

## MERKEL STATION HEADS T. & P. LIST

Three times within the last four months Agent A. J. Leighty of the Texas & Pacific Co., at this place has been at the head of the Blue Ribbon Honor Roll for having made the greatest increase of ticket sales over the same month in 1914.

In February the largest percentage of increase yet given to the Merkel station was 129.4 per cent over February in 1914. Each of the reports during the time in which Mr. Leighty has been at the head of the Blue Ribbon list for Texas & Pacific towns his picture has graced the columns of the Texas & Pacific Magazine in a conspicuous place and has greatly supplemented the article to which the likeness belonged. The Merkel office is credited with an increase of 80.0 per cent in March over the same time last year but bulletins have not yet been issued as to the standing of the various towns on the T. & P.

## WALKER COTTAGE CHANGES HANDS

Beginning Saturday, the Walker Cottage will be under new management according to a rental contract drawn up Wednesday between W. R. Walker owner of the hotel and Mrs. M. R. Woodrum, formerly proprietor of the South Side Hotel for a number of years.

In the contract Mrs. Woodrum takes charge of the Walker Cottage Saturday and the following day Mr. and Mrs. Walker leave for Fort Worth, Dallas and other points for a short visit before returning to Abilene where Mr. Walker will take charge of the new Grand Central Hotel which will be completed about May 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker have made Merkel their home since 1903 and have conducted a hotel business during the entire time with the exception of about one year. Their departure from our town is to be regretted but we commend them to the citizenship of our sister city.

With Mrs. M. R. Woodrum in management of the Walker Cottage, we expect and predict a continued success for the Walker Cottage. The location is ideal and the services will be equal to the best as Mrs. Woodrum thoroughly understands the business she is taking charge of.

## ANOTHER LOW CLUBBING OFFER

At all times it is our intention to have a special subscription offer of more than usual interest to our readers and our latest one is a free subscription to two well known Texas publications.

With every new or renewal to the Merkel Mail at the rate of \$1.00 we will send to the subscriber's address free of charge HOLLAND'S MAGAZINE and FARM AND RANCH for a period of six months to each of these publications. The offer is open now and lasts only a short time.

### Notice.

All kinds of cement work done at lowest prices. Also cement coverings around graves. Phone 1250, Abilene, or 236, China St. Taos, Ludgate. 1tpd

## MARRIED SUNDAY WAS ROMANTIC

Sunday morning at the break of day, Rev. W. P. Garvin was awakened from his slumbers by a couple who desired to embark on the smooth sea of matrimony. At least it is supposed to be a smooth sea for the voyage of about twelve hours preceding the marriage was a very stormy one and full of gusts and dashes that brought romance into it to such an extent that W. F. Evans a jitney driver from here, began to feel that he was in the right church but the wrong pew. It all happened in this way.

Mr. M. D. Douglass of Dallas, arrived in Merkel Saturday, hired the services of W. F. W. F. Evans and his Ford to go to Roby after dark. Mr. Douglass had planned to meet his brother near Roby who was to have been in company of Miss Belle Griffin, the former intended. Through some mistake the orders were confused and the brother of the groom came straight to Merkel with the bride, expecting to meet his brother here. The groom during these many hours was doing the "Sherlock Holmes" in and out of Roby in an attempt to find the girl he loved. He was not to be daunted in his quest and kept up his vigilant work until in the wee hours of the morning when the brother in Merkel, realizing that a mistake had been made, obtained an auto and left for Roby, arriving there in time to inform his brother that the bride was and had been in Merkel for hours. When the groom and his brother arrived here they found the bride-to-be out of place again. The young lady, in fear of being detected by her objecting parent, had gone to the home of friends a few miles north of Merkel to await the return of her lover. About 5:45 a. m., after running a "gauntlet of shot guns," reported much in evidence at Roby, W. F. Evans, the innocent bystander of the occasion, arrived at the home of Rev. Garvin as stated in the beginning. The bride and groom left for Dallas Sunday.

## NEW HOTEL OPENS MONDAY TO TRADE

Preparatory work is being done this week on the two story brick Crenshaw building at the corner of Kent and North Front streets to making a hotel of the entire second floor and a portion of the ground floor.

The management of the new place will be Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Henderson formerly of Sulphur Springs who have been making Merkel their home for the past two months. Mr. Henderson in speaking of the new enterprise stated that he hoped to be able to open the hotel Monday. The entire upper floor will be used for rooms while the office and dining room will be in the corner and first room on Kent street.

### Leaves for Oenaville.

S. T. Anderson of Route 1 received a message Wednesday morning telling him of his father, M. C. Anderson of Oenaville, being very low with pneumonia.

Mr. Anderson was seen just before he left Wednesday morning. He stated that his father had been sick for some time and at his extreme old age of 84 years there seemed to be little hope that he would recover from the present trouble.

## SCHOOL BOND ELECTION WILL LIKELY BE PRESENTED TO VOTERS

Election Will be Called Asking the Voters to Issue Bonds to the Amount of \$18,000 for Much Needed School Work.

Tuesday evening men of affairs of Merkel and men who had the interest of the Merkel schools at heart met and devised plans for the correction of our school facilities. Meeting with the local representatives was Assistant State Superintendent Whitley who was here for the explicit purpose of assisting in bringing the Merkel school buildings up to a needed standard.

Without increasing the tax rate on property owners of the Merkel country the amount of \$18,000.00 in bonds can be issued under the present rate of taxation. The time of payment being extended will be sufficient to take care of the present issue.

A committee was appointed by the meeting to get up a petition asking the Merkel School Board to call an election for the purpose of issuing an additional \$18,000.00 in bonds. As soon as this petition is presented to the Board an election can be called after notice of the election has been posted for a period of twenty days. With this time limit the Merkel voters should have an opportunity to vote for the betterment of our school condition within the next forty-five days.

When this election is called it would be well for our voters to emulate the actions of the Trent voters in their election of Saturday, April 3, at which time they voted the amount of \$3,000.00 in school bonds without a dissenting vote. No doubt their actions will be an inspiration to Merkel voters.

## SATURDAY WAS A BIG COTTON DAY

Saturday, April 3, saw one hundred and ten bales of cotton marketed and weighed at the Merkel yards.

A portion of this day's receipts was direct from the Merkel gins while the balance was cotton that has been held by Merkel country farmers. Not in the memory of Merkel people has the cotton season extended so far into the summer as has the '14-'15 crop.

### A Good Man Goes To Reward.

The death of S. S. Smith Sunday evening brought sorrow to the many Merkel people who have known him for years. Mr. Smith had been sick for several weeks and for several days before his demise his death was expected every moment.

Mr. Smith was born in Mississippi March 2, 1847 moved to Milan county in early manhood and to the Merkel country in 1888. He was a staunch member of the M. E. church south. Surviving him are two children, one son and one daughter, Ford Smith and Mrs. John Campbell both of route 3. Funeral services were held Monday evening at 4 o'clock at the Methodist Church, Rev. W. P. Garvin conducting the services. Burial was given the body immediately after in the Rose Hill cemetery.

### Agent Province Resigns.

J. C. Province, agent for the Wells-Fargo Express Co., at this place, resigned his position the first of the week and will do nothing during the summer but recuperate and enjoy outings.

An auditor for for the Wells-Fargo Co., was here Monday and checked up the office. D. F. Ferguson of Marshall has taken charge of the duties as agent for the company at this place.

LIV-VER-LAX tones up the system, stimulates the liver to work in harmony with the other organs. Guaranteed to give satisfaction by Mrs. E. M. Rust

## FREE SHOW THIS P. M. AT THE ROYAL

Beginning this afternoon at 3 o'clock the Royal Theatre will give a free matinee continuously until 6 o'clock, showing the interesting story of "Zudora" or "The \$20,000,000 Mine Mystery."

Readers of the Mail will find the story far more interesting if they will read the first installment of "Zudora" in this issue of the Mail.

### Returns to Merkel Country.

Andrew Barbee, formerly of Noodle, who has been making his home in Paducah for the past few years, returned to Merkel last week to visit his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barbee, of Noodle.

It was the intention of Mr. Barbee that on his return to his home at Paducah that he would go from there to New Mexico but the strings of the Merkel country evidently were stronger and his return to Paducah Saturday was for the purpose of packing up and coming back to the Merkel country to live. He expects to reach here the latter part of this week.

### THE BLACK BOX

#### Infant Child Dies.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Robbins died at the family home Tuesday evening. Interment was given the body Wednesday afternoon in Rose Hill cemetery, Rev. W. P. Garvin conducting the services.

### THE BLACK BOX

If you can afford a Ford you cannot afford to be without FIRESTONE tires. G. F. West Co.

Seeded Ribbon Cane Seed at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

The celebrated FIRESTONE automobile tires. Sold by G. F. West Co.

### THE BLACK BOX

## RETURNING FROM CHINA TO MERKEL

Shanghai, March 6, 1915. Mrs. J. H. Counts, Merkel, Texas.

My Dear Precious Mamma: For several weeks past I have wanted to write you but have been in such an unsettled state of mind that I wanted to wait until I could write something definite. However, I wrote Maude and Lydia and also Lou, telling them I was expecting to leave, etc., but at the last moment I failed to catch the boats I was telling them about as they were full up. So now, here is the latest information which cancels all other letters. I will sail tomorrow at 6 p. m. on the N. Y. K. Company's steamer "Mishima Mara," a nice large liner, but under the Japanese flag and the following points I will pass on my way to New York: From Shanghai to Hongkong, Singapore, Penyan, Colombo, Bombay, Suez, Port Said, Marsailles, Paris, London and then New York. When I pass through Suez I expect to stop over in Egypt and go to Cairo and visit the pyramids and then to Palestine where Christ was born and then possibly stop over in Italy. This will be fulfilling at least one of my ambitions and you need not worry one minute for I am as safe as can be and perfectly happy and have all of my American pass ports fixed so no one can stop me and I'll be home in about two months—never to leave again. Will write you a card or letter along the way. I'll be half home when you get this. I'm so very happy to realize that I'm actually ready to start "home" and be with you and papa that I can't hardly wait. May God protect you all until we meet again.

Your loving son, Ernest.

Have your old cotton beds renovated or new ones made. Feather mattresses a specialty. Will call for your work in the morning and deliver in the afternoon. All work guaranteed. Phone 214. R. J. Bassett.

## MERCHANTS MEET ON MONDAY NIGHT

Next Monday night the regular meeting time of the Retail Merchants Association at the City Hall should be a meeting well attended.

At this meeting the annual election of officers should be taken up, the elected officers to take their places the next following meeting.

### THE BLACK BOX

LIV-VER-LAX is guaranteed to relieve troubles resulting from a disordered liver. Pleasant to take and perfectly harmless. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

### Farmers Look Here.

Pure and improved Kafir and Milo seed. Kafir standard black capped white seed, Red top dwarf maize \$1.00 per bu., F. O. B. Floydada, Texas. See W. B. Robertson and W. E. Petty for references at Merkel. Earl Rainer, Floydada, Texas.

A complete line of FIRESTONE auto casings and inner tubes at G. F. West Co.

Seeded Ribbon Cane Seed at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

### THE BLACK BOX

## BAIRD & WILSON COMEDIANS HERE

The Baird & Wilson Comedy company are playing a week's stand in Merkel this week in their large tent theatre just east of the Walker Cottage.

This company has been giving good clean shows each night and their audiences have been very very appreciative of their work, especially so the work of "Red" Wilson who we would term an excellent comedian. Mr. Wilson has a way of doing original sketches, talking with a rapid fire flow of language on nearly everything that happens in his mind, and to the crowds that have been gathering at the show he has been making good. The company remains for the balance of the week, playing a special matinee Saturday evening and closing their engagement here on Saturday night.

Get rid of the grouch. LIV-VER-LAX makes the sun shine brighter. Mrs. E. M. Rust will tell you about LIV-VER-LAX.

## A SPECIAL STORY FOR OUR READERS

In this issue of the Mail appears the first installment of "The Twenty Million Dollar Mine Mystery," or "Zudora," what is probably the greatest story of its kind that Harold McGrath has yet written.

This story will appear each week in the Mail until completed and each issue will be entirely a separate story. In addition to reading this striking serial our readers will have the opportunity of seeing the pictures of each installment each Friday at the Royal Theatre. Read the story in the Merkel Mail every Friday and see the picture at the Royal the same day. The first installment of "Zudora" appears on page seven in this paper.

### in Our Professional Columns.

Following the removal of Dr. S. D. Davis from our midst, his offices have been occupied by Dr. J. L. Gilliland, formerly of El Paso, who has been here in the practice of dentistry for a short time.

The name of Dr. Gilliland will be found in our professional columns. He is a man of years' experience in his profession and came to Merkel with excellent recommendations from the Border City.

## WILL ERECT NEW GIN OUTFIT SOON

Within a short time the Brown Independent Gin Co., will erect a gin plant here and install the most modern machinery possible to obtain.

Machinery to equip the plant has already been purchased and consists of five stands of 80 saws each. G. B. Brown, one of the best known gin men in West Texas, will have charge of the new Merkel plant.

### Notice of Sale.

Having bought the exclusive right from Mr. L. O. McCandhan to make and sell the famous Eureka Furniture Dressing and Gilt Finish, I am now ready to deliver the goods. Phone orders to A. L. Jobe, 139. Anyone wishing the agency should see me

# The Farmers State Bank

ESTABLISHED 1912

## NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS IN THE GUARANTY FUND

Every State Bank in Texas which fails for any reason the depositors are immediately paid from the Guaranty Fund of the State of Texas, which is now nearly One Million Dollars.

If your money is in a STATE bank you have no cause for worry, for there has never a Depositor lost a Dollar in the State Banks of Texas.

This Bank is a Guaranty Fund Bank and offers you the protection for your money to which you are entitled.

SERVICE

SAFETY

COURTESY

## MERKEL WINS 9 TO ABILENE'S 8

Merkel celebrated the opening of the baseball season on Thursday of this week by beating Abilene out of an 8 to 9 score.

Inability of the Abilene slab artist to locate the plate coupled to scattered hits of the locals in which Howard out-shined his team mates gave Merkel their score while a loosely played sixth by the Merkel gardeners together with Abilene's also widely scattered hits enabled the visitors to all but even up the score.

### A Healing Salve for Burns, Chapped Hands and Sore Nipples

As a healing salve for burns, sores, sore nipples and chapped hands Chamberlain's Salve is most excellent. It allays the pain of a burn almost instantly, and unless the injury is very severe, heals the parts without leaving a scar. Price 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

### Mrs. F. M. Cordell Very Low.

For the past ten days Grandma Cordell, wife of F. M. Cordell, has been gradually sinking and at the time of going to press her condition was such that death is momentarily expected.

This aged lady has lived in Merkel from the time the country was a wild west and is well known and loved by pioneer citizenship as well as all her new acquaintances. Her daughter Mrs. J. D. Jones of the Canyon and S. S. Brandon also of the Canyon and J. G. Brandon of Putnam have been with her almost constantly during the last few days.

### For Constipation.

Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent druggist of Spirit Lake, Iowa, says: "Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly the best thing on the market for constipation." Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable and pleasant in effect. Price, 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

## SUDAN GRASS

### "Its History."

In 1909 a few seeds were sent to Texas and distributed among the several experimental stations under the general direction of the A. and M. college. The reports uniformly placed this new grass at the head of the list, and after being subjected to all sorts of severe tests it was pronounced superior to anything among the grasses. The Farmer's congress next passed upon it with enthusiastic favor, and soon every progressive farmer in the southwest was wanting the seed, which became so scarce that last year it sold from \$2 to \$4 per pound. It is cheaper this season, with probably 1,500,000 pounds of seed grown. Everyone who grew it last season expects to sow it the next, so the demand is still on the increase in this country.

Wherever tried it produces more and better hay to the acre than any other grass known, and it is expected to cover the entire country as no other grass has ever done. This year experiments have been made by agricultural stations from Maryland to Oregon with astonishing success. While it is presumed to grow more luxuriantly with a larger number of cuttings each season in the southern states, some of the best results have come from the northwestern states, it grows from 4 to 10 feet high and yields from four to eight tons of dried hay per acre, making it very desirable for the stock raiser, and under ordinary conditions produces from 400 to 1,000 pounds of seed per acre.

Sudan grass resembles the old-time Johnson grass in general appearance as well as the sorghums, but possesses all of their merits, with none of the objectionable features. Being an annual, it dies down every year, so does not become a pest, but may be grown where most desired. It matures in from sixty to eighty-five days from sowing and makes an abundant supply of excellent forage, silage and hay. All kinds of live stock prefer it to alfalfa hay and poultry like the seed. It is well adapted to the arid regions, does fine in the rain belt, prairie and hill country; in fact, seems to grow reasonably well in all kinds of soil in the south, east, north and west. It is indeed a wonderful grass and worthy of a trial by everyone who can procure the seed. It is the grass that laughs at drouth and smiles at rain.

SEEDING:—Sudan Grass should not be planted until the soil has become warm in the spring. It can be sown any time during the summer as a catch crop so long as 70 to 80 days intervene before the date of the first expected frost. Sudan grass can be sown in rows 18 to 24 inches apart and cultivated like corn, or it can be drilled in with a drill or sown broadcast by hand. In the semi-arid sections it is much more profitable to seed it in rows and cultivate. Seeded in rows 36 inches apart, 3 pounds per acre of good seed are sufficient. In rows 18 to 24 inches apart 4 to 6 pounds, and drilled or broadcast 16 pounds per acre are required.

## IF HAIR'S YOUR PRIDE, USE HERPICIDE

A feeling of uncertainty, a dread of possible disappointment always goes with an "off brand" hair preparation. That is part of the purchase, just as much so as the label on the bottle. You don't get this with a bottle of Newbro's Herpicide. It is not an experiment. You number among your acquaintances and friends hundreds who have used Herpicide with satisfaction, and you know that you can do the same. The results are always positive. For the removal of dandruff and to check falling hair Newbro's Herpicide is reliable and often producing results that are little short of marvelous. Newbro's Herpicide in 50c and \$1.00 sizes is sold by all dealers who guarantee it to do all that is claimed. If you are not satisfied your money will be refunded.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

## 50 BOXES OF CANDY FREE-50



## Better Bread Fresh Daily

Beginning Saturday morning we will give free a box of candy to each of the first fifty ladies who enter our bakery and confectionery and make purchases.

Be sure to get one of these Exquisite Boxes of Candy.—Absolutely Fresh

## Quentin's Home Bakery

Phone 76

## SPRING TIME IS TRAVEL TIME

TAKE A TRIP GO SOME WHERE



Offers Very Low Rates

## EVERY SUNDAY

between all local stations there and back for

ONE FARE AND A DIME

See T. & P. Ry. Agents

A. D. BELL

Asst. Gen. Pass. Agt.

GEO. D. HUNTER

Gen. Pass. Agt.

Dallas, Texas

## Last Installment

OF THE

## Million Dollar Mystery

AT THE

## ROYAL THEATRE

## Next Friday

This is the most interesting picture of the entire story. Don't fail to see it.



## The Telephone "S. O. S." Saved the Farm

"One day last fall my wife and I started for a drive, leaving the house deserted. A short while after we'd passed Jones' place, Mrs. Jones saw smoke coming from our roof.

"She ran to the telephone—Go! Mrs. Reed who operates the switchboard located in her home. Mrs. Reed called all the nearby people on the line (two long rings—the emergency signal,) and they put the fire out with little damage."

A Telephone on the Farm connected with the Bell System is a protection and safe-guard in all emergencies.

Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co. 4-R-14

## SIGNALS OF DISTRESS

Merkel People Should Know How to Read and Heed Them

Disordered kidneys give many signals of distress.

The secretions may be dark, contain sediment.

Passages are sometimes frequent, scanty, painful.

Backache is often present day and night.

Headaches and dizzy spells may occur.

Weakened kidneys should receive quick help.

Don't delay! Use a special kidney remedy.

Doan's Kidney Pills are for weak kidneys, backache and urinary disorders.

Merkel evidence proves their worth.

Mrs. N. Thompson, Thornton street, Merkel, says: "My kidneys were weak and I had pain across the small of my back. I got Doan's Kidney Pills at the Rust & McCauley Drug Co. and was quickly cured."

Price 50 cts. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Thompson had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props. Buffalo, N. Y.

### Advised Letters

Brown, Mitchell

Lain, Bill

Williams, Mrs. Kate

White, Mrs. M. T

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office April 42.

H. C. Williams, P. M.

Merkel, Texas

### Stomach Trouble Cured

Mrs. H. G. Cleveland, Arnold, Pa., writes: "For some time I suffered from stomach trouble. I would have sour stomach and feel bloated after eating. Nothing benefited me until I got Chamberlain's Tablets. After taking two bottles of them I was cured." For sale by all dealers.

### Cotton Seed For Sale

See Bob Martin for high grade cotton seed, grown by A. M. Ferguson, Sherman, Texas. 264pa

### Rheumatic Pains Relieved

Why suffer from rheumatism when relief may be had at so small a cost? Mrs. Elmer Hatch, Peru, Ind., writes: "I have been subject to attacks of rheumatism for years. Chamberlain's Liniment always relieves me immediately, and I take pleasure in recommending it to others."

### 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, 2026 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

No need of calomel with nauseating effects. LIV-VER-LAX is happy in results. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

### W. O. W.

Merkel Camp No. 719 meets second and fourth Friday nights of each month.

W. M. Elliott, C. C. S. Hamilton, Clerk

### Cheap Groceries

Pay Cash for your groceries and keep out of the hole.

100 pounds Boquet flour.....\$3.90

35 pound sack of meal..... 80

100 pounds Eagle brand

Sugar.....6 60

25 pound Eagle brand

sugar.....1 65

10 pounds oil tolene.....1.30

10 pounds Jewel Lard......95

10 pound King Cornus

Syrup......65

10 pounds of Country

Sorghum......60

12 boxes Search Light

Matches..... 40

25 cent can of K. C. Baking

Powders......20

5 gallon good Oil......40

Pure Meabene cotton seed

per bushel..... 1 50

And have lots of bargains that we don't mention, so it will pay you to buy your groceries at

Walter Clark's

LIV-VER LAX stimulates the

liver. A harmless vegetable

compound. Any child can take

it safely. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

### THE BLACK BOX

Seed Popcorn at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Texas is some state. Pangman's ice cream is the best in Texas, sold at the Elite Confectionery.

Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford was in Abilene Tuesday visiting her daughter Mrs. Rush Buford who was operated on for appendicitis at an Abilene sanitarium last week.

Mrs. E. M. Rust knows about LIV-VER-LAX. You need it for your liver.

Get pure Sudan Seed at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

### THE BLACK BOX

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

No. 7481



Government Depository For Postal Savings

Member Bank in Federal Reserve System

Capital & Surplus \$50,000.00

### CONFIDENCE

Personal confidence is the basis of business credit. Possibly ninety-nine per cent of the business transactions of the world are made upon confidence. From the earliest time there has been some method of exchange between individuals and communities. Various means have been adopted by which the producer of a certain commodity could trade or barter for the surplus product of another person. This was the beginning of the great system now denominated business. Originally all monies were made from certain metals or commodities with an intrinsic value equal to the face value stamped thereon. Today such money is used only in making change or for the smallest transactions. The business of the world is conducted upon paper which represents the confidence of the business world in the government, corporation or individual issuing the paper. Therefore the greatest asset a man, corporation or government can have is the absolute confidence of the people with whom they have business relations.

For over ten years this bank has been serving the business interests of this community and today we have the absolute confidence of the public, as may be judged by the very large volume of business that is being transacted daily through us.

A genuine public service, a service to all the people is what we try to render. You are welcome here at all times. Our officers are approachable—there are no formalities. Call on us frequently.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

#### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Smith are spending this week in Anson.

Have you seen those Jardiniers at J. A. Duckett's for 10c?

Mrs. Emma Daniel visited friends in Baird the past week.

\$1.00 Silk Stockings for ladies only 50c at the Star Store.

Miss Lizzie Burton of Stith visited friends here Tuesday.

#### THE BLACK BOX

Get pure Sudan Seed at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Williams were Abilene visitors Tuesday.

Ladies Waists, 75c to \$1.00 special 49c at J. A. Duckett's. The price is the thing.

Miss Mabel Laney visited friends in Abilene the past week.

Air free and gasolene 10 cents. H. M. Rose.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Comegys visited in Clyde Sunday.

Is your liver inactive? LIV-VER-LAX will wake it up.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith of Trent were visitors here Saturday.

Pangman's Ice cream, the best cream sold in Texas. The Elite Confectionery.

J. J. Shelton left last evening for Waco on a short business trip.

Still selling best grade matches 2 boxes for 5c. J. A. Duckett. The price is the thing.

Miss Fern Rutledge of Vincent is visiting Misses Lula and Ola Sharp.

Let us send you some Albatross flour. Its better. Anchor Mercantile Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Shaffer of Mount Pleasant visited relatives here Monday.

Just received a shipment of ladies Silk Hose, \$1.00 values for 50c. The Star Store.

W. L. Diltz Sr., was in Baird the first of the week attending the Presbytery.

Seed Popcorn at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Warren left for Dallas Tuesday night for a short visit.

Same goods for less money at J. A. Duckett's. The price is the thing.

Mrs. Geo. West visited her sister, Mrs. B. A. Cox of Abilene Sunday.

"You cant be worried about something to eat." Just telephoned the Anchor Mercantile Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelly of Abilene were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Orr Sunday.

Mrs. General Jones of Lovington, N. M., is here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff.

#### THE BLACK BOX

Miss Tennie Pope, who is teaching school at Tye, visited her mother the latter part of last week.

Mebane and Lone Star Cotton Seed at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

Mrs. S. M. Hunter of Florey, Andrews county, is here visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sublett.

Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Smith of Los Angeles, Cal., came in last week on an indefinite stay with the latter's grandparents, Capt. and Mrs. J. T. Tucker.

LIV-VER-LAX is harmless—not a deadly poison like calomel. Any child is safe and happy by the use of LIV-VER-LAX. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

J. G. Jones, representative of the Texas Harvester Co., departed yesterday for Waco and points in central Texas where he will look after business matters for his company.

# THE BLACK BOX

## Begins Tuesday, April 20

Two Episodes—Nos. 1 and 2—4 Reels

### TWO FULL SHOWS

FIRST AT 7:30. SECOND AT 9 O'CLOCK

DON'T MISS IT

It's the Greatest Mystery Story of All Time

ADMISSION, ADULTS 10c

CHILDREN FREE TO THE ENTIRE SERIAL WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

## THE COZY THEATRE

### Dr. Hess's Poultry Pan-a-ce-a

Give your chickens a good spring tonic, a guaranteed tonic, that will make your chickens healthier and makes them produce more eggs.

FOR SALE ONLY BY

T. L. Grimes, Druggist THE NYAL QUALITY STORE

#### CLASSIFIED ADS

EGGS FOR SALE—Thoroughbred White Leghorn eggs for sale at 50 cents per setting. Small supply on hand at all times. Phone Mrs. J. A. Woodard. Phone 230.

WANTED—Jobs on farms for large boys 16 years and older; to start them at small wages. Address Emile Reck, Agent, Weatherford, Texas. 1Feb3mo

FOUND—Automobile jack. Owner can get same by calling at the Mail office and paying for this office and giving description of jack.

LOST—Package from Woodroof's containing a boy's suit. Finder return to Woodroof's store. Samantha West, Route 4. 1tpd

NOTICE—If you are sick with any chronic trouble and want to get well, write Prof. J. H. Surles, Putnam, Texas.

LOST—Several letters, transportation script of J. C. Hopkins, Sweetwater, Texas. Return to Mail office and be rewarded.

LOST—Pocket book containing 45 cents. Return to Mail office.

Wanted—A horse for its feed; light work. Care P. O. Box 134, Merkel, Texas.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. The worst cases, no matter how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00

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 relief. 50c

#### THE BLACK BOX

#### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

#### THE BLACK BOX

D. C. Herring and J. P. Sublett left Tuesday for Coryell county. They will make the trip through the country in Mr. Herring's car.

LIV-VER-LAX relieves all ills of the liver and stomach. Get it from Mrs. E. M. Rust.

T. J. Coggin of El Paso was here from Big Springs Tuesday on business. He returned to his home Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Shafer of Nolan county have moved to Merkel to make their home, going from here to Abilene Tuesday to visit friends.

Get your loose cotton seed, hulls and meal from G. R. Gazzoway.

LIV-VER-LAX is purely vegetable. Just what you need to tone up your system. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mrs. W. B. Alsbrook of Rising Star, en route from Lubbock where she has been visiting her son, Reed, spent Friday here with relatives and friends.

#### THE BLACK BOX

F. J. Smith, W. E. Douglas and Henry King spent a short part of this week on the river angling for the finny tribe but returned home with few reports that would ordinarily be accepted from fishermen so early in the season.

J. G. Brandon of Putnam, came in Tuesday to visit his mother, Mrs. F. M. Cordell, who has been dangerously ill during the past ten days.

Mrs. S. L. Davis left Tuesday night for Carthage where she will join her husband, Dr. Davis. From there they will go Clayton and spend the summer with their parents.

Wake up your liver. A lazy liver brings on the worst of diseases. Take LIV-VER-LAX now. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

#### Stock For Sale.

I have some good work horses and mules for sale for cash or good notes, also some high grade Durham bull calves. J. D. Jones, Nubia, Texas. 26t4pd

To Drive Out Malaria And Build Up The System Take the Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC. You know what you are taking, as the formula is printed on every label, showing it is Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents

#### Some Help.

Mrs. Datus—"Do you find your gymnasium work helpful?" Mrs. Artigue—"Helpful! Why, this morning I was the first one to reach a bargain counter out of a bunch of a hundred starters."

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

Made Immediate Success The "Arabian Nights" did not become familiar to Europeans until 1704, when Galland translated them into French. Scholars cast doubt on the authenticity of some of Galland's work, accusing him—like Fitzgerald and Omar Khayyam—of inventing rather than translating, but with the public the success of the tales was immediate and immense.

**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 transpires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars

**VERY LONG ODDS.**

The gambling instinct is alive in men and women even in times of war. The Lloyds of London usually determine the odds on almost any hazard. The supposedly insurance corporation is always willing to close a wager with any one on any topic under the sun which permits of speculation.

Just at present a report from London shows that this firm is willing to wager even money that the war will be over by Aug. 1, and 10 to 1 that it will be over by Dec. 1.

It will be noticed that the bet is as to when the war will be terminated, but they do not say how it will be ended or in whose favor. This leaves a somewhat open field. Many are disposed to think that the war will be prolonged at least a year, while others are convinced that world's peace will be restored in a much shorter time.

War is always uncertain. No one can say just when it will be declared or when peace will be restored.

A bet of 10 to one is a good gambling proposition on almost any venture. The even money proposition is not so alluring. The war, as the Lloyds speculate, is likely to end any time, but how it will end or what terms of peace will be are questions that no human mind can determine.

The consensus of opinion is that in the long run the allies will force Germany into submission, but those who have followed the events of the war will not be easily convinced that it is an even money bet that Germany will ever surrender.

During the course of months the Kaiser may agree to certain terms of peace, and may even concede certain possessions, but that he will capitulate, making an absolute surrender, is not at all probable. If the allies insist upon this the war in Europe may be prolonged for several years. The Germans are stubborn. They may be defeated, but they will not surrender.

Odds among the men who bet have changed from time to time since the war began. On Nov. 1 it was an even money bet that the allies would defeat Germany before Christmas. On Thanksgiving Day the odds still stood even money, but not that the allies would defeat Germany, but that the war would end before Christmas.

We are now advancing into April. The snows of Europe will soon melt and the armies will have passed a strenuous winter, but so far as the ordinary mind can observe we are no nearer the end of the war than we were in November. — Commercial Appeal.

We fail to see the humorous side of betting money on the slaughter of human lives. Perhaps the war will be over by August 1. We sincerely hope that it will but do not desire to place any money on the proposition even though we believe a year of fighting will see the end of this struggle. Time may work a wonderful change and even with the indicator favoring the present actions of the Russians and their associates the Germans have a death grip on a land that may require years to break. Peace is the best sounding solution. August 1 is fair if they are not going too fast to stop in that length of time and December 1 seems probable and very possible, at least the longer it goes the worse it will get and betting is out of order on this fight.

Canned tongue is divided into two classes. One kind is put up in a packing house and the other is on a squeaky graphophone record.

Every merchant should meet their brother merchant at the City Hall Monday night.

AS JOSEPHUS SAYS.  
 If it wasn't for the water,  
 If it wasn't for the trips  
 In the smelly little wherries  
 To those awful iron ships,  
 If it wasn't for the cannon—  
 Which I'm dreadfully afraid of—  
 And the terrible explosives  
 Which the shells they shoot are made of.  
 If it wasn't for the captains  
 And the other sailor folk,  
 Who apparently regard me  
 As some kind of funny joke,  
 I would really like the navy;  
 Quite delightful it would be,  
 If there wasn't any sailors  
 And there wasn't any sea.  
 —Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

**Pasted Paragraphs**

OH, PSHAW!

Old Noah crawled out of the hay,  
 And to the deck he made his way;  
 He looked around, and to his son  
 He said: "I see the wets have won."  
 —Cincinnati Enquirer.

And Ham, his son, said: "Look here dad,  
 The whiskey business is quite bad;  
 Russia's dry, England's on the brink  
 Where can a fellow get a drink?"  
 —Birmingham Age-Herald.

Then Shem he shut his weather eye  
 And to his brother made reply—  
 "Look sharp, old chap, and you will find  
 The tiger that we saved is 'blind.'"  
 —Memphis Commercial Appeal.

No doubt the boys across the brine  
 Now think that it is hying time  
 Across the pond and to the States,  
 Where rum is thick with lots of snakes.

OUR FASTEST POSTOFFICE.

A letter is dropped into a post box at the street corner. A few minutes later it is collected by a uniformed government employe. On the following morning it is delivered at its destination, whether that be 50 or 500 miles away.

The purchaser of a postage stamp knows that his letter will reach the person to whom it is addressed, but how it travels, through what machinery of sorting, classifying, handling and transportation it passes, the average person knows little, and for the moment at least cares less. If he thinks at all of the big city postoffice, the mental picture usually is merely that of a magnified country office.

If he were to take the trouble to inquire, however, and could find some one who knew the ropes and had the time to show him around he would see something to marvel at in the progress of the score or more stages in the progress of his letter from the post box to delivery. This would be true in any large city—it is particularly true in Chicago.

While it is not generally known, the Chicago postoffice is more completely equipped with mechanical devices for the rapid handling of the mails than any other institution of its kind in the world. The greater part of the machinery now in use in the postal service, much of which has lately been adopted by large department stores and business houses throughout the United States, was first conceived and put into operation there and made in the postoffice machine shop.—Popular Mechanics.

A Merkel merchant in advertising a free motorcycle placed a sign in his window that reads as follows: "There is more fun in a gallon of gasoline than a barrel of booze." He may be right but the two won't mix.

A man in explaining how congenial he and his wife were, told a friend that he often held her hands for hours at a time. He qualified in the statement by further stating he had to do it to keep his head from being knocked off. Some love.

Billy Sunday got \$1.62 per conversion for 50,000 conversions in Philadelphia. Not a bad job.

Fishermen's luck and fishermen's yarns will begin to float immediately.

**Playing the Piano is Easy**

All you have to do is to put the right finger on the right key at the right time.

Still there is only one Paderewski, and all the amateur playing put together will not equal the playing of a scale by that master of his art.

The oil business is easy. All that is necessary is to get the right crudes, manufacture them properly and arrange for their delivery at the proper time.

Still there is only one Texaco mark and only one Texaco quality. The "Made in Texas" quality distinguished by the Red-Star-Green-T emblem, world-famous in the oil business.

Buy the Texaco oils from our agent in your town.

**The Texas Company**  
 General Offices, Houston, Texas

No. 32

**"Fifty Years From Appomattox."**

Richmond, Va., April 13, 1915 (Special)—Fifty years after the destruction of the Confederate capital and the end of the bitter War between the States, the gray-clad veterans of the Southern armies are to gather in the old stronghold of the Confederate States for the 1915 Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, June 1st-3rd.

Ceremonies, the most solemn and unique are to be staged in Richmond during reunion week, and from every part of the South comes word of the thousands of visitors who are to attend. Arrangements for the care and comfort of 10,000 veterans have been made by the general committee, headed by Captain John Lamb. The granting of a flat railway rate of one cent a mile to Richmond for the big affair is expected to draw to the city 100,000 loyal Southern people.

The outstanding feature of the week will be the formal opening of the Confederate Memorial Institute, the imposing treasure house for relics of the War between the States, which has been erected in Richmond after years of effort. Another feature will be the laying of the corner stone of the statue of Stonewall Jackson.

Beautiful Monument Avenue is to be converted into a court of honor, in which all the parades and ceremonies of the week will take place. Militia commands from all parts of the South, and from the North as well, are to attend. The event gives promise of being noteworthy in the extreme.

Invitations have been extended by the general committee to the Governors of all the States included in the organization of the United Confederate Veterans, and it is confidently expected that in view of the importance of the

**10c For Your Cotton**

Would not compare with prices we are making on Seasonable Merchandise. Note some of the prices. Trade where your money goes farthest. All goods guaranteed satisfactory or money refunded. Don't send your money to mail-order houses; in fact, you can't afford to, as WE SAVE YOU MONEY.

**COMPARE OUR PRICES**

- Special—One lot ladies 75c waists..... 49c
- Clean-up-prices on children's and misses Middie
- Blouses, worth 95c to \$1.00, only..... 39c
- Big lot of children's Dresses, white and colored... 35c
- Ladies' underwear of all kinds at..... **Special Prices**
- Ladies' and children's Hats at..... **Half Price**
- Men and boys' Hats at... **Less than Cost to Manufacture**
- Large Bandana Handkerchiefs, 2 for..... 5c
- Men's Silk Hose, per pair..... 18c
- Matches, double dip, best grade, 2 boxes..... 5c
- Ink tablets, 2 for..... 5c
- Boys' Caps, worth 25c, only..... 10c
- Still selling 10c Shoe Polish for..... 5c

Don't fail to see our Complete Line of Paint

If you don't trade here we both lose money.

**J. A. DUCKETT**  
 The Price is The Thing

occasion many will accept. In addition, the committee has invited to be present the following ladies, wives of distinguished Confederate chieftains: Mrs. J. E. B. Stuart, Mrs. W. H. Fitzhugh Lee, and Miss Mary Custis Lee. Richmond is preparing to observe with fitting ceremonies the semi-centennial of its rise from the ashes.

## BUTMAN

As we could not see the Havana about several of us went down to Abilene to be at the singing convention and now we feel slightly wiser.

Rev. York preached at Butman Saturday night and Sunday.

Many farmers are now planting their feed. Some are intending to plant cotton this week. Wheat and oats are looking fine. The grain last week put a good season in the ground as well as an indeleble smile on many faces in addition. Corn is up and looking fine.

Mrs. Cora Hunter, Jewel Anderson and Walter Hunter attended the singing convention at Abilene Sunday.

The last literary at Nubia was a pronounced success. It will meet again Friday night. Everybody come out and encourage us. There will be singing at Cross Roads Sunday afternoon.

There was no school in Miss Dotsa's room at Butman last week. She was unable to teach owing to her father's death.

Uncle Dan and Aunt Dollie Matthews visited at the homes of their children in Merkel Saturday and Sunday.

The fruit supper and party at the home of John Hunter Friday night was enjoyed by all.

Bennie Lewis has fixed his bicycle up. He now thinks he is about the only "it" around here.

G. C. Bankhead says the singing convention at Abilene was the best he ever attended.

As the writer has been slack in keeping tab on the gathering of news, thus "short potting" himself of circumstances to report, it necessarily follows that he should be ever mindful hereafter in keeping one eye on the circumstances of the day and the other on the girls.

### Nothing so Good for a Cough or cold

When you have a cold you want the best medicine obtainable, so as to get rid of it with the least possible delay. There are many who consider Chamberlain's Cough Remedy unsurpassed. Mrs. J. Boroff, Elida, Ohio, says, "Ever since my daughter Ruth was cured of a severe cold and caught by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy two years ago, I have felt kindly disposed toward the manufacturers of that preparation. I know of nothing so quick to relieve a cough or cure a cold." For sale by all dealers.

## ROUTE 3

Health of this community is very good at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Martin visited A. H. Barnes and family Sunday.

The school teacher of Castle Peak who was called to the bedside of her sister last week at Abilene is back on duty this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Riney of Nubia visited Mr. and Mrs. John Jones Sunday.

Quite a crowd of young people enjoyed a dance at Mr. Greason's Friday night.

Roy Riney and John Jones were on Castle Peak Sunday and killed a rattle snake which had ten rattles.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hathaway spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. Harborough Sunday.

S. S. Smith of Mt. Pleasant died Sunday night and was buried at Merkel Monday evening.

The farmers of this community are very busy planting maize and cotton seed. We are having some beautiful spring weather.

We are glad to say the good people of this community have organized a Sunday school at the Riney school house. We trust that everyone near will attend and the Sunday school will be a benefit to all.

### THE BLACK BOX

A Cure for Sour Stomach.

Mrs. Wm. M. Thompson, of Battle Creek, Mich., writes: "I have been troubled with indigestion, sour stomach and bad breath. After taking two bottles of Chamberlain's Tablets I am well. These tablets are splendid—none better." For sale by all dealers.

# PAINT PRICES SMASHED

SALE OF BANKRUPT STOCK OF

## "Acme Quality" New Era Brand High Grade Paints Oils, Varnishes, Stains, Etc.

to be sold out at greatly reduced prices at

**J. A. DUCKETT'S STORE :: MERKEL, TEXAS**  
Next door to Sharp's Grocery Store

**\$2.25 GUARANTEED HOUSE PAINT \$1.75**

Best Acme Quality House Paints in many desirable shades, guaranteed to be the highest grade paint on the market, none better, to be sold while it lasts, per gallon **\$1.75**

**POSITIVE PROOF** of the durability of this paint to withstand weather and afford the utmost protection to buildings and homes of all kinds has been made here in Merkel. It has been sold and recommended by Rust & McCauley Drug Co. for more than 5 years.

**GUARANTEE**—After being thinned gallon for gallon with pure linseed oil for 1st coat, and 1/2 gal. to gallon for second coating **Acme Quality New Era Brand** paint will not crack, peel, blister or chip off for five years on 3-coat work and for three years on 2-coat work.

**THAT THE USE** of Acme Quality New Era Brand paint will save you 25 per cent to 33 1/2 per cent of the ordinary cost of any high grade mixed paint or white lead, and that gallon for gallon **Acme Quality** paint will cover more surface.

**EXTRA Best Quality Roof or Barn Paint per gallon - - - 95c**

**Varnish and Stains 15c per Can and Up**

Varnish and stains of all kinds which you can use yourself for refinishing furniture and wood work, floors, etc., in oak, cherry, mahogany and other beautiful shades at per can **15c, 25c, 60c and 75c** for the large sizes

**Enamels for Refinishing Iron Beds, etc., 20c**

Best grade Enamels for iron beds in white and all colors at per can **35c and 20c**

**Grecian Enamel Half Price**

Grecian Enamel in pink, ivory, green or canary colors for inside work 65c quart can now two quart cans **75c**

**Neals Carriage and Buggy Paint 30c**

Neals best carriage or buggy paint in raven coach black, red, or acme wine at per can **30c, 45c and 75c**

**50c Wall Paper 25c per Double Roll**

One lot of good 50c Varnish Tile wall paper for kitchen and bath rooms per double roll **25c**

The above prices will move this stock quickly and we advise you to buy now in order to secure your choice selections. Remember we have a paint for every purpose at the **Lowest Possible Price.**

**This stock was bought at Bankrupt for Quick Action**

# J. W. POWELL, Painter

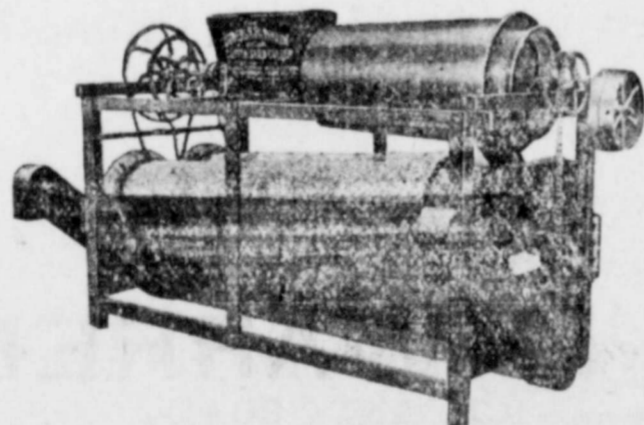
In J. A. DUCKETT'S STORE, Merkel, Texas

Next door to Sharp's Grocery

## Plant Better Cotton

Seed and Grow Better Cotton

You can have better seed by using the **FRANKLIN COTTON SEED CULLER**. It improves the grade of your seed to the greatest possible extent.



**BRING YOUR SEED TO OUR CULLER**  
Boyce Bldg., Opposite Burton-Lingo Co.

**SEED CULLED 10C PER BUSHEL**

**SCOTT & MASON, OWNERS**

Tomato and Potato Plants.

Dwarf champion and McGee tomatoes, the two best varieties for windy countries \$1.50 for 500 or \$2.50 per 1,000 delivered, ready now. Dooley yam potato slip \$2.00 per 1,000 delivered. Potato slips ready for delivery

April 15. Order early. McClung & Suttle, Milano, Texas.

**Breeders Notice.**

I am standing the Britain jack at my place 2 1/2 miles east of Noodle. S. H. Meeks. 28tf

**THE BLACK BOX**

## NOODLE

Health of the community is very good at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Church were visiting the former's parents in Merkel Saturday and Sunday.

A. J. Barbee returned to Paducah Saturday.

Wallace Criswell of Dallas spent the past week with his father of this place.

Miss Helen Thompson of Sinclair is the guest of friends and relatives this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Walker of Kale spent Sunday with Wm Eoff and family.

Messrs. D. C. Herring, U. C. Thompson and Mrs. Clyde Herring motored to Abilene Monday.

Mrs. Wm. Eoff returned from Roscoe Wednesday after a few days visit with her daughter, Mrs. Paul Harkins.

A number of young people enjoyed a singing at Mr. and Mrs. U. C. Thompson's Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Sadler of Merkel motored to L. L. Sadler's Monday.

Miss Juanita Thompson, the intermediate teacher, gave her pupils and several friends a picnic last Saturday at the Cedar Mountains. At the noon hour the lunch was spread and enjoyed by forty-six persons who were present. After all had finished their dinner they went to Sweetwater creek to spend the afternoon. Kodaking, fishing

and ball playing were enjoyed until time to start back. At 3:30 o'clock the wagons were loaded and ready to start home. Each and everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent.

Wesley Ely, who is attending school at Abilene, spent a few days last week with homefolks.

Several of the Noodle people were Merkel visitors Saturday.

Sam Rosson purchased a new buggy Saturday, and the girls are all smiles.

I have a hollow wire lighting system consisting of four lamps and a good tank, all in fine working order. I will sell at a bargain. I also have some extra show cases that I wish to sell. Any one in need of either will save money by figuring with me. Mrs. E. M. Rust.

**How's This?**

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

National Bank of Commerce, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. adv

Mebane and Lone Star Cotton Seed at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

**THE BLACK BOX**

## SHILOH

Rev. Horn of Abilene filled his appointment at Shiloh Saturday and Sunday. Rev. G. W. Scott preached Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox arrived Sunday morning from Waco on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. S. L. Grayson.

Miss Edith Mayberry came in from Abilene Saturday afternoon and attended services at Shiloh Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Rollins came in from Jayton last week on a visit to the former's sister, Mrs. Cebe Mayberry.

Uncle Terrell Winters was on the sick list a few days last week but was able to attend services Sunday.

Grandma Tyner and son, Milton, moved last week to the farm recently purchased from S. L. Grayson.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hale visited relatives near Sweetwater Creek Sunday.

The singing at J. H. Grayson's Sunday afternoon was enjoyed by all present.

R. A. Rollins is working up a singing school to begin at Shiloh church house Monday night week. We believe Shiloh can boast of having some pretty fair singers now and we hope the young people will take an interest in the singing school and grasp the opportunity offered them and let the people know what the Shiloh young people can do if they will only try.

There was a singing at S. L. Grayson's Sunday night. Those present had an enjoyable time.

Misses Mollie and Willie Hardy of Noodle spent Monday night with Misses Lyda and Nina Beavers and attended the singing at S. L. Grayson's.

## COMPERE

Health of our community is good at this writing.

Farmers are making good use of this beautiful spring weather. Some are planting feed and some cotton.

Mrs. Ben Moore of Abilene visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Shannon Moore, Sunday.

Our school is progressing nicely. They rendered quite a nice little program at the school house Friday night.

Rev. Hudson, our Methodist preacher, filled his regular appointment Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Foster and little daughter visited at Compere Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demery visited the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. Moore, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hays gave the young people a singing Sunday night. All report an enjoyable time.

Miss Ethel Henry is on the sick list this week—not able to attend school.

George Sherrel had the misfortune to stick a pin through his hand which is not getting on very well. It is badly swollen.

## NEWS FROM TRENT

Miss Missouri Strahan was in Merkel Saturday visiting Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Miss Geta Beckham and brother were in Merkel Tuesday evening attending the Baird-Wilson show.

Our new newspaper, the Trent Enterprise, is scheduled to make its initial appearance Friday of this week. It will be known as the Trent Enterprise and will be under the management of Mr. Caperton, an experienced newspaper man.

The motorcycle fever seems to have struck the younger generation of Trent much like the Ford fever is taking all over the country.

T. L. Stevens was in Merkel the first of the week looking after business matters.

Ernest and Lee Massey were in Merkel Tuesday on business.

**THE BLACK BOX**

# Consolidation Step-Lively Sale

CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THIS WEEK AT WOODROOF BROTHERS

In order to reduce our stock to the capacity of our building. Great Slaughter Prices. A complete stock and the newest goods to select from. The consolidation of Woodroof Bros. large stores at Waxahachie with the Merkel store makes our stock the largest and most complete ever shown in Merkel.

To-Day and Saturday mark the Closing of this Event. Better take advantage of these remarkable prices while they last--Do it Now

LADIES SILK PETTICOATS—Ladies messaline Silk Petticoats in all colors, worth \$3.00 sale price ..... \$1.95  
 LADIES SILK DRESSES—One lot ladies \$15 one-piece silk dresses, this sale price ... \$7.50  
 LINEN LACES—One lot 25c and 35c linen laces, extra special for this sale, per yd. ... 11c  
 ASSORTED RIBBONS—1 lot ribbons worth 15c to 25c per yard, this sale price per yd. ... 10c  
 LADIES SKIRTS—Ladies skirts worth formerly \$5 to \$7, sale price ..... \$3.50

LADIES VESTS—Ladies vests worth 15c, this sale price each ..... 7 1/2c  
 NEW SPRING GINGHAMS—Beautiful line new spring gingham worth 10c per yard, sale price per yard ..... 7 1/2c  
 BROWN DOMESTIC—Regular 8 1/2c sea island domestic, full 36-inch wide, price ..... 6 1/2c  
 VALANCIENE LACES—One lot valanciene laces, worth 10c and 12 1/2c per yd. .... 5c  
 EMBROIDERY—One lot embroidery worth 35c, this sale price per yard ..... 22c

5c BUTTONS—All kinds of 5c buttons, per card ..... 3c  
 10c TOWELING—Crash toweling regular 10c value, now ..... 8c  
 COTTON CHECKS—Good round thread cotton checks, worth 6c per yard, sale price 3 1/2c  
 GOLD MEDAL BLEACHING—Gold medal bleached domestic, 36 inches wide, best 10c grade, nice soft finish, per yard ..... 7 1/2c  
 CLARKS O. N. T. THREAD—Clarks O.N.T. thread, all numbers, this sale per spool ... 4c

MENS SUITS—One lot mens suits worth \$15, \$18.50, \$20.00 and \$25.00, half price or ..... \$7.50 to \$12.50  
 \$1.00 SHIRTS—Mens regular \$1.00 shirts now for ..... 79c  
 MENS WORK SHIRTS—One lot mens 50c work shirts, this sale price ..... 35c  
 STETSON HATS—Mens \$5 John B. Stetson hats, this sale price ..... \$3.75  
 MENS HATS—One assortment men and boys hats worth up to \$2.50 your choice ..... 95c

## WOODROOF BROTHERS The Quality Store



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

### Double Wedding at Abilene.

Mr. J. T. Browning and Miss Mowatt Stonecipher of Noodle and Mr. L. L. Stonecipher and Miss Ruby Browning also of the same community were married at Abilene Saturday.

Following the marriage the young people returned to the Noodle country where they will reside in the future.

The Mail joins the many friends of the contracting parties in extending congratulations.

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 World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago, Ill.  
 Paris Exposition, France, March, 1912

You don't save money when you buy cheap or inferior baking powder. Don't be misled. Buy Calumet. It's more economical—more wholesome—gives best results. Calumet is far superior to sour milk and soda.

the following officers were elected: John Morgan, President, Ernest Rogers, Vice President, Joel Counts, Secretary, Roy Coats, Assistant Secretary, Stanley King, Treasurer and Jasper Tucker, Press Reporter.

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Saturday afternoon at 4 p. m. Mr. G. B. Isom, of this place, and Miss Mattie York of Brownwood were united in marriage at the home of the brides parents.

The following evening the contracting parties left over the Santa Fe for View where they will make their future home and where Mr. Isom is engaged in farming. The many Merkel friends of the groom are extending congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Isom.

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### THE BLACK BOX

For a short time I will give on each \$25.00 watch a \$5.00 gold chain; each \$20.00 gold watch a \$4.00 gold chain; each \$16.00 gold watch a \$3.00 gold chain; each \$12.50 gold watch a \$2.00 gold chain, and on our \$1.00 watches a guarantee for one year. Come, take your choice. I will be glad to have you call. Mrs. E. M. Rust.

### Wood Must Come Down.

Joe S. Hughes sells it at \$2.50 per cord on the ground 6 miles south of Merkel. 1842pd

Phone 124 for fresh vegetables three times each week. Anchor Mercantile Co.

### Breeders Notice.

Am standing my French Coach horse, Registered Bisk Spanish Jack, Jersey Bull and Duroc boar one block east of the post office at Merkel. G. R. Gazzaway.

### THE BLACK BOX

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

Caion, 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 firing 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. 7-2

## Coal---Galore

When you Need Coal, Phone me DON'T WAIT

Telephone No. 4

H. M. WARREN  
 ICE AND COAL

Representative

Ford and Buick Auto Agencies

### 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.

H. M. Rose for 10 cent gasoline and the best lubricating oils manufactured.

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I want one hundred cases of eggs to supply my customers. Will pay highest market price. See me before selling. Will buy your chickens. W. P. Duckett. 18.1

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Abilene, Texas Geo. C. Bishop, Mgr.

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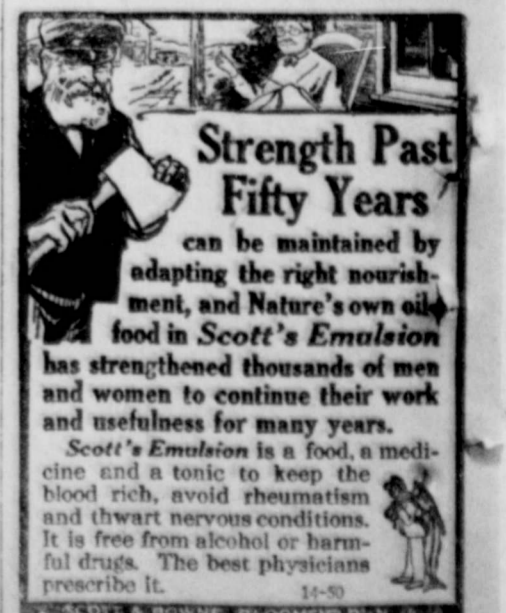
Mosart Cafe

Regular Lunch 25c

Short Orders

Service and Satisfaction

JACK GILSTRAP



Strength Past Fifty Years

can be maintained by adapting the right nourishment, and Nature's own oil food in Scott's Emulsion has strengthened thousands of men and women to continue their work and usefulness for many years.

Scott's Emulsion is a food, a medicine and a tonic to keep the blood rich, avoid rheumatism and thwart nervous conditions. It is free from alcohol or harmful drugs. The best physicians prescribe it.

### THE BLACK BOX

# Consolidation Step-Lively Sale

CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THIS WEEK AT WOODROOF BROTHERS

In order to reduce our stock to the capacity of our building. Great Slaughter Prices. A complete stock and the newest goods to select from. The consolidation of Woodroof Bros. large stores at Waxahachie with the Merkel store makes our stock the largest and most complete ever shown in Merkel.

To-Day and Saturday mark the Closing of this Event. Better take advantage of these remarkable prices while they last--Do it Now

LADIES SILK PETTICOATS—Ladies messaline Silk Petticoats in all colors, worth \$3.00 sale price ..... \$1.95  
LADIES SILK DRESSES—One lot ladies \$15 one-piece silk dresses, this sale price ..... \$7.50  
LINEN LACES—One lot 25c and 35c linen laces, extra special for this sale, per yd. . . . 11c  
ASSORTED RIBBONS—1 lot ribbons worth 15c to 25c per yard, this sale price per yd. . . 10c  
LADIES SKIRTS—Ladies skirts worth formerly \$5 to \$7, sale price ..... \$3.50

LADIES VESTS—Ladies vests worth 15c, this sale price each ..... 7½c  
NEW SPRING GINGHAMS—Beautiful line new spring gingham worth 10c per yard, sale price per yard ..... 7½c  
BROWN DOMESTIC—Regular 8½c sea island domestic, full 36-inch wide, price. . . . 6½c  
VALANCIENE LACES—One lot valanciene laces, worth 10c and 12½c per yd. . . . 5c  
EMBROIDERY—One lot embroidery worth 35c, this sale price per yard ..... 22c

5c BUTTONS—All kinds of 5c buttons, per card ..... 3c  
10c TOWELING—Crash toweling regular 10c value, now ..... 8c  
COTTON CHECKS—Good round thread cotton checks, worth 6c per yard, sale price 3½c  
GOLD MEDAL BLEACHING—Gold medal bleached domestic, 36 inches wide, best 10c grade, nice soft finish, per yard ..... 7½c  
CLARKS O. N. T. THREAD—Clarks O.N.T. thread, all numbers, this sale per spool ..... 4c

MENS SUITS—One lot mens suits worth \$15, \$18.50, \$20.00 and \$25.00, half price or ..... \$7.50 to \$12.50  
\$1.00 SHIRTS—Mens regular \$1.00 shirts now for ..... 79c  
MENS WORK SHIRTS—One lot mens 50c work shirts, this sale price ..... 35c  
STETSON HATS—Mens \$5 John B. Stetson hats, this sale price ..... \$3.75  
MENS HATS—One assortment men and boys hats worth up to \$2.50 your choice ..... 95c

## WOODROOF BROTHERS The Quality Store



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

### Double Wedding at Abilene.

Mr. J. T. Browning and Miss Mowatte Stonecipher of Noodle and Mr. L. L. Stonecipher and Miss Ruby Browning also of the same community were married at Abilene Saturday.

Following the marriage the young people returned to the Noodle country where they will reside in the future.

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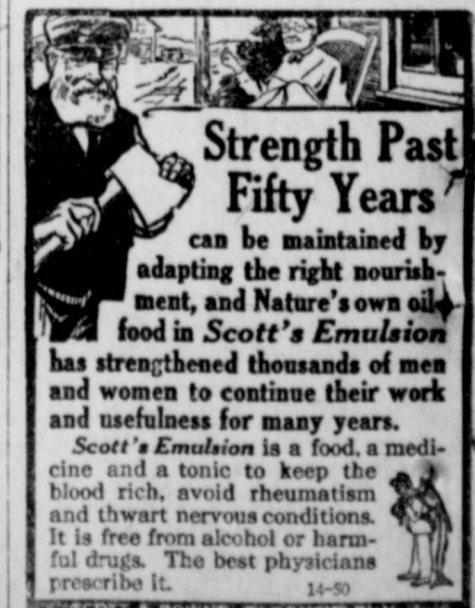
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### THE BLACK BOX





# THE ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO

## THE SUPPLY HOUSE OF WEST TEXAS

We are better prepared than ever to take care of your every want in the Dry Goods, Grocery and Hardware lines. And remember that the GINGLE OF THE DOLLAR always does its duty

### At The Anchor Mercantile Company

**STOCK** A Large, New, Down-to-Date and Up-to-Now in every respect, such as Merkel shoppers **STOCK**  
SHOULD BE PROUD OF

#### OUR CLOTHING DEPT.

No Better Time or Offering Will Be Made for Those Who Want to Take Advantage of Our Clothing Sacrifices

Our clothing department is more complete than ever and owing to the dull market selling in other parts of the country we were fortunate in securing some real bargains in woolens, consisting of serges, worsteds and cheviots and offer them to you at the following reductions.

Guaranteed all-wool black and blue serges, brown and gray worsteds and cheviots, \$25 values at..... **\$18.50**

Guaranteed all-wool black and blue serges brown, gray and mixed colors \$20.00 values..... **\$15.00**

Guaranteed all-wool black and blue serges, worsteds and cheviots \$18.50 values..... **\$13.50**

We offer you the best serge on the market for the exceptional low price of **\$10.00** per suit.....

Only a limited number of the above suits on hand and it will pay you to make your choice early.

#### STAPLE DEPARTMENT

Staple Articles That Can Not Possibly be Bought at the Prices we Are Making in the near Future

Our staple department is complete with the lowest possible priced goods that are obtainable in the markets. These goods were bought early at a basis of the very lowest price of cotton and our stock is limited. When these goods are gone prices will be from 20 to 25 percent higher.

25 yards good 36-inch brown domestic for... **\$1.00**

30 yards good cotton check ..... **1.00**

16 yards good cheviots ..... **1.00**

15 yards good 36-inch bleach domestic .... **1.00**

Best grade full width 10-4 bleached sheeting per yard..... **25c**

Best grade full width 9-4 bleached sheeting per yard..... **22½c**

Best grade full width 10-4 brown sheeting per yard..... **22½c**

Best grade full width 9-4 brown sheeting per yard..... **20c**

Best full width feather tick, per yard..... **15c**

Best grade 10c and 12 1-2c toweling crash per yard..... **7½c**

Seven spools Charter Oak thread..... **25c**

#### SHOE PRICES DOWN

Read Every Word of This Argument, The Prices and All, it Will be Well Worth Your Time

We have a limited number of ladies', men's and children's oxfords that we are giving some exceptional values for the purpose of reducing our shoe stock and giving room for other shipments that are in transit.

One lot men's \$5 grade gunmetal, kangaroo and vici oxfords, special price..... **\$4.15**

One lot men's \$4.50 and \$4 grade gunmetal and vici kid oxfords, special price..... **\$3.15**

One lot men's \$3.50 gunmetal and vici kid oxfords, special price..... **\$2.85**

One lot ladies' \$4 grade pat. leather, gunmetal and velour calf oxfords, special price..... **\$3.15**

One lot ladies' \$3.50 grade patent leather and gunmetal oxfords, special price..... **\$2.85**

One lot ladies' \$3.00 grade patent leather and gunmetal oxfords and baby dolls, special..... **\$2.45**

One lot ladies' and children's white oxfords and baby doll pumps

At Greatly Reduced Prices

## Groceries Enough for All Taylor County

Our stock, one of the largest in West Texas, is kept fresh. Don't fail to see us for everything. We are headquarters for groceries and can supply your wants always with a nice, new, clean stock. Below we quote a few prices and have better bargains unquoted

100 lbs. of the best highest patent flour..... **\$4.00**

100 lbs. other extra high patent flour..... **3.75**

100 lbs. Standard Granulated Sugar..... **6.40**

5 gallon good coal oil only..... **40c**

5 lbs. Arbuckle Coffee..... **\$1.00**

7 lbs. good bulk Coffee..... **1.00**

25 lb. box choice Dried Peaches..... **\$2.00**

1 bucket good Lard Compound..... **1.00**

1 sack best Pearl Meal..... **75c**

We carry nothing but the best in groceries and when you buy from us you can rest assured that anything you get is guaranteed to be only the best and satisfaction or your money back.

We give double trade-votes on the Piano for the next 15 days during our trade campaign and it will pay the contestants to have their friends trade during that time and secure the extra votes.

Remember we can supply your every want, from a Sewing Machine Needle to a Threshing Machine, and can save you money on your purchases, owing to our large buying power.

# The Anchor Mercantile Co.

## The Supply House of The West