

FIRE CHIEF MAKES ANNUAL REPORT

Hon. J. T. Warren, President
Merkel Fire Department.

Mr. President: In accordance with an ordinance of the city governing the department I herewith submit to you my annual report for the year ending January 10, 1915, it being the 6th year since the organization of the department and the 3rd year since I assumed the office of "Chief."

Within this you will find the number of pieces of apparatus in service, the amount of work done, a complete list of fires and losses as near as could be ascertained, and the cost of maintenance. Also a few recommendations I think would be for the more successful operation of the Department.

Officers.

The officers at the present time consists of the following: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Chief, two Assistant Chiefs and thirty-five men.

Apparatus.

The apparatus in service consists of one two horse Preston combination hose, chemical and ladder wagon; one American La France hand draft chemical engine; also, one hand draft hose reel. We have on hand one thousand feet of hose in first class condition and nine hundred feet in fairly good condition.

Fires.

During the past year the Department has responded to fifteen bell and silent alarms. No second alarm was required to extinguish any fire, all being confined to their place of origin.

Losses.

The Department responded to alarms to protect property valued at \$25,429.50 on which there was a loss of \$2,311.65 showing a saving of \$23,117.85 through the efforts of the Department. On these losses the insurance companies paid \$1,720.15.

Causes of Fires.

Flues, two; electric iron, one; matches, one; oil stove, one; carelessness, one; gasoline torch, two; unknown, three; false, four.

Amount of Work Done.

Nine thousand, four hundred feet of hose has been laid; chemical engine has been discharged four times; 265 men have answered these various alarms and worked twelve hours in extinguishing fires.

Cost of Maintenance.

Salaries	Nothing
Repairs on Station	\$ 31.25
Coal	2.25
Miscellaneous supplies	17.80
Drugs	3.00
Lights	20.15
Nozzle Tips	4.00
Telephone	15.00
Gloves	1.25
Blacksmithing	24.45
Oil	3.85
Feed	144.00
Man to feed team	67.00
Total	\$341.50

Value of Property.

Total value of property owned by the city and used by the Fire Department, \$3,900.

Recommendations.

The City Council should take up matter of a lower Key Rate for Merkel. The tax payers who are insurance payers should receive this reduction. This can be done if the Council will get behind the movement. When we get this inspection from the State Commissioner of Insurance we should have a paid driver and receive the additional 10 cents

MERKEL THE BEST MARKET IN THE WEST; LARGEST SHIPPING POINT BETWEEN FORT WORTH AND EL PASO

GIN FIRE FRIDAY BROWNING PLANT

Fire broke out in the Browning Gin about 8 o'clock last Friday night and for a short time it seemed that the entire plant was doomed.

At first the employees of the gin combatted with the flames by using individual fire apparatus they have for such emergencies but when the flames spread to the seed house it necessitated calling the local fire department out. The fireboys together with the assistance of the gin hands soon had the flames extinguished. The owners of the gin escaped with little damage to their machinery and building. The greatest loss being from burnt seed and cotton.

Manager Browning showed his appreciation for the work the Fireboys did by handing Chief Ferrier a check for \$25.00. This was done before the fireboys had left the scene of the flames.

BELGIAN DINNER NETS OVER \$50.00

The public dinner given here Saturday by Merkel ladies to raise funds for the Belgians brought in a total of over \$50.00 after all expenses were paid. The expenses, however, amounted to very little and probably \$3.00 would cover the entire expense the ladies were to in arranging for the feast.

The Roy E. Fox stringed orchestra divided time with pupils of Miss Burkett's music class in furnishing music for the occasion.

The famous Peacemaker flour at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

which will make a very handsome saving for the Insurance payers.

The Fire Marshal should be instructed to inspect the business district at least once a month and instruct the owners on the importance of keeping the premises free from all trash and rubbish.

Conclusion.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Mayor and City for the uniform kindness during the past year. Also the business men of the town who have aided the Department with donations for supplies. To my able assistant Chiefs, First Assistant J. C. Comegys and Second Assistant O. M. Sharp, who have given me much assistance, my thanks are due, also to the other officers and men of the Department for their faithful performance of duty in time of need. This has been a very successful year for the Department not only in the exceedingly good fire record we have given the city but in the many supplies we have been able to add for service.

Now to conclude I assure you that this has been one of the most pleasant years we have spent together since the organization of our Department and I believe it will be a pleasure to us in after years to recall to memory the days we spent together in the Merkel Fire Department.

Respectfully,

F. J. Ferrier,
Chief Fire Department.

More Cotton, Cotton Seed and Feedstuffs Shipped Than From Any Other Town On the Texas & Pacific Railway On the Rio Grande Division.

Recapitulation From Railway Office Shows Large Shipments and Car Shortage Remains as a Great Hindrance to Shipments From This Place.

Shipments from Merkel during the last few months of the cotton and harvest season has amounted to over one thousand two hundred and fifty car loads against three hundred and fifteen for the same time of 1913-14.

Cotton shipments of this season have amounted to approximately eight hundred car loads; four hundred car loads of cotton seed and over six times as many cars of grain shipped this season as during the '13-14 season.

Train Master W. H. Homan of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company was here the first of this week investigating the reason of a continued car shortage at Merkel. During the past few weeks Agent Leighty has been unable to supply cars for all shipping demands. Requisitions by cotton and cotton seed shippers often run as high as twenty or more cars per day with an average supply of from ten to fifteen. While in Merkel the first of the week Train Master Homan stated that the proposition of supplying Merkel with sufficient cars was the greatest problem he had to solve in any town between Fort Worth and El Paso, as the shipments from this place would total more than those of any other station point west of Fort Worth on the T. & P.

The seed market has been very active here during the past two weeks, the price having advanced from \$18.00 to \$20.50 per ton with an unusual advance Thursday of this week when the McDonald & Smith gin placed the price up to \$25.

These prices have attracted seed here from gins of the surrounding country, some seed having been hauled here from Eskota and Trent.

Along with the advance in the seed market much cotton that has been held since the early season is being sold now with top prices going as high as 8.40 during the week and many sales being made above eight cents.

Cotton Receipts For Present Season.

Thursday evening of this week the receipts of the Merkel yards were short of the 20,000 bale mark by only 3,500 bales, the total at that time being 16,500 bales. The receipts of cotton at Merkel from Thursday of last week to Thursday of this week totaled 1,350 bales, or the second largest week of the present cotton season.

BETTER BURN THE WEEDS IN MERKEL MERKEL TO HAVE INSPECTION SOON

If an inspection is given the town of Merkel by a representative of the State fire rating board and he finds the abundant growth of broom weeds about our town as exist now, there is a strong probability of our insurance rate being raised instead of being lowered when that official visits our city.

We would suggest that every person owning property about the town look after the burning of weeds about their property at once. Also that the city authorities have all weeds burned about the suburban part of town. These weeds make a fire risk much higher and an engineer will be quick to see the inadvisability of granting lower rate of insurance when such hazardous risks are allowed to remain as they now are in Merkel.

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

Cheif Ferrier of the Merkel Fire Department received a letter last week from the office of State Fire Marshall advising him that within the next two or three weeks an engineer would visit our town to make inspection of our fire risks and make grants for any improvements that have recently been installed.

The letter also stated that the engineer would also advise the City Authorities along what lines other improvements could be made to get additional reductions in insurance rates for our town.

If you want a clear cut picture use an Eastman Kodak and if you use the Eastman Films you will have no trouble in developing. A new supply at Mrs. E. M. Rusts.

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

OFFICERS SHOOT FOURTEEN MEN

Roosevelt, N. J., Jan. 19.—Fourteen men were shot, four of them being mortally wounded in a pitched battle between 250 striking laborers and fifty deputy sheriffs, at the plant of the American Agricultural Chemical Company here today.

The fight occurred when the strikers stopped a Central Railroad of New Jersey train from Elizabethport to see if it had brought strikebreakers to the plant.

There were no strikebreakers aboard, but a few office employees who were aboard started an outcry, apparently believing that the strikers intended harm to them.

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

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

HIGH CLASS SHOW COMING TO MERKEL

Manager Groene of the Cozy Theater, has been very fortunate in securing the Gilson-Bradfield Stock Co. for a three nights engagement, January 28, 29 and 30. This company carries 14 people, special scenery for each production and their own orchestra and is conceded by the best dramatic critics to be the strongest Traveling Stock Company playing the southwest.

They have selected for their opening play, Thursday night January 28, "Lavender and Old Lace" a dramatization of Myrtle Reed's most famous novels, the other two plays to be presented are "Barriers Burned Away" a dramatization of E. P. Roe's novel and The Great Hoyt Theater Comedy Success "A Bachelor's Honeymoon." Messrs Gilson and Bradfield have had all three of the above plays on the larger one night stands playing at \$1.00 and \$1.50 top prices, but this season, they have combined the three shows and have been playing three night stands at 50 and 75 cents top. Mr. Groene, however, has given the company a guarantee and succeeded in getting them to play Merkel at 10, 25 and 35 cents.

A matinee will also be given Saturday afternoon at 2:30. At the evening performances the curtain will rise promptly at 8:00 p. m.

Roy E. Fox, manager of the Fox Show playing in Merkel last week had the following to say in regard to the "Gilson-Bradfield" "You can tell your readers that the BRADFIELD company is the strongest one playing this section of the country this season."

Late Birth Reports.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie McNeese, on the 18th, a boy.
Born, to Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Tipton, on the 8th, a girl.
Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Duff, a boy, on the 11th.

New shipment fresh bulk chocolates. The Elite Confectionery.

TRENT MAN TELLS NEWS FROM THERE

There comes again to our list of correspondents a writer from Trent who we hope will continue his good work both for our benefit and the pleasure of the many subscribers The Mail has in the Trent country.

He starts this first episode by stating that his section of the country is still full of cotton and negroes and that the Brown gin on last Saturday ginned between thirty and forty bales of cotton and left over twenty bales standing on the yard at night. He further states that while cotton is very low they are receiving \$20 per ton for seed which makes it average up to a very good price.

We are having fine dry weather now and farmers are getting the benefit of good stock pasture. So, after all, we have no k coming.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Bob McLeod, last Friday, one boy and one girl. All doing well and Bob, the proud father, who is manager of the Burton-Lingo Lumber Co., at this place, has seen fit to advance the price of lumber \$2.90 on the thousand feet. Other late births reported here was a girl to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith a few days ago.

Many new comers are in this section of our country and a large per cent of them are without land to work during this year.

Mr. Frank Smith, son of Tid Smith, who has just undergone an operation for appendicitis at Abilene is improving. His many friends will be glad to learn of his convalescent condition.

Ed Massey made a trip to Sylvester last week to purchase some cattle.

C. T. Beckham has just received a pair of Texas Guinea hogs. He will plant less cotton this year and more hogs.

Rev. W. A. Schultz preached a very interesting sermon here last week. Our churches are in excellent working order and our school is doing commendable work.

Inebriates Getting Theirs

Probably no more cases of drunkenness are noticed in Merkel than heretofore but no doubt those who have been putting on regular sprees have found the town of Merkel a hard place to start such foolish work of the late.

Within the last few weeks Constable Laney has caught several drunks and in every instance has put them away in safe keeping for the night, subject to his call at 9 o'clock next morning. Mr. Laney thinks it is all right for you to take a whiff but is correct in not wanting the effects to show to a marked extent while the "Slopper-Up" is parading the streets of the town. A tax of about \$10.00 or more has been imposed on those offending, which cost taken together with the output in getting stewed up ought to make one offense enough for any man. We believe this work will do good and commend our officers on their aggressiveness against all drunks.

Mentholine Balm.

Is recommended by us for the relief of headache's, Facial Neuralgia Soitaic, Chiblam, chapped Hands, Catarah of nose and throat, bites and stings of insects. Ask for 2oz jar for 25 cents at Mrs. E. M. Rusts.

New shipment fresh bulk chocolates. The Elite Confectionery.

Condensed Statement of Condition of

The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas

Close of Business for December 31, 1914

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans	\$132,696.93	Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Banking House	9,500.00	Surplus and Profits	3,166.65
Furniture and Fixtures	4,500.00	Bills Payable	13,500.00
Interest Guaranty Fund	1,089.48	Deposits	139,047.49
Cash and Exchange	42,927.73		
	\$190,714.14		\$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.

NEW BAKERY IN MERKEL TO STAY

One enterprise needed badly in Merkel is now a promised success for our town, that of a bakery, managed and run by a practical young German baker of over 16 years experience.

The new man in this profession is H. C. Quentin, formerly of Wichita Falls. He and his wife will personally superintend all the work and can be found at their bakery, first door west of Mrs. E. M. Rust's drug store, at all hours of the day or night. Mr. Quentin stated that he saw no reason why Merkel should not support a good bakery and it was his intention to give the town the best service possible to his learning.

MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY MONDAY

Manger Harrison expects to have the ninth installment of the Million Dollar Mystery here next Monday in event the Light Plant is repaired in time to furnish current for the afternoon matinee and night show.

The regular installment of the Million Dollar Mystery, episode No. 10, will appear the following day in both matinee and night show. Episode No. 9 should have been showed here Tuesday at the Royal.

Advertised Letters

Brunner, Lonnie
Counts, J. M.
Davis, T. M.
Decto, Richard
Reynolds, Annabell
Rosson, Claud
Stanley, Billie
Swain, Sam
Westmoreland, Earl

These letters will be sent to the Dead Letter Office January 30, 1915. H. C. Williams, Postmaster.

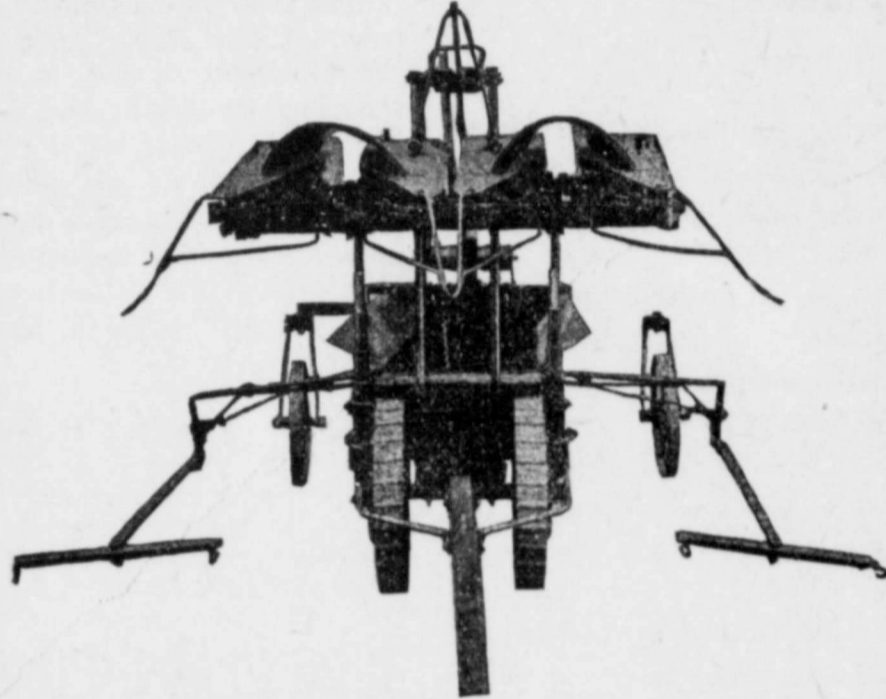
Job Printing

We are here to serve you with anything in the line of printed stationery for your business and personal use. □ □ □ □

Letter Heads Bill Heads
Envelopes Cards
Wedding Invitations
Posters or Announcements
Of All Kinds

The best quality of work at prices that are RIGHT

THE COZART MAIZE HEADER



A Machine of Proven Efficiency

On Display in Merkel Today

IN ABILENE NEXT WEEK

State and Territorial Rights for Sale

W.A. COZART & W. FISHER
DEMONSTRATORS AND AGENTS

BETTER BURN THE WEEDS IN MERKEL

If an inspection is given the town of Merkel by a representative of the State fire rating board and he finds the abundant growth of broom weeds about our town as exist now, there is a strong probability of our insurance rate being raised instead of being lowered when that official visits our city.

We would suggest that every person owning property about the town look after the burning of weeds about their property at once. Also that the city authorities have all weeds burned about the suburban part of town. These weeds make a fire risk much higher and an engineer will be quick to see the inadvisability of granting lower rate of insurance when such hazardous risks are allowed to remain as they now are in Merkel.

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

During the past twenty years the number of all farms in Texas has increased 83 per cent, while the farms operated by tenants show a gain of 130 per cent. Farm home owners have increased only 50 per cent during this time.

Tenants constitute 53 per cent of the farm operators of Texas and cultivate 47 per cent of our tillable land.

The land and buildings on the tenant farms of Texas are worth only one-half as much as those on the farms operated by owners.

The land operated by Texas tenant farmers is equal in area to the State of Pennsylvania, Indiana or Maine.

Farm tenancy in Texas directly affects 1,500,000 people, which is equal to the entire population of the State of Arkansas, Louisiana or Oklahoma.



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.

BEE'S LAXATIVE COUGH SYRUP
RELIEVES COUGHS AND COLDS

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

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 E. 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 Hdw. Co
Merkel, Texas

Abilene Semi-Weekly Reporter

A newspaper published twice each week giving all the Foreign, National, State and Home News

The Merkel Mail

Your own home paper, which carries all the local news while it is news, the two to your address for one year for only **1.50**

A Subscription Bargain

Opportunity you cannot afford to overlook—THINK OF IT!—Your own home county paper, together with the Abilene Semi-Weekly Reporter, for one year for only \$1.50.

All subscriptions must be handed in or mailed to this office.
Do It Now, As This Clubbing Offer Is Limited

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 same FEBRILINE is blown in bottle. 25 cents.

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.

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

Mrs. F. A. Polly of Noodle visited here Wednesday.

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

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

Phone 124 for Coon's Sanitary Bread. The Anchor Mercantile Company.

Mrs. A. Huber of Noodle was in Merkel Wednesday.

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

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

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

John Collins returned from Ft. Worth Thursday morning where he made sale of three cars of steers, some of the best that have been shipped from this market in many months.

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. N. E. Horn of Noodle visited here Friday.

Mrs. W. H. Hathway is visiting her sister Mrs. Carl Brabbins of Cisco.

Phone 124 for Coon's Sanitary Bread. The Anchor Mercantile Company.

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

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

Mrs. W. A. Scott and little daughter Louise visited Mrs. Baylor Crawford of Abilene Monday.

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

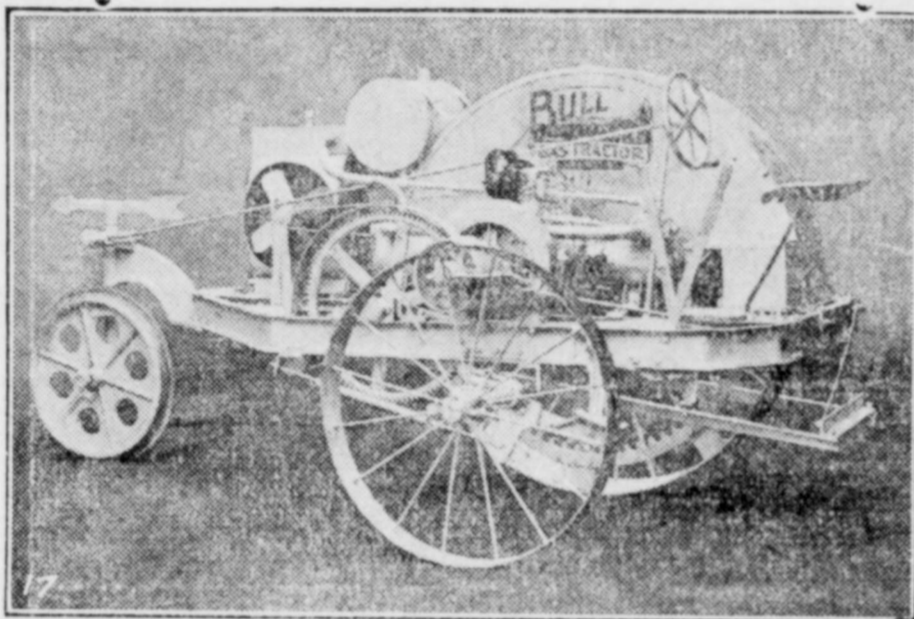
Mrs. B. S. Alsbrook has returned from Cleburne where she visited her daughter Mrs. E. W. Brown.

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

Pecos City Sanitary Bread at the Anchor Mercantile Company. Phone 124.

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

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 \$ 000 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

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.

Cream of Roses

Will keep your hands from chapping. Will keep them soft and white, 25 cents at Mrs. E. M. Rust Drug Store.

CROUP stopped in 30 minutes pure with Dr. Shoop's Croup Remedy. One test will surely prove. No vomiting, no distress. A safe and pleasing syrup—50c. Druggists.

Will Compton and Lewis Paterson, cousins and farmers of the younger set from Merkel, made sale of some of their cotton recently at 10 cents per pound in purchase of scholarships to a business college in Ft. Worth and are now in that city taking advantage of their high priced cotton to better equip themselves for the common pursuits of life.

Notice.

I have opened a first class blacksmith shop just east of the Moore & Meek shop and will appreciate a part of your trade. R. L. Porter.

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

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

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

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 SALE—Good mesquite cord wood four miles east of Merkel at \$2.50 per cord on the ground. Phone R. D. Allen at Stith. 2t3pd

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.

STRAYED—A smutty, pink cow, unmarked and unbranded. Owner can get same by calling at O. J. Adcock's and paying for this ad.

LOST—LARGE canvas bag 2 miles north of Blair. Finder return to Merkel Mail office. 1tpd.

EGGS—Eggs wanted. Cash paid for them. N. Roberts, one door east of West & Sons store. 22-2

COME SEE—A rich stalk field with fallen grain, cane, cotton stalks, grass and plenty water in Jones county. B. M. Black, Merkel. 22t2pd

If your cough is not a pleasure to you it must be an annoyance. Why suffer when you can relieve it with a 5 cent box of Mentholized Beans at Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Ragged wounds are painful and cause much annoyance. If not kept clean they fester and become running sores. BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT 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

The Gilson-Bradfield Stock Company, with 14 people, special scenery for each production and their own orchestra will be the attraction at the Cozy Theatre Jan. 28, 29 & 30. Opening play Thursday night "Lavender and Old Lace."

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

COTTON POOL A DISASTER

Fort Worth, Texas—Peter Radford, National Lecturer of the Farmers' Union, when asked by a representative of the press if the farmers of the South would apply for loans under the terms of the \$135,000,000 cotton pool, said:

"I do not know of a banker in Texas or elsewhere who is willing to lend money to the farmers at six per cent under the provisions of the pool, and I do not think many farmers would care to qualify for a loan. It is to be regretted that the officers of that movement are not frank enough to admit that the failure of the pool is due to inherent defects of the plan. It has not only failed completely, but it has indirectly cost the Southern cotton producers millions of dollars. I think it can be truthfully said that had the plan never been suggested, several millions of dollars would have been loaned against cotton in the South by many banks who subscribed to the fund in good faith, and naturally, with such a pledge becoming a liability they might be called upon to assume, they did not give consideration to making direct loans as the Southern bankers have always done, and as a result the pool cut off the local money supply and forced the cotton on the market. I have no doubt the promoters acted in good faith, but the movement has been a serious disaster to the South."

THE TEXAS TENANT FARMER.

Texas has more tenant farmers than any other State in the Union.

About 60 per cent of the tenant farmers of Texas move every year.

Only 8,000 of the 220,000 tenant farmers in Texas have not moved during the past ten years.

Only 99,734 or 24 per cent of the farms of Texas are entirely owned by the farmers operating them.

There are 314,263 homeless farmers in Texas, and only 55,000 of them are negroes, leaving 259,000 white farmers that do not own the soil they till or the homes in which they live.

There are 219,575 tenant farmers in Texas, and in addition to this number 28,348 farm land owners rent additional land, making a total of 247,923 farm land renters in this State.

More than 202,000 Texas tenant farmers operate on a share basis, while only 17,549 pay cash rental.

Nearly ten per cent of the tenant farmers in the United States live in Texas, while only five per cent of the nation's farm home owners reside in this State.

In 1880 only 38 per cent of the Texas farmers were tenants, 42 per cent in 1890, 50 per cent in 1900 and 53 per cent in 1910.

Less than eight per cent of the Texas tenant farmers pay cash rental.

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

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

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

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

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

Mrs. Laura Mitchell of Abilene visited here Friday.

Look for the Ten little street lights. adv

All films developed 10 cents per roll. Universal Studio.

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

Miss Gail McCarty is in Sweetwater this week visiting the family of W. C. Calvert.

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

Mrs. Julia Lathan of Abilene visited friends here Friday.

Pecos City Sanitary Bread at the Anchor Mercantile Company. Phone 124.

Mrs. Ross Ferrier and baby are at home from California where they visited their parents and grandparents Mr. and Mrs. W. M. O'Brian.

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

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

Miss Bessie Mae Steffins of Abilene visited here Friday.

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

Don't forget the Elite. Hot drinks.

Mesdames G. B. Brown and C. E. Whitaker were in Abilene Tuesday visiting friends.

Look for the Ten little street lights. adv

T. J. Toombs who was taken to Abilene some days ago following a severe illness is reported to be much improved and his many friends will be glad to know of his improvement.

Have your films developed at the Universal Studio.

Mrs. M. E. Baucus visited her daughter Mrs. Carl Brabbins of Cisco.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pate left Sunday afternoon for Sweetwater where they were called to attend their son Oscar Pate who was thought to have appendicitis. After they had reached Sweetwater and the attending physicians had made a more thorough examination it was found that the first diagnosis was incorrect and later reports state that Oscar has almost recovered from the attack.

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

TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAIL ROAD

**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.**

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 inspires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

AN EMBARGO ON WHEAT?

If wheat goes to \$2 a bushel and cotton hovers around seven cents a pound, the south will feel the pinch of war as do the Germans or French. Wheat shipments to Europe will command all the steamer room to the exclusion of lumber and cotton.

That with a rush of mules, wheat and other edibles the heavy freights will get little sea room. Our ancestors said the government should pay no duty on exports.

But there is nothing against the declaration of an embargo. If an embargo should be put on wheat it would drop to 90 cents a bushel.

An Arkansas planter, who raised a thousand bales of cotton, and sold it for around seven cents, is now feeding a hundred negro families and paying for wheat at the rate of \$1.40 a bushel for wheat. He believes the United States should either supply ships for cotton and lumber or put an embargo on wheat. The planter has an equity in his claim.—Commercial Appeal.

Probably wheat will take a downward trend before long to scare the balance of last year's crop on the market and then the time will come for calling an embargo. As usual after our southern commodities have safely gotten out of the producers' hands the price takes a skyward flight and remains there for a sufficient length of time to justify the mills and monopolies to make their profit. Even now the price of our fleecy staple is taking a slight advance but for many sections of the country the advance will do little or no good. In western Texas will be found more cotton sold at the advanced prices than in any other part of the south perhaps. Our farmers will profit by the increased price but those in the low land districts who have already sold their entire crop are acting the part of the new comer in a snipe hunt. "They are left with the bag to hold"

We believe that an embargo on wheat would do a great good and should the senate confer power upon the president to declare an embargo on such during the time the House and Senate is not in session the monopolies would face a grave situation in creating false prices. Bring on the embargo but do it at a time when it will do the most good and that time seems to be now in the wheat situation.

A QUART OF CIDER.

This should be entitled a card of thanks but the Mail editor is not sure yet whether thanks would be proper under such a condition.

One of our regular readers, J.M. Westenhouver, brought in a quart of pure apple cider last week for our sanction. No doubt Mr. Westenhouver thought that possibly there might be somebody connected with the Mail who was a connoisseur of liquor, but in this we cannot qualify, yet we intend to give this quart of yellow fluid an unprejudiced test. It may be that when we do the entire force will be converted into a yellow peril but the stuff has been given to us and we are going to be as brave as was the donor. If age will help this special quality of cider any we are willing to give it plenty of time to get into its proper state and should any of our readers see in our actions anything to denote that we had taken on too much of this fire water it will be their duty to take charge of us immediately and reserve judgment and censure until the man who gave us the dope can be found for if we are made the goats of this proposition here is where we will give one of our readers a run for his money.

Mr. Westenhouver stated that he made the cider and could vouch for its being pure. Acting under his statement we made an endeavor to find out just what pure cider was but even our dictionary did not give the desired information and the only way we will have of satisfying ourselves of its purity and strength is to give it a fair trial. So here goes, and should any of our readers miss next week's copy of the Mail you will please make your kick to Mr. Westenhouver.

JUMPING OUT IN FRONT.

Tarrant county jumps out in front as a leader of the movement to "Let Texas feed itself and keep \$200,000,000 at home." Every community in Tarrant county is to be organized for the production of more foodstuffs and feedstuffs, and for the inauguration of more profitable marketing. Help make Tarrant county the best farmed county in Texas.—Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

You cant do it, friend Ed of the 'Gram. If it were not for Taylor county being in the ring your assumption might be taken seriously, but people who know both counties know that you do not know what you are up against when you ask your fellow citizens to make Tarrant county the best farming county in Texas. A good suggestion for you to offer your county readers would be: "Emulate the actions of Taylor county farmers and the problem will be solved to a greater extent."

Probably Tarrant county will jump out in front as you say but only to be headed off by "Old Taylor." It is perfectly natural for a person to "hoop-em-up" a little but we kindly suggest that you keep an eye on west Texas and Taylor county.

A JURY THAT DID ITS DUTY.

It was on the night of December 21 that Chas. Oxnam aided in the murder of William M. Alexander, who had been a resident of Dallas, at Los Angeles. On the forenoon of January 12, or just about three weeks later, Oxnam had been pronounced guilty by a jury, which recommended that death be made the punishment. Here is a case of justice working quickly and unerringly that deserves to be celebrated. Such an event is not so commonplace that it can properly be allowed to pass unnoticed. Besides, there were other circumstances to this trial which alone would render it noteworthy, at least in Texas. One is that it took the jury only thirty minutes to come to this verdict, notwithstanding it had been subjected to much befuddling testimony of "experts" that Oxnam was insane. It is to be feared a Texas jury, if typical, would have been profoundly impressed by this marshaling of expertism. But this California jury seems very quickly to have reached the conclusion that if Oxnam was so little insane that it took an "expert" to discover the fact, he was not too insane to know what is the moral quality of Murder. Logic applauds that conclusion, whatever legalism may think of it.—Dallas News.

Couldn't someone stir up a legislature of some State and have our Texas body emulate their smooth working along logical lines.

A 16-year-old Houston boy was given a two years sentence in the reformatory at Gatesville for having forged a lady's name to a ticket for a 15 cent bed. Likely some big gun who robbed the boy's home of its beauty and comfort by exacting the measures that constitute the high cost of living will be given two years grant of special privileges. Next.

Day before yesterday saw the beginning of the new administration. Will it be another cat and dog fight affair? Here is hoping that the business element of those who compose the legislature will be in the majority.

Get the habit of burning the broom weeds around your home but be careful and not burn up your neighbor's property.

One writer says it is about time for the members of Congress to begin their spring distribution of garden seed.

Co-operate with the city officials and help enforce all laws.

About time for that spring clean-up. Better get ready.

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 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

A Hard Blow.

"Poor Mrs. de Reegur is broken-hearted. They can't send her any more Paris gowns. That suit she's wearing was made here in town." "What a pity! I never saw her looking so well."

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

Under new management of

Messrs. Clayton Brown and H. G. Irwin

AUTO REPAIR WORK
OUR SPECIALTY

Telephone No. 123

Automobile Supplies of all Descriptions.
Service Cars always ready to go—Day or Night.
Texas Company Oils and Gasoline.

Phone us Your Needs if you are in a Hurry.

THE MERKEL GARAGE

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 Kidney 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.

Satisfied.

Five-year-old Margie had traveled about a great deal during her short life. One day her aunt remarked: "Through all her travels, Margie always seems happy and contented." "Yes," said Margie, "no matter where I go, I always find some dirt to play in."

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.



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

Live Longer on Peninsulas. It is stated that the residents of islands and small peninsulas live longer than persons who dwell on the mainland.

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

Right Read to Knowledge.

He that studies only men will get the body of knowledge without the soul and he that studies only books, the soul without the body. He that to what he sees adds observation and to what he reads reflection is in the right road to knowledge, provided that in scrutinizing the hearts of others he neglects not his own.—Colton.

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.



MR. ERNEST WINTERS and MISS ALICE DE LANE in a scene from "Barriers Burned Away," one of the plays to be presented by the Gilson-Bradfield Stok Co. at Cozy Theatre Jan. 28-29-30.

Any Doctor

will tell you a fellow's constitution won't last forever—and in these strenuous times it needs a good overhauling occasionally.

Mineral Wells

is the "HUMAN REPAIR SHOP." Two or three weeks there will make you look and feel like new.



Offers Excursion Rates Daily Better Go Before Its Too Late Ask The Ticket Agent

A. D. BELL GEO. D. HUNTER Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agt., Gen'l Pass. Agt. DALLAS, TEXAS

OVER 65 YEARS' EXPERIENCE PATENTS TRADE MARKS DESIGNS COPYRIGHTS & C. Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American. A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers. MUNN & Co. 364 Broadway, New York Branch Office, 635 F St., Washington, D. C.

Easy Victims. There are nearly always enough people who do not read the newspapers on board a big ocean liner to make the voyage interesting for a few card sharps.

Dangers of a Cold.

Do you know that of all the minor ailments colds are by far the most dangerous? It is not the colds themselves that you need to fear, but the serious diseases they so often lead to. For that reason every cold should be gotten rid of with the least possible delay. To accomplish this you will find Chamberlain's Cough Remedy of great help to you. It loosens a cold, relieves the lungs, aids expectoration and enables the system to throw off the cold. For sale by all dealers. adv

Segregate Art Treasures.

Why not set apart one country where art treasures of the world can be segregated? Maybe Providence has been using American millionaires as blind instruments, in so far as they have been active in removing European art treasures to this country.

Joints that ache, muscles that are drawn or contracted should be treated with BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT. It penetrates to the spot where it is needed and relieves suffering. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs. adv

ENTIRELY BALD Her Hair Commenced to Grow after Two Weeks' Use of Newbro's Herpicide

"Fever caused me to be entirely bald. I had given up all hope of again having hair when I was advised to use Herpicide. After two weeks my hair commenced to grow. I now have the most beautiful head of hair anyone ever saw. Praise to Newbro's Herpicide."

Thus writes Mrs. Howard Bailey, of Bellevue, Mich. We can point to thousands of instances where the proper use of Herpicide has been followed by a remarkable growth of hair.

Newbro's Herpicide is "the original remedy which kills the dandruff germ" and stops falling hair.

Applications may be obtained at the best barbers and hair dressers.

Newbro's Herpicide in 50c and \$1.00 sizes is guaranteed to do all that is claimed. If you are not satisfied your money will be refunded.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

Truth.

Truth itself, according to Locke's fine saying, will not profit us so long as she is but held in the hand and taken upon trust from other minds, not wooed and won and wedded by our own.—George Elliot.

Fever Sores.

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for this purpose. It is also most excellent for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by all dealers. adv

The Destructive Auto.

An increase in parasitical diseases among poultry and game birds in England is attributed to the distribution of dust through air by automobiles.—Houston Post.

Heartburn, indigestion or distress of the stomach is instantly relieved by HERBINE. It forces the badly digested food out of the body and restores tone in the stomach and bowels. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Citation by Publication of Final Account

The State of Texas. To the Sheriff or any Constable of Taylor county—Greeting:

R. Y. Lacy, Administrator of the estate of W. M. Lacy, deceased, having filed in our County Court his final account of the condition of the estate of W. M. Lacy, deceased, numbered 556 on the Probate Docket of Taylor county, together with an application to be discharged from said administration.

You are hereby commanded, that by publication of this Writ for twenty days in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed in the county of Taylor, you give due notice to all persons interested in the Account for Final Settlement of said estate, to appear and contest the same if they see proper so to do, on or before the February term, 1915, of said County Court, commencing and to be holden at the Court House of said county, in the city of Abilene, on the 15th day of February, A. D. 1915, when said Account and Application will be acted upon by said Court.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at my office in the city of Abilene, this 18th day of January, A. D. 1915.

J. D. Hilton, Clerk, County Court, Taylor Co.

By Bertha Early, Deputy Clerk.

[L.S.] A true copy, I certify. J. T. Dodson, Sheriff Taylor County.



THE COUNTY FAIR

By Peter Radford Lecturer National Farmers' Union.

The farmer gets more out of the fair than anyone else. The fair to a city man is an entertainment; to a farmer it is education. Let us take a stroll through the fair grounds and linger a moment at a few of the points of greatest interest. We will first visit the mechanical department and hold communion with the world's greatest thinkers.

You are now attending a congress of the mental giants in mechanical science of all ages. They are addressing you in tongues of iron and steel and in language mute and powerful tell an eloquent story of the world's progress. The inventive geniuses are the most valuable farm hands we have and they perform an enduring service to mankind. We can all help others for a brief period while we live, but it takes a master mind to tower into the realm of science and light a torch of progress that will illuminate the pathway of civilization for future generations. The men who gave us the sickle, the binder, the cotton gin and hundreds of other valuable inventions work in every field on earth and will continue their labors as long as time. Their bright intellects have conquered death and they will live and serve mankind on and on forever, without money and without price. They have shown us how grand and noble it is to work for others; they have also taught us lessons in economy and efficiency, how to make one hour do the work of two or more; have lengthened our lives, multiplied our opportunities and taken toil off the back of humanity.

They are the most practical men the world ever produced. Their inventions have stood the acid test of utility and efficiency. Like all useful men, they do not seek publicity, yet millions of machines sing their praises from every harvest field on earth and as many plows turn the soil in mute applause of their marvelous achievements.

FARMER RADFORD ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The home is the greatest contribution of women to the world, and the hearthstone is her throne. Our social structure is built around her, and social righteousness is in her charge. Her beautiful life lights the skies of hope and her refinement is the charm of twentieth century civilization. Her graces and her power are the cumulative products of generations of queenly conquest, and her crown of exalted womanhood is jeweled with the wisdom of saintly mothers. She has been a great factor in the glory of our country, and her noble achievements should not be marred or her hallowed influence blighted by the coarser duties of citizenship. American chivalry should never permit her to bear the burdens of defending and maintaining government, but should preserve her unscathed from the allied influences of politics, and protect her from the weighty responsibilities of the sordid affairs of life that will crush her ideals and lower her standards. The motherhood of the farm is our inspiration, she is the guardian of our domestic welfare and a guide to a higher life, but directing the affairs of government is not within woman's sphere, and political gossip would cause her to neglect the home, forget to mend our clothes and burn the biscuits.

RURAL SOCIAL CENTERS.

We need social centers where our young people can be entertained, amused and instructed under the direction of cultured, clean and competent leadership, where aesthetic surroundings stir the love for the beautiful, where art charges the atmosphere with inspiration and power and innocent amusements instruct and brighten their lives.



PAYROLL OF CIVILIZATION MET BY FARMER

WANTS NO "DEADHEADS" ON LIST OF EMPLOYES.

A Call Upon the Law Makers to Prevent Useless Tax on Agriculture.

There is no payroll in civilization that does not rest upon the back of the farmer. He must pay the bills—all of them.

When a farmer buys a plow he pays the man who mined the metal, the woodman who felled the tree, the manufacturer who assembled the raw material and shaped it into an article of usefulness, the railroad that transported it and the dealer who sold him the goods. He pays the wages of labor and capital employed in the transaction as well as pays for the tools, machinery, buildings, etc., used in the construction of the commodity and the same applies to all articles of use and diet of himself and those engaged in the subsidiary lines of industry.

The total value of the nation's annual agricultural products is around \$12,000,000,000, and it is safe to estimate that 95 cents on every dollar goes to meet the expenses of subsidiary industries. The farmer does not work more than thirty minutes per day for himself; the remaining thirteen hours of the day's toil he devotes to meeting the payroll of the hired hands of agriculture, such as the manufacturer, railroad, commercial and other servants.

The Farmer's Payroll and How He Meets It.

The annual payroll of agriculture approximates \$12,000,000,000. A portion of the amount is shifted to foreign countries in exports, but the total payroll of industries working for the farmer divides substantially as follows: Railroads, \$1,252,000,000; manufacturers, \$4,365,000,000; mining, \$655,000,000; banks, \$200,000,000; mercantile, \$3,500,000,000, and a heavy miscellaneous payroll constitutes the remainder.

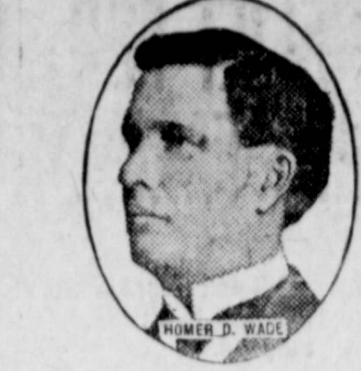
It takes the corn crop, the most valuable in agriculture, which sold last year for \$1,692,000,000, to pay off the employees of the railroads; the money derived from our annual sales of livestock of approximately \$2,000,000,000, the yearly cotton crop, valued at \$920,000,000; the wheat crop, which is worth \$610,000,000, and the oat crop, that is worth \$440,000,000, are required to meet the annual payroll of the manufacturers. The money derived from the remaining staple crops is used in meeting the payroll of the bankers, merchants, etc. After these obligations are paid, the farmer has only a few bunches of vegetables, some fruit and poultry which he can sell and call the proceeds his own.

When the farmer pays off his help he has very little left and to meet these tremendous payrolls he has been forced to mortgage homes, work women in the field and increase the hours of his labor.

We will devote this article to a discussion of unnecessary expenses and whether required by law or permitted by the managements of the concerns, is wholly immaterial. We want all waste labor and extravagance of whatever character, cut out. We will mention the full crew bill as illustrating the character of unnecessary expenses to which we refer.

Union Opposes "Full Crew" Bill. The Texas Farmers' Union registered its opposition to this character of legislation at the last annual meeting held in Fort Worth, August 4, 1914, by resolution, as follows:

"The matter of prime importance to the farmers of this state is an adequate and efficient marketing system; and we recognize that such a system is impossible without adequate railroad facilities, embracing the greatest amount of service at the least possible cost. We further recognize that the farmers and pro-



ducers in the end pay approximately 95 per cent of the expense of operating the railroads, and it is, therefore, to the interest of the producers that the expenses of the common carriers be as small as possible, consistent with good service and safety. We, therefore, call upon our lawmakers, courts and juries to bear the foregoing facts in mind when dealing with the common carriers of this state, and we do especially reaffirm the declarations of the last annual convention of our State Union, opposing the passage of the so-called "full crew" bill before the thirty-third legislature of Texas."

The farmers of Missouri in the last election, by an overwhelming majority, swept this law off the statute book of that state, and it should not be put on the statute book of Texas and no legislature of this nation should pass such a law or similar legislation which requires unnecessary expenditures.

This applies to all regulatory measures which increase the expenses of industry without giving corresponding benefits to the public. There is oftentimes a body of men assembled at legislatures—and they have a right to be there—who, in their zeal for rendering their fellow-associates a service, sometimes favor an increase in the expenses of industry without due regard for the men who bow their backs to the summer's sun to meet the payroll, but these committees, while making a record for themselves, rub the skin off the shoulders of the farmer by urging the legislature to lay another burden upon his heavy load and under the lash of "be it enacted" goad him on to pull and surge at the traces of civilization, no matter how he may sweat, foam and gall at the task. When legislatures "cut a melon" for labor they hand the farmer a lemon.

The farmers of the United States are not financially able to carry "dead heads" on their payrolls. Our own hired hands are not paid unless we have something for them to do and we are not willing to carry the hired help of dependent industries unless there is work for them. We must, therefore, insist upon the most rigid economy.

Legislative House-Cleaning Needed.

While the war is on and there is a lull in business, we think the legislature should take an inventory of the statute books and wipe off all extravagant and useless laws. A good house-cleaning is needed in Texas and economies can be instituted here and there that will patch the clothes of indigent children, rest tired mothers and lift mortgages from despondent homes. Unnecessary workmen taken off and useless expenses chopped down all along the line will add to the prosperity of the farmer and encourage him in his mighty effort to feed and clothe the world.

If any of these industries have surplus employes we can use them on the farm. We have no regular schedule of wages, but we pay good farm hands on an average of \$1.50 per day of thirteen hours when they board themselves; work usually runs about nine months of the year and during the three months dead time, they can do the chores for their board. If they prefer to farm on their own account, there are more than 14,000,000 acres of idle land on the earth's surface awaiting the magic touch of the plow. The compensation is easily obtainable from Federal Agricultural Department statistics. The total average annual sales of a farm in the continental United States amount to \$516.00; the cost of operation is \$340.00; leaving the farmer \$176 per annum to live on and educate his family.

There is no occasion for the legislatures making a position for surplus employes of industry. Let them come "back to the soil" and share with us the prosperity of the farm.

W. D. Lewis, President, Farmers' Educational & Co-operative Union of Texas. Peter Radford, National Lecturer Farmers' Educational & Co-operative Union of America.



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COTTON LOAN?

FARMERS WANT TO KNOW.

Producers Tired of "Watchful Waiting."

By Peter Radford Lecturer National Farmers' Union

The government officially estimates the 1914 cotton crop at 15,969,000 bales. This is the largest production in the history of the cotton industry. The 1911 crop held the record to the present year with a production of 15,690,701 bales. I estimate we have at least two million bales in the field, much of it deserted by the discouraged farmer and will probably never be gathered. The 1914 crop also ranks among the largest in production per acre, averaging 208 pounds per acre and reaches the low water mark in price. The price officially estimated for the 1914 crop is 6 cents per pound against an average price of 12 cents per pound 1913 and a production of 16 1/2 pounds per acre.

Greatest Crop—Lowest Value.

The value of the 1914 crop is six cents less per pound, or \$480,000,000 less than the value of last year's crop. This is a greater financial blow to the South than the freeing of the slaves and it has sent millions of Southern farmers and their families staggering down the thoroughfares of poverty, but the South is brave and can meet adversity. When the war was over we beat our swords into plow shares and we have the courage and ability to transform a calamity into a blessing.

The Farmers' Union asked Congress to meet the emergency by lending money on cotton so as to enable poor farmers to hold their crop, but the request was rejected, or rather modified by the government agreeing to join with bankers in providing a fund of \$135,000,000 for lending on cotton. The anti-trust law had a special construction placed upon it, the patriotism of bankers was appealed to and headlines full of hope were flashed across the columns of the leading newspapers of the nation for a few months, but where is the money? No farmer has ever seen a dollar of it. There is nothing quite so destructive to those in distress as false hope, and if this movement which has been so persistently heralded to the world has failed, we are entitled to know it.

I want to call attention to the fact that the farmer—the owner of the property involved—was never consulted in the transaction. The story was told him as children are told the story of Arabian Nights and the bed-time story of the rainbow with the pot of gold, and it seems to be about the same sort of literature. The farmers were never taken into the confidence or the councils of the business men and the government officials engaged in the transaction. We do not know why.

Farmers Have Squared Accounts Unaided.

It is perhaps sufficient to say that a business movement having for its component parts the most powerful forces on the American continent made an honest and strenuous effort to help the farmer and failed, and the farmers of the South are now drinking the bitter dregs of that failure. Approximately three-fourths of the cotton crop is now out of the hands of the producer and the poor farmer who most needed the money has already squared accounts and has begun the struggle to overcome the deficit that has taken school books from his children, shoes off his wife and threatens the shelter of his family, and it is to his permanent relief that the government and the business men of the nation should now turn their attention.

The problem has three factors: the farmers, the business men and the government, and if all three elements will unite we can easily work out plans for relief, and the organized farmers of America are ready to do their share.

ASK RELIEF FOR TENANT FARMER

Miss Annie Smith entertained the members of the Twentieth Century club at her home Saturday afternoon. The installation of officers took place. Mrs. T. A. Harris was elected to membership. The attendance was very good. At the conclusion of the lesson the hostess served dainty refreshments. Miss McLendon will be the next hostess at the home of Mrs. B. Jenkins.

The dance Friday evening was quite a social success. The programs marked sixteen dances with several extras. Music was furnished by the orchestra. A number of out of town guests were present.

The Woman's Missionary society of the Methodist church met at the church Monday afternoon. The lesson on New America was ably led by Mrs. M. Armstrong. The interest was very great. Mrs. Martins posters helped to make the lesson plain besides adding many sidelights.

The Baraca Class.

The Methodist Baraca class is growing every week in number as well as in enthusiasm and interest. It is a desirable place for a young man on Sunday morning and you will be welcomed. "You are a stranger but come."

A business meeting was held at the class room Thursday December 14, with a large attendance and good spirit. New officers were elected as follows: John Morgan, President; Ernest Rogers, Vice-President; Stanley King, Secretary; Claud Jenkins, Assistant Secretary; Verl Johnson, Treasurer; Jasper Tucker, Press Reporter. Prof. Morris retained as teacher. The meeting was brought to a close by a speech made by Ernest Rogers, full of enthusiasm for the up building of the class.—Press Reporter.

League Program

Subject—Moses, from passion to self mastery.
 Scripture ref. Ex. 2:11-12, Nun. 12:1-3, 10-13, 16: 2-5.
 Song.
 Prayer.
 The similarity of conditions with which Moses met, with those which comfort the laboring people of today.—Dr. McMaster.
 Song.
 God's promise to renew our patience.—Mrs. Martin.
 Duet—Misses Mary and Jackie Jennings.
 Prayer.
 Miscellaneous.
 Benediction.

Questions on Hamlet.

What do you say of the mystery in this drama? If Hamlet feigned madness did he deceive anyone? How could feigning insanity further Hamlet's designs of vengeance?
 Does Hamlet show any twinge of conscience for sending Guildenstern and Rosencrantz to their doom?
 Does any other play of Shakespeare's rank with Hamlet? Does any of the world surpass it in greatness of conception?
 What would you offer as the chief reason for the Universal interest in Hamlet? How sum up the elements which give the play its rank in the dramatic and literary world?
 How is this play to be regarded in the light of modern science? Does it teach definite lessons concerning the relation of men and circumstances?
 What is Hamlet's predominant trait? Account for his vacillation? What sort of education does Hamlet appear to have had?

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
 Your druggist will refund money if FAZO 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.

Farmers' Union Officials Want a Law Enacted That Will Fulfill Its Purpose.

Fort Worth, Texas.—The most important problem that confronts the Texas Legislature in its 34th session is relief for the tenant farmer.

Out of the 219,575 tenant farmers the Federal Census Bureau shows that 17,500, or less than 10 per cent, pay cash rent and we estimate that 60 per cent rent on the basis of one-third grain and one-fourth cotton and 30 per cent pay more than a third and a fourth. There are perhaps 65,000 tenant farmers in this State, who, in some form or other, pay a rental of more than a third and a fourth on land. To this number we may add the 17,500 cash tenants, for it is there the worst forms of rental extortion exist, although it might be difficult to prohibit, by law, a willing renter paying a willing landlord an agreed sum for use of property.

Abuses of Tenancy System.

There are many abuses growing out of our tenancy system which should be corrected and punished by law if they cannot be corrected peaceably. We will mention a few of them. Out of the 65,000 tenant farmers who pay more than a third and a fourth land rental, we estimate that 40 per cent, or 26,000, pay direct to the landlord and the remaining 39,000 pay it to brokers and agents who rent lands on a basis of a third and a fourth and then sub-rent at a profit, charging a cash bonus for the farm or advancing the rents beyond the price they pay. Such practices should be broken up by law for they constitute an illegitimate occupation. The owner of property should look after his business personally or hire some one to do so, paying them a reasonable sum out of his own pocket, and not become a party to an injurious system of speculation. We leave the legislature to deal with the iniquitous tenancy system, according to their wisdom.

Union Calls Upon Legislature for Building Material.

We believe a rural credit bill, properly drawn, permitting long time loans at a low rate of interest, will place a home within the reach of every tenant farmer and automatically eliminate many of the evils of farm tenancy, as well as help the home owner. We believe that agriculture will receive more substantial benefit from increasing opportunity than in multiplying penalties. We think it a greater legislative achievement to expand the area of opportunity than to increase the zone of crime. It is an important function of government to keep open and enlarge the avenues of choice, but no effort should be made to restrain freedom of judgment and action.

The farmers, like every other class of people, have the weak and incapable. There are some tenant farmers, who, if offered a home in the skies, would prefer to rent so they could move once a year, and no amount of constructive legislation will benefit them. We do not favor restrictive legislation that involves the entire structure of society in order to benefit the incompetent. Give the man who tries a chance and give it abundantly.

We invite the Texas Bankers' Association to appoint a committee to assist in framing a bill that is sound commercially and one they can recommend the securities to their customers. We have too many "still-born" laws on the statute books now and there is no use for the legislature to waste time creating securities which cannot be financed.
 W. D. Lewis, President, Farmers' Educational & Co-operative Union of Texas.
 Peter Radford, National Lecturer Farmers' Educational & Co-operative Union of America.

Electric Bitters

Succeed when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified.
FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE
 It is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.

HUSBAND RESCUED DESPAIRING WIFE

After Four Years of Discouraging Conditions, Mrs. Bullock Gave Up in Despair. Husband Came to Rescue.

Catron, Ky.—In an interesting letter from this place, Mrs. Bettie Bullock writes as follows: "I suffered for four years, with womanly troubles, and during this time, I could only sit up for a little while, and could not walk anywhere at all. At times, I would have severe pains in my left side.

The doctor was called in, and his treatment relieved me for a while, but I was soon confined to my bed again. After that, nothing seemed to do me any good.

I had gotten so weak I could not stand, and I gave up in despair.

At last, my husband got me a bottle of Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I commenced taking it. From the very first dose, I could tell it was helping me. I can now walk two miles without its tiring me, and am doing all my work."

If you are all run down from womanly troubles, don't give up in despair. Try Cardui, the woman's tonic. It has helped more than a million women, in its 50 years of continuous success, and should surely help you, too. Your druggist has sold Cardui for years. He knows what it will do. Ask him. He will recommend it. Begin taking Cardui today.

Write to: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. 7-6



Don't Miss It! Next Episode No. 10

OF THE MILLION DOLLAR MYSTERY

Thenhouser's Million Dollar Motion Picture Production



"Shanghaied"

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

Remember the "Gilson-Bradfield Stook Company with Miss Alice De Lane supported by an exceptional company will be the attraction at Cozy Theater January 28, 29 and 30.

Agents Wanted.

\$5 to \$7 daily selling New Fibre Brooms; every woman will buy. Sample by parcel post, 30 cents. Wynne Broom Co., Elmira, N.Y.

Hay for Sale.

Baled oats and Johnson grass delivered at 25c all over 20 bales; less than 20 delivered at 35c. T. D. Compton, 1544pd

Light Plant on "Kibosh."

The town of Merkel has been in the dark all of this week and from all reports will likely remain in such state until Sun- or Monday at which time repairs are expected to arrive by express to replace parts broken in the power engine Monday night.

About the Nightingale.

It is said that few birds lend themselves to captivity so readily as the nightingale. To be sure, they should be confined in an aviary or a large outdoor cage. The story is told of one nightingale which never sang again after it went from its old owner to a new one.

Piano Tuning.

For the next thirty days I will tune pianos for \$2.50 and guarantee my work. Leave orders with E. D. Coats. L. A. Mangum, the blind man.

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.

DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY
 Will Surely Stop That Cough.

Real Estate. Bargains Only Wanted

If you have land to sell give an exclusive contract on it to a proven system of selling dirt.

An exclusive contract justifies an agency to spend money to get buyers and protects the land man as well as yourself.

In listing your land under an exclusive contract it costs you absolutely nothing unless a sale is made, and in event of a sale you will be willing to pay the commission.

In looking for purchasers for bonafide bargains, time is too precious to waste on any contract other than an exclusive one. If you have something you want to sell you can appreciate this fact and the best way to do business is to be positive and to the point.

List Your Land Now

Taylor county and all West Texas is the base of operations and anything from a peanut patch to a pig pasture worth the money you ask for it will sell if the proper attention is given it.

Merkel Country Land Owners

Remember, exclusive land contracts only are what sells land. If you have a land bargain to let list it with Jackson for results.

MONEY TO LOAN ON CHOICE Farm Land

Jno. G. Jackson Real Estate Abilene and Merkel

Contracts Accepted at Merkel Mail Office
 By Homer L. Easterwood

TELL YOUR FRIENDS

THOSE WHO READ EXTENSIVELY

The Dallas Semi-Weekly News
AND
The Merkel Mail

BOTH ONE YEAR
Only \$1.40

This is for new subscribers to the News Only

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.

Engagement Extraordinary

COZY THEATRE

3 BIG NIGHTS---JANUARY 28, 29 AND 30---3 BIG NIGHTS

The Gilson-Bradfield Stock Company

With "MISS ALICE DE LANE"

14 - PEOPLE - 14

Special Scenery
for
Each Production

Positively the Greatest
Repertoire of
Plays
ever produced
by a traveling
Stock Company

OPENING PLAY

A Dramatization of Myrtle Reed's Most Famous Novel

"Lavender and Old Lace"

A Play That Appeals to All Classes

Seats on sale at ELITE CONFECTIONERY
Special Reduced Prices

Overture 7:30--Curtain 8:00 Promptly

14 - PEOPLE - 14

The Highest-Class
Stock Company
En Tour

Change of Play
EACH
NIGHT

Matinee Saturday
2:30 P.M.

A Mile Ahead of Any Other Show You Will Have This Season

OUR CORRESPONDENCE

Salt Branch.

The health of the community is very good at this writing.

W. L. Barker and family were visiting relatives near Hawley Saturday and Sunday.

E. J. Barker and family have moved near Truby.

P. A. Stone and family have moved to Merkel.

Austin Robertson and wife attended the bedside of their sister who was operated on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Barker were in Abilene Sunday visiting Mr. and Mrs. Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Higgins were in Abilene Tuesday visiting Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and daughter.

There was no Sunday school here Sunday on account of not having any literature.

Blair

Rev. Farris filled his regular appointment Sunday. Rev. Greene, missionary of the Sweetwater association was also present and made an interesting talk.

Rev. Hubert E. Bullock will preach at the school house Sunday evening.

Miss Jessie Clark and sister, Mrs. Joe Brown, returned home Monday from Jones county, where they have been attending the bedside of Mrs. Rigor Clark, who has been very sick but is now reported better.

Jacob Reeves, Jr., has moved to Fisher county where he will farm during this year.

Mr. Stonecipher has moved to Arkansas. Evidently it rains too much in West Texas for him.

Pulling cotton is the order of the day and there is but little of the fleecy staple being picked.

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.

Shiloh

There was no Sunday School at Shiloh Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wheeler of Colorado City are visiting relatives and friends here.

Miss Edith Mayberry of Simmons College spent the week end with homefolks.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seago attended services at Noodle Sunday.

Dick Wheeler of Eastland spent Sunday with relatives in this community.

Floyd Grayson happened to a painful accident Saturday afternoon when he had a toe on his left foot broken. Dr. Armstrong of Merkel was called out to see him. Floyd was hobbling around on crutches Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Young and little daughter, Annie, returned to their home at Dallas Monday, after spending the past three months with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson.

G. M. Sharp of Merkel is having some improvements made on his house at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Walker of near Stith have moved to the house vacated by Mr. Shouse. We welcome them to our community.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Ulric Wheeler and families, Dick Wheeler and Mr. and Mrs. Beavers gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson late Sunday afternoon and enjoyed a song and prayer service. Henry Wheeler conducted the prayer service. Mrs. Chas. Seago played the organ. Wilner Grayson led the song service.

Don't forget the Elite. Hot drinks.

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.



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



THE SOUTHWESTERN TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE COMPANY

Goes to Gatesville.

John Henry of Noodle left Monday night for Gatesville to visit his old home and relatives.

Mr. Henry moved to the Merkel country several years ago from Gatesville and is making his first return visit to that country.

LOST.—Open face gold watch between Stith and Hodges; filed case, screw face and back, 17 jewel adjusted, Elgin movement. Reward for return. E. E. Dawson, Rt. 4 Merkel, Texas, three and one-half miles east of Stith. 1tpd

Kodak prints 4 cents each at the Universal Studio.



UP-TO-DATE LAUNDRY WORK

No matter how fine domestic laundering is done, it will never compare with the perfect method that gives the linen done up here such an exquisite finish and beautiful color, that renders it irreproachable and just like new. Bring your shirts, collars and cuffs to us and we will guarantee satisfaction.

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

New Garage Proprietors.

The Merkel Garage on south front street was sold last week by the owners S. P. Foster and Son to Messrs. Clayton Brown and H. G. Irwin who took over the business forthwith following the deal.

The new owners will continue the business at the same stand, opposite the depot, South front street.

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

BIG SURPRISE TO MANY IN THIS TOWN

Local people are surprised at the QUICK results received from simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-ka, the German remedy which became famous by curing appendicitis. This simple remedy draws off such a surprising amount of old foul matter from the body that A SINGLE DOSE relieves sour stomach, gas on the stomach and constipation INSTANTLY. It is the best remedy we have ever sold.

H. C. BURROUGHS, Druggist

Sheriff Dodson Here.

Sheriff J. T. Dodson to Merkel people seems to be about the busiest sheriff Taylor county has had in sometime, at least his presence is noticed here to a greater extent.

His official duties called him here Tuesday morning to take charge of a young man under arrest for carrying concealed weapons. The boy in question was under investigation Monday morning together with three companions in regard to a petty theft and while on his way to Justice of the Peace N. D. Cobb's office tried to rid himself of a set of brass knuckles and was caught in the act. Had he not been over anxious to get rid of this implement of warfare no doubt he would have escaped punishment as did his companion cotton pickers. The arrest was made by Constable Laney.



MISS ROSE AINSWORTH with the Gilson-Bradfield Stock Co. at the Cozy Theatre Jan. 28-29-30

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.

Broken Promises

"Yes, I would like one of your pictures ever so much."—"I haven't any of myself at present to exchange but expect to have some taken soon, and then I'll remember you."

Now be honest. To how many people have you told this old, old story? And how long ago were some of those promises made?

Count them up carefully, then come in and get enough pictures to "square" yourself.

After keeping your friends waiting so long it might be advisable to get something extra good.

We have it.

UNIVERSAL STUDIO
O. A. CORDELL, Mgr.



TO ENJOY WINTER

Prof. Frankland demonstrates that COD LIVER OIL generates more body-heat than anything else.

In SCOTT'S EMULSION the pure oil is so prepared that the blood profits from every drop, while it fortifies throat and lungs.

If you are subject to cold hands or feet; if you shiver and catch cold easily; take SCOTT'S EMULSION for one month and watch its good effects. NO ALCOHOL.

14-9 REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

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