

Taylor County's
Only
Legal Weekly
Newspaper

The Merkel Mail

10¢
Per Copy

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MERKEL, TEXAS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 1970 - EIGHT PAGES

80TH YEAR

VOL. NO. 80, NO. 44

OPERATION MOTORCIDE NEW YEAR 1970

33

6 P.M.
DEC. 31



?

MIDNIGHT
JAN. 4

An estimated 33 persons will be killed in traffic accidents in Texas during the New Year period from 6 p.m., Wednesday, December 31 to midnight Sunday, January 4. Officials of the Texas Department of Public Safety are joining with the Governor's highway safety program in urging Texans to "Drive Friendly" during the holidays and stay alive for the seventies.

Merkel Graduates Get Scholarships

ABILENE — Two Merkel residents are among nearly 1,000 scholarship recipients at Abilene Christian College.

Debi Corder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Corder of 802 Yucca, is a sophomore elementary education major. She is a 1968 graduate of Merkel High School.

Cathy Derington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Derington Jr., of 1002 Trundy, is a junior elementary education major. She is a 1967 graduate of Merkel High.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, character and need.

Social Security Must Be Credited

Some people are still not getting social security credit for their work, according to R. R. Tulley Jr., social security district manager in Abilene. These are usually people who work as babysitters, housekeepers, yardworkers, and as other types of household employees.

He said anyone who hires a household worker must report the employee's wages if he pays the worker a total of \$50 or more in cash wages in a calendar quarter. He added that many persons seem to be unaware of this responsibility even though it has been required by law for many years. Failure to make these reports on time and to send in the required taxes with the reports, may result in the employer having to pay all the back taxes, plus interest and penalty. This could amount to hundreds of dollars.

TIME PASSES AND AGAIN

'Tis the season to be merry . . . to put aside all our troubles and disappointments . . . to look forward and reflect on the good things just past . . . to think of others . . . to do a worthy deed for another . . . to let our happiness shine forth, etc.

We, the staff of the Abilene Social Security Office, want to pause and wish each of you a happy 1970.

We try to see that no person's rights under social security are in any way jeopardized.

We await a new year — a new decade — the year 1970. We look forward to continuing our mission of serving the people in our area and we hope that anyone having a social security problem or question will feel free to call at our office, to telephone us, or to see one of our representatives when he or she is in a nearby community.

May all good things come to all in the year 1970.
STAFF, Abilene Social Security Office, Room 2321 Federal Building, Abilene, Texas 79604

RANCHERS DECLARE WAR ON 'WASTERS'

Taylor County's income is growing because of local ranchers' all out war on Texas foremost water wasters, brush. Les Etherton of the Soil Conservation Service says that research has shown that it takes about three times as much water to produce a pound of worthless brush as it takes to produce a pound of edible grass. This water loss deprives profit from the farmers and ranchers of Taylor County. In recent years Taylor County farmers and ranchers have gone to war with the brush problem. In 1969 alone, 7074 acres of brush was controlled on the county's grasslands.

The time of year is fast approaching for the battle to begin again as most brush control is done in the late winter. Rootplowing of mesquite and treedoing of cedar are two of the most widely used methods of control in Taylor County. Range seeding to adapted grasses is usually done in conjunction with these methods

of control because of the ground disturbance that is involved.

Seeding adapted grasses in conjunction with brush control can give nature a boost in establishing the more desirable grasses on the land. It would take nature twenty years to produce the kinds and amounts of grasses that can be obtained in two or three years by seeding. Aerial spraying of mesquite is another commonly used method to combat these water robbers. This type of control is usually performed in May. Etherton stressed the fact that the battle against brush will be a constant one as the enemy will not give up easily. Once the brush is initially controlled the re-sprouts will need follow-up controls. Once the pasture is free of brush it must be properly managed to obtain maximum production and economic returns. Remember, it was constant overgrazing in the early days of ranching that bred the brush problem to begin with.

GLEANERS SS CLASS HAS LUNCHEON

The Gleaners Sunday School Class of the First United Methodist Church met Dec. 17 in Fellowship Hall for their annual Christmas Luncheon.

Tables were decorated in Christmas motif, including mistletoe. Invocation was asked by Rev. James Merrell, pastor. Christmas carols, were sung by members and guests. Mrs. Lottie Everett gave a "Christmas Sermon" and prayer by Mrs. James

Merrell. Gifts were exchanged from a Christmas tree.

Guests attending were the Rev. and Mrs. Merrell; Mrs. Tom Ransom, Dewell McLean, Herbert Patterson, Harold Odum and A. H. McElmurray.

Members attending were Mmes. Jewell Creswell, Jessye Shannon, Sully Moore, Maggie Patterson, Ruth Anderson, Wille Douglas, Ruth Cox, Everett, Anne Odum, Mattie Billingsley, Myrie Dean.

See Story ONE, Pg. 5

Goodfellow Contributions

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Edwards (in lieu of cards)	\$5.00
H. B. Robertson	5.00
Mrs. Jennings Winter	5.00
R. Y. Buchanan	5.00
Victory Baptist Church	5.00
George West	10.00
J. L. Fisher	25.00
Dr. and Mrs. Jarrett Williams	50.00
Winnie Cypert	2.00
Joe Cypert	2.00
Dorcas Class of First Baptist Church	10.00
Goodfellow Jars	42.93
Max Mellinger	15.00

Total \$118
Previously Acknowledged
TOTAL

Merkel Area Feels Impact Of Monday's Wintry Blast

High School Gym Used by Tourists

The New Year, 1970 may come in with a "quiet hush" but no doubt about it, '69 left it's blizzard punch as it exited, with freezing rain, sleet, snow and ice left all over the Big Country.

And stranded motorists on Interstate 20 found accommodations open to them in Merkel.

Merkel Chief of Police Mike Briley said Motels and hotels in Merkel were full and overflowing by 6 p.m. Monday.

"There was standing room only," said Briley, "and this was the situation all up and down Interstate 20. Motels and hotels in Odessa, Midland, Sweetwater, Abilene, and all up and down Interstate 20 were full."

Briley said they notified the hotels and motels in Merkel to let tourists know there were accommodations ready for them at the high school gymnasium.

"Approximately eighty persons found lodging at the gym," said Briley. "People were from New York, Chicago, Delaware, El Paso, cities in Arizona and from San Diego, Calif."

"The Sheriff's office and highway patrols were also notified to send people to the gymnasium," said Briley.

"And with the help of officials from Dyess Air Force Base, Dr. W. T. Sadler at Sadler Clinic and Mrs. Mary Outlaw at the Starr Nursing Home, we were able to get plenty of blankets for those staying at the gym."

Besides escorting tourists to lodgings in Merkel, the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Crew and the Merkel Police Department helped stranded motorists all up and down Interstate 20.



FOOTBALL SWEETHEART — Dayna McAninch, Merkel High School head cheerleader, was honored at the Football Banquet as Football Sweetheart. Presenting Miss McAninch a gift was Terry Wade, senior halfback on the Badger team.

'70 TAGS WILL BE 'EASIER TO GET'

AUSTIN — Here's a happy thought to start the New Year! As an auto owner you'll have an easier time than ever before getting your new license tags in 1970. This, thanks to a revised registration system which becomes effective in January.

Texas Highway Department, which devised the new system, predicts that registrations will pass the seven million mark.

For the first time, registration renewal applications will be mailed to every vehicle owner in the state. This will be done during

the month of January. However, the registration period does not begin until February 1.

Be on the lookout for your application. It will arrive in a slender envelope marked "Important This is your license plate renewal application." Don't throw it away as junk mail. It's very important!

Your application is a three-part form which should NOT be torn apart. Instructions are included in the form.

At the start of the registration period, you may take your application and fee to your county tax office — or order by mail.

It no longer will be necessary to present certificates of title or last year's registration receipt when you have the application.

April 1 is the registration deadline, but mail applications cut off on March 1. Those who want plates sent by mail should send the application form to the county tax collector along with the registration fee (plus \$1 for handling and postage). Be sure your address is shown on the renewal form!

"But everything is going right now," said Button.

Power, Phone Lines Down

A heavy coat of ice downed electric and telephone lines over the Big Country Monday and Tuesday and the impact was felt heavily in the Merkel area.

In a telephone conversation Tuesday morning with Taylor Electric Cooperative manager Norman Winter, he termed the situation "very serious."

"We've got every available man out working," said Winter, "and we're calling in for more help. We're working just as hard as fast as we can to get things back to normal."

Danny Doan, power-use advisor for Taylor Electric, said about 100 poles were downed in the Maryneal and Nolan areas and another 100 downed in the Tuncoc, Baird and Potosi areas.

"About 25 men are out working in the eight counties serviced by TEC and three more crews were to work late Monday," said Doan. Of telephone lines, Roy Peck, Merkel Telephone manager, contacted Tuesday morning, said "no major damage."

"We've had several lines broken from house to pole," said Peck, "but no major damage. A crew is due in at noon Tuesday to start cleaning up the minor damage."

John Hardesty, manager of Taylor Telephone Cooperative, said they have about 25 poles down over the seven counties serviced.

"We've had a lot of drops to houses broken because of tree limbs," said Hardesty, "and there's actually no estimate on that. Where we're hurt the most is where we have joint use with electric companies."

Hardesty said, "We're in pretty good shape as far as Noodle and Nubia are concerned, but where we're hurt the most is around Buffalo Gap where there are so many large trees, and we're securing help from other coops to restore service."

Bill Button, manager West Texas Utilities, said Tuesday afternoon that "We've got everything working right now."

"We had two poles to break off and several strands of wire broken," said Button. "We had half the town off for about an hour last night (Monday night) and another small section of town off about two hours."

Button said there were about 15 houses reported wires going from pole to house down where trees had fallen over them.



MEDICARE CLAIMS HAVE DEADLINE

Most persons are busy preparing for two important dates — Dec. 25, Christmas; and Jan. 1, New Year. However, the Social Security Administration reminds its beneficiaries over age 65 that there is another important date approaching for persons enrolled in the medical insurance portion of Medicare.

Dec. 31, 1969, is the deadline for filing claims for reimbursement of medical and doctor bills incurred between October 1, 1967, and Sept. 30, 1968.

Claiming these benefits is very simple. First, get a statement from the doctor or other supplier

of services itemizing the type, date, and charge for the service. Then, complete a "Request for Medicare Payment" form and attach the statement (or several statements). The needed forms can be obtained from any social security office; a copy is also found in the back of each Medicare Handbook.

The completed request form and attached statements for Texas services should be mailed to P. O. Box 22147, Group Medical and Surgical, MEDICARE — Part B, Dallas 75222. Or, the completed form may be turned in to the social security office.



AULD LANG SYNE

New Year's greetings to all our friends, both old and new, from

Malone Implements



to one & all!

Poney Insurance Agency

BONEY AND BENNY

Wednesday Rites For Mrs. Arnwine

Mrs. Horace Arnwine, 89, died Monday, Dec. 29 in Hendrick Memorial Hospital after an illness of a week.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Starbuck Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. James Williams, pastor of Fifth Baptist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Born Oma Edgeman Dec. 27, 1880, at Athens, Tenn., she married Horace Arnwine Sept. 6, 1898 in Niota, Tenn. They moved near Borham in 1904 and to the area northeast of Merkel in 1929. Mr. Arnwine died in 1960.

She was a member of the Baptist church for many years and was a member of the Fifth church.

Survivors include three sons, George and Dorward, both of Merkel, C. N. of Levelland; four daughters, Mrs. M. R. Matthews of San Angelo, Mrs. Ross Sire of Littlefield, Mrs. Joe Kyker of Niota, Tenn., and Mrs. Glenn Duke of Alcoa, Tenn.; a brother, George W. Edgeman of St. Petersburg, Fla.; 26 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren.



MISS BRONWYN GAMBLE
... plans January wedding

Gamble-Leamon Engagement Told

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Gamble announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Bronwyn, to Mr. Robert James Leamon, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert James Leamon of Imperial, California.

News will be read in the First Baptist Church in Merkel on January 21, 1970 at seven o'clock in the evening.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Merkel High School and a junior student at the University of Texas.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Imperial High School and attended Imperial Valley College. He has recently completed four year's service with the U.S. Air Force. The couple plan to live in Im-

perial where they will both be attending college.

FARMERS ARE CUSTOMERS

Each year farmers buy machinery and other products containing more than 5 million tons of steel, over 7 per cent of total U.S. steel production. Steel is business accounts for a third of the output of the automobile and truck manufacturing industry. In transportation, about half of the total tonnage hauled in the nation is carried by trucks and related materials, and agribusiness accounts for about 50 per cent of the jobs in the transportation industry.

JOHNNY COX
BOOKKEEPING
INCOME TAX SERVICE
NOTARY
114 Edwards 928-4943

TEXAS TAX CUT

While most taxes go up, the state unemployment insurance tax paid by Texas employers will go down again in 1970 — for the third straight year — according to Texas Employment Commission.

Tax rate of employers will be reduced 1.2 per cent from the calculated experience rate effective Jan. 1, reports W. S. Birdwell Jr., employer representative on the commission.

Under the law, when the unemployment compensation fund exceeds \$300 million, as of Oct. 1, the rate must be reduced. This October it totaled more than \$355 million.

State Rep. Bob Armstrong of Austin has announced that he will run for Land Commissioner against the incumbent, Jerry Sadler, who plans to seek reelection.

CLASSIFIEDS GET
QUICK RESULTS



VISIT OUR
MOBILE FACILITY

IN
MERKEL
EVERY

FRIDAY 9 AM TO 2 PM

ACROSS STREET FROM POSTOFFICE

AND
REGISTER EACH WEEK FOR

**FREE
GIANT PRIZES!**

DRAWING TO BE HELD IN MID-JANUARY

- 1970 PICKUP TRUCK
- HAWAII TRIP FOR TWO
- RANGE AND REFRIGERATOR
- 2000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE
- \$1,000 SAVINGS
- DEEP FREEZE
- GARDEN TRACTOR
- COLOR TELEVIS

ABILENE Savings

OVER \$75,000,000.00
IN ASSETS

GREETINGS



We hope the New Year brings
you everything you dream of!

Fred and Naomi Starbuck



TO OUR CUSTOMERS!

We're flying in a special
greeting for pretty special
people... our customers! May
you all enjoy the pleasures
prosperous New Year!

TO ALL THE FOLKS AT

Merkel Drug



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO
EVERYONE!

Cypert Tax Service
PINKY AND MILDRED

Happy New Year



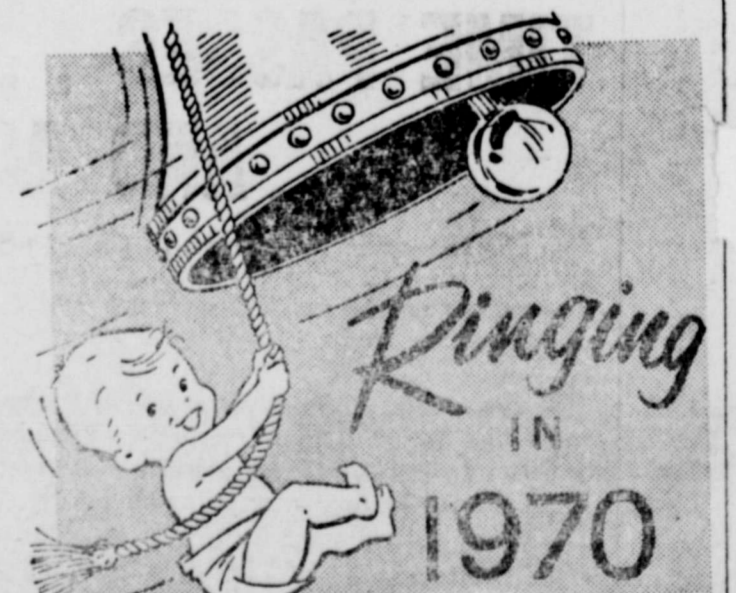
Another year is begin-
ning... we hope it's a good one for you!

Cyrus Pee Agency



Bill's Flowers

ANN AND VERNON WADE



As the New Year peals
out a greeting to all, we'd
like to add our best wishes!

H. W. Lemens, Inc.

COME ON IN

THE FOOD BUYS ARE GREAT

NEW YEAR'S
SPECIALS
3 DAYS

Wednesday, Dec. 31, Through
Saturday, Jan. 3

MAXWELL HOUSE

COFFEE 1-Lb. Can **69¢** 2-Lb. Can **\$1.37**

KIMBELLS WITH SNAPS 300 SIZE

Blackeye Peas 2 for **29¢**

CHEESE Krafts Velveeta 2 Lb. Box **99¢**

PEACHES PACIFIC GOLD ELBERTA NO. 2 1/2 CAN 2 for **45¢**

VIENNAS Swifts 2 for **45¢**

Shortening Swift 3 Lb. Jewel Can **59¢**

CORN Our Darling 303 Can 2 for **35¢**

CHILI Mountain Pass With Beans 300 Size **39¢**

FRENCHS WITH PUMP

MUSTARD 12 OZ. JAR **29¢**

NABISCO

CRACKERS 1 LB. BOX **35¢**

FLOUR Gold Medal 5 Lb. Bag **49¢**



SALT JOWLS Lb. **33¢**

WISCONSIN LONGHORN

CHEESE Lb. **79¢**

GOOCH STEAK

FINGERS Pkg. **69¢**

BACON Armour Star Lb. **79¢**

FRANKS Armour Star 12 Oz. Pkg. **49¢**

HOT LINKS Crescent Lb. **49¢**

Ice Cream Foremost Gal. Half **69¢**

MILK Foremost Homo 2 Half Gal. 2 for **99¢**

Blackeye Peas KIMBELLS DRY 1 Lb. Bag **15¢**

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

GILLETTE 5 REG. 79¢ BLADES **49¢**

SUPER STAINLESS DOUBLE EDGE **BLADES** 10 REG. \$1.45 BLADES **79¢**

TEA

INSTANT LIPTONS

2 OZ. JAR **79¢**

LIGHTNING WHITE

LAUNDRY WHITENER

Qt. **49¢**

CRYSTAL WHITE

LIQUID SOAP

48 OZ. BOTTLE **49¢**

AJAX

DETERGENT

GIANT SIZE **59¢**



KRINKLE CUT

POTATOES 2 Lb. Bag **33¢**

KEITHS

ROLLS Pkg. of 24 **33¢**



LETTUCE Head **19¢**

CABBAGE Lb. **10¢**

DELICIOUS **APPLES** Lb. **19¢**

TEXAS **ORANGES** 5 Lb. Bag **49¢**

GRAPEFRUIT 5 Lb. Bag **49¢**



"Where Customers Send Their Friends"

TWO DELIVERIES DAILY at 10:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m.

Phone 928-5713



DOUBLE PREMIUMS
ON WEDNESDAY ON
PURCHASE OF \$2.50
OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE

SAVE VALUABLE
CASH REGISTER TAPES
FOR PREMIUMS

WANT ADS

Miscellaneous

FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING
M. A. (Sarg) NOSTER
1404 Herring Dr.
Merkel, Texas
Phone 8-5565

MASONIC MEETING

Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Members urged to attend.
WILEY NOAH W.M.
ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y.

LUE LUSTRE not only rids carpets of soil but leaves pile soft and lofty. Rent electric shampooer \$1. minimum at BULLOCK HARDWARE & GIFTS. 928-5310.

Let me show you that 'NO WOMAN NEED EVER LOOK 40'. Call to arrange a complimentary facial with instructions in correct beauty procedure. Emma Shugart, 928-5027. 18 tfp
ANTED — Cooks, waitresses, and dishwashers. Merkel Restaurant, 928-4923. 8 tfe
OPTIC TANK Service HANSEN PLUMBING CO. Anson. Phone, 928-2145 and Hamlin Phone, 756-2190. Arnold Herd. 42 tfe

For Rent

FOR RENT — Large 2 bedroom house, 2 nice clean furnished apartments, Bachelor or couple bills paid. Call 928-5669 or 928-6771. 40 tfe

For Sale

FOR SALE — 8 week old beautiful Chihuahua puppies with papers or without. Would make wonderful Christmas gift. 928-5310. 43 2tp

FOR SALE OR RENT — House, barn and lots, also some acreage at Trent. Ideal for trader. Contact M. L. Spence, 3366-2408, Fort Stockton, Texas. 43 4tc

CLASSIFIEDS GET QUICK RESULTS

NEED New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets
Call ROBERT HIGGINS 928-5998

FOR SALE — Two Chevrolet school bus chassis, 1969's, Submitt bid on or before 3:30 p.m., Feb. 2, 1970. Mack Fisher, superintendent Merkel Schools. 43 tfe

CARD OF THANKS

To our many dear friends of Merkel, we take his means of expressing to you our deepest love and appreciation for your warm friendship and love. We wish for each of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year.
The Tanners
Bro. Bill, Jeanne, Penny
Tim, Jeannette

CARD OF THANKS

SEASON'S BEST AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE — And especially to all who called us, and sent cards and letters connecting on our Christmas Yard Scene. We enjoyed decorating and it was our happy holiday message to you.
Sam and Faye Jones
and Jana Farmer

WATER QUALITY PLAN TOLD

Twenty three northeast Texas towns and corporations have told the Texas Water Quality Board their plans for improving waste discharges.
Mayors and managers were invited to report on what they are doing to improve water quality. Board also conducted hearing on a proposal to require self-reporting from firms and cities that now discharge waste materials.



MRS. GRAYDON LARGENT EILAND
... formerly Judy Ruth Agnew

AGNEW-EILAND VOWS ARE READ

Wedding vows were read for Judy Ruth Agnew and Graydon Largent Eiland Saturday, December 20 in the First Baptist Church.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen David Agnew. Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Royce Cherry Eiland of Folsom, N.M.

Randy McDonald of Fort Worth read vows. Janis Robertson was organist. Florene Leavelle soloist.

The bride, presented in marriage by her father, wore a Victorian gown of silk satin with yoked leg o'mutton sleeves of rose-patterned chantilly lace. Lace bordered the hemline and was applied on chapel train.

Pearl studded Juliet cap held her veil and she carried white pompon mums, English Ivy and pink rosebuds with an orchid.

Courtney Maxwell of Albuquerque, N.M. was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Mrs. Jerry Brooks of Midland, Mrs. Kenny Justice of Lubbock and Zaida Donaldson of Farwell. Attendants wore Victorian gowns

of pink satin with puffed sleeves. They carried bouquets of English Ivy with white candles circled by pink rosebuds.

Terry Allison of Aspermont was best man.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High School and graduated Saturday, Dec. 21 from Hardin-Simmons University with a BS degree in elementary education.

She was a member of Tri Phi social club, freshman and sophomore class officer, junior class favorite. She was named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Eiland, a science teacher at Jefferson Junior High School in Abilene, is also a graduate of H-SU, receiving his BS degree in biology in August. He was a member of Sigma Delta Sigma social club. He is a graduate of Hereford High School. The couple are living in Fontaine Apartments, No. 221, in Abilene.

Parents of the bridegroom hosted the rehearsal dinner in the Merkel Restaurant.

DIVORCE . . .

Divorce puts the participants through the wringer of emotional anguish, loneliness, and frustration. It results in broken lives, and the juvenile delinquency of child victims.

The average in the U.S. is 1 out of 3 marriages ends in Divorce, and in the Hollywood - Los Angeles area its 1 of 2. The tragedy to adults and to children (especially children since they are the innocent victims and are unable to understand and unable to cope with the confusing emotions) is unmeasurable.

WHAT'S WRONG?

- 1 Lack of accepting God's Word as the final authority in our lives (What I want is more important.)
- 2 Marriages based upon something other than love. (Lust, infatuation, to get away from home, etc.)
- 3 Violation of the love relationship — husband and wife.

WHAT HAPPENS IN DIVORCE?

No. 1 (and foremost) the "royal law" — the 1st and 2nd Commandments — and many other scriptures are violated that teach the place of LOVE in our lives in our relationships of husband and wife and our fellow man.

BILLY PATTON, Minister
CHURCH OF CHRIST
"COME VISIT WITH US"

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: Howard Warren Butler, 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 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 9 day of February A.D. 1970 to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 7 day of October A.D. 1969. In this cause, numbered 22,454-A on the docket of said court and styled Marsha L. Fowler Butler, Plaintiff, vs. Howard Warren Butler, Defendant.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to - wit: Plaintiff and Defendant were married on or about March 4, 1965 and lived together until on or about March 21, 1966. Plaintiff sues for divorce on the grounds of harsh and cruel treatment. Plaintiff asks for custody and support of the minor child. There is no community property to be divided 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 23 day of December A.D. 1969.

(Seal)
Attest: IRENE CRAWFORD
Clerk, 42nd District Court
Taylor County, Texas
My Marie Gill, Deputy.

LEWIS-McELMURRAY NUPTIAL VOWS READ

Diana Lee Lewis and Richard Lee McMurray were married Saturday at the Trent United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Tommie Beck of Shallowater Methodist Church read vows. Mrs. Albert Maberry was organist, Mrs. Freddie Kiser vocalist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Stephens of Great Falls, Mont. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McMurray.

Mr. Stephens presented his step-daughter in marriage. Her attendants were the bridegroom's sister, Pam McMurray, maid of honor; Sherry Shackelford of Amarillo and Mrs. Roger Moore of Allen.

Rebecca Sims was flower girl, Rodney Hobbs, ring bearer.

Robert Seago was best man. Groomsmen were Jim Myer of Boeker and Andy Anderson of Dallas.

Mentyl Healy, Max Stabel of Boeker and Tim Beasley seated guests. Tina Hamner and Gagli Beatty lighted candles.

The bride wore an A-line gown of satin with bell sleeves and oval neckline outlined with pearl-trimmed lace. Pearls also trimmed the pillbox hat holding her veil. She carried an e-aid with pompons on a Bible.

Her attendants wore cranberry satin gowns with white fur trim. They wore pillbox hats and carried white mums.

The bride is a graduate of Trent High School and received a bachelor of science degree from Wayland Baptist College. She was Campus Favorite 1969 Homecoming Queen and was listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. She is employed by



MRS. McELMURRAY
... the former Diana Lewis

the Trent Independent School System.

A Trent High School graduate, the bridegroom received a BS degree Dec. 19 from Texas Tech University.

His parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Trent Methodist Church.

Sen. Criss Cole of Houston, the only blind member of the Texas Senate will be Governor for a Day on Jan. 10.

Happy New Year

Your friendship and patronage has made the past a big success. Our thanks to you is a pledge to serve you in the best manner possible in the coming year.

Mack's Cleaners
JUDY AND CLAUDE BOWEN

GOOD LUCK

May the year ahead abound in good fortune for you!

CRAWFORD'S
TINA, ONIS, JIMMY, ROBERT, MIGNON

WELL DRILLING
Windmill & Pumpwork
HICKS WATER WELL SERVICE
A. L. (HACK) HICKS
Phone 928-4919 710 Cherry
Rt. 3 Merkel

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INTERSTATE 20 &
WEST HIGHWAY 80
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The Merkel Mail

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\$4.00 Per Year outside of Taylor and adjoining counties

Member of the Texas Press Association
and West Texas Press Association.

ELAINE BRUMBEAU Editor
DAVE BRUMBEAU Publisher

Crawford's 1/2 Price Sale--Buy NOW



MRS. CHARLIE CUNNINGHAM
... formerly Linda Kay Luke

LUKE-CUNNINGHAM VOWS SOLEMNIZED

Wedding vows for Linda Kay Luke and Charlie Eugene Cunningham were exchanged Saturday in the First Baptist Church. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Louis J. Luke and the late Mr. Luke. Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Cunningham of Putnam.

The Rev. Kenneth Jones read vows. Mrs. E. R. Clark was organist, Mrs. John Bolt of Grand Prairie pianist and Carol Redford of Fort Worth soloist.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Phil Seymore; bridesmaids Gayle Ivy of Muleshoe, Carolyn Holcomb of San Mateo, Calif., and Beverly Weingartner of Houston.

They wore sleeveless cranberry gowns with gathered bodices. Matching flowers held their hem-length veils. They carried pink carnations.

The bride's brother, Ronnie Luke, presented her in marriage.

She wore a white velvet gown with lace ribbon trimming bodices and sleeves. White velvet ribbon formed a bow in back. Matching headpiece held her chapel veil. She carried roses and carnations centered with an orchid.

John Porter of Lubbock was best man. Groomsmen were Larry Sullenger of Snyder, Danny Koehler of Grand Prairie and Larry Taylor of Odessa. Tommy Clinch of Abilene and Gary Hames of Ranger seated guests.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High School and is majoring in home economics at Texas Tech.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Putnam High School, and will receive a degree in business administration in May from Texas Tech. He is a member of the American Marketing Association.

Parents of the bridegroom hosted a rehearsal dinner at the Merkel Restaurant.

ROUND-UP

By PAT BYRD

Visiting through the Christmas holidays with the S. G. Russells were their children, Jimmy and family from Neesho, Missouri, Jacky and family from Richardson, and Jerry and family from Merkel.

Christmas Dinner at the A. A. Murphrees found the Pete Morgans, Brenda and Ray Davis, and Wendy of Abilene, Allen and Shirley Morgan, and Russell of Trent. Also visiting the Murphrees were Eldwood Cox of Fort Worth.

The Lige Harris Christmas Breakfast was held this year at the Lee Harris'. Party - six attended. Towns represented were Iowa Park, Lubbock, Richardson, Neesho, Mo., Amarillo, Modesto, Calif., Plainview, Abilene and Merkel.

The Marvin Holloway's hosted the Alvin Byrd family Christmas party and tree Saturday night. Those attending were Harlan and Sue Jones and boys of Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Thompson of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Byrd, Miss Lulu Hassey of Tye; Miss Janie Long, Jean Thompson, Marsha and Johnny, Teddy and Glenda Byrd and family, Jerry and Pat Byrd and girls, all of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Johnson had their children home for the holidays - Mr. and Mrs. Terry Gardner and girls of Lubbock and Johnny Johnsons of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Eich had their children, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rich, Carey and Shellie, Grand Prairie, Mr. and Mrs. Felix Boyd, Merkel, Sp. 5 Henry Earl Rich, Ft. Knox, Ky., home for the holidays. Also visiting the Eichs were Cathy Inskeep, Lebanon, Pa., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lewellen, Rancho and Scottie from Artesia, N.M., Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rich of Oklahoma, and Mrs. Frank Lewellen, Haskell, Jeanie Shields, Spur, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Tolliver and David of Breckenridge, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Collins, Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Barnes and Jerry of Merkel.



MR., MRS. A. A. HOLT
... married 50 years

COUPLE TO OBSERVE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Holt will observe their 50th wedding anniversary with open house Sunday, Jan. 4 in their home, two miles south of Trent.

Hosting the celebration will be their children, Horace Holt of Trent; Mark Holt of Brownsville; Mrs. Paschall (Catherine) Bishop of Abilene; Mrs. L. D. (Dorothea) Bishop of Merkel and Mrs. Robert (Jewel) Henager of Charlotte.

All friends and relatives are invited to call between the hours of 2 and 5 p.m.

Mrs. Holt (Adell) was born near Kennard Jan. 31, 1902. Her par-

ents were the late Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Morgan. Mr. Holt (Albert), the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Holt, was born near San Marcos Oct. 29, 1899. His family moved to the 50th Community when he was a boy and to Houston County when he was a young man.

The couple was married January 8, 1920 in the home of her parents, and they farmed in Houston County until 1942, when they moved to Trent, where they are still engaged in farming.

Both are members of the Trent United Methodist Church.

LET'S GO 'MOD' FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Did you ever think of going "mod" for the holidays? Holiday entertaining has always been a maddening experience for the hostess, so why not mix and match up your own parties with a touch of the mod.

In this electric era, simplicity, individuality, and bold contrasts set the mood. Show your cool to holiday guests by serving a streamlined buffet with a simple one main dish meal such as your favorite stew and your favorite casserole. You can touch up your serving technique with some of the latest glassware and glass cookware that are not only functional, but will guarantee you a minimum of fuss and work in the kitchen.

Modern sculptures can be an eye catcher as a centerpiece. Spruce it up with bright colors and holiday trimmings. In your table setting, why not go "mod" in American machine made glass with black and white designs. It all makes an interesting contrast on a dark table cloth.

If you decide to go "mod," remember - plan your table setting in advance - prepare your casserole in advance, then freeze, reheat and serve - serve one - fork meals, butter your rolls in advance - serve coffee and dessert from another table.

Parties are made by the people, and this holiday season try mixing "mod" with your favorite people and food.

CARGO PERMIT ASKED

Texas Aeronautics Commission held hearing on application of Lubbock - Amarillo Armored Service Inc. for permit to transport cargo by air.

Flights would be coordinated with firms' 82 armored security cars. Cities served would include San Angelo, Brownville, Midland-Odessa, Big Spring, Amarillo, Lubbock, Abilene, Dallas - Fort Worth, Austin, Waco, San Antonio, Corpus Christi McAllen, Harlingen, Beaumont El Paso, Galveston, Houston and Wichita Falls. Two existing lines opposed application.

DESTROY CREDIT CARDS

Cut and destroy unwanted credit cards, advises Linda Jacobsen, Extension home management specialist at Texas A&M University.

This eliminates keeping track of them and running the risk of a stolen card. By keeping the credit card, you have accepted the terms under which it was issued, even though no formal agreement was made.

Unsolicited credit cards may arrive through the mail from many sources: banks, oil companies or department stores.

Harris, Dallas and Lee Counties have been placed under federal quarantine for hog cholera as a result of an outbreak of the swine disease.

ONE

(Continued from Page 1)

Winnie Cypert, Mary Click and Ada Mae Johnson.

Also Meses. Cleo Douglas, Iva Baccus, Velma Largent, Pratt Brown, Thelma Daniel, Edna Brown, Annie Lou Ferrier and Mary Grimes.

Also Meses. Ethel Cox, Delle Farmer, Bernice Toombs, Etta McWilliams, Merle Harwell, Mertie Moore, Reba Toombs, Minnie Howard, Stella Tipton and Miss Louise Hudson and Mabel McRee.



It's never too late to wish our many friends a happy time!

**HIGGINBOTHAM-
BARTLETT CO.**

RAYMOND AND PAT

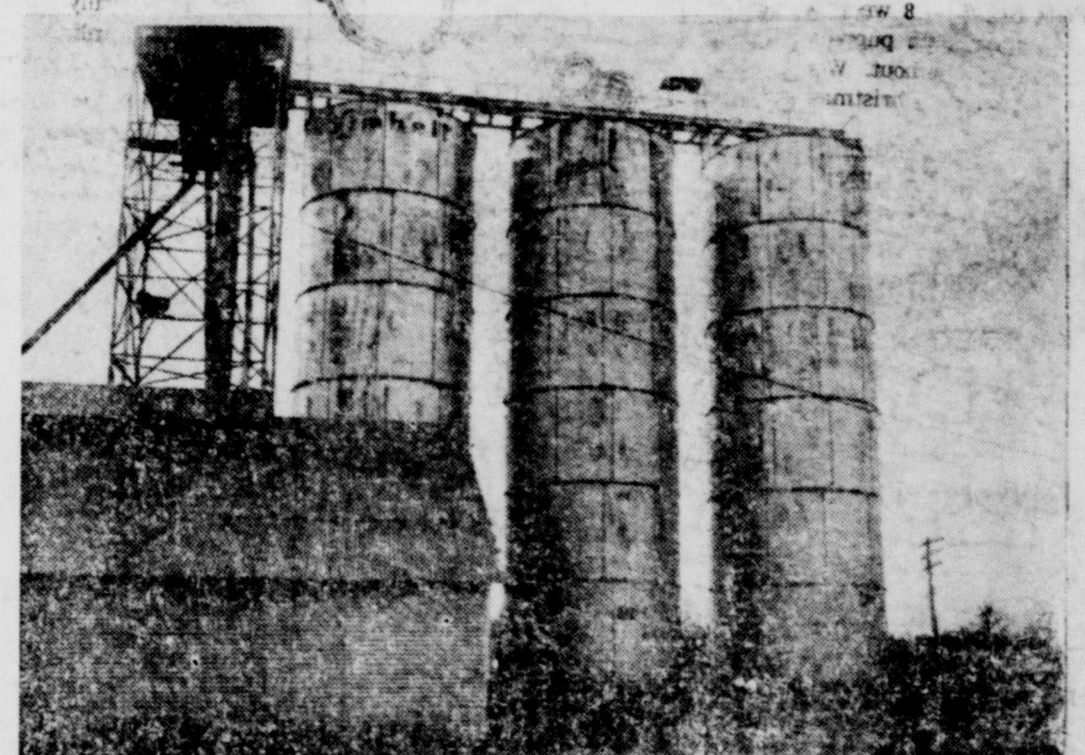
PEACE



Blessings to our many loyal friends and customers from

from the staff of the
**MERKEL
RESTAURANT-MOTEL**

Congratulations



MERKEL ELEVATOR

(Edgar Davis Grain Co.)

North First Street in Merkel, Texas

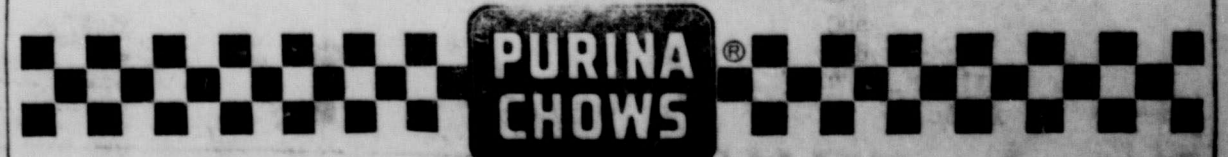
The Ralston Purina Company is pleased to welcome this fine agri-business organization into its family of service-minded independent dealers.

These folks are anxious to serve the livestock and poultrymen in this community. We, at Purina, are sure that you are as pleased to have them serving you as we are to have them handling our products.

Here are just a few of the products and services that they are bringing to this area:

- Purina Chows for livestock and poultry
- Complete line of Purina Health Products
- Purina Home and Garden Supplies
- Seed and Fertilizer
- Weed Killers
- Farm Equipment and Supplies

Stop in and pay them a visit soon!



HAVE A SWINGIN'



Health, wealth & happiness!

Johnny Cox

Bookkeeping, Income Tax and Notary Service



Best wishes from your friends at

BRAGG'S

MARY, ETHEL, FLORENCE AND FERN

Fire Victim Franklin Harris Dies of Burns

Funeral services for Orville Franklin Harris, 60, who died Friday, Dec. 27, from burns received Thursday in a fireworks stand fire, were held Sunday in the First Baptist Church.

Officiating was the Rev. Kenneth Jones, pastor, with burial in Rose Hill Cemetery under the direction of Starbuck Funeral Home.

Mr. Harris, according to officials, was sleeping in the fireworks stand when it caught fire sometime early Thursday morning.

According to Merkel Police Chief Mike Diley, Harris told him and Night Officer, Cecil Kiser, on the way to Abilene's Hendrick Memorial Hospital that the fire was caused by an electric heater.

The police chief added that it was unclear whether there had been a malfunction in the heater or whether the heater had caused the fireworks to explode. According to Fire Chief Waymon Adcock, the fire was reported to both the police and the fire department by an unknown caller.

Mr. Harris was born Sept. 1, 1907 in Bartlett, Ore., and moved to Abilene in 1919 and then to Merkel in 1940. He was a veteran of World War II. He was the Abilene Reporter-News dealer for Trent.

Survivors include five brothers, C. T. of Abilene, Miller of Big Spring, C. S. of Irving, Lillian of Dumas and James of Tyler; four sisters, Mrs. W. C. Martin of Cottage Grove, Ore., Mrs. Ed Sandusky and Mrs. Fred Johnson, both of Merkel, and Mrs. Buddy Boyd of Trent; several nieces and nephews.



We Wish to Take this Opportunity

...to express our sincerest wishes to all our patrons for the most joyous of New Years! May we continue to serve you throughout the months to come!

HARDY GROCERY

ROYCE, JOY AND LINDA



Warmest Wishes

... for a wonderful new year!

Mina Winter Butane



A BOUNTIFUL 1970

to all our friends

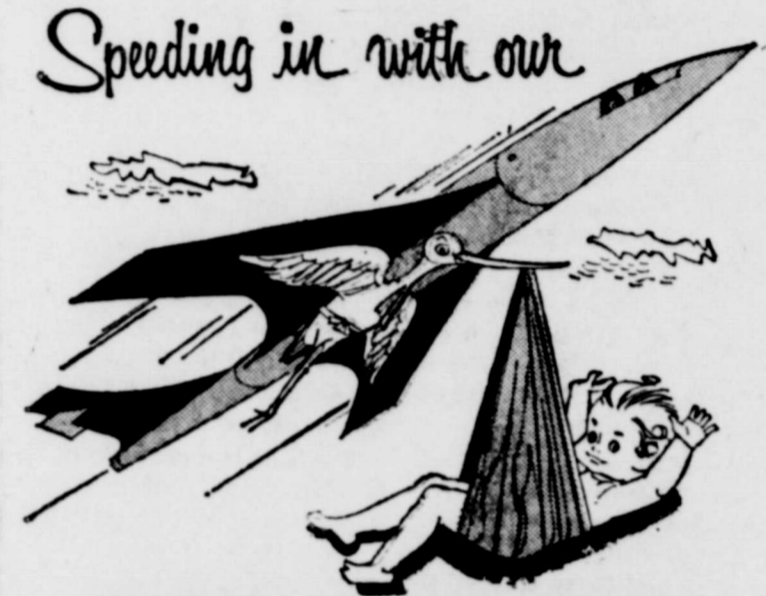
Health, Wealth and Happiness
Our Wish to You from

SCOTTY'S SPEEDWASH



ONE STOP SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

See **MACK SEYMORE**
102 Edwards
928-5379
Merkel, Texas



Speeding in with our

New Year Greetings

Wilson Jewelers



PEACE

May it reign throughout the world in the year 1970

W. B. Thomas Service

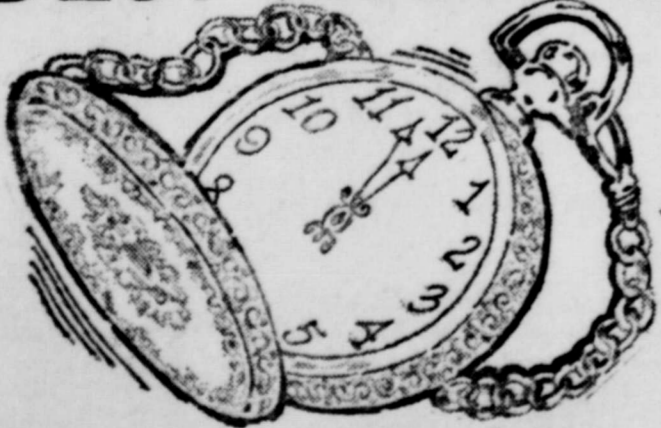


The Best of the New Year to all our patrons

It has been our sincere pleasure to serve you during the past year.

JOHNSON'S GROCERY AND CAFE

BEST WISHES



TIME WAITS FOR NOBODY, SO WE'RE NOT WAITING A MINUTE LONGER TO WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Hicks Auto Supply



WE HOPE IT WILL BE A GOOD YEAR FOR ALL!

Ben Franklin Store
J. W. HAMMOND

Start The New Year With A

BANK

You Can Count On

For security, for dependability, for genuine helpfulness you will find no better partner when it comes to making plans for 1970 than.....



THE OLD RELIABLE
FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
(Deposits are insured now to \$20,000.00)

Tim Riggan, Gaylon Brnovak, Glenn Bryan, Stan Hicks and Arthur Maberry.

Honorary pallbearers included members of the Trent High School football team.

Eyes Examined **Visual Training**
Contact Lenses
DR. ED DRESSEN
OPTOMETRIST
Phone OR 4-6331
504 Cedar St. Abilene, Texas

For **COLDS**
take 666



A BIG NEW GIFT FOR YOU!
It's a brand new year...we hope you make the most of it!

BULLOCK'S HARDWARE & GIFTS
ALMEDA AND WILLIE



MAY IT BEGIN AND END
ON A NOTE OF GAIETY!

Adcock's
Cleaners and Clothiers



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

DuBose Texaco Service

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

We hope that 1970 gets off to a wonderful start for everyone!

IRVEN THOMPSON

**STEVE REDDIN DIES
OF HEART ATTACK**

Steve Reddin, 18, who was seriously injured Dec. 3 in a shooting accident, was dead on arrival at Hendrick Memorial Hospital at 3:15 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 25, following an apparent heart attack.

Funeral services were held Saturday in the First Baptist Church in Trent, with the Rev. Jim Sellers, pastor, the Rev. James McRell, pastor of First Methodist Church in Merkel and the Rev. John Curtis, pastor of the Assembly of God Church in Merkel, officiating.

Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery under direction of Starbuck Funeral Home.

Reddin reportedly was in a hay barn about 200 yards from his home on Derstine Road, nine miles southwest of Merkel, Dec. 3, when he was accidentally shot with a 16 gauge shotgun he was carrying.

He was born March 12, 1951 in Abilene. He graduated from Trent High School and played football there.

Survivors include his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Reddin of Merkel; one sister, Betty Lynn Reddin of the home; maternal grandfather, Grover Bishop of Clarkburg, Calif.

Pallbearers were Pat Carriker,



May Goodness
Abide in
Your New Year

CONLEY
Barber Shop



A World
of Happiness
to Everyone

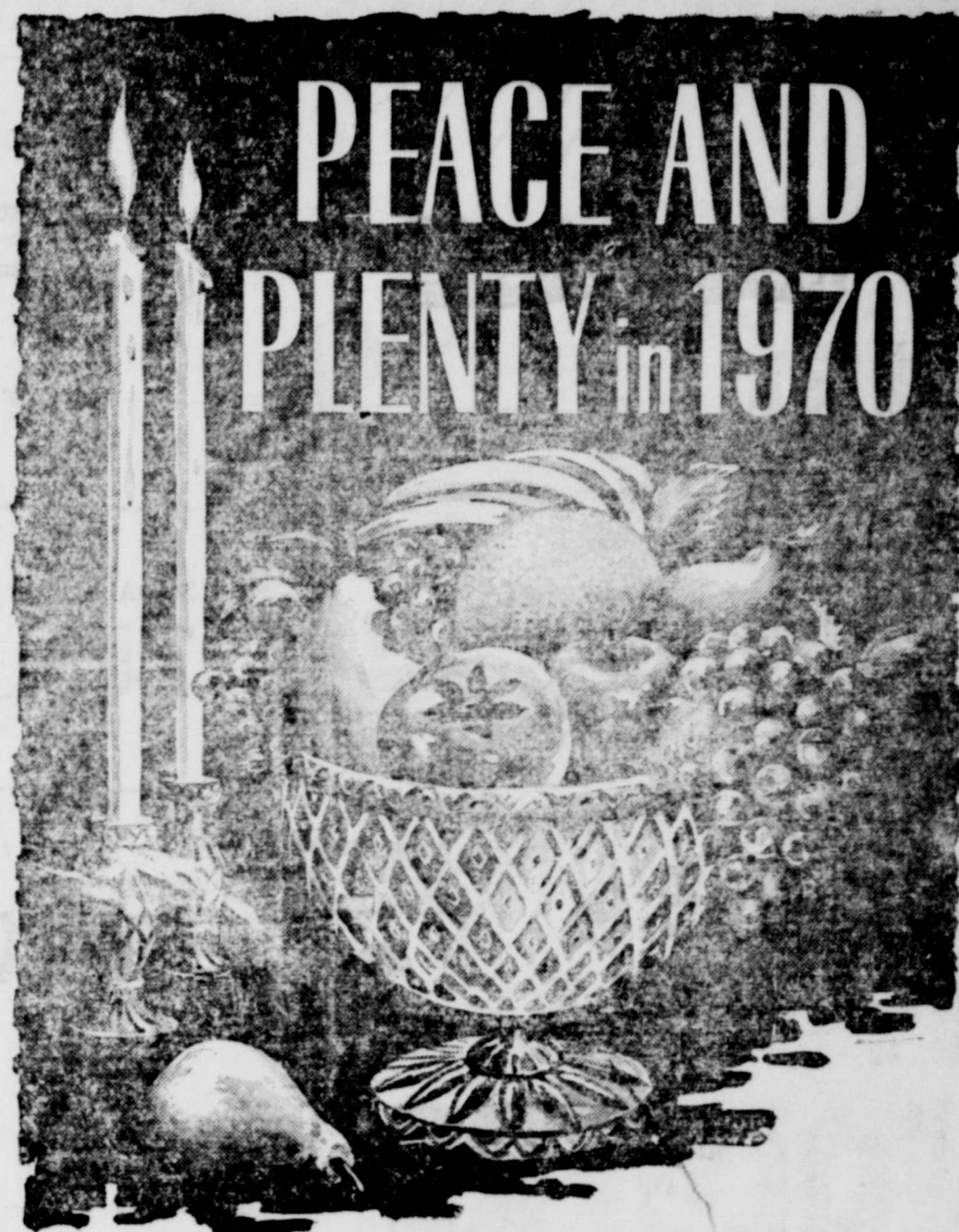
BARNETT
Barber Shop

**GOOD
LUCK**



Here's hoping the New
Year brings you
of health and

MERK
(Edgar)



MAY EVERYONE ENJOY THE FRUITS OF PROSPERITY IN THE YEAR AHEAD! BEST WISHES FROM THE FOLKS AT

FISHER FINA STATIONS
AND
MERKEL AUTO PARTS



Up, up, and away we go into a brand new year! Good luck to all!

**TAYLOR ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**



START OFF 70 with SAVINGS A-PLenty

FOR **GOOD LUCK** IN '70
ARROW DRY
BLACK EYE PEAS Lb. **15¢**
FRESH NO. 1 DRY SALT
PORK JOWLS Lb. **29¢**

PRICES GOOD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 2 AND 3

SUNSHINE
CRACKERS Lb. **35¢**

Frozen Foods

ORANGE DRINK
AWAKE .. 9 Oz. Can **29¢**

PATIO
Enchilada **DINNER** .. ea. **39¢**

MORTON T.V.
DINNERS Asst. ea. **39¢**

HORMEL
VIENNA
SAUSAGE
2 for **39¢**

MILE HIGH
H. B. DILL
PICKLES
QT. JAR **39¢**

LIBBYS 2 1/2 CAN - 4 Limit
PEACHES
2 for **49¢**

SODA POP
7-UP 6 Bt. Ctn. **39¢**

SOFT OLEO
PARKAY Lb. **39¢**

COOKING OIL
WESSON **79¢**
48 Oz. Bottle

MOUNTAIN PASS 300
Blackeye **PEAS** Can **10¢**

LIBBYS 1 1/2 CAN
Butter **PEAS** 2 for **39¢**

LIBBYS 1 1/2 CAN
Butter G. **BEANS** 2 for **39¢**

LIBBYS 1 1/2 CAN
Butter **CORN** 2 for **39¢**

LIBBYS 303
PEARS Can **29¢**

DEL MONTE 46 OZ.
Tomato **JUICE** Can **29¢**

VAN CAMP NO. 300
PORK & BEANS 2 for **29¢**

AUNT JEMIMA
MEAL 5 Lb. Bag **39¢**

AMERICAN BEAUTY
MACARONI 10 Oz. **23¢**

LIGHT CRUST
FLOUR 5 Lb. Bag **49¢**

BORDENS
GANDY OR METZGERS
EGG NOG
QUART **49¢**

BORDEN
GANDY OR METZGERS
WHIPPING CREAM
1/2 PINT CTN. **29¢**

BORDEN
HOMO 2 MILK
1/2 GAL.
2 for **98¢**

BORDEN
BUTTER MILK
1/2 GAL.
2 for **93¢**

BORDENS
ICE CREAM
1/2 GAL. CTN. **69¢**

FOLGERS Coffee Pound Can **59¢** With \$5.00 or More in Trade Excl. Cigs.

SNOWDRIFT 3 Lb. Can **59¢**

HI-C DRINK Assorted 46 Oz. Can 2 for **49¢**

POPCORN 3 Minute 2 Lb. Bag **25¢**



FRESH GRADE A
FRYERS
Lb. **29¢**

WOLF
PLAIN
CHILI 300 Can **53¢**

SPRAY STARCH
PRUFF 22 Oz. Can **49¢**

LIQUID
PALMOLIVE Gt. Bot. **49¢**

LIQUID
AJAX Gt. Bottle **49¢**

GIANT
COLD POWER (1 Limit) Box **59¢**

GRAPEFRUIT
EXTRA LARGE JUICY and SWEET RUBY RED Lb. **9¢**

FRESH
LETTUCE Lb. **15¢**

SUNKIST
ORANGES Lb. **15¢**

FRESH
CARROTS 2 Lbs. **25¢**

WASHINGTON DELICIOUS RED
APPLES Lb. **15¢**

BEKO RUSSET
SPUDS 10 Lb. Bag **43¢**

BACON DECKERS POUND **75¢**

STEAK CHOICE BEEF Club Lb. **83¢**

FRANKS DECKERS 12 OZ. PKG. **49¢**

STEAKS CHOICE BEEF T-Bone Lb. **99¢**

BEEF FRESH Ground 3 Lbs. **\$1.00**

SAUSAGE DECKER SMOKED

SHORT RIBS CHA EL ELEVATOR (Davis Grain Co.)

WE GIVE GIFT BOND FOR ALL! AMPS

Store

CARSON'S
SUPER MARKET
MERKEL, TEXAS
FRESH VEGETABLES
FREE DELIVERY MON - WED - FRI
BEST MEATS IN TOWN