

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 25—NO. 12

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1913

8 PAGES

COUNTRY IS SOAKED

The Rain Saturday Was the Best Here in a Number of Years.

PRECIPITATION NEAR 4 INCHES

Rain is General Over West Texas, Heaviest in This Section. Insures A Big Feed Crop.

Readers, as we have said heretofore all rains look good to us but the last one is always best and beyond a shadow of a doubt the last one was the best and we back our judgment by aid of our rain gauge and the public.

The rain started falling at 3:25 Saturday afternoon and continued until near four o'clock Sunday morning, and at practically every moment of that time there was a gentle downpour if not a deluge. From the time the precipitation started to midnight our gauge registered three and a quarter inches and at that time there were no indications of it ever stopping and with the additional fall between then and day, the regular bunch of rain gauge fans who swarm about our place after a rain, were pleased to see that the mark had climbed to a bit above 3.97 inches, the heaviest this country has had in years. Some trouble was experienced by the traveling public after the rain, on account of high waters, which in many places, washed small bridges away and damaged the large ones to the extent of making them dangerous for a time. Bitter creek west of town was a roaring competitor of the great Mississippi and was reported to be over a mile wide in places.

Late Saturday evening some hail fell here but it being small and only a light amount falling no damage was done to the immediate Merkel country, west of Merkel some heavier hail was reported.

The rain coming at the time it did and it falling over a period of over 12 hours has given the entire country the best season it has had in a long time, the condition of the early feed crops being very good after the rain of last month will now assume an aspect of insurance that our grain crop will be the best we could ask for. The small grain such as wheat and oats were well advanced even before rain and the other feed stuff kaffir, maize and corn makes the prospects all the more bright. While the corn acreage here is smaller than that of the other feed stuff the condition of what is planted shows that this will be the year for corn in our section of the state.

The matter of our cotton crop is yet to be determined, for some have not yet planted, some some has been planted while there can be found many fields where a good stand of cotton has already been secured.

Notice Dental Patrons.

My office will be closed from Friday evening, May 9 to Friday evening, May 16, on account of some business interests and to attend the Texas State Dental Association which meets in Temple, May 15, 16 and 17.

Dr. S. L. Davis.

THE COURT HOUSE PROPOSITION

In our last issue there appeared an article as to what we thought about the court house question and what bearing it had on the Merkel people if moved away, and in the article was a statement in regard to a connection with the Santa Fe railroad. To this article Mr. Holliday of Buffalo Gap stated in his talk here Saturday that it looked like a joke to him. Mr. Holliday further stated that if Buffalo Gap should win the court house the Santa Fe would see the need of a tap line to this place and accordingly, to his opinion, Merkel would soon be in receipt of a railroad to Buffalo Gap, if not be in a direct line for some other road that might build to some other place and asked the Merkel people to use that as one reason of why they should vote for the court house to go to Buffalo Gap with the positive assurance that if they did so vote that it would be only a matter of time until the Santa Fe would see the need of a connection with Merkel and a new railroad would be forthcoming.

As for how good Merkel's chances are for getting a tap line from the Santa Fe is shown by a letter to one of our business men in which President E. P. Ripley of the Santa Fe system states that the company will not build a tap into Merkel, and neither would he operate trains over it if the people of Merkel should build the line. In substance of his words, if railroad taps were selling for 15 cents a dozen he would not buy one from here tapping the Santa Fe road.

This is what Mr. Ripley thinks and says of the matter but Mr. Holliday in reference to our article of last week seemed to think it all a joke and that no one knew better than he what the Santa Fe would do if the court house should go to Buffalo Gap and appealed to the voters from here to cast their votes accordingly. From his system of politics he would not want to tax the people of the country for a railroad and he admits that he could not build a railroad himself but he could see far enough into the future to know what the Santa Fe railroad is going to do. Perhaps he, together with other railroad builders on paper who are well known in these parts, will construct the line, fix it all up nice and then send Mr. Ripley a bill of costs for the construction and we, the people who will be served, will have the satisfaction of seeing the whole thing pigeonholed.

If a person has a good reason for voting for Buffalo Gap that is all right, but no Merkel voter should allow the railroad proposition any consideration whatever.

SCHOOLS OF TRENT CLOSED MONDAY

The public schools of Trent closed one of their best years yet with the commencement exercises at the Methodist church of Trent.

The exercises opened with a welcome song by the students of the school, then opened the commencement with an essay on labor by the class salutatorian, Miss Amanda Payne, following was a musical selection after which Miss Eva Terry gave a reading on Universal Peace. Perhaps the most pleasing part of the graduation exercises came when Miss Mae Robertson gave her prophecy of her class mates as they would be seen in 1920, much to the amusement of the audience, her foresight ended where the frog jumped into the pond and awakened her from a deep sleep. The valedictory for the class was rendered by Wilburn McRee, his topic being on foreign immigration and was entitled The Stranger Within Our Gates.

After some musical selections Prof. Sikes of the Trent schools introduced Prof. R. L. Krigbaum superintendent of the Merkel schools, as the man who would deliver their literary address, the subject of Prof. Krigbaum's address was Diligence, and was well suited to the services at which it was rendered.

Following the literary address Prof. Sikes awarded the diplomas to the four graduates and expressed a hope that none of them would leave off the school work where they then were but that they would carry their work

to college and on through the universities.

This ended the regular commencement exercises and in conclusion the exercises of the grammar school department was taken up. The song of Down upon the Swanee River as was rendered by 10 little girls in expression only, each moving sympathetically to the slow and sad words of the song as were sung by their instructor, this together with a recitation by Miss Dorris Hamner were perhaps the most interesting parts of the grammar school program. The exercises for the evening ended with a song of Good-by.

The program was well rendered and the church was completely filled with friends and relatives of the school children, an estimated crowd of 500 people were in attendance.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—White Wyandottes. My birds have proven their quality by winning where ever shown, at Abilene they made a clean sweep; winning \$35 worth of prizes with 6 birds. Will sell you eggs from these birds at \$2.00 per setting of 15. H. M. Rose. tf

WANTED—Man with family to do farm work. Write or phone Sam Butman, Nubia, Texas. 1113

FOR SALE—20x40 store house. Will sell cheap. H. M. Warren.

FOR SALE—Good pair of horse mules, 5 years old, 15½ hands high, for cash or good note. Mrs. Oscar Rohde. Apply at Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas. tf

FOR SALE—Good work horse. See Crown Hardware Co., Merkel, Tex. It

Ladies, see our new goods in this week's arrivals. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

MERKEL SCHOOLS WILL CLOSE SOON

The first formal services connected with the closing of the Merkel public schools at this place will take place Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at the Methodist church, when Rev. R. A. Clemente will preach the baccalaureate sermon.

On Wednesday evening of next week the play "The Perils of a Great City" will be given at the opera house by the members of the senior class. The play is founded on the topics relating to perils of the present times that present themselves to the inmates of the great cities, and the ones taking part in the play are giving it much attention and it promises to be a good success.

On Thursday evening the final exercises for the school will be held at the Opera House and is to be the commencement program in proper. Mr. E. B. Bynum of Abilene has been elected to deliver the literary address for this special occasion.

On Tuesday night, May 13th the music classes of Miss Eva Williams will give their annual recital at the Opera House. The programs are being posted in the show windows and a glance at same will show that the arrangement is well gotten up and the numbers good.

Closing Notice.

The leading business houses of Merkel will close at 6:30 each day except Saturdays until September 1st.—Adv.

5000 fat hens wanted at the Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

COURT HOUSE TALKS

Hon. J. M. Wagstaff Met T. B. Holliday Here Last Saturday.

TALKS GO ON DURING RAIN

Mr. Wagstaff Defended Abilene While His Opponent Mr. Holliday Spoke in Behalf of Buffalo Gap.

Hon. J. M. Wagstaff of Abilene and T. B. Holliday of Buffalo Gap ended a series of debates here Saturday afternoon on the question of whether the court house should remain where it is or be moved to Buffalo Gap which is nearer the geographical center of the county than Abilene is.

Before coming here the two debaters met Ovalo, Tuscola, and at other places in the southern part of the county and at Nubia, the talks made here and at Nubia were along the same lines. At Nubia Mr. Wagstaff opened the discussion with a 30-minute talk and after giving his opponent the same time made a 10-minute reply.

The basis of each speaker's talk was centered upon the question of whether the majority of the people of Taylor county could better be served from Abilene or Buffalo Gap, and from a map exhibited by Mr. Wagstaff he showed that the center of population was 7 miles from the present court house site while it is 7½ miles from a probable same point in Buffalo Gap.

While the contention of Mr. Holliday was that in using the former Buffalo Gap county court house site which is one and one third miles from Buffalo Gap, the court house could be brought nearer to the center of population than Abilene could possibly offer. While speaking here he stated that the problem of having a railroad from Buffalo Gap to Merkel was very likely in case that Buffalo Gap should get the court house and that he was sure the Santa Fe Ry. would in a short time see the need of a line from here to the county seat and consequently Merkel would have another railroad, to this and the above statement Mr. Wagstaff replied that for Buffalo Gap to put the court house one and one third miles from the depot at their town in order to place it nearer the center of population than it now is would be a source of great inconvenience to all people going there by rail, for it would necessitate their traveling over a mile by way of a bus line which would then incur an extra cost to each person attending court and in the railroad matter he compared Mr. Holliday to Morris R. Locke of Abilene and Wm. Butts formerly of this place both builders of railroads on paper but had never accomplished a thing in reality.

The question of Abilene having stolen the court house from Buffalo Gap in the election of 1883 was discussed at length in the opening of the campaign but the talks here and at Nubia were not marked with this contention very much.

Mr. Holliday in behalf of Buffalo Gap asserted that the removal of the county seat from

THE FARMERS STATE BANK

J. S. SWANN, President
 J. C. MOORE, Vice-President
 R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier
 B. C. MOORE, Assistant Cashier

DO YOUR BANKING BUSINESS WITH THIS BANK FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS

A Guaranty Fund Bank
 Able and Willing to Care for its Customers' Wants
 You are Always Welcome in Our Bank

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The Merkel Mail

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 THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
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 Texas, as Second-class Mail Matter.

Buffalo Gap to Abilene by an election in 1883 was beyond a doubt a premeditated affair and that there was fraud practiced in the holding of the election in the Abilene box, he showed a letter or copy of a letter from R. A. Miller formerly of this place but now of Lindale, Texas in which appeared the statement that Mr. Miller was a judge in the election and was sure beyond a doubt that fraud was practiced in the election box at Abilene.

In reply to these statements Mr. Wagstaff said he was not contradicting that there might have been illegal votes cast in the election and stated that more than likely there were, and in the talk at Nubia Mr. Lyons of Buffalo Gap admitted that he was an officer in helping hold the election at that place and to his certain knowledge six men who lived in Runnels county voted there.

Mr. Wagstaff further stated that even if there were illegal votes cast in the election of 1883 that the removal of the court house was legal as was shown from the records of the county, in that at the time of said election Abilene had over 500 legal voters in the town, and that said 500 voters were more than two thirds of the voters of Taylor county, it only being necessary for Abilene to cast 478 at that time in order to have a two-thirds majority and in reply to the letter or copy shown by Mr. Holliday in which appeared the statement that R. A. Miller was a judge in the election of 1883 at Abilene, Mr. Wagstaff showed from the records of the county election at that time that R. A. Miller was in no way connected with the holding of the election at Abilene and consequently could not know of the election being fraudulent. Another statement was shown by Mr. Holliday in regard to an election officer at Abilene to which Mr. Wagstaff showed from the records was not a judge in the election and did not assist in the holding of the election at Abilene.

At Nubia about 25 voters heard the speakers discuss the question and the number who heard them speak here was something like 150 voters with an attendance of over 200 listeners. Mr. Holliday was to speak at Trent Saturday night but canceled the date on account of the rain.

Mrs. Emma Hawkins of Dallas who stopped off here last week while on her way home from Phoenix, Ariz., left for her home Wednesday morning. While here Mrs. Hawkins visited the family of Dr. M. Armstrong and while in Phoenix was the guest of her son Hon. A. S. Hawkins formerly of this country.

Bill the solicitor will call at your door every morning for your grocery wants. Treat him good by giving him a nice order. Whitley, Son & Company.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Woodroof, Miss Nina Wright and Luther Woodroof left here Wednesday morning for Waxahachie. The trip will be made through the country in Mr. Woodroof's auto.

Frank L. Turner, tinner and plumber, phone No. 249, am ready to do your work. Prices reasonable and dont forget to phone your wants.

Dr. S. L. Davis will leave Friday night for east Texas to look after some business interests and to attend the State Dental Association which meets in Temple.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

I am now representing the Franco-American Hygenic toilet goods. Same as Mrs. A. L. Jobe sold. Will appreciate your orders. Winnie Sandlin. 2t

Come to the Plain Price Nickel Store and see the nice enameled ware plates, cups and saucers and glassware just as cheap as you can find anywhere. Everything cheap during Trade Week and you get Merkel Trade Coupons with every 50c cash purchase.

Mayor W. T. Potter, Judge C. D. Mims, W. A. Cozart, H. M. Rainbolt, R. E. Counts, George Cauthen and Uncle John Toombs were in Abilene Monday looking after business matters.

Mrs. B. M. Durett of Memphis visited Mrs. R. A. McClain Tuesday and Wednesday, going from here to Fort Worth to visit other friends before returning to her home.

Mayor Potter, Judge C. D. Mims, J. S. Bond, H. T. Merritt, Jno. G. Jackson, Jno. T. Morgan and C. C. Campbell were in Abilene Wednesday attending county court.

Mrs. L. C. Beeson left Wednesday for Putnam for a short stay, after which she will go on to Tio-go to join her husband Dr. Beeson who has lately moved there from Noodle.

R. A. Martin was in Abilene on business Wednesday.

Mrs. Georgia Easterwood returned to Midland last week, her mother Mrs. A. J. Coggin having almost fully recovered from the attack that caused Mrs. Easterwood to be called here.

Baseball Saturday.

Saturday evening at 2:30 p. m. for the last time during the season the Merkel high school will play baseball under supervision of the school. Two teams will be selected from the players of the high school, the teams will be evenly matched so as to make the game as close as possible.

NOODLE SCHOOLS END A GOOD TERM

The public schools of Noodle ended one of its most prosperous years of work last week and in conclusion gave a play "The Millers Daughter" as an entertainment for the many patrons of the school.

The arrangement of the school house not being conveniently fixed so as to permit them putting the play on indoors, an open air attraction was made of it. A stage was erected and seats fixed for some four or five hundred visitors.

During the evening a very strong wind, accompanied by the usual amount of dust for this country started blowing and a result made it very difficult for the ones connected with the play to render their individual parts to the best advantage. Notwithstanding this handicap the players acquitted themselves well, and those of the audience who were fortunate enough to be seated near the stage where they could hear the words of the speakers as delivered against an unusually strong wind were well pleased with the performance.

Deserter Arrested.

Last Friday afternoon Deputy Sheriff Jim Saffle of Trent arrested Pete Thixton at the home of relatives in Trent. The charge on which Thixton was arrested is desertion from the U.S. Army, he being arrested on the same charge some months ago by Deputy Sheriff R. C. Young formerly of this place but escaped his captor while enroute through the southern part of the state.

When arrested Thixton was asleep but on awakening sat up in bed and shook hands with Deputy Saffle, knowing fully what the mission of the old time friend was. Deputy Saffle having played baseball with Thixton years ago and as many old timers will know was not near so fleet as was his charge, so when making the arrest he said, Pete I've played ball with you and know you can outrun me, so I am not going to take any chances with you, and he didn't. Thixton was taken to Abilene Saturday for safe keeping.

We are the only firm in Merkel that handles northern meal and flour, White Crust flour and German Mill flour, every sack guaranteed to give satisfaction. We've got the goods and want your trade. Hamblet & Rogers.

J. T. WARREN, President

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

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 November
 1904

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We invite new accounts along lines of mutual interest. We want your business because it will be worth something to us. In return we offer you the services of a strong and old established Bank whose officers and directors are familiar with the needs of its patrons.

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 Ed S. Hughes Henry James Ben T. Merritt
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THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK OF MERKEL
Capital and Surplus :: \$64,000.00

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C. L. Barker, Vice-President

J. E. Faucett, Cashier

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DENTIST

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Complete Abstract of all Titles in Taylor county, including all City property.

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CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE, Proprietors

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

When hungry phone 8-3.

Seymour's best flour, it is best. Whitley, Son & Co.

Joe Bettles of Abilene was on the streets here Saturday shaking hands with friends.

If you want Bill Kendrick or fresh groceries phone 252. Whitley, Son & Co.

Mrs. J. G. Jackson and children were in Nugent last week visiting her mother Mrs. Roberts.

Mrs. Rufus Grisecomb of Hamlin is here visiting her father J. T. Howard and other relatives.

Mrs. Lynch Reynolds of Kilgore who has been here visiting her sister Mrs. H. P. Wilkins returned to her home Tuesday.

You will get your moneys worth in dependable dry goods when you trade with Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Mrs. T. E. Collins was in Trent Monday evening visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Leamon and attending the closing exercises of the Trent schools.

The Plain Price Store has tangle-foot and fly poison. Get after the flies and don't let them get after you. Come and get tangle-foot and poison and keep them out.

Mrs. A. D. Swann of Bell county who has been here visiting the family of G. W. Harrell left for Abilene Monday where she will visit before returning to her home.

Frank L. Turner, tinner and plumber phone No. 249. Ready to do your work, prices reasonable. Dont forget to phone me your wants.

Misses Guinn Barksdale and Bobbie Weaver of Abilene who have been visiting friends in the Blair community returned to their home Tuesday.

DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder

The finest in the world

When ordering ask for Dr. Price's by name, else the grocer may forget the kind you are accustomed to.

Those attending the commencement exercises of the Trent school from here Monday evening were Misses Louise and Stella Schmid and Maud Martin, Messrs Ottis Barnett and Forest Gaither. Others going were Luther Grimes, John West, W. L. Diltz, Jr., Robert Haynes,

Homer Rainbolt and Taylor Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Cooper of Lockney stopped off here last week to visit Mrs. O. M. Holland. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper were on their way home from San Antonio.

Instant Relief from Eczema

You can stop that awful itch from eczema and other skin troubles in two seconds.

Seems too good to be true—but it is true, and we vouch for it. Just a few drops of the simple, cooling wash, the D.D.D. Prescription for eczema, and the itch stops instantly. We give you enough to prove it for 50 cents.

Now, if you have tried a great many cures for eczema and have been disap-

pointed, do not make the mistake of refusing to try this soothing wash. All other druggists keep this D.D.D. Prescription—go to them if you can't come to us—but if you come to our store we will give you the first dollar bottle on our positive no pay guarantee, that D.D.D. will stop the itch at once.

D.D.D. Soap keeps the pores healthy; ask us about it.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

JOHN R. DANIEL

Livery, Feed and Sale Stable
SOUTH SIDE

Automobile Service in Connection

Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

CHICKENS WANTED

I will pay 20 cents per pound for broilers and 15 cents per pound for fryers. All other farm poultry remains about the same in price. Bring me your chickens, turkeys, ducks and eggs. Also want your beeswax and tinfoil. Trade coupons with every \$1 worth purchased

W. P. DUCKETT Produce Dealer with Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Vegetables at Whitley, Son & Company.

T. L. Stevens of Trent was in the city Monday on his way to Abilene.

For your hardware and shelf goods, hides and feed go to Jno. B. Bell & Sons.

Mrs. T. P. Williams of Abilene was here last week visiting her sister Mrs. W. S. Smelser.

Groene's Studio opens at 8 o'clock a. m., and closes at 5:30 p. m.

J. H. Thornton of Abilene was here Monday looking after business matters.

Seymour's best flour, best in town or your money back. Whitley, Son & Co.

Messrs Fred and Jim Guitar were in Abilene Sunday visiting relatives.

We have some surprising values in mens blue serge suits. Just arrived this week. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Mrs. R. E. McCamet who has been here visiting her brother W. S. Smelser left Monday morning for her home.

We want your chickens and will pay the highest market price for same. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

R. E. McDonald and J. E. Garber both of Keerville were here last week visiting the family of Thos. Smith.

See us for a new suit, prices ten to twenty dollars, extra values. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Editor Jno. G. Jackson spent several days lately in northeast Texas looking after business matters.

Don't forget that Whitley, Son & Company are giving Merkel Trade Coupons for next trade week. Get them now.

Frank L. Turner, tinner and plumber phone No. 249. Ready to do your work, prices reasonable. Dont forget to phone me your wants.

Mrs. Chas. Fryar returned to her home in Abilene Monday after spending a few days here with her parents Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

The Plain Price Store gives Merkel Trade Coupons with each 50c cash purchase. Call and see what we have and get what you want.

Mrs. W. H. Free returned to her home in Abilene Monday after spending a day here with Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Ussery.

2 - Big Demonstration Days - 2

Friday and Saturday, May 9 and 10

Come to our store these two days, we will serve Brown Cracker and Candy Company's **CAKES** and **CRACKERS** and Cooper's Best **COFFEE**. We will also have Ice Tea made from Tetley's Celebrated Tea.

Saturday the 10th, we will have Mr. Weiman with the H. J. Heinz Co. with us and he will show you the merits of the high-grade Heinz 57 Varieties. This will be **SOMETHING DIFFERENT** to anything ever pulled off in Merkel. :: Cap. Hillburn will be here both days to show you why **Cooper's Best Coffee is the Best**. :: Mr. Jett will be here too. He knows that Brown's Crackers and Cakes are the best obtainable and wants to tell **YOU** why they are the **Best**.

We will try to have a Souvenir for each lady and child visiting our store these two days. We will also give away 10 valuable premiums during these days---Something good to eat. Miss Elma Sheppard will help us serve you these edibles and you know you will be treated courteously, so we will look for you, do not disappoint us. Bring the children with you.

RING 8-0 AND ASK JIM ABOUT IT

THE CASH GROCERY



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Miss Pauline Johnson honored the class of '13' at her home Wednesday with a handsomely appointed dinner served at highnoon. Covers were laid for Misses Isla McDonald, Murtice Saffle, the hostess, Messrs H. C. Burroughs, Jr., Troy Eiland, Simpson Christopher and Ira Shaffer. The afternoon was spent in kodaking. Many pleasant thoughts will ever live in the memories of this class and the day spent with Pauline.

Prof. Krigbaum and Miss E. Love Hawkins chaperoned a crowd of school lads and lassies to the commencement exercises at the Noodle school Friday evening. A joyous crowd left town by the motor power of a pair of mules. At Hebron a stop was made for the spreading of a tempting supper. The Noodle school's program was splendid. The principal being Miss Bessie Medlen a former Merkel high school teacher. The sand man met the crowd and held them fast—for we hear they were over three hours coming home—all report a glorious time.

Tuesday afternoon Mrs. W. A. Scott's class of Philathea girls were entertained by Miss Eva Gaddy, after the devotional exercises a short business meeting was held and a dinner was planned for the 25th of this month. An ice salad, crackers and pickles were served to about fifteen guests.

On Friday evening the Merkel high school seniors honored their teachers, the juniors and a few special friends at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burroughs. The senior colors were skillfully used in the decoration of this lovely home. Vocal and instrumental music featured in the pleasure of all. Poems and conundrums on the seniors and juniors, names came in for their share of attention. The closing days of school often reminds us of fishing. So the idea of "fishing" for a partner before going to the dining room was

suggestive of future pleasures. Sherrbert and cakes were served to about forty guests.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending May 10, 1913.

- Embrey, Earl
 - Girdner, Dr. W. F.
 - Hand, J. L.
 - Jones, Mrs. Marie
 - Strongn, Mrs. M. J.
- If not called for will be sent to dead letter office May 24, 1913.
H. W. Derstine, P.M.



All Bound Round with a Telephone Line

In a Bell connected community it's not "how far is it to neighbor Perkins?" But "Is neighbor Perkins' ring three?" The ring of a bell and you have him.

In marketing, in matters of farm routine, in emergencies, the telephone adds to the farmer's ease and profit.

Are you connected with the Bell system?

Ask our nearest Manager for information or write to

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Ladies garments a specialty
Suits to Order from **\$15.00** up.
Trousers to Order from **\$5.00** up.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

THE CITY TAILOR SHOP

Renovating and Alteration work done to your **SATISFACTION**.
Ladies work a specialty
L. J. RENFRO, Proprietor.

Epworth League Program.

- Subject, Jesus' Doctrine of His Own Person.
- Leader, Dr. O. F. McMaster.
- Song.
- Prayer.
- Song.
- Responsive reading, 36 Psalm.
- Prayer.
- Hymn.
- Scripture lesson.
- Matt. 9:6—Homer Laney.
- Matt. 22:41-45—Miss Mary Jennings.
- John 5:17-23—Olly Shaffer.
- John 10:30-33—Miss Jackie Jennings.
- John 12:45—Miss Sallie Toombs.
- John 14:9—Adam Sibley.
- The meaning of the Topic—H. C. Williams.
- Prayer.
- Reading—Miss Eva Walters.
- Talk, the central thought—Miss Maud Jinkens.
- The leper cleansed—Steve Duckett.
- Christ's Oneness with God—Robert Hicks.
- Song.
- Mission study class—Frank Smith.
- Offering. Announcements. Benediction.

It Pays to Look Prosperous

And to help your friend win the Free Piano will create a look of prosperity for the contestant. Our prices are right. See us and get votes.

West Texas Hardware Company

THE MERKEL GARAGE

Repair work promptly done and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

TEXAS COMPANY'S OILS AND GAS.

If you need anything in our business give us a call.

S. P. FOSTER : PROPRIETOR

Money to Lend.

Plenty of money to lend on farm and ranch land. Will inspect your land in 2 days notice. Russell & Young, Abilene, Texas.

Plenty of kaffir corn and chops at G. M. Sharp's.

Money! Money!

Plenty of 8 per cent money on 5 and 10 years time with the option of paying or not. Get in your application in time. V. E. Muir, Abilene, Texas.

Best Bran in white sacks at G. M. Sharp's.

THE NEW BIG VARIETY STORE

OPEN FOR BUSINESS SATURDAY MAY THE TENTH

Everything new and up-to-date and bought for cash at a discount and will be sold for cash at a price that will be pleasing to your pocket book. Watch our show windows and you will see a few of

The Many Bargains We Are Offering

They are too many to mention, but you can get anything you need. Come around and see and then believe, at Scheidler's old stand.

THE MERKEL VARIETY STORE

MERKEL, TEXAS

DOUGLASS & SEARS

Opposite Postoffice



**"Yes, our new wagon's a Studebaker
—the only kind we KNOW"**

"The Studebaker idea has been in our family for sixty years. We have never thought of buying any other kind of a wagon."

"It's true, we're continually being offered other wagons costing a little less, with lots of promises as to what they will do. But we know in our family what a Studebaker will do. A few dollars difference in price doesn't mean much. It's the service a wagon gives that we consider most."

"Long service for a fair price means more every time than short service for a few dollars less."

"That's why we stick to Studebaker—and 'Stick to Studebaker' is a pretty good motto for a man who uses wagons."

"Studebaker wagons are built of good stuff. They're made right by people who've had years and years of experience in making them right—people who are trusted the world over."

"Studebaker wagons last, because they're made to last."
"Look out for the dealer who tells you his wagon is just as good as a Studebaker. That's my advice after a good deal of experience—and the experience of all of my people. You get a Studebaker and you've got a safe investment."

See our Dealer or write us.

STUDEBAKER South Bend, Ind.
NEW YORK CHICAGO DALLAS KANSAS CITY DENVER
MINNEAPOLIS SALT LAKE CITY SAN FRANCISCO PORTLAND, ORE.

Inkum Items.

May 5—The rain in this section Saturday night amounted to 3½ inches, the heaviest we have had had at this season in years.

Messrs Cunningham and Stevenson of Abilene were here Saturday on business.

Key Wilson made a business trip to

Buffalo Gap last week.

Jeff Self of Shep was in Inkum last Thursday.

Messrs Darby and Darby of Abilene were delivering buggies for the Burlington Buggy Co., in this section this week.

Richard Dalby, Cliff Perry and Ernest Shaw are among those sporting new buggies.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE

Trent Items.

May 5—The biggest rain that has visited this country in years fell Saturday evening, considerable hail accompanying it. The flood stage for the town was perhaps surpassed in that at places in the town the water was running over the railroad at a depth from four to twelve inches. The amusing part of the rain was that one of our merchants, the one who stands the least chance of drowning in high water, rolled up his pants and tied sacks around his feet to save his shoes, in this condition he was able to navigate and arrived at his home after having waded water knee deep and over.

One of our good citizens C. E. Johnson is going to move to Headley this week, we regret very much to lose this good man from our midst. We understand he is going to take charge of a telephone exchange at that place.

M. J. Merritt and Mrs. Sam Jones of Roxton are here this week visiting their sister Mrs. James Bright.

The high waters washed away some of the bridges in this section of the country Saturday night and damaged many others until traffic was almost stopped.

Wess Allen of Colorado shipped in six hundred head of steers Saturday to be placed on grass in the Arthur Sears pasture.

Trent has inaugurated a trade week and will give as a grand premium, a fine buggy to some lucky person on May 31st.

Letter From Chicago.

Chicago, May 4, '13.

Merkel Mail.

Dear Editor—Please announce that I will be home for duty on Saturday, May 10th and will be glad to meet any and all of my friends.

We have had a very pleasant and profitable trip, for in Germany the advantages of medical teachings are far superior to America. We spent most of our time in Berlin Germany in the

Berlin General Hospital where Dr. Friedman has his laboratories, two Dr. Friedmans' are there in charge of the research work, while two are in America.

We visited Ireland, Wales, England, France, Germany, Holland and Canada on our way home, spending only a few days in each place. Hoping to see you all face to face soon, I am your friend, Dr. J. A. Adkisson.

CITY ORDINANCE.

An ordinance prohibiting the peddling, vending and displaying of goods, wares, merchandise and products, and the giving of exhibitions or shows upon the streets and alleys of the City of Merkel, Texas.

Be it ordained by the city council of the City of Merkel:

Section 1. It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to use the streets or alleys embraced within the limits of the City of Merkel for the purpose of vending or displaying goods, wares, merchandise, produce or other articles, for the giving of any theatre, show or exhibition or for the peddling of goods, wares, merchandise, produce or other articles, provided, however, this section shall not apply to any person who himself offers for sale products raised or grown upon property owned or rented by him or under his control.

Section 2. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not exceeding two hundred dollars.

Section 3. That all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. The fact that there is now no ordinance regulating the indiscriminate huckstering of goods, wares and merchandise on the streets of the City of Merkel creates an imperative public necessity requiring that all ordinances be read at three separate meetings be suspended, and it is suspended that this ordinance be and become in full force and effect from and after its passage. W. T. Potter, Mayor.

Attest—
R. A. McClain, Sec.



SHIELD BRAND CLOTHING

It's no trick to get the suit that'll make you look your best and will give service if you know the secret. Say "SHIELD BRAND" to us—that's the password. We'll give you "the clothes you want to buy at the price you want to pay."

Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Merkel, Texas



MAY HOUSE SALE

MAY 10 TO 31

Trade Week May 19 to 24

WILL BE BIG DAYS IN MERKEL

But every day from the 10th to the 31st will be Big Days with "MACK." Having just unloaded a car of New Furniture we are able to show a Complete Assortment. What you want, you should have---NOW. Bring beauty to the home, make it just a **Little Better---More Comfortable**

The New Davenports Make a Perfect Automatic Bed and Davenport.



This picture shows the Bed Open
A Good Comfortable Bed

**OPEN FULL SIZE
WITH
ONE EASY MOTION**



This Picture Shows How Easy to Open
A Child Can Open It

Don't buy a Davenport until you have seen this new Pullman Davenport operate. It is far ahead of the old kind or any other make usually advertised in catalogues. It is a thoroughly comfortable and practical bed. We also have the Pullmanette. See them.



Yes, Dear; I will get that Kitchen Cabinet you wanted last month. It will save you so much time and hard work. You need one of "Mack's" Kitchen Cabinets just as much as I need my riding plow and cultivator. "Mack" has just unloaded a car load of cabinets for his May Sale--some of the best cabinets you ever saw for the price. The cheapest one complete is only.....\$9.75 The better ones have many places to keep your pans, spices, flour bin with sifter, bread box, knife trays; in fact, a place to keep everything, and Mack can sell us one



cheaper than we could order it, too. I can bring it home with me. Now how about that Rug, dear? Shall I get it too? Mack says everybody is invited to come in to see him, so you can

TELL YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT IT

Here is a Dollar For You

In order to help on your purchase at this store we have decided to make you a present of the First Dollar on your new Kitchen Cabinet or Rug, provided the price is not under \$10. Only one Coupon to a customer.

Remember that this is FREE and is in addition to our Already Low Prices

\$1.00-COUPON-\$1.00

This Coupon will entitle the holder to \$1.00 discount from any Rug or Kitchen Cabinet in our store, provided the price of same is not less than \$10.00. :: :: Only one Coupon to a customer.

Name..... Address.....
This Coupon must be signed. :: :: Good for May only

Take Advantage of it--Clip the Coupon Now

Behrens - McMillen Furniture Co.

BE SURE AND SEE "MACK"