

THE M... L...

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MERKEL, EXAS, IDA, DECEMBER 13, 1911

TENNESSEE MEN HERE ON A VISIT

Dr. J. E. Adkisson of Medina, Tenn., spent from Thursday of last week until Thursday of this week here the guest of his brother Dr. J. A. Adkisson. Dr. Adkisson was accompanied here by Messrs. Ernest Birdsong and L. K. Cole both of Medina who will spend some time here.

The visiting doctor resembles his brother here very much, there being only a pounds difference in their weight and if the doctor from Tennessee did not persist in wearing a beard that fits his face very peculiarly, together with a style of hat very seldom seen in these parts, he could easily pass for our home physician.

In an interview with the Doctor he stated that Medina was one of the healthiest spots of Tennessee, a city of about 40,000 inhabitants and is geographically situated on the western slope of a great divide that separates the bubbling waters of the Tennessee from the turbulent waters of the Mississippi. The agricultural possibilities are at the highest possible standard according to the doctor's statement, the county in which Medina is situated having received over 600 bales of cotton together with other farm products. He also stated that there was a strong move on foot to move the capitol from Memphis to Medina.

The mission of Dr. Adkisson in coming here other than to visit his brother was to accompany Mr. Birdsong, a prominent merchant of Medina, to this place in quest of better health, Mr. Birdsong having been very low for several months with malarial typhoid fever and at the end of the first week here Mr. Birdsong said he was feeling much better. He and his traveling companion, Mr. Cole, will be here about 60 days after which they will go to the coast for a stay before returning to Medina.

Public Dinner.

Saturday of this week the Presbyterian ladies will give a dinner in the West building, next door to the West Texas Hardware Co. Be sure and go.

Local Man Buys Ford Auto.

Harvey M. Warren, ice, coal and laundryman, is the proud owner of a Ford auto, one of the latest models, a 1913 make. The purchase was made last week through an Abilene firm.

The Collins House.

I have moved from the Southside Hotel to the McDuff Hotel just west of the Opera House and will be prepared to give better accommodations to my boarders and the public in general. Thanking you for your liberal patronage and asking a continuance of same, I am respectfully,
2-t. Mrs. J. A. Collins.

Births reported for this week, to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sears a boy, to Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Cox a boy.

BUSINESS HOUSES CHANGE LOCATION

During this week a deal was consummated in which G. E. Comegys purchased the building now occupied by J. L. Banner & Son from F. J. Ferrier, the deal being a cash consideration. Mr. Comegys purchased the building as a permanent home for his stock of gents furnishings and will soon place new improvements about the building, among which will be a new and modern awning and show windows.

The transaction coming as it does opens the way for three changes in location of business houses here. J. L. Banner & Son will move out at the end of the year and Mr. Comegys will move his stock of goods into the building while the building vacated by Mr. Comegys will be occupied by Frank and George Ferrier, proprietors of the Elite. They will make their new home one of the most attractive and up-to-date confectionery resorts in this part of the country.

MERKEL TEACHERS FOR BETTER WORK

That every Merkel teacher is a member of the Texas Teachers' Association speaks very well indeed of our school system. The membership of every teacher in our schools to the state body places Merkel in a class not surpassed in that respect by any town in Texas and many cannot boast of even a majority of their teacher being members of the State Association.

During the late meet at Fort Worth Merkel was represented by ten of the fourteen teachers employed here, another average equalled by very few Texas towns.

The local teachers are doing good work all the time in order that the system here may be kept at the highest possible standard. At the present there is a monthly meeting of the teachers with special instructions in departments of their work. This year work is being adapted exclusively to the subject of Child's Study.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Bradshaw left Wednesday evening for Los Angeles, Cal., where they expect to make their home in the future. Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw have made their home in Merkel for a number of years and they have a host of friends who regret that they are leaving.

John Daniel came in Tuesday morning from Rule where he has been for some time looking after a bunch of cattle he has on feed there, he expects to begin shipping them to market about the 15th of this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Armstrong came in Tuesday night from Plainview to visit Mrs. Armstrong sister Mrs. Jim Gilliam, after a short visit here Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong will go on to Italy where they will visit other relatives.

ABILENE MAN WINS IN MARATHON RACE

The second walking and running marathon contest held under direction of the Marathon Club of Abilene ended here Saturday afternoon. Joe Fennell being the winner of the walking race, making the distance in three hours and six minutes. Dr. Dodge of Abilene was the second one to cross the line two and one-half minutes after the winner had crossed the line. Sandefer was third with a time of 3:20, Daniels in 3:30 and Young in 3:40. Others finished but no further time was registered.

Irvin Moore of Abilene made the best time in the running race his time being two hours and fifteen minutes, but was disqualified owing to his being in training. Edwards crossed the line one minute later at the beginning of the last mile became blind and required assistance in crossing the line, he was also disqualified. Henry Hood was the first contestant not in training to cross the line without assistance, his time being 2:20 or at the rate of over seven and eight-tenths miles per hour. Moore's time was 8 miles per hour for the eighteen miles.

The following were in the walking race: H. S. Neely, A. M. Daniels, Dr. Dodge, Perry Young, Ross Williams, W. F. Whaley, J. F. Finley, E. Wagner, E. M. Overshiner, Jay Hendrix, P. V. Smith and Morgan Sanders.

The following prizes were offered by the stores of Abilene: Scorsch-Christian Jewellery Co., stick pin and tie clasp to match, Compton Drug Co., leather card case, Mingus Bros., nice necktie, Montgomery Drug Co., \$1 worth of merchandise, Misfit Clothing Co., necktie, Yager Shoe Co., one pair of shoes; Minter Dry Goods Co., nice \$3 jersey; W. C. Fisher pair cuff buttons; Metropolitan Cafe one nice dinner; Campbell Dry Goods Co., one pair gloves.

The reception given to the contestants in the walking and running races and others who came along to see the finish, was excellent in every detail, and all are loud in their praises of the great hospitality shown. Free supper was furnished to every one, at the Walker Cottage, and the intertainment was superb in every sense of the word.

Save \$2.75—Read This.

We can order the Fort Worth Star-Telegram for you for \$3.25 if you place your order with us before Saturday night of this week. After that date the price goes up to \$6.00. This is a daily paper and gives you the news every morning of what happened the day before. Published every day except Monday. Sent to you through the mail. With the Merkel Mail \$3.75. Come to the Mail office and let us take your order. Saturday is absolutely the last day this offer is open to you. Homer L. Easterwood, Circulation Mgr., With The Mail.

J. T. Toombs was in Abilene Tuesday on business.

DEBATE, MERKEL VERSUS ABILENE

Saturday evening Dec. 21 at the Thornton building at 7 p. m. there will be a debate between representatives of Merkel and Abilene's debaters.

The question for the occasion will be: Resolved, That the State of Texas should adopt the direct system of legislation known as the Initiative, Referendum and Recall. Merkel is to take the affirmative side of the question and will be represented by Frank Smith and C. Leslie McNeese. Abilene will take the negative side of the question and will be represented by W. C. Andrews and C. E. Adams.

The debate promises to be a very hot discussion as some of Abilene's best debaters are coming to defend their honors and we are represented by two of the best men who have been selected to look for Merkel's cause. No admission fee and everyone is cordially invited.

FIREMEN TO GIVE ANNUAL BANQUET

Monday night last was regular meeting night with the local fire fighters and it being the last meeting before the annual meeting and election of officers, a motion was placed before the house by which the department should on the night after their next meeting give a banquet to their officers and members and their families and to members of the city council. The motion carried.

Two committees have been appointed by the chief to look after getting a place for the banquet and to arrange a program for the affair which will be on the evening of Tuesday, January the 14th of next year.

From Los Angeles to New York.

Tuesday noon a man appeared upon the streets here leading a dog hitched to a small covered wagon. Both the man and the wagon presented a funny spectacle for the wagon was small and fixed out like the old time prairie schooner. The man was dirty and needed a shave.

The history of the man, dog and wagon was only eighty-two days old up to the time they reached here Tuesday, the party having been that long in coming from Los Angeles to Merkel and after a hurried meal here the man explained the why of his curious state of travel and proceeded on toward Abilene.

The traveler is on his way to New York with the hopes of making the trip in something like six months or at least under seven months, and if successful, will receive as a reward \$10,000 on reaching there and delivering a letter to the chief of police, the letter being from the chief of police of Los Angeles.

Some requirements of the contest are that they travel on foot and pull the wagon, a miniature Studebaker, a good load for both the man and dog in times of such muddy weather.

Jay Hendrix was very painful. Saturday afternoon he was struck by an automobile.

The accident happened here on the Abilene-Merkel road. Hendrix was a contestant in the walking Marathon from the neighboring city and was nearing the finish when the accident occurred. The car which was being driven by T. H. Vinson, it seems, was trying to pass Hendrix and upon drawing near the walker started to turn from the road, Hendrix turning at the same time and getting directly in the path of the car, which struck him before it could be stopped.

On being brought here he was attended by Dr. Adkisson and an examination showed that four ribs had been broken and at the time of the examination it was thought that the spine had been fractured. Later it developed that such was not the case. Late reports state that Hendrix is resting easy.

Miss Ruth Banks Dead.

On last Thursday evening Nov. 28th Miss Ruth Banks died at the home of her sister Mrs. W. A. Pope after an illness of two months, the last two weeks of which she was confined to her bed. For the past six years of her life she was an invalid, caused by falling and breaking her hip, suffering all the time of her patient through it 72 years of age.

Aunt Ruth as she was commonly called was a woman who knew her. Her duties were never for herself but for others. She expressed a desire to go and be at rest and lonely the loved one be without her. We look for her chair is vacant—forever. We know that our Father makes no mistake in his dealings as always bow submissionly to his will.

She leaves five sisters, brothers and other relatives to mourn her loss. She was a beautiful woman and a beautiful soul.

Peaceful be thy sleep,
Peaceful in thy grave,
Thou no more will-j
Thou no more on
Yet again we
When the day
And in heaven
Where no

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BUY XMAS PRESENTS

Full line of goods sufficient to supply your wants.

OR DOLLS		OR TOYS	
10c to 40c	Dressed or Kid Body	20c to \$2.50	China Tea Sets for the Girls, all prices
15c to \$1.00	Washable Dolls	\$1.00	Mechanical Toys for the Boys, all prices
50c to \$5.00	Character Doll	85c to \$4.00	Noise Boxes of all Kinds and Description

...serve a box of cigars for you, the kind your friend will like, special prices on box pipes for the pipe smoker, and a smoking set for his room. Our prices are extremely low. We must sell the immense stock of goods we have bought. Come and investigate.

THE ELITE CONFECTIONERY

OUR WEEKLY SERMONETTE

By Rev. R. A. Clements

Is the Christian Hope Reasonable?

"Be ready always to give every man that asketh you a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness and fear." 1 Peter, 3:15.

It is my humble opinion that the interrogatory theme of this discourse may be answered in the affirmative in perfect harmony with man's reason. The Christian Hope may be tersely stated, thus: There is an intelligent, personal God, from whom man has originated, and to whom he is going, and that he will forever be capable of enjoying and communing with God after death. As the belief in Deity is the basic thought to all religion, our first inquiry would naturally be, "There a God?" Concerning this point the bible says: "The Lord said in his heart, there is no God, therefore we are to hear from him, rather than from ourselves, at this relation, at this time, to the voice of God, what she has said, or to this greatest mystery, Is There a God? The meaning in this discussion is the use of the word 'cause' as the first cause which has produced all other beings. For the law may call it or him, but the law are what not.

...k to admit that if he had not had from some other cause, he would not have his own unaided existence. He ever made the design, it stands to reason that it is correct in its design that the world by itself is not God." But the right of God, it is to begin with the design on up from nature

...to call the sum of nature, and a part of our existence has we see to reason listed, true, if or him. ys ve st

NEW STOCK NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS

We are now open for business with a new stock consisting of a general line of Shelf Hardware, Queensware, Stoves and Harness. Our Buggies, Wagons and Implements are now shipped and will be received and displayed on our floors within the next few days. We will be pleased to have you call, our salesmen will take pleasure in showing you through. We assure you of courteous treatment at all times and that your TRADE WILL ALWAYS BE APPRECIATED.

OUR MOTTO: GOOD GOODS AT REASONABLE PRICES
CROWN HARDWARE CO.

himself. It is an axiom of reason that behind every effect there must be an adequate cause,

So we find man here as an effect. Has he caused himself or has something else caused him? Let us see if he has caused himself? If so, the first thing necessary in the case is for him to design himself, or in other words, he must decide within himself what he wishes to make and how he wishes to make it. So now let us imagine the design is in operation, and I ask you who is doing the designing? You answer, it is man. I ask what he is designing? You answer, that he is designing himself. So I tell you that cannot be true for a man cannot be designing or doing anything else, before he is made, or before he exists. And without further argument, the simplest of minds can see that this proposition involves a contradiction and absurdity, and reason can find no resting place for the soul of her foot. So the verdict of reason is that man never made himself, and since he has been made, naturally follows that something else made him.

...is also reasonable that what-

ever caused man could and did cause every thing beneath him. And we have found that all nature is beneath him in importance. After arriving at the point in the discussion that it is unmistakably true that man is made, he did not make himself, and it is necessary that something else made him. Therefore, our next inquiry is: What is the nature of the thing that made him?

Is this being or thing that has caused man an eternal cause or has it also been caused? For if it is not eternal it must have been caused, for it could not have caused itself for we have found in our investigation of man that, that involved an absurdity. Let us see if it is not a fact that there is something that never did begin to be, but has always been. If you can run back down the ages in your imagination to a time when there was not any thing, it would naturally follow that not anything could ever have been, for there never would have been anything to have caused anything else, and nothing would have forever have been.

And the very fact that there is something, is positive proof that there has always been something. And we find that the bible says concerning God that "From everlasting to everlasting thou art God." And reason says that from everlasting to everlasting there is something.

It stands to reason that this something that has always been, is the cause of all things else and man among the rest. From hence it follows that the first cause, let it be God or what not, is an eternal cause.

The next essential element, or we may now say "attribute" in the Creator is personality. If reason can decide that there is an eternal first cause and that it is a personality, it begins to become a ground of hope to him, for if the Creator is a person, then the christian can reasonably hope that he would in some way at some time reveal himself to man. So we inquire in the next place, "Is the Creator a personal Creator?" What we mean by a "Personal Creator" is intelligence, self consciousness and volition. It may be that there is more than this in all per-

sonalties, still I do not think that it can be disputed that where these are found that there can be anything less than "personality."

It is a universally accepted philosophical axiom, that to every effect there must be an adequate cause. We find man on the earth the crowning work of creation, He possesses intelligence, self consciousness and volition. So reason feels sure that the being that created this intelligent, self-conscious, free agent could not create this character of being unless he himself was at least equal with him. As instance no man or any other being has ever been able to produce anything equal with the producer.

And we say reverently that God himself could not make another God. If he did he would no longer be God. And, whatever he may be, one thing is certain to reason, that he cannot be less than an intelligent, self-conscious first and eternal cause, and, therefore, is worthy of being called God.

We see furthermore that he has imparted to man other beautiful characteristics. We ask where did he get these? Are they not the expression of his own being? Could he impart them when he himself did not possess them? We find love, intelligence, mercy, tenderness and many other beautiful characteristics in man. Can we believe for a moment that the great Being who is the author of this masterpiece in creation can possess attributes meaner than the thing that he has made? Reason answers "No." From hence it appears that there is an eternal, intelligent, self-conscious being possessing love, mercy, etc., who is the Creator of all things else, among which is man.

All this being true, cannot the christian hope that he would at some time or in some way reveal himself to man, who is his own handiwork and from the very nature of the case in his own likeness, for like begets like. Reason answers, "Yes, we might expect such a being as this to make himself known to such a being as man," for the very nature of the two beings demand mutual intercourse between them.

Our next inquiry is, is Jesus Christ a revelation from God to man or is he a myth and the character and teaching of him invented by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

We have just opened up the nicest line of cut glass ever shown in Merkel. West Texas Hardware Co.

Vanity purses at Rust & McCauley Drug Co.