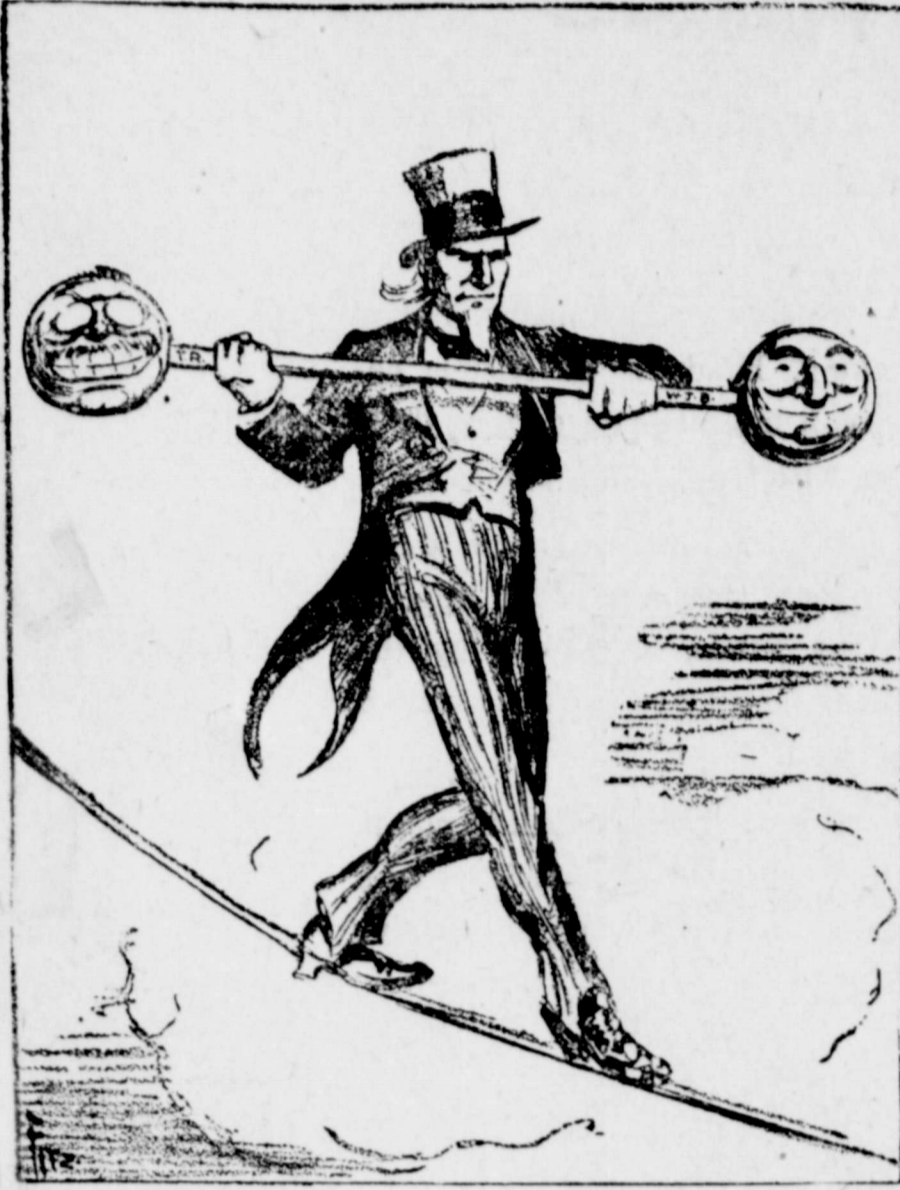


THE BALANCING ROD.



—Fitzgerald in St. Louis Post-Dispatch

THRESHER TO COME HERE IF NEEDED

A thresher will be brought here to thresh maize for the public if the demand is sufficient to justify a machine being brought to this place. Already several farmers have agreed to bring their maize in, but the number is insufficient.

J. T. Warren has agreed to look after getting a thresher and asks every farmer who wants his maize threshed to let him know how much he has at the earliest possible date. If responses are enough to justify this proposition notices will be sent out and the thresher will be brought here, to remain until the work is completed.

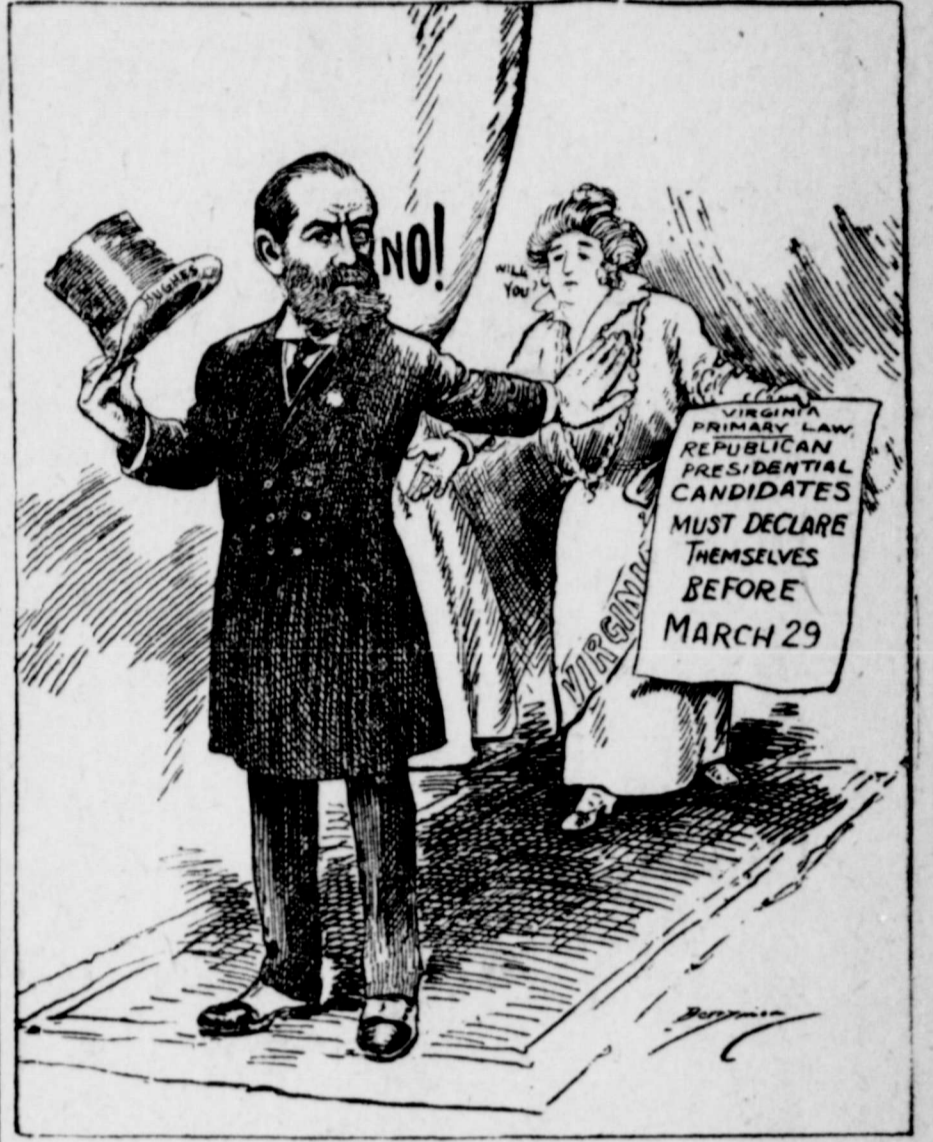
600 RABBITS ARE KILLED IN DRIVE

Tuesday morning a large crowd of nimrods congregated at the J. D. Hogg home three miles north of town and began a rabbit drive toward Salt Branch.

The work of killing the long-eared tribe continued until late in the afternoon and over 600 rabbits were downed. Another drive took place Thursday morning southwest of town but we did not get information as to the number killed.

A move is on foot at present to organize the largest drive ever made in this country for the purpose of killing and shipping the rabbits to the poor people of Dallas and Fort worth.

HOWEVER, IT WILL BE LEAP YEAR NEXT JUNE.



—Berryman in Washington Star.

CAUTION

With a shortage of ships to move our cotton to foreign shores; with no indication of the end of the war; with the Nation stirred over preparedness for eventualities; with the buying power of the entire world gradually lessening day by day, it becomes our duty to issue this formal warning as the time of planting cotton is at hand.

Let everyone encourage the farmer to be on the safe side by raising plenty of feed and food for the community as well as for himself, his family, and his live stock. (A calf, a pig, chickens, and a garden often mean the difference between want and money ahead.) Economical and safe living for all as well as "safe farming" must be the rule if prosperity is to abide with us.

Six-cent cotton this fall would spell disaster in the cotton states. Low price follows oversupply as certainly as the night the day. High prices and prosperity over the South this year prove what voluntary reduction of cotton acreage does. Any marked increase in acreage over last year is going to result in a great loss to Southern cotton producers, merchants and bankers, and will similarly affect all allied business and professions.

Conference of Cotton States Bankers.

HEAD BLOWN OFF BODY IS BURNED

Raymond Porter, 15 year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Porter, was shot and instantly killed Wednesday afternoon of last week when the gun he was carrying was accidentally discharged.

Young Porter was alone when the accident occurred, but Mr. Scarlett, who was also hunting was about three hundred yards from Porter when he heard the report of his gun. Scarlett started in the direction of the report to ascertain who the party was, and when he was within 12 or 15 feet of the boy he discovered that he was dead. Scarlett then ran to the nearest telephone and gave the alarm. Several people from town rushed to the scene. Justice of the Peace T. A. Rose and Deputy Sheriff G. E. Bedford were also there, but no inquest was held, owing to the surrounding evidence.

The whole right side of his head was completely blown away with the exception of the ear. A portion of his brain was found on a limb of a tree that stood over the fence; his cap was also found in the tree some ten or fifteen feet from the ground. His clothing was ignited by the flash of the powder, when parties arrived his body, as far down as his abdomen, was charred and his neck was burned almost into a charcoal. Dr. E. J. Bettis bandaged the head, and the body was placed in a delivery wagon and brought to the undertaking room of H. C. Rominger & Co., where it was prepared for burial. —Cisco Roundup.

Honor Roll

The following Fifth Grade pupils in Miss Zelma Fletcher's room deserve commendation for having made the straight E (above 90) in department and studies during past month. High Fifth: Joe Adams, Alvin Curb, Jim Hogg, Davis Jones, Harry Merritt, Ethel Williams. Low Fifth: Katie Beeman, Tina Moore, Dixie Blair, Scottimae Hines, Willie Lewis and Ottis Moore.

Just received a large shipment of DOMO cream separators. See us before buying. The Anchor Mercantile Co.

CONTRACT LET FOR MERKEL CHURCH

Contractor J. S. Robertson was awarded the contract of building the new Grace Presbyterian church at corner of south second and Oak street and work of breaking the ground was commenced Tuesday.

As fast as possible the work will be pushed to completion and the new building promises to be one of the most beautiful structures in the west. The use of the old Presbyterian church, recently razed, will be used in the new building. The building, when complete, will cost in excess of \$6,000, and will have a spacious basement for social and special meetings, ample class rooms bordering the first floor almost completely around the building can be thrown open at any time, making the seating auditorium the largest in the city. As soon as the architect's drawing is complete a cut of the building will be published in the Mail, showing the outline of the new structure in full.

Stop! Look! Listen!

Chiropractic means health to you. Mrs. M. U. Battendorf graduate of the Palmer School of Chiropractic Davenport, Iowa. You will find me at Mrs. Alice Roses. 10t4pd

2 ABILENE HOMES BURNED MONDAY

A brisk wind, a raging fire was more than the work of the Abilene Fire Department could overcome Monday and fire spread from the home of W. J. Cunningham to the one owned by Milo Shackelford, and both places were completely destroyed.

Flames were discovered in the Cunningham home after they had gained good headway and the Shackelford home being only a few feet away it was impossible to save either building. Insurance to the amount of \$2000.00 was carried on the Cunningham home while the losses totaled over \$3,000.00. The Shackelford home was valued at \$2000.00 on which there was no insurance.

MERKEL OIL MEN GET 1 1-2 PERCENT

Merkel parties who own stock in the Silver Lake oil wells near Wichita Falls, are monthly receiving dividend checks to the amount of one and one-half percent or at the rate of 18 percent per annum.

In all, something like \$17,000 worth of stock out of \$50,000 incorporated stock in the Silver Lake Company, is owned by Merkel parties and proposals are on foot for the Merkel stockholders to purchase the controlling stock at an early date. Various parties who have made trips to the Silver Lake holdings during the last few months have seen something that evidently attracted their attention for a profit-sharing view, for nearly everyone of the Merkel visitors have supplied themselves with a few shares.

Notice

The Colorado Steam Laundry is making many well-pleased customers. Why not give it a trial and be well pleased too? Call Owen. Phone 104. 10 tf

DESTITUTE FROM FIRE OF THURSDAY

A fire that destroyed a home on the Tipton place south of Merkel Thursday night of last week burned all the household effects of John Garland, leaving Mr. and Mrs. Garland and their six children almost bare of clothing as the home was a mass of flames when the father was awakened.

Rescuing his wife and children from the burning house Mr. Garland attempted to return and get some money he had hid under a pillow, but was unable to reach the place, the flames being so hot. The Garland family moved to the Merkel country only a short time ago. People of Merkel and surrounding country have responded in a financial help that will in a measure assist the unfortunate people to get started again.

Ladies Free Rest Room

Ladies don't fail to take advantage of the Rest Room when in Merkel. It is free to you to use at any time you are in Merkel. Side entrance to Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

THE THREE BEARS WINS LOTS PRAISE

A large and enthusiastic crowd witnessed the presentation of "The Three Bears" at High school auditorium Friday night.

The crowd overflowed the big auditorium and taxed its capacity. Grownups and children who attended the play have but one thing to say of it—it was one of the most beautiful, ingenious and pleasing attractions of the kind they ever saw or hope to see. Every individual actor did his or her part to perfection, and the company as a whole performed wonders. Each and every number was a winner and reflected great credit on the performer.

The attraction was in every way splendid and deserves to be listed as one of the best ever presented at the auditorium. Much of the credit is due Mrs. Mershaw whose untiring efforts insured the success of the playlet. —Abilene Reporter.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Ferguson, the former once express agent here, have returned to make this their home. Mr. Ferguson having again the Wells Fargo office here. During the short residence these two made many friends who welcome their return.

31 RATTLES ARE KILLED MONDAY

R. L. White, W. T. Hannah, W. A. Wilson and Fred Rusk were hunting on Mulberry Creek Monday, near the Red Hills six miles south of this place when one of the party discovered two large rattle snakes.

After killing the two reptiles they began digging and found twenty nine more. The lengths of the snakes were from ten inches to four and one half feet.

Mrs. Eastern Campbell of Paducah visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sears last week. Mrs. Campbell made the trip by auto and on her return was accompanied home by her sister, Miss Mossie Sears who will make an extended visit.

CUNNINGHAM FOR DISTRICT ATTY.

W. J. Cunningham of Abilene announces to the Mail readers as candidate for the office of District Attorney, subject to the coming primaries. His former official record while in the position of district attorney of this district was most commendable and it is with much knowledge of the office that he presents his claims to the voters of this district.

Col. L. B. Shook editor of the Trent Enterprise and a man who has been personally acquainted with Mr. Cunningham for years had the following to say of his announcement:

He is not an experiment. Once before he filled this office, and was one of the most efficient that has ever been called to it. But the people asked him to leave this lucrative place to become state senator, and that place he filled to the credit of the large district he represented. Now he has announced for the place he so well filled before, and it is at the request of those who think that the best material should be used in all the public offices.

The editor of this paper has known Mr. Cunningham for many years, and he is always known for the right in all things. He is glad that this efficient man has placed his services at the command of the public, and in it sees an augury for better enforcement of the laws, and a "Square Deal" to the people.

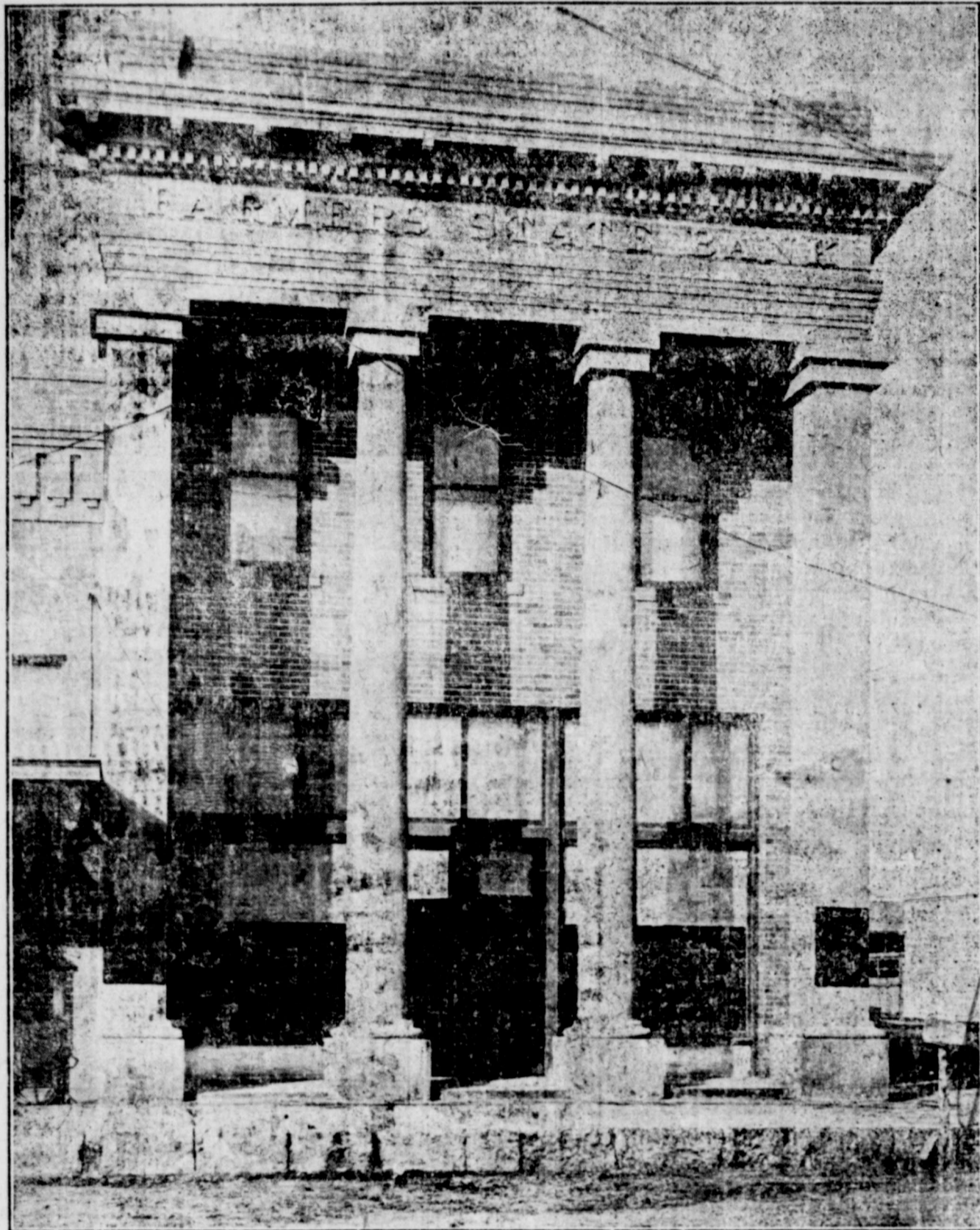
Election Notice

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Merkel, I hereby order an election to be held in said city, at the Fire Station thereof on the first Tuesday in April, 1916, the same being the fourth of said month, for the purpose of electing three aldermen for said city.

R. W. Counts is hereby appointed presiding officer at said election, and the polls shall be opened at 8 o'clock a. m. and closed at 6 o'clock p. m.

J. J. Stallings,
Mayor City of Merkel, Tex.

Misses Eula and Pet Sears motored to Anson Sunday morning making a short visit with friends there and returning to Merkel early in the afternoon.



Making Good With the Public---

This bank has made, and is making, hundreds of friends because it has made good in its dealings with the banking public.

It has a personality and a certain high standard which appeals to the public, as shown by the steady increase in our deposits and business.

It means a good deal to you in your business to be connected with this strong, growing, progressive institution.

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

The Bank of Personal Service

10/2/30
10/3/30
10/4/30

FREE DISPENSARY OPENED AT ABILENE

Abilene is to have another need supplied. Arrangements have been made for the opening in the near future of a free dispensary, where those prevented by lack of funds to pay the doctor's bill from going to the doctor's office and receiving much needed treatment, may come and be cared for in exactly the same careful and conscientious manner by the doctor, as though they had gone to his office. This dispensary will be located in the basement of the county court house, and will be open to all residents of Taylor county, who cannot afford to pay the regulation doctors fee. There will be no charge whatever for the services of the doctor though the patients are expected to pay in the usual manner for the filling of the prescriptions at the drug store. However, where patients cannot afford to pay for the prescription this can be taken care of, where satisfactory explanations are made to the doctor who writes the prescription. In this way it will be seen that those who have no money may receive thorough and competent medical advice and attention, just as well as those who have a little money, or as well as those who look to the same physicians for their family practice all the time.

The following physicians have promised their interest and help in the work of this dispensary: Dr. Cates, Dr. Estes, Dr. W. H. Barnett, Dr. S. M. Alexander, Dr. Brown, Dr. Ionne Pinney, Dr. Simmons, Dr. Daley, Dr. Pickard, Dr. Cash, Dr. Warnick, and others.

With such names as these behind it, it is easily seen that the Free Dispensary will from the start be well equipped to care

R A B B I T S

WANTED

Rabbits Wanted

We will load a car of rabbits at Merkel Friday, March 10. How to handle: Cut throats and bleed, leave head on. Do not "gut" them. Will pay one cent per pound with entrails, and head on.

J. A.

DUCKETT

for the needs of those desiring its services. It is planned to have the dispensary open two afternoons a week, Monday and Friday, from one to three-thirty o'clock, and the doctors will take turns in being in attendance. There will be competent assistants there each day, and the Dispensary will be fully equipped and carefully managed in every detail. — Abilene Reporter.

Proper Treatment for Biliousness

For a long time Miss Lula Skelton, Churchville, N. Y. was bilious and had sick headache and dizzy spells. Chamberlain's Tablets were the only thing that gave her permanent relief. For sale by all dealers.

\$3.00 to \$3.50 shops for ladies for \$1.00 at the Star Store.

Automobile Sales

Some recent automobile sales reported by Messrs McDonald and H. M. Warren are: J. T. Warren and W. H. Frazier light Buick six, W. A. Shaffer, Gus Gliniwinkle, H. M. Rainbolt and Sid Coats each, a Dodge touring car.

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.

ONE NEW FORD

Driven less than 100 miles for sale. McDonald & Warren.

NUBIA

The health of the community is commensurate with the average percentage.

The farmers here, with the aid of the county, are grading and claying about three-quarters of a mile of road just north of Nubia. The work which is being done has been needed for years and when finished will prove of great convenience to all who travel it.

Since the grand jury has met several of the boys from here have gone fishing.

Rev. Wood preached at Butman Saturday night and Sunday. A large crowd was out to hear him in the morning.

It not only desists from raining, but persists in continuing dry, and if the chronicler concludes correctly there will be several acres of small grain plowed up and planted in something else. It is almost beyond the possibility of redemption now.

The musical entertainment at Mr. and Mrs. Bud Perry's Wednesday night was enjoyed by all.

The literary society of Nubia will render a program next Friday night. Mrs. Walker has been engaged to play the violin on that occasion. Come out and hear her and you will never regret it.

There was a large crowd at the singing at Mr. Boyd's Sunday night.

Miss Monnie Whetsell of Mt. Pleasant is visiting relatives at Nubia this week.

As the writer has about depleted his mind, which was not very replete to start with, of all late information at his disposal, he deems it prudent to curtail his present letter with the hope of having more next time.

Invigorating to the Fair 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

GOLDEN HAIR

AND THE

THREE BEARS

Coming FRIDAY 17
MARCH 17

SPECIAL SCENERY

Abilene Talent of 60 Performers

CHARACTERS

Golden Hair	Manors Mewshaw
Queen	Mary Boone
Bard	John Williams
Lightfoot	May Burkett
Frailty	Flora Meadows
Faithful	Gladys D'Spain
Airy	Ina Wooten
Will-o'-The-Wisp	Juanita Bacon

DANCERS

Donzula Yager, Mildren Taylor, Eldred Mays, Louise Jeffries, Lucile Roberts, Mona Fay Roberts, Elizabeth Graham, Francis Blain and Ruby Fay Thomas.

Bruin	Prof. J. C. Watts
Mammy Muff	Oliver Cunningham
Tiny Cub	Osce Gross
Cupid	Edith Gross
Butterfly	J. H. Manly
Forest children	50 little girls and boys

The charming story is told in lovely songs by splendid soloists and chorus. The beautiful Forest Queen will win the audience as well as Golden Hair. The Three Bears will furnish the comedy throughout the play. Two nature dances will be given by the Fire Flies and the Will o' the Wisps. Ask those who saw the play.

DO NOT MISS IT COZY THEATRE

Admission 15-25-35c. Curtain, 8:30 sharp

Opening Display

Tuesday and Wednesday

MARCH 14th and 15th



AN ADVANCE SHOWING OF Spring Millinery

that far surpasses any display of previous seasons, not only in brilliancy of color, but in variety and attractiveness of styles—a display of Milady's headgear not soon to be forgotten.

We want you to make every effort to come and see for yourself the many charming features of this season's millinery
Miss Ruby Smith in charge

Woodroof's



The Telephone Joy of Farm Life.

Life on the farm is made pleasanter and more secure by Bell Telephone Service.

Pleasanter, because it brings messages of cheer and companionship from friends far away, more secure because it brings help immediately when where is need.

Write our nearest office for information.

The Southwestern
Telegraph &
Telephone Company



PREMIUM LIST OF BIG STOCK SHOW AWARDS \$18,000

EVERY CLASS OF LIVE STOCK IN SOUTHWEST IS GIVEN AMPLE CONSIDERATION.

MANY "SIDE" EVENTS

Saddle Horse Classes Are Given Special Notice and Baby Beef Classes Arouse Much Interest.

Approximately \$18,000 in prizes are offered in the various classes of the National Feeder and Breeders show, which will be held at Fort Worth March 13-18. Every class of livestock produced in the Southwest is given ample consideration in the comprehensive premium list that has just been spread broadcast among big stockmen and small producers alike and it is anticipated that the greatest and finest exhibit ever witnessed in the twenty years of the show's existence will be on hand when opening day arrives.

Because of the repeated solicitation of prominent breeders of Texas and Oklahoma, the management of the show changed the dates back to spring. It has been argued that the exhibitors were able to get their offering in much better condition for spring showing than for fall. In acceding to the wishes of the breeders, the stock show earned a co-operation that will go far towards making the coming event the best in history.

Comparatively few changes have been made in the premium list, inasmuch as the management has been studying livestock conditions in this state for years and had never hesitated to take any step to amplify the list when it was warranted. Several additions, however, have been made. Among the most important of these is an increase in the classes for saddle animals. During the past year and a half, foreign powers have been making extensive purchases of Texas saddle horses and have greatly depleted the supply of good stuff. The breeders have found that there is an excellent future for the saddle horse business in this state and are going into the business on a more extensive scale. The stock show is always willing to push a good thing along and it amplified its classes so as to give further encouragement.

The baby beef classes will again prove of greatest interest and early indications are that the greatest number of entries in history will be rolled up in this department. From all over the state have come inquiries about this department and information to the effect that the youngsters are getting their product into condition to send to the show. The fight for the state baby beef championship for county exhibits is expected to be one of the keenest that will be staged in the great arena of the Coliseum building.

Outside of the stock show proper, there will be many events that will thrill and attract. Most interesting of these will be the Big Round-Up, which will be this year's night entertainment. This will be under the direction of Miller Bros., of 101 Ranch Show fame, and will be a varied and interesting performance.

A splendid carnival will pitch its tents on the Coliseum grounds, a magnificent industrial display will be held in the vast halls on either side of the Coliseum, a poultry show, the finest in the Southwest, will come in for a large share of consideration and many and varied special attractions will be staged during the great livestock exposition.

NOTICE

Dr. Daly of Abilene, will be in Merkel March 20th. Practice confined to diseases and surgery of the Eye, Ear, and Throat, and fitting glasses. Office at the Walker Cottage.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HOME FOR SALE—R. A. Martin place 2 blocks of town, two lots, north front, four rooms barn, well and windmill, garden etc. Price for quick sale only \$800.00. John G. Jackson, Abilene, Texas.

We are headquarters for high class soggles. Anchor Mercantile Co.

We clean and press anything and guarantee every job. Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

Mrs. W. M. O'Brian who has been in Sweetwater for the past two weeks at the Grogan Wells is reported much improved.

Bring your eggs to G. M. Sharp's.

Parten's millinery is pleasing all who see. Parten Dry Goods Co.

Just received nice line of ladies and children dresses. You should see them. The Star Store.

T. E. Porter who has been with the Wells-Fargo Express here for several months has been transferred to Dallas. Mr. Porter left on last Sunday for his new work.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
"Low" druggist will refund money if PAIN-RELEASER fails to cure any case of Itching, Burning, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first application gives Ease and Rest. 5c

J. T. Warren, Pres.

Thos. Johnson, Cashier



Organized
1904

U. S. Depository
for Postal
Savings

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OVER \$50,000.00

A dependable and serviceable Banking Connection for over 11 years. We invite the business of the Banking public, promising conscientious service that will be profitable and satisfactory to all parties. Money to loan at reasonable rates on approved notes.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

EYE GLASSES & SPECTACLES

Correctly fitted will relieve all strain and discomfort; also give you perfect sight when fitted by

P. T. QUAST, Optometrist

Sweetwater, Texas

LOCAL NEWS

New goods arriving daily at Duckett's stores.

3 boxes of matches for 10 cents. The Star Store.

Laundry leaves for Colorado on Mondays and Wednesdays. Phone Owen your needs. 10tf

15 pounds best dry peaches for \$1.00. The Star Store.

Expecting Robbin Red Breast meal any day. G. M. Sharp.

Last week-end Miss Ruby Payne of Sweetwater was a guest of Merkel friends.

Parten's big spring opening sale is the big event of the hour. Parten Dry Goods Company.

If you want your clothes to look good, try Owen Phone 194. 10tf

Mrs. S. F. Annis who has been in Colorado City with her son for several months has returned for a stay in Merkel.

Ladies buy a pair of \$2.00 shoes for 50 cents at A. L. Jobs Store; also examine Mrs. Jobe's nice line of millinery goods. A. L. Jobe.

Just received car of flour and meal. Best flour \$3.35 per hundred. The Star Store.

Standard planters, the best on earth. For sale by The Anchor Mercantile Company.

Garden seed at G. M. Sharp's.

Miss Dota Garoutte was in Abilene this week the guest of Miss Bobbie Clack. While there Miss Garoutte had the pleasure of attending Helen Keller's lecture.

Rose Comb Rhode Island white eggs \$1.00 per fifteen. Mrs. T. M. Pribble, Merkel, Texas. 25t4pd

We believe in quality. Eclipse windmills. The Anchor Merc. Company.

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms close in. Mrs. E. Hall.

Boys, get your baseball goods at Duckett's new Variety Store.

J. A. Provine who is so ad-journing at Grogan Wells at Sweetwater spent Sunday at home. His health is very much better and he returned Sunday afternoon for another week's treatment.

For extra high grade flour order the Seal from W. F. Hamblet.

Corn, chops and bran at G. M. Sharp's.

All kinds of variety goods at Duckett's.

Mrs. B. F. Smith and children came in Monday night from Big Springs to join her husband who has been here several days. Mrs. Smith will visit in the home of G. W. Johnson, her father.

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

LOCAL NEWS

Buy your flour from G. M. Sharp.

Buy your new spring hat of Parten Dry Goods Co.

Have your clothes look good. Try Owen and be convinced. Phone 194. 10tf

Mrs. W. R. Walker visited in Merkel this week the guest of Miss Susie Penn and other friends.

Ladies, use the rest room at rear of Duckett's new Variety Store.

See our millinery before you buy your hat. Parten Dry Goods Co.

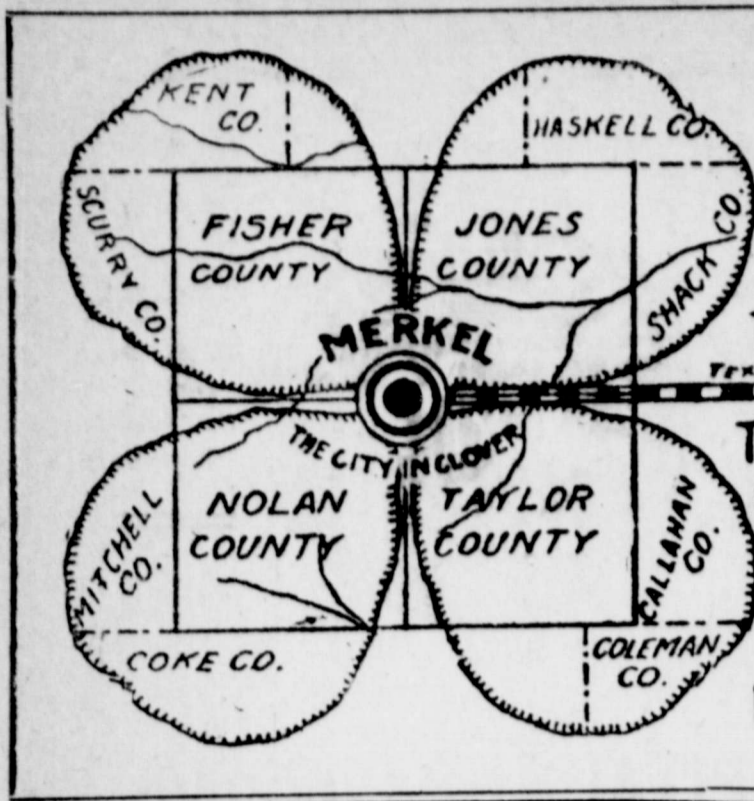
Miss Amanda Curtis who has been quite ill with la grippe and other complications is improving.

We appreciate your patronage. You will appreciate our service if your tailoring work is done by Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

I want 100 dozen eggs as quick as you can get to town with them, highest market price paid. A. L. Jobe.

Miss Georgia Taylor of Caps was a guest of Miss Mana Roach Sunday.

Windmills, windmills; lots of them. See me before you buy your windmill and pipe fixtures. H. M. Rose.



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 anonymous 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.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Patrons of the Mail who do not receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon the management by reporting the fact. You should also watch the label of your paper to ascertain when your time is out and renew before your name automatically leaves our list, as all papers stop when the term of subscription expires.

THE "PEERLESS ONE"

The "Peerless one," that is what the Winters Enterprise pleases to dub W. J. Bryan. The editor of that worthy contemporary says Bryan has withstood the jibes of the liquor interests since he entered public life; that he withstood the fusillades against him when he resigned from the President's cabinet. But in the last statement we beg to differ with the Enterprise. Bryan not only fell beneath the crushing wheels of ridicule, taunts of shame, and jeers sneers that the walls of our capitol building are still echoing, but never again will he hold such an exalted position. He was high in the estimation of the people of this, the greatest, grandest and proudest republic in all the world, the home of the free and the brave, where the stars and stripes waves triumphantly in the gentle breeze; where the Star Spangled Banner is wafted to the cooling babe in the cradle. But the "Peerless one" would rob the now grown-up babe of the cherished ideals that have long been planted in his heaving bosom. The "Peerless one" would smother the patriotic dream of true American; he would tear down the stars and stripes and watch with pleasure undisguised the war horses of the enemy trample it beneath their heavy feet. Yes, he was high in our estimation. His Satanic Majesty once was the prettiest and most beloved angel in all the gilded corridors in the courts of heaven. But "pride goeth before a fall," and although his popularity was without a peer, his fight for supremacy was lost, because he had selfish motives and fought against the right. The Supreme Ruler of the Universe was "prepared" and his forces won. The beautiful angel was hurled into oblivion, never to return. W. J. Bryan was second to the most powerful man in America, but he thought he was the most powerful and in opposing the Chief Executive in a most critical time, a time when the people of this nation should have been as a unit, solid as the Rock of Gibraltar for the man at our masthead whom we have entrusted the dignity and honor of the republic to. When the angry, lashing waves of the troubled sea was at its height, when the slightest tilt might have spelled disaster, the "Peerless one," for some unknown reason, probably for a bunch of free advertising of himself or other selfish reasons, he, regardless of the danger for others, added addition weight to the floundering craft by tendering his resignation and starting a fight against the President. The "Peerless one" will never again soar so high and he knows it. He made a bad move and is regretting it. He has lost all chances of reaching his cherished goal—the presidency. And now as he sits alone brooding over his misfortune even the weird winds as they sweep around the corners in the dead of night seem to haunt with an ever evil omen of Long Lost, Never Found!

FRONT PAGES OF NEWSPAPERS

Statistics gotten together in the Mail office from exchanges coming to our address from weekly or semi-weekly papers in various parts of the state show that one out of every ten of these country weeklies have their front page devoted to news matter alone.

Nine out of every ten newspapers coming to

our exchange table have display advertisements scattered all over the front of their paper. We often wonder if their print shop is as mussed up as the weekly effort coming therefrom. Why can't there be a co-operative action among weekly papers over the state against devoting their front page space to display advertisements. Such practice has a tendency to discredit advertising space in other parts of the paper and educates advertisers to wrongful impressions.

PORK BARREL BUSINESS

The "lure of the 'pork barrel'" in legislation lies in the fact that every fellow who has a hand in it thinks he is getting something for nothing. And when he gets a \$50,000 postoffice, for instance, for a village of 800 he is.—Columbus (O.) Dispatch.

Sounds something like \$300,000 for three fair sized west Texas towns.

SHADOWS OF JIM CROW

In St. Louis henceforth whites and blacks must dwell apart. A segregation ordinance was submitted to the voters of that city Tuesday and was carried by a very large majority. The ordinance prohibits whites and blacks being residents of the same block. An election on the same issue will be held in Dallas next month, and the result will doubtless be the same as in St. Louis. The descendants of Ham and the descendants of Japheth cannot dwell together in peace, and it is well for them to keep their places of residence a few blocks distant.—Honey Grove Signal.

States and cities out of the "Jim Crow" bounds may be slow in coming to the advisability of segregation but it is like a constant drop of water and will wear away the hardest opposition.

"Little Jim" Ferguson has "gone and done it" again. He made himself ridiculous some time ago by invading Bell county in a local option fight, and now he make a speech at Llano in which he says Bryan is a nuisance. No doubt this will mean the end of Bryan. Bryan could stand the fusillades against him when he resigned from the President's cabinet. He could stand the jibes of the liquor interests from the time he entered public life. He could stand the denunciations of Wall Street money grabbers but it will be impossible for the peerless one to hold the confidence of the people any longer since Jimmie has come out against him.—Winters Tribune.

Hon. James Ferguson had a perfect right to go into his home county and take a part in the prohibition election if he felt so disposed. As to his utterances at Llano recently, no public man has come nearer hitting the nail on the head. Mr. Bryan may have his efforts directed in a good way but he is taking advantage of President Wilson in a critical time and people over the country should look upon any person or action that tends to discredit the Chief Executive a nuisance of almost the intolerable type.

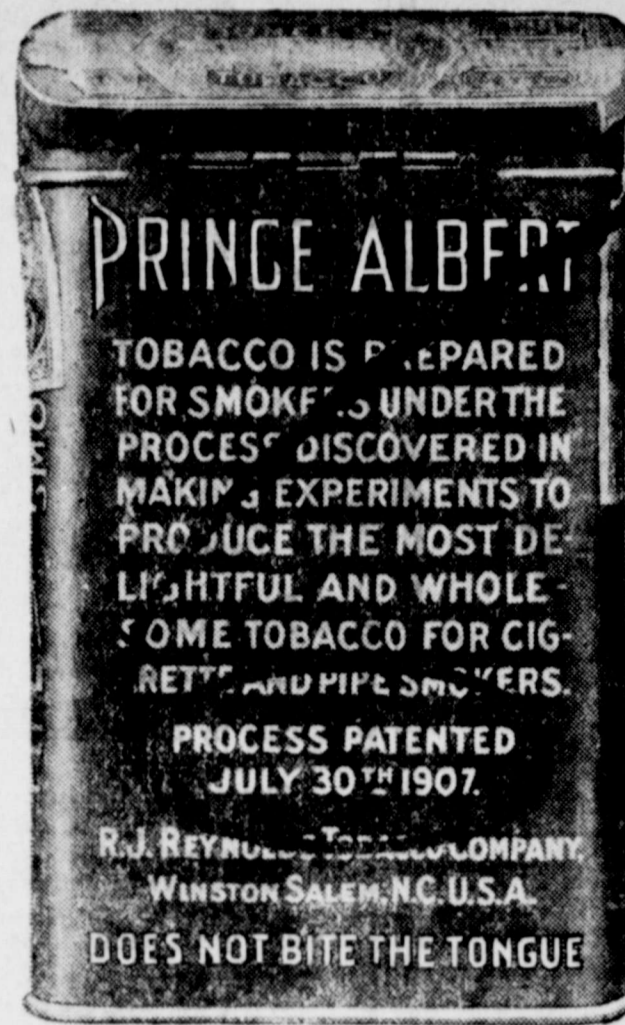
Waxahachie is mourning over the loss of its skating rink, the outfit having been removed to Lancaster. We are sorry for Lancaster, for a skating rink is just about as bad as a public dance hall. The News-Herald is opposed to these things.—Italy News-Herald.

Yes, a skating rink is just about as bad as a public dance hall—true enough. And the News-Herald may be opposed to such things—we suppose he is. But because a drug store is as bad as a cotton gin and the Mail does not approve of them—what then? Guess they would be forced to depart for climes unknown. They certainly could not withstand our disapproval. But, on the square, how could the News-Herald be so cruel? You know we never even dreamed that such things were not in perfect harmony with his well-balanced sense of propriety. How stupid of us!

The Western Enterprise asks any subscribers who missed a copy of their last week's paper to please notify the Enterprise office. Kind of a proposition of, "If you don't get this letter, write me at once."

The Banner—the news—they are synonymous.—Duncan Banner.

That reminds—we did too, once, but never again. O! It was awful. But we've most recovered now—maybe you will.



Copyright 1916 by R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

Why Prince Albert meets men's tastes all over the world!

The patented process makes Prince Albert so good in a pipe or rolled into a cigarette that its popularity is now universal! It satisfies all smoke desires! This patented process, which also removes bite and parch, is controlled by us. No other tobacco can be like

PRINCE ALBERT
 the national joy smoke

Listen:

It's easy to change the shape and color of unsmokable brands to imitate the Prince Albert tin, but it is impossible to imitate the flavor of Prince Albert tobacco! The patented process protects that!

Men who have stowed away gentle old jimmy pipes for years, have brought them back to the tune of Prince Albert! Get yours out, for your confidence never will be abused! We tell you Prince Albert will set pipe free the tenderest tongue!

And smoked in a makin's cigarette, Prince Albert is so refreshing and delightful that it gives you a new idea of cigarette happiness. Any way you fire-up Prince Albert, it will win you quick as a flash—it's so good and so friendly!

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.

Prince Albert can be bought everywhere tobacco is sold—in tippy red bags, 5c; tippy red tins, 10c; handsome pound and half-pound tin humidors and in that classy pound crystal-glass humidor with sponge-moistener top that keeps the tobacco in such fine condition!

BABY BULL BUSINESS BEATS BANKING

"Absolutely disgusting" are the words accredited to an Abilene banker by the Abilene Reporter of Sunday, when the banker tried to describe the conditions of the cattle industry in Taylor county. All the squabble came up when Lester Gorsuch sold three full-blood Hereford bull calves on the streets of Abilene for \$150 each.—Merkel Mail.

Do you mean to say that when Lester Gorsuch fooled away three calves for \$450 his banker upbraided him for selling out too cheap? If so, it appears to us that Mr. Gorsuch had considerable argument for his side of the transaction. Of course Abilene bankers may know more than State Press about the bull calf business, but to S. P. it looks like \$450 is a right nifty price for three "yerlins." Mr. Gorsuch couldn't have been out much in the matter of feed for his three baby beefs, for being only year-olds, they probably had not learned to eat with the reckless abandon that characterizes a mature steer or a dowager cow. In fact State Press guesses that Mr. Gorsuch's \$450 is practically all profit, and although that sum isn't exactly a fortune, it is more than the Abilene banker is allowed to make on a twelve months' loan of \$4,000. Indeed, considering all the facts as related, and the surrounding circumstances as they may be imagined, it is not too much to say that to a man up a tree it looks like the baby-bull business beats banking.—State Press, in Dallas News.

State Press honestly failed to understand the argument about the sale of three Taylor county bull calves at \$150 each which has been in force for some time between the Abilene Reporter and the Mail. Hon. S. P. is correct however to a small degree when he assumed that \$450 is a right nifty price for three "yerlins." Now this third party who has gotten his feet wet in this Taylor county squabble further acknowledges his ignorance about bull calves by saying that an Abilene banker who said conditions of the cattle industry in Taylor county were "absolutely disgusting" probably knows more than S. P. about bull calves.

The Abilene banker had reference to so-called scrub cattle of Taylor county when he applied the "Disgusting" term and accidentally he overlooked the top notcher breeds of this section when he gave out the interview. This alone caused the Mail to get its back up. In order to set the entire matter correct as near as possible, we are compelled to censure Contemporary S. P., for not knowing what is really going on in this five-pointed state. He thinks \$450 is lots of money for three bull calves, it is, but it likes a blamed sight being as much as \$6,000, a price paid for three Merkel country bull calves. The Mail has attempted during the last few years to advertise to the world that the Merkel country cattle were bringing prices never before heard of. What we are trying to say is that prices paid for Merkel country calves have set new world records. Only a week or so ago a bull calf one year old sold out of a Merkel herd for the nice sum of \$2,500, world record No. 1. Some months ago a Merkel bull calf of one month and twenty-nine days of age brought \$750, world record No. 2. Space forbids the entire list we could give S. P. and trust these are sufficient.

Herewith enclosed we send a cordial invitation to S. P. and the world at large to visit Merkel at the earliest possible moment. The purpose of this invitation is to acquaint all outsiders with true conditions around our little city. We further promise S. P. a seat in our car and will personally pilot the distinguished gentleman in a sight-seeing trip, a trip that will open his eyes to the country that is producing the finest cattle in the South. If S. P. is unable to accept this invitation, we ask that he meet with us at the Union Station at Fort Worth Monday morning of next week and we will repair with him to the National Feeders and Breeders Show now in progress, and view the Merkel fat stock show now on display so near him.

THE ABILENE FIRE RATE

It is with downright sympathy that we see Abilene in their attempts to obtain more efficient fire protection. The efficiency of their department in an operative way cannot be criticised for the bunch of firemen in Abilene are as active and daring in their work as any organization in the state, but they cannot give their town good service if their work is undermined by poor water service. The very first thing wrong with Abilene's fire department at the present is the private owned system that benefits only those into whose coffers dividends flow each month. The people who need protection are given excuses when a critical time comes, and fire after fire in our sister city invariably results in a complete loss to the building of the fire origin, if not to much adjoining property. The Mail is not trying in a braggadocio way to comment on the needs of our sister city, but with the losses of last Monday, followed by the reports given out by both sides—the fire department and the water company—a blind man might stand back and say, how easily I can see something is wrong. The losses of Monday would not justify criticism within themselves, if previous records in Abilene were up to the standard the good people of Abilene are crying for. Reduced fire rates have been talked of from the four corners of their city, but with a continual bad fire record, the citizens of Abilene may expect to see their key rate raised on account of bad records and hazardous risks. A statement in Monday's paper from the water company of Abilene advertises that a pressure of 55 pounds was maintained throughout the fire. This pressure of 55 pounds from pumps supplying the mains in Abilene is just 100 pounds shy of the pressure maintained in the water mains of this city during fires, and tests have been made advancing the pressure even higher than this. Even though Abilene has an expensive fire truck, combination auto pump, it will be impossible for this valuable piece of firefighting apparatus to give maximum service so long as a private company, or corporation, which handles Abilene water supply, furnishes a pressure for fires of only 55 pounds. The Abilene Reporter has been making a good fight for better protection for their town, but someone has been turning a deaf ear and if the "dummy" stunt is pulled much longer Abilene may wake up some morning charred and almost in ruins, while the water company maintained a pressure of 55 pounds during the conflagration.

There is a Real Difference

Cream of tartar, derived from grapes, is used in Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder because it is the best and most healthful ingredient known for the purpose.

Phosphate and alum, which are derived from mineral sources, are used in some baking powders, instead of cream of tartar, because they are cheaper.

If you have been induced to use baking powders made from alum or phosphate, use Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder instead. You will be pleased with the results and the difference in the quality of the food.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

MADE FROM CREAM OF TARTAR
DERIVED FROM GRAPES



MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

Masquerade Party

A number of Merkel's young ladies and matrons entertained their gentlemen friends and husbands on Thursday evening with a masquerade party. This was given in the parlors of the Elite, and quite a number enjoyed the evening's fun. Dancing was the main pleasure but some were present only to enjoy a social conversation and the jest given any gathering by the masque. It was rare fun trying to guess the many quaint and interesting characters as they mingled during the evening. Those present were Misses Elma Sheppard, Fanne and Mamie Moore, Veronaa Hamblet, Jewel Toombs, Mae Green, Mesdames Boyd, M. D. Angus, T. H. Largent, J. W. Daniels, Geo. L. Miller, J. E. Pitzer, Jr., Minor Goode, and Miss Cara Cooper of Colorado. Messrs Parker and Roscoe Sharp, Dee, Ennis and Emmett Grimes, H. L. Easterwood, W. L. Diltz, Jr., T. L. Holloway, J. E. Pitzer, Jr., A. Boyd, T. H. Largent, Nat Anderson, Minor Goode, Sam Swann, Dr. L. Miller and Raymond Touchstone.

Anchor Force Banquet

On Thursday evening, March 2, the entire force of the Anchor Mercantile Co. was entertained with a fish and oyster supper by

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Propst. After the splendid supper a jolly, social evening was spent by this always merry bunch. Those present were Messrs. and Mesdames A. C. Rose, R. L. Bland, E. P. Beene and their families. Mr. and Mrs. Austin Fitts, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Boden, Miss Veronaa Hamblet, Messrs. W. H. Bullock and W. L. Diltz. Mr. and Mrs. Propst were assisted in entertaining by Miss Ruby Walker.

Twentieth Century Club

Mrs. W. Woodroof was hostess on last Thursday to the Twentieth Century Club. This bride of the season was most charmingly at home to her club friends. Another program was had, consisting of another Stevenson afternoon. Miss Ev. Waters was elected to membership. The members present were Mesdames W. B. Foster, R. A. Martin, T. A. Harris, Jno. W. Briggs, M. R. Han, v. Parten, Ben T. Merritt and L. W. Woodroof, Misses Winnie Warren, Pauline Johnson and Evelyn Williams. Mesdames H. C. Burroughs and H. C. Burroughs, Jr., were visitors. Dainty and well prepared were the refreshments of nut sandwiches with pickles, cake and grape juice.

At their country home north of Merkel Mr. and Mrs. Thos. H. Largent entertained a few friends Tuesday evening. The crowd enjoyed the motor drive out, but more yet the pleasant evening afforded them in the

Largent home. Punch was served during the evening. Those present were: Messrs. and Mesdames Mack Angus, A. Boyd, Geo. L. Miller, Minor Goode, Misses Veronaa Hamblet, Mae Green, Fanny and Mamie Moore Elizabeth Swafford and Ruth Mims. Messrs. Dee, Emmett and Ennis Grimes, J. A. and Nat Anderson, W. L. Diltz, Sam Swann Mr. Harrison and Mr. and J. E. Pitzer.

On Tuesday afternoon the King's Daughters of the Methodist Sunday School held their regular monthly meeting with Mrs. W. D. Hutcheson. After the business session was finished a social time was enjoyed by those present who were Mesdames W. B. Foster, Lee Cox, H. C. Burroughs, Ben Walters. W. J. Sheppard, W. L. Harkrider and the hostess.

Ten Cows Yield \$1000.00

Under a farm demonstration made last year with a Texas herd of sixteen cows, they gave an average return each of butter fat of \$58.94, skimmed milk, \$18.16, calf, \$11.25, and value of fertilizer, \$12.00. Total \$100.25. This result was obtained with an average herd of Texas Cows and reasonable farm practice.

In this demonstration, the skimmed milk is a by-product that brings about a feeding operation and yield of pork products with an added profit. In the valuation of the above, skim milk was figured at 30 cents per hundred pounds and is, if anything, too low. Experiments made and reported by the Gov. Agricultural Department show a higher feeding value when fed to growing pigs is reported as having a value of 35 to 45 cents per hundred; this with corn at 60 cents per bushel and pork 7 cents per pound market price.

The production of pork should go with the production of cream for the market, and both command a cash market any place and any time. The production of pork will bring about sales throughout the year when properly handled, while the cream brings in cash twice a week or as often as the cream is delivered to the cream station or shipped to the creamery.

This will afford money to meet the living expenses throughout the season until the growing crop whether corn, wheat or cotton, is ready to be marketed. A small herd of cows producing cream for the market makes the Texas farmer independent of asking credit at the store, and makes him a better business risk at the bank.

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

Here From Deport

Fred Reeves of Deport was here the first of the week looking over Merkel county property and visiting his old friend, J. C. Mason.

Mr. Reeves contemplates locating in the west and is seriously considering Merkel for a home.

LAST GIN DAYS

Our next and last gin days for this season will be Saturday March 18th. All those who have cotton to be ginned please take notice. Guitar Gin Co., By Fred Guitar.

Hear Helen Keller

In excess of ten autos loaded with passengers were in Abilene Wednesday night to hear Helen Keller lecture.

Every person attending from here spoke in glowing terms of the remarkable power of this great lady.

Be sure and visit Duckett's new Variety Store next door to Behrens-McMillen.

Saved Girl's Life

"I want to tell you what wonderful benefit I have received from the use of Thedford's Black-Draught," writes Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mill's, Ky.

"It certainly has no equal for la grippe, bad colds, liver and stomach troubles. I firmly believe Black-Draught saved my little girl's life. When she had the measles, they went in on her, but one good dose of Thedford's Black-Draught made them break out, and she has had no more trouble. I shall never be without

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

in my home." For constipation, indigestion, headache, dizziness, malaria, chills and fever, biliousness, and all similar ailments, Thedford's Black-Draught has proved itself a safe, reliable, gentle and valuable remedy.

If you suffer from any of these complaints, try Black-Draught. It is a medicine of known merit. Seventy-five years of splendid success proves its value. Good for young and old. For sale everywhere. Price 25 cents.

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET

RENFRO THE TAILOR

AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO

Your Cleaning and Pressing

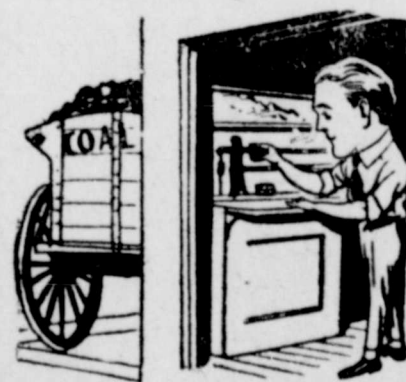


RICHARDS' Magic Washing Stick

is one of the most wonderful inventions of the age. It is absolutely unique. Never before has there been speed without harm. Never before have women had anything which REALLY made dirt disappear as quickly, as harmlessly, as EASILY as with this extraordinary dirt loosener. It does HOURS work in MINUTES. It positively will not fade colored clothes—shrink or harden woolen, and will not rot or weaken lace curtains so they tear easily, but keeps them STRONG besides absolutely clean.

3 Sticks for 25c—less than 2c a washing

Sold by all Druggists and Grocers everywhere. If yours doesn't handle it, show him this ad—he'll get it for you. Or send 25c in stamps to A. B. Richards Co., Sherman, Tex.



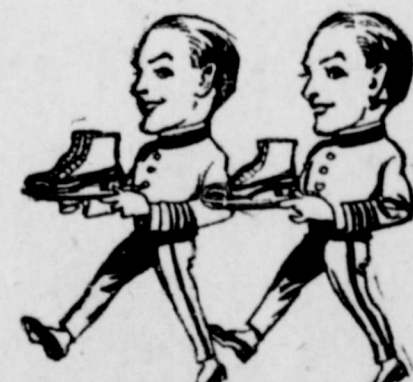
WHEN WE WEIGH COAL

there is no driver on the seat of the cart or truck. We sell coal, not drivers, and when we sell you a ton or more we mean just that quantity of all coal. We guarantee the weight as well as the quality of our coal. If the combination of full weight and best quality interests you, give us an order.

Warren Brothers

The U. S. Model E Standard Star and Leader Mills, the very latest models ask to see them. H. M. Rose.

Water tanks of all kinds and sizes. Prices right. Anchor Mercantile Company.



DOUBLE THE SERVICE

of your shoes by having us repair them in the modern way. Our machines are exactly similar to those making new shoes, so our repairing gives a new effect to old footwear. Send us an old pair as a trial. No matter what is needed, our machines will repair them perfectly if they are repairable at all.

J. A. BROWN

LOST—On Mulberry Canyon road a pair of buckskin, brown gauntlet gloves. Return to E. D. Coats for reward.

Only a few more gold fish left at Duckett's Store. Only 15 cents for 2 fish, globe and plants.

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST

Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

Practicing Physician
Office at Grimes Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-5

DOCTOR MILLER

Physician and Surgeon
Over Woodroofs Store

W. W. WHEELER

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado

Insurance Agent
Notary Public.

Office over Farmers State Bank

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

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL

CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

W. U. W.

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

T. F. Compton, C. C.
S. Hamilton, Clerk



The Quality Buyer

always finds our Prices a little Lower, yet we take even more Price in the fact that our Quality is always a little Higher.

That's why we are justly called "The Quality Store." You will find, however, that our Prices are as Irresistible as the goods themselves.

E. L. ROGERS

GROCERY



A MAN WHO PRETENDED TO BE OUR FRIEND

told us a trade secret how to reduce the cost of manufacture. It meant an additional profit to us, but we spurned the suggestion. Why? Because we resolved always to give the public only pure candy, up to the highest possible standard. That is the kind we sell you.

The Elite Confectionery

Face Washday With a Smile

GET some TEXWAX. Shave off about half a cup full, put it into the wash boiler with the clothes. It makes the dirt fly, and yet cannot harm the most delicate fabric. It eliminates the need for heavy rubbing.

And when you iron, it makes the linen fresh, crisp, and white. The iron slides more easily and reduces the work.

Try it once; you will come back for more, and also find out about the other TEXACO HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS. They are on a par with TEXWAX for producing results and saving work. Some of them are:

TEXACO LIQUID WAX DRESSING
For Floors

TEXACO HOME LUBRICANT
For Sewing Machines, Clocks and many other uses.

TEXACO OCKWORK METAL POLISH

There is a TEXACO AGENT near you. He will be glad to sell you any of our complete line of Petroleum Products.

The Texas Company
General Offices: Houston, Texas

Sta. exch. semi show weeklies matter also Nine out

ARMY OF PROGRESS WILL PITCH TENTS ON SHOW GROUNDS

BABY BEEF AND PIG CLUB
MEMBERS WILL COME
TO FORT WORTH
MARCH 13-18.

TO BRING EXHIBITS

Competition of Youngsters Will
Be Among the Keenest of
Great Stock Show—Many
Special Events.

A militant army of progress, imbued with the enthusiasm of higher ideals, will pitch its tents on the grounds near the Coliseum at Fort Worth during the twentieth annual National Feeders and Breeders show, March 13-18.

No bearded men, armed with the latest rapid fire rifles and hand grenades, prepared to wreak death and destruction upon an enemy, will be found in this army. On the contrary, it will consist of bright-faced boys armed only with a desire to better the interests of their state and nation through the upbuild of the livestock industry.

Yes, the baby beef and pig club members are coming to Fort Worth in number for the big stock show and they will camp in the shadow of the Coliseum. Practically every one of these youngsters will have exhibits of baby beef or pigs in the stock show and they are just as good boosters for the event as men who have followed their fortunes for twenty years.

The baby beef and pig club movement is little more than three years old but there are hundreds of clubs and thousands of members in this state today. The movement has spread to other states and proved popular. It is generally considered one of the most helpful innovations that the livestock industry has ever known because it is rearing a race of scientific and progressive stockmen in the Southwest. Soon after its inception, the National Feeders and Breeders show recognized the value of the movement and offered liberal premiums in the various classes in which the youngsters could give competition.

However, the baby beef show, large as it is in importance to the state and the exposition as well, will be but one of a host of features that will go far towards making the coming spring event the greatest that has ever been held at Fort Worth, the cowman's capital. Exceptionally liberal awards will be made in all the classes of the stock show and the night Horse Show. The latter event promises to be the most brilliant yet held. Practically all of the old-time exhibitors of fine horses will be on hand once more and many new ones will bring their animals here to compete for the magnificent prizes.

One of the comparatively new features of the stock show will be a great exhibit of Jersey cattle. The Jersey exhibitors have decided to make an exceptionally good showing this year and, inasmuch as Texas has been in the forefront of Jersey production within the past few years, the exhibit is sure to be one of the finest held in the United States for a number of years. An auction sale of Jersey cattle will be held one day during the show.

A number of special features will be worked up for the show. The management desires to make the event alluring for those who haven't the slightest interest in livestock. Carnival attractions will be more elaborate than in the past and the Coliseum arena will be the scene of a host of thrilling and attractive special features.

The fourth annual exhibition of the Fort Worth Poultry and Pigeon association, which will be held in connection with the stock show, promises to be better than in previous years. A display of about 5,000 blooded birds, the best in the Southwest, is promised.

PREPAREDNESS

Hot weather is coming, prepare yourself with necessities to make your place cool and comfortable. The ideal and comfortable way is our Electric Range in your kitchen, Coffee Percolator on your dining table, Electric Ceiling fan over your reading and dining tables. In your stores and offices the Electric Ceiling and Desk Fan will keep them cool through the hot summer days. Electric Lights to light your home. Get our latest proposition on arranging and assisting you for the comforts of life. Remember, Do it Electrically

Merkel Power Company

SANITARIUM FOR AUTOMOBILES

Positive cure for all Auto Diseases, and have employed an experienced mechanic, one who can dissect cars, locate broken parts, knocks, bruises or bumps. The New Brick Garage, open to the public this week.

Bring Your Troubles Here

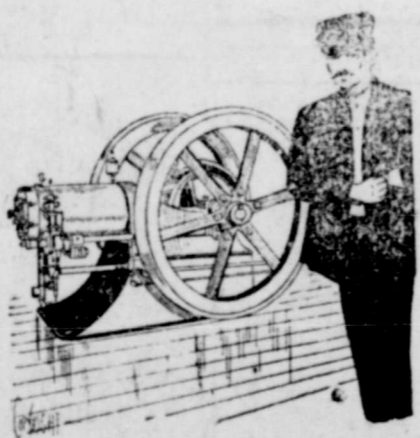
GEO. BROWN

North of Anchor, on Edwards Street

BREEDERS NOTICE "DAN"

The Thoroughbred Kentucky Trotter stallion will make the season at Trent this year \$10 to insure living colt. Will use every precaution but will not be responsible for any accidents.
CAL. HAMNER

Gasoline Engine For Sale



**A Bargain. See us at
once if interested**

THE MAIL

SPORT LOVERS TO BE GIVEN INNING AT THE BIG SHOW

BASKET BALL CARNIVAL
WILL BE MADE FEATURE
AT FORT WORTH,
MARCH 13-18.

BIG AUCTION SALES

Every Class of People Will Find
Pleasure in Visit to National
Feeders and Breeders Show.

A great sporting carnival, which will include a basket ball tournament between many high-class teams, will be one of the side amusement features of the big National Feeders and Breeders show, to be held at Fort Worth, March 13-18.

In an effort to provide a greater variety of amusement than in previous years, the management of the show struck upon the sporting feature and has secured the co-operation of the newspapers and dozens of Fort Worth people with whom athletics is a hobby. This carnival will be staged in the big arena of the Coliseum and it is expected to draw hundreds—perhaps thousands—of people who have never yet attended a stock show and might perhaps have little interest in the central feature—the exhibits of fine livestock.

The sporting carnival is but one of the many amusement features that the show is providing for the delectation of the crowds during the big spring event. A splendid carnival company has been secured and will have numerous attractions on the Coliseum grounds. A wide variety of special attractions will be staged in the arena of the Coliseum between the judging in the different livestock events. There will be something doing every minute during the day and night shows.

In providing side features of amusement, however, the management of the show has not neglected for a minute the stock show and its sister exhibition, the Horse Show. Around \$18,000 in prizes has been provided for the day show alone. Every class and type of livestock in which the breeders of the Southwest are interested has been granted in the premium list which was distributed several weeks ago to the producers of this section of the country. Entries already are arriving and there is every indication that the exhibit space will be more crowded than ever before in history. The date of the show was changed back to spring at the earnest solicitation of a host of the most prominent breeders and the show, therefore, will receive their heartiest co-operation.

Three big auction sales for Hereford, Shorthorn and Jersey cattle will prove of exceptional interest to the visitors interested in fine cattle. A larger array of cattle for sale is sure to be on hand and buyers are expected to flock here during the show from every section of the Southwest.

It is already assured that the Big Round-Up, a splendid wild west exhibition, under the direction of Miller Bros., of 101 Ranch Show fame, will attract larger crowds to the show by night than have been enjoyed in the past.

For the lovers of fine poultry, a more attractive offering than ever before will be provided at the fourth annual exhibition of the Fort Worth Poultry and Pigeon show, recognized as the "greatest exhibit of the kind in the Southwest, which will be held in connection with the stock show. Indications are that at least 5,000 blooded birds will be on hand for the exhibition.

BIG ROUND-UP TO BE NIGHT EVENT FOR STOCK SHOW

WILD WEST ENTERTAINMENT WILL SUPPLANT
MANY FEATURES OF
HORSE SHOW.

NUMEROUS FEATURES

Miller Bros. Will Direct Entertainment, Which Will Be of Varied Nature That Will Suit All Classes.

Furnishing all of the thrills of a Wild West Show, tempered by an exhibition of fine horses, in keen competition, that will attract the usual society crowds, the Big Round-Up, the night entertainment of the National Feeders and Breeders show at Fort Worth, March 13-18, promises to be the most interesting event of the kind ever held in that city.

Miller Bros., owners of the 101 Ranch show, will direct the Big Round-Up, and they have promised dozens of unique and diverting features. Broncho busting and goat roping, two kinds of entertainment that always please and thrill, will be down on the program and experts from all of the big ranches from Canada to Southwest Texas will compete for the ample prizes that are offered.

The world's champion high-jumping horse, ridden by a woman sixty-five years of age, will be one of the special features. There will also be a troupe of trained ostriches, a sextet of educated mules and Miller Bros. famous high school horses. A herd of Buffalo also will be brought down for the night entertainment.

Miller Bros. now are actively engaged in lining up talent for the event that will supplant the regular Horse Show at Fort Worth. In changing the form of the entertainment, the management of the stock show felt that it should offer a show for everybody and expects that the Big Round-Up will draw a larger attendance throughout stock show week than has ever been enjoyed before.

But the Big Round-Up will be only one of the major features of a livestock exhibition that has never been equalled in this section of the country. A prize list of \$18,000 has been offered for the great day show, which draws exhibits of the finest livestock in the Southwest. With the best breeders acting in perfect harmony with the management of the show, there is every prospect that the great exhibit halls in the rear of the Coliseum will hold a greater number and finer array of blooded livestock than ever before in history.

However, the show this spring will be more of an exposition than in the past. In other words, while a display of fine livestock will remain the central feature, there will be many other things to entertain. The management of the show has closed a contract for a big carnival company, which will place a large number of attractions on the Coliseum grounds. It also is negotiating for a splendid array of special free features to be held in the Coliseum arena to divert between the judging of the different classes of stock.

The fourth annual exhibition of the Fort Worth Poultry and Pigeon association will be held in the big poultry hall adjoining the Coliseum building. At least 5,000 of the finest birds in the Southwest are expected to be on hand to compete for the most generous offering of premiums yet made. The Fort Worth exhibition is always the largest in this section of the city and it will be larger than ever this spring.

For prompt deliveries phone 286.

Plenty cotton seed meal and trico at G. M. Sharps.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Magill of Dublin who have been spending sometime in Merkel left Tuesday for Abilene. Mr. Magill is a cotton merchant and will probably return to Merkel in the fall.

Fresh vegetables every Wednesday and Saturday. W. F. Hamblet.

G. E. Comegy and Miss Elma Sheppard have been in Dallas the past week buying a spring line of goods for the Star Store. Miss Sheppard remained a few for a visit with her brother, J. D. Sheppard and family.

Big new assortment of laces and embroideries at both of Duckett's stores.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Smith of Stanton arrived last Friday to be with their son, T. M. Smith, until he is improved from the injuries received several day ago. Mr. Smith is also attended by his brothers, Messrs. Otho of Trent and B. F. Smith of Big Springs.

Fruits, Candies and Bottled Soda

Get your fruits, candies and bottled soda from the Front Street Confectionery, first door east of G. F. West's. We are distributors for the Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Abilene.
Eckerd & Ely.

For a Mere Song.
Many composers, like Coleridge Taylor, have missed the just reward of their labor, but there is another side to the picture. Sullivan received £10,000 in royalties for "The Last Chord." "In Old Madrid" rewarded Trotter with a similar amount, and Bishop, it is said, drew something like £2,000 a fine from "My Pretty Jane"—London Standard.

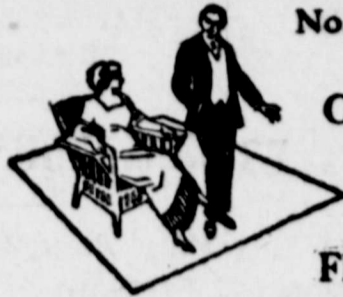
Cord Wood For Sale

Good wood at \$1.50 per cord one mile of Merkel. See me for your wood. Earl Lassiter, 10:22pd

LINOLEUM

in 6, 7½ and 12 foot widths at the Old Price

Linoleum Logic No. 3



Cover
the
Old
Floors

Hide ugly boards with new and neat linoleum. Cheaper than parquet—easier to keep in condition.

Armstrong's Linoleum

is light and sensible. Clean-cut designs, clear colors. Sanitary and durable. Fits the needs of the kitchen—fit for the parlor. Patterns for every room in the house.

Cuts down house-work.

Don't waste energy in scrubbing floors. Use a mop—and linoleum. **ARMSTRONG'S IS THE BEST.**

Make yourself at home in our Rest Room

Behrens-McMillen Co.
mark

Undertaking License No. 392

NOODLE

Lucious Ely took very ill with with appendicitis last Thursday and was carried to the Alexander Sanitarium for an operation Friday afternoon. He is reported to be doing real well.

Miss Alma Britain of Merkel was the guest of friends at this place last week for a number of days.

Little Nettie Merle and Mrs. R. W. Green returned last Wednesday week from Abilene where Nettie Merle had to undergo an operation for appendicitis. She is doing splendidly now.

Quite a number enjoyed the well rendered program at the Literary Society Friday night.

Miss Myrtle Barbee returned home from Brownfield Sunday where she has been visiting her sister, Mrs. W. L. Barclay, for quite awhile.

C. L. Eodd spent Saturday and Sunday in Roscoe with his sister, Mrs. Paul Harkins.

Rev. Gaddis of Trent preached to a very large crowd Sunday and Sunday night at the Methodist church.

Misses Allene and Ina Faye Barbee met their sister, Myrtle

in Sweetwater Saturday afternoon and while there were guests of Mrs. J. H. Fultz.

Mr. and Mrs. Dock Calloway entertained the young people with a party Saturday night. All present report an enjoyable time.

Mrs. W. L. Barbee came home from Putnam Saturday to spend a few days with homefolks but returned Wednesday.

Mrs. Willie Winter returned home from Putnam Sunday afternoon having been there for several days.

C. T. Derrick shipped a car of cattle to Fort Worth Monday for market.

Quite a number of young people attended the singing at Shiloh Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Buford of Merkel spent Sunday with T. E. Goode and family.

Misses Lettys and Beulah Jones of Shiloh were guests of friends Sunday.

A Pleasant Physic

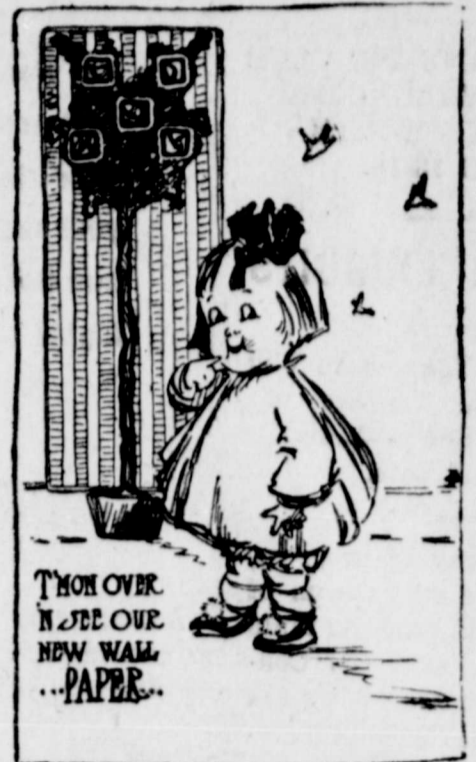
When you want a pleasant physic give Chamberlain's Tablets a trial. They are mild and gentle in their action and always produce a pleasant cathartic effect. For sale by all dealers.

Dwarf seed maize at G. M. Sharp's.

One
Penny
per
Roll

Wall Paper

One
Penny
per
Roll



We have a large amount of odd and end patterns in Wall Paper, in double rolls, but no 2 rolls alike. They are going at ONE CENT PER DOUBLE ROLL while they last.

You are always welcome in our Rest Room.

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.
Undertaking License No. 392

SHILOH

There was a very good crowd out at Sunday school Sunday.

Prof. and Mrs. Wilson of Roscoe conducted the song service at Shiloh Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. J. H. Grayson has been real sick but is able to be up now.

Mrs. Mayberry spent the weekend with her daughter Miss Edith of Abilene.

Messrs. Barnes and Miller went to Anson on business Saturday.

J. H. Grayson and son, Wilner, spent Sunday night and Monday in Anson.

A number of men of this and the Noodle community had a rabbit drive Saturday. Have not heard the number of rabbits they killed.

J. H. Grayson is treating his residence to a net coat of paint.

There was a ball game at Goodman school house Saturday evening between the boys of Shiloh and Trent. Have not learned the result.

A number of young people from Noodle and Golan attended the singing here Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Grayson and little son Durward spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mrs. Ulric Wheeler of Sweetwater Creek.

Mr. Brown hauled out lumber Saturday with which to make some improvements on his residence.

Furman Carter has been suffering severely with neuralgia for the past week.

The Misses Hails were shopping in Abilene Monday.

There was a singing at Mrs. Tabor's Sunday night.

There was a party at Mr. Conders Saturday night. Those present report an enjoyable time.

A little child of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory's of Hamlin was buried in the Shiloh cemetery Tuesday of last week. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Horn of Abilene assisted by T. Winters and W. B. Beavers.

We were very sorry indeed to read of the death of Rev. N.

WHAT CATARRH IS

It has been said that every third person has catarrh in some form.

Science has shown that nasal catarrh often indicates a general weakness of the body; and local treatments in the form of snuffs and vapors do little, if any good.

To correct catarrh you should treat its cause by enriching your blood with the oil food in Scott's Emulsion which is a medicinal food and a building- tonic, free from alcohol or any harmful drugs. Try it.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.

Roberts of Merkel last week. We have known him for a number of years and knew him to be a true Christian gentleman. He always seemed so optimistic and greeted his friends with a smile and kind words. We shall greatly miss the kind words he always spoke to us. We had great confidence in him as a Christian and always felt better after talking awhile with him. Our entire family join in extending our heartfelt sympathy to his dear companion and children in this saddest hour of their lives.

Keep You Bowels Regular

As everyone knows, the bowels are the sewerage system of the body, and it is of the greatest importance that move once each day. If your bowels become constipated take a dose of Chamberlain's Tablet just after supper and they will correct the disorder. For sale by all dealers.

Notice to Merkel Citizens

Hereafter I will mail statements for the civic service department immediately after scavenger has completed his work each month and your accounts should be paid to me prior to the second day of each month, otherwise a penalty of ten cents will be added to your bill.

B. A. Walters, City Marshal.

A Specific Against Colds

The nearest thing to a specific against colds is a sleeping porch or open bed room and a cold sponge bath every morning when you first get up. Even then you will occasionally take a cold especially when colds are epidemic and when you do you will find Chamberlain's Cough Remedy a great help in enabling you to get rid of it. Try it. For sale by all dealers.

Everybody is delighted with our ladies' hats and the prices. They both look good, so good that we are selling lots of them. Parten Dry Goods Co.



DOES YOUR ENGINE MISS?

Does your car balk at a hill? Do the brakes slip? Do you use too much gas? Does your oil flow away? Is your steering gear too loose? If you are experiencing trouble bring your car to us. We will repair it in a short time for a moderate cost.

MERKEL GARAGE

SUGGESTIONS THAT MEAN MUCH TO GROCERY BUYERS

BUYERS

Buy your goods in bulk, they are cheaper.

Have your goods delivered promptly, Auto delivery

Let the McCaskey System keep your monthly accounts accurate, with the amount of account brought forward on each bill.

Buy from a Grocer who at all times caters to the wants of the lady who wants, what she wants.

Call and take a look at our new Sanitary counter just installed.

A dandy coffee \$1.00 per peck.

E. L. ROGERS

Low Rates to FORT WORTH

VIA



FOR THE BIG

Fat Stock Show

MARCH 11th to 18th

Rare Exhibits of Fine Stock and Large List of Special Entertainment Features

You can't afford to miss it

See local agents for special rates on certain days, train service, etc., or write

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

ROUTE 3

The singing at Mr. Curbs Sunday night was enjoyed by a crowd of the Mt. Pleasant people

There will be a Literary Society at the Castle Peak school house Friday night. Everyone has a special invitation to come.

The baby of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Clinton was accidentally burned last week but is reported better at this writing.

The farmers are getting anxious for a good rain before all their wheat dies.

E. B. Barnes and wife were in Merkel Sunday.

Mrs. M. E. Baccus, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Brabbins visited Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway Sunday.

Several Castle Peak people attended the Literary at Blair Friday night.

16 pounds pink or pinto beans for \$1.00. The Star Store.

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.



You Needn't Look In The Mirror

to see if you look all right so far as your shirtwaist and collar are concerned if we do your laundering. They will be simply the perfection of dainty cleanliness. Send us your linen this week and when you get it back you will be amazed at how much better it looks than it has ever done since it was new.

Sweetwater Steam Laundry
Grimes-Howard Tailors
Merkel Agents

The Court of Last Resort

Around the stove of the cross road grocery is the real court of last resort for it finally over-rules all others. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been brought before this court in almost every cross roads grocery in this country, and has always received a favorable verdict. It is in the country where man expects to receive full value for his money that this remedy is most appreciated. For sale by all dealers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Subject to the Democratic Primaries of July, 1916

For Legislature (Capt.) J. T. TUCKER

For District Judge JOE BURKETT, of Eastland W. P. MAHAFFEY D. K. SCOTT, of Cisco.

For District Clerk J. N. ROUTH H. O. DRUMMOND

For District Attorney N. N. ROSENQUEST (Re-election) W. J. CUNNINGHAM

For County Clerk J. D. HILTON. Re-election

For County Attorney W. H. GRAHAM

For County Superintendent J. S. SMITH, Re-election C. E. SIMS ARTHUR JONES

For Treasurer: J. A. BOYCE AUSTIN FITTS

For Tax Assessor: W. T. (TOM) ST. JOHN Re-election JOHN H. VANCE L. R. (Ray) PARMELLY J. S. PATTERSON

For Tax Collector: G. B. (BLUE) TITTLE W. F. DILLARD. Re-election

For Public Weigher at Merkel J. M. (Jim) TOOMBS Re-election

For Commissioner Precinct No. 2. T. R. LASSITER (Re-election)

Jones County Announcement

For County Attorney J. L. (Lee) CEARLEY Re-election

For County Clerk C. H. P'POOL, Re-election

For Tax Collector R. L. BARRETT, Re-election

OVER 30 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

PAINTS

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