

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 26—NO. 48

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1915

8 PAGES

DEMONSTRATION AGENT FOR COUNTY

Through the influence of Judge K. K. Leggett of Abilene, Taylor county has secured the services of Mr. I. B. Duck, a graduate of A. & M. College in both the agricultural, dairy and livestock department.

The duties of Mr. Duck are various. He is qualified in all the above branches of work and his services are free to any person of Taylor county. He is paid by the United States government and the only expense Taylor county has incurred is to pay \$10.00 per month to help defray the expenses of travel Mr. Duck is to in visiting farmers in various parts of the county in his automobile which is furnished him by the Abilene Chamber of Commerce. According to Secretary Wood of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Duck will call on any farmer in Taylor county and advise him in any thing pertaining to livestock and the farm. He is a practical man, having had several years of experience on a large dairy and livestock farm where the government secured his services. He is prepared to make tests of milk and at the same time to examine all your livestock for traces of disease so common in this country. His ability does not stop here. He is well qualified to assist a farmer in the cultivation of his land, terracing, planting and any other matters that the farmer may see fit to ask his services in. Mr. Duck is an advisor and not a dictator. He prefers to exchange opinions with the farmer and to offer suggestions and demonstrate by his own personal work the feasibility of his advice and suggestions. He has on several occasions when called to some farmer's dairy yard, personally attended to the milking of the cows and in that way make prompt tests of the farmer's dairy products. He will also examine your milk cows to see if there are any of them diseased and is prepared to give practical suggestions of feeding and treating of your livestock.

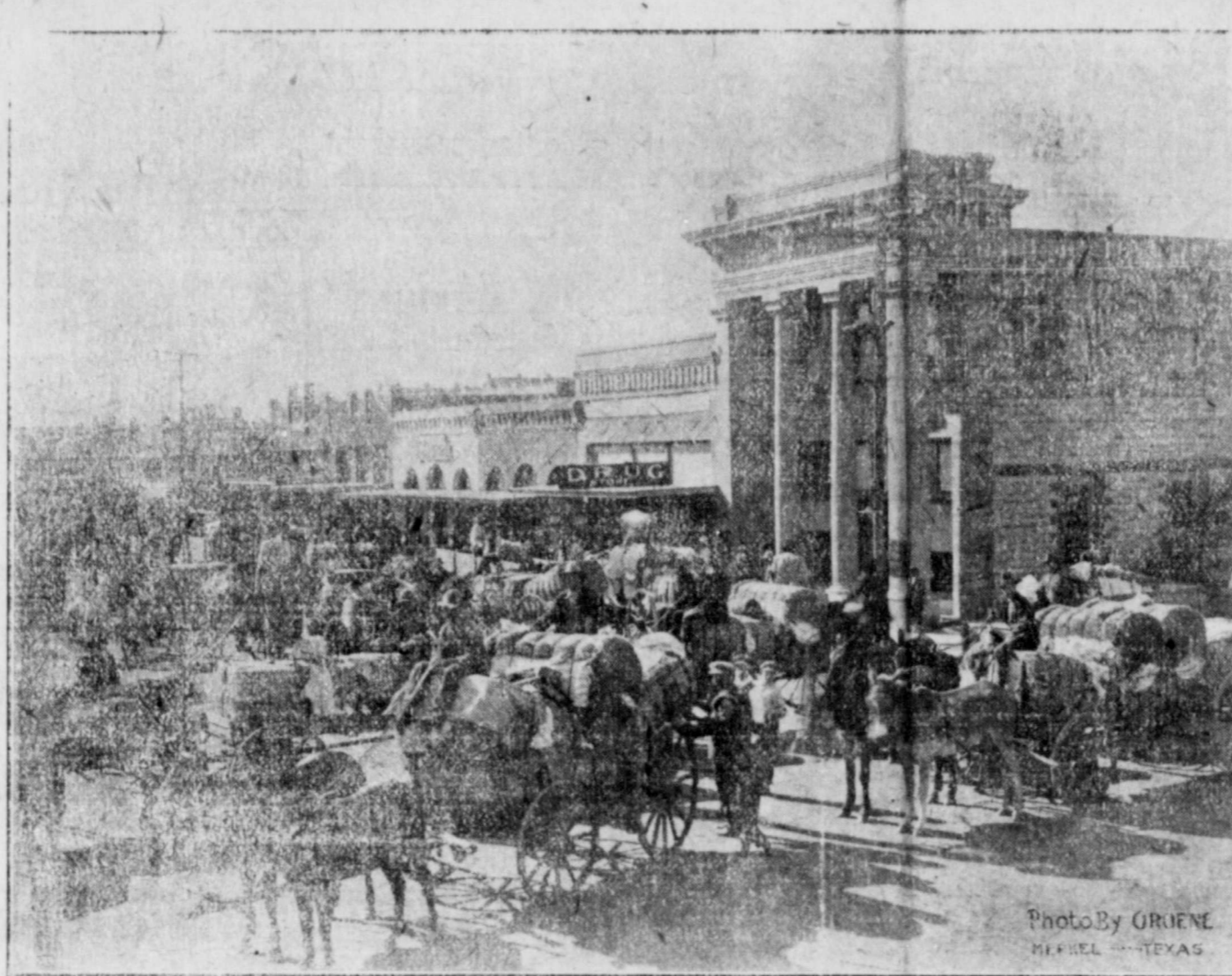
He offices at the Abilene Chamber of Commerce and can be secured by phone or by writing him. Having an automobile, he can call on any farmer in the county on short notice. The present contract with the government for this man's services expires July 31, 1915, and every Merkel farmer who is interested should take advantage of the opportunity now offered in getting advice from one who is qualified to give it.

DINNER TOMORROW DON'T FORGET IT

Remember that tomorrow is the date set for giving the Belgian Relief Dinner by Merkel Ladies. You ought to lend a helping hand if you can stay away from home for one meal.

Instead of eating your wife's cooking tomorrow at noon invite her to town as your guest and eat with the Belgians. The six piece orchestra with the Roy E. Fox popular players now in Merkel will furnish free music during the noon hour. Assist the Belgians by eating with the ladies of Merkel Saturday. All proceeds go to the Belgians.

Look for the Ten Little street lights.



Another street scene of Merkel, showing a busy day, at the intersection of Elm and Edwards streets. This photo was taken Saturday, November 21, 1914, and gives an idea of the fleecy staple drawn here by the Merkel cotton market. Over fifty bales of cotton were standing within one block at the time this was taken, all waiting to be sampled and bought by our merchant cotton buyers.

5,000 BALES YET TO 20,000 MARK

Less than 5,000 bales will place the Merkel cotton receipts up to the predicted 20,000 mark.

The receipts of the two Merkel yards Thursday morning of this week amounted to exactly 1,000 more than on Thursday of last week, or a total of 15,150. Probably the highest price paid during the week was 7.75 for top grades of cotton, this figure having been reached Tuesday.

FIREMAN HAVE ANNUAL MEETING

Monday night the Merkel Volunteer Fire Department met in their first annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers and delegates to the various Firemen's Conventions to be held in the state this year.

For the first time in the history of the Department all officers were elected. Chief Ferrier and his able bunch of assistants closed the last year with an excellent report showing \$2,300 loss out of several fires in which over \$250,000.00 worth of property was endangered. Those elected to attend the State Conventions are as follows: John Morgan and B. Bell of Waco, Otis Burns and Robert Hicks of Plainview.

President J. T. Warren of the Local Department was present and made a short address, complimenting the boys on their good work done during the past year.

To Abilene Wednesday.

Mrs. T. J. Toombs and son, Will, accompanied by J. R. Toombs, went to Abilene Thursday noon to attend the bedside of the former's husband who was to have been operated on yesterday morning at 10 o'clock.

An abscess of one lung was the cause of the operation being necessary. W. R. Walker and Thos. Toombs accompanied the afflicted man to Abilene Wednesday night and reported that he rested well during the evening.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen

From the French pasture, near Merkel, one red mottle faced heifer yearling branded nine bar; one black and white de horned cow bra d-d nine bar; one cow branded nine, color unknown. Liberal reward for information leading to recovery of any of the above stock. Mac Sayles, Abilene, Texas. 822pd

BROOMWEED FIRE VERY DANGEROUS

The Abilene Reporter in its issue of Tuesday reports a number of hands busy cutting broomweeds about the Fair Grounds and credits Chief Clinton with saying that many small houses on the out skirts of the town would be destroyed if fire was to break out in that vicinity, as it would be an impossibility for the department to render any protection.

This same condition exists here in Merkel. Within the last two weeks the Fire Department has been called out twice to stamp out fires in small patches of broomweeds, but on both occasions the services of the boys were not needed as the flames had been stopped before they arrived. There remains however the eminent danger of destruction to many Merkel houses on the outskirts of the town in case of a weed fire with the wind blowing a gale as it has been during the past week. Property owners desiring to be protected from losses should take precaution coupled with some elbow grease and cut weeds adjoining their property. It will be too late to cry "wolf" after the fire has started in the face of a strong wind.

TRENT MARKET IS DRAWING COTTON

A visit to the sister city of Trent by the writer saw that town as busy as a bumblebee in late spring. Every body had something to do and the cotton buyers were on the hop-skip-and-jump to sample and bid on the fleecy staple.

Both gins of the town were crowded and their employees were working overtime to handle the ginning. Merchants and everybody seemed busy and no one was found who seemed to have time to consider the proposition of subscribing for a paper. Among those of the Trent farming country seen in the town looking after business matter were J. T. Williamson, W. D. Decker, S. D. McLeod, J. D. Southworth, E. D. Massey, J. Lesley and C. Y. Beckham.

E. M. Sherman for many years a resident of Trent and the Trent country was making preparations to move to Blad where he will open a complete stock of groceries.

MONTREAL, Jan. 13.—The British Government has placed an order for twenty submarines from a ship building firm here. No further details concerning the order are given out. It is believed that the order is a rush one, it being stipulated that the submarines shall be delivered at the earliest possible date. With the addition of these twenty submarines, England will be as well equipped as some believe better, than Germany, although it is not known the exact number of submarines the Germans have. The order for the new submarines was placed with the local firm today. It is causing considerable comment.

TRAIN ROBBERY TO BE HERE MONDAY

"The Train Robbery," a three-reel feature, advertised by the Royal Theatre last Monday will be shown here next Monday night.

This is one of the most sensational features being shown and will keep you busy from the time the first reel starts until the last one has been run. Regular prices will prevail. 10 cents and a nickel adv.

COMMISSIONER AND JUDGE CRITICAL

The County Commissioners Court in session at Abilene Monday and Tuesday had as one of their most important matters for discussion the refusal or acceptance of a grade of plaster being used on the inner walls of the new Taylor County Court House. Their attention was attracted to the plaster not having set-up in a proper state and acting upon suggestions of the Superintendent of the work they instructed this work to be discontinued at that time until it was decided if the grade of plaster being used was of proper state or the method of placing it on the walls was faulty.

The general Superintendent of the Mills manufacturing the plaster being used was called before the court and asked to explain the reasons of the plaster not being in proper state. According to his request the plaster will be handled differently in order to obtain the desired results which produce a hard state like rock and if after this treatment is given the work does not prove satisfactory the County Commissioners together with Judge Overshiner will instruct the Superintendent of the building to have what little plaster that has already been placed on the wall taken off and the balance of the same grade now on cars at Abilene refused and not allowed to be used in the building.

Apparently County Judge Overshiner together with the County Commissioners are watching very closely every thing that is being used in the erection of the building and are quick to speak their criticisms of any material that does not meet with all requirements.

AUSTIN, Jan. 13.—The Senate in session today refused by a twenty-two to five vote to make its committee elective instead of appointive. Thirty-four bills were introduced in the Senate, including one to abolish the State Insurance Commission because it is an alleged trust, a bill for compulsory education and a bill to eliminate loan sharks.

The House re-elected its old officers from the sergeant-at-arms down.

SOME SHERLOCK HOLMES--THIS MAN

Jno. B. Boden, head clerk in the men's furnishings department for the Anchor Mercantile Co., played the part of Sherlock Holmes Thursday morning of this week, much to the satisfaction of his company and to the disgust of two negroes.

Two negroes who had looked over several articles at the Anchor Co's store departed hurriedly. Mrs. Fitts who had been showing them some goods missed one of the articles when she returned to the goods she had been showing the negroes. She promptly called Mr. Boden's attention to the discrepancy and he started on the trail of the negroes, overtaking them near the Hellums Wagon Yard. On their person he found a new Stetson hat and a ladies petticoat taken from his store. He took charge of both the goods and the negroes, returning the goods to the store and turning the thieves over to City Marshal Hall.

To All Road Overseers.

To all road overseers of Commissioners Precinct No. 2 I would ask that you put in your entire five days on your road as I am sure it needs this attention and send your commission in by second Monday in February.

Respectfully,

T. R. Lassiter, Com.

Completes Move.

J. T. Dennis has completed the moving of his stock of dry goods and groceries from his former home to the concrete building south of the Hamblett & Rogers store.

Mr. Dennis and Douglass were to have exchanged locations the first of January but were unable to complete their work until this week.

THE BOSS DEVIL COMING TUESDAY

Dr. Edwin Southern commonly known as "Cyclone Southern" will be here next Tuesday night in his master piece impersonation "The Boss Devil" which he has featured for over forty years.

This attraction is booked here for the benefit of the Merkel Public School Library and in addition to probably being the best attraction of its kind you will have the opportunity of attending this season it is for a cause worthy of your support and the Cozy Theatre should be filled to overflowing with people desiring to see this noted impersonator and having in mind a helping hand to a good cause.

The advance seats for this attraction will be on sale at the Elite Confectionery. And remember a large part of the receipts go to the improvement of the Library at the High School Building.

Presbyterian Announcements.

There are just a few who seem to have forgotten we have Sunday school and church or perhaps thought we were still off on holiday trip.

The devil does not take holiday trips neither do we. He does more devilment then than at any other time and we try to do more good.

Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Attendance has been very good considering the weather but lets make it better.

Prayer services at 11 o'clock and 7:15 P. M.

Prayer meeting and Bible study Wednesday evening 7:30.

We are just beginning at the beginning, won't you begin to begin?

E. P. McMillen, Supt.
Hubert E. Bullock, Pastor.

ROME, Italy, Jan. 13.—A terrific earthquake occurred here early today. There was a panic throughout the city. Great damage was done to many historic buildings, but no loss of life is reported. The famous column of Marcus Aurelius was cracked.

TWO DORA MEN COME TO MERKEL

A. W. Cook of Dora was in to see us Wednesday while he was in town transacting business. With whom was the conspicuous personage of J. E. Perkins of Merkel Route 5, also living near the Dora community and by rights of limitation a resident of that country. We say limitation because Mr. Perkins has lived here long enough to entitle him to become a full-fledged citizen.

Mr. Cook is also an old timer and is seldom seen on the streets of Merkel unless he has business to attend to, this time he came to renew his subscription to the Merkel Mail and his companion took the opportunity of handing us a copy of his favorite paper the "Lash". Mr. Perkins has become so accustomed to the "Lash" he heartily enjoys it. On his last visit here he handed us a copy of this whip-like publication and we see that the noted Col. Dick Maple for many years editor of the Rip Saw is now the Lash writer. Col. Dick and our Mr. Perkins are old friends and while they do not see all things alike this Merkel country citizen keeps up with his old chum through the columns of the "Lash". The call of Mr. Cook and Mr. Perkins at the Mail Office was a pleasant one as we are always glad to have our readers call in and pay us their respect if they have any. Many probably are to busy to spend as much time chatting with us as Col. J. E. P. does but we believe they have the respect just the same for there is a certain amount of latent sympathy stowed down in the hearts of every man, yet many of them refrain for expressing it as Mr. Perkins does.

CONTRACTS FOR PRINTING GIVEN

The county commissioners' court, in session Tuesday, let the printing contract for the ensuing year to the Dorsey Printing company of Dallas, with the exception of letterheads and envelopes, legal blanks, etc., which contract was granted to The Merkel Mail. These two concerns were the lowest bidders among a large number submitting bids.

Besides the granting of the printing contracts, the court transacted very little other business. A few bills were allowed and road matters discussed. The court is expected to adjourn late Tuesday afternoon for the term.

Neither of the printing concerns to which contracts were given are union shops.—Tuesday's Abilene Reporter.

COTTON COWING IN AT LOVELY RATE

Renewed activity in the fields of the Merkel country makes the old town assume the aspect of a December Day of 1906. Many farmers are gathering the half open bolls and by the new ginning processes are getting a good sample, while they are saving their entire cotton crop at a nominal expense of gathering.

Already the receipts for the town have passed the 15,000 bale mark and with the cotton that has been held by many farmers throughout this section we are assured of the 20,000 bales or more if present weather conditions continue. The slight depression in business just prior to the holidays, caused by the continued wet weather has hit the toboggan and confidence among the people in general seems to be on an upward trend.

Condensed Statement of Condition of
The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas

Close of Business for December 31, 1914

RESOURCES	
Loans	\$132,696.93
Banking House	9,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00
Interest Guaranty Fund	1,089.48
Cash and Exchange	42,927.73
Total	\$190,714.14

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	3,166.65
Bills Payable	13,500.00
Deposits	139,047.49
Total	\$190,714.14

ON THE ABOVE STATEMENT WE SOLICIT YOUR ACCOUNT

This Bank opened for business January, 1912, and has the largest line of deposits in Merkel. We have no City or School funds, nor due from Banks among our deposits. This is the only Guaranty Fund Bank in Merkel. **Safety First** is our motto. We solicit your account.

NO. 7481
Report of the Condition of
THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK
AT MERKEL
In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business, December 31, 1914

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$80,390.31
Overdrafts, unsecured	628.78
U. S. Bonds deposited to secure circulation (par value)	\$ 6,250.00
Commercial paper deposited to secure circulation (book val.)	21,078.12
U. S. Bonds to secure postal savings (par value)	3,000.00
Bonds, securities, etc., on hand (other than stocks), including premiums on same	1,270.50
Subscription to stock of Federal Reserve bank	3,000.00
Less amount unpaid	500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Other Real Estate owned	6,657.25
Due from Federal Reserve Bank	3,000.00
Due from approved reserve agents in central reserve cities	6,179.26
Due from approved reserve agents in other reserve cities	12,612.20
Due from banks and bankers (other than above)	2,949.88
Outside checks and other cash items	21.80
Fractional currency	233.65
Checks on banks in the same city or town as reporting bank	722.67
Notes of other national banks	6,450.00
Lawful money reserve in bank: Specie	15,117.50
Legal-tender notes	500.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (not more than 5 per cent on circulation)	312.50
Due from U. S. Treasurer	750.00
Bills of exchange, cotton	20,899.01
Total	\$193,173.43

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided profits	\$ 2,585.10
Reserved for taxes	731.12
Circulating notes	3,316.22
Due to banks and bankers (other than above)	6,250.00
Dividends unpaid	5,526.33
Demand Deposits:	840.00
Individual deposits subject to check	113,591.15
Certificates of deposit due in less than 30 days	4,799.98
Cashier's checks outstanding	545.30
Postal savings deposits	1,804.45
Time deposits:	120,740.88
Certificates of deposit due on or after 30 days	6,500.60
Total	\$193,173.43

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, Thos. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of January, 1915.
G. W. JOHNSON, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest: J. T. WARREN
G. F. WEST,
BEN T. MERRITT, Directors.

**TO DEMONSTRATE
GASOLINE PLOW**

W. A. Scott and Ira Armstrong, who are representatives of the "Bull Tractor," have arranged to demonstrate the pulling power of this machine to Merkel people.
J. T. Warren accompanied Messrs. Scott and Armstrong to Eallas Wednesday and visited a farm twelve miles from that city where actual farm work was being done with this tractor and immediately placed an order for one of the machines. Mr. Warren believes that the machine is much cheaper than five mules and says it has been clearly demonstrated that it will do more work. Another beauty of the machine that Mr. Warren noticed was that it was not eating its head off when off duty.
The demonstration here will take place Saturday, January 23, in land adjoining Merkel that all visitors in town that day will be given an opportunity to see it in actual work.

Card of Thanks.

We desire to express to our many friends throughout the Merkel country our great appreciation for their kindness shown us at the time of the death of our beloved wife and mother. Especially do we wish to thank those who lent a helping hand to lighten her afflictions and make her life all the more bright during the many months of her continued illness prior to her death. Each and every one of you will ever have a warm place in our hearts and it is our desire that God's richest blessing may rest upon you.

Respectfully,
W. F. Stanford and Family.

J. T. Toombs Very Low.

J. T. Toombs, who has been very sick at his home in south Merkel, is reported no better, but after a consultation of physicians called in the first of this week his improvement is now looked forward to although he is in a precarious condition.

Mr. Toombs has been confined to his bed for over five weeks and the probabilities are that he will be operated on, which operation the attending physicians think will place him on the road to recovery.

Free Express Rates.

Agent J. A. Provine received a notice this week from the general offices of the Wells Fargo Express Co., that he should receive for express free of charge any shipments for the suffering Belgians.

Second hand clothing however is made an exception of and all donors are requested to send unperishable foodstuffs.

Dr. King's New Life Pills
The best in the world.

**FOX SHOWS GET
LARGE CROWDS**

The Roy E. Fox Popular Players who have been here this week have on each night pleased their crowds which have filled the tent theatre and have given clean shows in every respect.
Tonight they play that sensational play, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Tomorrow evening in a matinee "Peck's Bad Boy" will be shown and the company will close their engagement here Saturday night with the "Sweetest Girl In Dixie."
Each and every player of the entire company is a good one and there is not a "bad actor" in the entire troupe.

The orchestra with the Fox Shows will furnish, free of charge, music for the public dinner given in benefit of the Belgian Relief Fund Saturday. The dinner will be given in the building formerly occupied by the Sanitary Grocery.

Good Lady Dies Saturday.

Mrs. Sarah Stanford, wife of W. F. Stanford of Route 3, died at the family home at 1 p. m. Saturday, after a lingering illness of several months. She was attended during her last hours by all members of her family and shortly before her death expressed herself as ready to go into the Great Beyond, leaving to those nearest her, her prayers that they should be carefully guided by the Supreme God.

Mrs. Stanford, at the time of her death, was 52 years of age. She was born July 13, 1862, near Gadsden, Ala., and at the age of six moved with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walden, to Tennessee. It was there that she lived for a number of years and at the age of 14 united with the M. E. Church South, and through her life was a devout member. She was married to Mr. Stanford December 7, 1881, and to this union there were born seven children, two daughters and five sons, Thos., Early, Aubrey, Paul and Stanley, Mrs. Maro Malone and Miss Leile Stanford. All the children have been near their mother throughout her prolonged illness except Thomas Stanford, who lives in Oakland, Cal., who for the past two or three months has been at his mother's side almost constantly.

Funeral and burial services were held in Rose Hill Cemetery Sunday evening at 3 p. m. Rev. W. P. Garvin, pastor of the Methodist Church assisted by Rev. H. E. Bullock, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, conducted the services.

The Mail extends the deepest sympathy to the bereaved husband and family.

Cotton To Pick

Near schoolhouse on south side of town. See S. F. Haynes.

STATEMENT
**Farmers & Merchants
National Bank**
OF MERKEL

December 31st, 1914

RESOURCES	
Loans	\$103,367.71
U. S. Bonds—Par	9,250.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate	6,657.25
Five per cent Redemption Fund	1,062.50
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	500.00
CASH AND EXCHANGE	68,735.97
Total	\$193,173.43

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	27,585.10
Circulation	6,250.00
Bills Payable	None
Rediscunts	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
DEPOSITS	134,338.33
Total	\$193,173.43

We enter the new year with a clean sheet, a high cash reserve and no borrowed money. We are well equipped to take care of good loans.

J. T. WARREN, Pres. THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

No. 354
Official Statement of the Financial Condition of
First State Bank, Trent, Texas
at the close of business on the 31st day of Dec 1914, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, state of Texas, on the 15th day of Jan. 1915.

RESOURCES	
Loans and dis., personal or collateral	\$33,940.51
Overdrafts	231.40
Real estate	1,429.90
Other Real Estate	670.00
Furniture and fixtures	1,375.00
Due from approved reserve agents, net	\$10,396.04
Due from other banks and bankers, subject to ck., net	4,139.35
Cash items	111.78
Currency	2,433.00
Specie	679.75
Interest and in Depositors Guaranty Fund	497.04
Other Resources as follows:	
Assessment for Guaranty Fund	46.68
Bil's of exchange, Cotton	1,867.84
Total	\$57,791.99

STATE OF TEXAS, County of Taylor:
We, R. B. Johnson as vice president and L. E. Adrian as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
R. B. Johnson, Vice Pres.
L. E. Adrian, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 11th day of Jan. A. D., 1915.
E. D. Teulon,
(SEAL) Notary Public Taylor County, Texas.
Correct—Attest: J. T. Warren
L. E. Adrian }
G. F. West } Directors

No. 366
Official Statement of the Financial Condition of
The Farmers State Bank
at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 31st day of Dec. 1914, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 15th day of January, 1915.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$124,756.43
Loans, real estate	6,080.54
Overdrafts	1,859.97
Real Estate (banking house)	9,600.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00
Due from approved Reserve Agents, net	23,408.97
Cash Items	1,407.72
Currency	3,244.00
Specie	4,343.00
Int. in Depositors Guaranty Fund	1,089.48
Other Resources as follows:	
Bills of Exchange—Cotton	10,329.04
Total	\$190,714.14

STATE OF TEXAS, County of Taylor:
We, J. S. Swann as president, and R. O. Anderson as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
J. S. Swann, president.
R. O. Anderson, cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of Jan. A. D. 1915.
C. D. Mims
(SEAL) Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas
Correct—Attest: John Sears
B. C. Moore }
M. Armstrong } Directors

PROFESSIONAL

DR. S. L. DAVIS
DENTIST
Office over Woodroof and Company.
Telephone.

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST
Terms Cash
Office 2nd floor with Dr. Geo. L. Miller

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Practicing Physician
Office at Grimes Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0

W. U. W.
Merkel Camp No. 719 meets second and fourth Friday nights of each month.
W. M. Elliott, C. C.
S. Hamilton, Clerk

HAULING NOTICE.

For hauling ring me at Clarke, phone 195 or Porters Grocery, phone 286. H.S. (Dad) Wilson.

Only One "BROMO QUININE"

To get the genuine, call for full name, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature of H. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in One Day. Stops cough and headache, and works off cold. 25c.

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent
Notary Public.
Office over Farmers State Bank

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS
The most up-to-date SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
WEST & PATE, Proprietors

C. D. MIMS
Attorney-At Law
General Practice and Collections
Land Title Work a Speciality
Office over Farmers State Bank.

G. W. JOHNSON
Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agent
Respectfully Solicits Your Business
Notary Public in Office
Office over Woodroof & Company
Merkel - Texas

W. T. DANIEL
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Practice in All the Courts.
Land Litigation, and the Examination of Land Titles a Speciality.
Notary Public in Office
Office second floor, over Crown Hdq. Co
Merkel, Texas

The Great Clear-The-Counter Sale Continued Balance of January

AT WOODROOF'S

WITH PRICES ON ALL WINTER GOODS FAR BELOW THOSE OF ANY PREVIOUS OCCASION

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Seymour's best flour at G. M. Sharp's.

Look for the Ten little street lights. adv

All films developed 10 cents per roll. Universal Studio.

Plenty white and red onion sets at the Bob Martin Grocery Company.

Mrs. G. O. Welch and son, L. G., of Dublin, are here visiting her daughter, Mrs. Ben T. Merritt.

Bring me your eggs. I will count them right. Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Remember, the one "Bull" will pull more than five big mules. In Merkel January 23. Come and see him. t2

J. M. Morton of Snyder has moved to Merkel and has opened on Kent street a restaurant, serving only regular meals.

Fresh bread, Coon's Sanitary kind at Bob Martin's Grocery. Fresh supplies received twice per week.

A demonstration of just how much the "Bull" will pull will be given in Merkel January 23. Come and see it. t2

Miss Lena Roberts left Sunday for her home at Roaring Springs, after spending several months here.

January 23 will be a BIG DAY in Merkel. Come and see the "Bull" pull a five mule load. t2

See J. T. Dennis for VERA-BEST Flour. Note the brand, VERABEST.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bigham of El Paso have returned to Merkel. They will make their home here for several weeks.

I am still selling groceries. G. M. Sharp.

Don't forget the Elite. Hot drinks.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Parten left Saturday night for an extended trip. They will be in Dallas and St. Louis during most of their stay and will return home within ten or fifteen days.

Don't forget the famous PETERS Shoes at J. T. Dennis'.

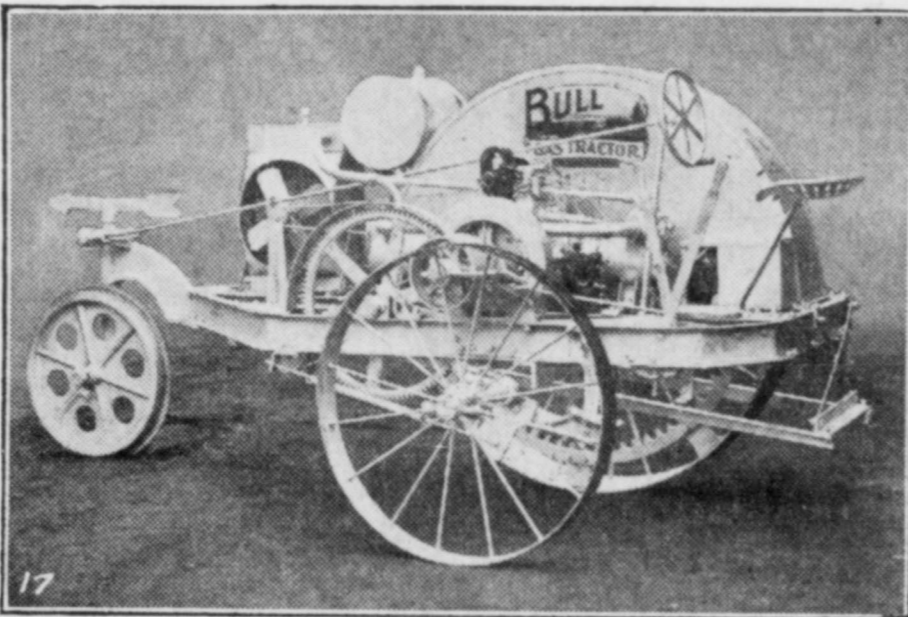
Roy C. Elliott U. S. A. was in Merkel Sunday meeting with boyhood friends. During the past six years Roy has been employed in the United States Army and is now with the Recruiting Department. His stay here was limited on account of it being necessary for him to continue his trip from El Paso to Dallas.

Don't forget the Elite. Hot drink.

The famous Peacemaker flour at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Boney's Drug Store for nice fresh candies, just received.

YOU HAVE SEEN THE
"BULL" RODE
Now come and see him Plow



This machine will be demonstrated at
Merkel Saturday, Jan. 23rd
Come and see for yourself, and then figure it out, which will be cheaper, a "Bull Tractor" or 5 big mules

You are late with your spring breaking. You intended to "flat break" your land, but with planting time just a few short weeks away you will be compelled to resort to "middle Busting"—unless—You let BULL TRACTOR do it.

Figure the cost. Five rattling good mules will cost from \$1000 to \$1250. Each mule will cost to feed, on an average, \$125 per year whether he works or not.

A BULL TRACTOR costing \$470.00 will take the load of five mules twice as far each day. You can still "flat break" and plant on time.

The BULL TRACTOR does other things. It saws wood, pumps water, grinds feed, etc. Rain or shine, hot or cold, there is always some work a BULL can do

Get one right now—and plant your crop right. You will pay for a BULL TRACTOR whether you get it on not.

W. A. Scott

Ira Armstrong

LACK OF CARE WILL RUIN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HAIR

Save It With Herculide

Aside from combing it when they think necessary many people give no attention whatever to their hair. Then when the hair begins to fall out it never occurs to them that their trouble is the result of personal carelessness.

An occasional application of Newbro's Herculide will not only prevent loss of hair but permits a luxuriant growth. Hair losses are attributable to dandruff and the germ that causes it. The results

following the intelligent use of Herculide are frequently of a surprising nature. It removes the scale-like accumulations, leaving the scalp clean and free of dirt and thus allowing the hair to grow unhampered by dandruff.

Newbro's Herculide in 50c and \$1.00 sizes is sold and guaranteed to do all that is claimed. If you are not satisfied your money will be refunded. Applications may be obtained at good barber shops.

For Sale by H. C. Burroughs

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents.

How To Give Quinine To Children.

FEBRILINE is the trade-mark name given to an improved Quinine. It is a Tasteless Syrup, pleasant to take and does not disturb the stomach. Children take it and never know it is Quinine. Also especially adapted to adults who cannot take ordinary Quinine. Does not nauseate nor cause nervousness nor ringing in the head. Try it the next time you need Quinine for any purpose. Ask for 2-ounce original package. The name FEBRILINE is blown in bottle. 25 cents.



A Farmer without a Telephone

Takes Long Chances

The services of the Doctor or the Veterinarian are essential to the farmer. Either may be summoned quickly over the telephone in case of accident or sudden illness.

Have you a BELL TELEPHONE connection?

Ask our nearest Manager for information, or write



CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale—Some good young horses and good work mule. See me at once. E. D. Coats.

STRAYED—Friday, December 11th, from Trent, brown horse mule four months old. No mark. Fresh roached. Finder notify D. E. Tedford, Trent, Texas. 3tpd

The liver loses its activity at times and needs help. HERBINF is an effective liver stimulant. It also purifies the bowels, strengthens digestion and restores strength, vigor and cheerful spirits. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs. adv

MEN—Our illustrated catalogue explains how we teach the barber trade in a short time, mailed free. Write. Moler Barber College, Fort Worth, Texas.

FOR RENT—Farm on one-third and one-fourth; also nice surrey to trade for work animal. See T. W. Collins, near Stith.

FOR SALE—Oats, threshed feterita, maize heads and bundle feed. S. H. L. Swafford, Route 1.

FOR SALE—Small gentle work work mare; second hand buggy cheap for cash only. Daniel Livery Stable. tf

FREE WOOD—Good wood to give for the clearing of land. See B. M. Black, Merkel, Texas. 15t2

FOR SALE—Good grade work mules and horses. Anchor Mercantile Company.

FOR SALE—Good milk cow. Anchor Mercantile Co.

Kodak prints 4 cents each at the Universal Studio.

Two Fire Alarms.

Within the last week's time two fire alarms have been turned in to the Fire Department.

Saturday morning about six o'clock fire broke out in the public cotton yard. Prompt action on the part of those at the yard and with the assistance of a dray three burning bales of cotton were hauled out of the yard where the Fire Company smothered the flames by use of the chemical engine. The other alarm was Tuesday noon and was a false one. Someone who saw weeds burning near the southside school building thought some close by property in danger and called the department out but before the fire wagon could reach the scene small boys had whipped the flames out.

Home-Made Tobacco.

J. B. Stovall, now a Merkel country resident, formerly of the Dallas country, brought to Merkel Tuesday a sample of old Kentucky Twist tobacco, the kind so commonly used by the passing generation. Mr. Stovall received the twist from a nephew, Tnos. Bridges, of Allen county, Kentucky, and left the sample here at our office. Not knowing the strength of pure tobacco we refrain from partaking of the bitter weed and are content to look at it occasionally.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold 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.

Call and see the Merkel Produce Co., the new grocers in the corner Crenshaw Bldg. J. G. Kitchens, Prop. Phone 174. 8t4

Dr. A. L. Fuller of Colorado, ear, eye and throat specialist will be in Dr. Armstrong's office Tuesday, January 10. Will be glad to see anyone affected with any disease pertaining to the above. adv

Hay for Sale.

Baled oats and Johnson grass delivered at 25c all over 20 bales; less than 20 delivered at 35c. T. D. Compton. 15t4pd

Farm for Rent.

Farm for rent. See S. F. Haynes.

I Have Moved

When you want fresh Fruits and Vegetables call on me at my new location, 1st door of G. F. West's store, N. Roberts. 8t4

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Look for the Ten little street lights. adv

G. M. Sharp will pay you cash for your eggs.

Have Sublett the jewelry at Mrs. E. M. Rust's Drug Store fix it.

The Twentieth Century Club will meet with Miss Annie Smith Saturday afternoon.

We are not one door south of J. P. Sharp's but just one door north of that establishment.

New shipment fresh bulk chocolates. The Elite Confectionery.

Private room wanted; with or without board, by young man. Reply Box 223, Merkel, Tex. tf

R. A. Miller of Abilene was in the city Wednesday looking after business matters.

Buy Seymour flour while you can get it right. G. M. Sharp.

You have seen the "Bull" rode, now you can see his plow. At Merkel Saturday, January 23. t2

New grocery in corner Crenshaw Bldg., fresh Fruits, Produce and fresh Vegetables. Merkel Produce Co. J. G. Kitchens, Prop. Phone 174. 8t4

Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt returned home from Abilene Wednesday afternoon where she had been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Chas. Fryar, for several days.

Give your old clock or watch its annual bath. Let Sublett do it. The jewelry at Mrs. E. M. Rust's Drug Store.

Have your films developed at the Universal Studio.

Mrs. J. F. Holdridge left Wednesday for Cottonwood where she will visit her parents for a short time.

See J. T. Dennis for Dry Goods and Groceries, one door south of the Hamblet & Rogers Co. He is now open for business in his new quarters.

New shipment fresh bulk chocolates. The Elite Confectionery.

Nice yam potatoes at G. M. Sharp's.

C. E. Whitaker and E. W. Perminter were in Abilene Wednesday looking after business matters.

We are not one door south of J. P. Sharp's but just one door north of that establishment.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen

From the French pasture, near Merkel, one red mottle faced heifer yearling branded nine bar; one black and white de-horned cow branded nine bar; one cow branded nine, color unknown. Liberal reward for information leading to recovery of any of the above stock. Mac Sayles, Abilene, Texas. 8t2pd

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.

Grimes Drug Store

Merkel, Texas

**Are Your Cattle Subject
TO BLACKLEG?
GET
BLACKLEGOID VACCINE**

Not A Cure
But
A Positive Preventive
At

Merkel, Texas

Grimes Drug Store

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Editor and Manager

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

YOURSELF.

Your greatest enemy is yourself. The only person who can drag you down into drunkenness, thievery or uncleanness is yourself. It is fashion to talk much maudlin self-pity, and to blame environment, heredity, temperament, fate and your fellow creatures for the evils that happen to you.

No real calamity ever crushed you that did not enter the door you unlocked yourself.

All hell could not make you despair except yourself joined in. Every stone in the edifice of your character was laid by your hands.

Fate, malicious people and other factors can threaten, hurt and wound you; nothing and nobody can put you down but yourself.

You are your greatest enemy if you are a coward; but if you are brave you are your greatest friend.

The one unquenchable light is the human soul—the unconquerable force.

Only when you love yourself rationally are you qualified to love others helpfully.

Only when you revere yourself are you capable of reverence and fear toward God.

The world is but the mirror of yourself. Keep clean and you see clean men and women everywhere. Be cheerful and mankind smiles. Be unafraid of events and men and the stars in their course will fight for you.

Whether you be a convict in prison or a bed-ridden invalid, or a betrayed wife or a victim of conspiracy of men or of the accidents of fate. If you fall back upon yourself, believe in yourself and are loyal to yourself, you will succeed.

Let all the world despise you; it makes no matter as long as you do not despise yourself.

Whatever the past may have been, begin now to stand for yourself, your best self, the high and great self that you know you are away in the deep recesses of your heart.

Stand! Yield not an inch! Be faithful to yourself! And from this moment things shall take a turn.—Dr. Frank Crane, in Cosmopolitan Magazine.

REGARDING PARDONS.

The wholesale pardoning of penitentiary prisoners by Governor Blease of South Carolina has caused some interest in the subject of pardons in all of the states of the union. The Reporter has always favored a liberal policy with regard to men and women who are unfortunate and get into trouble and are called on to serve terms in the state prison. We have no doubt but that many men are now serving terms in penitentiaries who are not criminals at heart and who would make law-abiding citizens if given their freedom. Such men should be pardoned, in our opinion, but we do not believe that wholesale pardons are conducive to the best interests of society. When a real criminal is caught he should be given a heavy sentence and made to serve it out. The highway robber, the man who is convicted of criminal assault, and such deeds should never be pardoned if the evidence is conclusive.—Abilene Reporter.

Neither do we believe in the wholesale pardon business. All the convicts of Gov. Blease's state will probably go Scott-free by the time Hon. Cole sees his finish and we would like to know where he is going to get his pardon from. Surely not from his constituents.

Evidently the Legislature sawed Wood from the way Messrs. Williams and Savage looks at it.

Pasted Paragraphs

SURE.

"It may seem queer," said Mr. Burke, "But you can bet it's so: An idle rumor does more work; Than anything I know."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"It may seem queer," said Mr. Binks, "But it is so, you bet, A lot of coin a fellow slinks Into a floating debt."—Detroit Free Press.

"It may seem queer," said Mr. Binn, "But there's not any doubt That when collectors find me in I'm most always out."—Houston Post.

"It may seem queer," said Mr. Boise, "But here's a bone to pull; An empty kettle makes more noise Than one that's brimming full."—Memphis Commercial Appeal.

"It may seem queer," said Mr. Patch, "But here is one to tell; I may say 'dammit' now and then But Nay, not. 'Go to h—.'"—

WIFE DESERTION.

A New York man returned to his home recently and found that during his absence his wife had married another fellow. The first husband had been gone only twelve years, but in this brief time she had taken unto her herself another lesser half. This kind of thing happens too often. It is a fine state of affairs when a husband can't step out of the house for fifteen or twenty years without having his wife marry some fellow who may be a rank stranger to him.—Claud Callan, in Star-Telegram.

It would not take a blind man to guess whether Claude is married or not. The dog is his and we have no claim on it whatever. It is for this reason we say that it is an ill wind that gathers no moss.

WHITES AND BLACKS.

According to the Commercial Appeal the law forbidding the intermarriage of whites and blacks in the District of Columbia passed the house by a 4 to 1 vote.

It is an evident good deed the house has committed and no doubt the senate will follow suit but if they not put it through without a single ballot against it the whole bunch ought to be kicked out of the District. Any man with "gumption" enough to land a seat in either the house or senate ought to have enough sense to vote for such a measure and the one who has not, ought to be Harry-Thawed.

BETTER BORDER SITUATION.

We are glad indeed that the manipulation of the Mexico Border situation by Col. Scott under the direction of President Wilson has resulted in much good. If General Villa carries out his part of the agreement President Wilson is to be congratulated upon his success in handling this problematic situation.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Jr., states that hereafter the pay checks for the employees will be made every Saturday afternoon in time for them to be cashed at places other than those that close at 9:30. Probable Claud Callahan has quietly gotten off the wagon and given his seat to "Hep." If such is the case we would suggest that the pay check be given to Claud after 9:30 each Saturday.

Suffragists in Washington have once more seen their Waterloo. This is a temporary lick, however, and every man who rises to the Executive Chair will find this question just a little more convincing than his predecessor. Not that we are in favor of such a franchise but we feel that it is one of those inevitable things.

State Press says the soldiers are leaving the strike zone in Colorado and the saloons are returning and asks who can say if there won't be more trouble now. Yes, S. P. must be right. It probably will be "out of the frying pan into the slop."

The Best is None Too Good.

IF YOU WANT A NEWSPAPER THAT GIVES THE NEWS especially the news from Texas and the Great Southwest, as well as from all over the World, one that gives the most of it and in the best possible way, you can get it by subscribing for The Semi-Weekly Farm News along with the Merkel Mail.

This is a combination of general news and local news that can't be equaled or surpassed. In addition to its great news service The Semi-Weekly Farm News has many special features that entertain, amuse and inform. Among these are The Farmer's Forum, The Women's Century, Our Little Men and Women, and the best, Latest and Fullest Market Reports to be had in any newspaper, hot off the wires. The News spends many thousands of dollars a year for these telegraph market reports, and they are reliable.

Another splendid feature of The Semi-Weekly Farm News is the Diversification Idea of Crops which will be more interesting than ever before for Your Benefit and the benefit of all the People of Texas and the Southwest.

The price of The Semi-Weekly Farm News and the Merkel Mail is only \$1.40 a year. You get the best of everything that is good in reading matter from every standpoint.

Send in your order now and take advantage of the next few weeks posting yourself on matters of deep concern the coming year.

THE MERKEL MAIL

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. adv

Sheep and Human Beings.

Sheep will follow an old bell-wether through an opening in the fence in regular order, but human beings all want to get on the street car at the same time.—Toledo Blade.

Biliousness and Constipation Cured.

If you are ever troubled with biliousness or constipation you will be interested in the statement of R. F. Erwin, Peru, Ind. "A year ago last winter I had an attack of indigestion followed by biliousness and constipation. Seeing Chamberlain's Tablets so highly recommended, I bought a bottle of them and they helped me right away." For sale by all dealers. adv

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

Notice by Publication of Final Account

State of Texas, County of Taylor. To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor county, Greeting:

W. F. Stanford, administrator of the estate of Newt Harrison, deceased, having filed in our county court his final account of the condition of the estate of said Newt Harrison, deceased, together with an application to be discharged from said administration, you are hereby commanded, that by publication of this writ for twenty days in a newspaper regularly published in the county of Taylor you give due notice to all persons interested in the account for final settlement of said estate, to file their objections thereto, if any they have, on or before the February Term, 1915, of said county court, commencing and to be holden at the courthouse of said county, in the town of Abilene on the 15th day of February, A. D. 1915, when said account and application will be considered by the Court.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 9th day of January A. D. 1915. J. D. Hilton, Clerk County Court, Taylor County. [L.S.]

A true copy, I certify. J. T. Dodson, Sheriff, Taylor County.

WHAT'S THE REASON?

Many Merkel People in Poor Health Without Knowing the Cause.

There are scores of people who drag a miserable existence without realizing the cause of their suffering. Day after day they are racked with backache and headache; suffer from nervousness and dizziness, weakness, languor and depression. Perhaps the kidneys have fallen behind in their work of filtering the blood and that may be the root of the trouble. Look to your kidneys, assist them in their work—give them the help they need. You can use no more highly recommended remedy than Doan's Kidney Pills—endorsed by people all over the country and by your neighbors in Merkel.

Mrs. Ada Walker, Merkel, Texas, says: "When I began using Doan's Kidneys Pills I had severe pains in my back and side and my kidneys and bladder were weak. Doan's Kidney Pills cured me."

Price 50 cents at all dealer. Dont simply ask for kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills the same that Mrs. Walker had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props. Buffalo, N. Y.

Daily Thought.

The words we speak and the things we do today may seem to be lost, but in the great final revealing the smallest of them will appear.—Lowell.

Cough Medicine for Children.

Never give a child a cough medicine that contains opium in any form. When opium is given other and more serious diseases may follow. Long experience has demonstrated that there is no better or safer medicine for coughs, colds and croup in children than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is equally valuable for adults. Try it. It contains no opium or other harmful drug. For sale by all dealers. adv

**AnSCO
CAMERAS**

The superb AnSCO—best for all scenes, at all times, in all weathers. The amateur camera of professional quality. Priced from \$2.00 up. See the various models here. We also have AnSCO Film and Cyko Paper.

**BURROUGHS
Drug Store**



ALWAYS ATTRACTS ATTENTION does your laundry work, for nothing is turned out by us in any other way but the right one. Our facilities for thoroughly cleansing and properly ironing shirts, collars and cuffs for gentlemen are exceptional, while ladies cannot fail to be pleased with the skill we display in doing up the most delicately trimmed underwear, shirts, etc.

SWEETWATER STEAM LAUNDRY
M. B. BELL, Agent, Merkel.
Phone No. 133

"Men of the world... furnish the greatest... while 'men of... who carry out... the others... combined in one... poleon, Caesar, Da Vinci... one and the same time... theory and practice."

Stomach Trouble Cured.

If you have any trouble with your stomach you should take Chamberlain's Tablets. Mr. J. P. Klote of Edina, Mo., says: "I have used a great many different medicines for stomach trouble, but find Chamberlain's Tablets more beneficial than any other remedy I ever used." For sale by all dealers.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

The matrons and maidens of the dancing crowd most charmingly entertained their husbands and beaux Friday night of last week with an enjoyable dance at the hall. Orchestra music was furnished. The guests were served with delicious punch.

The ladies of the Twentieth Century Club held a business meeting Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Geo. F. West. Mrs. Ben T. Merritt was elected to membership. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. G. F. West; Vice-President, Mrs. R. A. Martin; Recording Secretary, Miss Maud Jinkins; Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. G. H. Adams. Literary Manager, Miss Evaline Williams, and Mrs. Edd Young of Lampasas, an ex-member, was present. Mrs. Henry West was present as a visitor. Refreshments were served.

Birthday Party.

Miss Flossie Cypert was the guest of honor Friday afternoon at the home of Vivian Hutcheson on Austin street.

A number of friends met to help celebrate her birthday. Progressive 42 and bunco were very enjoyable games. Hot chocolate and cake were served to the guests, who wished many happy returns of the day. About twenty guests were present.

League Program January 17, 1915.
Subject—The Life of Moses.
Scripture Preferences by Leader.

- Leader—Mrs. Garvin.
- Song.
- Prayer.
- The Early Life of Moses—Laura Beard.
- Outline of Moses Work in Middle Life—Jasper Tucker.
- His later life—Frank Armstrong.
- Song.
- Prayer.
- Miscellaneous.
- League Benediction.

Advertised Letters.

- Barrington, Hugh
- Bell, Loy
- Brown, J. B.
- Briscoe, A. W.
- Bumpas, C. M.
- Dean, Katie
- Dunn, Elgra
- Forrester, U. H.
- Harrison, Mrs. Laura
- Hickman, Manuel
- Jenkins, James
- Jones, Alma
- Kemp, Oran
- Lewis, D. W.
- Louven, Clarence
- Pannell, Millard
- Rutherford, L.
- Vickers, J. E.
- Wartzeck, Walter
- Winter, Bonnie
- White, Daisy
- Wood, Leslie
- Young, Myrtle
- Florez Guadalupe
- Roderiguez Tomaso
- Villa Pascasio.

These letters will be sent to the Dead Letter Office January 23, 1915.

H. C. Williams, P. M.

Completes Move.

J. T. Dennis has completed the moving of his stock of dry goods and groceries from his former home to the concrete building south of the Hamblet & Rogers store.

Messrs. Dennis and Douglass were to have exchanged locations the first of January but were unable to complete their work until this week.

A good remedy for a bad cough is **BALLARD'S HOREHOVND SYRUP**. It heals the lungs and quiets irritation. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by H. C. Burroughs. adv

You Need a Tonic

There are times in every woman's life when she needs a tonic to help her over the hard places. When that time comes to you, you know what tonic to take—Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is composed of purely vegetable ingredients, which act gently, yet surely, on the weakened womanly organs, and helps build them back to strength and health. It has benefited thousands and thousands of weak, ailing women in its past half century of wonderful success, and it will do the same for you. You can't make a mistake in taking

GARDUI
The Woman's Tonic

Miss Amelia Wilson, R. F. D. No. 4, Alma, Ark., says: "I think Cardui is the greatest medicine on earth, for women. Before I began to take Cardui, I was so weak and nervous, and had such awful dizzy spells and a poor appetite. Now I feel as well and as strong as I ever did, and can eat most anything." Begin taking Cardui today. Sold by all dealers.

Has Helped Thousands.



Don't Miss It!
Next Episode No. 9

OF
THE MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY

Thanhouser's Million Dollar Motion Picture Production

"The Leap from the Ship"

at the
ROYAL THEATRE
Tuesday afternoon and evening
Next week



ANNOUNCEMENTS

For City Marshal—
BEN WALTERS
SAM ROBERTS
B. C. GAITHER
R. E. COUNTS

For City Secretary—
G. W. JOHNSON

An Ordinance.

An ordinance making the City Secretary of the City of Merkel ex-officio Assessor and Collector of taxes and relieving the City Marshal of such duties on and after the 6th day of May, 1915.

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Merkel: Sec. 1. That on and after the 6th day of May, 1915, the City Secretary of the City of Merkel, in addition to the other duties now required of him under the ordinances of said City, shall be ex-officio Assessor and Collector of taxes for said City and shall do and perform all duties in reference to the assessing and collecting of taxes for said city as is now required by ordinance of the City Marshal of said City; and for such additional services as such assessor and collector of taxes the City Secretary shall receive such compensation as the City Council may allow, in addition to the compensation now allowed such officer; that from and after the 6th day of May, 1915, the City Marshal of the City of Merkel shall cease to be ex-officio assessor and collector of taxes for said City, and shall not therefore be required to perform any of the duties relating to the assessing and collecting of taxes for said city, except as hereafter may be required of him by order of the City Council.

Sec. 2: That all ordinances, orders and resolutions now in force in conflict herewith be and the same is hereby repealed from and after the taking effect of this ordinance.

Passed this 4th day of January, 1915. J. J. Stallings, Mayor.
Approved this 5th day of January, 1915. J. J. Stallings, Mayor.
Attest: F. J. Ferrier, City Secretary.

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, **GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC**, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

Send Us Your
KODAK FILMS

We will deliver you Kodak Pictures 36 hours after we receive your films.

Developing 10c Per Spool
4 Cents Per Print For
BEST WORK

UNIVERSAL STUDIO
O. A. CORDELL, Mgr.

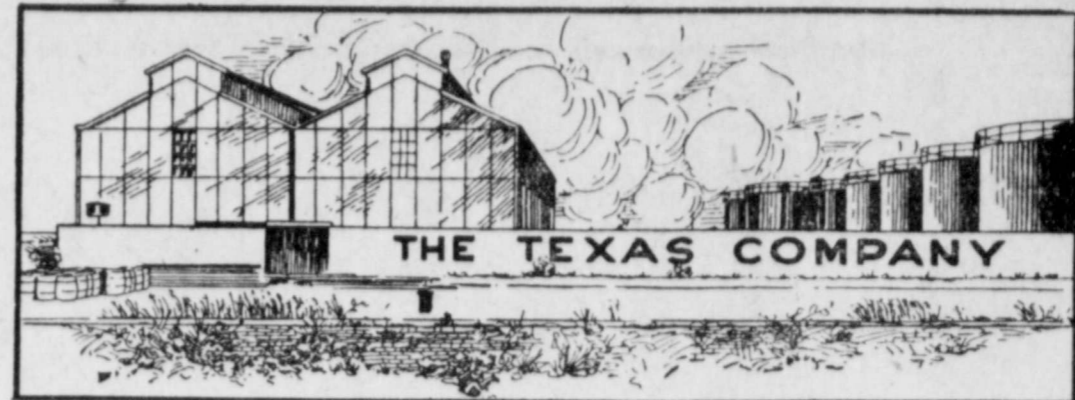
NERVOUS PEOPLE

are usually thin and easily worried, sleep does not refresh and the system gets weaker and weaker.

Scott's Emulsion corrects nervousness by force of nourishment—it feeds the nerve centres by distributing energy and power all over the body. Don't resort to alcoholic mixtures or drug concoctions.

Get **SCOTT'S EMULSION** for your nerves—nothing equals or compares with it, but insist on the genuine **SCOTT'S**. EVERY DRUGGIST HAS IT.

BEE'S LAXATIVE COUGH SYRUP
RELIEVES COUGHS AND COLDS



Texas Oil Products
in the War Zone

Over in Europe in the zone where the fiercest fighting of this world war has occurred, and in adjacent countries The Texas Company has many stations, tanks and warehouses for the distribution of the Texas oil products to the European people.

The Antwerp station and other stations so situated are destroyed. In Antwerp the American Consul did his utmost to save the property, but in the exigencies of the bombardment much of this investment was lost.

Incidentally, of course, all the business which had been secured at those points is cut off. The stations will be rebuilt and new business undoubtedly secured as conditions return to normal.

Five ships carrying Texaco oil products to far distant points were on the ocean highways when war broke out. One cargo was seized and others delayed. Yet the business of The Texas Company goes on apace with increased rather than decreased volume. All the workers are enjoying their full measure of employment, factories are running full blast, supplies are being bought as usual.

Many a small business would have been ruined by a succession of interruptions and difficulties such as these, but the business built up by the reputation and character of The Texas Company's goods and manufactures, goes into so many corners of the earth and supplies so many millions of people that the unfortunate incidents in Europe have not materially affected the total business of the Company—cannot do so.

The same reputation that has built up this valuable business is behind the products for sale in your town. Look for the Red Star and Green T trade-mark, which identifies the products of The Texas Company the world over. It is the mark of oil quality.

The Texas Company
General Offices: Houston, Texas



Dr. Edwin "Cyclone Southers"
IMPERSONATOR

At Merkel Tuesday, January 19, 1915

FOR BENEFIT
Merkel Public School Library
"Cyclone Southers" Will Present

"THE BOSS DEVIL"

His Masterpiece for Over Forty Years

Attraction Staged at Cozy Theatre

Advance Seats on Sale at Elite Confectionery

Excellent for Stomach Trouble.

"Chamberlain's Tablets are just fine for stomach trouble," writes Mrs. G. C. Dunn, Arnold, Pa. "I was bothered with this complaint for some time and frequently had bilious attacks. Chamberlain's Tablets afforded me great relief from the first, and since taking one bottle of them I feel like a different person." For sale by all dealers. adv

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, **GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC**, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

Ragged wounds are painful and cause much annoyance. If not kept clean they fester and become running sores.

BALLARD'S SNOW LIMENT is an antiseptic healing remedy for such cases. Apply it at night before going to bed and cover with a cotton cloth bandage. It heals in a few days. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs, adv

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Your druggist will refund money if **PAZO OINTMENT** fails to cure any case of Itching, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first application gives Ease and Rest. 50c.

WELCOME NEWS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

People in this town will be glad to hear that the mixture of simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., known as **Adler-ka**, can be obtained at our store. This simple remedy became famous by curing appendicitis and it has been found that **JUST A SINGLE DOSE** relieves sour stomach, gas on the stomach and constipation INSTANTLY because it drains off such a surprising amount of old foul matter from the body.

H. C. BURROUGHS, Druggist

TELL YOUR FRIENDS

THOSE WHO READ EXTENSIVELY

The Dallas Semi-Weekly News
AND
The Merkel Mail

BOTH ONE YEAR
Only \$1.40

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To The Man ^{IN} _{THE} Country

The Star Telegram--Daily--Seven Copies a Week

Until December 1, 1915, and

The Merkel Mail to the Same Date

Both only \$3.25

The Merkel Mail Printing Co.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

CLUB QUESTION.

What is the dramatic purpose of the grave digger scene? How does mirthful contrast heighten tragic effect?

What other instance is Shakespeare compare with this? What is meant here and everywhere in Shakespeare by politician? How old was Hamlet by the grave digger's statement? Interpret the spirit and purport of the priests' remarks.

Is love for Ophelia or resentment against Laertes the cause for Hamlet's actions? What has intervened to turn the course of affairs as told by Hamlet? What makes it imperative for Hamlet to act? What is the import of Horatio's words to Hamlet after the Lord's exit? Does the conversation foreshadow Hamlet's death? What significance has the exchange of courtesies before the duel? Does poetic justice demand the queen's death? What blame does Laertes lay upon the king? Why does not the drama end with Hamlet's death?

The M. E. Woman's Missionary Society will devote each second Monday afternoon to Bible Study. Last Monday Mrs. W. P. Garvin very ably conducted a lesson on the 1st Chapter of St. John. Points were brought out that were new, interesting and helpful. The large number present went away feeling stimulated and resolving to be on hand for the next lesson the Chapter of the same book. All ladies are invited to attend these meetings. (Mrs. R. A. Martin, Pub. Supt)

The Seniors of 1914-15 entertained the Seniors of 1913-14 and a few of their friends with a midnight feast at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swann on New Years Eve. Fire works, music and games were enjoyed until a late hour when the guests were invited into the dining room where a bountiful supper was served picnic style. While the bells were ringing in the New Year the guests departed wishing everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. About thirty guests were present.

U. S. SHOULD BE SATISFIED

LONDON, Jan. 11.—The British press generally believes that the United States ought to be satisfied with the British note. They claim that the note proves that enormous war supplies have reached Germany and Austria under the guise of neutral shipments.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The United States Government, it became known today, is not entirely satisfied with Great Britain's preliminary reply to the American note on the interference with commerce, which the United States alleges has been going on under the instigation of the English Government.

While gratified that England admits the justice of practically all the principles cited by the American note, the United States Government holds that long diplomatic correspondence will not save American trade from ruin, nor that it will necessarily change the practices of the British, which do not agree at all with the theories the British Government admits are right. The United States expects to take vigorous action on each individual complaint hereafter, and it is stated that the United States intends to see that all complaints are traced down and should they continue, demand that interference be stopped without delay. The Government purports that American commerce to the warring nations shall not be interfered with, and that it shall continue unchecked.

MANY ROBBERIES.

PEKING, Jan. 13.—A letter for an American in Weishien, in the war zone through which the Japanese operated against Tungshan, says the arrival of the Japanese so demoralized the ordinary government, that robbery is rife and certain roads have been abandoned by all traffic.

A large temple, plainly visible from the railway, he said, had become the headquarters of a robber band. The Japanese had disclaimed all responsibility for maintaining order, and as no Chinese troops were allowed in the war zone, he feared disorder might go unchecked for months.

The letter says that where grain and supplies were spared by the summer floods they have been taken, though paid for by the troops. An agency of the Chinese Red Cross Society has been established at Weishien, which hopes to do something to relieve the wide-spread destitution.

DEMAND WAGE INCREASE.

DALLAS, Texas, Jan. 13.—A general committee, representing about 500 railway telegraphers, station agents and levermen on the Texas and Pacific system in Texas Division No. 83 today served notice on J. E. Taussig, general superintendent of the road, that they will expect an advance of 15 per cent in pay, with certain other improvements in working conditions. On account of other pressing business Mr. Taussig arranged to meet the committee at Dallas sometimes within the next three weeks to discuss the matter. The men are members of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. In Dallas today were B. T. Hamblight, Roanoke, Texas; W. K. Grandhight, Donaldsonville, La. general chairman; H. H. Hoef, Mineola, Texas; P. O. Ruthven, Savoy; R. R. Henderson, Midland, and J. J. Dermody, Cin-

nat, Ohio, fourth vice president of the order.

Members of the committee expressed themselves as confident their requests will be granted.

LONDON, Jan. 11.—There is an increasing indication that Roumania is preparing for war. The Allies are understood to be furnishing equipment for Roumania's 600,000 men. The Germans have sent a mysterious force south into Austria. It is believed that this precaution against a possible Roumanian attack.

British critics say that the lack of stirring battles at present is due to waiting of the Allies until a more complete ring is drawn about Germany and Austria.

Gossip reports Lord Kitchener as saying: "I do not know when the war will end, but it will begin in May."

Reports that the British have captured Lille, France, are still unconfirmed. If true, it means that a big dent has been made in the German lines. A new Russian advance upon Cracow is reported. Russia is sending a million and a quarter fresh men to the front.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—A bunch of fistic fans gathered around a table in one of the chief fan places a few nights ago, and began to talk of famous punches.

"Well, I've seen a lot of 'em," drawled a Californian, who is visiting here, "but I think the best one ever pulled was by Young Corbett in the last round of his match with Terry McGovern. Terry was coming in like he always did, head down and blazing away with both hands. Corbett pulled back and shot his left out just as Terry rushed in. The blow caught Terry flush on the neck just behind the ear, and he whirled head over heels in the air and fell flat. He got up on one knee and grinned, and we all thought he was resting, taking advantage of the count, but when he made up to get up when the referee tolled off ten we knew he was gone. He was clear out. I've seen him bowled over, but this bird did a complete job."

Another lad spoke up and he had a new one on Spider Kelly.

"What do you want for the boy?" the promoter asked Kelly. "A yard and a half," said Spider, which he meant for \$150. The promoter agreed and Spider's boy got the fight. But he got an awful beating along with it. About the fourth round Spider grabbed his boy and started out of the arena with him.

"Hey, Spider, what's the big idea—why take him out?" yelled a ringside spectator.

"Oh, just a little easy piety," said Spider.

"Say, they wanted to mob me when I put the kyo on One Round Davis at Buffalo," said Fireman Jim Flynn the other night. "He was a big card there and I ruined him for them. They made me wait hours for my money."

KIND FAREWELL TO THOUSANDS.

To My Friends and Patrons:

Having confined myself to 110-pitch and office practice for thirty years, I need a rest and will go to my farm 3 miles east of Tuscola, Texas. Now after you have tried other doctors and have failed to get a cure come to me for a free consultation and examination. But I had rather rest awhile, but if you are considered incurable by other doctors, you can come to me and I will have my Au and bring you to my residence and return you to Tuscola free of charge. I am an old man and desire to rest but if you can't get a cure elsewhere then come to me and I will examine you free. I don't want to boast but I believe I have cured more old broken chronic, long standing cases than any other doctor in Texas, and when I see I want it written on my tombstone that I tried to live an honest upright life, and never promised a patient anything that I could not do. I have worn out my life for the good of humanity and now I want to rest the balance of my days on this earth but if you are poor and unable to go to me, then they call the big doctors come to me and I will treat you, if you can only pay for the medicine, but if you are poor I will not treat for you any where to the best doctors, but the poor cannot, so the remainder of my life I will give to the poor. I love the poor for I have been poor myself and I love the poor, but the rich can get the finest doctors in the world but the poor cannot do so. Now blessing the thousands who have been my friends for thirty years, I bid you God speed and many years of happiness. DR. F. E. CRUTCHER.

The old Specialist on all kinds of long standing chronic diseases. Tuscola, Texas.

Will go to San Antonio and return to Tuscola, by the 1st of February.

Advertisement for Scott's Emulsion featuring a fisherman carrying a large cod fish. Text: 'NERVOUS PEOPLE are usually thin and easily worried, sleep does not refresh and the system gets weaker and weaker. Scott's Emulsion corrects nervousness by force of nourishment—it feeds the nerve centres by distributing energy and power all over the body. Don't resort to alcoholic mixtures or drug concoctions. Get SCOTT'S EMULSION for your nervous—nothing equals or compares with it, but insist on the genuine SCOTT'S. EVERY DRUGGIST HAS IT.'

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly. The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, gives out the strength in the blood and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. See

SANTA MONICA HAS COMMISSION RULE.

SANTA MONICA, Cal., Jan. 13.—Santa Monica is the latest Pacific coast city to place itself under the commission form of government. Under the plan adopted at a recent city election, commissioner of public works, safety and finance, will have entire charge of the city's affairs and ward lines will be abolished. The first election under the new system will be held in December, 1915.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The war of extermination against squirrels being conducted in California by the United States Public Health Service in connection with the precautions against plague has resulted in the death of 20,150,000 rodents, according to figures just announced.

During the epidemic of plague in San Francisco in 1907-1909, it was discovered that the ground squirrel, a rural rodent which abounds on the Pacific coast, had acquired the infection. Cases of plague in human beings which had occurred in rural districts were traced in these rodents. The health service at once decreed their death.

Since 1908, the chief efforts of the Public Health Service and the California state board of health, acting in co-operation, have been directed to eradication of plague from among ground squirrels. The most satisfactory work, it is stated has been accomplished since July 1, 1913, due to the fact that sufficient funds and adequate legislation were provided by the state legislature at its last session.

Ninety per cent of the squirrels on an area of 3,100,000 acres, or about equal the size of Connecticut, have been destroyed since July 1, 1913. The infection has almost disappeared in this area. So effective has been the work of the hunters that they have to cover an area of 26 acres to catch one squirrel.

In view of these facts it is believed that all discoverable plague has been eliminated from California," says the Public Health Service, "and that the danger of its further spread has been removed. Observation will be maintained until after the next breeding season, which begins in April, when—if no further infection has made its appearance—the statement can be made with certainty that no further plague exists in California. Large economic benefits have accrued to farmers as a result of squirrel destruction and all are now interested in finally destroying these animals."

Pig Clubs Latest Fad.

Pig clubs are the latest fad in Louisiana, says the department of agriculture in a bulletin just issued. The contest of members of the pig clubs at the Louisiana State Fair at Shreveport was highly successful, the department reports. Although the fair authorities limited the number of entries to 150, boys from all parts of the state shipped 185 pigs.

Poultry and Eggs Profitable.

The southern farmer, by virtue of his location and climate, is splendidly situated for the production of fowl and eggs, says the Department of Agriculture in a bulletin just issued. The mild winters and early springs make the production of eggs an easy matter when prices are high.

"On many farms throughout the country," says the Department, "the money derived from the sale of poultry and eggs buys the groceries and clothing for the entire family. Every southern farmer can do as well, and should aim to keep at least 50 hens for laying purposes and home consumption. Select some of the American breeds, such as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, or the Rhode Island Reds. The Orpingtons are also a good general-purpose species."

Parcel Post Egg Market.

While prices are good, the Department of Agriculture advises farmers should get busy and make contracts with city folks to ship eggs by parcel post throughout the year. With a parcel post egg market established the farmer can depend upon a reliable income all the year around and utilize the funds for marketing other products if the egg experiment proves successful.

Cases having secured a parcel post market for eggs, it will be a very easy matter to market many other things by the same method such as butter, poultry, fresh and cured meats, sausage, fruits, vegetables, honey and so on.

Advertisement for a typewriter featuring a hand pointing to a typewriter. Text: 'REMEMBER That we have every facility for turning out neat printing of all kinds. Letter heads, bill heads, office stationery, etc., furnished at the lowest prices first class work will permit.'

Large advertisement for The Texas Company. Includes an illustration of a large industrial building with the text 'THE TEXAS COMPANY'. Below the illustration is the headline 'Texas Oil Products in the War Zone'. The text describes the company's operations in Europe, its stations and warehouses, and its products like Texaco and Red Star. It also features the Texaco logo and the company's general offices in Houston, Texas.

Advertisement for 'Advertising Texas' by W. Holt Harris. It features a portrait of a man and a telephone. The text discusses the benefits of advertising in Texas and promotes the Southwestern Telegraph & Telephone Company. Below this is an advertisement for 'Electric Bitters' for kidney, liver, and stomach trouble, and another for 'How to Give Quinine to Children'.