

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 24—NO. 5

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1912

8 PAGES

WESTERN TEXAS PAST AND PRESENT

My first introduction to this western country was in the year of 1882, when as a lineman for the Texas & Pacific with limits Baird and Toyah, headquarters at Big Springs.

Being pleased with the new and to me a strange country I made a few sketches that I afterward reduced to oil paintings in a little book little thinking that they would turn the attention of some of the railroad officials to the value of this new and undeveloped country, and the necessity of doing something for its development and improvement, and that thirty years after I would compare the pictures with the advancement of this same country.

A few weeks ago my wife and I, with this little book, compared the pictures with the views from the car window and were surprised at the change 30 years had made. In 1882 the country where Midland now stands was a vast prairie bounded by the horizon and without a trace of civilization, but a pair of Prairie Schooners drawn by oxen headed west as is shown on the picture. Now there is a neat and prosperous looking town with elegant churches and public buildings.

The picture of Big Springs in 1882 shows a small town, the view taken from the old station platform shows Nip & Tuck saloon on the east corner of Main and Front street, on the west a gambling den called the Cattle Exchange where gambling went on day and night, two large tents called the El Paso Hotel was the only place where lodging could be had, a store kept by a Mr. Howerton, one by Levison & Smith and a combination drug store comprised the business part of Big Springs. The resident part was built up of tents and one or two small houses. When we alighted from the train I was at loss to know where to go. The old depot building was gone and a little further east was a fine brick one. A neat Y. M. C. A. building is now where the old depot used to be. The Main street running south has fine business houses and the many carriages and autos give the place a business and prosperous appearance. The public school building is very fine. The court house and jail are built of Pecos Red Sandstone which is one of the prettiest building materials that can be found. A trip through the resident district shows many neat cottages and some very fine residences. All of the religious denominations have fine churches which are well attended. In the year 1882 I helped organize a union Sunday school in an unfinished building near where the public school now stands.

Prohibition now prevails and during our three days stay we did not see a single person that had the least appearance of intoxication. What a contrast to the town of early eighties.

My picture of Signal Mountain shows nothing but the open coun-

try with the Signal Mountain in the background, where now is the smart little town of Coahoma.

I was checked in as agent at Merkel on July 4, 1882. The station house was the only building and our neighbors were prairie dogs and some of the sociable little fellows had their habitations close to the depot. Large droves of antelope could be seen at almost any hour of the day.

In all our travels we have not seen a more beautiful country than Merkel in those early days and though changed greatly during the twenty years I have been away it is still dear to us and as we came nearer and one by one of the old familiar places came into view the train seemed to go slower and our hearts beat faster with anticipation of meeting old friends. J. L. Vaughan.

THIRTY ARE KILLED IN SAN ANTONIO

Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock an engine boiler exploded in the Southern Pacific yards in San Antonio and killed twenty to thirty men and injured over fifty. The force of the explosion was so great that the men in the machine shops were literally blown into atoms and doubtless never knew what struck them. All buildings of the railroad that were located close to the engine were completely demolished. Part of the engine was blown seven blocks and fell through the roof of a house causing serious if not fatal injuries to an aged lady. A splinter of wood an inch square was driven through her hand, her left shoulder dislocated and otherwise hurt. The men in the shops close upon the explosion were so completely blown to pieces that parts of their flesh were found in the crevices of the building.

The cause of the accident is not known but a vigorous investigation will be held.

There was born to Mr. and Mrs. V. Rutledge of Shiloh, a bouncing boy. He made his appearance to this land of clover on last Friday morning, bringing with him apparent good health and much pleasure to his parents.

I am opening up a first class wholesale and retail produce house on Kent street. Come for what you want and bring what you have to sell. Watch for ad in later issue. Howell Produce Co.

Last Thursday morning there appeared at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Wells a fine baby girl. The fair maiden is reported to be doing fine and the proud mother and father are all smiles.

We will make special prices on all dry goods, millinery and groceries, Saturday and next week. You can save money by buying during our Anniversary Sale. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Mrs. J. P. Clark of the Blair community was a visitor to Fort Worth Wednesday morning. She is on a visit to friends and relatives.

HOTEL FOR MERKEL

Merkel Man Has Bought Commanding Site for Hotel Location.

FIRE-PROOF BRICK IS IN VIEW

Property Formerly Owned by J. A. Collins is Sold to J. L. Hunter Who will Build Soon—To Open by Fall

That prospects for Merkel are growing better is demonstrated by the fact that a new up-to-date hotel is to be erected in our midst in the near future. The promoter J. L. Hunter has bought the property commonly known as the Stramer place which he will use as a site for the new hotel.

In a talk with Mr. Hunter he gave us to understand that his move was a business one and that he would by fall have a hotel in operation that will be a credit to our town and country. He is now having contractors make estimates on both brick and frame buildings and has not yet decided whether it will be a brick or frame.

Mr. Hunter is favoring a brick building and said he did not think the difference in cost would justify him to be satisfied with any thing short of that for the hostelry he proposes to establish. It will be a two-story and will contain as many as twenty rooms if not more.

When the building is finished it will be under the direction and management of Mr. Hunter who proposes to make the hotel business a life time vocation. The location is one of the best if not the best available for a hotel as its accommodations to commercial guests will be the best obtainable on locality.

Knowing Mr. Hunter personally as a man and knowing of the satisfaction given when conducting a private hotel, we predict success for him in the work he is entering.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAYLOR COUNTY CANDIDATES

For District Judge 42nd District
Dallas Scarborough
For Representative Taylor County
J. M. Wagstaff
For County Judge:
E. M. Overshiner
T. A. Bledsoe
For Sheriff:
S. E. Taylor (of Hamby)
T. C. Weir (for re-election)
Felix R. Jones
For Treasurer:
J. H. Thornton
G. B. (Blue) Tittle
J. W. Red
J. W. Christopher
For County Attorney:
H. Rob. Keeble
For County Clerk:
W. J. (Dub) Young
For Tax Collector:
D. T. Harkrider (of Ovalo)
Baylor Crawford
J. C. Bursleson
For Tax Assessor:
W. T. (Tom) St. John (of Abilene)
C. B. Manly
For Commissioner Prec. No. 2:
J. L. Banner
For Public Weigher, Merkel:
H. H. Tittle
For County Superintendent
J. S. Smith

JONES COUNTY CANDIDATES

For Tax Collector
W. R. Cranston

We have the largest and best selected stock of groceries in West Texas, so the traveling men say, and the biggest flour trade. Why? Because we are the only merchants that sell White Crest and White Silk flour. Farmers near Abilene, Anson and Sweetwater have to come here to get this flour. Why? Because the merchants can't make the profit on a high grade of flour that they can on cheaper grades. We will appreciate your patronage and guarantee satisfaction. Hamblet & Rogers.

The best dressed men wear a Benjamin. They look better, wear better, and hold their shape until worn out. For sale only at Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Fishing tackle, we have it. Armstrong Drug Co.

GOOD PRICES FOR THE BEST CATTLE

The news has already returned that there has been sold out of the Largent herd of cattle that were carried to the Fat Stock Show five head that brought the nice sum of \$2,375.00. The highest price paid for one animal was \$1,000.00 in exchange for Texas Lad one of the last year Junior Champion class, but owing to the ready demand for such stock none of the cattle sold were placed on show as the money was handed over before the Convention opened, and in this way deprived the local owner of having the pleasure of making demonstrations with them.

John Daniel and Fred Bigham have returned from points in north and Panhandle Texas. They report the Brazos river a little boggy for an automobile saying that a good team of mules with a block and tackle was one of the surest ways they had found in which to get through the quicksand.

Ladies, come and see our hats. We will save you money on your spring hat. This is a new department in our store. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Among the visitors to Abilene Monday were Dr. J. A. Adkisson, B. M. Black, W. A. Sheppard, Judge Mims, L. H. King, W. W. Wheeler, A. C. Boney, J. D. Southworth, S. P. and Grady Martin, J. W. Powell.

Your hens will lay more and be healthier if you will feed them some of the new Poultry Food at the Merkel Dry Goods & Gro. Co.

Mrs. M. E. Burton of Stith is in Fort Worth this week visiting relatives and attending the Stock Show. After her visit there she will go on to Van Zandt county to visit other relatives.

A big line of Embroideries and Flouncing arrived this week. Do not fail to call and inspect them. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Mr and Mrs. Burhl Wheeler were in town from Abilene Saturday and Sunday visiting relatives and friends.

Paints, oils and varnishes at Burroughs Drug Store.

DISTRICT COURT IS STILL GRINDING

Last week the case of Will Drake was disposed of in a finding of guilt and assessment of punishment at five years in the state penitentiary.

The case of Roy Curry charged with seduction was ended with a term of two years given him as punishment for his crime and closely following the negress Della Jones was given two years on a charge of boot-legging.

Judge Blanton decided in favor of the mother in giving her charge of her little daughter Rubie Walker. The child was none too willing to go with her mother as she had spent the greater part of her life with her father and wanted to continue to live under his direction instead of the mother. Mr. Walker was not in court to contest the suit and the mother was awarded her child Monday afternoon, she going to Midland on the evening train where she makes her home.

Other cases that have lately been disposed of are as follows:

R. E. Knox at al vs. J. A. Adkisson et al, suit on note and damage, judgment for plaintiff.

Vol Martin vs. W. A. Farquhar et al, note and foreclosure, judgment for the plaintiff in case.

J. H. McDonald et al vs. T. C. Weir, injunction against selling some land advertised, verdict for plaintiff in the case.

Bledsoe For Judge.

We place in our announcement columns this week the name of Judge T. A. Bledsoe candidate for County Judge Taylor county. Judge Bledsoe is now serving the people in the capacity of county Judge and his services are well accounted for. We can heartily recommend him to our readers as a man who will look after their welfare with all precaution and we ask that the voters give his claims unbiased consideration when placing their vote.

Overshiner For Judge.

This week there appears in our announcement column the name of E. M. Overshiner as candidate for county Judge of Taylor county. We request that our readers give his claims careful consideration and study before placing their vote. Mr. Overshiner's record as county attorney is a good one and we feel that he will, if elected fill the office of county judge with all capabilities needed for the place.

Laundry Burglarized.

Last week the Modern Steam Laundry at Abilene was burglarized, the thieves taking a large amount of laundry that was ready for delivery, in which there were four coats, a suit of clothes, two ladies skirts and some underwear. The officers are investigating the case but have not yet arrived at any clue.

Gin Notice.

Our gins will make last run for the season Saturday March 23. J. S. Barnes Gin Co. Brown Gin Co.

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF The Farmers State Bank of Merkel, Texas

AS REPORTED TO COMMISSIONER OF BANKING FEBRUARY 20, 1912

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans	\$33,245.23	Capital Stock	\$15,000.00
Overdrafts	790.96	Surplus Fund	1,500.00
Interest Guaranty Fund	339.93	Undivided Profits	602.45
Assessment Guaranty Fund	30.53	Bills Payable	None
Furniture and Fixtures	2,122.00	Other Borrowed Money	None
Real Estate	2,617.44	Dividends Unpaid	50.00
Cash and Exchange	22,566.22	Deposits	44,559.86
Total	\$61,712.31	Total	

We do business on principals that are BROAD, HONORABLE and FAIR to all. If you are a customer of ours, you can depend on us. Don't worry, be happy, put your money in a good bank. Your business appreciated, large or small.

THE ONLY GUARANTY FUND BANK IN MERKEL

J. S. SWANN, President
J. C. MOORE, Vice-President

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier
B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cashier



Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY
OF THE UNITED STATES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren G. F. West C. P. Warren
J. T. Howard Henry James Ed. S. Hughes
Thos. Johnson

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

The latest in perfume and toilet water at Armstrong Drug Co.

Free air for tires. Merkel Garage.

If its something to eat ring 252. That's Whitley, Son & Co.

Miss Ola Pope was a visitor to Abilene Wednesday.

GO FISHING. Plenty tackle at Armstrong Drug Co.

C. T. Beckham of Trent was in Merkel Wednesday.

A few more thousand up-to-date post cards at Armstrong Drug Co.

Mrs. W. J. Behrens of Abilene is here visiting Mrs. E. P. McMillen.

We buy eggs and sell grain and groceries at wholesale and retail. Whitley, Son & Co.

Mrs. C. E. Whittaker returned from Abilene Wednesday afternoon where she had been visiting.

Car of bananas on the side track this week. Wholesale and retail. All this week.

Why carry gasoline at home, carry the risk and do the work when you can get what you want day or night at the Merkel Garage? Give us a trial.

A MEASURE OF MERIT

Merkel Citizens Should Weigh Well this Evidence.

Proof of merit lies in the evidence. Convincing evidence in Merkel is not the testimony of strangers. But the endorsement of Merkel people. That's the kind of proof given here—the statement of a Merkel citizen.

W. G. Cypert, preacher, Merkel, Texas, says: "I have used Doan's Kidney Pills in our family for some years and have always been benefitted by them. For a long time I suffered from pain across the small of my back and in my sides and my kidneys were weak. Several boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills which I procured at Rust and McCauley Drug Co's. Store quickly cured me. Other members of my family have been cured of kidney complaint by this remedy. It gives me great pleasure to recommend Doan's Kidney Pills."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Business Notice.

I will be at the store of Hogue-Hamilton Company in charge of the produce business and will pay you the highest market prices and appreciate the calls of my friends. G. A. Rister. 22t2

Gin Notice.

Our gins will make last run for the season Saturday March 23.

J. S. Barnes Gin Co.
Brown Gin Co.

Special Notice.

This is to announce to the public that I have sold my stock in the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company to Messrs. B. C. Gaither & Sons. Mr. Jno. D. Gaither has assumed my duties as president and manager. I wish also to thank my many friends and customers for their most liberal patronage. I would be glad if I could see each one of you personally and tell you just how much I appreciate you. By hard work, with the co-operation of as good clerks as were ever lined up in one store and through the support of our friends we were able to build in one year what I consider a most remarkable business. It is needless for me to say that I am proud of our business. I am very proud and it would have been impossible for us to build the business we have only through the confidence and support of our friends. It is my present intentions to move from Merkel but no matter where I go there will always be a warm place in my heart for Merkel and Merkel people. Yours sincerely,
Courtney Hunt.

New Real Estate Agent.

Monday afternoon there appeared at the home of L. H. King in southeast Merkel a fine boy asking for protection under the good name and watchful care of the excellent principals of the maternity he comes under. It is fully understood that he possesses all the traits of a first-class real estate dealer and will no doubt in the near future be the junior member of the King Realty Co. The Mail joins their many friends in wishing the child and its mother continued good health and happiness.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending Mar. 27, 1912
Arbuckle, Mrs. A. P.
Foster, Wylie
Gutierrez, Sr. Portino
If not called for will be sent to dead letter office April. 6, 1912.
H. W. Derstine, P. M.

The Star Milling Company at Abilene is giving away flour and will soon have some in Merkel for distribuion. Get a sack and be convinced of its good baking qualities. 15t2

A special invitation for you to visit our rug department before you do your spring cleaning. Prices from \$3.75 up for 9x12 rugs. Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.

Jesse Fergusson is in Brown-wood having his eyes treated.

TEXAS NEEDS GREAT MEN

XXIX. CONQUEST

POMPEY said that three times he had triumphed and each time for the conquest of a continent; first, Africa, then Europe and next Asia, which completed the conquest of the world. Texas has three continents of industry yet unconquered; first, Agriculture, then Manufacturing, and next Mining, and we await the advent in the life of the State of a powerful man who can take them. Commerce belongs to the country that can conquer it and we need in Texas mental giants who can conquer the mighty forces of nature and wave the flag of Texas over the commerce of land and sea.



POMPEY RETURNING FROM HIS CONQUEST.

Let those who would soar to the altitude of greatness, subdue nature and conquer commerce, wave a wand of genius over our magnificent resources that will widen the industrial horizon of the State; rise out of the feverish throb of modern civilization like a Colossus of medieval times and set up a throne of industry in Texas that will levy tribute on the commerce of the world. Texas Needs Great Men.

New line of kitchen cabinets just received. They are the latest and so convenient. Give us a visit when you are in town. You are under no obligations to buy. We like to show you the good points at the right price. Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Will the gentleman who borrowed the double and single trees from the city street grader please return them. W. N. Hall, City Marshal.

R. L. Bland returned from Ft. Worth Wednesday noon where he has been attending the Show. Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularity of the kinneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not satisfied by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for Texas testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

Your car needs washing and polishing and we are prepared to do the work. Merkel Garage

ALL THESE MEN HAVE
WORKED FOR THE
SAFETY OF YOUR MONEY
WHEN IT IS IN A
NATIONAL BANK



Copyright 1909, by C. E. Zimmerman Co., No. 309

The Southern National Bank

Solicits your business for the New Year and promises the most liberal service consistent with our conservative policies

John Sears, President

C. L. Barker, Vice-Pres.

J. E. Faucett, Cashier

PROFESSIONAL



SEE US AND YOU WILL SEE BETTER

Eyes tested and fitted by up-to-date methods

Mrs E. M. Rust, Optometrist At Rust & McCauley's.

O. F. McMASTER

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank



EYES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.

DRS. ADKISSON & MILLER

Dr. W. V. CRANFORD

Office at

Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

TELEPHONES

Office 4-3

Residence 2-7-6

C. D. MIMS

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Practice in State and Federal Courts. Land and Collection Law a specialty.

OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado

Insurance Agent

Notary Public.

Office up stairs in First National bank building

H. C. WILLIAMS O. W. JOHNSON

WILLIAMS & JOHNSON

Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident

Insurance Agents

Respectfully Solicit Your Business

Notary Public in Office

Office over Farmers & Merchants National Bank

Merkel, Texas

W. H. LANEY, THE BUTCHER

Fresh meats of all kinds.

Always pay top prices on fat cattle and hogs.

Phone 77—Front street, Merkel, Texas

Abilene Steam Laundry

H. M. WARREN, Agent

Baskets shipped Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work called for and delivered promptly or received at the City Barber shop. I will appreciate your patronage.

H. M. WARREN

Phone 45 in City Barber Shop

A Pleasant Physic.

When you want a pleasant physic give Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets a trial. They are mild and gentle in their action and always produce a pleasant cathartic effect. All Dealers.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Post cards 5c per dozen at the Groene Art Store.

Mrs. J. P. Hunt was a visitor in Abilene Saturday.

Will appreciate a share of your trade. Kent St. Barbers. tf

E. P. McMillen was in Abilene last Saturday on business.

Highest price paid for produce. Hamblett & Rogers. tf

J. K. Jones of Trent was in town on business Saturday.

Texas almanacs at Armstrong Drug Co.

Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Gaither were visitors in Abilene Saturday

Your needs in window and door glass at Burroughs Drug Store.

Misses Carrie and Maud Shannon of Stith are visiting relatives in Clyde this week.

Come to us for your groceries, you will find our prices right Hogue-Hamilton Co.

R. H. Collins went to Abilene last Saturday and on to Red River county that night.

We will buy and sell all kinds of produce. Give highest market price. Howell Produce Co.

Go to the City Barber Shop for first-class work. West & Evans, Proprietors.

Mr. and Mrs. Sid Criswell of the Noodle country were Abilene visitors Saturday.

Martin Barber Shop for barber work and tailoring. In rear of Southern Natl. Bank Bldg. tf

Arthur Browning was a pleasant visitor in town the last of the week.

8,000 new and up-to-date post cards at one cent each, for a few days. Armstrong Drug Co.

Miss Blanche Garrett of Sweetwater spent Saturday and Sunday with her sister Miss Jewell Garrett.

You may say goodbye to constipation with a clear conscience if you use Chamberlain's Tablets. Many have been permanently cured by their use. For sale by all dealers.

Be sure and attend the big Anniversary Sale Saturday and next week at the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Thos. Jinkene and G. W. Whitaker of the Dora country were in town Wednesday on their way to the Fat Stock Show.

Farmers and others who live at a distance from a drug store should keep in the house a bottle of Ballard's Snow Liniment. It may be needed at any time for cuts, wounds, sores, sprains or rheumatism. It is a powerful healing and penetrating remedy. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

The Men Who Succeed

as heads of great enterprises are men of great energy. Success, today, demands health. To ail is to fail. It's utter folly for a man to endure a weak, run-down, half alive condition when Electric Bitters will put him right on his feet in short order. "Four bottles did me more real good than any other medicine I ever took," writes Chas. B. Allen, Sylvania, Ga. "After years of suffering with rheumatism, liver trouble, stomach disorders and deranged kidneys, I am again, thanks to Electric Bitters, sound and well." Try them. Only 50c at H. C. Burroughs.

Tuesday was Noodle's day in Fort Worth, being represented by Alfred Ely, Jim Cook and John Rosson. Mr. Ely will go on to Mineola to make that place his home but the others say Merkel is good enough for them. They will return the latter part of the week.

This column is for the interest and benefit of our readers. If you have anything to sell, trade or give away, if you want anything, lose anything, find anything or can do anything, say so in a Merkel Mail Want Ad. One cent per word, each insertion.

Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Tandy and Hugh of Abilene were visitors in our little city Sunday. They made the trip in their car, coming up after Miss Maragret who has been visiting friends here during the last week.

We have something new in stationery. Come and see. Armstrong Drug Co.

Roscoe Sharp returned from Fort Worth Monday morning after a short visit to that city.

Best Chocolate and Bon Bon candy at Burroughs Drug Store.

G. W. Winter of Anson was a visitor in Merkel this week. He was called here to see his mother who lives at Shiloh. She has been very sick for the last week and is at this time improved but very little.

You judge a man not by what he promises to do, but what he has done. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy judged by this standard has no superior. People everywhere speak of it in the highest terms of praise. For sale by all dealers.

WHEN

You find yourself facing the need of First-Class painting or paper-hanging in any of its branches let me tell you how little it will cost you for really first-class work of this kind. I make a specialty of showing how good painting and papering can be done.

J. W. POWELL
The Painter and Paper Hanger

Mr. W. L. Lilly has resigned as manager of the Star Milling Company at Abilene and Mr. Gus Roberts recently of the Orient Milling Company has taken charge as manager. Mr. Roberts is a miller of long experience as well as a mill manager and knows his business from A to Z and has already given the mill a thorough overhauling and nothing but good reports are heard from the users of his flour and we bespeak for him the patronage of Taylor county. 15t2

Miss Winnie Sandlin received a message last week from her sister Mrs. H. D. Harris of Wills Point telling her of the death of her little niece. The Mail extends sympathy to the bereaved ones.

Many sufferers from rheumatism have been surprised and delighted with the prompt relief afforded by applying Chamberlain's Liniment. No one case of rheumatism in ten requires any internal treatment whatever. This liniment is for sale by all dealers.

Mr. and Mrs. Huffman Baines of Abilene were pleasant visitors in the Thos. Largent home north of Merkel during Sunday, returning to Abilene the following day.

We are showing a large line of white and brown linens at very attractive prices. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Mrs. I. G. Walker who has been here visiting her daughter Mrs. H. Turner returned to her home at Granbury. She was accompanied as far as Tharp Springs by Mrs. Turner.

All kinds of disinfectant and insect powder at Armstrong Drug Co.

Compere is preparing for a big time in the shape of a box supper. The date of the occasion is not yet decided upon but will be in the near future.

Read the big Anniversary Sale ad of the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co. They are making some sensational prices.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Coggin were passengers Monday evening to Fort Worth to the Fat Stock Show.

Base ball goods at Armstrong Drug Co.

W. I. Burton and Jinks Winter are in the Panther City this week meeting friends and attending the cattlemen's convention.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

A pain in the side or back that catches you when you straighten up calls for a rubbing applications of Ballard's Snow Liniment. It relaxes the contracted muscles and permits ordinary bodily motion without suffering or inconvenience. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Large stock of glass at Burroughs Drug Store.

G. E. Comegys made a business trip to Clyde Tuesday.

Five cent post cards, one cent each. Armstrong Drug Co.

Miss Lucy Bean was a social caller in Abilene Saturday.

The best hot and cold drinks at Burroughs Drug Store.

H. M. Rainbolt was a business caller in the capital city Tuesday.

Pure German Millet Seed for sale at Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

H. F. Groene was a business visitor in Abilene Tuesday.

We guarantee Dr. Hess stock and poultry food. Armstrong Drug Co.

Prof. R. L. Krigbaum was a business caller in the capital city last Saturday.

All kinds of Poultry Food in bulk at the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

O. W. Williams, C. L. Barker and W. C. Ayers were Abilene visitors Saturday.

Spot cash for your chickens and eggs. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

Mrs. W. R. Walker visited her son Jack at the Simmons College Sunday and Monday.

The new restaurant is open on Kent street. Serves dinners and short orders.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bigham went down to Fort Worth Sunday to attend the Fat Stock Show.

Peacemaker Flour, the flower of flours for sale by Hogue-Hamilton Co.

C. D. Mims made a business call to Fort Worth this week and while there will attend the Stock Show.

If you ever need anything in the crutch line we have them, all sizes. Armstrong Drug Co.

Jim Black was a visitor to Fort Worth Wednesday morning, going down on business and to see the Fat Stock Show.

Lots of pumps and oxfords for everybody, in vici, pat, velvets, white duck and white kid. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Uncle Ezra Says

"It don't take more'n a gill uv effort to git folks into a peck of trouble," and a little neglect of constipation, biliousness, indigestion or other liver derangement will do the same. If ailing take Dr. King's New Life Pills for quick results. Easy, safe sure, and only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs. Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

MERKEL

GOOD HOMES, GOOD SCHOOLS,
GOOD CHURCHES, GOOD PEOPLE,
THE CITY TO LIVE IN,
THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY,
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,
GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,
EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,
INVESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN
PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

CALUMET
BAKING POWDER

The wonder of baking powders—Calumet. Wonderful in its raising powers—its uniformity, its never failing results, its purity.

Wonderful in its economy. It costs less than the high-price trust brands, but it is worth as much. It costs a trifle more than the cheap and big can kinds—it is worth more. But proves its real economy in the baking.

Use CALUMET—the Modern Baking Powder.
At all Grocers.

Received Highest Award World's Pure Food Exposition

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
 J. G. JACKSON, President HOMER EASTERWOOD, Manager
 H. T. MERRITT, Foreman

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
 Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second Class Mail Matter

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

TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of The Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires, a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

CASS TARVER IS WELL LIKED.

Saturday afternoon at the opera house a good crowd saw the Jones county boy work out with his trainers and go through all the work of training the big prize fighter.

Tarver is without a doubt the best specimen of physical man that has ever visited this if not any other country. Not that his present condition as a fighter would sustain such a statement, but the perfect way in which he is developed is enough to justify us to make the assertion.

People who saw him perform at Abilene a few weeks ago say that he has improved in speed but has seemingly gained no strength, but seemed to land more frequently on his trainers than at the previous engagement. His principal trainer, Chas. Kavanaugh the Australian, says that there is no question in his mind but that the boy will in a very short time be ready to begin at the bottom and will fight his way to the top of the heavy weight class of fighters and said that he would have the boy ready to whip Jack Johnson or any other man that happened to take it away from Johnson, within a few months.

Tarver's weight is now 245 which is a loss of 35 pounds from his original weight.

INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS OFFERS PRIZES.

There is an old story of a lazy man whose family had nothing to eat and a neighbor offered to give him a bushel of corn if he would come and get it. The man showed very little interest in the offer and finally said that if the corn was shelled he might think about the matter but otherwise he would not bother with it.

The Texas Industrial Congress is offering, absolutely free, to every farmer in the state, whether man, woman, boy or girl, an equal chance at 142 cash prizes, making a total of \$10,000, if they will undertake to cultivate their crops this year with a little more care and attention than heretofore. There are no strings tied to this offer. The prizes are absolutely free. No contestant is required to pay anything at any time, and the crop he raises is his to do with it as he pleases. All that he is asked to do is to send his name to the Congress at Dallas before April 1, stating that he wants to try for the prizes offered and agreeing to give his crops systematic care and cultivation. With such a liberal offer as this it would seem that every farmer in Texas would take some interest in it, but apparently there are many who care nothing about the matter, and will not even consider it "unless the corn is shelled."

No one who enters the contest can possibly lose anything, but on the other hand, all will derive some benefit from it, for even if they do not win prizes they will raise better crops and will learn something about farming that will be of value to them in the future.

Entries in the contest will not be received after April 1, and we urge our readers to write to the

Congress at Dallas today for information and application blanks.

FREE SCHOLARSHIP.

An additional incentive to enter the contest of the Texas Industrial Congress has been offered by the regents of the State University.

The Congress has been notified by President Mezes that scholarships, exempting the holders from all matriculation fees, will be awarded to winners of the first, second, third, fourth and fifth prizes in Class A; of the first, second, third and fourth in Classes B and C, and of the first, second and third prizes in Classes D and E of the contest.

These scholarships are good for four years from the time the winner enters the university. They are limited to young men and boys under 21 years of age at the time the prizes are won and become effective when those to whom they are awarded are able to meet the age, scholarship and other requirements of the university.

These 19 scholarships are offered in addition to the 142 cash awards that will be made by the Congress.

Entry blanks for the crop contest can be secured free of any cost from the Texas Industrial Congress at Dallas, if application is made before April 1.

Application blanks can be obtained at the Merkel Mail office.

After our few days of beautiful spring weather and then to have a fresh norther, the ground covered with sleet and snow and icicles hanging everywhere our thought naturally turns to the appropriate lines of the poet—

"The forest trees are cold and bare,
The honey bees they are not there."

The man who complains about his civic organizations not doing anything is unconsciously knocking himself. Every organization is simply its members and if every member does his duty the organization will be sure to do its duty.

The first thing in town building is to tell the truth. An agreeable "disappointment" will often locate a man in a small town when a disagreeable one will turn him away from a larger and better one.

Boost for your home town. Did you ever notice that a town full of boosters is better in every way than one full of knockers? There are both kinds of towns, and we want ours to be in the first class.

The women are a potent factor in town building through their labors for civic attractiveness. An ugly town does not impress one as being a good place to live in.

High brows don't pay bills nor put through their deals. It takes brains, brawn and money. The little man who will work is worth ten big men who won't.

The city council of Taylor will call an election at an early day for the purpose of voting a bond issue of \$30,000 for paving the business section.

Arrangements have been made to hold a trades day at Ballinger March 4. Several hundred dollars will be given as premiums.

The knocker is a cross between a pessimist and a grouch. The best way to handle him is to take away his hammer.

Nolan county is expending \$100,000 on 36 miles of macadamized roads leading into Sweetwater.

Fifteen acres of land near San Angelo recently sold for \$375 per acre.

MERKEL BOTTLING WORKS

NEW LOCATION—NEW MANAGEMENT

Now prepared to manufacture all kinds of pure, genuine, non-alcoholic, beverages and ice cream. Cleanliness and purity our motto. Can and will meet competition, quality of goods considered. All products we use guaranteed under the food and drug act. Owned and managed by citizens of Merkel. Consequently will ask for all of your patronage.

BARBEE, LEER & WHITAKER

Merkel : Texas



The Nations Eyes are Turned Toward the Farm

Life on the farm is no hardship in these days, when conveniences of the city brother may be enjoyed, and the greatest of them is the

Southwestern Telephone

In his spare time the farmer may construct his own rural line. His natural knack is all that is needed, his time the only cost. The earlier begun, the earlier the benefits. Write today for Booklet.

The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company

DALLAS, TEXAS



We will pay you the highest market price for your chickens, eggs and butter. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Many "Holy Lands." Christians use the term Holy Land to designate Palestine, as being the scene of the birth, ministry and death of Christ, but, interestingly enough, other religious sects employ the same term for places sacred to them from association. Thus the Mohammedans speak of Mecca as the Holy Land, it being the birthplace of Mohammed. The Chinese Buddhists call India the Holy Land, because the founder of their religion was born there, while the Greeks bestow this same title on Ellis, where was situated the temple of Olympian Zeus.

Herbine cures constipation and re-establishes regular bowel movements. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

MEYER'S ALBATROSS
BEST ON EARTH

TRADE MARK REGISTERED No. 28945

USE "ALBATROSS" FLOUR
BRADSHAW GROCERY COMPANY

These Prices and Goods are making History in Merkel's Merchandising

AND THESE PRICES WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS THE GOODS LAST--NOTE THE PRICES If You Appreciate a Saving, Beautiful Goods and a Big Variety of Them, See Us

Mens Dress Shirt Bargains Greatest Ever

Now is the time to lay in your spring and summer supply. These celebrated Noxall shirts were never sold at these prices before: 75c values, opening sale price **48c**
 \$1.00 Noxall shirts, opening sale price . . . **75c**
 1.25 Noxall shirts, opening sale price . . . **90c**
 1.50 Noxall shirts, opening sale price . . . **\$1.00**
 Men if you are going to need any shirts this spring or summer it will pay you handsomely to take advantage of these prices.

Bargains in Laces and Embroideries

Our reputation for handling the largest, prettiest and most complete line of laces and embroideries and selling them at monster savings to our customers has taken a step forward this season as we are showing a much larger line and are selling them for less.
 10c embroideries, opening sale price . . . **5c**
 12½c embroideries, opening sale price . . **7½c**
 15c embroideries, opening sale price . . . **10c**
 20c embroideries, opening sale price . . . **12½c**
 25c embroideries, opening sale price . . . **15c**
 35c embroideries, opening sale price . . . **20c**
 50c 18-inch embroidery flouncing **35c**
 50c 27-inch embroidery flouncing **25c**
 85c 27-inch embroidery flouncing **50c**

15 Cent Laces 5 Cents

Of our entire lace assortment, comprising our 10c, 12½c, 15c and 20c values we give you choice for only **5c**

Bargains in Curtain Scrim

You can afford to tear down those old curtains and put up new ones at these prices
 20c curtain scrim, opening sale price . . . **12½c**
 25c curtain scrim, opening sale price . . . **15c**
 35c curtain scrim, opening sale price . . . **20c**
 40c curtain scrim, opening sale price . . . **25c**

Table Damask Bargains

White Table Damask full width **25c**
 75c White Table Damask full width **50c**
 \$1.00 White Table Damask full width . . . **70c**
 \$1.25 White Table Damask full width . . . **95c**
 18c feather ticking **15c**
 20c feather ticking **16½c**

Bargains in High-Class Shoes

Style, quality and price make the combination that lifts our shoe department to a higher level than ever.

Our big shoe department is made up of every thing that is new, stylish and good and our prices are ALWAYS SATISFACTORY.

Mens Hat Bargains

WE OFFER FOR THIS OCCASION

\$2.00 values for **\$1.50**
 2.50 values for **2.00**
 3.00 values for **2.50**
 3.50 values for **3.00**
 John B. Stetson \$6.00 hat for **4.50**

Bargains in Wash Dress Goods

All best grade calicoes, opening sale price **4½c**
 1 lot "Ringo" percales, values 8 1-3c opening sale price **5c**
 1 lot "Aunt Dinah" round thread cotton checks, opening sale price **4½c**
 1 lot 10c dress gingham, sale price . . . **8½c**
 1 lot 10c Madras shirting, opening sale price **8½c**
 1 lot 10c mattress ticking, sale price . . . **8½c**
 1 lot 15c shirting and dress percales opening sale price **10c**
 1 lot 12 1-2c new spring gingham opening sale price **10c**
 1 lot 15c spring suiting, sale price **10c**
 1 lot 12 1-2c shirting Madras opening sale price **10c**
 1 lot 12 1-2c mattress ticking, opening sale price **10c**
 1 lot 15c mattress ticking, opening sale price **12½c**
 1 lot 15c silkline draperies opening sale price **10c**
 1 lot 7 1-2c apron check gingham, opening sale price **5c**
 1 lot 8½c apron check gingham, opening sale price **7½c**
 1 lot 10c apron check gingham, opening sale price **8½c**
 1 lot 7-8 brown domestic, opening sale price **4c**

First Come, First Served. SUFFICE

White Goods at Enormous Savings

Dame Fashion has decreed that this shall be a season of White. If it is possible for us to be stronger in one department than another, we would decide in favor of our White Goods Department. All having been purchased from the Chattin-Norton Stock at about one-half their real value. We will give our customers the advantage of this purchase.
 10c plain white lawn, sale price **7½c**
 10c checked white lawn, sale price **7½c**
 10c and 12½c stripe, white lawn **7½c**
 15c 36-inch India Linons, sale price . . . **10c**
 15c checked white muslin sale price . . . **10c**
 12½c white shirting Madras sale price . . **7½c**
 15c 36-inch Linene suiting, sale price . . **10c**
 20c English Nainsooks, sale price **12½c**
 20c 42-inch plain white lawns **12½c**
 25c English Nainsooks, sale price **15c**
 25c shirting Madras, opening sale price . **15c**
 35c 42-inch checked white goods **20c**
 40c 46-inch white Persian lawns **20c**
 50c 46-inch white Persian lawns **25c**
 50c shirtwaist good satin stripes **25c**
 36-inch white linen, every thread pure linen, opening sale price **25c**
 Come early, inspect these goods and be convinced of the saving we offer you. Hundreds of other equally as good values will be shown you.

Bargains in Novelties

We have every conceivable new thing in the way of novelties to offer you at bargain prices. New Hand Bags, Barrettes, pins, bows, etc.

Clothing Bargains Both New and Old

Best suits in our store at **\$12.50**
 Next best **10.00**
 Next best **7.50**
 Next best **6.50**

OUR NEW SPRING LINE CONSISTS OF

\$20.00 values for **\$12.50**
 15.00 values for **10.00**
 12.00 values for **7.50**
 10.00 values for **6.50**

WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER YOU

1 lot Mens \$5.00 pants for **\$3.50**
 1 lot Mens 4.00 pants for **2.95**
 1 lot Mens 3.50 pants for **2.50**
 1 lot Mens 3.00 pants for **2.00**
 1 lot Mens 2.50 pants for **1.50**
 We merely ask you to see these values. Don't buy if they are not as represented.

Dress Goods, Silks & Etc.

\$1.00 to \$1.25 Messaline in all the pretty new shades and stripes for waists and dresses, opening sale price **85c**
 75c novelty silks, new spring shades . . . **50c**
 50c silk stripe voils, all colors sale price. **35c**
 35c veil tissues and fancy souzine **25c**
 35c poplins new spring shades, sale price. **25c**
 25c poplins new spring shades, sale price. **20c**
 20c poplins new spring shades, sale price. **15c**
 One lot new checked voils, sale price . . **12½c**
 The above prices should suffice to dispell all doubt as to our ability to offer you real bargains in dress goods.

We are prepared to state most emphatically that these values are the greatest we have ever been enabled to show at the beginning or ending of any season and will be the means of saving our customers hundreds of dollars on their SPRING PURCHASES. We consider these purchases by us as a big step toward our desired goal --- that of eliminating foreign competition from Merkel and the Merkel territory.

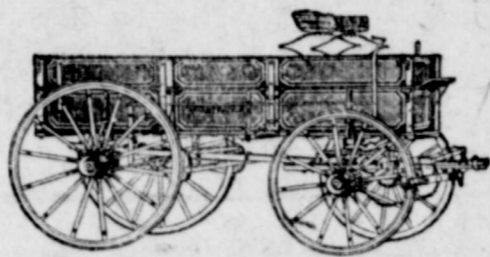
PARTEN DRY GOODS COMPANY

THE STUDEBAKERS HAVE BUILT WAGONS

Studebaker wagons have been made for almost 60 years. The business has grown from a very modest wagon shop making only a few wagons a year to a plant covering 101 acres.

The Studebaker company would not have lasted 60 years unless they had made good wagons all of that time. Over a million Studebaker wagons in use—that tells the story.

Studebaker
Wagons



are in a quality class by themselves and are the most economical to buy. Come in and let us prove it to you.

FOR
NEARLY
60
YEARS

Implements that Will Satisfy

Studebaker quality is proven and we as local representatives are in shape to prove the points of the Studebaker wagon. Along with the Studebaker line we have in stock and in shape to demonstrate, some of the latest and most practical farm implements that the farmer can buy. Their work is guaranteed. See them.

Anchor Hardware Company



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Miss Elma Sheppard entertained Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Doss Sheppard. Domino score cards were given to the players who were Misses Maude Martin, Mamie Mann of Stamford, Mattie Taylor, Virginia and Venona Hamblet, Flay Gunn, Pauline Johnson, Messrs. C. C. Franklin, Letch Hunnycutt, Lntner Grimes, Jesse Fergusson, Olly Sharp, Parker Sharp, Lowe Barnett, Rufford Evans, Choc Jones, Bill Sheppard, Robert Tally, Claud Whitley. After a number of interesting games of progressive 42 a dainty salad course was served.

Saturday evening an informal and enjoyable dance was given at the Thornton building. Orchestra music was furnished. Those present were Misses Zora Coggin, Olga Sheppard, Annie T. Daniel, Elma Sheppard, Jessie Biant, Mesdames Lanier Brown, Bigham, J. W. Daniel, Deavenport, Gaither, Messrs. Olly Sharp, Lige Gabel of Fort Worth, M. M. Hamill of San Angelo, J. R. Daniel, Ernest Faucett, Jim Guitar, Lanier Brown, Fred Bigham, J. W. Daniel, Deavenport Gaither, R. O. Anderson, Wallace Duncan.

Bach Music Club met Thursday afternoon at the southside school studio, Miss Cleo Wilson Bowler teacher. A short program was given after the lesson followed by the reading of a portion of a story for girls. Those present were Misses Lois Hogue, Nelle Tracy, Julia Martin, Mildred Hogue, Edith Brown, Lucile Sutphen, Louise Warren.

Monday afternoon the Ladies Aid Society of the Presbyterian church met with Mrs. Geo. L. Hamilton in a regular business session. Mrs. Vol Martin was elected as delegate to the Presbytery at Abilene in April. Mrs. Geo. L. Hamilton was elected alternate. Mrs. Hamilton served hot chocolate and cake to those present.

The Twentieth Century Club will meet Saturday March 24 with Mrs. L. Sparkman as hostess. Lesson, Act II, Twelfth Night, will be lead by Mrs. M. D. Angus. General discussion of character sketches lead by Miss Williams. New Inventions—Mrs. Otho Williams. New Books—Miss Orta Long.

Children are much more likely to contract the contagious diseases when they have colds. Whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever and consumption are diseases that are often contracted when the child has a cold. That is why all medical authorities say beware of colds. For the quick cure of colds you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

Dr Price's CREAM BAKING POWDER

Made from pure, grape
Cream of Tartar

Best for good food and
good health

No Alum

Civic Improvement League.

First State Bank, \$10.00 in gold.
Southern National Bank, \$10.00 in gold.
Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company, \$5.00 in merchandise.
Anchor Hardware Company, \$2.50 in merchandise.
Whitley Grocery Co., sack best flour.
G. M. Sharp Feed Store, \$1.00 cash.
Groene's Studio, one-half dozen pictures of the home receiving first prize for the best kept yard, etc.
S. S. Scheidler, Jeweler, \$2.50 in merchandise.
Banner & Son, \$3.00 music roll.
Hamblet & Rogers, \$1.00 cash.
Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company \$4.00 in Furniture.
Merkel Light Company, \$7.00 in wiring house or \$5.00 in merchandise.
West Texas Hardware Company, \$5.00 in merchandise for best kept alley by boy under 15 years.
Burton-Lingo Company, \$2.00 cash.
Parten Dry Goods Company, \$2.50 in merchandise.
Merkel Mail, \$2.50 cash.
Armstrong Drug Co., \$2.50 cash.
J. P. Sharp Dry Goods, \$3.50 in merchandise.
Hogue-Hamilton Company \$2.50 in merchandise.
H. C. Burroughs Drug Store, \$1.00 in merchandise.
Bradshaw Grocery Co., \$1.00 cash.
Elite Confectionery, \$2.50 in merchandise.
Rust & McCauley Jewelry, \$2.50 in merchandise.
Rust & McCauley Drugs, \$2.00 in merchandise.
Clark & Allen, \$1.00.
Star Store, \$2.00 in merchandise.
R. A. McClain Drugs, \$2.00 in merchandise.
W. M. O'Briant Tin Shop, \$1.00 cash.
Merkel Oil & Cotton Co., \$1.00 cash.
Merkel Telegram, one year's subscription and \$1.00 cash.
The above firms have heartily cooperated with the Twentieth Century Club in the Civic Improvement movement. It is possible that the soliciting committee could have overlooked some firm or individual. If so we will gladly come and see you. This is a good work that each man, woman and child should have some part in for it means a cleaner, prettier and healthier Merkel.

Steak Roast.

Tuesday evening Mr. George L. Hamilton's Sunday school class entertained the classes of Mrs. Hamilton and Miss Bertie Diltz. The classes accompanied by their teachers met at the Diltz pasture where a pit was used to roast steak and eggs which were served with bread and pickles. Then came the bon fire and games with the usual camp stories while the crowd enjoyed popcorn and peanuts. At nine o'clock all returned to their homes with pleasant thoughts of a perfect evening. About thirty were present.

The Home Mission society met with Mrs. J. F. Shaffer Monday afternoon. After a short business session Mrs. Clements conducted the lesson on Hinduism from the "Light of the World." A splendid attendance was reported. The hostess served delicious refreshments at the conclusion of a pleasant and profitable afternoon.

What We Never Forget

according to science, are the things associated with our early home life, such as Bucklen's Arnica Salve, that mother or grandmother used to cure our burns, boils, scalds, sores, skin eruptions, cuts, sprains or bruises. Forty years of cures prove its merit. Unrivaled for piles, corns or cold sores. Only 25 cents at H. C. Burroughs.

League Program.

Subject, The Doctrine of Repentance.
Leader, H. C. Williams.
Song 12, Revival Praise.
Silent prayer.
Reading, Psalm 32.
Song 53, Revival Praise.
Lesson, Hos. 6:1-3; Luke 15:11-24.
Prayer.
Reading, with comment.
The way of the cross—Miss Willie Coats.
Singing, some hymn.
Repeat, what and why—Noel Moore.
Prayer.
Reading with comment—Mrs. Black.
Repeat, how?—Miss Nisbett.
Prayer.
Can a christian be an amphibian?—Sherlie King.
How can a sinner find God?—Mrs. Clements.
Song.
Offering.
Miscellaneous.
Benediction.

Junior League Program.

Subject, The hive of bee's.
Leader, Robert Nesbitt.
Roll call.
Eph. 4:32—Frank Armstrong.
Rom. 12:16—Howard Laney.
Matt. 5:48—Roy Moore.
Jas. 1:22—Loring Hamblet.
Gal. 6:7—Deverl Johnson.
Ps. 31:25—Jim Lawliss.
Matt. 24:44—Elbert Touchstone.
Mark 5:36—Merle Burroughs.
Rev. 2:10—Jack Clements.
Benediction.
Everybody come.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has won its great reputation and extensive sale by its remarkable cures of coughs, colds and croup. It can be depended upon. Try it. Sold by all dealers.

Gave Up Hope

"I suffered five years, with awful pains, due to womanly troubles," writes Mrs. M. D. McPherson, from Chadbourn, N. C. "They grew worse, till I would often faint. I could not walk at all, and I had an awful hurting in my side; also a headache and a backache.

I gave up and thought I would die, but my husband urged me to try Cardui, so, I began, and the first bottle helped me. By the time the third bottle was used, I could do all my work. All the people around here said I would die, but Cardui relieved me."

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

For more than 50 years, Cardui has been relieving woman's sufferings, and making weak women strong and well. During this time, thousands of women have written, like Mrs. McPherson, to tell of the really surprising results they obtained by the use of this purely vegetable, tonic remedy for women.

Cardui strengthens, builds, restores, and relieves or prevents unnecessary pain and suffering from womanly troubles. If you are a woman, begin taking Cardui, today.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free. J 49

B. Y. P. U. Program.

Subject, Second chapter of Revelation
Leader, Miss Margie Saffle.
Scripture reading, Rev. 3:14-22.
Song.
The introduction, Quarterly, paragraph 1—Miss Ruth Merritt.
Things that are similar, Quarterly, paragraph 2—Miss Sadie Collins.
Song.
Prayer.
Things that differ, Quarterly, paragraph 3—Grady Collins.
Varities of rewards, Quarterly, paragraph 3-2—Charley Lofton.
Song.
Benediction.

For Diseases of the Skin.

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barbers' itch, are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its user For-sale by all dealers.

Judge T. A. Bledsoe handed us a dollar for the cause the other day and complimented us on the condition of the Merkel country, the Mail coming in for its share of the honor.

Take Herbine for indigestion. It relieves the pain in a few minutes and forces the fermented matter which causes the misery into the bowels where it is expelled. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

J. L. Banner was a visitor to the Fat Stock Show this week going down Monday morning.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

T. & P. TIME TABLE.

EAST BOUND
Train No. 2, leaves Merkel...10:04 p.m.
Train No. 4 " " " "11:38 a.m.
Train No. 6 " " " "12:19 a.m.
Train No. 8 " " " "9:02 a.m.

WEST BOUND
Train No. 1, leaves Merkel...4:02 a.m.
Train No. 3 " " " "4:48 p.m.
Train No. 5 " " " "4:28 a.m.
Train No. 7 " " " "4:20 p.m.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

Electric Bitters

Success when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified.

FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE
it is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.

McCall's Magazine and McCall Patterns

For Women

Have More Friends than any other magazine or patterns. McCall's is the reliable Fashion Guide monthly in one million one hundred thousand homes. Besides showing all the latest designs of McCall Patterns, each issue is brimful of sparkling short stories and helpful information for women.

Save Money and Keep in Style by subscribing for McCall's Magazine at once. Costs only 50 cents a year, including any one of the celebrated McCall Patterns free.

McCall Patterns Lead all others in style, fit, simplicity, economy and number sold. More dealers sell McCall Patterns than any other two makes combined. None higher than 15 cents. Buy from your dealer, or by mail from

McCALL'S MAGAZINE
236-246 W. 37th St., New York City

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED—Good housekeeper for family of six. State salary you will want. Address P. O. Box 202, Merkel Texas. tf

FOR SALE—Mebane cotton seed that made bale to the acre. Selected out of the first picking. S. F. Haynes, Merkel, Texas. tf

FOR RENT—80 acres of land in Jones county. 65 acres in cultivation, good house, small barn, well of water, close to school. See L. H. King. tf

KEROSENE—Order Familylite or Chrystallite oil of your grocer and you get the best. Merkel Garage. tf

REPAIR WORK—Automobiles, gasolene engines, motor cycles, bicycles or any machinery. All work at reasonable prices, and guaranteed. Merkel Garage. tf

GASOLINE—One auto owner who uses Texas Company oil and gas has traveled 4500 miles and never had a dirty spark plug. It's best and we meet any competition as to prices. Merkel Garage. tf

ZERO TEX—Made by Texas Co., best lubricating oil on market. Merkel Garage. tf

WEALTH IN HER WEEK-ENDS

How Widowed Society Woman Has Managed to Make Entertaining Pay Very Well.

Not long ago a charming society woman was thrown high and dry on the barren shores of reduced circumstances by the death of her husband who left her almost penniless. This suited her not at all, so being clever she thought and planned until she hit upon a money-making scheme very near affluence. This is how she "arrived."

A year ago she leased a charming place on Long Island, hired an efficient corps of servants, a fine chef, stocked the larder with the best in the market, and then sent out cards to her friends and acquaintances that she was prepared to entertain them for a day or two or three, at so much per entertainment.

The idea caught on at once. Within a few weeks her modest menage was so overrun that those who wished to spend the time from Saturday to Monday had to make their arrangements week in advance.

No one without the best of reference was admitted. Mrs. Widow managed affairs admirably. Everything was up to date, and yet informally formal, so to speak.

Her season lasted from October to June, since when she has been taking things easy, with plenty of money and the owner of an automobile, "hired at the beginning on a "shoestring."

She's now making arrangements for the coming season, and is already booked up to the holidays.

Facts

YOU LOSE MONEY

when you allow any of your stock or poultry to remain sick a day.

They give you less results in beef, pork, work, or eggs, when they are not in perfect health. Take a little interest in your own pocket book and doctor them up with

Black-Draught Stock and Poultry Medicine

It will pay you to do this. It has paid thousands of other successful farmers and stock and poultry raisers.

This famous remedy is not a food, but a genuine, scientific medicine prepared from medicinal herbs and roots, acting on the liver, kidneys, bowels and digestive organs. Sold by all druggists, price 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1. per can.

Write for valuable book: "Success Stock and Poultry." Sent free for a Address Black-Draught Stock Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.



COMING!

We take pleasure in announcing that

BUSTER BROWN AND HIS TIGE DOG

Will be here to entertain the parents and children of this town and vicinity.

Don't Fail To See Them

They're the real, live characters, the very ones you want to see and the children should not be allowed to miss them.

BUSTER BROWN AND TIGE

ARE COMING TO Merkel, Texas

They will hold a Grand Reception to which old and young are cordially invited.

Admission Absolutely FREE

Come and see these famous characters in real life.

Reception will be given under the direction of the Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company

Friday, April 5

DON'T FORGET THE DATE

Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

P. K. Cranford left Monday night for Fort Worth on a visit to the Fat Stock Show and on a business trip. Mr. Cranford has formerly been connected with the Farmers & Merchants National Bank but resigned his place the first of March to accept other work.

I will stand at the Exchange Stable in Merkel, what is known as the Geo. Richie Jack. Terms to insure, \$10.00. A. C. Boney tf

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS

Notice the label on your paper and see when it expires. For example, if the figures "11Aug12" appear on the wrapper, your paper will be out the eleventh of August 1912. Watch this and renew before the time is out so as to avoid missing a copy.

The family of Geo. Brown have discontinued their residence here and will make Roscoe their home in the future

Claud Sears was a visitor to the Fat Stock Show Wednesday night. He seemed a little uneasy about the reported health condition of the Panther city but said he did not want to disappoint the people so would go on.

J. T. Evans is a visitor in Fort Worth and Dallas this week attending to business and seeing the Stock Show

Everybody come see Buster Brown and Tige Friday April 5 at the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company.

BILIOUS SPELLS NO LONGER DANGEROUS

Dodson's Liver-Tone is a Safe Medicine to Take in the Place of too Powerful Calomel.

In the days when calomel was the only liver remedy, a torpid liver, or a spell of biliousness was a serious thing. Calomel is a powerful mineral substance that compels the liver, no matter how weak it is, to do its work, but does nothing to strengthen the liver and a large dose—sometimes the usual dose—may cause salivation. Dodson's Liver-Tone is a builder that strengthens the liver while making it do its work. It is entirely vegetable, pleasant to take, has no bad after effect and is perfectly suited for children as well as grown people. You don't have to be careful what you eat.

Rust & McCauley will sell you a bottle and guarantee it to give you perfect satisfaction. If it doesn't you can get your money back by asking for it.

Ruby the 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Cauthen suffered a broken arm as result of playing with her little friends at an old-fashioned "Flying Jenny."

The world famous Buster Brown and his dog Tige will be in Merkel Friday April 5 and will give a show at the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company. Everybody invited.

Ferrier Bros. have installed a new fountain in their confectionery establishment which gives their place an effect of "You are thirsty," and makes it look much nicer.

Miss Duncan Browning and mother Mrs. W. P. Browning spent Wednesday in Abilene the guests of friends and relatives.

Big bargains in all lines Friday and Saturday at Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Editor Hammil of the San Angelo Weekly Record paid the Mail a very pleasant call while on a visit to friends.

R. E. Bowles has been transacting business in Fort Worth and Dallas this week.

Miss Inice Moon is at home from Cisco this week but will return to her studies there soon.

Mrs. A. Rose is in Maryneal this week visiting her sister Mrs. R. L. Proctor.

When your horse or cow gets hungry call Whitley, Son & Co. Phone 252.

S. P. Miller of Dallas visited his sister Mrs. W. H. Dickson this week.

Be sure and see Buster Brown and Tige at Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co. Friday April 5th.

Obituary.

As God has ordained to come to pass in the life of mortal men it showed its unfailing power in calling one from our midst, that of Alfred George a true christian gentleman who had made his life a success in the sight of God.

Mr. George was born July 17, 1864 and departed from this life Friday March 15, 1912, at 11:40 p.m. taking with him the regret for loss of all who knew him. Mr. George leaves a wife and four married daughters all of which are true christians.

The tokens of friendship as displayed by his friends are greatly appreciated by all concerned for it is good to know that friends see fit to feel an interest after we are passed from this life.

Children who have worms are pale, cross, fretful, and sickly most of the time. To rid the little body of these parasites White's Cream Vermifuge is an approved remedy. When the worms have been driven out the child grows strong, healthy and robust. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

NEW SPRING STYLES IN DRESSES, SUITS AND MILLINERY

Fashion's first arrivals in Suits and Dresses and attractive styles in new Millinery for immediate wear are now being shown. You are invited to inspect these new arrivals—all at moderate prices.

Campbells
ONE PRICE THE LOWEST
Abilene's Favorite Shopping Place

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

Inkum Items.

March 18—We are having real spring-like days now and oats are growing fine but wheat does not seem to be doing so well.

Mr. Smallwood and family have moved away. We understand they purpose returning to California where they resided for several years.

There was a social gathering at Bob Williams' home Thursday night. Among the guests were Miss Tallie Perry of Dora and Miss Bryan, teacher of the Prairie View school near Dora.

There was a crowded house at the literary society Friday night and all seemed to have an enjoyable time.

Allen Campbell and Russell Johnson of Nubia were in this section Thursday evening.

Mrs. Mary Tuckett of Running Water came in Friday to visit a while.

Lem Dudley who has been on the plains several weeks returned home Friday.

Mrs. M. J. Dew and son John left for Sabanoo since our last writing.

Frank Whisenhunt and wife of Nubia visited the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Atkins the latter part of the week.

Mr. McCollum filled his regular appointment at Elm Grove Sunday and Sunday night.

Some of the young people of the Shep community attended the entertainment at Elm Grove Friday night but Observer failed to learn their names.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wilson made a trip to Merkel Saturday.

R. G. B. Fain of Caps with his son Horace were in this section Saturday on business.

Horace Wilson of View made a business trip to Inkum Friday.

An Observer.

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured

with local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free. F. J. Cheney & Co. props., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Butman Community.

March 18—Prof. Toalman lectured at Butman school house Saturday night, Sunday and Sunday night.

The 42 party at Mr. Matthews Monday night was greatly enjoyed by those who were present.

Miss Ethel Warlick is visiting her sister for a few days.

The society met at Butman school house Friday night.

The party at Pat Powers Saturday night was greatly enjoyed by a large crowd.

Messrs. Sam and Will Butman left Monday night for Fort Worth to attend the Stock Show.

Note—All articles for publication should be written on one side of paper only.—Ed.

Many Driven From Home.

Every year, in many parts of the country, thousands are driven from their homes by coughs and lung diseases. Friends and business are left behind for other climates, but this is costly and not always sure. A better way—the way of multitudes—is to use Dr. King's New Discovery and cure yourself at home. Stay right there with your friends and take this safe medicine. Throat and lung troubles find quick relief and health returns. Its help in coughs, colds, grip, croup, whooping-cough and sore lungs make it a positive blessing. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

Shiloh Clippings.

March 19—We have been having lovely weather for the last few days and everything has begun to take on the aspect of spring.

Some of the farmers have nice young gardens all ready up and looking fine. Grass is plentiful along the creeks and stock is beginning to pick up and look better.

Mr. and Mrs. Valree Rutledge are the proud parents of a fine baby boy. We wish to congratulate the proud father and mother. The boy is doing nicely but Mrs. Rutledge is suffering from blood poison in one of her feet caused from frost bite. There is some fear of amputation but we hope such wont be the case and that she will soon be up again.

Grandma Winter is still very low. Her son from Anson came down to see her Sunday. Terrel Winter and family also spent Sunday with his mother.

The Shiloh W. O. W. met at the school house last Friday night. They report a fine time. The lodge at this place is growing and they expect some good times in the near future.

Many of the Shiloh folks enjoyed the box supper at Noodle Friday night. Miss Albertine Winter of Shiloh winning the prize box as the prettiest girl present.

Some of the boys were in Merkel to see Cass Tarver the white hope. Tarver is all to the good.

We had Sunday school Sunday morning as usual after which Bro. Moore of Merkel preached us a fine sermon.

Then at three o'clock o'clock Bro. Roberts also of Merkel preached again. The pastor then preached at the night services.

Prof. Laney opened his singing school Monday with a large class all of which seem eager to learn, and after Mr. Laney gets through with us we expect some good singing at old Shiloh.

The Zeno literary society meets next Saturday night. Everyone invited.

Booster.

Trent Items.

March 19—J. C. Lec of Abilene was in town Friday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Leonard's baby has been very sick but is improving now.

Miss Alma Collins of Merkel spent last week with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Leamon.

Mrs. C. T. Beckham and daughter Miss Buena were shopping in Merkel Saturday.

Oscar the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bland has been sick with pneumonia.

Miss Evans visited home folks and friends at Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

Eddie Fergusson was in town Monday Mrs. Tom Neill who has been very sick with pneumonia is improving.

Miss Maxye Banner was visiting in Merkel Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Beckham gave the young people a singing Sunday night.

C. E. Sims was a Merkel visitor Saturday.

G. B. Tittle and wife of Merkel visited S. W. Browning and family Sunday.

James Bright and Albert Moore have purchased automobiles.

Mrs. H. L. Propst left Saturday night for a few days visit in Dallas.

L. A. Terry was transacting business in Merkel Monday.

John.

Salt Branch News.

March 19—Rev. Saffle of Merkel filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday.

A few of the young people from this place attended the singing at Noodle Sunday.

W. M. Hays and family were guests of W. E. Petty and family Sunday.

Will Higgins and family were visiting at Clint Allen's Sunday.

Nim Teaff and family from Tye were visiting at J. W. Teaff's Sunday.

Bro. Saffle and W. B. Beavers went to Comper Sunday.

The singing at Porter Pettys Friday night was enjoyed by all present.

Born to H. C. Floyd and wife Saturday night a girl.

Little Willie Teaff is sick this week.

W. B. Beavers and wife have a very sick baby.

Jim Ingram and wife of Mount Pleasant were visiting relatives here Sunday.

Nim Teaff and family from near Merkel were guests of J. W. Teaff and family Sunday.

Those visiting the school Friday afternoon were Mesdames Hays, Ada Higgins, Mary Risenger, Misses Gardie Higgins, Oma Taylor, Lillie and Lois Smith, Lyda Beavers, Messrs. Hays Beavers, Higgins, Burley Taylor, Houston Robertson, Emory Petty, Walter Buford, Carl Smith.

Wesley Hardy and family were visiting at W. B. Beavers Sunday.

Mesdames Hays, Taylor and Higgins were shopping in Merkel last week.

R. D. Allen entertained relatives from Caps Sunday. Blue-Eyed Girl.

Children who have worms are pale, cross, fretful, and sickly most of the time. To rid the little body of these parasites White's Cream Vermifuge is an approved remedy. When the worms have been driven out the child grows strong, healthy and robust. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Blair Echoes.

Mar. 19—Miss Jessie Williams visited homefolks at Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. C. E. Whitaker and Mrs. Suthphen of Merkel visited Blair Friday.

Miss Jessie Clark visited relatives at Merkel Friday.

Mrs. S. E. Adcock has been real sick but is much improved at this writing.

F. D. Addison the Santa Fe agent and James Mayfield paid Merkel a business call Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere visited relatives at Weaver Springs Sunday.

Miss Clarice Moore of Comper visited Miss Essie Doan Saturday and Sunday.

The party given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hannah Friday evening was very much enjoyed by those that attended.

N. Harrison served as a jurymen at Abilene last week.

Roland Goens returned last week from a visit to his old home at Buffalo Gap.

Miss Bertha Tucker has been on the sick list but is much improved we are glad to know.

Pat Addison now with Green's balasting crew at Tolon was at Blair Monday on business.

The W. O. W. met last week and organized a lodge here with 43 transferred members and applications.

Mrs. Reed and Gladys Demere of Weaver Springs were shopping at Blair Friday.

Quite a number attended singing at James Doan's Sunday night.

Mrs. W. M. Clark is visiting relatives in Merkel this week. We are so glad to see her up again after a severe spell of sickness.

Jerry King attended to business in Sweetwater Monday.

Quida.

AWAY GOES PIMPLES

BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA, DANDRUFF AND OTHER SKIN AFFECTIONS

When Zemo and Zemo Soap Are Used.

The Rust & McCauley Drug Store says, "We are so confident that ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP used together will rid the skin or scalp of infant or grown person of PIMPLES, BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA, DANDRUFF, INSECT BITES or any form of itching-irritated, disfiguring skin or scalp trouble, that we do not hesitate to recommend these clean refined remedies to every person who desires quick relief and a cure from any form of aggravated skin or scalp affection. Often-times one bottle and one cake of soap will cure a minor case of skin trouble.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP produce sure and swift results. You will not suffer another day after you commence to use them. You will feel like a new person.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP can be obtained from one leading druggist in every city or town in America and in Merkel by Rust & McCauley Drug Store.

WANTED—A RIDER AGENT

IN EACH TOWN and district to ride and exhibit a sample Latest Model "Ranger" bicycle furnished by us. Our agents everywhere are making money fast. Write for full particulars and special offer at once. NO MONEY REQUIRED until you receive and approve of your bicycle. We ship to anyone anywhere in the U. S. without a cent deposit in advance, prepay freight, and allow TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL during which time you may ride the bicycle and put it to any test you wish. If you are then not perfectly satisfied or do not wish to keep the bicycle ship it back to us at our expense and you will not be out one cent. FACTORY PRICES We furnish the highest grade bicycles it is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save \$10 to \$25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your bicycle. DO NOT BUY a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone at any price until you receive our catalogues and learn our unheard of factory prices and remarkable special offers to rider agents.

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue fully low prices we can make you this year. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are satisfied with \$10 profit above factory cost. BICYCLE DEALERS, you can sell our bicycles under your own name plate at double our prices. Orders filled the day received. SECOND HAND BICYCLES. We do not regularly handle second hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from \$2 to \$8 to \$10. Descriptive bargain lists mailed free.

COASTER-BRAKES, single and double wheels, imported roller chains and pedals, parts, repairs and equipment of all kinds at half the regular retail price.

\$10 Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof Self-healing Tires A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE ONLY \$4.80

The regular retail price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but to introduce us we will sell you a sample pair for \$4.80 (cash with order \$4.55). NO MORE TROUBLE FROM PUNCTURES NAILS, Tacks, or Glass will not let the air out. A hundred thousand pairs sold last year.

DESCRIPTION: Made in all sizes. It is lively and easy riding, very durable and lined inside with a special quality of rubber, which never becomes porous and which closes up small punctures without allowing the air to escape. We have hundreds of letters from satisfied customers stating that their tires have only been pumped up once or twice in a whole season. They weigh no more than an ordinary tire, the puncture-resisting qualities being given by several layers of thin, specially prepared fabric on the tread. The regular price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but for advertising purposes we are making a special factory price to the rider of only \$4.80 per pair. We ship C. O. D. on approval. You do not pay a cent until you have examined and found them strictly as represented.

We will allow a cash discount of 5 per cent (thereby making the price \$4.55 per pair) if you send FULL CASH WITH ORDER and enclose this advertisement. You run no risk in sending us an order as the tires may be returned at OUR expense if for any reason they are not satisfactory on examination. We are perfectly reliable and money sent to us is as safe as in a bank. If you order a pair of these tires, you will find that they will ride easier, run faster, wear better, last longer and look finer than any tire you have ever used or seen at any price. We know that you will be so well pleased that when you want a bicycle you will give us your order. We want you to send us a trial order at once, hence this remarkable tire offer.

IF YOU NEED TIRES don't buy any kind at any price until you send for a pair of Hedgethorn puncture-proof tires on approval and trial at the special introductory price quoted above; or write for our big Tire and Sundry Catalogue which describes and quotes all makes and DO NOT WAIT tires from anyone until you know the new and wonderful offers we are making. It only costs a postal to learn everything. Write it NOW.

J. L. MEAD CYCLE COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILL.

J. A. WOODARD

Livery, Feed and Sale Stable SOUTH SIDE

Solicits a share of your patronage during the New Year and promises courteous treatment. Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : TEXAS

The City Tailoring Co.

Have equipped their shop with new boards and many other necessities for cleaning, dying and pressing ladies garments.

Franklin & Renfro, Props

ALL REQUIREMENTS OF GOOD TASTE ARE MET

C. L. Cash The Tailor

YOU WANT JOB?

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your services, if you qualify—take the Draughon Training—and show ambition to rise. More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation. Banking, Typewriting, Penmanship, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Letter Writing, Business Law—FREE auxiliary branches. Good POSITIONS GUARANTEED under reasonable conditions. Bookkeeping. Bookkeepers all over the United States say that Draughon's New System of Bookkeeping saves them from 25 to 50 per cent in work and worry. Shorthand. Practically all U. S. official court reporters write the System of Shorthand Draughon Colleges teach. Why? Because they know it is the best. DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE Dallas, Houston, Austin, Galveston, San Antonio, Abilene, Amarillo, Texarkana, or El Paso, Texas.