

John C. White, commissioner of agriculture, who spoke at the Chamber of Commerce banquet Friday night, received a hat from Merkel business men, and that hat may become famous before the summer is over...

White avoided politics as much as he could in a Chamber of Commerce meeting, but he didn't mind letting it be known that he had his mind set for something higher than being commissioner of agriculture again.

The Chamber of Commerce banquet cannot be forgotten without paying tribute to the Merkel Garden Club for the cleverest set of decorations anyone has seen at a public gathering in many a moon.

Of course there were many clever suggestions on the tables, but one that took our eye — and we didn't see every one, we are sure — was the family made up of vegetables.

Horace O. Boney, who is building houses and selling insurance, takes on another task this year — that of presidency of the Chamber of Commerce.

Elsewhere on this page you will find a story concerning the calling of a bond election to vote \$30,000 for park improvements.

We doubt, in our own mind, if \$30,000 would do the necessary job, but even if the bonds should be voted, we are sure those in charge know whether \$30,000 would improve the city park and build a swimming pool.

Merkel Wins Another Easy One by 90-48

The Merkel Badgers continued their onslaught of 8-A teams Tuesday night, clobbering Roscoe Flawboys into submission with a 90-48 triumph.

The victory kept the Badgers on the heels of Throckmorton which hasn't lost a game. The Badgers must beat Throckmorton the next time they play in order to gain a tie with that team.

Robert McLeod hit 20 points, falling behind Philip Pursley with 26. Roscoe was paced by Bill Emir with 11.

Roscoe girls defeated Merkel 39-36. Other scorers for Merkel were Russell with 19, Denton 5, Rutledge 16, Tittle 2, McKeever 2.

CEMETERY FUNDS: W.O.W. Circle \$5.00, Paul Orsborn 5.00

Council Is Asked to Call Bond Election

The Merkel city council has been presented with a petition asking that Merkel voters be given the opportunity to vote on a \$30,000 bond issue to finance a city park development.

The petition is an outgrowth of talk here for development of a city park and swimming pool to attract more people to Merkel and to take care of the recreational needs of the city without having to go to Abilene or the State Park.

The petition does not mention a swimming pool, but it is taken for granted that this is part of the over all development.

The gist of the petition stated: "Shall the City Council of the City of Merkel, Texas, be authorized to issue Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000) general obligation bonds of said City for the purpose of purchasing and/or improving lands for public parks in and for said City; said bonds to mature serially over a period of years not to exceed Thirty (30) years from their date, and to bear interest at a rate not to exceed Four and One-half per centum (4 1/2%) per annum, payable annually or semi-annually; and to provide for the payment of principal of and interest on said bonds by levying a tax sufficient to pay the annual interest and to create a sinking fund sufficient to redeem said bonds as they become due?"

Mayor Starbuck said no action had been taken on the petition, but the Council will discuss it further.

Before any action is taken, however, Mayor Starbuck said surveys of other cities with similar projects will be made.

The Chamber of Commerce has advocated the construction of a swimming pool as an added attraction to people who might want to make Merkel their home, as well as serve the needs of the present 2,800 people.

Coach Benson Announces 56 Football Slate

The Merkel Badgers will face one of the roughest non-conference schedules in history next fall as they prepare for a 5-game conference schedule beginning October 19.

Several new teams, including the strong Abilene B, will prep the Badgers for the conference loop schedule.

Ranger will open at the season at Merkel. Ranker was winner of an AA district last fall, and later beat Albany which walloped the Badgers handily.

Other AA teams on the schedule are Hamlin, Anson and Winters.

Merkel will be in a new conference with Rotan, Stanton, Coahoma, Roby and Roscoe. Stanton and Coahoma will be newcomers to the Badgers.

The Badgers will play six games at home, and that should make season ticket sales boom.

Here is the schedule: Sept. 7 — Ranger at Merkel Sept. 14—Abilene B. at Merkel Sept. 21—Merkel at Hamlin Sept. 28—Open date. Oct. 5—Anson at Merkel Oct. 12—Merkel at Winters DISTRICT 7-A

Oct. 19—Rotan at Merkel Oct. 26—Stanton at Merkel Nov. 2—Merkel at Coahoma Nov. 9—Roby at Merkel Nov. 16—Merkel at Roscoe.

Trent Boys To Show at Houston

LeRoy Shafer and Jerry Horton, 4-H club members from Trent, have entered animals in the Houston Fat Stock Show February 22 to March 4.

Shafer has entered 2 Hereford steers in the Junior Division, and Horton has entered one Hereford heifer and one Hereford steer.

The steer show will have more than 1,000 entries, and premium and scholarships will total \$82,164 in the junior division alone.

Mrs. S. E. Harmes is visiting with her son, Mr. and Mrs. Etzel Harmes and family.



PRE-BANQUET PARLEY — The Rev. Sam Tullock, former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Merkel, who was toastmaster at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce banquet Friday night, is shown in a pre-banquet conference with John White, commissioner of agriculture, who was the principal speaker. (Photo by Don Norris, Abilene Reporter-News).

Former Gridder Drug by Horse, Severely Hurt

A former Merkel grid star, now a member of Hardin-Simmons University team, was injured severely Sunday on a ranch near here when a horse he was riding pulled him over cactus and rubble.

In the Sadler Clinic-Hospital is Bill Horton, 19, former Merkel high school grid star, and now a member of the Hardin-Simmons U. freshman team.

Horton was dragged over the ground by a racing horse while he was roping Sunday afternoon. Horton was pulled off the horse with a rope around his hand. The speeding horse kept him from getting up, and he was pulled along the ground.

At the hospital, it was learned his skin badly had been rubbed raw. He escaped injury to his head when he was able to dodge trees and stumps as he was being pulled along the ground.

His uncle Joe Horton and brother Jim were with him, and they guided the horse into a fence before it could be halted. They rushed him to the hospital in Merkel.

Mrs. Huff Will Undergo Surgery

Friends in Merkel have been notified that Mrs. Charley Huff, former Merkel resident, who was injured in an automobile accident last summer in Arkansas, must undergo another operation on her leg soon.

Mrs. Huff will undergo a bone graft on her leg. She is at the home of her son, Lawrence Huff, in Dallas.



WILL HE OR WON'T HE — John White, commissioner of agriculture, is shown jotting down a few notes just prior to his talk before the Merkel Chamber of Commerce. White, although his talk wasn't political, might have been doodling on whether he would run for governor or U. S. Senator — a question he will decide soon. (Photo by Don Norris, Abilene Reporter-News).



CRAWFORD INDUSTRIAL DELEGATE—Onis Crawford, manager of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce, extreme right, was one of the delegates to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce-industrial conference at Abilene last week. He is shown greeting C. L. Newton (left) and Albert J. Pope and O. H. Rhode, all of Coleman, at the conference.

218 PERSONS ATTEND BIG C-C BANQUET

The farmer is still the backbone of Texas' economy, but he has had some shaky days in the past — caused by low prices, drought and other factors, John C. White, commissioner of agriculture, told 218 persons attending the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet Friday night.

It was the first such banquet, and it was lauded by all those who attended. It gave the Chamber of Commerce additional steam to start the new year in what may be Merkel's greatest.

Avoiding politics "because this is a Chamber of Commerce affair," the red-headed, youthful looking politician who skyrocketed with the force of a jet from an obscure vocational agriculture teacher in 1950 to one of the state's most important offices in one election, declared that the farmer needs the help of business men in these days, as much as business men needs him.

"Stock with youth farmers," White asserted. "Even when weather and economic conditions make the debt repayment less favorable — stick with those farmers. Statistics for the past 30 years prove that the farmer is actually a better loan risk. He is more apt to repay loans or pay his bills than most any other occupational class," White declared.

"Farm prosperity, in the long run, serves to promote the prosperity, security and the best interest of the nation," the agriculture commissioner explained.

"The sober fact is that the banner of the farm progress cannot fly against the wind — against the wind of 'relax and be satisfied' — or, let George do it, or it's not my affair."

He warned that such attitude on the part of the general public — or even of the businessmen — can be the death knell of agriculture prosperity.

White cited what he believed had happened to farm economy lately as:

- 1. Prices for goods grown on the farm have dropped alarmingly. 2. Net farm income is down about 40 percent from post-war figures. 3. The cost of producing farm goods has increased. 4. Annual drought in our state has resulted in crop failures and extreme hardships to many farmers and ranchmen. 5. There is no definite and concrete national farm program.

After White had completed his talk, he was presented with a new West Texas hat by the Chamber of Commerce. The presentation was made by Isadore Mellinger.

David Gamble, retiring president, was presented with a set of engraved cuff links for his efforts during the past year. Onis Crawford, Chamber of Commerce manager, also received a pair of cuff links as a token for his work during the past year.

Rev. Sam Tullock, retiring pastor of the First Baptist Church, was the toastmaster, and Rev. Cloyd Lyles, pastor of the First Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

Musicians numbers were furnished by Noble Canada, talented musician of Hamlin, Mrs. Norman Winters, and Don Jones, choir director of the First Baptist Church.

New directors of the organization are Mellinger, Ray Wilson and Chester Collinsworth. Outgoing directors are Dr. W. T. Sadler, Dr. Don Warren and Dr. E. Brady Cox.

Holdover directors are H. O. Boney, new president, Herman Carson, W. D. Gamble, Lester Dorton, Earl Hughes, and Booth Warren. A report on progress of the Chamber of Commerce was submitted by Crawford. It follows:

Since the organization of the Merkel Chamber of Commerce in January of 1955 quite a little study has been given to the possibilities of this group. These studies included the questionnaire and the themes by the high school students. These are a most accurate expression of the thinking of the families represented by the students. Later meetings of different groups reflected the same information as the students questionnaire. These groups included the merchants meeting August 8, members program planning meeting September 12, ladies club meeting of September 25. It is upon the information gained from these meetings the following suggestions are made.

For the sake of simplicity let us divide these suggestions into five planks for the 1956 program of work, covering AGRICULTURE - CIVIC DEVELOPMENT — INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT — TRADE DEVELOPMENT — AND — GENERAL ACTIVITIES.

Let us keep in mind that in order to give proper consideration to each of these items we will have to have persons with leadership ability and also persons who are interested in the activity. Your chamber cannot be operated successfully by the directors. The duty of these nine men is to assist and direct the various groups who will activate the various committee projects.

PROGRAM OF WORK COMMITTEE: This committee acts as a liaison group between the various committees. They act as a steering committee for the organization. They bring the board reports, suggestions, and recommendations from committees, service clubs, ministerial associations, women's clubs and other representative groups. They also report back to these groups.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK: This group should have several sub-committees, men who realize the importance of the farm territory and have the ability to work with farm groups in connection with soil conservation, 4-H, F.F.A., Beef Production, Dairying, Poultry and other farm groups. A planned program of farmer-business man contact and periodic meetings established. Keeping in mind, "Every farm is a factory, bringing into Merkel definite return in business and community progress."

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT: A large majority of all studies ask or suggested that much improvement be made along these lines. These included a swimming pool, more housing facilities, city beautification program, street paving, city park, golf course, adequate police protection, street lighting, public library, store front modernization and other items. Committees working on these items should report back to the board the cost and feasibility of these activities.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT: During the time covered by this report several bonafide inquiries have been made in regard to Merkel as a possible sight for industrial plant locations. We should make definite recognition of the industry we now have, making every effort to keep them pleased with their location. (Special reference to: REA, T. C. Mercer Trucking Co., Ready Mix Concrete Co., Hicks Auto Supply and others.)

UP THE CANYON

What little moisture we have gotten has the ground wet enough that farmers are plowing some. The sandy land plows good, but the dark land is dry. We just need about two inches of rain.

February 1 is the time we should be plowing our land. Some of the boys who are working on other jobs, perhaps will work on until near spring, and then plow their land late. They can plow a lot of land in week.

Livestock are doing fine. This has been one winter, stock has not suffered from cold weather,

however February coming up we could have some severe weather yet.

Some of the boys up the Canyon, who have made a practice of lambing out their ewes in the winter months, have given up as a bad deal. It just takes too much feed for the ewes to give milk for the lambs.

The Perry brothers, W. T. and Lloyd, have sold the rest of their feeder lambs. The lambs went to the San Angelo market.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Meeks have made quite a lot of improvements on their farm home in the Canyon. They own one of the good farms in this area.

The Taylor and Jones County

Singing Convention was well attended Sunday afternoon at Pioneer Church. There were several quartets. The Jubilaires Quartet from Fort Worth was with us. Clark Mondy's boy is a member of the quartet from Fort Worth. Joe Nalley of Merkel served the past year as president of the Taylor and Jones County Convention.

Melvin McCoy of Trent was elected President for this year.

Uncle Tom Spears of Merkel, who was president of the Convention for 20 years, was present. He recalled twenty as president. He is well in his eighties now and is still active.

Several had a chance to talk to Mr. J. Walter Hammond at the Merkel C. C. Banquet.

He is president of the Texas Farm Bureau. He was asked what he thought about the soil bank, as a part of the farm program. He said if it is based on production. He did not think it would week our area, but on the plains where the production was, it would be a good program. They are interested in what will help in the area, not some where else.

Washington

"As It Looks From Here"



OMAR BURLESON, M. C. 17th District, Texas
WASHINGTON, D. C. — Every Committee of the Congress has been in session during the past week. Committee action is necessary before very much legislation is ever brought to the Floor of the House or Senate. With the exception of the debate on the Natural Gas Bill, very little has transpired. However, activities connected with Washington go on at a pretty rapid pace. This past week I have attend-

GETTING UP NIGHTS

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ed the banquet of the Real Estate Convention being held here in Washington; participated in a program honoring the birthday of Benjamin Franklin; met with representative farmers and officers of the Southwestern Peanut Growers Association to discuss the future peanut program; attended three or four luncheons, one of which was to hear the Chairman of the President's representatives at the conference on peaceful uses of atomic energy; met with a group to discuss and organize opposition to changing the standard of grading cotton as recommended by the Secretary of Agriculture; appeared before the Appropriations Committee in behalf of funds for predatory animal control; attended a reception for the Directors of the American Bar Association, and on the same night, the banquet of the Texas Automobile Dealers Association; was present at the annual dinner of the American Legion — and in between all these things, presided over my own Committee five mornings out of the last seven.

The President's Budget for the fiscal year 1956-57 is the highest in the peace-time history of our nation. If the budget is balanced, it will not be because expenditures are reduced, but rather because revenue from taxes is expected to be considerably greater. Spending for defense has been reduced, but spending outside the military is being increased.

Incidentally, speaking of military expenditures, the total value of military equipment and facilities in actual use is estimated at around 135 to 150 billion dollars. This is the value in any one year, but does not include the value of weapons, facilities, etc. found each year to be obsolete and written off as excess surplus. This excess or surplus is estimated at approximately one-third of the total value, or approximately 40 to 45 billion dollars annually.

If this is the case, and no one can be entirely accurate on the figures, each year our military bill is five times greater than the cost of the farm program since its very beginning. To a very great degree the military write-off is a total loss, but we do have a lot of farm surpluses to show for the investment in the farm program.

Week before last I reported in this column that the Senate Finance Committee had approved a bill to exempt farmers from the Federal tax on farm-use gasoline. The House of Representatives has now approved this measure, which will be of some little help to the farmers.

A proposal is now before the tax-writing committee of the Congress to make an adjustment in the corporation tax rate on small corporations. Since there are different income tax rates applied to individual incomes, it has always seemed a little strange that the same percentage of tax rate should be applied to the corporation that earns \$50,000 as one that earns several millions of dollars.

Under this proposal, the normal tax rate would start at 22% and be graded upwards the same as the present personal income tax law.

SOME FUN!



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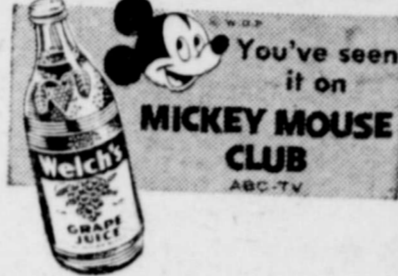
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Libby's Chopped 10-oz. pkg.
SPINACH
2 for - 35c

Libby's Sliced
STRAWBERRIES
pkg. - 27c

Libby's
LEMONADE
can - 15c

Cape Ann
PERCH
lb. - 39c

Simple Simon
TAMALE PIE
each - 29c

ARMOUR'S VEGETOLE

Shortening 3 Pound Can **59c**

PILLSBURY

FLOUR 25 Pound Bag

TIDE
Giant Size
69c

Dial
SOAP
Reg. Size
2 for - 25c

VEGETABLES
AVOCADOS
2 for - 35c

Rome Beauty
APPLES
lb. - 15c

RUTABAGAS
lb. - 9c

Fresh
COCONUTS
each - 15c

Fresh Green
ONIONS
lb. - 9c

Fresh Bartlett
PEARS
lb. - 19c

Libby's
FRUIT COCKTAIL - 303 can --- 2 for 45c

Ocean Spray
CRANBERRY SAUCE - 303 can ----- 19c

Diamond
TOMATO JUICE -- 46-oz. can - 25c

Sunshine
CRACKERS - - - - 1-lb. box 25c

Libby's
CATSUP - - - - - bottle 19c

Wolf Brand
CHILI - - - - - No. 2 can 49c

Lipton's
TEA BAGS - - - - - 16-count 21c

Kraft's Philadelphia
CREAM CHEESE - 3-oz. pkg. - - 2 for 29c

Kraft's Mineature
MARSHMALLOWS - - - pkg. 25c

Kraft
DINNER - - - - - 2 pkgs. 29c

Kraft's Miracle Whip
SALAD DRESSING - - - pt. 31c

Meat SPECIALS!

SLICED BACON - - - - lb. 29c

Fresh
GROUND MEAT --- lb. 29c

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FRYERS - - - - - lb. 39c

Choice
BEEF RIBS - - - - - lb. 19c

Tender Chuck Longhorn
ROAST lb. 39c **CHEESE** lb. 19c

Wilson's Food Store

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WE DELIVER



AUSTIN, Tex. — Accusations and denials fill the air as investigators dig into details of how US Trust and Guaranty and other now defunct companies operated.

Rep. Bert McDaniel of Waco, lawyer for US Trust, told house investigators he had no knowledge of payment by any A. B. Shoemaker company to influence legislation.

McDaniel said he sponsored a bill to bring such companies under securities regulation and voted for a similar bill which passed. He said he abstained from voting on HB 240 which would have placed US Trust under the state banking laws.

Former State Sen. R. C. Lanning of Austin also said he knew of no payments by Shoemaker to legislators. Both McDaniel and Lanning, an attorney who resigned from the Board of Control to represent Shoemaker during the legislature, said they had done nothing illegal or unethical.

Renne Allred Jr., former Insurance Commission examiner, declared that bank affidavits on insurance company assets cannot always be taken at face value. He cited a case involving the now-defunct Commercial Security Insurance Co. of Houston. It showed a bank deposit of \$250,000. But, said Allred, this was \$50,000 in cash and a note for \$200,000 with a restriction against drawing on the account.

Bank officials immediately denied this. They declared they had proven in court that there was no restriction against this account.

Allred also testified that the Insurance Commission received information in a report in September, 1954, that would have enabled it to close down US Trust then.

Two executives of large legal reserve life companies presented industry views in an appearance before the senate committee. Emphasizing Texas legal reserve life companies' long record of no loss to policyholders, they declared they felt such companies had been unfairly damaged by recent developments.

Present insurance laws are adequate, they said. The problem now is enforcement. Along this line they suggested the possibility of a single commission with sole power. This drew quick fire from Gov. Allan Shivers. These companies, he said, had asked his help during the last session of the legislature to set up the present three-man board system.

US Trust operated with a license from May 31, 1955, until put into receivership Dec. 12, an Insurance Commission attorney told the senate investigating committee. Paul Connor said that all company licenses expire May 31, but by "tacit understanding" they continue operating un-

til the commission takes action to deny a new license. Quizzing of employees brought only a strengthened conception of US Trust as a "one-man business," but shed no light on whether more than \$50,000 in cash withdrawals was used to buy influence. Former staffers told the house committee that money from checks drawn to "cash" went to the president, and they had no knowledge of what he did with it.

Both House and Senate committee chairmen stated they want to question Shoemaker as soon as he is able to appear. He has been in the hospital since his Jan. 7 suicide attempt.

Meanwhile, the Insurance Commission began work on a revised plan to hasten the examination of Texaco companies. All will be required to prove solvency by May 31 or lose their licenses.

Also being considered is a requirement that insurance companies publish financial reports such as are demanded of banks and other institutions handling vast sums of money belonging to depositors.

Revenue Fund In Red
Texas' general revenue fund is \$1,100,000 in the red and it is expected to dip lower.

State Comptroller Robert S. Calvert said the deficit likely will continue until May when income should exceed expenses again. Meanwhile, the shortage may hit ten million dollars. Nobody will lose, said Calvert, since banks have agreed to cash warrants without discount.

A similar state deficit developed last year and continued until the spring payment of corporation franchise taxes replenished the general fund.

Four Elections In Red
There will be an extra election in 1956 as the result of a legislative boner. The error will cost the senate and some counties \$200,000.

Nine constitutional amendments will be voted on in November. Eight were drawn properly. One, however, calls for a vote on the second Tuesday in the ninth. General election day is Nov. 6 — the first Tuesday. Therefore the state must call an election the following week in order that the ninth amendment may be legally voted upon. That will be Nov. 13.

The troublesome amendment would permit the state to spend up to \$1,500,000 a year in aid to dependent persons over 18 years of age who are mentally or physically totally disabled.

Supporters Write Shepperd
Rumors that Attorney General John Ben Shepperd planned a quiet retirement to private life following this term in office have sparked a drive by his friends to keep him in public office. Not only has Shepperd been besieged by calls, wires and letters urging that he stay in Texas government, but reports have it that supporters have raised a campaign chest ample for any contested race.

Evidence Withheld
An accusation of hampering the investigation of a murder case has been made against Ronnie Dugger, editor of the Texas Observer, a political tabloid published in Austin. District Attorney Ralph Prince leveled the charges from Longview. He said Dugger would be called before the grand jury there to explain why he failed to turn over "important evidence" (a bullet) which Dugger found at the scene of a shooting. Turning over of such evidence is required by law, Prince pointed out. The grand jury is investigating the death of a Gregg Co. Negro youth. Dugger denied a statement by Prince that he was trying to "create racial unrest" in the area.



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NEWS

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Extension Service

Taylor County Home Demonstration Council met at the Agriculture Building with representatives from all the clubs. Mrs. Orville Black, chairman presided. She announced the following committees:

Three E — Mrs. Roy Mahan, Mrs. D. I. Davis, Mrs. C. A. Fomby, Mrs. V. B. Reeves, and Mrs. Fred Allen.

Yearbook Committee — Mrs. Frank K. Antilley, Mrs. Joe Albro and Mrs. Clarence Hollingshead.

Finance — Mrs. J. L. Farr, Mrs. Bob Oisen, and Mrs. L. A. Groene.

Recreation — Mrs. B. J. Gist, Mrs. Edgar Holly, and Mrs. W. B. Reed.

Consumer Education — Mrs. J. M. Foster, Mrs. Leon Norris, Mrs. Kenneth Pee.

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4-H Leader — Mrs. Hub Evans. The Committee chairman presented the recommendations for the work of their committees for another year.

The following women represented their clubs: Council chairman, Mrs. Orville Black, Secretary Mrs. Freeman Morgan, Treasurer Mrs. J. L. Farr; THDA Chairman, Mrs. Edgar Holly; Blue Bonnet, Mrs. D. I. Davis and Mrs. R. E. Clemmer; Hamby Club, Mrs. J. M. Foster and Mrs. Geo. Grantham; Lake Abilene Club, Mrs. Bob Losen and Mrs. Arthur Rock; Lawn Club, Mrs. Herman Hammons; Ovalo Club, Mrs. C. A. Fomby and Mrs. J. R. Childers; Pleasant Hill Club, Mrs. L. A. Groene and Mrs. Clayton Hardwick; Potosi Club, Mrs. Clarence Hollingshead; Chep Club, Mrs. J. H. Christian, Jr.; Tuscola Club, Mrs. W. L. McCormick; Union ridge, Mrs. Kenneth Pee and Mrs. Carol Best; Wylie Club, Mrs. J. L. Farr and Mrs. Wm. Taylor; Mrs. Guy McCarty of Pleasant Hill visited the clubs.

UPHOLSTERY ON FOAM RUBBER CAN BE CLEANED EASILY

Much of the newer furniture is cushioned with foam rubber and upholstered with fabric. Women are asking if the fabric can be cleaned at home without damage to the foam rubber. Just be sure to use a safe cleaning agent.

Select your cleaning agent by considering first, the nature of the stain, next the type of fabric, and lastly the effect of the cleaning agent on foam rubber.

Soap, detergents, glycerine, denatured alcohol, benzene, carbon tetrachloride, sodium hydrosulfite, sodium thiosulphate and a weak solution of ammonia are acceptable cleaning agents as far as the foam rubber is concerned.

Specialists warn that carbon tetrachloride should be used very sparingly. It is a rubber solvent. Normal rubbing of the outside covering on tight or fixed seats will not harm the foam rubber cushion. Foam rubber is tender when wet but its normal strength returns when dry.

Cleaning agents that do have a harmful effect on foam rubber are of the bleaching and oxidizing types. The following are not recommended: vinegar, turpentine, acetone, chlorine, hydrogen, oxalic acid and sodium perborate.

If the nature of the stain or the type of the fabric calls for the use of one of the above cleaning agents, the fabric should be removed from the foam rubber and cleaned separately.

The zinnia was adopted as the state flower of Indiana, by the General Assembly on March 3, 1931.



COMPLETES RECRUIT — Edward R. Goode, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Goode, route 1, Merkel, completes his recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruiting Station, San Diego, this week. He will be assigned to Camp Pendleton, Calif. for further infantry training, or to one of the many Marine Corps schools. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Goode.

STITH NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dunagin visited Mrs. Dunagin's aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lunecum of Clyde. Miss Mary Dunagin had as guest Sunday Miss Lana Cox.

Mr. and Mrs. Don McRee of Stamford visited with Mr. and Mrs. Billy Dunagin over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Evans had as guest Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Hub Evan of Caps, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Dedmon, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Wimberly, Mrs. Dedmon, all of Abilene. Also, visiting were Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Bond and baby and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Evans and Nancy of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. John Brown spent the weekend in Brownfield visiting Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Lowe and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Buckner. While there, they saw a good sandstorm.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tarpley had as guests last week, Mrs. Tarpley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gaston Gregory of Colorado City, Mrs. J. T. Gregory and daughter of Sweetwater, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Tarpley spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Dave Tarpley.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Dunagin of Cape Cod, Mass., visited recently in the home of Mrs. J. M. Dunagin.



Mr. and Mrs. John Eakin and family were in Brownwood to visit Mrs. Eakin's father, Ray Steward, who has been ill with pneumonia.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hudson and Mrs. Jessie Lenoir attended the singing at Pioneer Sunday. Mr. Burns Ray Powell of Odessa spent the night with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. E. Hudson.

Miss Louise Hudson, Bob and Hollis had as guests Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Clark Munday of Fort Worth and the Fort Worth Quartet known as the Jubilaires, which Billy Munday is a member. Billy is the nephew of Miss Louise, Bob and Hollis. They all attended the singing at Pioneer, Miss Louise went to Fort Worth with Mr. and Mrs. Munday to spend a few days.

Miss Marlene Martin of Burbank, Calif. is attending ACC in Abilene. She spent a few days with her grandmother, Mrs. Jessie Lenoir, and her aunt, Mrs. J. E. Hudson, before registering.

The Homemakers Class of the Stith Baptist Church surprised their teacher, M. E. West, with a party last Thursday night. It was Mr. West's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Olin Potts and Sharon Beth visited with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Berry of Colorado City last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Mashburn, who formerly lived at Stith, are now living in Abilene. They have been living at Robert Lee.

Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Jones visited their son, Mr. and Mrs. Truett Jones of Winters, Sunday.

Stith has lost another fine couple, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Childress, they have moved to Odessa. The community hates to see them leave. They were fine neighbors and friends.

Hospital Notes

Those admitted to the Sadler Clinis during the past week were: Roy Largent, Merkel; Mrs. R. E. Adams, Merkel; Allen King Child, Merkel; Randy Carson, Merkel; Mrs. S. E. Winter, Merkel; Buster Edwards, Abilene; Mrs. Wilber Click, Merkel; Mrs. Clesby Patterson, Merkel; Mrs. A. V. Teaff, Tye; Bill Horton, Merkel.

NEW ARRIVALS: Lee Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerrell Butman, Merkel, weighs 7 pounds. Born January 30, 1956.

TRENT CUB SCOUTS HAVE PACK MEETING

The Cub Scouts of Trent had their pack meeting Thursday, January 26, at 6:45 in the School Cafeteria.

Supper was served to the cubs and parents.

Then the cubs displayed the things they had made for all to see.

The program opened with Den I and Den II singing songs led by Mrs. A. M. Claborn.

The theme was "Pirate Water's". The parents entered on a gangplank. The cubs were dressed as Pirates and gave their parts on the ship, flying a Pirate Flag.

Also, a treasure hunt by cub Pirate's with their finding a treasure chest of silver candy and jewels.

The fathers and sons played games together. H. D. Norris of Sweetwater, Scout Leader, made a nice demonstration of things for cubs and dads to do together and how to help den's grow.

Fun was reported by all attending.

J. D. Manning, Cubmaster, gave out the Bobcat Pins to the mothers who in turn, pinned them on their sons. They are now ready to start other achievement awards.

The next pack meeting will be Thursday, February 23. All parents keep that day open and be there with their cubs.

FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB MET WITH MRS. BENSON

The Fortnightly Study Club met Tuesday, January 24, in the lovely home of Mrs. Carroll Benson on Haynes Street.

After a short business session Mrs. Mack Fisher reviewed Year of Decisions by Harry S. Truman.

A delicious refreshment plate of date bread and coffee was served by Miss Ann Benson to the

following members: Mesdames Chester Collinsworth, Johnny Cox, Carroll Benson, W. R. Cyfert, Mack Fisher, David Gamble, S. D. Gamble, Comer Haynes, Ben R. Hicks, Dale Litton, George T. Moore, Elma McFarland, Homer Patterson, W. T. Sadler, Andy Shouse, Don Warren, Henry West and Miss Christine Collins.

The next meeting will be a Friendship Tea in the Community Center on February 14, with the Social Committee as hostesses.

TRENT

Mrs. A. M. Claborn and Mrs. Hall of Carbon have gone to El Paso to visit Mrs. Hall's son.

Mr. and Mrs. Rennie Freeman are at home in Mrs. G. Williamson apartment from their honeymoon.

Paul Manning of Navasota was week-end visitor in the J. D. Manning home. His mother Mrs. J. B. Manning, who has been visiting, returned home with him.

Mrs. James Canady and daughter are home from the hospital.

Mrs. J. D. Manning is home from an eight day stay in the hospital and is still confined to her home.

Mrs. Cecil Taylor has been ill at her home the past two weeks. She is reported much better.

Sympathy from all the people in Trent goes to the C. L. McLeod family, due to the death of their daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Woods and Albert Lee of Whiteface were week-end visitors in the J. D. Manning home.

Mrs. O. E. Ray and Ina Beth and Earnie Lynn Manning attended Scottie Taylor and Gregory Palo's birthday in Sweetwater, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Murry had as weekend guests their oldest son and wife and grandson, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Murry and Jimmy. Mrs. Mary Phillips was also a weekend guest.

ness trip to Clyde and Baird, Texas. Paul Shanks while in Baird, as, Tuesday, and visiting Mr. and

Roy Elliott of Ballard was the guest of his mother, Mrs. W. M. Elliott, this week. He had been attending a conference of the firm he works for at Abilene.

NOODLE

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Maxwell and two sons of Aspermont were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Naith Maxwell, Saturday, Joan Maxwell attended the Fat Sock Show at Fort Worth last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted McAninch, Donna and Tonja, visited her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. George Cooper last week at Big Spring. They also visited his brother, Cal, and family.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Anderson were her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Thomas of Abilene.

Rev. Jack Waters preached at the Baptist Church Sunday. He was accompanied by his wife, they were dinner guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benningfield went to Houston last week end to see their daughter and son-in-law, and took the three children to see their parents.

Mrs. Lile Code has been very ill, but is better.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Caldwell visited in the home of his brother, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Caldwell, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jackson spent last weekend visiting their son, Carl and family, at Wichita Falls.

Ross Merritt and his mother of Comper Community were Sunday visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Y. Hudson.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Dooley, Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Milton and daughter of Snyder, Mrs. Gar-

land Dooley, Bobbie and Bettie of Anson.

Mrs. Jim Boaz returned home Saturday where she had been visiting her brother, Mr. Rainwater, and niece, Mrs. Dixon at Temple. She also visited her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Richardson at Killeen.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Spurgeon visited his brother, Jim, and Mrs. Spurgeon in Merkel, Sunday. They went to the 5th Singing at Pioneer Hall, then visited Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Quinn and Mr. and Mrs. Jones at Blair.

Mrs. Vernell Clement and boys and Mrs. Tava Tarpley, spent part of Friday with Mrs. Dimmons Calaway.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Barbee Sr. were in Abilene last Friday visiting their children and grandchildren. The following grandchildren came home with them for the weekend: Andy Bob and Don Read.

Mrs. Dorothy Reed and son, Randy, spent the week-end with her sister and family last week-end.

Dock Callaway and daughter, Margaret Hunter, returned from Alice, Saturday night after spending a couple of days with his other daughter, Mrs. Ruth Norris, who is ill.

ESTHER CLASS HAS PARTY

The Esther Class of the First Baptist Church had a class social January 21, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Preston Henry.

Games of 88 and 42 were played. Hot chocolate, coffee, and doughnuts were served to nineteen.

Attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hartley, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Teaff, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Baze, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Fox, Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Sherrill, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bartlett, Mrs. Zola Teague, and Mr. and Mrs. Mack Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Castles had as guests over the weekend, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Castles of Houston, and Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Castles of Lubbock, and Mrs. Hopper of Lubbock.

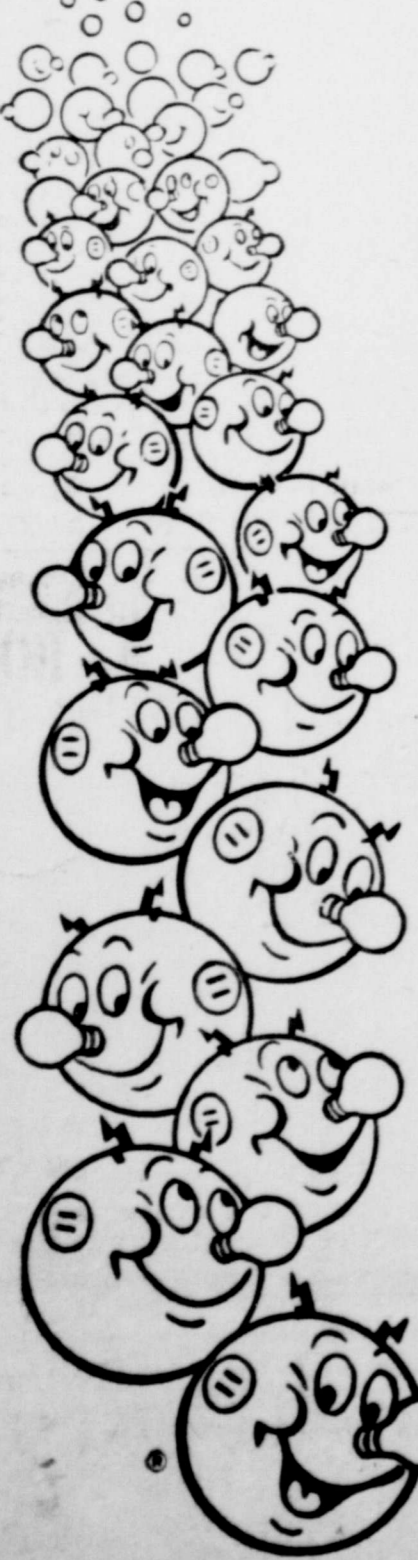
All-Time Dodger



ZACH EARL WHEAT, 2, listens to an explanation of the fine points of baseball from his grandfather, Zach "Buck" Wheat, of Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. All-Time Dodger outfielder. Wheat broke in with the Dodgers in 1909, getting two hits off the first pitcher he faced—the immortal Christy Mathewson. He racked up a lifetime batting average of .317 and holds Dodger record of hitting in 29 consecutive games. He played in the longest major league game on record, 26 innings, between the Dodgers and Braves in 1920. (International)

37 Servants!

to help you LIVE BETTER ELECTRICALLY



The average home employs thirty-seven servants — and all of them are Reddy. He is at your beck and call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week all year long — fair weather or foul. He'll run any of those 37 appliances — or ALL of them — whenever you say!

The beauty of it is, that Reddy does all these jobs for real low wages... about 3¢ an hour. That's a lot of work for a little money!

Next time your electric service bill arrives, take a good look at Reddy's wages — you'll find that electricity is still today's biggest bargain.

West Texas Utilities Company



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A check book is a handy thing... it lets you write your money as you need it, in the exact amount you need it... and the check stubs give you a continuous record of all your expenses plus your current balance at the bank. In planning your budget and in keeping it, your check book stubs give you a complete, handy budget reference file. Your own checking account lets you pay bills, make deposits by mail. So open your account this week.

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WASHING — GREASING WE HAVE BATTERY QUICK-CHARGE HIGHWAY 80 WEST

COSDEN STATION

ON HIGHWAY 80 WEST

Badgers Slam Albany, 84-53

The Merkel Badgers continued at a torrid pace last Friday night in a March of Dimes benefit game as they romped over the Albany Lions in a district 8-A contest, 84-53.

The Badgers high scorer and candidate for all-state honors, Robert McLeod, dumped in 42 points for the high of the season. Merkel held a 6-1 conference record after the Albany game, losing only to Throckmorton, which has a 7-0 record.

Albany's Harold Hudman was

the top man for the Lions with 17 points.

McLeod helped his season's average considerably as he sank 13 from the field and 16 at the charity line.

The Badgers went ahead 18-7 in the first period and had a 20-point lead at the half.

Here is the box score:

Merkel (84)	fg	ft	tp
Pursley	4	1	9
Russell	1	3	5
McLeod	13	16	42
Denton	1	1	3
Rutledge	7	2	16
McKeever	4	1	9
Totals	30	24	84
Albany (53)	fg	ft	tp
Hudman	7	3	17

Allman	1	0	2
Boling	1	2	4
Ivy	2	2	6
Beal	0	2	2
Macon	2	0	4
Atwell	4	4	12
Woodward	3	0	6
Totals	20	13	53

STUDIES HEALTH STITH H. D. CLUB

Miss Louise Hudson was host to members of the Stith Home Demonstration Club for their regular meeting.

Mrs. Wilburn Loflin, president, conducted the business session.

Mrs. O. B. Leach assisted by Mrs. Ted Hudson, Mrs. Fred Baker and Mrs. C. B. Rust gave a

program on "Health".

Eighteen members answered roll call with a "Health Hint."

The next meeting will be in the home of Mrs. J. H. F. Jones on February 8.

MR. AND MRS. J. H. HOBBS OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hobbs plan to observe their Golden Wedding Anniversary, Sunday, February 5, with open house from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at their home nine miles north of Merkel in the Noodle Community.

Both were residents of the Warren Community since 1904.

Friends and acquaintances are extended a cordial invitation.



J. D. WOODARD

J. D. Woodard Seeks Job As County Sheriff

J. D. Woodard Saturday authorized The Merkel Mail to announce his candidacy for sheriff of Taylor County, subject to action of the Democratic primary July 28.

Woodard is now constable of Precinct 1. He has been in law enforcement work 20 years, including 13 years with the Abilene Police Department and more than six years in the Taylor County Sheriff's Department.

"TO THE CITIZENS OF TAYLOR COUNTY:

"In 1954, you elected me to the office of Constable, Precinct 1, which I now hold. I am deeply grateful for the support given me in the past and now, in announcing my candidacy for your Sheriff, once again I ask your support and influence in the Democratic Primary on July 28, 1956.

"After 5 1/2 years as a Deputy Sheriff of Taylor County, and upon the resignation of Sheriff H. T. Fleming, I was appointed to fill his unexpired term. During the time I served as your Sheriff, our department offered its wholehearted cooperation both to the public and to all law enforcement agencies both within and without the county. In turn, the department received that same cooperation which increased the efficiency of our service to you.

"You ask my platform and specially, I have none. I believe that COURTEOUS SERVICE should be the keyword of any public office and though I would be the last to condone the codding of any criminal, I think that many of our officers simply forget to remember that criminals are made, not born, and that such protectors of the public, as law enforcement officials, should always remember that a friendly word of counsel and advice to the would-be offender is all that is necessary and is truly worth all the "tongue lashings" and "on the spot arrests" that ever occurred! So my platform is generally that of Courteous Service to all with whom the department may come in contact, plus fair and upright dealings for all.

Mrs. Woodard and I own our home at 1342 Cedar Street and regularly attend The First Methodist Church. I am a member of the Victory Men's Bible Class. I am 53 years of age and have lived in Taylor County all of my adult life, most of which has been spent here in Abilene. Since we lost our only son a few years ago, my wife has been working and is now regularly employed in the business office at St. Ann Hospital.

"With a background of more than 20 years in law enforcement, and given the opportunity, I sincerely believe that I am qualified and can handle the duties of Sheriff to your entire satisfaction. I respectfully ask for your support and your influence in the coming election.

J. D. Woodard
"Sincerely

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Derrick and Jimmie and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eckert and sons, of Noodle, attended the Southwestern Livestock Exposition and Rodeo at Fort Worth Sunday.

You Can't Beat BAR-NOTHING CAFE Truck Stop

FORMERLY PO PO CAFE OPEN UNTIL 1 A.M.

COLD SUFFERERS

COLD discomforts yield quickly to STANBACK'S prescription formula. STANBACK tablets or powders work fast to bring comforting relief from tired, sore, aching muscles, neuralgia and headaches due to colds.

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FOR RENT

MY PLACE FOR SALE OR LEASE, 131 acres. One mile west of Blair. Mrs. John Meeks. 205 Runnels. 447-3tp.

DOWNSTAIRS APARTMENT for rent, also rooms by day or week, Merkel Hotel. 45-tfc.

FOR RENT — Six room house, with bath, lights and water, 5 miles northwest Merkel. Byron Curb, Phone 164 M. 46-3tp.

FOR RENT — 2 bedroom apartment, unfurnished, E. B. Barnes, 402 Ash. Phone 51W. 46-3tp.

FOR RENT — A bedroom. Outside entrance. Innerspring mattress. Linens furnished. Room adjoins bath. Mrs. Lottie Green, 606 Yucca St. Phone 297-J. 46-3tc.

FOR RENT — 4-room unfurnished house, 3 1/2 miles southwest of Merkel, electricity, well, Morris B. Smith. 44-3tc.

Baby Chicks for Sale

The chick that is tops in Livability, Layability and Feed Efficiency.

WILSON POULTRY FARM & HATCHERY
CLYDE TEXAS

FOR SALE — Milch cow, W. L. Gunter, Route, Merkel 45-1tp.

62 ACRES SOUTH OF MERKEL and 6 acres in town for rent. The Boring Estate, 1515 Winona, Tyler, Texas. 47-4tc.

IF YOU HAVE land for sale see us. We have buyers. We will appreciate leasing your land for oil.

We have two or three other places to lease for farming and grazing.

Call us for any kind of real estate needs or oil leases and royalties.

DOWDY & TOOMBS 47-tfc

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our deep appreciation for every loving word and deed tendered us during our sorrow.

Loyd and Douglas Wakeman
The Carlton McLeod Family

YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE to win \$10 in cash by guessing the closest time the clock will stop . . . but time is getting shorter. Come in and guess today. West Company. 47-3tc.

EXPERT ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE repairing. All work guaranteed 90 days. Free pickup and delivery after 5 p.m. Call 297w. Nite Owl Appliance Service. Bill Brazzil. 47-tfc

STRAYED, one gray hog, around 175 pounds. Notify Charley Sylvester. 47-3tc.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Campbell and children, of Sweetwater, were guests in the home of their sister Mr. and Mrs. Joe Patterson and family, Saturday.

CLASSIFIED RATES

FIRST ISSUE, Per Word . . . 3c
MINIMUM, first issue . . . 50c
OTHER ISSUES, Per Word . . . 2c
MINIMUM, second issue . . . 40c
TRANSIT RATE, Per Word 5c

THESE RATES APPLY TO ONLY LOCALLY OWNED FIRMS.

ALL CLASSIFIEDS ARE CASH 25c SERVICE CHARGE FOR BILLING THOSE WITHOUT A REGULAR MONTHLY ACCOUNT

Classifieds will be accepted by telephone, but payment must be made before publication.

NOTICE MASONS

Stated meeting of Merkel lodge No. 710, A.F. & A.M. Thurs, Feb. 2, 7:30 p.m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited.

J. R. Mashburn, W. M.
C. B. Rust, Secretary.

REPOSSESSED TV's, we have two Emerson Console 21-inch, only a few months old, take up the past due payments and pay the balance monthly. Badger Chevrolet. 40-tfc.

TV SERVICE

We Service All Makes. Next Time **PHONE 193**

DUDLEY ELECTRIC

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

FOR SALE

HOUSES FOR SALE — FHA loans, from \$9,000 to \$12,900. Bath and bath and one half. Easy terms, low down payments. Contact H. O. Boney, General Manager, Merkel Development Co. 42-tfs.

FOR SALE — Chick brooder with 500 capacity. Butane or Natural gas, used one season. \$10.00. Fred Baker, Rt. 1, Merkel 46-2tc

FOR SALE — My six room house on Oak Street. Three lots, two baths, windmill, cellar, barn, garage. House may be arranged into a duplex or private kindergarten. Possession June 1. C. A. Farley, 812 Oak Street. Ph. Phone 192J. 44-tfc.

HELP WANTED

WANTED — Woman or girl to stay with elderly lady at home. Phone Noodle 6377. 45-3tp.

WOULD BUY 1,000 bales of 1955 cotton loan equities of light spotted cotton. F. T. Hogan or Morris B. Smith. 46-3tc.

ENJOY UTMOST SHAVING EASE AND CONVENIENCE

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WITH BLUE BLADE DISPENSER AND STYRENE CASE

\$1.00

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Do your clothes have that "like new" look, with the original drape and brightness of color they should have? If not have your clothes cleaned the Mycel way found only at

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In Merkel, February 6, 1956 for entrance information call 376R

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Here's how it works!

Everybody knows that volume cuts costs. And ours is a volume operation that demands turnover. In order to build that volume, we want you to bring in a friend and we'll make you

both a better deal. Our prices are right and our stock complete. But when we get a chance to make two deals at once, we can really trade. So do it today . . . give yourself and a friend a break!

1955 Pontiac Catalina

Light blue and grey, hydramatic drive, white sidewall tires, radio, heater, tinted glass. Many other extras. Low mileage. New car guarantee.

\$2,095

1955 Pontiac 2-Door

Hydramatic, radio, heater, tutone paint. Like new. You'll enjoy driving this car. See it now.

\$1,995

1955 Pontiac 2-Door

2-seater station wagon. Radio, heater and many extras. Standard shift. Like new. Spare tire never used, light green color.

\$2,195

1955 Pontiac 4-Door

Dark green, radio, heater and other extras. Standard shift. Local car, 11,444 actual miles.

\$1,895

1954 Pontiac Deluxe 4-Door

Station Wagon, air conditioned, radio, heater, plus all the other fine equipment. New tubeless tires at a steal.

\$1,695

1953 Pontiac Catalina

Hydramatic drive, radio, heater, and other extras. Beautiful tutone paint, a bargain, if you'll hurry for this one.

\$1,195

1954 Chevrolet 4-Door

Bel Air, radio, heater, and a clean car with other extras. Tutone paint, white sidewall tires. New car guarantee.

\$1,275

1950 Chevrolet 1/2 Ton Pickup

Only 14,000 miles on new motor, new paint, good tires. This is the pickup that you've been looking for.

\$495

1952 Dodge 4-Door Coronet

Fully equipped and a good running automobile. We've got it priced way too cheap. See this one today.

\$495

1954 Ford V-8 Custom 2-Door

Fully equipped, a nice clean car. Local car. All you have to do is just drive this one. Going for

\$1,195

1953 Pontiac 8 Deluxe 4-Door

Black color with hydramatic drive, radio, heater and other extras. New seat covers. New motor overhaul. Going at the low price of

\$995

1951 Pontiac Catalina

Fully equipped, one owner. Only 35,000 actual miles. A nice clean one worth more, for only

\$695

WE HAVE ONE DOZEN 1949 AND 1950 MODELS

\$50 DOWN, \$25 A MONTH

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YOU GET OUT OF ANYTHING -
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IF YOU SOW YOUR DOLLARS
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BRAGG'S DRY GOODS CO.

PHONE 31

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BILL'S GARDEN SHOP

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PHONE 250

WILSON'S FOOD STORE

PHONE 173

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DELUXE LAUNDRY

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PRINTING - PUBLISHINGS

THE MERKEL MAIL

YOUR HOME TOWN NEWSPAPER

VARIETY STORES

BEN FRANKLIN STORE

NATIONALLY KNOWN AND LOCALLY OWNED

AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIES

WHITE'S AUTO STORE

HOME OWNED BY PAUL WOODS

(Published in the Merkel Mail, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 1956)
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: Ghene Wilburn Morris, Jr. sometimes known as G. W. Morris, Jr., and G. W. Morris, Defendants, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Honorable 42nd District Court 42nd Judicial District of Taylor 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 issuance of this citation, same being the 5th day of March A.D. 1956, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 16th day of January A.D. 1956, in this cause, numbered 21,092-A on the docket of said court and styled Merlin R. Clary, Plaintiff, vs. Ghene Wilburn Morris, Jr., sometimes known as G. W. Morris, Jr., and G. W. Morris, Defendants.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Trespass to try title suit involving the South 100 feet of 5 acres out of Block No. 28, North Park Addition to the City of Abilene, Texas, which tract is fully described in plaintiff's petition on file in this cause, 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.

PULL THE PLUG ON STOMACH UPSET

Half-alive, headachy, when constipation sours stomach? Black-Draught* relieves constipation overnight. Helps sweeten sour stomach too.
Laxative-Stomach Sweetener Works Overnight!
 No harsh gripping. Made from pure vegetable herbs. Thoroughly but gently uncorks clogged intestines. Brings comforting relief in morning. Then life looks sunny again! Get Black-Draught today.
*In Powder or Granulated form... and now in new, easy-to-take Tablets, too!
FOR CHILDREN When constipation sours children's digestion and disposition, get Syrup of Black-Draught. They love this honey-sweet liquid!

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this the 16th day of January, A.D. 1956.
 (SEAL)

Attest: R. H. Ross, Clerk, 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas By Christine Bower, Deputy.

(Published in The Merkel Mail Feb. 3, 10, 17, and 24)

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 following is a true copy.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: Samuel Blackwell, Defendant, Greeting:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the

Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor 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 issuance of this citation, same being the 12th day of March A.D. 1956, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 26th day of January A.D. 1956, in this cause, numbered 21,109-A on the docket of said court and styled Willie Lee Blackwell, Plaintiff, vs. Samuel Blackwell, Defendant

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows to-wit:

Plaintiff and Defendant were married on or about 1948 and lived together until on or about January, 1950.
 Plaintiff shows there is no community property belonging to Plaintiff and Defendant, but that Plaintiff owns as her separate property Lots No's. 14 and 15, Block 1, Carver Addition to the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, she here prays that said property be set aside to her as

her separate property. There were no children born of this marriage.

Plaintiff sues for Divorce on grounds of Cruel treatment and desertion.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at Abilene, Texas, this the 26th day of January A.D. 1956.
 (SEAL)

Attest: R. H. Ross, Clerk, 42nd District Court Taylor County, Texas By Clayrene Long, Deputy.

BLUE BONNET CLUB MEETS WITH MRS. BRNOVAK

The Blue Bonnet Club met in the home of Mrs. Frank Brnovak, Tuesday, January 17. Miss Loreta Allen, the Home Demonstration agent, met with the club for the first meeting of the year. The Year Books were filled out and new officers were installed.

The new officers are: Mrs. D. Davis, president; Mrs. Frank Brnovak, vice-president; Mrs. Dewel McLean secretary-treasurer; Mrs. R. E. Clemmer, council delegate; and Mrs. John Oliver, reporter.

Mrs. Dewel McLean gave a very interesting talk on buying canned foods. Some points are to read labels carefully, patronize firms that label food informatively, file helpful labels in future reference, and look for this seal on all canned foods "packed under U. S. Department of Agriculture."

Mrs. Leroy Riney gave some helpful ideas on buying bed sheets. Some points are to buy the type most practical for your need, correct length and size, good workmanship, and a good brand name in which you have confidence.

Roll call was answered by each member with one New Year's resolution.

Mrs. G. R. Toombs and Mrs. Author Moore led the recreation. Refreshments were served to 13 members and 5 children.

The next meeting will be February 7, at Mrs. Dewel McLean's home.

Roll call is to be answered by "A Valentine I Remember." The program will be "Guarding Your Family's Happiness."

HODGES
 Hawley P.T.A. sponsors a negro minstrel on Monday night for the March of Dimes.

Mrs. J. M. Sloan of Abilene visited last week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sloan.

Mr. and Mrs. Buster Jones have been visiting relatives in Sn An-

IT NEVER FAILS



ANSON ALBANY
 Your New Representative of
 MERKEL — PHONE 9008M1
 BAIRD HAWLEY
LEON HALE
 Singer Sewing Machine Co.

HOME REPAIR LOANS

FHA TITLE I

NO DOWN PAYMENT

36 MONTHS TO PAY

Add that extra Bedroom — Bath — Garage —
 New Roof — Storm Cellar — Repaint — Sidewalks — Fences and etc.

CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE

BURTON-LINGO COMPANY

PHONE 74

Hawley senior boys and girls beat Noodle in two games of basketball on Friday night at Hawley.

Kate Wagner of Inglewood, California has been visiting her sister, Mrs. L. McCaleb of Hodges and brother, Buster Shelton of Haskell. She will visit a brother in Carlsbad for a few days before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Moore and Barbara were in O'Donnell last week to attend the wedding of their grandson, Jerry Moore.

Wayne Cook came home on Tuesday for a thirty day leave.

Dan and Skippy Roberts from Ralls were down last week on business.



Never too big for friendship
 The Independent Telephone Industry is big—double its size of ten years ago—and growing bigger by the day. Yet, for all its size and scope, it is a local industry serving local needs. It will never outgrow its friendly, responsible role in community affairs. For America's 5,100 Independent Telephone Companies, no task is too great...no service too small.

MERKEL TELEPHONE CO.

WE BUY OLD RAGS

We will pay 5c a pound for clean, cotton rags, suitable for wiping machinery. No nylon or wools, please.

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
 Mrs. Clarence Perry
 Operators

Phone 201 for appointments
 In rear of Merkel Drug

LAUNDRY

**Wet Wash
 Rough Dry
 Pick Up
 And Delivery**

We offer you the best service and the highest quality work. We will appreciate your business
 PHONE 231
 GEO. A. WEST, Owner

Deluxe Laundry

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.

ANDY SHOUSE

—Real Estate—

118 EIGHT ST.

THE MERKEL MAIL

Article in Reader's Digest Reveals Jittery Pre-Menstrual Tension Is So Often a Needless Misery!

Do you suffer terrible nervous tension — feel jittery, irritable, depressed — just before your period each month? A startling article in **READER'S DIGEST** reveals such pre-menstrual torment is needless misery in many cases! Thousands have already discovered how to avoid such suffering. With Lydia Pinkham's Compound and Tablets, they're so much happier, less tense as those "difficult days" approach! Lydia Pinkham's Compound has a remarkable soothing effect on the source of such distress. In doctors' tests, Pinkham's stopped... or strikingly relieved... pain and discomfort! 3 out of 4 women got glorious relief! Taken regularly, Pinkham's relieves the headaches, cramps, nervous tension... during and before your period. Many women never suffer—even on the first day! Why should you? This month start taking Pinkham's. See if you don't escape pre-menstrual tension... so often the cause of unhappiness. Get Lydia H. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound... or convenient new Tablets which have blood-building iron added. At drug stores.

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

PHONE 169

TELEVISION CROSSWORD

GIANT MERCHANTS

1,000.00

CASH PRIZE EVERY WEEK
 Deposit Entries With

MERKEL DRUG CO.

BADGER CHEVROLET CO.

Everything's yours in Chevrolet... EXCEPT HIGH COSTS!

THE "ONE-FIFTY" 2-DOOR SEDAN—One of 19 new Chevrolet beauties. All have directional signals as standard equipment.

These features mark Chevrolet tops in value, all right; and most of them make Chevy livelier, safer and a lot more fun to drive! Come in and see!

Many Guests At Banquet Friday Night

Fifty five guests were registered at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce banquet Friday night.

They include:
Allen D. Agnew, farmer; Mr. and Mrs. M. E. West, farmers; Frank Brnovak, farmer; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Butman, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Russom, all Merkel farmers and ranchers; Mr. and Mrs. Pat Patterson, Taylor Telephone Co., Lawn, Texas; Edgar Boaz, Carpenter's Gap;
Zeneboia Encke, manager Chamber of Commerce, Anson; Martin L. Encke, Anson; Mr. and Mrs. Mildred Good, Anson, president National Ginners Association; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Peek, Abilene; Commissioner and Mrs. J. H. Rucker, precinct 1, Abilene; District Judge and Mrs. Owen Thomas, Abilene; Sheriff and Mrs. Ed Powell, Abilene; W. D. Sayles, industrial developer, West Texas Utility So., Abilene; Joe Cooley, executive vice president and manager Abilene Chamber of Commerce.
C. B. Tittle, real estate dealer, Abilene; Judge and Mrs. Reed Ingalsbe, Abilene; Jack Morris, vice president, Citizen's National Bank, Abilene; Owen Ellis, vice president, Citizen's National Bank, Abilene; Lee Sutton, county attorney; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Brumbeau, publisher of "The Planesmen," Abilene Air Force paper; Mr. and Mrs. Don Jones, Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Briggs Todd, president, First State Bank, Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Tice Howard, Kimbell Milling Co., Abilene; Harold Heusser, American Sugar Co., Abilene; Paul Marble,

West Texas Chamber of Commerce; W. T. McMillen, Sweetwater; Lone Star Gas Co.; J. D. Holbrook, Sweetwater, Lone Star Gas Co.; Mayor and Mrs. A. C. Terry, Trent;

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mauldin, Tye; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hodge, Odessa; R. T. Williams, Austin, department of agriculture; Bob Boyd, department of agriculture, Austin, Texas.

Trott to Deliver Baptist Sermons

Rev. Lawrence Trott, District 17 mission secretary, will deliver the sermon at the First Baptist church Sunday morning and evening.

Morning services will be at 11 a.m. and evening services at 7:30 p.m.

This is the first Sunday the church has been without a pastor since Rev. Sam Tullock resigned. Rev. Tullock left Wednesday for Austin where he will work on his doctor's degree at the University of Texas.

Avoca Spills Noodle, 62-60

Noodle put a scare into Avoca Tuesday night in a district 17-B game, but the scare wasn't enough.

Avoca won their 25th game of the year, 62-60, as all-stater Max Williams poured in 28 points.

Avoca girls beat Noodle, 80-56.

North Carolina, with 99.7 per cent native born white inhabitants, has the largest percentage of native born white population of any state.

9 X 12
CONGOLIUM RUGS

\$5.95

STARBUCK CO.

MERKEL

You are Cordially Invited to visit our new

NURSERY

Minosa Trees - Red Bud Trees
Pyracantha - Ligustrum
Nandina - Senisa - Holly
Pwitzer Junipers
Dwarf Golden Arbovitae

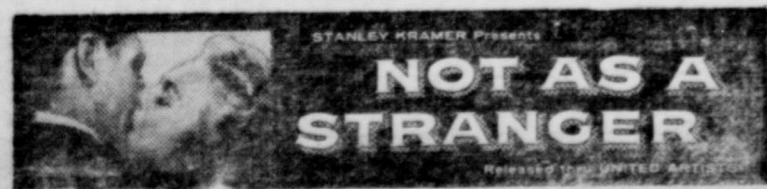
and many additional selections in Gallon containers, five gallon or ball and burlap

BILL'S GARDEN SHOP

QUEEN

THEATRE - PHONE 248

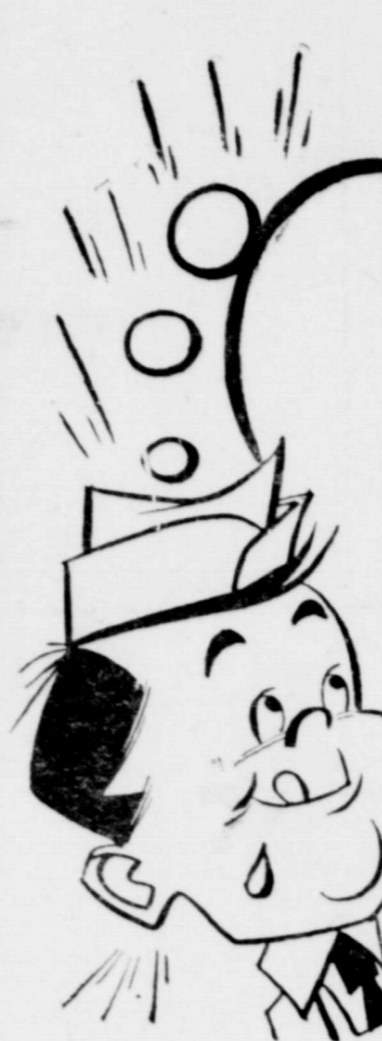
LAST DAY - FRIDAY



SATURDAY - ONE DAY ONLY - FEB. 4
JUDY GARLAND
"THE WIZARD OF OZ"
IN TECHNICOLOR

Effective SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, the QUEEN will be closed for approximately two weeks for an early spring house cleaning. We invite you to watch for our re-opening date and future feature attractions.

Hats off to Savings!



OAK FARMS
Homo MILK ----- 1/2 Gal. -47c
Butter MILK ----- 1/2 Gal. 39c
Whipping CREAM ----- 1/2 Pt. 33c

LOG CABIN COUNTRY KITCHEN
MAPLE SYRUP
24-oz. Jar -- **33¢**

SPECIALS
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 2-3-4
FRI. & SAT. 2-3-4
CHARMIN TISSUE 4 Roll Carton **29c**

Kimbell's 20-oz. Jar **PEANUT BUTTER -- 39c**

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR
25 Pound Print Bag \$1.79
10 Pound Bag 89c
15c Coupon In Bag
JELLO 2 Boxes **15¢**

MORTON'S SALAD DRESSING qt. 39¢

NEW SHIPMENT BAMA PRESERVES
APRICOTS or PEACH - 20-oz. glass 33c
APPLE BUTTER - 20-oz. glass 19c
GRAPE JELLY or RED PLUM - 20-oz. glass 29c

TOMATO ----- JUICE No. 2 2 for 25c
Hearts Delight
PORK & BEANS Kimbell's 3 for 25c
300 Can
CORN ----- Kounty Kist 2 for 25c
12-oz. W.K.
PEAS ----- Kounty Kist 2 for 29c
303 Can
SPAGHETTI --- Kimbell's 2 for 25c
& CHEESE
BLACKEYE PEAS Kimbell's 2 for 29c
No. 2 Can
SPANISH RICE - Kimbell's 2 for 33c
300 Can
TUNA ----- Dixie Luck 2 for 39c
Light Meat

Finest Quality MEATS

Choice Heavy Beef
CLUB Steak Lb. 45¢
Fresh Lean
Pork Roast lb. 35¢
Wilson - 4 - 6 lbs.
PICNIC HAMS - - - - lb. 29c
Gooch Country Style SAUSAGE 2 lb. bag 69c
Gooch SKINLESS WEINERS lb. 29c
Choice Heavy Beef ROUND ROAST lb. 45c
Fresh GROUND BEEF - - - lb. 25c

Choice Heavy Beef
FAMILY STYLE Steak Lb. 39¢
GOOCH BLUE RIBBON - Butt End lb. 43c
HAMS Shank End Pound **39¢**

FOLGERS PEACHES REYNOLDS MRS. TUCKER
COFFEE Pound **87¢**
Any Time 2 1/2 can - 2 for **49¢**
Wrap Foil - 25 ft. **23¢**
Shortening 3-lb. Can **63¢**

BLEACH PUREX
Quart **15¢**

PET MILK 2 TALL CANS **23c**
Kimbell's PINTO BEANS 4 LB. BAG **39c**
Swift's PREM 12-OZ. CAN **35c**
Prize Soap **BREEZE**
LARGE BOX 27c
GIANT BOX 63c

FROZEN FOODS
Morton CHICKEN PIES ----- box 25c
Underwood BAR-B-Q BEEF ----- lb. 69c
Patio Beef ENCHILADAS ----- pkg. 59c
Fresh STRAWBERRIES --- pkg. 25c
Thomas FISH STICKS ----- pkg. 33c

VEGETABLES
Fresh Clipped CARROTS ----- lb. 8c
Fresh LETTUCE ----- lb. 8c
Sunkist ORANGES - - - - lb. 10c
Fresh CAULIFLOWER - - - lb. 9c
Rome Beauty APPLES - - - lb. 12c
Fresh CELERY - - - lb. 12c
Idaho No. 1 Mesh Bag SPUDS - - - 10 lbs. 39c
East Texas YAMS - - - lb. 6c

213 EDWARDS ST. - PHONE 250 WE GIVE PREMIUMS
Carson Grocery & Market
Free Delivery Free Parking
ON \$2.00 OR MORE MON., WED. and FRI. at 4:00
-NEXT TO QUEEN OR CROSS STREET