

LIONS CLUB TO HEAR STANLEY; DISCUSS UPCOMING MUSICAL

H. C. Stanley, Taylor County Agriculture agent, will be guest speaker to members and guests of Merkel's Lions Club Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Following Stanley's program, members will discuss their upcoming Country Western Musical, to be held at the High School Auditorium Jan. 9, beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets went on sale this past week and may be purchased from any of the Lions Club members. Prices are \$1.00 for adults and 75 cents for students. They may also be purchased at the door, said club president, Jim Sinclair.

The Musical will be furnished by J. W. Brewer and His Auctioneers.

Brewer said Tuesday that plans are now complete and other guests will be appearing on the program along with the Auctioneers.

Highlight of the Musical will be the appearance of Winn Wizard, a well-known Magician from Abilene, who will give a thirty minute performance during the show.

Proceeds from the Musical will be used by the Merkel Lions Club for their "help the youth" projects.

IN ABILENE

NEW OFFICE OPENED TO HELP THE BLIND

The State Commission for the Blind has opened a new office in Abilene at 310 No. Willis for the purpose of helping persons with visual problems.

Jerry Lewis, counselor for the thirty-one county area, including Taylor County, said, "Our agency helps anyone with a visual problem that glasses will not correct. We are a vocational rehabilitation organization and we are interested in helping blind people find jobs and supply training for them."

Lewis said that the organization also deals in physical restoration, cataract operations, glau-

coma, and any kind of eye diseases.

The program includes a rehabilitation teacher who comes into the home and helps visually handicapped people learn to be independent and to take care of themselves.

The organization also works with children who have visual problems, by counseling with parents, and they also help pay for operations for children whose parents are unable to do so.

Persons who need information concerning this program for the blind may contact the Abilene office at 673-5181.



18 YEAR OLD REGISTERS — First thing, on 18-year-old Mignon Crawford's agenda this Monday morning was to come by the Merkel Mail, and fill out a Voter Registration form and mail it to the Taylor County Tax Assessor-Collector's office. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Onis Crawford, Mignon will be ready for her first vote when the occasion arises. (Staff Photo)

VOTER REGISTRATION

By JOE E. LASSITER
Chairman, Democratic Prec. 24

This date, December 21, 1970, will be recorded in history as a "Land Mark" in politics in the United States. This date, the United States Supreme Court handed down a ruling on the question of allowing persons 18 years of age to vote. The decision limited the 18-21 year olds to vote for candidates for national offices only. Now, those 18-21 year olds will vote for Congressional candidates, U.S. Senate candidates or electors to select the President of the United States and will be eligible to cast their first vote, if they are registered voters!

The Court has apparently left the decision to the separate States as to the age qualifications for those who will be eligible to cast their votes for candidates in all local and state races. But, the race is on to get those applications into the Tax Assessor-Collector's office by January 31, 1971. Voter Registration now applies to all citizens 18 years of age up in order to qualify as a voter.

There remains an interesting question — yet unanswered. When is a person legally 18 years of age? On January 1; January 31; on or before the date of the first Primary Election; by the time of

the second Primary or on or before the date of the General Election.

At any rate, 18 year olds will play it safe by registering now, regardless of how the decision is made.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Registration forms may be picked up at the Merkel Mail office or at the Taylor County Tax Assessor's office in Abilene.

THIRD QUARTER City Sales Tax Totals \$3,939

Merkel's share of the state sales tax collected for the third quarter of 1970 is \$3,939.82, which is \$51.19 over the second quarter ending June, 1970, and \$37.39 less than third quarter of last year. December, 1969 sales tax check was \$3,972.21 and tax for second quarter this year was \$3,888.63.

Roy Kimbrell, city secretary, said that the third quarter check came in at a good time, in that, it was used for paying bills.

The money comes from the one per cent city sales tax which the state collects and pays to the city.

Cautious Optimism Given In '71 Forecast

With the first year of the seventies within a few hours of its exit, persons in Merkel are looking forward to the new year with "cautious optimism."

The man on the street has an optimistic outlook — "if it would only rain."

Business men, too, would like to see that rain, but are optimistic that it will happen sooner or later.

H. C. Stanley, Taylor County agent, said Tuesday, "It will have to rain sometime."

"Merkel, as far as agriculture is concerned, is a real good farming area," he commented. "It's good stock farming country and our outlook is good for another year, and it's gonna rain one of these days."

Stanley expressed admiration for the people of Merkel and West Texas.

"They have the pioneer spirit," he said. "And they can take whatever comes and we have to be optimistic to stay in the field of agriculture."

Farmers and Merchants National Bank, states that "Amount of money on deposit has long been regarded as reliable indication of financial condition of a community."

"If this be true," said Warren, "then the Merkel area is in pretty good shape for we reached an 'all time' high in deposits on Dec. 16, 1970, of \$5,172,162.82.

Warren said that during the past two weeks we have experienced a slight seasonal decline and "we will probably show somewhat less than the above figure at close of business on December 31st."

However, Warren said that an anticipation of new all time high would come about January 10th to 15, 1971, "when cotton carried over for income tax purposes by many of our farmer friends has been processed."

"We should easily surpass the December 16 figure," said Warren, "and we shall look ahead with 'cautious optimism!'"

John Hardesty, manager of Taylor Telephone Cooperative said they had "experienced best growth in 1970 since he had been manager."

He said that proposed expansion was underway for 1971.

"Effective Jan. 1 we will have established direct distance dialing in Buffalo Gap exchange," said Hardesty. "Upon completion of outside plant contract, there will be established maximum 4-party service in six exchanges."

(These include Buffalo Gap, Lawn, Hamby, Potosi, Hawley and Tuscola.)

By mid 1971, the Cooperative expects to upgrade the remaining exchanges to 4-party service —

(These include Noodle, Nubia, Nolan, Wingate, Norton, Crews and Bradshaw).

Hardesty said that he looked forward to 1971 with optimism.

Chamber Manager, Johnny Hammond, spoke of 1971 with "cautious optimism," when he said that he believed that 1971 would be a good year.

"There are no definite prospects for small industries coming into Merkel as of this date," he said, "but we have not given up on exploring the chances of getting in-

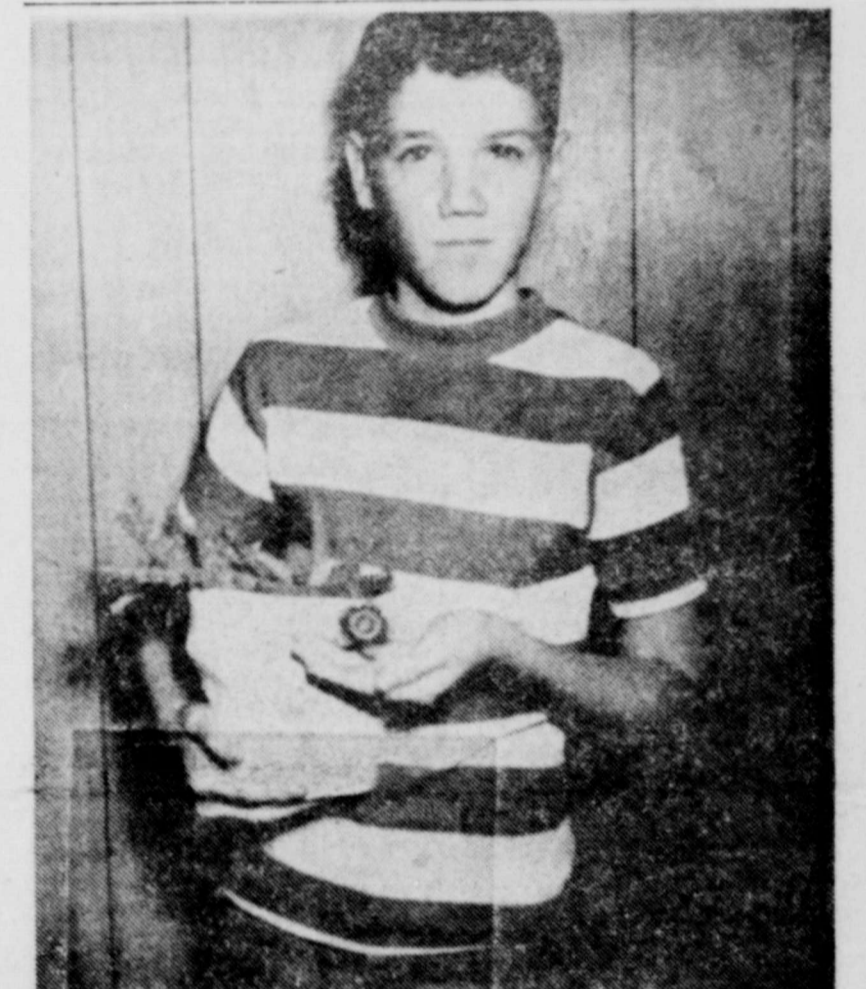
dustries to settle here."

In a telephone conversation with R. L. Bland, president of Cal-Tex Feed Yards, he said that "at the present time there were no plans for a packing plant to be established there."

"All we plan to do for 1971 is to upgrade our feed lot," said Bland.

Hargrove, manager of Taylor Electric Cooperative, said "For 1971 there will be some reconstruc-

See Story ONE, Pg. 5



RARE BLOSSOM — David Hendricks, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hendricks, carefully displays the sulphur yellow and brown star shaped bloom, found blooming on Christmas Day by his grandfather, Burr Hendricks. (Staff Photo)

THE STAR OF DAVID

By LAVONNE BUNCH

The Stapelia levida of the Burr Hendricks' home now has an exalted place of display. The rare olive green asclepidaceae, which is a native of South Africa, was a gift in November, 1969, from a relative, who found the plant on a mountainside in California.

The Hendrick family brought the "Star of David," so called because of its sulfur yellow and brown star shaped bloom, to Merkel. After much coaxing in the art of living and blooming, the barren plant was put in the pump house and all but forgotten.

That is, until Christmas Day, when Mr. Hendricks went to get an extra table for company dinner.

There set the forlorn object, naked of any blooms!

The day and the company vanished and the extra table was stored again in the pump house, but this time Mr. Hendricks saw the small star shaped flower, perfect in every detail!

A perfect summation of Christmas Day!

Who would anticipate a "Star of David" in a pump house?

But—then—who anticipated a Messiah in a manger?

F & M BANK'S 'ALL TIME HIGH' DEPOSITS IS TOP STORY FOR 1970

Farmers and Merchants National Bank Deposits hitting an "all time high" in August was top story in Merkel for 1970.

Booth Warren, president of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank announced on Tuesday, August 4, that "for the first time deposits in Merkel had gone over the five million dollar mark."

Warren explained that the record amount of money in the bank was due to many causes — wheat, cotton and feed grain subsidies and "farmers and ranchers taking cattle to market where the price is high."

Deposits hit \$5,111,793.63 and "reflects the soundness of the Merkel economy which is built largely on a foundation of agriculture"

Other news by the month as recorded in The Merkel Mail included:

JANUARY

1970 began with a "left-over" 1969 Wintery Blast that found motorists stranded in Merkel, using every known facility for housing. Power and telephone lines were downed by the ice.

The Annual Stock Show named Rusty Holloway, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holoway, awardee of grand champion steer. Carolyn Gilmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Gilmore, received Taylor Electric Cooperative's showmanship trophy.

Other January events include Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church celebrated its first anniversary in new church, built in Jan. 1969. Roy Buchanan filed for re-election, justice of peace. Chamber directors met and approved 1970 budget. Farmers and Merchants National Bank, met and re-elected directors for another year. Merkel City Council approved

Lone Star Gas Company's rate increase for city. Merkel Scout Hut gets a "face-lifting," — with help of Fire Department cleaning building and a local cleaning firm donating drapes.

FEBRUARY

Merkel Telephone Company and Telephone Incorporated were merged into the Continental Telephone Corporation.

Area students, Jim Snyder of Baird, and Ruth Huff of Clyde win Taylor Electric Cooperative's Annual Oratorical Contest and a trip to Washington, D.C., set for June.

Joe McDuff, area farmer, was named outstanding conservation farmer by the Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District. Cramer Reynolds and Morris Smith take part in Washington Fly - In for Farmers Union. Cub Scouts note 60th Anniversary of Boy Scout Week.

Mellingers Dry Goods, one of Merkel's landmarks, sold for an undisclosed amount by the Mellinger brothers, Isadore, Sylvan and Meyer.

Ray Wilson resigns as chairman of board of Public Housing Authority; Fred Starbuck appointed to fill this vacancy.

MARCH

Conservation essay and poster winners from Merkel and area honored by Middle Clear Fork Soil and Water Conservation District at banquet in Abilene.

Edgar Davis Grain Company buys Merkel Elevator. Merkel City Council okays employes pay raise. Col. Joe E. Lassiter retires from Active USAR status; retirement ceremony honored the colonel in Abilene.

Area 4-H'ers win in Taylor County Food Show held in Westgate Center in Abilene.

APRIL

Merkel Little Leaguers stage annual downtown parade, opening little league baseball season. Merkel Riding Club begins summer activities.

Taylor Electric Cooperative holds Annual Membership Meeting, with over 2,000 members and guests attending.

Congressman Omar Burleson is guest speaker for Chamber of Commerce Banquet. Mrs. Burleson honored at tea.

Mrs. Onis Graham resigns as city secretary at Trent. Trent Basketball Coach, Mrs. Ricky McMurray and team honored at banquet. Merkel Junior High students named winners in Regional Science Fair held at Abilene Christian College.

Merkel - Trent WWI Veterans host 17th District Meeting at Taylor Electric Cooperative.

MAY

Fifty seniors graduate at Merkel's Commencement Exercises; Olaf South, superintendent Sweetwater Schools, principal speaker.

Patricia Moore named valedictorian, Cathy Baird salutatorian and Terry Derington, highest ranking senior boy.

Frank Calhoun, state representative, commencement speaker for Trent graduation exercises; high point students, Linda McAninch, valedictorian, Sheila Hamner, salutatorian and Johnny Jones, high ranking boy.

Merkel and Trent Bank Deposits show a higher deposit than the Abilene city banks in bank call issued.

District Attorney Ed Paynter speaks to Lions Club on growing drug problem in the Big Country.

City Council buys Mobile Radar set for specific use of speeding within city limits.

Joe E. McDuff wins race for Precinct 2 Commissioner in heated race with C. E. Gatlin of Abilene; Roy Buchanan wins unopposed race for Justice of Peace.

JUNE

Paul Woodfin, from New Braunfels, was named head coach for Merkel Schools.

The Rev. James Sinclair installed as president of Merkel Lions Club. Merkel's Annual Beauty Pageant held and sponsored by Lambda Beta Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi.

Wren Durham, Postmaster since 1966, retires this month; Truett Thompson named officer in charge.

Johnny Cox, an outstanding civic worker in Merkel and the Big Country, for several years, died June 7 in Fort Worth Hospital following an illness of five weeks.

JULY

Chamber directors propose new

See Story TWO, Pg. 5



TO ALL OUR FRIENDS
and Customers - We've Enjoyed
Serving You During 1970 - and
Our Pledge to You Is to Continue
Our Practice of Courteous and
Friendly Service.



Prices Good Thursday and Saturday, December 31 and Jan. 2
WE WILL BE CLOSED NEW YEAR'S DAY

SWIFTS JEWEL

Shortening

3 Lb.
Can

59¢

MILK

Foremost Home 2
Half Gal. 2 for

99¢

BEST MAID

Salad Dressing

QUART

39¢

FOREMOST
EGG
NOG

Qt. **49¢**

FOREMOST
WHIPPING
CREAM

Ctn. **29¢**

RANCH STYLE WITH BACON

Blackeye Peas

23 Oz.
Can

19¢

BISCUITS Meads

3 for **29¢**

OLEO Krafts Parkay

Lb. **29¢**

PEACHES

Pict Ripe
2 1/2 Can .. 2 for

45¢

Preserves

Best Maid Jar
Apricot 18 Oz.

35¢

GRAPEFRUIT JUICE

Tex-Sun 46 Oz. Can

39¢

FLOUR

Gold 5 Lb.
Medal Bag

59¢

ARMOURS

TREET 12 oz. can

49¢

HORMEL

VIENNAS 2 for

45¢

WAGONER

Orange Drink Qt.

29¢

PET 99 SKIM

MILK tall can 2 for

29¢

REG. SIZE

JELL-O reg. size 3 for

29¢



NABISCO
CRACKERS
1 LB. BOX **35¢**

KOUNTY KIST
CORN
12 OZ. CAN
2 for **29¢**

PECAN VALLEY
CROWDER PEAS
300 SIZE
3 for **25¢**

HUNTS
TOMATO SAUCE
8 OZ. CAN
3 for **29¢**

COMET
CLEANSER
GIANT SIZE **19¢**

CHEER
DETERGENT
GIANT SIZE **69¢**

Frozen Foods

KRINKLE CUT
POTATOES 2 Lb. Bag **35¢**

DONALD DUCK
ORANGE Juice 12 Oz. Can **39¢**



ORANGES 5 Lb. Bag **39¢**

LETTUCE Head **19¢**

TOMATOES Lb. **39¢**

CABBAGE Lb. **7¢**

CARROTS 2 Bags **25¢**

SPUDS 8 Lb. Bag **39¢**



GOOCH

BACON Lb. **59¢**

ARMOURS

HAMS Shank lb. 49¢
Butt Lb. 53¢

SAUSAGE

GOOCH
GERMAN STYLE
Pkg.

79¢

STEAK

CLUB Lb.

85¢

STEAK

T-Bone Lb.

1⁰⁹

TURKEY

Swift Butter Ball
10-12 Lb. Lb.

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



WE HOPE
IT WILL
BE A GOOD YEAR FOR ALL!

Fred and Naomi Starbuck



MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING HARMONY

Mack's Cleaners



The Best of the New Year
to all our patrons

Edgar Davis Grain Co.



**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

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

Boney Insurance
BENNY and BONEY

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 Mer-
kel Lodge No. 710 on
2nd Saturday and 4th
Thursday of each month
at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome.
Members urged to attend.
JOHNNIE BARNES, W.M.
ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y.

TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR WED-
DING INVITATIONS — See our
excellent selection. Merkel Mail
& Printing, 928-5712.

WANTED — Cooks, waitresses,
and dishwashers. Merkel Res-
taurant, 928-4923. 8 t/c

WEDDING INVITATIONS, IN-
FORMALS, ANNIVERSARY IN-
VITATIONS — All may be seen
at the Merkel Mail and Print-
ing, 928-5712.

THE PROVEN carpet cleaner
Blue Lustre is easy on the budg-
et. Restore forgotten colors.
Rent electric shampooer \$1 at
Bullock Hardware & Gifts, 928-
5310. 30 t/c

BEAUTY BY MARY KAY for a
complimentary Facial Call Del-
phine Watson, 962-2335. 31 t/c

MAY WE SUGGEST that you see
our Wedding Invitations — Good
selections of styles and type,
reasonable too. Merkel Mail &
Printing, 928-5712.

MELBA'S PASTRY SHOP — We
now have a coffee shop. Donuts,
pie, breads, candy and cakes —
all occasions. Call 928-4883, 135
Kent St. 43 t/c

WANTED — Babysitting jobs by
high school girl. Call 928-5524
or see Mary Merrell. 44 t/c

LOST — Tire, wheel and hub off
trailer between Trent and Louis
Spratlin's place. Call Allen Mor-
gan, Trent, 862-2554. 44 t/c

- For Rent -

FOR RENT — 3 bedrooms, all
carpeted, central heat, located
across from White Flat Gasoline
Plant, near Trent. Rent very
reasonable. Call 862-9888 or 862-
9275. 44 t/c

FOR RENT — One 2 bedroom,
furnished and one 3 bedroom
furnished, 1 Bacheer apart-
ment. Call 928-5669. 41 t/c

- For Sale -

FOR SALE — 2 wheel livestock
trailer \$125; Appaloosa horse
cell, 15 months old, \$150, Louis
Butman, 849-4185. 43 t/c

FOR SALE — John Deere Tractor
model 70 — 3 point hookup
TTO, LP gas, excellent condi-
tion. Call 928-4876. 43 t/c

FOR SALE — 36 acres out side
of the city limits, with barn,
well and pump. Also lots in city
limits. Contact John Shannon.
44 t/c

FOR SALE — Ford Building on
large lot at Interstate 20 and
Farm Road 126. Owner anxious
to sell. Call Pauline Butman at
Gold Key Co., 692-4006 or 692-
2222. 43 t/c

FOR SALE — Five piece dinette
suite, fits any decor, good con-
dition, reasonable. Call 928-5757.
42 t/c

HOUSE FOR SALE — 4 room
tile house on South 3rd St. Call
928-5160 or 928-5337. 41 t/c

NEED

A New Water Well Drilled?
Also Install Meyers
Subs & Jacuzzi Jets

Call
ROBERT HIGGINS
928-5998

FOR SALE — 66 Del Air Chev-
rolet, V-8, actual miles 12,000,
automatic transmission, radio,
heater, air conditioner. See
Faye Uecker 928-5765 or Robert
Campbel, 928-5450 after 5:00
p.m. 42 t/c

FOR SALE — STAMP COL-
LECTION, U.S. Album, Gener-
al Album, Singles, Plate Blocks,
Duplicates, Specially items.
Call Abilene, 677-6041. 40 t/c

FOR SALE — 490 acres 20 miles
south of Merkel, good deer
hunting. For more information
contact Sam Jones at 928-5712
or 928-4806, or contact Duple
Pouge at Snyder. 20 t/c

Draft Quota Up

Texas draft quota for January
is 905, a sharp increase from 489
in December.

A total of 4,240 received orders
to take pre - induction exams.
January call will be filled by local
draft boards from those whose
lottery numbers had been reach-
ed in 1970 but were not called.



OUT OF DARKNESS INTO OBLIVION
It is night and the road is clear; you are
pouring on the speed. You overdrive
your headlights. Suddenly your head-
lights pick up the side of a train going
over a crossing. You can't stop when
you see the train. Consider the horror.
The horrible pain of fear for the seconds
it takes you to slide from the darkness
into oblivion.

SERVICE
Our Specialty

J. L. FISHER
FINA SERVICE
TWO LOCATIONS
INTERSTATE 20 &
WEST HIGHWAY 80
* * *

MERKEL
AUTO PARTS
921 N. 2nd
WE WELCOME
YOUR BUSINESS

Member 1970
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

The Merkel Mail

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT
Established 1889

Published weekly at 916 N. Second St., Merkel, Texas
Entered at the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, 79536 as second class mail.

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of
any person, firm or corporation, which may appear in the columns of
the newspaper will be corrected, gladly, upon being brought to the
attention of the publisher.

For Classified Rates: See WANT AD Section
SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.50 Per Year Taylor and adjoining counties.
\$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



YVONNE ALLISON
... sets wedding date

**Allison-Dudley
Engagement Told**

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Allison
announce the engagement and an-
nouncing marriage of their daugh-
ter, Yvonne, to Mr. Joe Dudley,
son of Mr. and Mrs. Quanna
Dudley.

Wedding is planned for Friday,
January 8, in First United Meth-
odist Church, with the Rev. New-
ton Daniel, pastor emeritus, read-
ing vows. Time will be 7:30 p.m.

The bride - elect is a junior stu-
dent at Merkel High School. Her
fiance is a graduate of Merkel
High School, attended Cisco Jun-
ior College and is presently em-
ployed by WesTex Drilling Com-
pany in Abilene.

Friends and relatives of the
couple are invited to the wedding.

**UT Reservations
Being Accepted**

AUSTIN — Reservations for
housing in University of Texas
dormitories for the fall 1971 se-
mester are now being accepted.

Current residents have first op-
tions on rooms. Then applications
are processed on a first - come
first - serve basis. The University
houses 5,670 students in 11 dormi-
tories, and also provides low-cost
housing units for married students
and a trailer park.

Information and application
forms may be obtained from the
Division of Housing and Food
service, P. O. Box 7966, Univer-
sity Station, Austin, Texas 78712.



Malone Implement



BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY
AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

Ben Franklin Store



Off to a festive start! May the
New Year have a happy ending, too!

Johnson Grocery, Cafe & Boot Co.



Cyrus Pee Agency

ONE

(Continued from Page 1)



FROM ALL THE FOLK AT THE
MERKEL DRUG

TWO

(Continued from Page 1)

elderly housing for Merkel; members heard that need for a low-cost housing for the elderly exists in Merkel.

Merkel 4-H Club has Annual Tour: Jerri Stephan and Gail Boone top winners in Taylor County's 4-H Dress Revue.

C-C president, Johnny Hammond names committee heads for year.

AUGUST

Merkel School Board sets budget hearing, Nolan Palmer named to serve on board of directors of Texas Automobile Dealers Association.

FIM Bank hits all time high — deposits go over \$5 million mark.

School enrollment has slight increase; transfers from Tye and Trent account largely for increase. Trent schools begin fall session.

American Red Cross Annual Board Meeting held in Merkel; Joe Cummins named Taylor County Chairman.

Merkel Chamber of Commerce gives support to new library building.

Mark Clemmer, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clemmer, receives Gold Star Award; Leeann Holloway, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Holloway, Gold Star Girl Award.

Fred Starbuck named new director of Merkel's Civil Defense.

SEPTEMBER

Taylor Telephone Cooperative holds annual membership meeting and renames directors for another year.

Booster Club begins membership drive; Vincent Barnett, president.

Attempted Burglary at Carson Super Market results in two arrests.

Lloyd Bentsen stops off in Merkel for brief visit before hitting road west on week-long Senatorial campaign.

Mrs. Horace Hargrove resigns as Housing director, Mrs. Junior Clark named to fill vacancy.

School children get tickets to West Texas Fair.

Sam Swann heads Merkel area chairmanship for Cattleman's Round-Up for Crippled Children. Suzie Riney elected president of Mulberry 4-H Club. Len Beasley named captain of MHS Badger Band.

OCTOBER

Merkel VFW Post cited for outstanding service to community. Merkel Homecoming has record crowd — 256 exes register and gate count at football game totaled 3,000 attendance. Bob DuBose named president of 1971 Homecoming activities.

Joe Lassiter speaks to Lions Club on seven proposed amendments to constitution. Roy Kimbrel elected president of Merkel Optimist Club.

Pierce Manufacturing notes first year in new location, one mile east of Merkel. The company manufactures metal stamping, metal fabrication, wholesale grocery carts, and vending machines.

Michael Briley resigns as Chief of Police.

Taylor County Awards Banquet honors 4-H'ers.

Merkel opens Community Fund Drive with goal of \$4,000; names

Mack Fisher chairman. School-wide Parent-Teacher Conferences held; first for the school year. Paul Thames named president of MHS Honor Society.

NOVEMBER

Merkel Garden Club completes last one hundred fifty feet of fence around Rose Hill Cemetery.

Boyd Baker, former chief of police at Munday, heads police department at Merkel. Robert Leo Harris, City Water Superintendent, receives Competency Certificate from Texas State Department of Health.

John Dixon and Vickie Robertson chosen MHS Band Favorites. Leeann Holloway chosen Football Sweetheart and Paul Thames Football Hero.

Noodle Homecoming, W. R. Cyfert chairman, names Mrs. Sallie Justice Coming Home Queen.

DECEMBER

Annual Christmas Parade has large crowd to line downtown streets; Patti Copeland, Audy Byrd and Donna Russell chosen winners in Miss Merry Christmas contest.

Pierce Manufacturing Co. destroyed by fire after about one year in new location. Richard Pierce, owner, said workers would begin trying to salvage equipment; damage estimate not given.

Merkel School students may request free lunches. A school sponsored program which provides lunches free or at a reduced price for those in need of such services.

Goodfellows come through with contributions of \$439.00 to help the needy.

Merkel Badgers place eight on all-district team — including John Dixon, Buster Tarpley (named twice), Paul Thames, Tommy Anderson, Mike McLean, Kerry Thames, Randy Smith and Bill Whisenant.

Booster Club nets \$300 from Auction Sale.

tion done, what we call heaving up, where small lines will be replaced with larger ones."

"1970 was one of the best years for Taylor Electric," said Hargrove, "and we're looking forward to a most progressive 1971."

Jake Roberts, district highway department superintendent, expresses an "uncertainty about highway improvement in the Merkel area," especially about the Federal Aid Part of the improvement.

"There was no December letting," said Roberts, "and this is the first time since World War II. Funds are just not coming through, and we're now waiting on the new Federal Aid Highway Bill, in which Merkel and the whole district stand in line."

Roberts said that a prediction at this time was most difficult to make.

"However," he said, "the regular road and highway maintenance will be done in the Merkel area as well as the whole district."

Mayor Horace Hargrove said that as far as improvements in Merkel were concerned, "we're faced with a money problem, and how we're going to get it."

"Right now, we're faced with the problem of reworking the city water tower," said Hargrove. "Correcting the tower seepage will run in the neighborhood of \$18,000 to re-condition it."

Hargrove commented that replacing the old tower with a new one would cost in the neighborhood of \$87,000.

"So we believe we're taking the more sensible route when we talk about repairing the old one," said Hargrove. "Just being able to know where the money is coming from is our main thought right now. And I believe we can solve this problem financial wise, as well as being able to keep our streets up in 1971."

NEEDY FAMILIES GET GOODFELLOWS' HELP

Christmas was made a happier time for twenty-six families who wrote to Merkel Goodfellows this year, asking for help.

Mrs. W. R. Cyfert, co-chairman with Lawrence Hewitt for this year's Goodfellows, said that twenty other families came by headquarters last week and were given clothes, shoes and food along with the twenty-six who wrote in requesting help.

"Thanks to the wonderful contributions of money and clothes, we were able to help around forty families this year, and of this number there were ninety children who were clothed, shoes, food and toys," said Mrs. Cyfert.

Abcard Destroyer

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Navy Seaman William D. White, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. White of 911 Oak, Merkel, is serving aboard the newly-commissioned destroyer escort USS Quillet at Charleston, S.C.

The USS Quillet was named in honor of Vietnam hero and Medal of Honor winner, Seaman G. Quillet who gave his life in defense of his shipmates on River Patrol Boat 124 in the Mekong River on March 6, 1967.

Total contributions to Goodfellows including check from the Merkel Community Fund of \$100.

Hewitt and Mrs. Cyfert expressed appreciation to all who had helped in any way toward making the Goodfellow Campaign such a successful one.

"We are sincerely grateful to all our contributors of money, time and clothes," said Hewitt, "and a special thanks to those who helped man the store."

Volunteers who worked at the Headquarters besides Hewitt and Mrs. Cyfert were Mmes. Pearl McCartney, Winnie Cyfert, Minnie Howard, Lynn Barnes and Lawrence Hewitt.

Latest Contributions

Mrs. Johnny Cox	\$ 2.50
Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Fisher	15.00
Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Kingsbury	10.00
Merkel Community Fund	100.00
Previously Contributed	\$334.50

TOTAL \$459.50



ringing out good wishes loud and clear!

Barnett's Barber Shop



MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING HARMONY
Merkel Telephone



Time again to thank all our loyal friends for their patronage.

FROM ALL THE FOLKS AT
PALMER'S
Palmer Motor Co.
AND
Palmer Mobil Station



May the New Year bring you joy!

H. W. Lemons Inc.



Bullock's Hardware & Gifts

ALMEDA and WILLIE

WISHING YOU A DOGGONE

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



DuBose Texaco



Merkel Restaurant and Motel

May the year ahead abound in good fortune for you!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fisher Fina and Merkel Auto Parts

Danna Thompson Gift Tea Honoree

Danna Kay Thompson, bride-elect of Arthur Lewis Maberry, was honored with a gift tea held recently in the home of Mrs. Othel O'Kelly in Trent.

The honoree is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Thompson of Sylvester and the prospective bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Maberry, also of

Trent. The couple, both students at Tarleton State College, will make their home in Stephenville, after their marriage January 8, in the Sylvester Baptist Church.

A floor length cloth of white net, trimmed in lace, covered the table from which two heart shaped cakes decorated with pink roses was cut and served by Mrs. Ted Simpson. Sheila Hazner served the pink punch from a crystal bowl. A center arrangement of pink roses flanked by pink candles was centerpiece.

Special guests other than the mothers of the couple were the honoree's grandmothers, Mrs. D. L. Kidd of Sylvester and Mrs. W. H. Thompson of Sweetwater, and the prospective bride-groom's grandmother, Mrs. J. F. Maberry of McCaulley.

Miss Thompson was wearing a blue crepe dress, featuring a draped, bias yoke, and self fabric contour belt clipped through a large white pearl buckle.

Welcome 1971

May it be a bright and bountiful year for you!

Cypert Tax Service



This is our sincerest wish for all our customers!

Wilson's Jeweler

Loving-Holloway Engagement Told

Mrs. Lavonia Loving of Rotan is announcing the engagement of her daughter, Deborah Lavonia to Mr. Gerald Wayne Holloway, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Holloway of Merkel.

Both are students at Cisco Junior College. A February wedding is planned.

Lighting Contest Winners Named

Winners in the Christmas Home Lighting Contest were Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Ferguson, first place; Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Moore, second place and Ricky Conley, third place.

Prizes were, first place, \$20; second, \$10; and third, \$5.



MRS. STEPHEN BROWN
... the former Katie Neill

MISS NEILL BRIDE OF STEPHEN BROWN

Wedding vows were read for Katie Meryl Neill and Stephen Ray Brown Saturday, in the College Church of Christ Chapel.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Neill of Merkel. The bridegroom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Manton L. Brown of Friona.

Billy Patten, minister of the Merkel Church of Christ, officiated. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Byrd were soloists.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a high necked

crepe gown with empire waistline, slightly gathered skirt and full gathers in the back. Lace appliques and seed pearls were on cuffs, collar and belt.

Her floor length veil was held with a crown jeweled tiara. She carried white carnations, pink roses and gardenias with English ivy.

Her attendants were Belinda Knight of Lawn, maid of honor, and Barbara Knot of Merkel.

Brian Brown of Byers was ring bearer. Candelighters were Prissy Neill and Tammy Neill, both of Gorman.

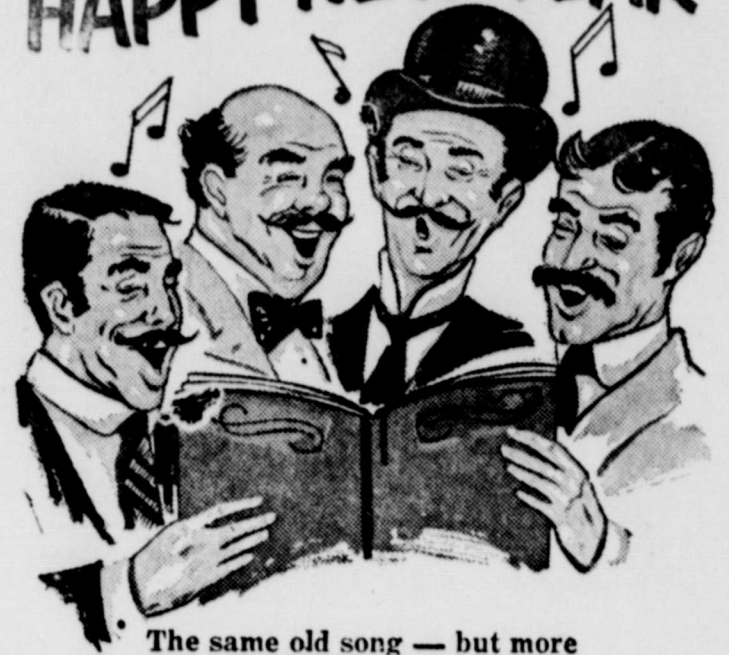
Don Thompson of Barstow, Calif., was best man, David Murray of Byers was groomsman. Ted Procter of Friona and Tim Hammer of Sechoa, Ariz., seated guests.

The bride's attendants wore Paris pink brocade gowns with puff sleeves. A bow held their veils. They carried pink roses.

The bride is a graduate of Merkel High School and is a sophomore at Abilene Christian College. She is employed by Thorn-

ton's Department Store, Abilene Linen Supply. After a trip to San Antonio the couple will live at 609 1/2 College Drive in Abilene.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



The same old song — but more sincerely meant than ever.

Hicks Auto Supply



RING OUT THE OLD RING IN THE NEW

The Bells Toll for You a Happy New Year

Ann's Flowers

ROUND-UP

By PAT BYRD

Guests in the BABE TARPLEY home Christmas Day included Mrs. Gaston Gregory, and Mr. and Mrs. Troy Gregory, all of Big Spring; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Grege, Lisa and Todd of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. Garth Gregory, Craig and Scott, and Mr. and Mrs. Troy Harris and Donna, all of Abilene.

Also Mrs. Louise Gregory, Ken Becky and Allen, Trent; Ghonda Tarpley, Dallas, and Lecann Holloway, Merkel.

Entertainment besides food and Christmas tree, included dominoes, canasta, checkers, basketball and an "initiation" of all the new toys.

LEE REYNOLDS, a former Merkelite of some few years ago and now of El Paso, dropped by the Merkel Mail office Monday — renewed his subscription and said he was going to do some "visiting around the town." Lee is here visiting his three sisters, Mrs. B. L. Peterson, and Mrs. L. B. English, both of Merkel, and Mrs. Fannie Darrrough in Trent. An employee of Ft. Bliss, Lee left Merkel in 1942 and this is his

first visit back in five years. Comments: "Merkel has changed a lot in the past five years — why you can go up and down the sidewalks on main street without being shoved around by the crowd."

Visitors in the BERYL BROWN home during the holidays were their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Royce White, and son Ricki, Wichita, Kan.

Other visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown, Stephenville; Mr. and Mrs. James Eubanks and daughters, Baird; and Mr. and Mrs. Judd McReynolds, Merkel.

The HENRY L. HOWARDS had their children home for the Christmas holidays. They are Mr. and Mrs. Larry C. Howard, Louisville, Ky., and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Books, Midland. Son, Larry is attending the Seminary in Louisville and wife, Mary, is a nurse. Jerry is employed by Gulf Oil Company in Midland.

The Henry Howards spent the weekend with Mr. Howard's mother, Mrs. E. R. Clack, in Antlers, Okla. She accompanied them to Durant, where she visited her sister in the King's Daughters Home.

Children and Their Parents

"But whose shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:6.

"But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14

In these two passages of scripture and the context of each verse, Jesus teaches the fearful responsibility of us parents. May I use these two boys I know to illustrate the lesson Jesus taught:

First: here is this one boy, age 15, who has all his life been rejected by his step-father and his mother. He has been beaten, kicked around, unmercifully punished and etc. by the step-father. As a result the boy has the tendency to be a Sociopath (extremely self-centered, pleasure-seeker, no conscience, and gives no thought as to the consequences of what his actions may cause other people). Therefore he will probably never be able to adjust to life, probably end up in jail, and never have a good relationship with God.

Second: here is a boy, age 8 or 9, who has never been carried to Bible class or worship, he knows nothing about how to show kindness or gratitude. He has been pampered and never denied anything he ever wanted. Probably never disciplined (Proverbs 13:24; 21:15). This child shall grow up, if the present continues, not having any respect for authority and having a "seared conscience." Thus for all practical purposes he will never respect God's authority, as this begins in the home, nor accept the fact that he is guilty of sin, thus never able to have a good relationship with God.

Thus this lesson in Matthew 18:6 and Mark 10:14 by Jesus is very real toward parents who lead their children away from God and His Son.

BILLY PATTON, Minister

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"COME VISIT WITH US"

You are invited to listen to the HERALD OF TRUTH program on KTXS-TV — 8a.m. Sundays.



Lasting joy to all our patrons

Irvin Thompson Butane



HAPPY NEW YEAR

The sands of time have shifted again; here's wishing you good luck in the year ahead!

Merkel Post No. 5683

Veterans of Foreign Wars

MERKEL, TEXAS

RELIGIOUS REVIEW

MISSION BAPTIST BETHEL
 Sunday School 10 a.m.
 Morning Worship 11 a.m.
 Training Union 6 p.m.
 Evening Worship 7 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 Kenneth Jones, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Radio Broadcast 10:15 a.m.
 Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
 Radio Broadcast 11:00 a.m.
 Youth Choir 5:00 p.m.
 Training Union 6:00 p.m.

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 JAMES SINCLAIR, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Sunday School 10:00

Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
 WEDNESDAY
 Midweek Service 7:00 p.m.

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH
 307 El Paso St.
 W. G. Richardson, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Bible School 10:00
 Worship Service 11:00
 Evening Service 7:00
 WEDNESDAY
 Evening Service 7:00

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH
 James Merrell, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Sunday School 9:45
 Worship Service 10:55
 Youth Meeting 6:00
 Evening Worship 7:00
 WEDNESDAY
 Prayer Group 7:30

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
 John Curtis, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Sunday School 9:45
 Preaching 11:00
 Evening Preaching 7:30
 WEDNESDAY
 Mid-Week Evangelistic Service 7:30
 Mid-Week Service 7:30 p.m.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
 5th and Runnels
 Herschel Smith, pastor
 SUNDAY MORNING
 Sunday School 10:00
 Worship Service 11:50
 SUNDAY EVENING
 Training Union 6:30
 Worship Service 7:00
 WEDNESDAY
 Evening Service 7:30

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Billy Patton, pastor
 SUNDAY
 Bible School 9:45
 Morning Worship 10:30
 Evening Worship 6:00
 WEDNESDAY
 Bible Classes 7:30

Decorating Tips

By Rhonda Racz
 Home Decor Director
 Hardwood Institute

NEW LIGHT SHED ON FURNITURE FINISHES

Every decorator worth his salt will always tell you that lighting is one of the most important—and most often neglected—aspects of home decor. Lighting is, after all, functional as well as decorative. A proper blending of lighting prevents eyestrain, offsets the characteristics of your furniture, sets the mood for your room, and provides an accent for decorative focal points.

Direct lighting, the lighting you get from the normal table lamp, shines down on your table and the immediate surrounding area. It produces sharp contrasts of light and dark with heavy shadows.

Indirect lighting is directed towards the ceiling or wall, and is reflected back into the room. The source of light is usually hidden, but the effect is to bathe the entire room in soft illumination. This type of lighting eliminates shadows, producing an even flow of light that may tend to be somewhat dull if not combined with other types of illumination.

Spot lighting is used to highlight specific areas of decorative interest, like paintings, a tiny alcove, sculpture, or an important piece of furniture.

Proper lighting can often be a tricky business because different types of light have a way of fooling the eye by creating optical illusions. Take your furniture, for example. When you select a wood finish in the store for a hardwood table or buffet, you see the color of the wood under standard white light. The finish will probably look very brown

with just a touch of yellow. Yet, when the hardwood piece arrives in your home, you'll look at it under incandescent light which will change the color to a redder, richer shade. In daylight the same finish will appear yet another color, this time one that is more of a true brown than a red.

One of the advantages of buying genuine hardwood furniture for your home is the great depth and beauty of the natural pattern of the wood—be it maple, walnut, oak, teak, rosewood, pecan, or any of the other hardwoods. Often this high quality furniture can be ordered with different finishes, so before you choose the right color for your home, be sure you consider your light sources. If you don't, you'll soon see that this aspect of decorating shouldn't be taken "lightly."

 Any questions on wood? Write to Rhonda Racz, Hardwood Institute, Suite 1422, 551 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017.

WANT ADS GET RESULTS

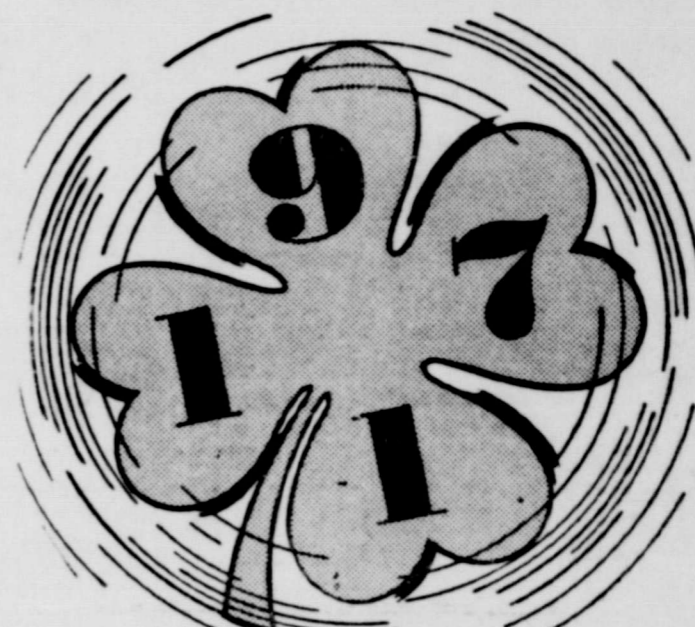


Best wishes from your friends at

Bragg's

MARY, ETHEL, FLORENCE and FERN

LOTS OF LUCK IN



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JIMMY, ROBERT, MIGNON, LATINA and ONIS

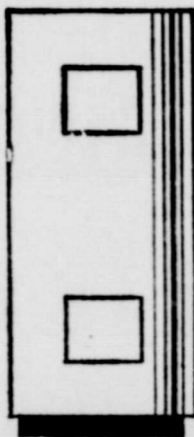
Crawford's



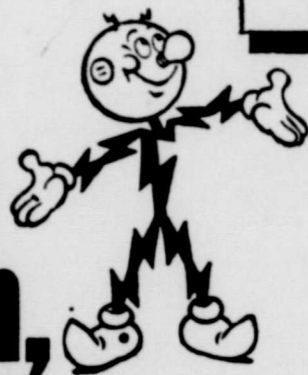
We pledge our best in service
 all ways in the days to come!

Adcock's Cleaners and Clothiers

genuine
 flameless
 electric
 water
 heaters
 are



safe,
 clean,
 odorless,
 noiseless,
 long-
 lasting.



And...it can be tucked away in any size home and installs without a vent or flue. You also have the convenience of plenty of Hot, Hot water when you want it. — See your local plumbing dealer or WTU today —

SPECIAL LOW 1¢ RATE

When residential customers of WTU purchase an electric water heater, they are entitled to WTU's special 1¢ water heater rate. Ask a WTU representative for details.

FREE WIRING

Normal 220 volt wiring to WTU residential customers who buy an electric 40 gal. or larger qualified water heater from a local dealer or WTU.

West Texas Utilities
 Company

Equal
 Opportunity
 Employer
 an investor
 owned company

CLASSIFIED ADS GET RESULTS

For
COLDS
 take 666

Basketball Schedule

December

31. Jan. 1, 2 — Hawley Tournament, girls

January

5 — Coahoma, there, A&B boys

7, 8, 9 — Merkel B Team Tournament

8 — Rotan, there, A&B boys, A girls

12 — Anson, here, A&B boys, A girls

girls

14 & 16 — Winters B Team Tournament

15 — Haskell, there, A&B boys, A girls

19 — Hamlin, there, A&B boys, A girls

22 — Stamford, here, A&B boys, A girls

25 — Open date

29 — Rotan, here, A&B boys, A girls

February

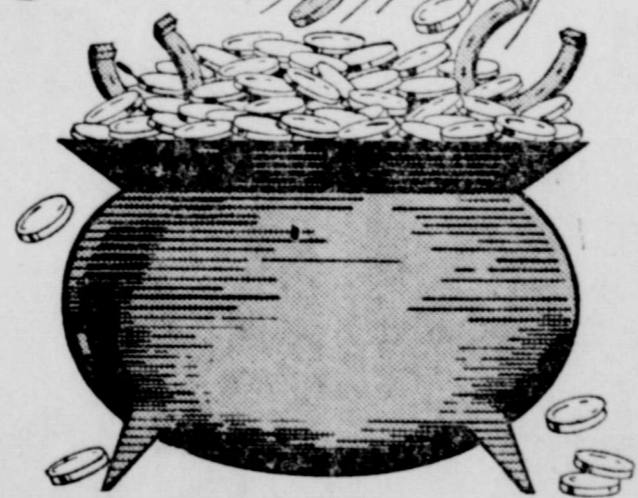
2 — Anson, there, A&B boys, A girls

5 — Haskell, here, A&B boys, A girls

9 — Hamlin, here, A&B boys, A girls

12 — Stamford, there, A&B boys, A girls

A
 WEALTH
 OF
 JOY



...with earnest wishes
 long and true, that the
 New Year will prove to be
 the year for you!

HARDY'S GROCERY

ROYCE, JOY and LINDA



TIME TO RING
 OUT BEST WISHES
 FOR OUR FRIENDS!

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK



BORDEN — GANDY — METZGERS

IMPERIAL

WHIPPING CREAM

1/2 Pt. Ctn. **29¢**

SUGAR

5 Lb. Bag **49¢**

WITH \$5.00 OR MORE IN TRADE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

Prices Good Wednesday, Thurs., CLOSED FRIDAY 1st and Saturday Dec. 30, 31, Jan. 3

SAVE IN 71

HONEY BOY 16 OZ. **SALMON** Can **69¢**

HORMEL NO BEANS **CHILI** No Beans ... 300 Can **43¢**

DEL MONTE 14 OZ. **CATSUP** ... 2 for **43¢**

DIAMOND JUMBO DINNER 8 CT. **PLATES** ... 8 Ct. Pkg. **29¢**

HUNTS BAR-B-Q SAUCE **MANWICH** ... Can **29¢**

OUR DARLING 303 C.S. Golden **CORN** ... 2 for **39¢**

MILE HIGH CUT 303 Green **BEANS** ... 2 for **33¢**

LIBBYS 303 Garden **PEAS** ... 2 for **39¢**

VAN CAMPS 300 **PORK & Beans** ... 2 for **33¢**

KUNER R.S.P. SOUR 303 Pitted **CHERRIES** ... 2 for **49¢**

KUNERS FRESH 300 **BLACKEYE PEAS** ... 2 for **33¢**

JELL-O

6 OZ. PKG.

ASSORTED FLAVORS PKG. **19¢**

CHIFFON

TISSUE

FACIAL

200 CT. BOX **19¢**

ASSORTED DRINK

HI-C

46 OZ. CAN **29¢**

SWIFT

SHORTENING

3 LB. CAN **63¢**

SKIM 99

PET MILK

2 TALL CANS **25¢**

GANDY — BORDEN

EGG NOG ... Qt. Ctn. **49¢**

HUNTS PUDDING PARTYTIME **SNACK PACK** ... 4 in Ctn. **53¢**

COFFEE

Mxawell House

(1 Limit)

Pound Can **69¢**

FLOUR

Gold Medal

5 Lb. Bag **53¢**

COKE COLA

12 Oz.

(9 Limit)

Cans ... 3 for **29¢**

MELORINE

Bordens

Home Treet 1/2 Gal.

33¢

Frozen Foods

MOTON ASSORTED **POT PIES** ... 3 for **49¢**

MR. G. CRINCKLE CUT **POTATOES** ... 2 Lb. Bag **29¢**

BIRDSEYE COOL AND CREAMY **PUDDING** ... 17 Oz. Pkg. **39¢**

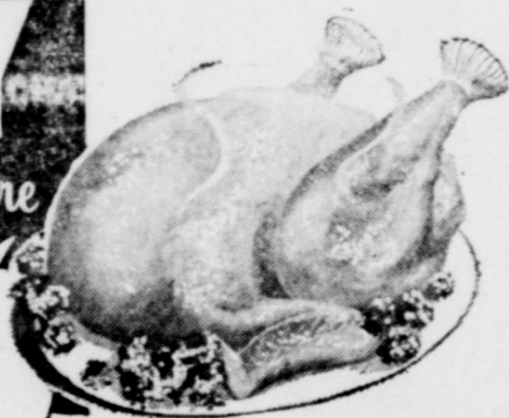
ARROW **PINTO BEANS** ... 2 Lb. Bag **25¢**

THE TURKEY

You'll Remember With Pleasure

GOV'T. INSPECTED PLUMP, TENDER FLAVORFUL

16-18 LB. HENS L.B. **39¢**



Toms ... lb. 37¢

STEAK CHOICE BEEF SIRLOIN or T-BONE ... LB. **\$1.09**

HAM ARMOUR STAR BONELESS LEAN ... 3 LB. CAN **289**

BACON ARMOUR STAR ... POUND **59¢**

FRANKS ARMOUR STAR ALL MEAT ... 12 OZ. PKG. **47¢**

SAUSAGE GOOCH B. R. OLE VIRGINIA ... LB. **55¢**

FRESH COUNTRY **BUTTER** ... lb. **85¢** GOOCH B. R. ALL MEAT **BOLOGNA** ... lb. **59¢**

DRIVE

KING SIZE

99¢

(1 Limit)

BEAUTY BAR

VEL

BATH

2 for **39¢**

LIQUID PINK

VEL ... Giant Bottle **49¢**

A JAX

DETERGENT

Giant Box **59¢** (1 Limit)



WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS

DOUBLE ON WEDS.

FRESH

CABBAGE

Lb. **5¢**

TEXAS JUICY **ORANGES** ... 5 Lb. Bag **39¢**

FRESH CALIF. **AVOCADOS** ... Each **15¢**

GOLDEN CHIQUITA **BANANAS** ... Lb. **9¢**

FRESH **LETTUCE** ... Lb. **15¢**

RUSSET **SPUDS** ... 10 Lb. Bag **39¢**

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