs. Etta Witcher Mrs. N. B. Coughran, Trent Mrs. Jerry Gardner, Abilene Guy Sanders, Beaumont John Aiken Odell Freeman, Trent Charles Ambrose, Trent Mrs. Ted Lehrman, Abilene Mrs. T. R. Smith, Abilene Mrs. Frances Frederickson D. T. Stroud

CHILDRESS NEXT SATURDAY NITE

With Robert McLeod pitching perfect ball, allowing no hits, Coach Tommy Ellis' Badgers romped over Rotan 8-1 Saturday night here and won the 5-A District championship.

Merkel will play the Childress Bobcats, winner of 6-A District, for the bi-district championship. The winner of the bi-district will play the winner of the Alpine-Pecos playoff for the regional championship, which ends the season.

Only 24 men faced Robert last

Saturday night in seven innings. He allowed three walks and struck out 10 men.

Gail O'Brien caught and smacked out two hits with four times at bat.

Rotan batted first. Three men faced Robert and closed their part of the first inning.

Terry O'Brien walked and scored when Kermit Rutledge smashed a triple. Kermit came in on Robert's single. Robert scored when outfielders erred on ball.

Community Center Rules and Rates Are Now Proposed

New rules and rates have been proposed for the Community Center by the Lions Club subject to the approval of all the clubs and organizations that use the building. This action was taken Tuesday at the regular meeting of the club, President Isadore Mellinger presiding.

A sumptuous dinner was served by the Fortnightly Study Club. There was the main delicious dish of chicken a la Maryland with mushrooms, whole green beans, new potatoes and chives, hot buns, butter, iced tea and tasty devil food cake topped with chocolate icing.

Secretary Leon Walker made the report for the committee that was appointed to propose rules and rates for the center building. The committee was composed of all the incoming officers. The report, subject to the approval of all the clubs, including the Lions, follows:

1. To set up a Community Center fund.
2. To set scale of charges: reunion \$10, kitchen for banquet \$7.50, for any other use \$5.
3. To write letter to all organizations to get their approval to begin charges July 1.
4. Building was decided to trustees of the Community Center. Those living here now are Dr. W. T. Sadler, Clyde Bartlett and Booth Warren. Two others were to be appointed to replace those who have left the city.
5. Anyone using Community Center to pay for its use in advance.
6. Pantry to be under lock and key. Payment of extra fee to be required to get use of pantry and dishes.

It was stressed that everyone was to come under the proposed rulings and rates, including the Lions Club.

Dr. Sadler proposed that the matter of the trustees be reviewed and brought to the attention of the club. President Mellinger appointed him as head of a committee to look into the matter.

Jerry Robinson Trent, Graduates

Jerry Robinson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orvin Robinson, Trent, was graduated from Sam Houston State Teachers College at Huntsville, May 15.

He is an agriculture journalism major. During his senior year, Robinson was a member of Texas Omicron chapter of Alpha Chi, a national scholarship society, and president of the Baptist Student Union.

He is employed as news editor of the Bay City News.

Guests who attended the graduation included Mr. and Mrs. Orvin Robinson, and Janie, Trent, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Robinson, Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Vickers and son David, Kennard, and Miss Shermie Vickers of Kennard.

IT'S A BOY!

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Huber, Anson at the Sadler Hospital.

BADGERS VS. CHILDRESS

The Merkel Badgers and the Childress Bobcats will battle for the bi-district championship here at 8 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday. The second game will be played at 3:30 p.m. Monday at Childress. If neither team has won two games the third game will be played at 8 p.m. Monday at Childress. The team winning two games is the bi-district champion.

The first Rotan man walked in the second inning and scored on error and fielder's choice. Five men faced Robert.

Chester Collinsworth singled. Terry and Phillip Pursley were safe on errors and Chester scored. George English cracked a double, bringing in Terry and Phillip. Score now stood 6-0.

In the third three Rotan men faced Robert.

Jerry Miller walked, stole second and scored on Freddie Boone's single.

Three Rotan men were up and down in the fourth inning. Merkel failed to score.

Three Rotan men and three Badgers were up and down in the fifth.

In the sixth three men faced Robert.

Phillip, George and Kermit walked. With the bases loaded Phillip scored on passed ball. The score was now 8-1.

The first man for Rotan walked in the seventh and was the first runner since the second inning for Rotan. Robert struck out two men and the third man was out on a grounded to Terry. The runner died on second.

It took eight innings to break tie last Friday afternoon at Colorado City when the Badgers won 9-7.

Phillip Pursley pitched a creditable game as he was just recovering from a motorcycle accident and his hands were still sore. He gave seven hits, allowing only one hit in the last four innings.

Terry, Phillip, Kermit and Gail all collected two hits each with both of Kermit's being home runs — the last one bringing in two runners besides himself.

Colorado City led 7-2 in the fourth inning, being ahead all that time. The Badgers tied them with two runs in the fifth and three in the sixth. Nobody made a run for either side in the seventh.

Then came the eighth inning. Terry doubled as an opener. Kermit walked after two were out. Both runners scored on Robert's double. Colorado City failed to score.

Little League To Play Next Tuesday

The Little League baseball season will open in Merkel next Tuesday with a pair of games.

Hodge-Palmer will play the Bankers and the second game will be between the Starpats and the Willies.

Then on Thursday the Starpats will play the Bankers and the Willies will meet the Hodge-Palmer team.

About 60 boys are participating this year.

DURANS ARE PARENTS

Mr. and Mrs. John Duran are the parents of a son born at Sadler Hospital.

RAINS BRING NEW HOPE FOR FARMERS; PLANTING STARTED

An additional 1.50 inches of rainfall in Merkel and vicinity Monday night brought new hope to farmers in the area, and made it possible for most farmers to go ahead and plant fall crops.

Rains last week were so spotted that some areas in the northeast, north and southeast parts of the Merkel territory did not get enough moisture to plant crops.

Tuesday night's thunderstorms in the area left only a trace of moisture in Merkel.

But at Noodle and vicinity, it was reported a heavy shower fell, soaking up more moisture into the soil.

A storm-like rain blew into Merkel about 2:35 Wednesday afternoon, and dumped more than an inch of rain in a short time. It rained so hard at times that visibility was cut to less than 100 yards.

However, most farm observers agreed that Monday night's rains gave more impetus to conditions, and probably would allow farmers to plant row crops, including cotton.

With little or no hope for a wheat crop, due to previous drought conditions, farmers turned new hope to spring rains, hoping that they would be enough to get crops started growing.

Milo, maize, sudan and other crops were expected to be planted, in addition to cotton.

Folks in the Trent area, and some places west and south of Merkel were able to get into the fields last week, following the rains.

A heavy-funnel like cloud which hovered east of Merkel Monday night was cause for some alarm, and some residents were ready to take to the cellars. However it developed that only a heavy downpour, with some hail followed.

One resident of Merkel reported one large hail stone about the size of a tennis ball, which bounced off his car, doing little damage. Most of the hail, however, was small.

The downpour Monday night started about 6:30 and continued for two hours.

It gave new life to gardens and flowers in the area.

The rainfall in Merkel reached 4 inches total for this month.

In some areas northwest of Merkel, as much as six inches of rain was recorded last week.

Harwood's Home Is In Path of Flood

Mrs. Lena King, employe of the Nook Cafe, was called to Happy Valley community Tuesday after her daughter's home was ravished by flood waters.

Her daughter, Mrs. J. C. Harwood and Mr. Harwood were in the home when the heavy downpour caused flood waters to back up into the house about 8 inches deep.

"It was just a flash flood," Mrs. King reported upon her return.

She said many of the homes in the area were flooded.

Firemen Put Out Blaze On Truck

Firemen answered a call near the Couden station Saturday afternoon when a truck from Abilene caught on fire.

The firemen were there so quickly that there was little damage to the big semi-trailer. A backfire from a leaky gas tank was blamed for the fire.

Mrs. Earl Stephens, Trent, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Cox Wednesday.

This Happened in Merkel Forty Years Ago

TAKEN FROM THE 1915 FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Fitts left Tuesday afternoon for San Francisco. They will be away about six weeks and will visit in Los Angeles, San Diego, El Paso and other points before returning.

Charlie and Geo. Weir returned to Merkel last week from Sapulpa, Okla., where they attended the annual roping contest on May 21 and 22. Out of the two days contests the Weir brothers were first each day.

Ernest Counts, who has been in Merkel during the past three

weeks visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Counts, left Monday morning for Seattle, where he will make his home in the future. He was accompanied as far as El Paso by his sister, Mrs. Victor Harris, and together they will visit relatives in the Pass City.

Merkel voters, going to the polls Tuesday in the election for voting on the issuance of bonds to the amount of \$1800.00, voted for 115 for and 33 against the issuance of bonds.

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to 9:30 P. M.

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and Welding Shop**
Acetylene and Electric Welding
Completely Equipped
Come to Us With Your
Machinery Troubles
Phone 91 MERKEL

Washington

"As It
Looks
From
Here"

OMAR BURLISON
Congressman
17th District



The increase of crime in the United States should be of vital concern to every citizen. Especially alarming is the fact that young persons under 18 years of age represented 57.6% of all arrests in 1954 for auto theft, 49% of all arrests for burglary, and 43.6% of the larceny. It is significant that crime among young people 17 and under increased some 2.3%, while arrests of these 18 and over decreased 1.9% in 1954.

As a former agent of the FBI, I am always particularly interested in the annual report of J. Edgar Hoover, knowing that the figures given are pretty accurate. Major crimes in the United States were up 5%, which is a new high. The increase represents a rise in the crime rate for the seventh straight year. Since 1950, crime has increased 26.7%, which is almost four times as fast as the population, which is up only 7% during the same period. City crimes were up 4% in 1954 and have increased 44.2% above pre-World War II average. Rural crime climbed 8.3%.

It is interesting to note that murder and criminal assaults are higher in warm weather. Robbery, burglary, and thefts increase in the cooler months. More than two years ago in speeches back home, I pointed out that a great dilemma existed as to the concept of our national defense. The situation facing defense planners was whether we should depend on conventional weapons similar to those used in World War II, but improved, or whether we would concentrate on air power and nuclear implements of war. To do both would practically require a double expenditure. The decision has now been fairly well resolved. United States preparedness for war is based upon President Eisenhower's concept of "massive capability to strike back." In other words, it places military emphasis on air power and guided missiles. Ground forces and armored groups are to be only strong enough to meet the impact of an initial attack through Germany and to deal with "little wars."

It is not easy to plan the civilian end for an emergency during peacetime. It is difficult to even think about it, but it certainly must be done. A story is going around of the three Russians in a labor prison in Siberia. It seems they finally found themselves in a place where they dared to converse. The first one asked the second why he was sent to prison. He replied that he was supposed to have been sympathetic to Malenkov. The second then asked the first why he was there. He answered that he was supposed to have been plotting against Malenkov. The first and second then asked the third what he was in for. He replied that he was Malenkov. It is said that a person never misses what he has never become accustomed to having. In the last two decades, people of this country have gotten used to a great many things, and it has changed our economic status. We all have new interests, new culture, new hopes, new social consciousness, as well as new wants. We are no longer satisfied with the bare necessities of life.

Walter C. Ayers, addressing an association of national advertisers at Hot Springs, Ark., said: "They have escaped to the promised land - a land filled with wonderful things to enhance life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. A land overflowing with travel, power steering and brakes, air conditioning, color television, boats, dishwashers, picture windows, movie cameras, clothes dryers, contour sheets, electric blankets, and thousands of other marvelous contributions to comfort, convenience, sport and good living."

GOOD LUCK

The entire town joins your relatives and friends in wishing you well.

WOOZY'S CAFE

Get going Graduates



WE'RE PULLING FOR YOU
AND PROUD OF YOUR
ACHIEVEMENTS.

Modern Beauty Shop

congratulations

We join your many friends in saluting this achievement.

CLASS OF 1955

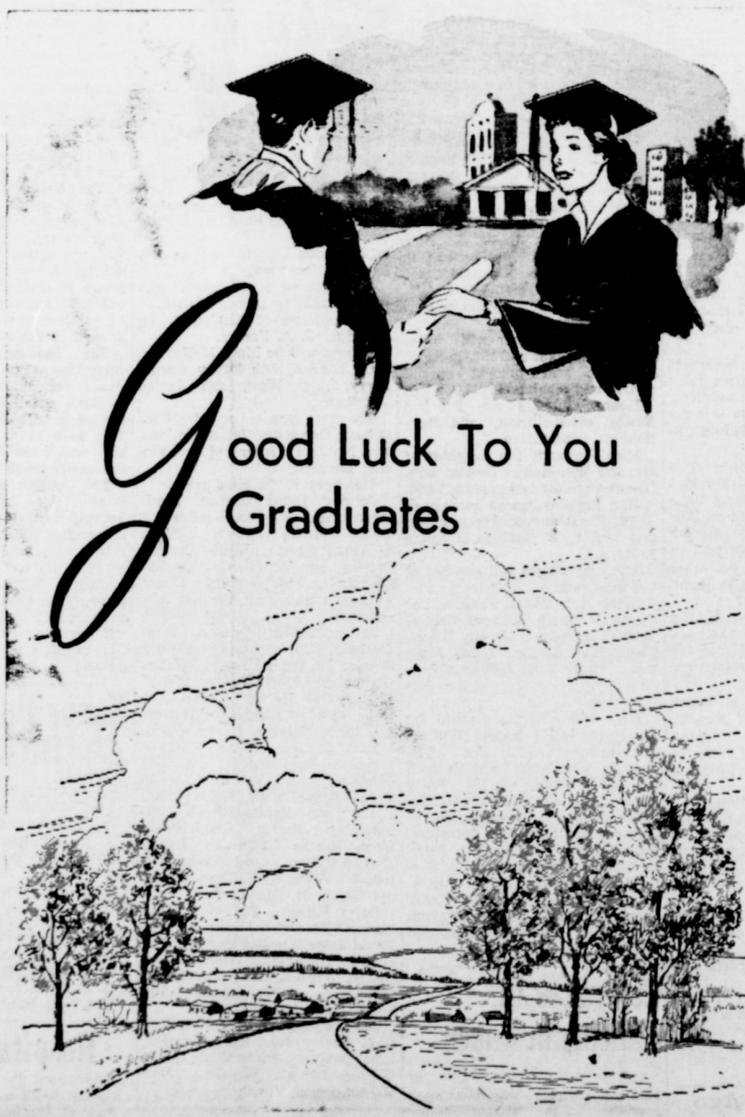
BURTON-LINGO CO.

You've Done It

CLASS OF 1955

We join your family and our town in congratulating you.

MERKEL FARM MACHINERY



Good Luck To You Graduates

We Reserve the right to Limit Quantities and to refuse to sell to dealers.

Carson Grocery & Market
213 EDWARDS ST. — PHONE 250 — ONE HOUR NEXT TO QUEEN —
Free Delivery Free Parking
ON \$3.00 OR MORE CROSS STREET
MON., WED. and FRI. at 4:00 WE GIVE PREMIUMS

you're Tops

class of 1955

We are proud of you. Good luck!

Lemens Butane & Appliance

Success to You

And best wishes for the years ahead.

1955 Grads

Mack's Cleaners

GOOD LUCK

In your search for happiness and success.

Ben Franklin's Store

CLASS OF 1955

Our congratulations and best wishes

OAK STREET SERVICE STATION

LEGAL NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS
To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas—Greeting:
You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas,

the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
To: Fred Gann, Plaintiff,
Greeting:
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days from the date of the two days of this citation, same being the 13th day of June A. D. 1955, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 25 day of April A. D. 1955, in this cause, numbered 20,505-A in the docket of said court and styled Cora Etta Gann, Plaintiff, vs. Fred Gann, Defendant.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Plaintiff and defendant were married on or about February 28, 1952 and Plaintiff and Defendant separated on or about April 21, 1952. Plaintiff sues for annulment on ground of incompatibility, as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.
If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this 25 day of April A. D. 1955.
(SEAL)

Attest: R. H. Ross Clerk,
42nd District Court
Taylor County, Texas
By C. Bower, Deputy.
Adv. — May 6, 13, 20, 27.

(Published in The Merkel Mail May 20, 27, and June 3, 1955)
ADVERTISEMENT OF LIMITED PARTNERSHIP
We, the subscribers, have this day entered into limited partnership agreeably to the provision of the Revised Statutes relating to limited partnerships; and do hereby certify that the terms of our said partnership are as follows:

The name or firm under which the partnership is to be conducted is Guin Oil Company, Ltd.
The general nature of the business to be transacted is exploring, drilling and producing oil and oil and gas products.
The names of all the general and special partners interested therein, distinguishing which are general and which are special partners, and their respective places of residence, follows:
C. S. Guin, general partner, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.
Maude M. Guin, general partner, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.
Walter C. Guin, special partner, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.
Tom A. Guin, special partner, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.
Dorothy M. Ham, special partner, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas.
Ada L. Leary, special partner, Midland, Midland County, Texas.

The amount of capital which each special partner has contributed to the common stock is \$10,000 in property situated in Sal-lahan County, Texas.
The period at which the partnership is to commence is the 1st day of April, 1955, and the period at which it is to terminate is the 31st day of March, 1980.
C. S. GUIN
MAUDE M. GUIN
General Partner s. 8G xa
GENERAL PARTNERS.
WALTER C. GUIN
TOM A. GUIN
DOROTHY M. HAM
ADA L. LEARY
SPECIAL PARTNERS.

To be published once a week for 3 weeks, in The Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in the City of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas.
Mrs. Chester Hutcheson, County Clerk
Taylor County, Texas
By Inez Williams Deputy
Adv.

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Kenney, considered as one of the nation's top young choral conductors, is a graduate of Kansas State College, Emporia, Kan., and obtained his master of music degree from Southern Methodist University.
While at SMU he received Mu Phi award for outstanding graduate work, served as freshman music instructor, assistant choir director, and assistant director of the Choral Union.
Jack Dean, assistant dean of the H-SU School of Music said, "We are fortunate in securing the services of such an outstanding leader and a man who is recognized not only here in Abilene, but throughout the nation."
Kenney is director of music at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Abilene.

Maude M. Guin, general partner, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas.
Walter C. Guin, special partner, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.
Tom A. Guin, special partner, Big Spring, Howard County, Texas.
Dorothy M. Ham, special partner, Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas.
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C. S. GUIN
MAUDE M. GUIN
General Partner s. 8G xa
GENERAL PARTNERS.
WALTER C. GUIN
TOM A. GUIN
DOROTHY M. HAM
ADA L. LEARY
SPECIAL PARTNERS.

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THOMPSON REUNION ATTENDED BY MANY

Many persons attended the Thompson family reunion at the Community center Sunday, honoring D. R. Thompson of Lubbock. Sons and daughters who were present were Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Thompson, Fort Worth; Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Thompson, Spur, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Thompson, Avenal, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Lane, Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wallis, Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Fox, Merkel; and the following grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. J. D.

Fox and boys, Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Andrews and family, Anson, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Thompson and son, Fort Worth, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Walker and family, Lubbock and Mrs. Lanell Russell and son of Fort Worth. Friends who were with the family for a lively dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sledge and son, Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Mathews and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Finch, all of Merkel. During the afternoon a large group of friends came by for open house.

KEEP GOING, GRADS



The world will ever need young ideas and hopes.

Bill's Garden Shop

GREETINGS



WE OFFER OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES OF

Perry's Conoco Station

Get going Graduates



WE'RE PULLING FOR YOU AND PROUD OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS.

White Auto Store

HAIR GLAMOUR
No Head too difficult
Hair Cutting and Styling
4-Way Hair Shaping
NORMA'S
BEAUTY SHOP
PHONE 19



MAGGIE MCKENZIE, popular radio star of KGNC says, "Every woman knows light Karo is best for cooking... and on the table..."

it's Karo for me, the best-tasting waffle syrup of 'em all"

Yes, indeed... biscuits go like hot cakes when you pour on plenty of delicious Karo waffle syrup. There's nothing like it for good eating. Satisfyin' flavor. So rich it stands right up on top of biscuits (keeps 'em light and fluffy). Keep Karo on your table morning, noon and night... it tops anything!

Ask your grocer for Karo waffle syrup, in pints and quarts

SEE US FOR RADIO and TV SERVICE
Badger Chevrolet

to you we say

well done

May the future fulfill your many dreams.

Purser's Humble Service Station

RIDIN' HIGH...

YEARS OF EFFORT HAVE BEEN REWARDED. BEST WISHES

D & D Gulf Service Station

KEY TO SUCCESS

YOUR DIPLOMA IS THE KEY TO FUTURE SUCCESS

Merkel Ice Co.

Magnificently alive!

Alive in looks

Only car in its field with Body by Fisher

You can't get any more life in automobile styling than Chevrolet's "Body by Fisher." Those three words say all the nice, reassuring things you can say about automobile bodies. "Body by Fisher" is found in many of America's most luxurious cars.

Alive in power

A new V8 and two new Sixes reach new highs in horsepower and performance

You certainly want life in your engine. And with the choice of power-thrillers that Chevrolet offers you this year, you've got what it takes to carry you into a whole new world of motoring confidence and pleasure. How about trying the V8 soon?

Alive in features

Never found on a car of Chevrolet's price before

Anti-dive braking that means heads-up stopping. 12-volt electrical system delivers twice the punch. Ball-Race steering makes steering and parking easier. But try these things for yourself. Let us arrange a demonstration soon.

Chevrolet



SALES LEADER FOR 19 STRAIGHT YEARS

Combine your new Chevrolet purchase with your vacation plans! Order a new Chevrolet through us, then pick it up at the plant in Flint, Michigan, see Chevrolet's built, if you like, and drive yours home. Chances are, you'll save a substantial share of your vacation travel costs!

BADGER CHEVROLET COMPANY

Sterling Hayden Comes to Queen

Sterling Hayden stars as a deputy United States marshal, relentlessly on the trail of a ruthless killer, in "Shotgun," filmed in Technicolor in the incomparably beautiful mountain country of central Arizona, now playing at the Queen theatre Sunday and Monday. Co-starred with Hayden are Yvonne De Carlo and Zachary Scott.

Miss DeCarlo is a fiery half-breed girl whom Hayden meets on the trail just after she has escaped from a ravaging band of Apache Indians. Circumstances force them to travel together, much as a hunter would travel with a captured wildcat. They are joined as they travel by Scott, a pariah of the Old West, a man who makes his living by killing men for whom a "dead or alive" reward has been posted.

Featured in the Allied Artists picture are Angela Greene, Lane Chandler and Guy Prescott. The picture was produced by John C. Champion and was directed by Lesley Selander.

Nature's Primal Law Now On Film

The sole purpose of all life is survival, and on an elemental level, as depicted in Walt Disney's "The Living Desert," this purpose takes on stark realism which is at once dramatic and astonishing.

For the unbroken stretches of the Great American Desert are far from uninhabited. They teem with a lusty, pulsating vitality, and the film which comes to the Queen theatre on Friday & Saturday tells the story of many odd creatures.

Everything which lives in such a harsh country must, of necessity, be able to adjust to an inhospitable environment. From the

blazing flowers which spring to life after the violence of the mighty flash floods to the tiniest beetle, every living creature fights an unending battle

Gene and Fred Kelly Together In New Musical

Gene Kelly's legion of fans will have a chance to meet his brother, Fred Kelly, cinemawise, when they see M-G-M's star-studded color musical, "Deep in My Heart," inspired by the life and melodies of Broadway's famed composer, Sig-mund Romberg.

A highlight episode of the new picture, which is filled with Romberg song hits, is an act in which the two Kellys appear together for the first time on the screen to dance the comedy number, "I Love to Go Swimm'n' with Wimmin'."

Fred Kelly's appearance in "Deep in My Heart" is aligned with his former associations with the composer. It was Fred who staged and directed the musical numbers for Romberg's "My Romance" which was presented on Broadway. And it was he who was named by Romberg to stage a spectacular benefit on behalf of the Irvington-on-Hudson home for sick children the composer's favorite charity.

Clergy and lay delegates to the General Conference to be held at Minneapolis, Minn. and the South Central Jurisdiction Conference to be held in New Orleans, La., both in 1956, will be elected.

Conference preacher will be Dr. J. Wallace Hamilton known as the pastor of the Pasadena Community church in St. Petersburg, Fla. Each Sunday, his "drive-in church" congregation numbers in the thousands. Since the church itself cannot accommodate the crowds, many people sit on benches surrounding the building while others listen through the use of special electronic equipment in their parked cars. Dr. Hamilton travels annually to such audiences as Ocean Grove Chautauqua and

Methodists Plan Lubbock Meeting

Northwest Texas Methodist Conference delegates and visitors will gather in First Methodist church's new million and one-half dollar plant here for the forty-sixth annual session of the conference. Bishop William C. Martin of the Dallas-Fort Worth Area will be presiding during the session which will open Wednesday, May 25, at 10 a. m. and close with the reading of the appointments Sunday afternoon, May 29.

Major business items will include consideration of a building program for McMurry college, Abilene. Trustees of the college, which is owned and operated by the Northwest Texas and New Mexico Conferences, approved a building program late in 1954 which includes a girls dormitory and a classroom building with estimated costs of \$450,000 and \$375,000, respectively. Trustees are to have a breakfast meeting in Abilene on Monday, May 23.

Another year of laboratory work and field testing is planned for the spray, developed by Dowell, Inc., of Tulsa, a subsidiary of Dow Chemical Company. Initial tests in April reveal that a spray job needs a curing period of about three days. A one-and-a-half-inch rain that fell 12 hours after one test application did not damage the chemical and the rain water permeated the crust without difficulty.

Farmers now combat wind erosion by deep-plowing their land. This costs about 10 an acre and there is no assurance it will work for more than a month or so the

Silver Bay, and travels extensively from four to six months each year addressing lay and ministerial conferences and conventions. He is the author of "Ride The Wild Horses" and "Horns and Halos in Human Nature."

Dean Merrimon Cuninggim of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, will be the speaker for the annual all-college dinner.

Bishop Martin's devotional messages will be based on the theme, "Living in Two Worlds." His topics will include: "Material Reality and the Realm of the Spirit," "God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility," and "The Continuing Struggle and the Eternal Hope."

Farmers Will Benefit By Spray

The University of Texas Bureau of Business Research predicts Texas farmers will benefit from a new chemical spray that forms a hard, thin crust from loose soil particles, preventing wind erosion and allowing water to percolate through the crust.

Another year of laboratory work and field testing is planned for the spray, developed by Dowell, Inc., of Tulsa, a subsidiary of Dow Chemical Company. Initial tests in April reveal that a spray job needs a curing period of about three days. A one-and-a-half-inch rain that fell 12 hours after one test application did not damage the chemical and the rain water permeated the crust without difficulty.

Farmers now combat wind erosion by deep-plowing their land. This costs about 10 an acre and there is no assurance it will work for more than a month or so the

Bureau points out. The chemical spray also will cost \$10 an acre, but present indications are that it will be effective at least from one plowing to the next. The spray could be applied in mixture with fertilizers and weed-killers.

The Bureau of Business Research reported Texas farmers' cash income rose 5 per cent, \$17.3 million, in first-quarter comparisons between 1954 (\$328.6 million) and 1955 (\$345.9 million). Largest gains were in revenue from wheat, up 55 per cent, sheep and lambs, 35 per cent, corn, 34 per cent, and oats, 29 per cent.

LAND AT LARGENT PLACE
Tommy Windham, whose trial on a charge of statutory rape of a 15-year-old Abilene girl was set for May 20 in the District court at Lovington, New Mexico, and his attorney, Davis Scarborough, had a little trouble returning to Abilene last week, according to the Abilene Reporter-News. They were riding in Mr. Scarborough's plane, ran out of gas three miles north of here and landed on the Bill Largent place.

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	600-16	22.75	14.28
	710-15	27.60	17.26
	760-15	30.29	18.90
Nylon — Gtd. 30,000 Miles.			
	670-15	29.95	19.72

*PLUS FEDERAL AND STATE TAX
**PLUS TAX WITH OLD TIRE

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WHITE
Auto Store
THE HOME OF GREATER VALUES

Navy's John Ford Disciplines Army

It took a Navy man, Hollywood's John Ford, to teach the cadets at West Point that their strict discipline isn't as tough as it could be. While filming his Cinemascope production, "The Long Gray Line," the Columbia drama starring Tyrone Power and Maureen O'Hara at the Queen Theatre in color Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. The four-time Academy Award-winner drafted a company of cadets to re-enact a 1904 messhall scene.

The scene required the cadets to eat "square" meals, which meant sitting at rigid attention and lifting their forks from plate to mouth at ninety-degree angles. Worse, the scene required a number of re-takes while Tyrone Power played a newcomer to the Point, a civilian waiter bewildered by the cadets' rigid discipline.

With Power and Miss O'Hara in "The Long Gray Line" are stars Robert Francis, Donald Crisp, Ward Bond, Betsy Palmer and Phil Carey.

GOODMAN CLUB NEWS

The Goodman Home Demonstration club met at the home of Mrs. Walter Phillips at which time Miss Jimmie Lou Waincott, county agent, presented a program on "Add Color to Your Kitchen" in line with the kitchen improvement theme of the year.

In her talk she showed pictures of model kitchens in bright colors and samples of wall papers and covering and floor coverings as linoleum, plastic, tile, asphalt and rubber. She discussed the merits of each.

Mrs. Hosea Windham, president, presided. The finance committee reporter \$6.50 profit at the April family night.

Mrs. Frank Carter gave the council report. It was decided to have the opening event of the Goodman Community Center an event of National Home Demonstration Week and to invite the officials of the Trent School District to the pot-luck dinner.

A refreshment plate was served to the agent, 12 members and two children.

BEST REGARDS



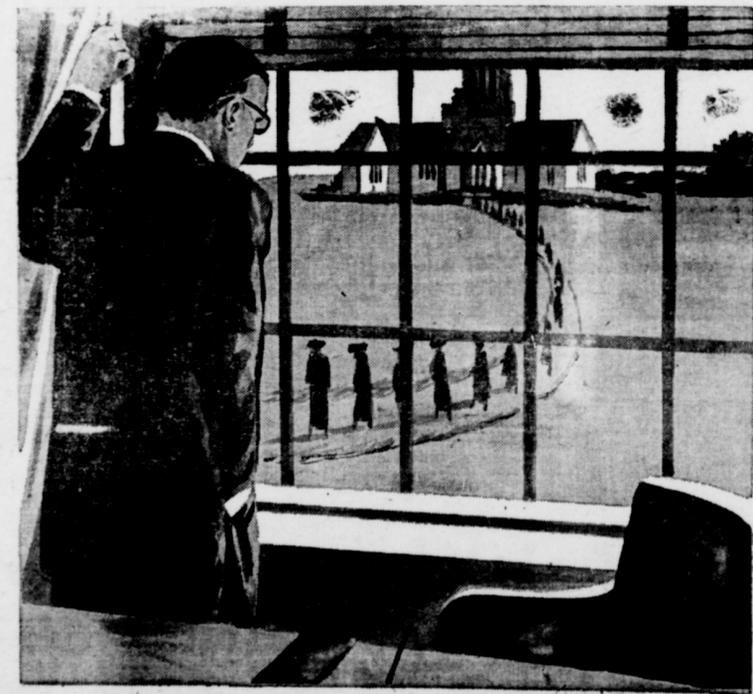
MAY THE FUTURE FULFILL ALL YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS FOR SUCCESS AND HAPPINESS.

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SALES - SERVICE - PARTS
SQUARE DEAL USED CARS - WE REPAIR and MAKE'S
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To greater things...

CLASS OF 1955

You have studied for success and unlimited achievement. Good luck!



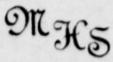
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Merkel High School Commencement Week PROGRAM



COMMENCEMENT
Cafeteria—Auditorium
Friday, May Twentieth
Nineteen Hundred Fifty-Five
Eight O' Clock P. M.

Processional Keats
 Mrs. Edwin Read, Violinist, Mrs. Comer Haynes, Pianist
 Invocation Rev. Aubrey White
 Salutatory Address, "Thrill of An Idea" Mary Robbins
 Music Senior Class
 Class President's Address, "The Exciting Atom" Bill Horton
 Music Girls' Octet
 Valedictory, "Youth Seeks A New Working Principle" Paka Newby
 Music Senior Class
 Introduction of Speaker Superintendent Mack Fisher
 Commencement Address Dr. Harold Cook, President
 McMurry College
 Presentation of Special Awards and Scholarships Prin. Edwin Read
 Presentation of Diplomas Mr. Mack Fisher
 Benediction Rev. John Ferguson
 Recessional Kern
 Audience will stand for the Processional but will remain seated for the Recessional.

CLASS ROLL

Letha Ann Baker	Gwendola LaVerne Hagar
Freddie Lee Boone	Grady Knight
Kenneth Richard Collier	Patsy Melton
Britta Kay Denton	Nadine Laverne Middlebrook
Jimmy Wayne Doan	Kenneth Boyce Moore
Imogene Dye	James Erall O'Brien
Billy Allen Fisher	Paka Deloris Newby
Billy Mack Gilbert	Patricia Ann Palmer
Gene Hal Hargrove	Glenda Anna Pangle
Mary Ellen Harris	Iva Raedeen Perry
Carroll Elton Hays	Glenda Lue Petty
Jackie Hogan	Mary Elizabeth Robbins
William Ray Horton	Eddie Glenn Sandusky
Ila Jeanne Irvin	Samuel Payton Scott
Roberta Kay James	Ruby Emma Stephan
Phyllis Jean Kilpatrick	Gloria Annette Teaff

CLASS MOTTO: "Not Finished, Just Begun"
CLASS FLOWER: Pink Roses
CLASS COLORS: Pink and Black



By PRICE DANIEL
U. S. Senator

Since returning to Congress in January, on numerous occasions we have urged the Department of Agriculture, congressional committee, and the Congress to take positive actions to remedy the hardships now being suffered by farmers in Texas and other States.

The business economy of the country is up, and prospects are bright for the future. On the other hand, farm income is down, and with reduced acreage allotments on cotton, rice and other crops and reduced support prices on grain sorghum and other products, farm prospects are not encouraging. This is especially true on the smaller farms which took far more than their share of this year's reduction in cotton acreage allotments.

Over 18,000 farms in Texas have cotton allotments of less than 5 acres.

Administration Waking Up

Most of the early efforts to obtain action to relieve hardship cases received little encouragement from the Administration and were finally defeated in the Congress. However, there were signs this past week that the President, the Department of Agriculture, and a majority of the members of Congress have awakened to the fact that drought, late freezes, and allotment hardships require attention—not only for the benefit of the farmers, but for the economic well-being of the country.

We could not leave this important city, so widely studied in our social studies, without seeing the Treaty Oak made famous by Stephen F. Austin. This mighty old tree, under which Austin made a boundary treaty with the Indians, stands with outspread limbs — a monarch to our state.

The return trip was via Buchanan Dam and Longhorn Cavern. These places of interest added another chapter to our book of knowledge gained on this trip.

May we say, in conclusion, "Thanks", to the Trent School Board and our teachers for making this trip possible. Much valuable information and knowledge was gained that we shall never forget!

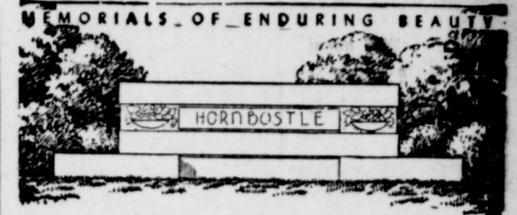
omy and welfare of the nation. There is no such thing as a sound and prosperous national economy without a sound and prosperous agricultural economy. Even though late, Washington officials show every indication of realizing that our pleas for more attention to farm problems were justified.

there lies an average capital investment of about \$14,000. This amount is four times the 1950 average. It does not include approximately \$5,000 per worker invested in houses, automobiles, household goods and savings. The report comes from agricultural economists of the USDA.—A.&M.

FOR U. S. FARMS

Behind each of the 8½ million farm operators, hired hands and family workers on U. S. farms

Some people seem to think clocks were made to enable them to tell just how late they'll be for appointments.



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CLASS of 1955

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ur wish to the graduates of 1955 is one of luck and the sincere hope that your future is nothing but SUCCESS and HAPPINESS

CAMPBELL'S GROCERY & MARKET



luck to you

May success crown your efforts in the days ahead.

1955

Boney Insurance Agency

the whole town wishes success



TO THE CLASS OF 1955

Your ability to succeed has been tested. Best wishes for the future.

MERKEL CO-OP STATION

Trent Student Tells of Trip To State Capital

By KAREN HOOD

We, the eighth grade of Trent Junior High School, made a tour of our beautiful capital city, Austin. We were especially interested in visiting the Legislature while it was in session.

On March 17, 1955, the entire class and our sponsors left for Austin, Texas. On arrival, a sight seeing tour was made of the four hundred and nine room building which boasts of eighteen acres of floor space.

The most exciting time of our whole trip was our visit in the House of Representatives. We were received by the Senate Chaplain and recognized by the Speaker of the House as Truitt Latimar's guests. We hope to have profited much from this visit when we reach our voting age. We understand more clearly now, since seeing these legislators at work, how our government is carried on.

More than government in action was to be seen. The Senate Chaplain directed us to the State Vault located underneath the capitol

lawn. Many details were explained concerning Texas' financial system.

The next place of great interest was the Supreme Court room. My, what a privilege to sit and view the chairs where men of great wisdom sit and mete out justice to all mankind. Mr. Townshen explained and answered many questions which we had studied in our civics class.

On leaving the capitol we went to the Governor's mansion. This magnificent old building with its beautiful furnishings gives a true Texan a feeling of joy and pride. The mansion is magnificent both inside and out.

Our next place of interest was the University of Texas. After tramping through its corridors and eating two good meals in the cafeteria, a few of us made quick decisions to spend our college years here.

A near-by interest was the museum. The whole place was very interesting and awe-inspiring. For most of us there were sights we had never seen before.

Our visit to the School of the Blind gave us a mixed feeling of sorrow and gratitude. How it humbled our hearts to see boys and girls of our own age living in complete darkness yet, receiving an education probably more thorough than ours. Truly, after seeing these blind children we re-

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MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED



Keep the spirit of the young. It will mean success.

B and D Garage

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SUCCESS TO YOU



1955 GRADUATES

We share your pride on this important occasion.

MERKEL TELEPHONE COMPANY
TOMMY ODUM, Manager.

SUCCESS TO THE CLASS OF

55



Well done! Best Wishes and good luck.

TEXACO SERVICE STATION



SUCCESS CLASS OF 1955

You have it within reach. STRIVE FOR IT!

H. and H. Laundry

Excitement Is Shown Over Flying Saucers

Many of the west Taylor County citizens are very excited over the report of flying saucers that appeared in last week Merkel Mail.

Several persons have witnessed the presence of strange or unusual objects in the sky. Our unknown friend reported that she saw many thousands of flying saucers at one time.

The saucers were very high and of many colors and were just floating in the sky. In this case the saucers were of many colors, trimmed in silver or gold and most beautiful as they reflected the rays of the sun. Rarely have flying saucers been reported in other than silver, grey, blue or black in color. Most reports state that they travel at a very high rate of speed.

Many speculations have been made regarding flying saucers since they were first reported about a decade past. These range from definite doubt among those who have not seen the saucers to stories told in great detail by

those who claim to have witnessed these objects.

Many west Texans have reported seeing strange objects in the sky. Some persons think these objects are strange air craft built by the enemies of this nation and sent here to spy on this nation. Others that the saucers contain men from other planets where civilization is far advanced over the Earth. One groceryman's wife stated that she believed these saucers were optical illusions or reflections of craft perhaps hundreds of miles from this area.

Regardless of your personal thinking keep a lookout for flying saucers and keep us posted on the facts.

Merkel Girl Is Elected at A.C.C.

Maxine Justice, Abilene Christian College freshman from Merkel, was elected secretary of her sophomore class in elections last week.

Maxine is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Justice of Route 1, Merkel. She is a 1954 graduate of Noodle High School.

While attending high school she was elected Best-All-Around-Girl for three years and was a member of the debate team.

Merkel Student To Graduate at A.C.C.

Burl McCoy of Merkel will be among the 191 Abilene Christian College seniors who will receive degrees at commencement exercises May 30.

McCoy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis McCoy of Route 4, Merkel, and a 1950 graduate of Merkel High School. He majored in physical education with an education minor and will receive a B. S. degree.

He is a member of the ACC Basketball Team, the ACC Track Team, ACC A Cappella Chorus, Men's Glee Club, and the Aggie Club.

Commencement exercises will be held at 8 p. m. Monday, May 30.

Dr. James O. Baird, president of Central Christian College, will preach the baccalaureate sermon at 7 p. m. Sunday, May 29 in the College Church of Christ.

NOODLE NEWS

Vacation Bible school will start at the Baptist church Monday, May 23. All children are urged to come. It will last through Friday.

Mrs. W. B. Torpley, near Merkel, and Mrs. Ruby Sutton, and little son Joh, of Dallas, visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Caloway last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Spurgeon had all their children at home Mother's day Mr and Mrs. Robert E. Spurgeon Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Spurgeon, from Mexico, and baby, Loraine, Alice of Abilene, and Clint at home were all there. It was the first time in two years that they all had been together.

Mrs. C. B. Berry of Houston is visiting her daughter Mrs. Ted McAnich and family, her parents Mr. and Mrs. George Cooper, and her sister, Mrs. Bill Caldwell and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jones of Shiloh community were at Noodle one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cox visited in Rochester Sunday. Donnie Pack and Carrel Lite visited Carrel's mother at Post Tuesday.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Noith Maxwell Sunday were their son, Paul and family of Buffalo Gap, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Numley of Anson.

Mrs. Bob Lambeth and son, Rickey, visited Noodle last week. Loyd Warren accompanied his brother, Forrest and family, back to Shreveport, La., to spend the summer.

The seniors and juniors left Tuesday for a trip to Austin, Houston and Galveston. They will be gone several days.

Student Transfer Must Be Made Before June 1

June 1 is the deadline on the transfer of students from one school district to another, stated Supt. Mack Fisher. This law went into effect last year.

"This means that if a student is going to go to school in another district next term other than his home district, the district in which he lives, his parents must transfer him before the deadline, which is June 1," added Supt. Fisher.

MAKE MULE TEAM WAGON

Mr. and Mrs. Hob Robertson made a miniature 20 mule team wagon. They put together 148 small parts. They also painted the mule and the wagons. It took them three full days.

FOR FIELD PLANTING

The establishment of a nursery of from a quarter to a third acre on the farm will provide plenty of low cost coastal bermudagrass sprigs for field planting.—A.&M.

Reuben Horton, of Abilene, visited his mother, Mrs. Edna Horton and sister, Sonja Sue, on Monday.

Mrs. Mattie Belle Newberry of Abilene, Executive Secretary of the Taylor County Red Cross, announced this week that Miss Norah Foster, teacher-sponsor of the Junior Red Cross of Merkel Elementary building, had been chosen to go to the training school at the Episcopal school in Austin, August 7th through 11th.

HAIR CARE

Try a new cut for summer. Phone 261

Ann's Beauty Shop ANN BRIGHT EDNA EPPERSON

HAPPY SNAPPY

LAUNDRY — HELP YOURSELF We have drier. We pick up and deliver. We do wet wash and rough dry. 309 RUNNELS, PHONE 116



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HIGGINS SHOP



In your search for happiness and success.

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THE SKY IS THE LIMIT BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE

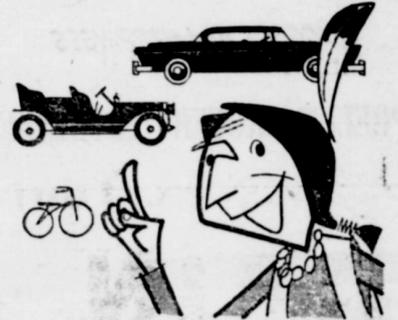
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We repair all makes and models!



Old or new, any make or model, our Service Craftsmen are thoroughly experienced and capable of putting your car in perfect running condition. Drive in today!



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Congratulations class of 1955

May the joy of graduation remain with you in all of your future achievements.

THE MERKEL MAIL



Step forth with confidence and our very best wishes for your success.

CLASS OF 1955

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 Half Soles 1.50-2.50
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 All Kinds Shoe and Boot Repairs
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MRS. WARREN RETURNS
 Mrs. J. T. Warren has returned home after a week's visit with her daughters, Mrs. Winnie Coit and Mrs. Louise Beckett of Dallas.



SUMMER CEREMONY PLANNED — Mrs. Luteenie McCoy of Anton is announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter, Morelle, to Jack E. Miller, son of Mrs. Dolly Kempf of Kilgore. The wedding is planned for Aug. 27 in the First Methodist Church in Merkel. When discharged from the service in June, Miller will go into the field of advertising. Miss McCoy is now employed by the Sealy Public Schools as teacher of home economics. Both are graduates of the University of Texas.

BETA SIGMA PHI HOLDS LAST MEETING OF SEASON

The Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met in the REA dining area Thursday evening, May 17 for the last meeting of the season. The hostesses, Mary Hargrove, Mildred Barnett, Gloria Dorton, Viola Allred, Jo Barnett and Margaret Hunter served delicious salad plates with chicken salad, congealed vegetable salad, and a mixed fruit salad with coffee. The centerpiece was an attractive arrangement of pink radiance rose buds.

Mr. and Mrs. Buy Sanders of Beaumont, Texas, who is with the Metallic Steel Construction Co. of Houston was in town looking for a place to live. Welcome to Merkel!

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith, Wilma and Randy spent last weekend in Uvalde visiting her mother, Mrs. A. L. LaPeyre.

Mrs. A. L. Farmer and son, Fredlyn and little grandson, Larry Hewitt, of Abilene were Sunday guests of Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

Mrs. Lucy Ford went to Vernon last week to attend the funeral of her neice's husband, Willis Moore.

After dinner there was a short business meeting. The new officers for 1955-56 were installed. They are Gloria Dorton, President, Janice Russell, Vice President, Ruth Vaughn, recording secretary, Margaret Hunter, Reporter. Outgoing president, Mildred Barnett was presented with a gold gavel and Club Sponsor, Elma McFarland was presented with a gold picture frame. Ruth Vaughn read an interesting article in prose form on how to make life worthwhile. Those attending the meeting were: Mildred Barnett, Gloria Dorton, Mary Hargrove, Viola Allred, Janice Russell, Faytene Perry, Margaret McAninch, Jo Barnett, Ruth Vaughn, Jane Wade, Elma McFarland, Joy Barnett, Lucille Litten and Margaret Hunter.

New Alert Signals Are Now In Effect

New civil defense public action signals were announced today by State Defense and Disaster Relief Headquarters, according to Mayor Fred Starbuck, civil defense chairman.

Starbuck said these signals also will be used in case of warnings of approaching tornadoes. The local unit has a direct radio contact with the state patrol which sends out the storm warnings.

Made necessary by developments in research on the potential danger of hydrogen bombs, with particular respect to radioactive fall-out, the new signals are designed to afford greater protection to the general public and, at the same time, are simpler than the system previously used. The plan announced for Texas conforms to the signal system now recommended for the nation by Federal Civil Defense Administration.

Standard civil defense action signals to be sounded by public warning equipment (sirens, horns, whistles, or other similar devices) are as follows:

Alert Signal — a steady blast of three to five minutes duration.

Meaning: The public is to act according to the operation plan of the local civil defense authorities.

(In all areas, this signal will mean that civil defense forces are to mobilize. In certain target areas, it may mean the activation of previously-planned evacuation procedures. In every case, it means that the public should listen to the radio for further instructions.)

Take cover signal — a wailing tone or a series of short blasts of three minutes' duration.

Meaning: Attack is imminent and the public must take the best available shelter.

Since hazard of radioactive fall-out may preclude bringing the public out of shelters in all areas simultaneously, the former "All Clear" signal has been eliminated. Instructions to come out of shelter will be given by other means of communication — including radio, public address system, and person-to-person contact by wardens, police, and other officials.

Based on information received from the FCDA Warning Officer, the State will give local communities the best available estimate of the situation including the probable nature and time of attack.

The public is asked to destroy the previously-distributed "alert" cards which gave the signals formerly used. New cards are now in production and will be issued soon.

In announcing the new signals, the State Defense and Disaster Relief Headquarters said: "The change in public action signals is in line with the constant effort in civil defense planning to keep abreast of the scientific developments in this field.

"If we are to provide maximum protection of our people, we must keep our plans completely fluid and up-to-date.

"Under the new system, the public needs to keep in mind only two things — first—when hearing a steady blast of a warning device, listen to the radio for information and instructions; and, second,—when hearing a wailing tone or a series of short blasts, take the best available shelter. It is as simple as that—but ever so important for all to learn and remember."

Maj. and Mrs. R. T. Blair, of San Antonio, returned home Tuesday after spending several days visiting her mother Mrs. Lucy Ford, Terry Sue Wozencraft returned home with them.

Mrs. Leo Harris has been notified that her brother-in-law, Sam T. Redwine, suffered a heart attack at Littlefield last Sunday, and is in a serious condition at the Littlefield hospital.

CLASSIFIED AD SECTION

NOTICE MASONS
 Regular meeting of Merkel lodge No. 710, A.F. & A. Thursday, May 26, at 8:00 p. m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited.
 D. R. Butler, W. M.
 Truett Thompson, Sec'y.

TO ALL ELKS — If you are a member of B.P.O. Elks, you will want to unite with the Abilene lodge in its new headquarters. Contact Bill Callaway, S. and Q. Clothiers, Abilene. New members will be welcome. 10-1f.

STATED MEETING of Merkel chapter No. 212 O.E.S. Tuesday, May 24, 8 p.m. All members urged to attend initiation.
 UNA HAYS, W. M.
 FERN WINDHAM, Sec.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICE: We buy poultry only on Saturdays. Bring them in early. Toombs and Moore, 9-4fc.

MEET ME AT STUTS CAFE. COFFEE IS ONLY A NICKLE. 10-1fc

FOR RENT
 FURNISHED two bedroom apartment, private bath, also furnished two-room house with bath. Mrs. Bert Melton, 1412 S. Fifth, Phone 282. 10-3p

FOR RENT — Nicely furnished house, 402 Ash St., E. B. Barnes, Phone 51W. 3-8p.

FOR RENT: Garage apartment, furnished, vacant May 21. See Bob Hicks. 9-4fc.

FOR RENT — 2 Nicely furnished rooms, private bath, electric refrigerator, very nice. Phone 139. 8-3c.

FOR RENT — Two 2-bedroom house, one 3-room garage apartment. Dowdy & Toombs. 1-6c.

FOR RENT — Duplex apartment, modern, 4 rooms and bath, unfurnished. See Ray Wilson. 1-34c

FOR RENT — Modern 4-room house, bath, porch, good well, electric pump, house and softener, rock, 2 car garage, nice fenced lawn, 10 acres land, chicken house. See 3 miles north Stith. Emmett Howard, 1042 North Grand Avenue, Gainesville, Texas. 10-3p

FOR SALE
 Good used tires and tubes. White Auto Store. 3-7p

GOOD SELECTION, patterns and colors of linoleum rugs. White Auto Store.

FOR SALE: National cash register with detail, like new, Reg. \$140 for \$65. Mac's City Drug. 9-4fc.

FOR SALE — 300 Good Cedar fence posts, 6 1/2 feet by 3 1/2 inches and 6 1/2 feet by 2 1/2 inches. Badger Chevrolet. 10-1fc.

FOR SALE — 7-room house, bath, 3 lots, own water system, priced to sell. Contact Cyrus Pee, Agent. 10-1fc

FOR SALE — Used Bendix Laundromat washing machine, automatic, portable. Phone 400. Can be seen at 1408 Herring drive from 4 to 6 p.m. 10-3tc

GET your typewriter ribbons all makes, also adding machine and cash register paper at the Merkel Mail Office.

MISCELLANEOUS
 WANTED TO RENT: 2 or 3 bedroom unfurnished house. Phone 84. John McKinzie. 1-5

WE DO ELECTRICAL work of all kinds. Also ditch digging. Phone 69. E. Highway 80. Hobbs Electric. 8-2c.

WANTED: Farm hand to drive tractor next 3 or 4 months, 4-room house to live in. See L. E. Bell, Route 1, Trent. 1-17c

FOR CEMETERY CURING—see M. A. Sarg. Noster, 1404 Herring Dr. Estimates gladly given. Phone 321-W. 1-17c

WATER Well drilling and Surface pipe set. L. A. Coats. Phone 287. 1-21c

WATER WELL drilling and surface pipe set. Higgins & Malone. Box 267, Merkel. Phone 26.

Burton-Lingo Lbr. Co.

KEEPS PAINTING COSTS LOW!

Lowe Brothers HIGH STANDARD HOUSE PAINT

GROcery TIPS
 By ————— Emmett

VILLAGE INN GROCERY
 OPEN FROM 6:00 A. M. 'TIL 10:00 P. M.
 7 DAYS A WEEK
 PHONE 45 WEST 80 HIWAY

Our meats are cut by experts . . . in complete sanitation.

ROOFING
 Let the Lydick - Hooks Roofing Co., make your estimate to reroof your residence or building. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. We Use Genuine Rubberoid Materials.

LYDICK - HOOKS ROOFING CO.
 229 FLUM ABILENE, TEXAS

URGENT ACT NOW! CANCER HOSPITAL

The 54,000 cancer patients in Texas need your help! There is now a bill in the Texas State Senate creating a hospital for cancer treatment and research in Southwest Texas. This bill does not carry a State Appropriation!

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW!
 Your Senator has not been advised of the tremendous public interest in this institution. When completed it will care for cancer patients from all over Texas.

This bill may be defeated next week unless YOU let your Senator know your wishes today! This is most urgent!

This 100-bed hospital will contain 50 charity beds and 10 beds for Cancer Research —the only way to conquer this dread disease.

WRITE, WIRE or MAIL POST CARD TODAY TO:
 Senator David Ratliff, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas sponsored by
 Pan American Cancer Foundation, Inc.
 Nix Professional Building
 San Antonio, Texas

we're proud of you!

GRADUATES OF 1955

This is the first milestone on your road to success and happiness.

MERKEL DRUG CO.

My Loss Is Your GAIN

If you have been looking for a new car at a used car price, don't overlook these bargains. We have most any kind of car you want — or we'll get it.

1955 FORD 4-Door Fairline V-8

Has radio, heater, Fordomatic, Chrome wheel rings, windshield washer, oil filter, new car with service policy.

Below Cost 2,277.00

1955 Chevrolet 4-Door Bel Air

Has Air-Flow heater, tinted glass, two-tone paint, directional lights, electric clock, foam rubber cushions, chrome wheel rings. New car with service policy.

Below Cost \$1,895.00

1955 Ford 4-Door Custom V-8

Has Magic-Air heater, oil filter, clock, cigaret lighter, directional lights. Seldom do you find a bargain like this. New car with service policy.

Below Cost \$1,844.00

1952 Chevrolet 4-Door Styleline

Has radio, heater, seat covers, power glide, white tires. Drive it and you will say it's a bargain.

Better Hurry \$795.00

1951 Chevrolet 4-Door Styleline

Has radio, heater, new tires, new car trade in.

Super Value \$595.00

1952 BUICK 4-Door Special

Has radio, heater, new seat covers, runs and drives like a new car.

Bargain \$766.00

1954 Pontiac 4-Door Chieftain

This is a super car with a price you want. Hydramatic, radio, heater, back up lights, air conditioned, 13,000 actual miles, new white wall tires.

Discount of \$1,400 00

CAL PETERSON USED CARS

For Butane Gas, Appliances
and Tractor Conversions
PHONE 169
H. W. LEMENS
1029 NORTH SECOND

NEWS from
County Home
Demonstration Agent
Texas A. & M. College
Extension Service
By LORETA ALLEN

Miss Mable McRee and Mrs. M. L. Douglass of Union Ridge Club attended Taylor County Home Demonstration Council Thursday of last week in Abilene. Miss Mable reported that she had a phone, I was glad to know that because I wanted to call members of the Union Ridge Club several times and no one had a phone.

Mrs. R. G. Toombs of Blue Bonnet Club also attended council. Mrs. Edgar Holly, Mrs. P. L. Kendall and Mrs. Toombs gave reports of the district meeting held in Kerrville April 19. The talk Judge Jack Pope of San Antonio gave on "Sources of Freedom" was one that everyone enjoyed. Wish all of you could have heard it. There was 316 registered at the meeting.

Colonel C. A. Anderson told of life in Korea. He has been organizing 4-H clubs in Korea and Texas, is getting a ship loaded with things to send to Korea to help these 4-H club members. Home demonstration club and 4-H club members of district 7 are trying to help fill the ship by getting sewing machines, needles, thread, pins, scissors, material to sew with and can be sent.

Taylor County must get their packages all ready by May 15. Anyone who wants to help in this please contact the home demonstration club president nearest you or Mrs. Arville Black in Abilene.

It seems spring or summer is here and time to look plants and shrubs over. Limbs of plants which are dying back, or show signs of drying, should be closely examined.

Gardenias, crepe myrtle and many other plants are losing the bark due to cold injury. Examine the stems closely. Those receiving the worth injury have the bark entirely loose. Harder stems may have only an occasional slit or rupture running up and down the stem. It is a good idea to remove all the injured wood.

Crepe myrtle, vitex and many other plants will soon grow sprouts several feet long and will bloom during next summer. Gardenias may bloom little or none at all after serious cold injury.

If the cold ruptured limbs are not removed, the plant may exhaust itself in healing. Many plants will heal over the slit bark, but their growth will not be normal thereafter. Small leaves, yellow leaves and a few flowers may be formed on the injured limbs.

Plants vary in their ability to overcome injury. Bear in mind that one of the general rules for pruning is to cut off all dead or injured limbs to make way for new growth.

As many of the homemakers are busy sewing these days, it seems very timely to discuss the use of interfacing. Fashion governs the use of interfacing, while the fabric and design of the garment govern the type of interfacing used.

The primary purpose of an interfacing is to give body and a professional look to a garment. It helps to prevent sagging and stretching in loosely-woven material, and gives crispness to the places where it is used.

Felted interfacing is especially good for lining skirts when a bouffant effect is desired. It is a good practice to use interfacing fabrics of the same fiber as in the dress, this will insure that both the interfacing and the dress fabric will react the same to heat, moisture and steam, and will require the same method of cleaning and the same temperature in pressing.

If cotton interfacing fabric is not pre-shrunk, it should be shrunk before cutting and pressed carefully.

Certain fabrics are more suitable for interfacing certain parts of a garment than are others. Permanent finished lawn can be used down the front of a bodice, in collar and cuffs, under scallops at the front, around the neck, arm-eye or pocket, to act as a stay under buttons and buttonholes in light-weight silk, rayon and satin garments.

Permanent finished net or marquisette of cotton or rayon can be used across shoulders of a dress, and down the fronts of a bodice in dresses of non-washable fabrics such as light-weight wools, and heavier non-washable fabrics.

Firm, light-weight muslin can be used down the fronts of jackets, in collar and cuffs, for hip padding, inside skirt band, in dressmaker suits and coats of linen, rayon suitings, and light-weight wools.

America should retain her reputation for being the melting pot—but should make it hotter for those who refuse to melt.

State Capitol NEWS

By VERN SANFORD
Texas Press Association

All eyes are on the clock now as Legislators vie for position at the Speaker's post, to "run" with their favorite bills.

Subject to Senate approval is a two-cent gasoline tax increase, a one-cent-per-pack increase in cigarette taxes, plus a tax on cigars, snuff and packaged tobacco. Also in the omnibus tax bill is a levy on trading stamps and uranium ore. A hike in beer dealers' license fees is imminent. Contemplated too is freezing of the present natural gas production tax at 8 per cent—originally due to drop to 7 per cent in 1956.

It is estimated that the tax bill, as written, will produce \$25,000,000 a year in additional revenue for the general fund. That is \$5,000,000 short of the appropriation bill. So, there will have to be more levies, or the appropriation bill cut.

Veterans Land Bill

Both houses voted to submit a constitutional amendment to the people, in November of 1956, calling for an additional \$100,000,000 for the veterans land program. Replacement of the Governor and Attorney General as members of the Veterans Land Board, by two appointed members, is specified in the bill.

Workmen's Benefits

Benefits for workmen are destined to improve.

Passed by the House was a bill by Rep. Garth Bates, increasing the workmen's compensation rate from \$25 to \$35 a week.

A Senate bill by Parkhouse increases benefits under unemployment compensation from \$20 to \$25 a week, while restricting those who may receive jobless pay.

Dust Storm Disaster

Alarmed by dust storms, John C. White, Agriculture Commissioner, says "Much of the land in West Texas is in far worse shape now than at any time in history, including the dust bowl era of the 1930s."

Following a tour of West Texas, White made recommendations to the State and Federal governments that steps be taken to remedy the drought situation.

SHORT SNORTS: Congressional and judicial redistricting bills died in the session's log-jam. . . A constitutional amendment to let the state make retribution to persons who serve time in prison for crimes they don't commit passed both houses and will be voted on at the general election next year. . . Two House bills to tighten enforcement of narcotics laws passed the House and were favorably approved by the Senate criminal jurisprudence committee.

FOR BETTER COTTON

Cotton starts off faster, fruits earlier and yields higher when early season insect control practices are followed. Extension Entomologist F. M. Fuller says it's good business to get the jump on injurious cotton insects and never allow them to get control of the crop.—A.&M.

CATTLE FEEDING

Cattle feeding continuously on a pasture can trample a lot of good

grazing into the ground. Grazing efficiency studies show that often only 50 percent of the grazing produced is eaten by livestock. Rotation grazing will help correct this situation.—A.&M.

NOT SATISFACTORY

Dehydrated sewage sludge is not a satisfactory protein source in steer fattening rations. The sludge was substituted in the ration for cottonseed meal during recent tests.—A.&M.



Success



Ahead



Grads

Your graduation is the first reward for work well done. Congratulations!

HICK'S AUTO SUPPLY

You've Done It...



We hope the future holds your brightest dreams.

A. T. LEMENS, COSDON PRODUCTS

GOOD Fortune

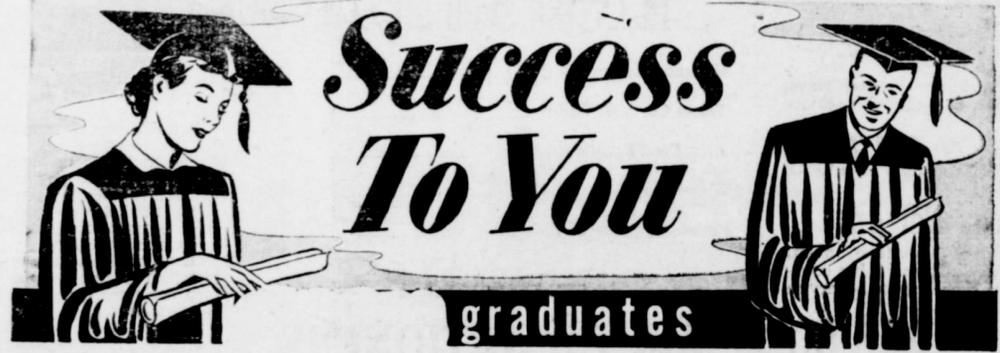


CLASS OF 1955

May the success of this moment guide you to greater accomplishments.

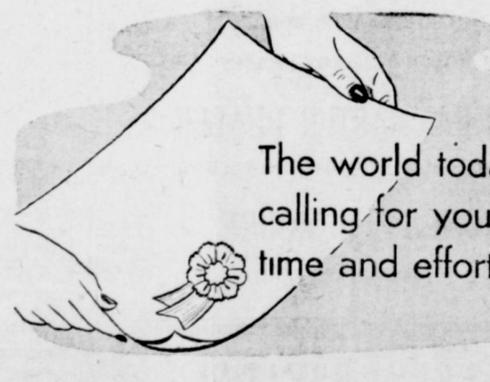
ADCOCK CLEANERS

Success To You

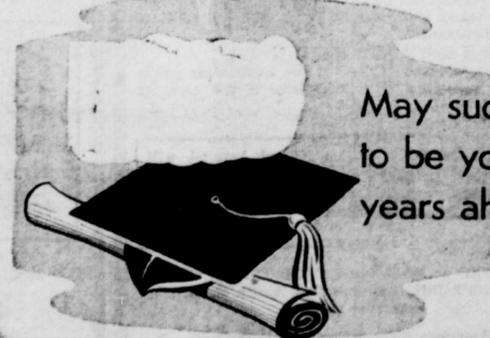


graduates

The world today is calling for your time and effort.



May success continue to be yours in the years ahead.



SADLER CLINIC HOSPITAL

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

To offer our congratulations upon your graduation



Wood's Store

3 CHEERS



THE FIRST GOAL IS ACCOMPLISHED.

Best of Luck

JOYCE'S

CHAMPS



Accept our best wishes for all the years ahead

Max Mellinger's

ANDY SHOUSE
—Real Estate—
115 KENT ST.

I FINANCE

Will loan money to build, remodel, enlarge your house, repair a room, garage or any other kind of improvements. Also will buy vendor's lien note.

W. W. TOOMBS

Vote For
F. C. (Mac) McCue



FOR Alderman
EXPERIENCE — Justice Judge for 10 years, drug store operator for years, member Merkel Chamber of Commerce.

REUNION OF 49ER'S HELD IN WEST HOME

The senior class of '49 met in the back yard of Mrs. James West for a reunion—and to welcome Gaston Walker home from the service in the U.S.A.

Thirty-five class members and guests were present. Co-hostess with Mrs. West were former room-mothers, Mrs. Curtis Conley; Mrs. Irl Walker and Mrs. Cas Lansford.

The evening was spent roasting weiners, reminiscing and making plans for a reunion next year when the following boys return home from service in the U. S. army, Billy Reid, Billy Tarpley, Gerald West, and Paul Bow.

Mrs. H. C. Reid and Mrs. Du-bose, former room-mothers, were unable to attend.

Mrs. Ollie Deaton of Tuscaloosa, Ala., visited with Mrs. J. W. Mayfield last week. Mrs. Mayfield returned home with her for a short visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Kinsey, and sons Ronnie and Kenneth, of Amarillo, Tex., were guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Dye and Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Kinsey, last week.

MODERN BEAUTY SHOP

It's the cut that makes the hair pretty, so why not a Four-Way Cut today?

SHOP CARE . . . IS PROFESSIONAL CARE...

Mrs. Dent Gibson
Bessie Perry,
Operators

Phone 201 for appointments
In rear of Merkel Drug

TO MARRY MERKEL MAN

Patricia Parks, daughter of Mrs. Joseph L. Cross of Del Rio, will be married in June to J. R. Dye. Miss Parks is a graduate of Del Rio High School. Her fiancé, a staff sergeant at J. R. Laughlin Air Force Base, is from Merkel. He has been at the base three years and went to Japan two years ago. He was graduated from Merkel High School.

Mrs. Girtha McConnell of Pampa, Tex., spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. L. L. Murray and Mr. Murray.

Granville Bragg, who has been working in Bragg's store here for the past few months, has returned to his home in Chillicothe, Texas.

HORTON-WOODARD ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. John Horton, 817 Peach Street, Abilene, are announcing the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Johnnie Mae, to A-3c Jerrel D. Woodard, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Woodard, Route one, Anson, Texas.

Johnnie is a student at Noodle Horn High School.

Jerrel is in the Air Force, stationed at the Sedalia Air Force Base in Sedalia, Mo.

The wedding will be June 18, in the Fair Park Methodist Church in Abilene, Texas.

MRS. WESLEY MASHBURN ENTERTAINS CLUB

The Stith Home Demonstration Club met May 11th, with Mrs. Wesley Mashburn.

Following a song and one game, roll call was answered with a Bible verse; a business meeting followed.

A book review, "Snips and Snails," by Louise Baker, given by Mrs. W. T. Sadler, was enjoyed by the thirteen members present, the three guests, and seven children.

Hostess gift was won by Mrs. Ted Hudson. The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. R. B. Robbins, May 25th.

Lt. Oris R. Reynolds, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cramer Reynolds, recently received his discharge from U. S. air force at Shaw Air Base, Sumter, S. C. Lt. and Mrs. Reynolds and children are visiting her mother, Mrs. Helen Mayfield, and his parents.

FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB COMPLETES 20TH YEAR

The Fortnightly Study Club recently completed its twentieth year of work as a federated club which gives the club the distinction of being a Pioneer Club in the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mrs. Ben Hicks installed the following persons as the incoming officers for the year 1955-56.

President: Mrs. David Gamble.
Vice-President: Mrs. Brady Cox.
Recording Secy.: Mrs. Wm. R. Cypert.

Corresponding Secy.: Mrs. Dale Litton
Treasurer: Mrs. Homer Patterson.

Critic-Parliamentarian: Mrs. Comer Haynes.
Historian: Mrs. Judd McReynolds.

Federation Counselor: Mrs. H. C. West.
Press Reporter: Mrs. Mack Fisher.

Mrs. Carroll Benson was leader of the program "Semantics Through Interior Decorating." Members of the program panel assisted by Mrs. Chester Collinsworth, carried club members on a tour of four newly decorated rooms, lovely new kitchens, in the homes of Mrs. W. T. Sadler, Mrs. W. S. J. Brown and Mrs. Roy Largent, and the delightful new family room in the home of Mrs. Ben R. Hicks. While in Mrs. Hick's home, she showed movies of the outstanding events and activities of the club year.

As the closing social event of the year, club members invited their husbands and guests to enjoy a picnic style supper at the Community Center. About forty persons attended.

Another program of interest which was apropos for the closing of the year was Mrs. H. C. West's program entitled "Semantics Through Vacation." Mrs. West carried members on a delightful travelogue beginning with the Red Wood Forests of California, across the United States to such outstanding places as Yellowstone, Black Hills of the Dakotas, Niagara Falls, Washington D. C., the Smoky Mountains, Miami Beach and New Orleans.

BOOK REVIEW PRESENTED TO GLEANER CLASS

The Gleaner Sunday School Class met Wednesday, May 11, in the lovely home of Mrs. W. S. J. Brown.

After a prayer, led by Mrs. Bessie Johnson, Mrs. Chester Imes of Abilene, gave a book review "Home Again," by James Edmiston. The story of a Japanese-American family living in the United States during World War II when the Japanese were sent to relocation centers. Their struggle during that war and their fight to uphold their ideals of democracy.

A dramatic record of the kind of democracy that can triumph over the sickness of intolerance.

Mrs. Brown then showed a number of pictures taken during her trip to Japan.

Members present were Mrs. Lee Tipton, Mrs. Will Toombs, Mrs. Jack Miller, Mrs. Ron Ferrier, Mrs. Leon Toombs Mrs. T. L. Grimes, Mrs. Mabel Dorton, Mrs. Tom Largent, Mrs. Marvin Douglas, Mrs. Winnie Cypert, Mrs. John Shannon, Mrs. Roy Baccur, Mrs. Forest Gaither, Miss Mabel McRea, Mrs. Herbert Patterson, Mrs. Dee Grimes, Mrs. Lizzie Latham, Mrs. Harold Odum, Mrs. Lon Petty, Mrs. Elsie McMurray, Mrs. Gneva Jones, Mrs. O. R. Douglas, Mrs. Dee Moore.

Mrs. Aubrey White, Mrs. R. B. Johnson and Mrs. Chester Imes were visitors.

Hostesses were Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, Mrs. Kenneth Pee and Mrs. Sallie Moore.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Miller Sr., and family motored to McCaulley, Texas, Sunday to hear their son, Ralph Miller Jr., deliver the sermon at the Baptist church there. They were accompanied by W. F. Miller, Newby, and Watt Miller, Los Angeles, Calif., who is visiting in Merkel.

A. D. Fulton, Homer Patterson and Bill Patterson drove to Houston Sunday to visit friends and relatives.



HONOR STUDENT — The valedictorian of the 1955 Senior class of Lovington, New Mexico, is Mamie Gene Fulton, former Merkel student for six years. Mamie is a straight "A" student, having a grade average of 10.9 out of a possible 11, and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Fulton, formerly of Merkel.

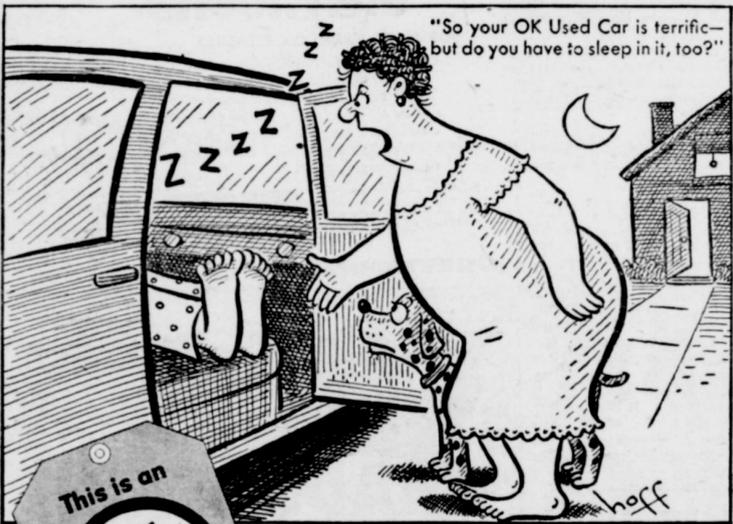


Badger Chevrolet & Miller Implement

LAUNDRY Wet Wash Rough Dry Pick Up And Delivery

We offer you the best of service and the highest quality work. We will appreciate your business.

PHONE 231
Deluxe Laundry
GEO. A. WEST, Owner



"So your OK Used Car is terrific—but do you have to sleep in it, too?"

You'll make all kinds of excuses to spend more time in your OK Used Car. It's the kind of car you'll drive with pride and confidence because it combines handsome appearance and reliable performance. Thoroughly inspected and reconditioned, it's warranted in writing by the dealer.

Sold only by an Authorized Chevrolet Dealer

BADGER CHEVROLET

See our listings below

LOOK AT THESE USED CAR BARGAINS

1951 Chevrolet 2-Door Good condition, runs good, a fine buy. Radio, heater, sun visor. See it.	1952 Ford 4-Door This car runs good, and has radio, heater and overdrive. Good condition.
1949 Chevrolet 2-Door A good car for someone. Come in and drive it. Radio, heater. A good buy.	1950 Dodge A clean car inside and out with 4 new tires. Let us show you this.

BADGER CHEVROLET CO.

What a wonderful difference when you cook with flame-fast GAS on a really modern Gas-O-Matic range!

Wouldn't you like to own a luxurious new streamlined gas range? To enjoy home cooking that's faster, cleaner, cooler, easier than ever before? You can, you know, and now!

It's New Gas Range Time. Just think what this means to you! It's the best time to choose the high-styled model that suits you best from the tremendous selection at your dealer's... and it's the best time to share in greater trade-in allowances and easy, easy terms! One thing more. Gas is so very economical. Costs 4 times less to use almost everywhere in Lone Star Land*! Yes, there's a wonderful difference when you cook with flame-fast gas on a really modern Gas-O-Matic range!

GAS-O-MATIC means features like these:

- Automatic Controls! Dials, broilers, even top burners turn themselves off. Set—and forget!
- Easy to Clean! Burners go to sink for sootling. Damp cloth keeps porcelain surfaces spotless.
- Hypo-Jet Pilots! New pilot lights for each burner. Tilt points of instant flame. Range top stays cool.

Buy NOW... SAVE NOW! during \$1,000,000 Gas Range Sale!

* The area composed of 445 towns and cities served by the Lone Star Gas Company.

See Your GAS RANGE DEALER OR

LONE STAR GAS COMPANY

Parents Should Seek Birth Papers For Children Now

Most people are partial to months of late summer and fall. But not State Health Department birth record keepers.

To the staff of the department's Bureau of Vital Statistics, August through October is the roughest time of the year.

The reason: parents who know their children must have birth certificates before they can enter school for the first time but who put off making requests for certified copies until the last minute.

Last year bureau personnel processed more than 40,000 requests during those three months. For a

limited staff, that means hours of night and week-end work without overtime pay.

Bureau personnel shudder when they think of the estimated 227,000 kids who will be eligible to enter the first grade in September.

Many of them have copies of birth records already and will create no problem. Others live in areas where local school boards do not require proof of age before

admitting the child to the hallowed halls of learning.

But the majority don't have certified proof of age, despite the fact that they live in areas where school officials insist on such proof. It's this category that gives bureau statisticians and clerks sleepless nights.

Says Bureau Director W. D. Carroll: "We're ready to give immediate service to applications which come in before the fall rush."

Carroll a long-time veteran of vital statistics work, directs the affairs of the bureau where more than ten million birth and death records—some dating back to early 1903—are on file.

Several hundred parents have already taken advantage of the spring lull in bureau activities by requesting and receiving certified copies of birth records for their children, Carroll says.

The first one came in on March 24 from Mr. and Mrs. Alvin King of Port Lavaca. Their son is due to enter the first grade in September. They wanted to make sure they could prove he is six.

MAC'S CITY DRUG

PHONE 9506

F. C. McCUE

GRADUATION GIFTS

You'll Find Just the Gift You've Been Looking For at Mac's City Drug

Parker Fountain Pens
Reg. 8.95 Val.
4.95

Genuine Leather Billfolds
1.98 to 3.95

Electric SHAVERS
19.95

Nice Assortment CAMERAS and SUPPLIES

SEE OUR SELECTION OF STATIONERY ALL KINDS OF GIFTS FOR THE GRAD

SUCCESS TO THE CLASS OF



Well done! Best Wishes and good luck.



Merkel Florist Edna & George

We Congratulate THE GRADUATE!



Boys or girls... grade school, high school, or college... it doesn't matter. The F&M Bank extends congratulations to ALL with best wishes for future success... and we extend, too, a cordial invitation to count this bank as a real friend anxious to be of service to you as we have been of service to graduates for over 50 years.

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers and Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

GAS-TOONS

By "LEON"



"I used to get them fixed UP THE STREET THERE."

All of our customers are particular, that's why they're OURS!

MERKEL Co-op Station
PREMIER PRODUCTS
PHONE 208
1146 NORTH 1ST.

personals

Mr. and Mrs. Troyce Perry, of Pasadena, visited his parents last weekend, Mr. and Mrs. John Perry.

Isadore and Meyer Mellinger were in Dallas the first of the week attending a men's wear show.

W. F. Golladay, of Levelland, who formerly resided in Merkel for 40 years, is back in town visiting with friends.

Randall McNeice, of Big Lake, visited his mother, Mrs. J. J. McNeice and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Higgins over the weekend. Mrs. McNeice returned home for a visit with him.

Charles Church, of Snyder, visited in the home of his sister Mrs. E. B. Wallace and Mr. Wallace Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hudson have as their guests her sisters Mrs. A. L. Martin, Miss Marlene Martin and Mrs. Otho Bau, of Burbank, Calif.

Merkel Man Now In Chemical Center

ARMY CHEMICAL CENTER, MD.—Army Pvt. Gordon E. Price, 26, whose wife, Mary Jo, lives at 1000 N. Dal Paso, Hobbs, N. M., recently arrived at the Army Chemical Center, Md., and is now a member of the 54th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Missile Battalion.

Private Price, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hershell S. Price, Merkel, Tex., is a launcher crewman in the battalion's Battery C. Formerly a projectionist at the Queen Theatre in Merkel, he entered the Army in July 1954 and completed basic training at Fort Bliss, Tex.



In your search for happiness and success.

NOOK GROCERY

BIG NEWS about a BIG NEW REFRIGERATOR

Just Arrived! The New 11 cu. ft. FRIGIDAIRE "Super-110"

Here's room and lots of it for big families!

Full-width Super-Freezer Chest with Frozen Juice Can Holder, Quickcube Ice Trays and a full-width Chill Drawer.

Newly Styled Refrigerator Door has Egg Server, Butter Compartment and loads of room for tall bottles.

Refrigerator has rust-proof, golden aluminum shelves, a removable half-shelf, large Meat Tender and 2 bin-size stacking Hydrators. And this big 11 cu. ft. "Super-110" is available with right or left-opening door at no extra cost. Come in. See it now. Ask about our big trade-in allowance and easy terms!

for only \$290 a week after small down payment

West Texas Utilities Company



A LOT OF COVERAGE!

THAT'S what you get when you protect your investment in personal property (furniture, luggage, sports equipment, clothing, cameras, etc.) with a Personal Property Floater. This BIG insurance policy covers against fire, theft, most any peril you can think of... whether you're at home, out shopping or away on a trip. Ask us about this policy now.

Boney Insurance Agency
143 EDWARDS OLD STATE BANK BLDG.
Consult Your Insurance Agent as You Do Your Doctor or Lawyer

LOW FARES to all America

WICHITA FALLS	3.85
OKLAHOMA CITY	7.90
CHICAGO	21.30
NEW YORK CITY	32.40
BIG SPRING	2.10
ODESSA	3.45
PECOS	5.10
DENVER	15.50
ABILENE	.40
SAN ANTONIO	6.35

One way fares plus U.S. Tax

GREYHOUND TERMINAL

VACATION BY Air Conditioned GREYHOUND

FOR MORE VACATION PLEASURE... Go Greyhound. You'll discover America's magnificent beauty close-up. You'll relax in deep-cushioned easy chairs, sightseeing or napping in air conditioned luxury. This year enjoy a vacation by Greyhound. America's lowest-cost luxury way to travel!

Greyhound's new Scoutliners and Highway Travelers are now operating on many thru schedules all over America.

Here's the Gift she wants most FOR GRADUATION!

Popular blond oak chest with self-lifting tray. \$49.95

Mom & Dad: Give YOUR graduate the gift that's sentimental and practical, too—a Lane Cedar Chest. Lane—it's the gift that gathers more gifts!

AS LOW AS \$49.95

18th Century Mahogany chest with self-lifting tray. \$59.95

As Advertised in LIFE

\$1 DOWN Delivers EASY TERMS

ONE GARMENT SAVED FROM MOTHS CAN PAY FOR A LANE!

WIN CHEVROLET CONVERTIBLE or COLLEGE SCHOOL BAG from LANE'S \$10,000.00 Girl Graduate CONTEST! GET EVERY POUND HERE!

STARBUCK CO.

ON FOODS LIST

Increased spring production has put broilers and fryers on the plentiful foods' list for May. It is their first 1955 appearance on the list.

DO MOST DAMAGE

Insects doing the most damage to Texas crops last year were the cotton bollworm . . . also known as corn earworm and tomato fruitworm . . . grasshoppers and boll weevils. Watch for them in '55, all are bad actors.—A.&M.

AND NOW IT IS
Time

Class of 1955

To wish you a shining tomorrow.

Wilson Jewelry

CLASS OF 1955

Good luck in all your future efforts.

Mina Winter Butane

GREETINGS

WE OFFER OUR SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES OF

PO-PO CAFE



Trobe Shoots Back With Picture To Prove His Fishing Point

Editor's Note: Trobe Vaughan, fisherman extraordinary, world traveler and master raconteur story teller, proves his point again with a picture and facts. He wrote:

"I have been expecting a call-down from Fisherman's Row about catching fish within two miles of Merkel as I believe that now there is no fishing closer than 10 or 15 miles of there.

Well, I can usually back any statement I make and will back this one with the enclosed photograph. I took this picture at a fill in when the T. & P. Railroad was built and was about two miles

west of town. It was well stocked with fine perch and was a dandy swimming hole which we boys used at every opportunity.

"The persons in the foreground, two boys with guns, were aiming wistfully at some imaginary ducks. Next, the Rev. A. A. Becker, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Merkel. (No, he hadn't been celebrating. I told him to push his hat back so his face would show.)

"The whiskered gentleman is my father and Merkel's first station agent. My mother stands holding up for inspection a perch she has just caught. She was night telegrapher and matron of Merkel's first family.

"Here I would like to say that mother was the first lady to receive telegraphy by sound and was known in railroad circles as the 'Mother of Telegraphy.' She was credited with many deeds of bravery during the Civil War at which time she was operator and station agent at Port Perry, Penn.

"The old gentleman just back of Mother was Mr. Childres, the elder of five generations living in the Ozee home in Merkel. The husky gent getting a kick out of a fuzzy worm on a stick he is holding was Mr. Olson, railroad section foreman at Merkel.

"The boy so intently watching his cork was Johnnie Raspberry, who now lives in Fort Worth. Two Mexican section hands are also enjoying the fishing. "So there! Have I proved my point?"

Nation's Schools Play Vital Role

Federal Civil Defense Administrator Val Peterson, declared that the nation's schools can play a vital role in assuring the success of a nationwide identification tagging program for civilians.

Mayor Fred Starbuck, local civil defense director, said, "The schools of America have been in the forefront of the tagging program by taking the initiative, providing their pupils with tags and encouraging the families of pupils to get them. Here are some good reasons why citizens themselves, should support the tagging program:

"In any kind of an emergency, an identification tag is useful to identify a casualty and get information on his condition to his family.

"In the event of war, tags will be needed to identify persons, particularly minors and the aged, and to help restore them to their families.

"Most tags carry information that can help the ministering of spiritual aid to a victim of accident or wartime violence."

They can be bought at local grocery stores.

THERMOSTATICALLY CONTROLLED DEVICE FOR TOP OF THE STOVE

Thermostatically controlled top-of-the-stove cooking is now available on a gas range called the "Governess," it operates as simply as an oven thermostat, with heat markings in infinite steps from

THE MERKEL MAIL

W. W. (Bill) FRYE, Editor and Publisher FRANCES MAY FRYE Business Manager

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The publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors or any other unintentional errors that may occur in the columns of THE MERKEL MAIL after it is brought to our attention. All advertising orders are accepted on this basis only.

200 to 400 degrees to insure consistently good deep-fat frying, pan frying, boiling or griddle work without special separate appliances.

INTRODUCES BIG DIP

Big Dip, a brand new, low-calorie, 100% frozen dairy-dessert, is making flavor history with local housewives here, according to its inventors, Foremost Dairies. Selling at a popular price, the exclusive, new Foremost dairy desert has had enthusiastic response on the part of both merchants and housewives in this area, according to Foremost's spokesmen.

FIRE PREMIUM LIST OUT

Premiums and awards listed in the Women's Department Premium List for the 1955 State Fair of Texas, Oct. 7-23, will total \$8,363.50; over \$1,000 more than

ever before. The new premium book is available on request to the Women's Department of the State Fair.

MORE FARM ELECTRICITY

Texas farms consume more than twice the electric power today than in 1947. REA which has 317,698 customers in the state's rural areas will observe its 20th anniversary on May 11.—A.&M.

Success

THE SKY IS THE LIMIT BEST WISHES FOR THE FUTURE

Village Inn Grocery

WELL DONE...

THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IS JUSTLY PROUD OF YOU.

Mac's City Drug

YOU'RE TOPS

We share your pride in your achievement

Edna's Beauty Shop



It costs no more to go "First Class"



You pay nothing extra for Ford's Thunderbird styling . . .
Luxury Lounge interiors . . . smoother Angle-Poised ride . . .
nor for Ford's 23-year V-8 experience that brings you
Trigger-Torque power!

Your new-car dollars buy *more* today. For example, a first-class ride in a first-class car is yours at Ford's low fare.

You command a Y-block V-8 that responds reassuringly when you need it. You have Ford's smoother Angle-Poised ride cushioning out road shock wherever you go. And you own the style-setter—the car that's styled like its brilliant running-mate, the Thunderbird.

You can expect more when you trade, too . . . for Fords have been returning more in resale than any other low-priced car. Take a Test Drive and you'll see why!

Only Ford offers Thunderbird Styling

Take a closer look at those long, low, "front-running" lines. From the smart, visored head lights to the tapered tail fins, they're Thunderbird through and through. Step inside. Colorfully fresh new Luxury Lounge interiors make Ford truly your "living room on wheels."

Only Ford offers Trigger-Torque power

Whether you choose the 162-h.p. Y-block V-8 or 182-h.p. Special V-8, you get split-second "Go" when you want it. With Speed-Trigger Fordomatic, you're even farther out front . . . automatically.

THE NEW BEST SELLER . . . sells more because it's worth more!

'55 Ford

SEE, STEER, STOP SAFELY—Have your car Safety Checked F.C.A.

PAUL HONEYCUTT MOTORS

GREAT TV, FORD THEATRE, KRBC-TV 8:30 P. M. THURSDAY

PIONEER Drive-In Theatre

One Mile West of Merkel on Highway 80
Box Office Opens 7:30 — Show Starts at Sundown
Admission Prices - - Adults 50c — Children 6-12 10c

Friday-Saturday, May 20-21

DOUBLE FEATURE
ROCK HUDSON — JULIA ADAMS
"THE LAWLESS BREED"
in Color by TECHNICOLOR
BOB HOPE — MARILYN MAXWELL
"OFF LIMITS"

Sunday-Monday, May 22-23

DOUBLE FEATURE
DEAN MARTIN — JERRY LEWIS
"THE CADDY"
ELEANOR PARKER — CHARLTON HESTON
"THE NAKED JUNGLE"
In Color by TECHNICOLOR

Tues.-Wed.-Thurs., May 24-25-26

First Run Picture — The Dramatic Love Story of Sig-
mund Romberg with 20 top talent stars and 22 hit songs
from 11 great Broadway Shows
JOSE FERRER — MERLE O'BERON
"DEEP IN MY HEART"
In Color by TECHNICOLOR

QUEEN THEATRE

PHONE 248

BOX OFFICE OPENS 7:15 — SHOW STARTS 7:30

Friday-Saturday, May 20-21

WALT DISNEY'S
"THE LIVING DESSERT"
The First Feature Length True Life Adventure!
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
— PLUS —
WALT DISNEY'S 20 MINUTE TECHNICOLOR
CARTOON
"BEN AND ME"
ALSO BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1954

Sunday-Monday, May 22-23

The West still rings with the legend of the Shotgun
Avenger
STERLING HAYDEN — YVONNE DeCARLO
ZACHARY SCOTT
"SHOTGUN"
In Color by TECHNICOLOR
Also Color Cartoon and Latest World News
Features SUNDAY 2:45 - 4:45 — Monday 8:05 - 10:05

Tues.-Wed.-Thurs., May 24-25-26

It reaches from West Point right to your heart. The
story of a man who had 10,000 sons and all his glory
TYRONE POWER — MAUREEN O'HARA
In JOHN FORD'S
"THE LONG GRAY LINE"
In CINEMASCOPE and COLOR
FEATURE STARTS 7:30 — 10:05

Announcing The Week's BEST BUYS



SHORTENING Mrs. Tucker 3 Lb. Can **53c**
FRUITCOCKTAIL Heart's Delight No. 2 1/2 Can **33c**
GRAPE JUICE Churches 24-oz. Jar **29c**
CHEER Giant Box **49c**

LIBBY'S SWEET PICKLES 15-oz. Jar **25c**

SUPREME CHOCOLATE DROPS Cookies, lb. bag **39c**

PURE-A-SNOW FLOUR 25-lb. bag **\$1.49**

CANDYLAND MARSHMALLOWS 8-oz. bag **15c**

MORTON'S SALAD DRESSING Pint **23c**

MYTFINE ORANGE PUDDING 2 boxes **10c**

Finest Quality MEATS

CHOICE BEEF T-BONE STEAK lb. **59c**

CHOICE BEEF CHUCK ROAST ... lb. **39c**

WILSON CERTIFIED HAM 1/2 or Whole lb. **49c**

GOOCH COUNTRY STYLE SAUSAGE 2 lbs. **79c**

WILSON THICK SLICE FAMILY BACON 2 lbs. **99c**

GOOCH SKINLESS WEINERS lb. **29c**

FRESH — ALL MEAT GROUND BEEF lb. **29c**

WILSON BOX CHEESE 2 lbs. **59c**

Store Hours
Week Days
7:00 to 6:30 p. m.
Saturday
7:00 to 9:30 p. m.

THURS. - FRI. - SAT.
MAY 19 - 20 - 21

ALL FLAVORS JELLO 2 boxes . . . **15c**

WILSON OLEO Lb **19c**

PURE BLACK PEPPER Can **9c**

FROSTY KOOLAID 6 pkgs. . . **23c**

THRIFTY BROOMS Each . . . **93c**

GIANT JOY Box **49c**

PERSONAL IVORY 4 Bars . . . **25c**

10 POUNDS ALL Box **\$2.19**

LIQUID TREND 2 for **49c**

NO. 20 ROPE MOPS Each **59c**

SERVING ORANGE JUICE FRI. & SAT.
FOREMOST ORANGE ADE
1/2 Gallon **35c** ... Free Glass

TOMATOES Renown No. 1 Can 3 for **23c**

CORN Our Darling 303 Can 2 for **33c**

SPINACH Libby's 303 Can 2 for **29c**

CORN on COB Fifth Ave. 4 Ears can **29c**

PET MILK Tall Can 2 for **19c**

Chopped BEEF Hormel 12-oz. can **33c**

Potted MEAT Hormel 3-oz. 3 for **23c**

SPAM Hormel can **39c**

Green BEANS Renown Whole 2 for **29c**

Pard Dog FOOD . . 7 cans **\$1.00**

BRIGHT & EARLY

TEA

WITH GLASS

1/4-lb. box . . . **39c**

BLEACH

PUREX

Quart **15c**

VEGETABLES

FRESH BLACK EYE PEAS . . . lb. **12c**

WINESAP APPLES lb. **19c**

FRESH LETTUCE lb. **10c**

FRESH PINEAPPLE each **29c**

FRESH CELLO CARROTS 2 for **15c**

FRESH TOMATOES . . . Crtn. **17c**

FRESH CORN 2 ears **15c**

We Reserve the right to Limit Quantities and to refuse to sell to dealers.

Carson Grocery & Market
213 EDWARDS ST. — PHONE 250 — ONE HOUR NEXT TO QUEEN—
Free Delivery Free Parking
ON \$3.00 OR MORE
MON., WED. and FRI. at 4:00
CROSS STREET
WE GIVE PREMIUMS