

# The Merkel Mail

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Between you and me



By SARAH ECKOLS

Each year at this time when the leaves are dry and need to be disposed of, it comes to mind that many persons burn them. We were recently asked to investigate as to whether Merkel has a city ordinance against this or not. According to J. A. Sadler, city coordinator, Merkel has an ordinance prohibiting the burning of trash or garbage by individuals, but does not have one prohibiting the burning of leaves.

As we have mentioned in these lines before, there is another alternative for the disposal of leaves. Mrs. William Booth tells us she can use all the leaves she can get for her compost pile. She tells us that leaves make excellent garden fertilizer when left through the winter in a compost pile and then tilled into the garden plot. If you have leaves you'd like to get rid of and not pollute the air by burning them, call Mrs. Booth at 928-4932.

In an article this week we reported on the conversation we had several days ago with Santa Clause. We would like to once again remind all you boys and girls who want to make sure your letters get to Santa that we will be his official letter station and will make sure that your letter reaches him special delivery in time for Christmas. I must say it was nice to talk to the "jolly old-gentleman" himself this year. He has told us that things are fine in the North Pole area. They have had just enough snow to make the sleigh take off smoothly on Christmas Eve.

Mr. Clause did mention that a couple of the elves and Mrs. Clause have been under the weather with colds, but are well now and helping him make ready for the big event of the year.

Santa did also want to have me remind all the children that they must be very nice to Mom and Dad and be especially good in order for him to be good and generous to them on Christmas.

"It is time for the trees to be going up and the lights to be turned on," said Santa. "I will be looking forward to seeing the lovely decorations around the world as I fly through the air on December 24."

Did you know that decorations in other areas are much different from the ones we have here? In New Mexico and Arizona they often decorate their trees with "Ojos de Dios" (eyes of God) or red chili pods and line their walks with luminarias on Christmas Eve. In some parts of the world it is summer for Christmas and the children are not in school at this time of year. Can you imagine missing the Christmas vacation?

In Argentina gifts are brought on January 6 by three wise men instead of Santa Clause. In Germany and Holland the children leave hay on the doorstep for Kris Kringle's animals.

The traditional turkey dinner we know here in Texas is not universal either. In New Mexico a Mexican food feast is typical, in the northern part of the U. S. and parts of Europe the goose takes the place of the Turkey as the main dish. Sweets and delicate goodies seem to be common in most areas where Christmas is celebrated.

In closing, Santa told us that he is watching his weight this year and perhaps the goodies left him by anxious boys and girls could be a bit lower in calories.

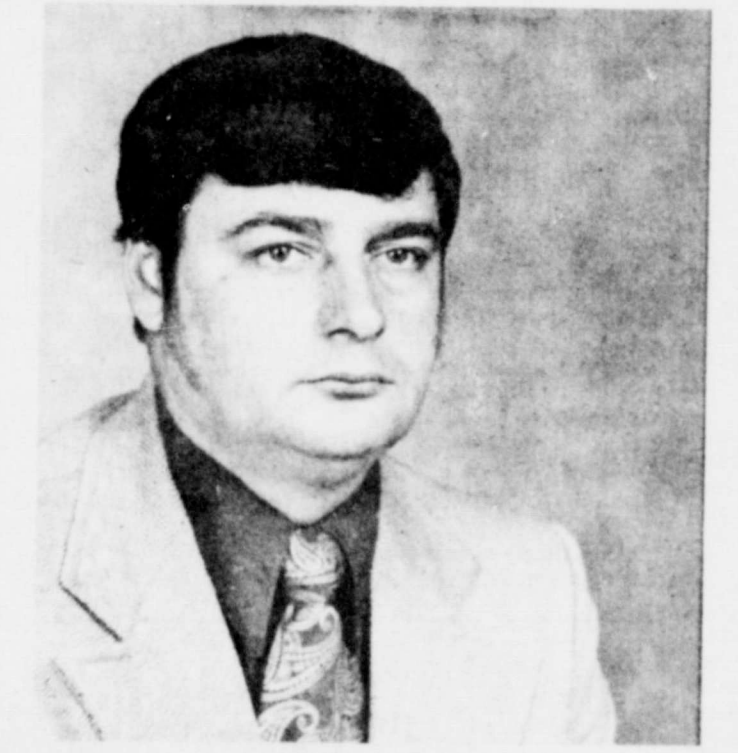
In order for the staff of The Merkel Mail to enjoy the holidays and have time with their families, we will be going to press with our Christmas issue on Monday, December 22. We will need to have all news items and advertising as well as letters to Santa into the office by 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 20. The Merkel Mail office will be closed on December 25 - 28. As in the past, we appreciate your kind consideration and cooperation.

## First Baptist Church To Present Cantata December 14

The First Baptist Church of Merkel will present its Sanctus Choir singing "Joy to the World" on Sunday evening, December 14, at 7 o'clock, pastor Kenneth F. Jones has announced. The choir will be directed by Roy Davis, with Mrs. Davis serving as organist and Mrs. Comer Haynes as pianist. Solo parts will be presented by Mrs. Kathryn Stuckey, Mrs. Don Runey, Buster Horton and Larry White. The

## Cecil W. Todd Named Principal Of Tye School

Cecil W. Todd has been named principal of Tye Elementary School by Merkel Independent School Board. The appointment is effective immediately, it was announced earlier this week



CECIL W. TODD  
... Tye principal

## Merkel Gin Sees Over 470 Bales So Far

Walter Hensley brought in the first bale of cotton of the season to the Farmers Cop Gin Society in Merkel, announced gin manager, Joe Higgins. Date of the first bale was November 24.

## Trent Kindergarten Registration

Trent School will have pre-registration for its kindergarten on Monday, December 15, 1975 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. The following requirements must be met:

1. 5 years of age on or before September 1, 1975
  2. birth certificate at time of registration
  3. immunization record or a doctor's written notice that the immunizations have been started at the time of registration
- Kindergarten classes will begin January 12, 1976.

City, Tennessee, where he received his bachelor of science degree in physical education in 1966. He did his graduate study at Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky where he received the master of arts degree in health, physical education and recreation.

Since 1969, Todd has been with the Owen County High School in Owenton, Kentucky where he was head basketball coach, athletic director and physical education teacher. He has also been employed by the Boyle County High School in Danville, Kentucky, East Knox High School in Howard, Ohio and Olton High School in Olton.

Todd is a member of Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels and has been named to Outstanding Personalities of the South.

The 6' 6" former college athlete was named to the all-star team; named star player and averaged 30 points per game during his career at Crab Orchard High School. In college he was all-conference, all-region, most valuable player in Kentucky junior college conference tourney and as captain, averaged 24 points per game at Lindsey Wilson Junior College. Todd was captain of the first team to play in the NAIA National Tournament as the 7th ranked team in the nation. He averaged 20 points per game and was named Little All-American in some press poles. Todd was drafted by the St. Louis Hawks professional basketball team, but did not take the draft, choosing a career in education instead.

As a coach, Todd has taken regional honors and set records with his conference championship teams. He has been named conference coach-of-the-year twice, runner-up once and district coach of the year runner-up once.

Todd is noted for his ability to initiate interest in basketball among his students and boost morale for the sport he coaches.

Todd, who is 37, is married and has one daughter, aged 4.

## Jr. High Annuals On Sale Now

The Merkel Junior High Annual Staff has recently conducted a "Draw the Badger" contest. The winning entry will be featured on the cover of the 1975-76 M.J.H. Annual. Winning first place was Royce Fowler; 2nd, place, Christine Franklin; and 3rd, place Cherie Kraatz.

Honorable Mention went to Kenny Chimene, Kim Smith and Sherry Ascencio.

Heading the Badgerette staff this year are co-editors Brad Wade and Shannon Bagby. Sponsors are Miss Anita Raymer and Mrs. Judy Butler.

The 75-76 Badgerettes are now on sale. They are \$4.25 this year and will be on sale until January 6. No annuals may be purchased after this date.

## Merkel Livestock Assn. To Meet

The Merkel Livestock Association will meet December 11 at 7 p.m. in the high school vocational agriculture building. It was announced earlier this week.

Purpose of the meeting is to plan the upcoming Merkel Stock Show. Parents of children who plan to show animals at the show this year are urged to attend this meeting. Anyone interested in helping with the show is invited to attend also. Volunteers are always needed and welcome.

A date and time for the Merkel Stock Show will be set at this meeting as well as selection of a judge.

## Christmas Season Officially Begins In Merkel With Parade

The Christmas Holiday season began to the sound of drums and marching bands and the glitter of floats as the annual Christmas parade passed in revue through the streets of downtown Merkel Saturday afternoon.

Leading this year's parade was the Shrine Color Guard from Sweetwater Shrine Club. Tailing close behind were floats, bicycles, bands, dancing Christmas trees and packages. "Brush-

stompers," fire trucks and Santa Clause himself.

Winning first place in the float division was Lambda Beta's group of walking Christmas Packages; second place went to VFW Post 5683 and Ladies Auxiliary, Christmas 1776; third place went to the Young Home-maker's Sugar Plum Tree.

In the bicycle division first place was Brian Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ford; second place was Lyle Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Baker; third place was Kenny Deen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Deen.

The home decorations will be judged December 22. Those who live in the surrounding area of Merkel, wishing to have their homes judged, should contact Benny Melton at the Merkel Chamber of Commerce.

The Merkel Chamber of Commerce would like to take this means and opportunity to thank Max Murrell Chevrolet and Palmer Motor Company for the cars they furnished for the Miss Merry Christmas winners; the Merkel Fire Department; Chief Waymen Adcock, parade marshal; the Merkel Police Department; Merkel High School Band and twirlers; The Shrine color guard; and Mrs. Elaine Brumbeau, parade judge for making this year's parade the success that it was.

## Merkel Boys Lose Tourney To Jim Ned

The consolation game in the Jim Ned tournament between Trent and Merkel girls was probably the most exciting game in the tournament. Merkel took the lead at the end of the first quarter 9 to 4 and led by one at the half 15 to 14.

Merkel came out shooting in the third quarter and built up an 8 point lead, only to see that lead dwindle and finally tied at the end of regulation play. Trent got the tip off in overtime and scored the only points and won the game 34-32.

In the championship game between the Jim Ned and Merkel boys, Jim Ned took a lead it was never to lose, at the end of the first quarter it was 17 to 8 Jim Ned and at halftime Jim Ned led by

2, 22-20. Brad Pursley kept Merkel in the ball game with his fine defensive play and his shooting. Paul Tucker also had a fine defensive game for Merkel. Brad Pursley was high point for Merkel with 12 and in the girls game it was Linda Stephan scoring 24.

The girls all tournament team was forwards Linda Stephan, Merkel; Bonnie Buchanan, May and Mindy Marshal, Jim Ned. Guards were Brenda Griffin of Trent, Verna Tremble of Coleman and Carla Thornhill of May.

The boys all tournament team was Paul Tucker of Merkel, Jeff Pierson of Jim Ned, Ricky McMan of Wylie, Ken McNeil of Winters and Ken Earl of Stamford.



PARADING THROUGH THE STREETS OF MERKEL--The Annual Christmas Parade filled the streets of Merkel Saturday afternoon as floats, bicycles, bands and Santa Clause passed by to the thrill of young and old alike.



TOP TWENTY-FIVE CLUB--Connie Mac Seymore of Farmers Union Insurance in Merkel has been named to the Top 25 Club of insurance salesmen in Texas. Connie Mac has sold over \$25,000 in crop hail insurance for 1975 through Farmers Union. "This represents approximately 3,000 acres of land," said Seymore. Seymore received the top 25 plaque as one of the top 10 insurance salesmen at the Farmers Union Convention in Fort Worth recently. According to Connie Mac, Texas broke national records for October and November in the life insurance division of Farmers Union.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR  
... to present cantata

## W. W. I Vets

The World War I Merkel-Trent Barrack 2248 will have their Christmas luncheon Saturday, December 13, 12 noon at the R. E. A.

Every one is asked to bring a covered dish. Gifts will be exchanged. All eligible persons are urged to come.

# 5 BIG DOLLAR DAYS

SPECIALS GOOD THURS. DEC. 11 - TUES. DEC. 16

## COFFEE

MAXWELL HOUSE

LB \$1.19



HOT BAR-B-QUE  
POTATO SALAD BEANS  
PIMENTO CHEESE

## SUGAR

PURE CANE  
WITH \$10 PURCHASE

5 LB BAG LIMIT 1

89¢

## BACON

GOOCH  
LB

\$1.39

## TOWELS

SCOT

49¢

BIG ROLL

## SHORT RIBS

BEEF

LB.

49¢

## ZEST

BATH SOAP

2 FOR 55¢

## HAMBURGER

FRESH  
GROUND  
LB.

63¢

## CASCADE

5 OZ  
BOX

\$1.29

### Hot Buys On FROZEN FOODS

FOX CHEESE HAMBURGER  
SAUSAGE

PIZZA 13 1/2 OZ. EA. 89¢

KEITH CORN, PEAS OR

MIXED Vegetables 59¢  
20 OZ. PKG.

KRINKLE CUT

POTATOES 5 LB BAG 99¢

A Garden Of Good Things

### PRODUCE

FANCY DELICIOUS

APPLES LB. 25¢

DEL MONTE  
BANANAS

LB. 19¢

TEXAS  
ORANGES

5 BAG  
LB 59¢

TEXAS  
CABBAGE

LB 10¢

RUSSETT  
POTATOES 10 LB BAG

89¢

- KRAFTS MARSHMALLOW  
CREME 13 OZ. JAR 59¢
- BAKER'S 12 OZ. PKG.  
CHOCOLATE CHIPS 69¢
- GRIFFIN  
BLACKBERRIES 18 OZ CAN 69¢
- LIBBY'S  
PUMPKIN 303 CAN 29¢
- GANDYS  
EGG NOG QT. 79¢

- LIPTON INSTANT  
TEA 30Z JAR \$1.29
- REAL 24OZ BOTTLE  
LEMON JUICE 69¢
- DUNCAN HINES FAMILY SIZE  
BROWNIE MIX 89¢
- DOWNEY 33 OZ. BOTTLE  
FABRIC SOFTNER 89¢

- Crystal White  
LIQUID 69¢
- GIANT SIZE
- TIDE \$1.79
- KING SIZE

## MAYONNAISE

KRAFTS  
QT.

\$1.00

## SNOWDRIFT

(LIMIT ONE)  
42 OZ. CAN

\$1.39

## PEACHES

VAL VITA  
2 1/2 CAN

2 FOR

\$1.00

## CATSUP

DEL MONTE  
32 OZ. JUG

79¢

## OLEO

KRAFTS  
PARKAY

2 FOR

\$1.00

## YAMS

SUGAR SAM  
SQUAT CAN

45¢

## CORN

DEL MONTE  
303 CAN

3 FOR

\$1.00

## WESSON OIL

48 OZ. BOTTLE

\$1.89

## GREEN BEANS

DEL MONTE  
WHOLE 303  
CAN

3 FOR

\$1.00

## MILK

MARIGOLD

2% HOMO  
GAL.

1.39

REG.  
HOMO  
GAL.

1.49

PLUS DEP.

## BEANS

RANCH STYLE  
15 OZ CAN

4 FOR

\$1.00

## DR PEPPER

OR PEPSI-COLA

64 OZ. BOTTLE

69¢

## POTTED MEAT

ARMOUR

5 FOR

\$1.00

USDA APPROVED  
TO REDEEM  
FOOD STAMPS  
DELIVERIES DAILY  
AT 10:00 A.M.

REFRIGERATED AIR  
1033 N. SECOND

PARKING LOT IN REAR

Double Premiums

On WEDNESDAY ON

Purchase of \$2.50

OR MORE IN MERCHANDISE

Save Valuable

Cash Register Tapes

For Premiums

## BISCUITS

KOUNTRY FRESH

8 FOR

\$1.00



Where Customers Send Their Friends  
PHONE 928-5713

## FLOUR

GLADIOLA

5 LB BAG

79¢



America's Presidents Gain Recognition



Elias Boudinot confers with George Washington. Illustration by Gerry McConnell, courtesy of New Jersey Bell Tel-news.

## Tell Us Your Favorite Recipes

By JANIS HAYNES

Beginning with this week's issue, The Merkel Mail will print a weekly column of favorite recipes from area residents.

If you have an old family recipe that you'd be willing to share with us, or if you've come up with an interesting variation on a traditional dish, or if you've simply come across a recipe that you really like, let us know about it!

Send your contributions for publication to The Merkel Mail, P. O. Box 428, Merkel 79536, or drop them by the newspaper office.

Starting this feature off for us is Mrs. Irl Walker of Merkel. The lemon pudding and the corn dodgers were favorite recipes that her mother made; the salmon salad, she said, is wonderful for lunch with a vegetable casserole and a soup.

**Lemon Pudding**  
1 cup sugar, 1/4 cup flour, 1/8 teaspoon salt, 2 tablespoons melted shortening, 5 tablespoons lemon juice, grated peel of 1 lemon, 3 beaten egg yolks, 1 1/2 cups milk scalded, 3 stiffly beaten egg whites.

Combine sugar, flour, salt and shortening. Add lemon juice and peel. Add to combined egg yolks and milk and mix well. Fold in egg whites and pour into greased custard cups. Set in a pan of hot water and bake in moderate oven (325 F.) 45 minutes. When baked each dessert will have custard on bottom and a delicate sponge cake on top.  
Mrs. Irl Walker

**Corn Dodgers**  
1 cup cornmeal  
1/2 cup flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon vegetable shortening, melted  
1 cup scalded milk

Combine cornmeal, flour and salt. Add melted vegetable shortening and scalded milk; mix well. Drop by teaspoons into hot, melted shortening or lard and fry until golden brown.  
Mrs. Irl Walker

**Salmon Salad**  
1 tall (No. 3) can salmon  
1 cup diced celery  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon chopped onion  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2/3 cup mayonnaise  
6 stuffed olives  
1 head lettuce  
3 ripe tomatoes  
1 1/2 pkgs. cream cheese  
Flake the salmon, add the celery, lemon juice, onion and salt. Blend the mayonnaise well with the other ingredients. Arrange the lettuce leaves attractively on a round platter and pile the salad in the center of the platter in pyramid fashion. Slice the olives and press them at intervals into the sides of the pyramid. Peel and slice tomatoes and cut slice in half, arrange them around the salad and garnish each slice of tomato with a cream cheese ball.  
Mrs. Irl Walker

**Coffee Break**

By David and Eunice Bigelow

Coffee and politics are a truly democratic couple. A political coffee party is a tried-and-true means of getting the constituency to meet the candidate. The '76 campaigner might state his individuality by serving one of the new flavored coffees by R.C. Bigelow. A real vote swinger might be Cafe au Chocolate, dashed with sweet chocolate. Or maybe support will build for coffee accented with mint, cinnamon or anisette. Or the popular fruit-flavors, apricot and orange-and-spice. Whatever choice, they're all winners!

You can make your hosiery last longer by wearing rubber or light gloves when you put on your nylons if your hands are callused or your nails split.

Thanks again and may God bless you.

Sincerely,  
Mary Russom



TIDINGS FROM ST. NICK-Santa Clause passes out candy filled stockings to residents of Abilene State School at a party given in the home of Mrs. Faye Jones, 511 Kent in Merkel. Mrs. Jones, a resident trainer at the school hosts some of her students each year for a Christmas party.

## Abilene State School Students Hosted In Jones Home

Several residents and employees of the Abilene State School were hosted in the home of Mrs. Faye Jones for her annual Christmas party Monday afternoon. Members of First Baptist Church TEL Class were sponsors.

Assisting her mother with hostess duties was Jana Ybarra who formerly was employed at the school. Mrs. Jones works in Dorm 51 at Abilene State School as resident trainer, a position she has held for the past three years. Mrs. Jones' students are wheel chair

patients of all ages.

Santa flew in by jet to be a special guest at the party. He passed out candy-filled stockings to each guest and asked each one what she wanted him to bring on Christmas Eve. Though he couldn't stay long, Santa brought cheer and laughter with him. "I have to go and get some toys made," he said as he left.

Holiday punch, cookies, candy and cake were served to Mable McGowan, Martha Peterson, Laura Martin, Martha Hawthorne, Edith Sheppard, Alicia Fernandez, Veda Stamey, Nona Moore and Mary Young. Also enjoying the festivities were attendants Teresa Kapusinski, Ame Williams, Flora Hamn, Nadine Favors, Ruby Nesmith, Faye Jane, Dennis Cutbirth and Terry Melear. Representing TEL Class of First Baptist Church were Mrs. Lucy Ford and Mrs. Earnest Newson.

## Past Matrons Host Annual Christmas Party

The annex to the Masonic Hall was the place of gaiety and food Saturday night when the Past Matrons Club met for their annual Christmas party. Bountiful turkey and dressing with all the trimmings for such an occasion was enjoyed. The club invited their husbands and the line officers of the Eastern Star.

The club revealed pals, giving them a gift and including the givers name. Exchanging gifts for some weeks to their secret pals has afforded lots of fun, as well as curiosity. Other people present exchanged gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry White and Rhonda and Russell gave us an enjoyable program of songs fitting for this holiday season.

Present were: Messrs and Mesdames Tom Allday, Pinky Cypert, H. C. Reid, Hosea Windham, Ted Pargament, A. B. Parham, George Denman, Bill Hays, Miss Mary Collins, Mesdames Florence Berry, Jewell Dunagin, Viola Ensminger, Lena Dunagin, Anna Belle Shouse, Mae Seago, Thelma Griffin, Wanda Clyburn, and the White family.

## UNDERSTANDING OUR ECONOMY

How much your next car, your next home or your children's education is going to cost you could depend, at least in part, on what is happening in two other places today.

According to many economists, unless the government in Washington, D.C. guarantees the nation's municipal bonds, New York City may



be unable to pay all its debts. This, bankers believe, will cause banks all over the country to have less money to lend and to have to charge more interest for it, making the next loan you need more expensive.

In addition, since the interest rates in the municipal securities markets will go up as well, communities all over America will have to raise taxes to cover the increased costs of new schools, new roads and other improvements.

Fortunately, this can be prevented by the people in Congress who understand the economy and can see that guaranteeing the securities of U.S. municipalities will make investors interested enough in the bonds to keep interest from becoming too much on your loans.

Because they are in accidents less often, small cars are safer than big cars, a recent University of Texas study concludes.

The study also shows that big cars have a higher frequency of accidents in which fatal or serious injuries result.

Dr. P. L. Yu of UT's Graduate School of Business sampled 1,204 accidents that occurred in Texas in 1973. He found that large cars (4,000 - 5,000 pounds) - making up 21 per cent of the registration - had only 13 per cent of the accidents.

## Jones County HD News

The Jones County Home Demonstration Council met November 19 in the Anson Federal Housing Building.

The meeting was called to order by the vice chairman Mrs. Ab Hunter.

There were 7 clubs, 14 members and 3 officers present.

All clubs had good reports. The council voted to recognize the Gold Star girl and boy with a plaque.

There will be a year book committee meeting in March. All clubs are urged to send in year book and program suggestions.

The Jones County H. D. party was December 2 in the Anson Lions Club Building.

## GOOD PSYCHOLOGY



HOLIDAY HOSPITALITY NEED NOT BE A BUDGET-BREAKING EVENT. INVITE FRIENDS FOR AN INFORMAL OPEN HOUSE AND LET THEM CONGREGATE AROUND A BRIMMING BOWL FILLED WITH A REFRESHING PALATE-PLEASING PUNCH. START WITH A BASE OF STRONG TEA, ADD CRANBERRY JUICE, LEMONADE, LIMEADE, AND GINGER ALE. THE TEA GIVES BODY TO THE PUNCH WITHOUT MASKING THE OTHER FLAVORS, AND IT ACTS AS A STRETCHER TO MORE EXPENSIVE INGREDIENTS.

Truth never hurts the teller. -Browning

## A-A Chain Link Fencing Co.

JESSE R. USSERY, RET.  
U. S. A. F., OWNER  
PHONE: 915-692-5223  
ABILENE, TEXAS

Free Estimate  
Formally Sears Employed



## New Food Stamp Allotment Regulations Adopted

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today adopted new regulations for determining food stamp allotments, and revised coupon allotments, purchase requirements and maximum income eligibility standards, effective January 1.

On January 1, the amount of coupons allotted for a 4-person household will be increased from \$162 to \$166 a month, with adjustments for other household sizes in line with revised economies of scale. The maximum income eligibility level for a family of four will be correspondingly increased from \$540 to \$553 per month.

A total of 1,958 responses was received by USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in response to its invitation for interested parties to comment on three alternative proposals to revise coupon allotments in the food stamp program, all based on USDA's thrifty food plan. Responses received through the end of the comment period, November 13 (USDA press releases 2746-75, 3184-75), expressed over 5,200 comments. More than 3,900 of these comments indicated acceptance of Proposal III which provides a uniform allotment and eligibility standard schedule, much like the one presently in use.

The uniform allotment is based on the value of food required to feed a family of four persons consisting of a man and woman 20 through 54, a child 6 through 8, and a child 9 through 11 years of age. The cost of the diet for this four-person household is the basis for uniform coupon allotments for all households, except for household size adjustments and adjustments which reflect the economies of scale set forth in the thrifty food plan developed by USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS).

The revised economies of scale developed by ARS are more generous for households of 6 or more persons than those used formerly in all the USDA food plans. Economies of scale are unchanged for households of 5 persons and less.

The Food Stamp Act, as amended, directs that coupon allotments be adjusted twice a year to reflect changes in food prices as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Cost of the thrifty food plan in August 1975--

Complete text of the new regulation, and the tables of coupon allotments and purchase requirements in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia will be published in the Federal Register Monday, December 1. Tables for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam and Virgin Islands will be based on the table for the continental United States, adjusted for differences in the cost of food in these areas and will be announced shortly.

## Sorority Meets

The Alpha Nu Nu chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority met December 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Merkel Mail office with Martha Sue Justice serving as hostess.

Following a business meeting, the program included a tour of The Merkel Mail and an explanation of how a newspaper is put together. The tour was complete with demonstration of machines used and composition procedure used in building advertising and news items.

Refreshments were served to Anita Raymer, Peggy Vanderwerker, Mychelle Hammond, Pam Bishop, Louise Sudderth, Ann Leach and Opening rituals were conducted by Martha Sue Justice.

**LOIS STAUTZENBERGER**  
(FORMERLY OF HAUTE COFFIEUR)  
NOW AT  
**NORMA'S BEAUTY SHOP**  
134 EDWARDS  
Monday Thru Saturday Noon  
December Specials on Permanents  
928-5311

**ANN'S FLOWERS**  
ANN & VERNON WADE  
POINSETTA PLANTS  
CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS  
FTD SPECIAL

MANY SELECTIONS OF OTHER PLANTS

COME BY AND GET A 1976 CALENDER

## FACTORY OUTLET MERKEL, TEXAS STOCK LIQUIDATION SALE

EVEN GREATER BARGAINS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!  
FALL MERCHANDISE MUST GO!  
JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS, AND YOU CAN SAVE FROM 20 TO 50%.

**LADIES PANTS**  
REG \$10.00  
NOW \$3.99

**ALL SHOES**  
50% OFF

**JUNIOR MISS INDIAN TOPS, SMOCKS T-SHIRTS AND RIB KNITS**  
\$3.99 EA. 2 FOR \$7.00

**WE HAVE ADDED MANY MORE ITEMS TO THE LADIES BLOUSES 50% OFF**

**DON'T MISS THESE PANTIES 2 PR \$1.00 PLUS MANY MORE**

**OUR ENTIRE STOCK FABRICS 1/2 PRICE**

**LADIES PANTS SLIGHTLY DAMAGED SAVE \$2.99**

After	Reserves in 6% IRA Plan	Reserves in Sweetwater Savings IRA Plan	Sweetwater Savings IRA Plan pays this much more
5 years	\$8,460.00	\$9,497.83	\$1,037.83
10 years	\$19,770.00	\$23,439.16	\$3,669.16
20 years	\$55,180.00	\$73,940.30	\$18,760.30
30 years	\$118,590.00	\$182,748.18	\$64,158.18

Both plans are insured to \$40,000 by agencies of the Federal Government.

**CURRENT ANNUAL EARNINGS**  
7 1/2% 6 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN. 6 1/2% 1 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN.  
7 1/2% 4 YR. CERT.—\$1000 MIN. 5 3/4% 90 DAY ACCT.—\$1000 MIN.  
6% 30 MO. CERT.—\$1000 MIN. 5 1/4% NO PENALTY PASSBOOK

A substantial interest penalty is required for early withdrawal of certificate accounts

**SWEETWATER SAVINGS ASSOCIATION**  
ROTAN ROSCOE HAMLIN

# Merkel Grocer Won't Let Go Of Personalized Service

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This is the first article in a series we will be doing about Merkel's merchants. We hope you will enjoy these informative articles telling about how the various businesses in our community came to be. Doing interviews and writing some of these stories will be Mrs. Grant (Janis) Haynes of Clyde.

Part One of a Series:  
**MERKEL MERCHANTS**

The friendly hometown grocer who knows you by name, will have groceries delivered right to your doorstep, and maintains charge accounts for longtime customers is a thing of the past in many places.

But not in Merkel. While supermarkets in cities are switching over to computerized checkouts, leaving customers to their own devices to carry their groceries out to their cars, and refusing even to take a check for the payment of purchases without first going through a complicated procedure of registering with the store, Wilson's Grocery is one stronghold of the old familiar ways.

Back in 1934 Ray Wilson got his start in the business by sacking groceries at the old Campbell's store here—a store that belonged to his future mother-in-law.

He married Lucille ("Ted") Campbell, and together the couple, both lifelong Merkel residents, has operated and expanded the business at 1033 N. Second. It has been in its present location since 1938.

After being operated under the Campbell name, the grocery became a Campbell-Wilson partnership, and in 1944 when Lucille's mother sold out, a partnership belonging to Wilson and Joe Cybert was formed.

Finally, in 1955 the Wilsons bought Cybert out and became the sole proprietors. That same year Wilson remodeled the place, expanding its previous 3000 square feet into 5000 square feet from space next door and putting in a new front and new fixtures.

Wilson has not entirely escaped the impersonalizing mechanization process that is engulfing private enterprise.

He recounted, "Used to be that a salesman that you knew would go up and down all the shelves with you taking orders. Now all our orders are written by computer." But the Wilsons are fighting to preserve personalized service.

"On occasion we've come down here and opened up on Sunday if someone called us to say they needed something," Mrs. Wilson said. "And we cash a lot of checks for people, sell hunting and fishing licenses, put up signs in the windows about community events, and people that shop with us here just know that we're interested in them as individuals."

Wilson commented, "Ninety-eight per cent of the people that come in here call by name. And we know the names of hundreds of customers. Two hundred have charge accounts with us."

By not prepackaging meats and produce as the chains often do and thereby allowing

customers to see exactly what they're buying, and by offering such homemade treats as barbecue, chili and potato salad, Wilson believes that his type of operation offers an appeal that cannot be easily duplicated by larger city supermarkets.

"Too, many customers say they like the rather unusual practice the Wilsons have of redeeming cash register tapes for gift items instead of offering stamps with each purchase. "A lot of people tell us they get better deals with us than through stamps," Mrs. Wilson noted. The store's high shelves are stacked to the ceiling with toys and recreational and household items that can be traded for the cash register tapes.

Wilson laments that it is becoming more and more difficult for small-scale grocery operations to survive, as wholesalers are demanding larger and larger purchases of goods of the stores that they serve.

"I can remember when there were 15 grocery stores right here in Merkel. Now there are just two big ones and two smaller ones," he said.

But Wilson's is doing well. Their volume of sales has consistently grown over the past two years, due to the influx of people to Merkel, Wilson said.

Do they get many complaints about the high cost of food?

"Just from the people who complain about everything anyway," Mrs. Wilson laughed. "They know it's not our fault—that everything else has gone up too."

Would Wilson recommend the grocery business as a profitable livelihood for a young person to enter these days?

"Well, right now it would take an awful lot of money to get into it independently. And unless it was somebody that grew up with it and knew what they were doing, it would be pretty far-fetched," he replied.

However, he believes that it is possible, now as in the past, to learn the business from the ground up, as a clerk or stock boy, as he did "if you really apply yourself and want to learn it."

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who went through school together here, are the parents of three children. The oldest, a married daughter, is a Denton schoolteacher. The middle son, Don, is in farming and business in Merkel, and their youngest son is a physician in Houston.



Jesse James loved chili so much that he refused to rob a bank in McKinney, Texas, because that's where his favorite chili parlor was located.

## Tips on Wood Finishing



HOW TO MAKE A HOLIDAY GIFT TOTE

This Holiday Season create even more excitement when you go visiting—bearing gifts. Instead of packing gaily wrapped presents in a plain box or bag, transform an ordinary bushel basket or orange crate into a festive "gift tote."

To give a basket or crate Holiday color, finish it in a bright red, green or rich natural tone wood finish. Brush on a liberal coat, wait 5-15 minutes, wipe off excess and allow to dry overnight.

For a bright glass-like surface, coat with a clear gloss polyurethane finish. (Polyurethane is also the best finish for preserving pine cones and other delicate wood decorations.)

Once the finish is dry, decorate your basket with rope handles, holly sprigs or ornaments. Then fill your new "gift tote" with packages and you're ready to play Santa. Your "gift tote" makes a good storage container for wrapping paper and ribbon after the Holidays, too.

Year-round advice on wood finishing is contained in a 16-page booklet, "Tips on Wood Finishing." For a free copy, write Minwax Company, Inc., Dept. PR 6, 41 Oak Street, Clifton, N. J. 07014.

### The Consumer Alert

by John L. Hill  
Attorney General

AUSTIN—If you ordered some smoked partridges and several boxes of pears as Christmas gifts for friends and relatives back in October and are still checking your mailbox for signs of them, chances are you're reaching the point of panic.

Though it may be little consolation this Christmas, lawyers in our Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division report that next year you'll have some help with any interstate mail order problems you experience.

That help will come in the form of a Federal Trade Commission regulation which goes into effect on February 2. Under terms of the rule, consumers will either get mail order merchandise within a delivery time specified in the advertisement or catalog they order from, or they will receive it within 30 days if no delivery time is stated.

If merchandise can't be sent within that time, the seller must notify the purchaser of the delay and give him an opportunity to cancel the order. And the seller must furnish a free means of notification of cancellation, such as a postage-paid card.

A buyer who fails to respond can be considered to have agreed to a 30-day delay. But for any delay beyond that, the buyer must give consent. If the buyer cancels his order rather than accept a delay, the seller must refund his payment. The seller has seven days to make a refund if the buyer paid by cash, check, or money order. If the merchandise was charged on a credit card, the seller has one billing cycle to have the account credited.

An estimated 6,000 mail order firms will be affected by these new regulations, and fines of up to \$10,000 per day of violation could be imposed on companies failing to abide by them.

Excluded from the regulation's coverage are services such as photo processing, nursery products such as plants and seeds, and magazines and other serials after the first issue. C.O.D. orders also are not covered, since a person

can already refuse the merchandise if there has been an unreasonable delay in receiving it.

Texas mail order companies already come under the State's Deceptive Trade Practices-Consumer Act, but the new F.T.C. rule covering interstate companies will combine with our Act to provide even more protection for mail order buyers. There are also certain steps that the individual can take to help protect himself when ordering by mail. Our Consumer Protection attorneys suggest that you:

- (1) Comparison shop to see if the item could be bought cheaper at a local store where you would have immediate possession, plus the ability to complain in person about any problems that might develop.
- (2) Note whether there is a guarantee. If so, who pays for sending the merchandise back for repair or replacement? (3) Check for a specified delivery time. If there is none, are you willing to wait 30 days? (4) Keep a copy of any ad or catalog from which you order an item (5) Always pay by check or money order, never cash, and add in postage and handling charges. (6) Keep a copy of your order form or letter (7) Check the merchandise as soon as it is delivered. If not as ordered, notify the company immediately and return it.

In addition, you can check with our Consumer Protection Division, your county or district attorney, or your local Better Business Bureau to see if any complaints have been received about the firm before you decide to do business with

Never use cleaning fluids or chemical cleaners on the glass face of your television set.

# Texas Taxes



By BOB BULLOCK, State Comptroller

Austin—Record-keeping required by the sales tax need not be a paperwork nightmare for the business people who are the state's unpaid tax collectors.

We have kept the requirements simple and flexible enough to easily fit the individual personality of every business. I think our requirements cover no more than the minimal records any business would want to keep anyway.

First, all sales records must be kept. These must include all sales whether taxable or not.

Obviously it is to the advantage of the business to keep very good records on its non-taxable sales. These sales could include items such as groceries which aren't covered by the sales tax.

But they also could include tax-exempt sales of otherwise taxable items. The most common forms of these sales are covered by resale certificates and exemption certificates.

A resale certificate covers just what the name implies—a taxable item purchased for the purpose of being resold. A resale certificate can be issued only by a person or business which has a sales tax permit and that permit number must be shown on the resale certificate.

Exemption certificates do not have numbers. They are given by such groups as schools or churches which are specifically listed in the law as being exempt from paying sales tax on items purchased for their own use.

A business must keep resale or exemption certificates on file to back up every dollar of taxable sales on which the tax was not collected.

Records must also be maintained of sales on which tax exemptions are claimed by out-of-state purchasers. These records could include an out-of-state resale certificate or proof that the item purchased was actually

delivered to an out-of-state location by either the seller or a common carrier.

Except on exemption and resale certificate, an out-of-state purchaser cannot have tax exempt status on goods if he takes physical possession of those goods in Texas.

All required records must be maintained for four years. They may be destroyed sooner only with permission of the Comptroller's Department.

We do not dictate the kind of bookkeeping system or record system a business must use because we are in wholehearted agreement with the letter and the spirit of the sales tax law.

One single phrase from a section of the law best describes our attitude when it says that "the sole purpose of this section is to permit the widest possible latitude in the internal accounting system of retailers."

To that we say "amen." Our field offices are always glad to show a business which of its records must be kept for tax purposes.

12-05-75

A discarded curtain rod, attached to the inside of a closet door, makes a handy shoe rack.

## Entertaining Traditions

The martini, America's most popular cocktail, has passed through many adventures on the way to becoming the dry, delicate drink we prize today. It started out as a restorative based on gin and vermouth, plus other ingredients (which have fallen by the way, and are no longer used). It was mixed by San Francisco's Jerry Thomas 115 years ago to refresh a weary traveler on his way to the outlying town of Martinez.

Since then, due to the martini's popularity, drinks made with rum or vodka have taken to calling themselves "martini" which, of course, they're not! The martini is made with gin for excellent reasons. Gin is finished when it's born—a pure spirit that needs no aging. Rum must be aged, and still comes out rum. Vodka is a clean spirit, but it's without flavor. It stops short of the glorious destiny of gin, which is to convey for your pleasure a refined and distinctively appealing flavor.

There is also a world of difference in gins, a difference appreciated in social and business entertainment, but most of all at the grownups' hour, when people put aside their cares, at the end of the day, to talk with friends about things that matter in life. Beefeater Gin, distilled by the Burrough family in London, is the standard of excellence to which all gins aspire. You and your guests can enjoy that excellent difference, as you share the pleasure of a Beefeater Martini. Perhaps tonight's the night to celebrate the martini's birthday, 115 years young!

## PRE-CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

CASH, LAY-AWAY, MASTERCHARGE

### MENS FLANNEL SHIRTS

VALUES TO \$10.98

100% COTTON, OR PERM. PREST, \$6.50 EA.

3 FOR \$15.00

### LADY WRANGLER & LEVI

JEAN, JACKETS, SKIRTS (INCLUDES PRE-WASHED)

10% OFF REGULAR PRICE

### MENS WRANGLER JEANS

FADED BLUE, BLACK.

SLIGHTLY IRR. \$7.50

2 FOR \$14.00

25%-50% OFF

BANLON KNIT SWEATERS & GOLF

SHIRTS LONG & SHORT SLEEVE,

CARIGANS, PULLOVERS, TURTLENECK

REGULAR \$5.98-\$18.00

NOW \$2.98-\$9.00

### BOYS HOODED ZIPPER FRONT SWEATSHIRT

BY LEVI REG \$11.00 \$8.98

PULLOVER SWEAT SHIRT REG \$8.00 \$6.00

BOYS 100%

### COTTON DENIM O'ALLS

SIZES 0-14

FROM \$6.98-\$10.98

NEW ORDERS ARRIVING DAILY

### TONY LAMA BOOTS

BAILY HATS SPECIAL 10% OFF

### LADIES

100% POLYESTER SLACK SUITS

WESTERN OR DRESSY STYLES

NOW

10%-40% REDUCTION

INCLUDES NEW "HOLIDAY" SELECTIONS

### WESTERN HOUSE

924 NO. 2ND Or Westgate Shopping

Merkel Capital Abilene

## WATCH FOR ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW IN MARCH

DAY TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE

WE ARE NOW OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. SERVING

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POOL & SNOOKER TABLES AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES

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DIAMOND RINGS FOR THE TEENAGER

DIAMOND & RUBY RINGS

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"DESERT ROSE" & APPLE EARTHENWARE BY FRANCISCAN

CORNING WARE

ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

MANY GIFT ITEMS

COSTUME JEWELRY



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT OF 1776

### Ben Rich Found Dead After Killing Deer

Ben Edwin Rich of Merkel, a 57-year-old retired Civil Service employee at Dyess AFB, died of apparent natural causes Monday night while deer hunting.

Nolan County Sheriff Joe Slater said his office received a call at 8:06 p.m. Monday from the owner of the land in Nolan County where Rich was hunting.

The land owner said Rich had been expected back earlier. Slater said he, his deputies, a game warden and about 75 members of CB radio clubs began searching for Rich shortly after the call came in.

Rich's body was found about 11 p.m. lying next to a deer he had killed. Slater said Justice of the Peace C. F. Rose estimated that Rich had died about 5:30 p.m. Rose is expected to make a ruling of death by natural causes.

Funeral for Rich was held at 2 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church of Merkel. The Rev. Kenneth Jones officiated. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery under direction of Starbuck Funeral Home.

Rich was born September 7, 1918, in Weinert and married Billie Lewellen November 9, 1944, in Longview. They moved to the Merkel area in 1960. Rich recently retired because of ill health.

Rich was a veteran of World War II and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

Survivors are his wife; two sons, Don Rich of Houston and Earl Rich of Abilene; one daughter, Mrs. Felix (Nancy) Boyd of Trent; three brothers, Bob Rich of Lawton, Oklahoma, and John and Jack Rich, both of California; two sisters, Mrs. Carey Brown and Mrs. Dorene Simmons, both of California; and seven grandchildren.

Palbearers were Billy Bob Neff, David Toliver, Jimmy Collins, Jake Barnes, Jack Gabby and Benny Rogers.

Members of the Bass Club and Rich's co-workers at Dyess were honorary pallbearers.

Beginning January 1 The University of Texas will circulate to many Texas cities 12 traveling exhibits of important materials from its noted Humanities Research Center collections.

Each exhibit will contain from 75 to 150 items. Seventy-two showings are planned as Bicentennial offerings.

Among the traveling exhibits will be displays entitled "A Texan Photograph Album," "Art of the Book," "19th Century Literature," "Writers About Texas," "Man and His Horse," "Circus: The Art of Play," "Theater in America" and "Aviation: Manned Flight."

### Long Time Merkel Resident Died Monday

Mrs. Dewey F. Garmany, 77, a longtime Merkel resident, died at 10:45 a.m. Monday in Hendrick Memorial Hospital in Abilene after a short illness. Services were at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Merkel United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Russell McAnally, pastor, and the Rev. N. S. Daniels, associate pastor, officiated. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, directed by Starbuck Funeral Home.

Born Fannie Lee Floyd June 9, 1898, in Buffalo Gap, she moved with her parents to Merkel in 1908. She married Lloyd Garmany August 12, 1937, in Abilene, where the couple lived. Mrs. Garmany moved back to Merkel from Abilene in 1943 after her husband died.

Mrs. Garmany was a long time member of Merkel United Methodist Church.

Survivors include four brothers, B. H., P.R. and Hollis Floyd, all of Merkel, and Paul Floyd of Abilene; a sister, Lillian Floyd of Merkel; and several nieces and nephews.

Nephews will serve as pallbearers.

### Mother of Local Merchant Died In Stamford

Mrs. Sam (Maggie) Crawford died in Stamford Memorial Hospital Thursday at 12:10 A. M. December 4. Services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday in First Baptist Church of Stamford with Rev. Marion J. Fonville, pastor of Ryanwood Baptist Church, in Fort Worth officiating. Burial was in Highland Cemetery under the direction of Kinney Funeral Home.

Maggie Simpson was born April 9, 1869 in Basque County. She moved with her parents to Haskell County in early childhood. July 12, 1908 she and Sam Crawford were united in marriage in Pinkerton. He preceeded her in death August 16 1972.

Survivors include five sons, Clyde of Corpus Christi, James of Mt. Pleasant, Earl of Riverside, California, Ralph of Fort Worth and Onis of Merkel; three brothers, Otis Simpson of Munday, Floyd of Burleson and Guy of Mesa, Arizona; thirteen grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Vernon Lovvorn, Russ Gentry, John Rice, A. C. Humphrey, O. K. Jones and Bill Thompson.



**WANT TO SAVE MONEY?** THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE REPORTED THAT STUDENTS STAYING AND LIVING AT PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN 1974, 75 SPENT AN AVERAGE OF OVER \$4,000 TO MOVE CLOSER TO DEGREE—THE FIGURE IS DOUBLE THE COST OF A DECADE BEFORE!



**WANT TO SAVE MONEY?** MANY COLLEGE-ORIENTED INDIVIDUALS ARE RECEIVING A BIG HAND IN MEETING EDUCATIONAL COSTS FROM THE U.S. ARMY PROJECT. A COOPERATIVE EFFORT INVOLVING THE ARMY AND OVER 1200 PARTICIPATING COLLEGES, ENABLES QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS TO START COLLEGE AND ENLIST IN THE ARMY AT THE SAME TIME. THE ARMY PICKS UP THE BULK OF THE COST FOR APPROVED COURSES TAKEN ON POST OR AT NEARBY INSTITUTIONS. ACCEPTED CREDITS GO TOWARDS A DEGREE AT THE SCHOOL WHERE THE SOLDIER STUDENT IS ENROLLED.

### Gilbreath Services Held Wednesday

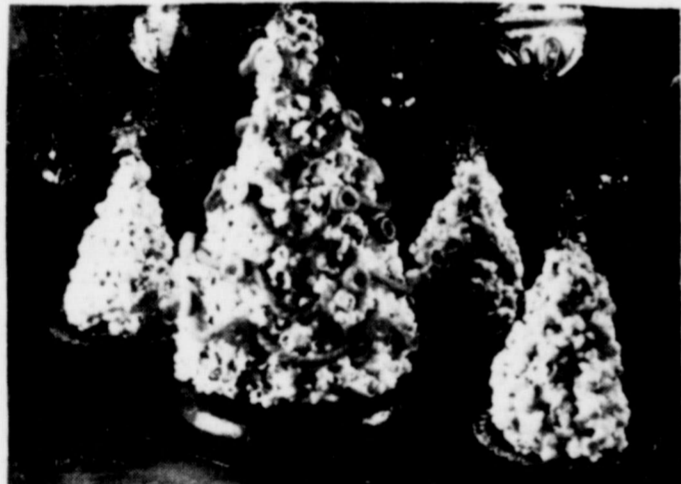
Lum Gilbreath, 80, was pronounced dead by Judge Lewis Millett at his home on Route 2, Merkel. Death was ruled to be by natural causes.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the First Baptist Church with Rev. Kepart-Lones, pastor of the church officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Gilbreath was born April 5, 1895 in Quitman. He married Lena Agnes Northcutt September 27, 1921 in Ballinger. Mrs. Gilbreath preceeded her husband in death in 1965. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbreath moved to Merkel in 1933 and lived here since except for the period between 1943-1948 when they lived in O'Donnel. He was a veteran of World War I.

Survivors include a daughter, Geneva Gilbreath of Denison; two sons, Deward and J. L. of Merkel; one brother; three sisters and five grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Benny Rogers, Woodrow Rogers, Glen Rogers, Mark Rogers, Dale Rogers and Bill Hays.



Pop some corn and decorate...make garlands for the tree and a special Christmas tree grove for mantle or table. No need to overspend, popcorn is an inexpensive treat. Everybody can join in...each child can have his own small tree for eating and decorating.

#### Popcorn Christmas Tree

- 1 package Jiffy Pop Popcorn
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup corn syrup
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/2 package ice cream sugar cones

Prepare popcorn according to package directions. Pour into large pot or kettle. Heat sugar, corn syrup and water in small saucepan to 250°-266° F. or until a drop of syrup in cold water forms a hard ball. Remove from heat and stir in butter.

Pour over popcorn and mix thoroughly with a wooden spoon. For a large tree, use small plastic flower pot as base. Roll heavy aluminum foil into cone; place and secure on bottom of flower pot to form tree shape. Use sugar cones for smaller tree forms. Shape popcorn mixture with buttered hands around form.

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\*\*\*\*\*  
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 BY PAT CASTILLE  
 It takes a genius to earn as much in 40 hours as his kids can spend in two.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 December is when you can't find the Christmas cards you bought for half price in January.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 There's someone in every crowd who stays just quiet enough to be able to tell afterwards what fools the others made of themselves.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Canaps: a ham sandwich cut into 40 pieces.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Remember the good old days, when you had to do without some things because you couldn't afford them? They're back.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Don't do without the perfect gift. We will be open at our temporary location at the old Ben Franklin Store as soon as we receive our new merchandise.  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 We would like to thank all our friends in Merkel who came by to help after the fire last Monday. Thanks for the food and all the kind words. We appreciate it.  
 Rosey and Pat Castille and family  
**Castille Hardware & Gift**  
 214 Edwards Ph. 928-5310  
 \*\*\*\*\*

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO COME SEE--  
**SANTA CLAUSE**  
 At  
**DUNN TEXACO ANTIQUE & RELIC**  
 Saturday Dec. 13th & 20th & Also  
 Christmas Eve Dec. 24th  
 From 2 P.M. Until 4 P.M.  
**BRING YOUR CAMERAS!!**  
 IF WEATHER PERMITS WE WILL HAVE A FLEA MARKET DEC. 13th  
**DEALERS ARE WELCOME!**

A Weekly Report Of Agri-Business News  
**Farm-facts**  
 Compiled From Sources Of The Texas Department of Agriculture  
 John C. White, Commissioner

### Not So Expensive... Give A Practical Gift... Poultry Pointers.

It may not be quite as expensive to produce food and fiber in 1976, according to a number of agribusiness experts. Inputs such as fertilizer, farm machinery, and fuel may not cost quite as much as during the past few years.

This doesn't mean a return to the pre-1973 era when gasoline was about half in price what it is now or when fertilizer prices were way down. But apparently 1976 shouldn't see a lot of cost advances as witnessed by farmers in the past couple of years.

Prices the farmer will get for his food and fiber next year will depend to a large extent on the export situation.

A compilation of various summaries by both experts in private industry and government economists shows general agreement that for the most part fuel prices for the next several months should be stable. That doesn't mean a sudden decline, but neither are they expected to suddenly go out of sight again.

Farm machinery supplies should be adequate for most items during 1976.

Fertilizer supplies are also expected to be adequate, and it is generally predicted that prices should reflect that situation.

So if the weather cooperates and foreign markets hold up as expected, agriculture producers are hoping for a brake on costs of production during 1976.

All of these expectations are just that, and they are all based on the assumption that the general economy will continue to show recovery, both in this nation and abroad.

**STUCK FOR A PRACTICAL CHRISTMAS GIFT?** A lot of people solved that problem last year with a gift of food and a lot of people apparently are planning to do it this year as well.

You can select from a bountiful supply of foods produced in Texas by agriculture producers. You'll not only be giving a welcome gift but one which is practical, too.

**PECANS AND COTTON** are the major crops now getting most of the attention from Texas farmers.

With the cooler temperatures, pecan harvest activity has increased throughout the state. Quality of the crop, however, varies considerably as a result of unusually high scab damage. Most of the high-quality pecans are coming from orchards that followed a regular spray program.

Cotton harvest is now nearing the 50 per cent completion mark for the state. Both quality and yield potential have suffered on the High Plains due to weather extremes earlier in the year.

Wheat and oat seeding are complete. Harvest of soybeans, peanuts, and sorghum is finished.

**POULTRY PRODUCTION FIGURES** for the state, as reported by the Texas Crop and Livestock Reporting Service, show both increases and decreases.

Broiler chick hatchings are up 18 per cent compared to a month ago; turkey poult hatch is down 18 per cent from a year ago.

Egg production is 14 per cent higher than a year ago and four per cent higher than a month ago. Layers on hand are up two per cent from a year ago.

# ORDER YOUR PERSONALIZED STATIONARY FOR CHRISTMAS NOW

LET US HELP YOU WITH ALL TYPES OF PRINTING

- Return Check Notices
- Envelopes
- Statements
- Daily Record Sheets
- Receipt Books
- Letterheads
- Inventory Cards
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### OFFICE SUPPLIES

- Porous Point Pens
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- Opaquing Liquid
- Manila Folders
- Pencils
- Rubber Stamps
- Paper Clips
- Stamp Pads
- Lindy Pens
- Bic Pens
- Staples



DON PURSER  
... gridiron star

## Purser Named To District 7 All-Star Team By NAIA

One defensive player and three offensive players from Eastern New Mexico University have been named to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) District 7 All-Star team for 1975.

Safety Don Purser of Merkel, Texas, was the only Greyhound to be selected to the defensive unit after having a top year at his position. Purser, a 5-13, 180-pound senior, holds Eastern's record for the most pass interceptions in a season (six) and also serves as an extra point kicker.

Anchoring Eastern's offensive line in 1975 was District 7 All-Star tackle Howard Stearns of San Antonio. Standing 6-1, 256-pounds, Stearns was an excellent blocker, provided top pass protection, and is one of the fastest linemen in the NAIA. He is currently a junior.

Runningback Tom Manley of Pittsburgh, Pa., marks his second consecutive season as a member of the District 7 All-Star squad and is a 5-11, 190-pound junior. He rushed for 1096 yards this season, an average of 109.6 yards a game, and scored 11 touchdowns. In three years Manley, has rushed for 4,333 yards, an average of 139.8 yards a game in 31 games. Junior Lance Farris of Midland, Tex., was selected as an All-Star center, but also played guard for the Greyhounds. Known for his powerful blocking and quick play, Farris stands 6-2, 220-pounds.

EDITOR'S NOTE—This article is the first in a series we will be doing about Merkel's senior citizens. Doing interviews and writing some of these personal stories will be Mrs. Grant (Janis) Haynes, staff writer for The Merkel Mail. Mrs. Haynes and her husband are associated with the Clyde Journal.

When Mrs. Mae Bush was growing up, kids weren't spoiled with an overabundance of goodies at Christmas like they are nowadays.

"We were really tickled to get a stick of peppermint candy" the 85-year-old lady said of her childhood.

Other Christmas memories of the lifelong Merkel resident, now residing at Starr Nursing Home, are of stringing popcorn to decorate the tree that her six brothers had cut down for the holiday observance. China dolls and homemade corn-cob dolls for the girls (Mrs. Bush had four sisters) and harmonicas for the boys were standard for gift-giving at Christmas.

The daughter of a cattle rancher, some of her proudest memories are of touring the countryside in the family surrey with fringe on the top. Too, she delights in telling of those horse-and-wagon rides, complete with sleigh bells on chilly winter days.

In 1922 Mrs. Bush and her husband bought their first car—a 1922 Model T Ford touring car—and what an occasion that was!

Her mother, an expert seamstress, passed her skills along to her daughters. Mrs. Bush became so adept at sewing that when her own daughters wanted dresses made, she could turn out two in a single day. Quilting was big when Mae was younger, too, and she tells of merry quilting bees when all the women of the community would bring a covered dish to the community center, eat together, then spend the rest of the day quilting.

The mother of three daughters and a son, Mrs. Bush holds dear the belief that women "ought to make a home" rather than go out and seek careers for themselves.

She's happiest, she said, when she recalls the Sundays after church and the holidays when the family would gather together for relaxed, fun-filled dinners.

AUSTIN — Utility companies got a stern warning from the new Public Utility Commission they are not to pass along to consumers without approval a state assessment on their gross revenues.

The one-sixth of one per cent assessment was ordered by the 1975 Legislature to finance the Commission's regulatory activities. Revenue is estimated at \$12 million to \$15 million a year.

PUC members said they received a consumer complaint against Southwestern Public Service Co. of Amarillo and voluntary disclosure from Houston Lighting and Power on plans for a pass-through on electric bills.

"This is an assessment and not a tax; therefore, any utility is violating its rate schedule unless it has prior approval from the appropriate regulatory authority for an increase in rates before passing it on," said Commission Chairman W. Garret Morris.

Acknowledging that the Commission yet lacks jurisdiction to act in the matter, Morris said he feels the increase would be "an improper pass-through." He said he thinks individual consumers would be entitled to enjoy a utility from passing along the assessment in the form of a rate hike.

### Rates Raised

A 7.1 per cent increase in workmen's compensation coverage rates received approval of the State Board of Insurance effective March 1.

The increase will add

about \$43 million to the \$611.6 million annual cost of workmen's compensation premiums paid by Texas business and industries.

Another hearing will be required on the coverage if the average weekly manufacturing wage goes up as much as \$10. State law provides for an automatic \$7-a-week hike in maximum payments to those injured on the job if there is a \$10 wage jump.

### Tax Bond Cut

Better collection methods have made possible a reduction in the sales tax bonding requirement, according to Comptroller Bob Bullock.

Businesses have had to put up three times the amount they expected to pay in taxes each quarter. The new requirement will be twice the average monthly liability for monthly sales tax filers and one and a half times the quarterly liability for those who file quarterly.

Bullock said the new policy will allow smaller businesses to use letters of credit or cash bonds and get away from bonding firms.

### Courts Speak

A 3-2 decision of the Court of Criminal Appeals upheld a five-year sentence for burglary in a Dallas case. A dissenting judge accused the majority of going to minute and "embarrassing" lengths to affirm convictions.

The State Supreme Court affirmed a \$2.5 million judgment for a cement firm in a condemnation case brought by Coastal Industrial Water Authority

## STATE CAPITAL Highlights AND Sidelights

by Lyndell Williams  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

on land along San Jacinto River.

The High Court will review a San Antonio case to determine whether an unprovoked homicide is an accidental death covered by a group accidental death insurance policy.

The Supreme Court refused to stop the State Judicial Qualifications Commission from hearing removal charges against 229th District Judge O. P. Carrillo.

Wichita Falls annexation of a strip of land southeast of the city will be reviewed by the Supreme Court.

Third Court of Civil Appeals held a bus company which stopped service to an area temporarily is in no position to object when another company applies to serve the same area.

### AG Opinions

College deans' recommendations of merit pay raises for professors is not subject to forced disclosure under the Open Records Act, Atty. Gen. John Hill held.

In another recent opinion, Hill concluded the Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Memorial Commission is eligible to receive federal funds and use them to purchase or condemn

land and other property. Commission power to finance recreational facilities is a fact question.

**GUARANTEED REPAIRS ON FREEZERS, REFRIGERATORS, WASHER, DRYER, STOVES, VACUUM-CLEANERS**

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### Race Expands

State Rep. Lane Denton of Waco became the fourth candidate to announce he will run for Texas Railroad Commission next year.

Denton, 34, classed himself as "pro-consumer" and said big interests will be out to defeat him.

Other candidates in the race are State Rep. David Finney of Fort Worth, Terence O'Rourke of Houston and Walter Wendlandt, Austin engineer and attorney.

### Short Snorts

State deposits in more

than 1,200 banks earned nearly \$79 million in interest during the last fiscal year.

Arson for profit is among

the fastest-growing crimes in Texas (2,202 cases last year), according to Jerry Johns of Southwestern Insurance Information Services.

Developer's First Package Store  
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74 GMC 1/2 ton V8 4 speed air, power, beige \$3495

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73 PONTIAC VENTURA 2 door, V8, automatic, air and power, yellow color with black vinyl top. ONLY \$2695

73 OLDS 88 4-door Sedan air and power, AM-FM stereo, Bronze color, beige vinyl top. Nice, only \$2795

We have Several other nice cars, SO COME SEE US.

"We Sell 'Em-We Lease 'Em"

**Palmer Pontiac & GMC**

**MERKEL**

MERKEL, TEXAS 928-5113

ADILENE 673-1182

## Big Country Inn Under New Management

Owners of Big Country Inn Motel and Restaurant have announced that the business will be under new management, effective since December 1. Taking over manager duties are Hans Gudduschat and his wife Darlene. Hans, a native of Dusseldorf, Germany, is a professional chef having done his apprenticeship in Germany and having worked in Holland, Switzerland, England, Thailand, Chicago, Illinois and Carefree, Arizona. Mrs. Gudduschat is a native of Great Lake, Illinois.

"Having a curiosity of small towns," answered Hans when asked what brought the world traveled chef to Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Gudduschat have three children, sons aged 13 years and 7 months and a daughter aged 2.

**W. E. GILMER**

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BIG SELECTIONS OF TOYS @ 99c AND \$1.99

EXCITING GAMES FOR ALL AGES

SAVE ON CHRISTMAS CARDS \$3.50 VALUE only 88c

TREES & TRIMS GIFT WRAPPING

ELECTRIC CHORD ORGAN only \$38.88

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### AM-FM RADIO- 8 TRACK TAPE PLAYER- 3 SPEED RECORD CHANGER WITH PORTABLE TABLE

REGULAR \$159.95

WILL SELL 4 ONLY FOR  
\$139.95

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USE OUR LAYAWAY & MASTERCHARGE

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Friendly service-special attention to prescription needs.

PH. 928-5012 MERKEL, TEXAS W.D. GAMBLE

**The Devil's Potion**  
AFTER SHAVE POTION FOR DEVILISH MEN  
4 oz. Mfg. list \$2.75

**\$2.08**

**THE SKIN MACHINE**  
by Clairol  
A soft-bristled, battery powered facial brush, cleans like nothing else.  
Mfg. list \$15.99

**\$11.97**

**mirror mirror**  
by Clairol  
THE ALL PURPOSE LIGHTED MIRROR  
• glare-free  
• fog-free  
Model #RM-1  
Mfg. list \$18.99

**\$13.29**

**Titralac**  
antacid  
100 Tablets

**\$1.88**

**MYLANTA**  
Antacid Liquid  
100 Antacid Tablets  
Mfg. list \$2.18  
12 oz.

**\$1.45**

**\$1.53**

**HAI KARATE**  
AFTER SHAVE LOTION  
4 oz. Mfg. list \$2.25

**\$1.79**

**ROMAN BRIO**  
AFTER SHAVE  
4 oz. Mfg. list \$3.00

**\$2.19**

**ST. JOSEPH**  
ASPIRIN FOR CHILDREN  
36 Tablets

**37¢**

**SKINNY DIP**  
SPRAY MIST COLOGNE  
2 oz. Mfg. list \$2.75

**\$1.98**

**ESTAR**  
GEL  
Relieves itching and scaling of Psoriasis and Eczema  
3 oz. Mfg. list \$4.50

**\$3.33**

**Aspergum**  
for sore throat  
18's  
56¢

**PHILLIPS**  
Milk of Magnesia  
Chocolate Flavored  
8 oz. Mfg. list \$1.05

**79¢**

**Water Pik**  
Oral Hygiene Instrument  
Tomorrow make your mouth feel fresher than it's ever felt before.

Deluxe Model 37 Mfg. list \$36.95  
Model 49 Mfg. list \$31.95

**\$26.88** **\$24.49**

**Vaseline**  
INTENSIVE CARE LOTION  
Regular and Herbal  
10 oz. Mfg. list \$1.59

**\$1.09**

**selsun blue**  
anti-dandruff lotion shampoo  
4 oz. Mfg. list \$2.29

**\$1.66**

**Diaparene**  
Baby Wash Cloths  
With LANOLIN  
70 SHEETS

**\$1.19**

**COMMAND**  
hair spray for men  
7 oz.

**\$1.27**

**Senokot**  
TABLETS  
Relieves Constipation  
50 Tablets

**\$2.39**

**L'OREAL EXCELLENCE**  
PERMANENT SHAMPOO-IN COLOR  
Mfg. list \$2.50

**\$1.98**

**L'OREAL PREFERENCE**  
HAIR COLOR KIT  
with AFTER-COLOR SHAMPOO  
Mfg. list \$2.95

**\$2.48**

**BAYER ASPIRIN**  
50 Tablets  
Mfg. list 94¢

**73¢**

**BAYER ASPIRIN**  
100 Tablets

**\$1.09**

**BAYER ASPIRIN**  
200 Tablets

**\$1.77**

**BAYER ASPIRIN**  
300 Tablets  
Mfg. list \$2.99

**\$2.32**

**FDS**  
FEMINE HYGIENE DEODORANT SPRAY  
3 oz.

**\$1.09**

**WinGel**  
LIQUID MINT FLAVORED ANTACID  
12 oz.

**\$1.58**

**Campho-Phenique**  
LIQUID PAIN-RELIEVING ANTISEPTIC  
1 oz. Mfg. list 75¢

**59¢**

**BARBIE BEAUTY SETS**  
by JERGENS  
Reg. \$2.25

**\$1.48**

**Neo-Synephrine**  
1/2% DECONGESTANT NASAL SPRAY  
20 ml. Mfg. list \$1.69

**\$1.09**

**Gillette TRAC II**  
5 TWIN BLADE CARTRIDGES

**\$1.07**

**ARRID**  
ANTI-PERSPIRANT CREAM DEODORANT  
1 oz. Regular or Chlorophyll

**67¢**

**TYLENOL**  
fast, safe pain relief without aspirin  
24 Tablets

**48¢**

**21**  
hair spray  
13 oz.  
• REGULAR HOLD  
• EXTRA HOLD  
• SUPER HOLD  
Mfg. list \$2.39

**\$1.77**

**Fletcher's CASTORIA**  
for Children  
2 1/2 oz. Mfg. list 84¢

**66¢**

**Wilkinson BONDED** Blades  
5 Blades  
99¢

**\$1.17**

**HALEY'S M-O**  
REGULAR or FLAVORED  
16 oz. Mfg. list \$1.65

**\$1.27**

**for brunettes only**  
shampoo in hair color

**\$1.88**

**PHILLIPS' MILK OF MAGNESIA**  
ANTACID-LAXATIVE  
12 oz. REGULAR or FLAVORED

**99¢**

**PHILLIPS' MILK OF MAGNESIA**  
26 oz. REGULAR or FLAVORED  
Mfg. list \$1.95

**\$1.55**

**SCHICK HOT LATHER MACHINE** REFILLS  
REGULAR, MENTHOL, LEMON-LIME or HERBAL  
Mfg. list \$1.39 each

**99¢**

**ORNEX**  
DECONGESTANT/ANALGESIC  
20's Mfg. list \$1.98

**\$1.47**

**MIDOL**  
FOR FAST RELIEF OF MENSTRUAL DISTRESS  
30 Capslets Mfg. list \$1.39

**\$1.08**

**WHITE RAIN**  
HAIR SPRAY  
11 oz.

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**ALBERTO BALSAM**  
Conditioner  
8 oz.

**\$1.37**

**MURINE** For Your EYES  
0.6 oz. plastic

**99¢**

**ALBERTO VO5**  
HAIR SPRAY  
9 oz. Mfg. list \$1.79

**\$1.34**

**SEBUTONE**  
THERAPEUTIC TAR SHAMPOO  
8 oz.

**\$3.47**

**phisoDerm**  
SUDSING EMOLLIENT SKIN CLEANSER  
5 oz.

**\$1.24**

**REMINGTON CHALLENGER**  
CORD SHAVER  
#CH-1

**\$19.95**

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Flashlight Batteries  
2 PACK YOUR CHOICE C or D  
Mfg. list 80¢

**57¢**

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EXTRA-STRENGTH PAIN FORMULA  
60 Tablets Mfg. list \$1.39

**\$1.09**

**Keri lotion**  
FOR DRY SKIN CARE  
6 1/2 oz.

**\$1.77**

**ALBERTO VO5**  
CONDITIONING HAIRDRESSING  
1.5 oz. Tube  
Mfg. list \$1.39

**89¢**

**The REMINGTON**  
850 HAND-HELD HAIR DRYER  
Made in U.S.A. Mfg. list \$26.98

**\$18.47**

**POLY-VI-SOL**  
100 CHEWABLE TABLETS IN CIRCUS SHAPES  
MULTIVITAMIN SUPPLEMENT

**\$3.33** **\$3.47**

**BAYER TIMED-RELEASE ASPIRIN**  
72 Tablets  
Mfg. list \$2.29

**\$1.77**

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HAIR SPRAY  
Regular, Super, Unscented and Super-Unscented  
11 oz.

**\$1.09**

**BRECK SHAMPOO**  
FOR DRY, NORMAL OR OILY HAIR  
15 oz.

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**TINYKIT**  
FEMINE SYRINGE  
Mfg. list \$3.38

**\$1.73**

**COPE**  
36's Mfg. list \$1.09

**83¢**

**ROLAIDS**  
ANTACID MINTS  
REGULAR or SPEARMINT  
150 Tablets Mfg. list \$2.19

**\$1.83**

**breacol**  
DECONGESTANT COUGH MEDICATION  
Mfg. list \$1.59 3 oz.

**\$1.17**

**BAYER DECONGESTANT COLD TABLETS**  
24's

**\$1.19**

**BAYER CHILDREN'S ASPIRIN**  
36 Tablets Mfg. list 49¢

**37¢**

**JULIETTE WALKIE-TALKIE**  
#WT-147  
Battery not included Mfg. list \$15.95

**\$12.88**

**BAYER Children's Cold Tablets**  
30's

**63¢**

**Jergens** Lotion or Jergens Extra Dry Skin Formula  
15 oz. YOUR CHOICE  
Mfg. list \$2.29

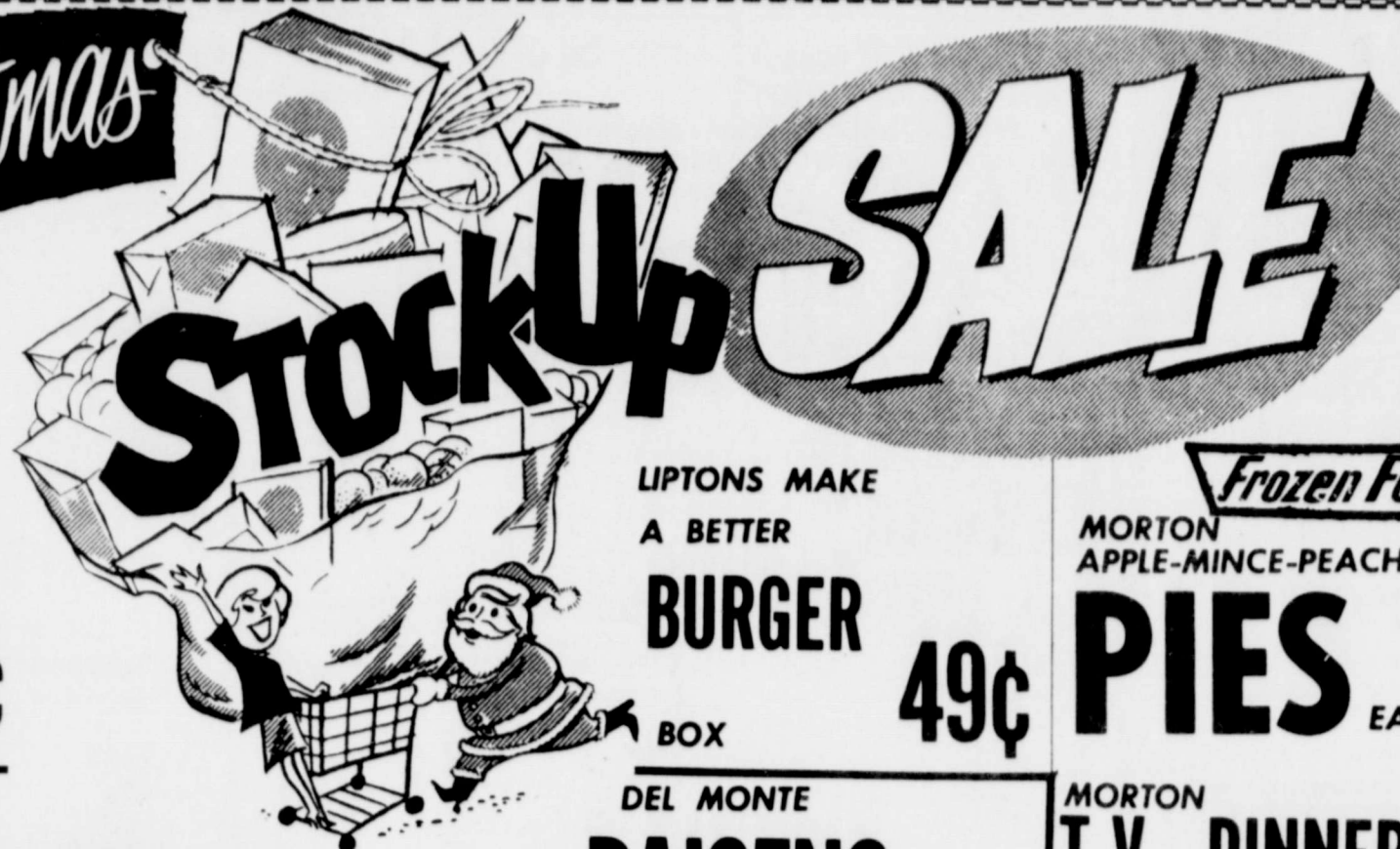
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**CRICKET "Keeper"**  
by Gillette  
DISPOSABLE BUTANE LIGHTER AND CIGARETTE POUCH  
Mfg. list \$4.98

**\$3.47**



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**5 BIG DOLLAR DAYS**  
THURSDAY THRU TUESDAY  
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MAXWELL HOUSE  
**COFFEE**  
1 LB. CAN **98¢**  
WITH \$10 IN TRADE OR MORE EXCLUSIVE OF CIGARETTES

ARMOURS  
**CHILI**  
19 OZ. CAN **79¢**

LIPTONS MAKE A BETTER  
**BURGER**  
BOX **49¢**

Frozen Foods  
MORTON APPLE-MINCE-PEACH-CHERRY  
**PIES** EA **69¢**

BORDEN  
**HOMO 2 MILK**  
2 1/2 GAL CRTNS **\$1.53**

DROMEDARY CHOPPED  
**DATES**  
8 OZ. BOX **49¢**

KRAFT  
**PIZZA**  
WITH CHEESE **69¢**

DEL MONTE  
**RAISENS**  
15 OZ. BOX **63¢**

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BIRDSEYE 9 OZ COOL WHIP **53¢**  
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BORDENS  
**ICE CREAM**  
1/2 GAL CRTN **99¢**

VAN CAMP  
**TUNA**  
FLAT CAN **43¢**

BORDENS  
**BUTTER MILK**  
BAMA 18 OZ. 1/2 GAL. CRTN. **79¢**

DEL MONTE  
**RAISENS**  
15 OZ. BOX **63¢**

CASSEROLE  
**PINTO BEANS**  
2 LB. BAG **59¢**

**DR. PEPPER**  
64 OZ. BOTTLE **69¢**

BORDEN-FOREMOST-GANDY  
WHIPPING OR SOUR  
**CREAM**  
3 1/2 PT. CRTNS. **\$1.00**

GRIFFIN - ANGEL FLAKE  
**COCOANUT**  
14 OZ. **79¢**

DEL MONTE  
**RAISENS**  
15 OZ. BOX **63¢**

**SNOWDRIFT FLOUR**  
GLADIOLA 5 LB. BAG **69¢**

3 LB. CAN **\$1.39**

POST  
**TOAST'EM**  
BOX **45¢**

KRAFT  
**CHEESE SPREAD**  
5 OZ. JAR **43¢**

DEL MONTE  
**RAISENS**  
15 OZ. BOX **63¢**

**CATSUP**  
HUNTS 32 OZ. JUG **79¢**

**PARKAY**  
OLEO LB **49¢**



HORMEL  
**FRANKS**  
SMOKED 16 OZ **\$1.19**

SUNSHINE  
**CRACKERS**  
LB **53¢**

LIBBYS 300  
**OLIVES**  
RIPE PITTED CAN **43¢**

**APPLES**  
LARGE RED **29¢**

**BACON STEAK**  
HORMEL LB **\$1.49**

HORMEL  
**BOLOGNA**  
CHOICE BEEF CLUB LB **\$1.39**

SINE-AID  
**TABLETS**  
24 CT BOX **89¢**

BRAWNY  
**TOWELS**  
JUMBO ROLL **49¢**

**APPLES**  
The JUICY, CRISPY Kind  
You LIKE BEST

**BOLOGNA SAUSAGE**  
HORMEL ALL MEAT LB **95¢**

HORMEL LITTLE  
**SAUSAGE**  
SIZZLER PKG. **93¢**

**JOY**  
KING SIZE LIQUID **93¢**

ajax  
**WINDOW CLEANER**  
8 OZ WITH SPRAY 2 FOR **49¢**

WASHINGTON DELICIOUS POUND **29¢**  
CALIFORNIA NAVEL ORANGES LB **25¢**

FRESH  
**PORK CHOPS**  
End Cuts 1.19 Lb Center Cut Lb **\$1.49**

**STEAK**  
BABY BEEF SIRLOIN Or T-BONE LB **\$1.59**

**DYNAMO**  
GT SIZE **83¢**

**CASCADE**  
KING SIZE **\$1.23**

FRESH  
**CABBAGE**  
WASHINGTON PEARS LB **29¢**

**LIVER SAUSAGE**  
FRESH CALF LB **75¢**

JIMMY DEAN  
**SAUSAGE**  
12 OZ. PKG. **98¢**

**CASCADE**  
KING SIZE **\$1.23**

**CASCADE**  
KING SIZE **\$1.23**

FRESH - CELLO  
**CARROTS**  
TEXAS YAMS LB **23¢**

ORDER YOUR-CHRISTMAS-FOR SURE DELIVERY  
**HAMS - HENS - TURKEYS**

WE WELCOME FOOD STAMPS  
SHOP AND SAVE

WE GIVE GIFT BOND STAMPS  
Double on Wednesday with \$5.00 or more

FRESH - CELLO  
**CARROTS**  
TEXAS YAMS LB **23¢**

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