

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 35—NO. 50

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1924

8 PAGES

MRS. YATES BROWN PASSES TO REWARD

One of the saddest deaths that has ever happened among the citizenship of Merkel was that of Mrs. E. Yates Brown, formerly Miss Lula Belle Sharp, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp, and which occurred at an Abilene Sanitarium at 10:35 on last Sunday, following her falling down the elevator shaft at the Abilene Reporter building on last Friday night at about nine o'clock.

The facts leading up to the tragedy are that on last Friday evening the Merkel High school through the Music, Expression, and Voice departments, went to Abilene to render a musical program from the WQAG Radio station and which was from the Abilene Reporter building; there being some forty or more young people and others in the party. And just before the closing number on the program it seems that Mrs. Brown stepped out of the room and away from the other members of the party and went in search of a rest room, with the result that she stepped into the elevator falling some 25 feet, according to reports. Her falling to the bottom of the shaft was unknown to the Radio party until notified by some of the workmen in the press room; they having heard a noise toward the elevator shaft and upon investigation found the lady unconscious and badly bruised.

Physicians were immediately summoned and first aid treatment rendered, after which she was removed to the Alexander Sanitarium, where every attention and the best medical skill was rendered, but with little or no apparent effect; until the end came at the above mentioned date.

The funeral of Mrs. Lula Belle Sharp Brown took place at the Baptist church, in Merkel, at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, and was attended by possibly the largest crowd of sorrowing friends and relatives ever before attending a similar occasion; in fact the church would not begin to hold the great crowd that had assembled to pay their respect and show their devotion to this one of Merkel's most popular and most beloved Christian characters.

The pastor, Rev. W. H. Albertson, assisted by her former pastor, Rev. Ira L. Parrack, conducted the last sad rites of the departed one, and we take pleasure in quoting the following reference to the occasion as printed in the Abilene Daily Reporter:

"Never were there more glowing tributes paid to a deceased person in this city. Her life approached the ideal. She was born on Sunday, married on Sunday and had died on Sunday—the three great events in every person's life. And her whole life might have been summed up as a 'Sunday life,' for she was a woman of God and a great church worker. Three ministers eulogized the life of Mrs. Yates Brown, and as her former pastor, the minister who knew her splendid character and Christian life, reviewed the noble life of the young woman who was called to God so suddenly, there was weeping throughout the large congregation. Men women and children, not only relatives, but friends, all attest the great loss in the death of so noble a woman. 'She had outstripped them all in the race of life and great was her reward, a victory over death, a victory which took her to her Maker.

WILL START SURVEY FOR NEW HIGHWAY

The preliminary work of paving two of Taylor county's most important highways was given County Engineer W. A. Riney by the county commissioner's court in the regular February term which began Monday.

A contract between Mr. Riney and the county in regard to the engineering work has been entered into, it was announced. The contract was necessary and Mr. Riney will be in charge of all engineering work involved in making the surveys, the state district engineer making inspections on all work done.

Mr. Riney stated Tuesday morning that work on the surveys would begin immediately. The county engineer has been ready for several days but was waiting the receipt of the money here from the \$350,000 road bond issue and the granting of authority from the county commissioners in the regular February term to begin this week.

Fifteen of twenty men will be employed to carry on the work, Mr. Riney said. Approximately sixty days will be required for completion of the surveys. Every foot of the two highways to be paved will have to be surveyed and the task will require at least the two months.

The commissioners court was in session throughout Monday and was again busily engaged Tuesday morning. A heavy business program confronted the body and several business matters were disposed of during the day.—Abilene Reporter.

MEAT MARKET ADDS LOT NEW FIXTURES

Messrs. Jas. A. Patterson and Fred A. Baker, genial proprietors of the Meat Market in this city have just added a beautiful new meat counter, which will not only keep the meat cold but will handsomely display same in a most pleasing manner for the public's inspection. There is no reason why Merkel should not have a real first class, up-to-date meat market, and this paper commends the above gentlemen upon their progressive spirit thus exemplified.

and Master in that Heavenly home," said her former pastor.

The floral offerings were abundant and beautiful. Loads of flowers were heaped upon the casket in the church, and all other available space, including tables and chairs, was covered with flowers. The floral pieces were magnificent.

The entire service was very impressive and will long be remembered by her many friends. The funeral was concluded at Rose Hill Cemetery where the body was laid to rest.

The Merkel Mail joins the entire surrounding country in extending to the bereaved young husband and other loved ones, deepest sympathy in the loss of one so dear. And add that not only will her going prove a great loss to those near and dear, but the entire community has sustained an irreparable loss.

Active Pall Bearers: Warren Smith, L. B. Howard, Holland Teaff, Booth Warren, L. B. Scott, D. Grimes. Honorary Pall Bearers: T. G. Bragg, L. R. Thompson, J. T. Howard, J. S. Swann, J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, Sam Swann, J. W. Wheeler.

WORK STITH WELL TO START AT ONCE

The five inch casing to be used in the completing of the C. H. Oil & Development Company's well near Stith, as well as a car of fuel oil has been received and hauled out to the well, and according to Mr. Geo. Eberhart, contractor, on the well, work is expected to begin on same as fast as possible.

Mr. Eberhart is in dead earnest about putting the well on down to the contract depth, and too, since it is stated that there is a showing of both oil and gas from this test, he also feels quite a bit of optimism as to the possible outcome of the drill going on to the deeper sands.

On behalf of the whole community, Mr. Eberhart, here's hoping that long before the drill shall have penetrated near the bottom of the contract depth that oil and gas in paying quantities will have been found.

CELEBRATES HIS 69TH BIRTH DAY

Our good friend and splendid citizen, Mr. J. L. Barker, of the Saltbranch community, reached his 69th birthday on last Monday, February 11th, and while one of his good neighbors dropped in and took Mr. and Mrs. Barker for a ride in a new car, the neighbor had just purchased, Mr. and Mrs. Barker's daughters slipped over to their home and placed on the dining table a bountiful and delicious birthday dinner, which they had prepared at their respective homes. To say that Mr. and Mrs. Barker appreciated the fine dinner would be putting it mild indeed. And all those present enjoyed the occasion very much also.

WHO IS REQUIRED TO PAY INCOME TAX

Practical questions and answers for Income Tax Individuals. Question: Who must file a return?

Answer: Unmarried individuals whose net income for the taxable year equals or exceeds \$1,000.00. Married individuals living with wife, (or husband), whose net income amounts to \$2,000.00 or more and all individuals whose gross income is \$5,000.00 or more, regardless of net income must file a return.

Question: My net income is \$2,200.00. My personal exemption because of my wife and two dependent children is \$3,300.00 showing that I have no tax to pay. Must I file a return?

Answer: Yes, as a married man living with wife you must file a return because your net income equals or exceeds \$2,000. Individual returns \$2.50. Partnership \$5.00. Office in rear of Merkel Drug Co. Consultation free. R. O. Anderson. It

Carpenters, painters, and decorators, we learn are at work on the newly purchased home of Dr. and Mrs. R. I. Grimes, on Oak Street, and formerly known as the C. R. Horton home, painting, improving and otherwise making this splendid home more attractive.

Mr. W. H. Derstine, one of splendid farmer citizens who owns some valuable property at Lomesa, returned Wednesday from a trip to that city, where he had been to look after the improvement of same.

SPECIAL SERVICES AT BAPTIST CHURCH

Next Sunday morning we will begin a series of meetings to continue through the following week and possibly longer. We cordially invite all who will to join us in these meetings.

The pastor will preach Sunday morning on "Connecting the Lines." Sunday evening on, "What Must I Do to Be Saved." The other day two people were talking, one said, "I have been saying all the time that this idea of a change of heart is all unnecessary, that one should just go on and join the church." The other one said, "You are exactly right. You come right on and join the church, the association with the church people will bring about the proper feeling; come right along." We should be careful how we substitute our own personal pleasures for the plain teachings of God's word.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and at 7:30 p. m.

All B. Y. P. U.'s at 6:30.

W. H. Albertson, Pastor

DR. ALBERT VENTING SPEAKS AT BAPTIST CHURCH WEDNESDAY

Dr. Albert Venting, teacher of Theology at the Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, who was called here on account of the death of Mrs. E. Yates Brown, remained over for the Wednesday evening service at the Baptist church, and delivered an able and eloquent discourse to the membership of this church, and of which we hear much favorable comment and praise.

JUDGE T. M. WILLIS ANNOUNCES FOR COUNTY ATTORNEY

In the announcement column of this paper will be found the name of Judge T. M. Willis, of Abilene, as a candidate for the office of County Attorney of Taylor county, subject to the action of the Democratic Primary in July.

Judge Willis has been a citizen and practicing attorney of this county and Abilene for about forty years, and therefore needs no introduction and but little comment from this paper, as he is well and favorably known over the entire county.

He has held several positions of public trust and the people know his ability and the manner in which he carried out the trusts heretofore conferred upon him. However, we will say that he is an honorable and able attorney, and promises if elected to the office of County Attorney to faithfully and efficiently conduct the affairs of same in accordance with the oath imposed upon him as such official. Hence, this paper would ask that the voters over the county before casting their vote for County Attorney to give Judge Willis' claims due and fair consideration.

G. W. Boyce, splendid local real estate dealer, accompanied by W. T. Daniel, made a business trip to Winters Wednesday. Mr. Boyce reports that thriving city growing and developing in both the business and residence section. In other words very much alive.

W. J. Shepard manager for the Jones Dry Goods Company at Brownfield, was here last week for a short visit with his family and to incidentally shake hands with his old friends.

FIRE CHIEF GIVEN A FINE, NEW SUIT

We noticed Mr. A. V. Dye, one of this city's splendid building contractors, and who for the past several years has been chief of the local volunteer fire department, strutting down the street one evening late with a very fine new suit of clothes on a hanger and thrown back over his shoulder, and about this time a friend came along and demanded to know the why and wherefore, and finally the chief had to out with it. It was a present presented him by the members of the department. And we are proud to say, a deserving one, for Mr. Dye is indeed a pleasant as well as very capable chief.

PROGRAM FOR NEXT P-T MEETING 2-20TH

1. Song, America, by congregation.
2. Devotional, Rev. W. H. Albertson.
3. Selection by Choral club.
4. Reading, Clesby Patterson.
5. Selection, Choral Club
6. Tragic incidents in American child life, Mrs. Briggs.
7. Piano Solo, Junita Beene.
8. Reading, Artie Lee Agnew. Paper, Mrs. Been.

This program was postponed from last Wednesday. Every one come and help your child get the next library for his room.

ANOTHER GOOD MAN TO THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY

We have been asked to change the address of the paper going to Mr. T. N. Kleso, Merkel, Route four to Mission, Texas, route one, where Mr. Kelso recently purchased some of the fine irrigated lands in that section of the country. Mr. Kelso is one of our very best citizens and we regret to lose him from among us, but join his many friends in wishing for him success and happiness in his new home, as we also wish for the several other good families recently moving to that section.

"BETTER MAILING WEEK"

A communication to this paper from the Postmaster General's office at Washington D. C. among other things gives figures showing that millions of dollars are lost by the people of this nation through the waste by improper mailing of different kinds of mail matter.

And to interest the public in an effort to remedy this aggravating stupendous loss, the department has designated February 18 to 25 as "Better Mailing Week," and through the newspapers of the country urges upon the people the necessity of making an effort to properly prepare and mail their letters and other mail matter.

Some weeks ago Mr. J. Ben Campbell the ever clever and efficient rural route carrier on route two out of this city, placed a small advertisement in the Merkel Mail wanting some one to work some land on the shares. Mr. Campbell states that the little advertisement certainly brought the results. In fact he states that there were many men to whom he could have rented the land.

HOME TALENT PLAY AT COZY TO-NIGHT

The members of the Epworth League will give a play, "All on account of Polly" Friday evening at the Cozy Theatre. The play will begin promptly at 8 o'clock and admission will be 25 and 35 cents. There will be good numbers in between, including an orchestra, readings, and music. You will enjoy a very pleasant evening, come and be convinced. Miss Lucy Tracy, local teacher in the expression department, is the special directress of this play.

Below is listed the characters of the play, and the names of ones taking these characters.

Ralph Beverly, Polly's guardian, Russell Pike.

Baldwin, his son, Loring Hamblett.

Peter Hartleigh, a prospective son-in-law, Castle Ellis.

Silas Young, a money lender, Howard Laney.

Harkins, a butler, Tom Allday

Tommy, a poor little boy, Neil Durham.

Pudgy, Tommy's sister, Nell Durham.

Polly Perkins, a small town girl, Julia Martin.

Jane Beverly, the wife, Murphy Thomas.

Hortense, her elder daughter, Bessie Louise Yates.

Geraldine, her younger daughter, Ethel Wilson.

Mrs. Herbert Feather-Stone, of the "400", Marie Williamson.

Mrs. Clarence Chadfield, A "Climber", Madge Pierce.

Marie, a maid, Rosie Laney.

Miss Rembrandt, a manicurist, Edna Watts.

Miss Bushness, a hair dresser, Roberta Gay.

MYSTERY LUNCHEON FOR CROSS ROADS

The following has been handed to the Mail concerning a big event to take place at Cross Roads next Friday evening, and which is self explanatory:

A Mystery Luncheon Will Be Given At Crossroads.

Friday Evening at Seven O'clock

And a good time will be seen.

With Mystery Booths we will entertain.

If this Luncheon you'd like to attend

Take a tape and measure your waist.

Do it slowly, don't be in haste; And for each inch you measure round

A penny in your purse must be found.

Then hurry to Crossroads don't be late.

For we will serve supper promptly at eight.

The money goes on our piano fund.

And we will be glad when the pay is done.

Senior B. Y. U., Crossroads

WILL PREACH AT TRENT

I will preach at Trent next Sunday morning, also in the evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Bro. Lee Eason will have charge of the song service. Let all come at 10 o'clock for Bible study. W. G. Cypert.

Mr. Castle Ellis, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. N. Ellis has accepted a position with the Farmers & Merchants National Bank as bookkeeper. Castle is a very capable young man and we will predict that he will make good.

Pay BY CHECK

When you have a checking account in this bank, it is made safe by sound banking methods and doubly safe by our membership in the Guaranty Fund System of Texas.

The Guaranty Fund System of Texas has a membership of 948 Banks with resources of more than third of a billion dollars.

And no Non-interest bearing or unsecured depositor has ever lost a dollar through the failure of a Texas Guaranty Fund Bank.

Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

Intermediate League Party

The Intermediates were entertained with a Pollyanna Social in the form of an indoor tract meet, last Wednesday evening at the Methodist church. After many contests the "loving cup" was awarded to Happyville, Ray Garrett, being Mayor.

Refreshments were then served to Murphy Thomas, Junita Beene, Anna Lou Russell, Stella Wilson, Lucille Guitar, Lola Dennis, Eva May Johnson, Mary Hutcheson, Sallie Brown, Juanita Patterson, Pearl Avery Gladys Milliken, Orpeth Patterson, Intha Bird, Edith Baker, Erma Lee Rea, Comer Patterson Ray Garrett, W. L. Harkrider, Leonald Bailey, Monte Daniels, Audrey Witcher, Lewis Tucker, and Joe Riney.

W. C. Witt of the Noodle community asks that the address of his Merkel Mail be changed from Noodle, to Robstown, Texas, to which place he has moved.

Intermediate League Program

Subject: A Boy with a purpose.

Leader: Sallie Brown.
Song service
Scripture lesson (Dan. 1:1-10) by leader.

Prayer.
Who was Daniel? by Erma Lee Rea.

Daniel's purpose, Lewis Tucker.

Song.
Some things which defile one by Mary Hutcheson.

Some Positive purposes, Ray Garret.

Announcements.
League Benediction.

J. T. Pitcock, formerly of Merkel, but now residing in Burkurness, writes to have the Mail continue to come to him and his family, stating that he could not do without the paper, as it was just like a letter from home.

Mr. Gaston Foote was here Wednesday from Dallas, calling on friends.

LOCATION OF BOXES OF PATRONS OF RURAL ROUTES ALONG ROAD

4th Assist. Postmaster Gen. Washington, D. C. Feb. 8. In order that there may be a proper understanding by post masters, rural carriers, road officials, and the general public of the regulations of the department regarding the location of rural mail boxes and of its desire to cooperate with State and local authorities as to the use of roads by rural carriers, the following is published:

The Post Office Department has no jurisdiction over public highways nor have rural carriers any special privileges in the use of the roads. Carriers shall observe the traffic regulations in the same manner as is required of other persons traveling the roads.

The department does, however exercise jurisdiction over mail boxes furnished and maintained by patrons of rural routes. It requires that such boxes shall be so located as to be easily and safely accessible to the carriers at all times and without leaving their conveyances. It is suggested that for the protection and safety of the lives of the carriers and when the convenience of the traveling public is not disturbed or exposed to peril, the boxes shall be placed on the right hand side of the road in the direction of travel of the carrier.

It is our desire to cooperate as far as possible with the local authorities in observing State or local traffic ordinances and to inconvenience patrons to the least possible extent in so doing. In cases where special effort is made for the improvement of the appearance of the entire right of way or where for any reason it is necessary or desirable that explicit instructions be given as to the proper location of boxes, road officials may properly suggest to patrons the appropriate places for boxes after consulting with postmasters and rural carriers as to the suitability of the places determined upon.

It is thought that there is no warrant for the arbitrary removal of boxes from the roadside unless they are a menace to traffic, at least until patrons have had an opportunity to conform with the requirements or to state their reasons for declining to do so. Should boxes be taken down temporarily by road officials or others in connection with road improvements or repairs care must be exercised that neither boxes nor their contents are damaged.

H. H. Billany,
Fourth Assist. P. M. Gen.

MEAT MARKET NOTICE

We are striving to furnish the people of Merkel and vicinity with the best meats and meat market service that is possible for us to render, and take this occasion to quote you our present prices on the various cuts of meats:

Best brisket roast 12 1/2c
Short Rib Roast 15c
Best Cuts of steaks 25c
Sausage 25c
Pure Pork Lard 15c

We also keep the very best of packing house meats at the lowest prices and will always appreciate your business. Come in and see us. Patterson & Baker. 1t.

My! but the business firms of Merkel certainly have large and complete stocks of merchandise in their respective lines and many are making lovely and inviting displays of same in their show windows. Yes, and many are using the columns of the Mail to tell the public of their wonderful stocks and reasonable prices of same. Read the advertisements in this paper and profit thereby. It pays every one to read the advertisements these days, for every live, wide awake merchant uses the news paper columns in which to tell of the bargains he has to offer.

On the front page of this paper will be found the announcement by the pastor of the Baptist church to the effect that he will on next Sunday morning begin a series of meetings to run through the week and possibly longer. He invites all who will to join the Baptist brethren in these meetings. Rev. Albertson is a very capable and learned minister, who believes to the letter in the fundamentals of the Christian religion, as is given by the Bible, and all who hear him will not only have no cause to regret, but will be benefited and enjoy hearing him in his able discourses.

NEW DAIRY

Announcement is made that at the Adams Wagon Yard, Mr. Adams and Mr. McHan have opened a dairy and will be able to supply you needs in the way of sweet milk. We are now delivering milk, among others, to the White House Cafe, Ed's Cafe and the Latham Confectionary, and would like to have fifty new customers. Call to see us for particulars. 1tp

Mr. E. H. Thompson was in the city last Saturday from his farm in the Saltbranch community and reported that he was almost through with his winter plowing.

Mr. H. H. Toombs is busy this week having his home given a nice new coat of paint, and other wise re-modeled and fixed up. All of which will add to the comfort and appearance of same.

Judge E. S. Cummings was in Abilene several days this week looking after legal matters for his clients.

Mr. L. W. Beatty is among the splendid families moving from this community to the Rio Grande country, where he purchased a tract of the fine irrigated lands of that country.

Mr. Fred H. Voelkel of Toledo, Ohio, spent a few days with his nephew, R. A. Burgess this week.

Rev. Ira L. Parrack was here Monday to be at the funeral of Mrs. E. Yates Brown. Bro. Parrack now resides at Gorman.

Mrs. Dewey Brown of Tuscola and Mrs. Mason Pee of Lawn, were up this week for a visit with friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Eoff and Mr. John Eoff of Winters, Texas visited in the home of W. M. Eoff, near Noodle last week.

Call 180 and let us clean and press all those old clothes. No gas odor. And one days service when you wish. Cash Tailor Shop. 1t5

Owing to the fact that the rain first of the week made the ground too muddy to plow, there has been a good crowd in the city most every day during the week, and business has been splendid, especially with the hardware and impliments.

House painting Wanted—R. J. McHenry, at C. P. Stevens' home. 1t4p

Fresh Garden Seed. 6—5c papers for 25 cents at A. L. Jobs. 15t2.

FIRST CLASS LAUNDRY SERVICE

If you want first class Laundry service we do it. Any and all kinds of it. Cleaning and pressing, dyeing at reasonable prices. Semi-Finish, or family washing everything included except Silk goods, at 10 lb. minimum, 10 cents per pound. Phone 218 or leave at Petty's or West's or City Barber Shop. tf

FOR SALE—Well improved Farm located six miles north of Merkel. See or write, Dan Metthews, Box 583. tf

We wish to especially call the attention of the public to the following

CONDENSED STATEMENT of

The Old Reliable THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS National Bank

Merkel, Texas

Close of business December 31, 1923

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand...\$367,992.62
Loans, Cotton 10,775.9
U. S. Securities 188,200.00
Other Bonds & War. (School) 15,827.35
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank. 1,950.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co. 900.00
Furniture and Fixtures..... 3,850.00
Other Real Estate 3,000.00
Five per cent Red. Fund..... 312.50
Overdrafts 1,743.05
Cash & Sight Ex. 235,466.97

Total.....\$830,018.42

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock.....\$ 50,000.00
Surplus Fund 15,000.00
Undivided Profits..... 6,914.55
Circulation Acct. 6,250.00
BILLS PAYABLE NONE
REDISCOUNTS..... NONE
BORROWED MONEY NONE
DEPOSITS 751,853.87

Total.....\$830,018.42

J. T. WARREN, Pres. L. R. THOMPSON, Cash.

DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, L. R. Thompson,
Sam Butman Sr. Henry James

Never Missed a Dividend Never Assessed a Shareholder

Did you get one of our 1924 Art
Calendars? We have a few left.

NO POSITION NO PAY

New scholarship contains written contract, made strong by 25 years' success, a national deputation, and an affiliated Employment Department in 18 states, that if good position is not secured after completing prescribed training, your tuition costs you nothing. Write today for Guarantee Contract, finest catalog in the South and Special Offer 10. Address Draughon's Practical Business College at either Abilene or Wichita Falls, Texas. 8t4

Mr. J. T. Darsey went to Waco Monday to be with his mother who is ill at her home there.

JUSTICE FORD MARRIES TWO COUPLES

Justice of the Peace P. B. Ford reports having performed two marriage ceremonies during Saturday. The first was performed at his residence, 2114 Beech, at 12:30 a. m. at which time Mr. J. H. Blackburn and Miss Lela Hill of near Merkel were married. They will reside at Merkel.

The second ceremony was performed at 5:30 p. m. Saturday at his office. The parties united at that time were Mr. J. D. McGoughy and Miss Ora Mae Lawson of Merkel. They will reside in Abilene after a few months.

Read the Classified Column.

YOU TELL 'EM
—WE SELL 'EM.

GENUINE Ford PARTS

FORD QUALITY IS THE HIGHEST,
OUR SERVICE IS UNIQUE.

WEST COMPANY

"Merkel's Complete Accessory Store"

Elliot Audit Company

AUDITS AND SYSTEMS

Income Tax Consultants

R. C. WINTERS, Manager

PARK OFFICE BUILDING, ABILENE, TEXAS

Telephone No. 318

—Being in West Texas, we can give more efficient service and save you traveling expenses which Dallas or Fort Worth firms must charge. We solicit your Income Tax work on the basis of equal efficiency with other firms, and the fact that we are more accessible to you as our office is in West Texas.

AVERY WEEK

Feb. **21** to **23** 1924

Liberty Hardware Co.

Announces special demonstration by factory representatives from B. F. Avery & Sons of the Famous Avery Line of

Modern Farm Implements

Every new development in Farm Machinery will be displayed and demonstrated by men who know Farm Implements and Farming. Avery Week is going to be a real occasion.---We are turning over our entire store and force to the Avery Men.

Make your plans to come.

Demonstrations -- Entertainment -- Prizes

You are invited and expected

LIBERTY Hardware CO.

LOCATED IN HEART OF BUSINESS DISTRICT

Jerseys For Sale

We Have
JERSEY INCUBATORS

That Will

Shell out the Chicks

NOW is the Time to Set THEM

-DON'T WAIT-

Come in and look them over. We are going to give you some fountains with each Incubator sold between now and March the first.

PLACE YOUR ORDER FOR THAT IMPLEMENT NOW--GOING FAST

We look for a shortage again this season

Liberty Hardware Company

Mr. Charles West, splendid barber has been confined to his bed for the week on account of the flu, but is at present improving.

Mr. W. D. Hutcherson, the splendid manager of the Crown Hardware Company, we regret to learn has been quite sick a few days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Pfler of Abilene, were over first of the week to attend the funeral of Mrs. E. Yates Brown.

Rhoten Cypert and wife of Crosbyton, where the former is engaged in the Merchantile business, were here last week for a few days visit with home folks and old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Bragg returned Sunday from St. Louis, where they had been to make purchases for their store.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Brown of Anson, were here this week the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. H. West, as well as to mingle with their numerous friends.

Announcements

For District Clerk:
J. K. FULLER,
MRS. LAURA C. MITCHELL
For County Judge:
CARLOS D. SPECK,
For County Treasurer:
AUSTIN FITTS
County Attorney
FRANK E. SMITH
For Tax Collector:
D. T. HARKRIDER,
For Tax Assessor:
J. T. HOWARD
JOE T. PERRY
For County Clerk:
W. E. BEASLEY
For County School Supt.
M. A. WILLIAMS
(Re-election)
For Commissioner:
HENRY R. HICKS
T. R. LASSITER
CHARLES P. STEVENS
PHILLIP A. DILTZ
For Public Weigher:
C. L. TUCKER
(Re-election)

For a one hundred percent guaranteed ribbon cane syrup, come to A. L. Jobe. 15t2

Mrs. Thos. Durham is improving at the present time from a severe illness of some ten days.



T. J. R. SWAFFORD

South Side Phone 44

Car of Fancy Egg Coal
In Transit now

We are glad to enroll on our subscription list the name of Mr. Frank McElroy, who last fall purchased the C. H. Lester farm near here, moving to same with his family from Winters. He is a fine citizen and we are glad to have him as such.

Mr. Sam Swann was in Abilene Tuesday of this week on business.

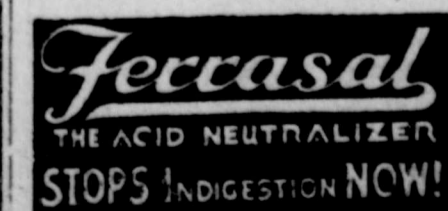
BOILS AND CARUNCLES CAUSED BY EXCESS ACIDS

"Excess acid got into my blood and carbuncles broke out all over my body, causing me to suffer intensely. This condition was chronic and I had carbuncles for over a year and seven months. FERRASAL relieved my stomach from the very first dose. In less than a week's treatment all signs of carbuncles had ceased to appear. In less than 3 weeks all my carbuncles were well and I have not seen a sign of one since."

"Ferrasal is a God-send to any one suffering from stomach trouble in any form. I shall never cease to praise it."

E. L. Matthews, 400 Masten Street, Dallas, Texas

Indigestion, acid stomach, kidney trouble, bad blood and rheumatism are caused by excess acid. FERRASAL removes the cause of these troubles by neutralizing the excess acid at the source and expelling it from the system. FERRASAL keeps you healthy because it keeps you clean. Take FERRASAL now, 50c a box. It will help you or your druggist will refund your money.



50c per box at Merkel Drug Co.

Messrs. John West, and Max Mellinger have added much to the already neat appearance of their houses this week by having laid splendid sidewalks in front along with curbing for paving when this city may boast of such.

Classified ads get the result.

PROFESSIONAL

DR. W. R. MCLEOD
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New Dodge For Sale

We have secured the agency for the noted Dodge Bros. Car, absolutely the best and most durable car on the market for a low priced car.

We are still agents for Goodyear Tires and Tubes. We never change brand, but watch and see how many times the other fellow changes, some times two or three times in twelve months. Why this change? Because the brand wont stand up--so when in the market for first class tires come to see us.

Batteries of all types, guaranteed twelve months.

Second hand Dodges, Buicks and Fords for sale. Hurry.

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H. L. PROPST

The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
THOMAS DURHAM, Editor and Manager

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TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel
Texas as second class mail matter.

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS MUST
BE IN THIS OFFICE BY SIX
O'CLOCK P. M. WEDNESDAY
FOR INSERTION IN THAT
WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE MAIL

A town without leaders, is
very much like a business with-
out a manager. Seldom ever
amounts to very much.

Because you just naturally
can't like a fellow, is no reason
why you should go out and
make low down, slanderous
statements regarding him.

My, but the big rain of Sun-
day night certainly was fine on
the fellow who had his winter
plowing finished, and perhaps
more land has been plowed here
this winter than ever before at
this time of the year.

Rev. Fred S. Rogers and wife
accompanied by Mrs. Dr. S. W.
Johnson, and her sister, Mrs.
E. C. Groover, of Kansas City
were visitors in Abilene Tues-
day afternoon.

If you want the best Flour,
call for "Cake Flour". Will ap-
preciate your business. W. F.
Hamblett.

One reason why there is so
much decension in many com-
munities and even in some
churches, is because there are
too many men who just can't
stand to see any progressive
move made a success, unless
they have a big say in the mat-
ter. In other words some peo-
ple just can't follow in any
move, and generally they are
too contrary to make good lead-
ers.

A CORRECTION

In a recent issue of the Mer-
kel Mail in the item regarding
the appointments of Judge
Speck to the County Judges of-
fice and Attorney Frank E.
Smith to that of County Attor-
ney, we were in error in stating
that "The gentlemen were can-
didates for re-election to the of-
fices appointed without opposi-
tion." As we learn that there
were at that time two other can-
didates in the field for county
Attorney, and who are: Roy L.
Duke, and T. M. Willis. We re-
gret this error and in justice to
the two other aspirants, we
gladly make the correction.

C. E. Bobo and wife of Blair
announce the birth of twin boys
on Wednesday of this week.
Each of the little fellows weigh-
ed seven and one half pounds.

DELICIOUS GRAPE FRUIT

The Editor acknowledges the
receipt of a very large and fine
grape fruit grown down in the
Magic Valley, of the Rio Grande
and packed by a Texas packing
concern, and we must say that
the sweetness and flavor of this
fruit excels any we have ever
tasted from any where. Mr. H.
D. Simpson, who is agent for,
and who is selling to many citi-
zens of this community lands in
that section, has our thanks for
the fine grape fruit.

H. L. Propst of the Merkel
Garage, returned first of the
week from a business trip to
Plainview, where he had been to
look after his extensive prop-
erty interest.

Mr. Oscar Jackson of Spur
Texas was a visitor Saturday
night in the home of his father
and mother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs.
A. L. Jobe.

Having It Both Ways.

The head of a girl with red hair,
painted with charm and great dex-
terity, caught my eye. The picture was
in that interesting gallery, the Rue
da la Boetie, and I was tempted to
enter the shop and asked the price.
The price was so high that I remarked
on it.

The dealer smiled in agreement.
"But you see," he explained, "the
painter is dead. Finished. There can
be no more of his work, and therefore
it costs much."

I made a tour of the walls and
found another picture, this time a
landscape, very simple but true and
beautifully composed. It was signed
"Grosjean." I asked the price of it
also, and as with the other the price
was so high that I remarked on it.

The dealer smiled in agreement.
"But you see," he explained, "the
painter is alive, and living is ex-
pensive. It is necessary therefore to
charge much."—Punch.

Rival to Monte Carlo.

Helgoland, the little island in the
North sea, seeks the laurels and in-
come of Monte Carlo.

The island resort is about to build
a gambling casino, which, it is hoped,
will bring sufficient earnings to the
local government to make all the
island folks free from taxation, just
as the residents of Monaco, the prin-
cipality where the Monte Carlo casino
is located, are free from taxes.

This is to all intents and purposes
a declaration of war by Germany
against France, so far as getting the
tourist gambling business of Europe
is concerned.

Helgoland has always been a fa-
vorite resort, largely patronized be-
cause of its beach. Now, in addition,
the local government plans to erect
a casino which will draw a new and
wealthier class to its shores.—Cleve-
land Plain Dealer.

A Difficult Task.

"You know Wombat, the author?"
"We are acquainted."
"That baby of his has some cute
expressions."
"Yes. Wombat confided to me the
other day that Mrs. Wombat wanted it
so."
"Hub?"
"So Wombat taught 'em to the baby,
and he says he had a deuce of a time
doing it, too."

Contradiction of Terms.

"You say our friend has a queer re-
cord?"
"Rather," replied Senator Sorghum.
"Can't we put him across as a dark
horse?"
"Perhaps. But you'll have to white-
wash him first."

DANCE WITH DORIS

By DOROTHY DOUGLAS

© 1923, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

TOMMY WEBSTER called himself
every known kind of an idiot, but
it didn't help matters in the least.

He was in love with a girl whom
he had not met and never expected to
meet, for she was a girl who danced
in one of the famous "Revue's." It
was called dancing, but it was in
reality just floating about the stage
like an exquisite bit of thistledown.

Tommy hated the audience for their
wild and noisy applause that clam-
ored for Doris until she slipped out
time and time again to bow her pretty
thanks and kiss her snow-white fin-
gers. He knew she must be weary
and it annoyed Tommy that she must
stand there with that sparkling smile
on her lips and in her eyes the joy of
great conquest for that noisy public
to admire.

If Doris Deene had been a little
nonentity on the stage he might have
made an effort to become acquainted
with her and win her away from her
profession, but to one who seemed des-
tined to reach the height of her pro-
fession Tommy felt the odds too much
against him.

So he had decided that the best
thing for him to do was to forget
Doris.

It was not going to be easy. Tommy
was not the kind of man who loves
often and lightly. And Doris, the
dainty bit of white thistledown, with
her fair curls and laughing blue eyes,
drifted through all his dreams, cling-
ing, beautifully appealing.

So, before taking up his office career
in the great steel business of his fa-
ther, Tommy started on a six months'
travel cure and made up his mind that
he would return to New York heart
and fancy free.

Tommy reached England during the
month of June. The days were a bit
dull, but the change to glorious sun-
shine made Ascot, the Derby and the
river life a thing of joy. He learned
to punt up and down the river quite
like an old hand and met many a
charming, gaily-decked damsel with
whom he passed sundry and varied
hours.

It was Ethel Danvers who, while re-
flecting gracefully among various hued
cushions at the other end of his punt,
who asked him if he was going to the
theatrical garden party.

"Sure, I have to see everything I
can in the next month and then work,
and, but interesting, work for me.
I'll take you and we'll do all the stunts
they have to offer. Is it a go?"
"Sure!" laughed Ethel, mocking his
American expression.

So it was that Tommy found himself
in the Royal hospital grounds at Chel-
sea enjoying himself immensely. Every
type of girl, in every type of garb,
from modern Eve to ancient Turkey
and all the stars and minor constella-
tions of the stage were there.

Ethel was beginning to think she
might spend the rest of her days at
Tommy's side, when, standing in front
of a dance club which they were about
to enter, she felt his arm tighten
against his side.

He was reading over the list of
stage favorites with whom one could
have a fox trot for half a crown, but
only one name stood out to Tommy in
bold relief—Doris Deene.

He tried to make his voice sound
natural as he turned to Ethel.
"Are these names all famous over
here? I—I don't know many of your
English stars by name."

Ethel read the list. "All pretty
much in the public eye. That Doris
Deene is from your part of the world
and has taken us quite by storm with
her dancing. Come on, let's go in.
I'd just love to dance once with Jack
Buchanan and you try for Doris. I
fancy she'd love to chat with some one
from home."

So together they went in. Ethel
was out on the floor with the tall Jack
before Tommy could make his way to
Doris.

It was she who began to talk.
"I am from New York," said Tom-
my, feeling like a first-class fool for
the shake in his voice. "I used to
watch you dance nearly three nights
out of the week—a bit soft, wasn't
it?"

Doris looked up and smiled straight
into Tommy's eyes.

"Oh, I am glad to meet you," she
said wistfully. "I'm so homesick for
New York and home folks that I could
just cry about it." She shyly glanced
again at the big, honest boy and knew
she liked him—liked him very, very
much. "I wonder—I wonder if you
would come out to see me some time
and just take me out on a bus or up
the river or—or, just any place away
from theaters? I don't like dancing,
but I have to earn my living some way.
Could you?"

"Doris Deene," said Tommy, softly,
with all his awkwardness gone, "I
could do anything on the face of the
earth that you ask. We'll have a pic-
nic up the river Sunday—all to our-
selves, and every day that you spare
me we will lunch together. I am sail-
ing for home on the 27th, and if I can
manage to tell you heaps of things
that I have wanted to tell you long
before this—perhaps you will sail back
too."

Tommy Webster had never expected
to have his picture in the London pa-
pers, but when he sailed away with
the famous little dancer—Doris Deene
—as his wife it was no wonder that
the newspaper photographers were
busy while the happy couple stood on
deck.

**Over 150 of the Halsell Farms
Already Sold—to Farmers**

OVER 150 good farmers—the kind who know good land and opportunity
when they see it, are coming to the Halsell Farms in Lamb County, Texas
—they have come here and investigated what we have and they have bought
land—to farm—to make money.

A Great Cotton County—Raise one-
fourth to one bale per acre—no boll weevil
—easy to raise—bring top price. The rich
chocolate loam soil, deep and fertile, is also
wonderfully adapted to the raising of corn,
wheat, feed grains, vegetables, garden truck
and fruit.

\$25 an Acre—15 Years to Pay! Scores
are coming to this land of opportunity and
establishing homes. Pure water of fine qual-
ity and in abundance. Ideal climate—short,
dry winters; long, temperate summers.
Good transportation facilities.

On the Santa Fe Railroad—Amherst,
an up-and-going town is now being built on
the property. Schools and churches are
being built. Halsell Farms is fast becoming
a thriving farm community. Its citizens
are the right class of people.

Investigate—Now! If you are seeking
a real home in an ideal part of the country,
where rich land and honest efforts will put
you ahead, write at once for full particulars about
Halsell Farms. Land is selling fast—write today!
Remember this is one of the few remaining big tracts
of good farming land that can be bought at these
prices on terms.

The Halsell Farms Company General Offices: Amherst, Texas

**ANOTHER YOUNG MAN
MARRIES**

Mr. Emmette Patterson of
near this city, and Miss Allie
Mae Finch, of near Hodges,
drove over to Anson on Janu-
ary 29th, where they procured
a marriage license, and drove
to the Methodist parsonage and
were united in marriage by the
pastor of the Methodist church.
The groom is the youngest son
of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Patterson
Sr., and is among the best and
most energetic young men of
the community, while the bride
is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.
Tom Finch, being among the
most popular young ladies of her
community, and this paper joins
a large circle of admiring friends
in extending to them but wishes
for much happiness and prosper-
ity throughout future career.

TEACHERS TRAINING CLASS

The Teachers Training Class
which is being held at the Me-
thodist church in this city this
week, is progressing nicely ac-
cording to the pastor, Rev. T. J.
Rea, and will continue on thru
the week.

Rev. Rea and the membership
in general also calls attention to
the coming revival to be con-
ducted at this church, beginning
the first Sunday in March, with
the noted Tithing Evangelist,
"Zim", doing the preaching.

Mrs. E. C. Groover of Kansas
City, is the guest of her sister
Mrs. S. W. Johnson, also her
mother, Mrs. P. A. Sandifer.

IF YOU HAVE
Malaria, Piles, Sick Headache, Costive
Bowels, Dumb Ague, Sour Stomach,
and Belching; your food does not
assimilate, you have no appetite,
Tutt's Pills
will remedy these troubles

Advertise

- IF YOU
 - Want a Cook
 - Want a Clerk
 - Want a Parlor
 - Want a Situation
 - Want a Servant Girl
 - Want to Sell a Piano
 - Want to Sell a Carriage
 - Want to Sell Town Property
 - Want to Sell Your Groceries
 - Want to Sell Your Hardware
 - Want Customers for Anything
- Advertise Weekly in This Paper.
Advertise is the Way to Success
Advertise Brings Customers
Advertise Keeps Customers
Advertise Insures Success
Advertise Shows Energy
Advertise Shows Puck
Advertise is "Biz"
Advertise or-Bust
Advertise Long
Advertise Well
ADVERTISE
At Once

In This Paper

Don't Overlook

that subscription. If you
are in arrears remember
that we can always find
good use for

the MONEY

Rev. Thomas Jefferson Rea
pastor of the First Methodist
church, spent Tuesday in Abi-
lene on business.

Have your clothes made to
measure by the Cash Tailor
Shop, and get full value for the
money you spend. It makes no
difference what price you select,
you get in return an all-wool
fabric of a quality exceeding any
bought elsewhere at a similar
cost. 115

**Coughs
that wear you out**

making you feel weak and ill,
rasping your throat and lungs
until they are sore—break
them up now before they cause
you more serious trouble. Dr.
King's New Dis-
covery breaks
up coughs quick-
ly by stimulating the
mucous mem-
branes to throw
off clogging secre-
tions. It has a
pleasant taste.
All druggists.



DR. KING'S NEW DISCOVERY

Next Spring—

With over 200,000 orders for Ford Cars and
Trucks already placed for delivery during
the next few months, we are facing a record-
breaking spring demand.

Each successive month this winter has
witnessed a growth in sales far surpassing
that of any previous winter season. This
increase will be even greater during the
spring months, always the heaviest buying
period.

These facts suggest that you place your
order early to avoid disappointment in
delivery at the time desired.

Ford Motor Company
Detroit, Michigan

It is not necessary to pay cash for your car in order
to have your name placed on the preferred delivery
list. You can make a small payment down, or
you can buy, if you wish, under the convenient
terms of the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan.

See the Nearest Authorized Ford Dealer

**REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS
FIRE INSURANCE**

There is just one day when it is wise
to insure. Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow
may be too late. Today, the day Before
you may suffer a loss by fire, or Theft, is
the one wise day to cover yourself fully
with insurance.

Today we can protect you from to-
morrow's possible loss. Today is the only
day you can be sure you are in time. Call
on us today—be insured in time.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

LOOK TOBY IS COMING TO TOWN

COZY THEATRE

MERKEL

All Next Week Starting
MONDAY FEB. 18TH

Copeland Brothers

Big Comdy Company

PRESENTING

All New Plays - Polite Vaudeville - Good Music

The Four Copelands Comedy Quartette

Grady Stapp's four-piece Novelty Orchestra

MONDAY NIGHT, FEB. 18

"SUNNY TENNESSEE"

LADIES FREE when with escort holding paid ADULT TICKET

PRICES: 20c - 40c - 60c, Which Includes War Tax, Admission and Reserved Seat

HIGH TOP'S WITCH

By JANE GORDON

"DEED it is a witch, Mr. King, sir; I done seeer with my own eyes. Last night when we's in the cabin playing cayrds something brushed past the window. Sam, he says, 'I bet that's High Top's witch.' Which? I asks, and Sam tells us. She roams the mountains, and its bad luck for the man that sees or tries to catch her. Joe, he once give chase, when the witch come prowlin' around the messhouse, and she throws a laugh at him and gets quick behind a tree, and when Joe looked all about she wasn't there; an' next day Joe lost his job, diggin' on High Top."

Glen King laughed, but the golden-haired child on his knee warned:

"It is true what Jim says. I saw the witch one evening just as I was going off to sleep. Sister Monna had tucked me into bed and kissed me good-night. She threw a rose from the edge right through my window and into my bed—and first she kissed the rose—so I wasn't afraid at all. Maybe its only bad men that she punishes, Mr. King; Joe was a bad nigger, Mary Murphy says. He gambled money and took all poor Tim Murphy had."

"Information bureau," Glen King remarked, and pinched the little girl's cheek.

"So you have seen the witch, and are not afraid of her, Angel—and Monna says that red roses mean love?" Glen King was quite untutored in the ways of John Kirkwood's daughter. And the chief engineer was.

Glen was torn with jealousy at times by the sight of Monna, walking the sweet mountain trails at the side of Bob Whitely. Bob, a New Yorker like himself, had come with the engineering commission, as secretary to Mr. Kirkwood, and Glen could not get over his dislike and suspicion regarding the ingratiating stranger. Monna appeared not to share this dislike. Sighing now, he put the child down from his knee and left the cabin; Angel walked at his side.

"And if you don't believe in the witch, Mr. King," she continued her favorite topic, "you just watch for her some evening on High Top."

Glen sat long in the moonlight at his cabin door that night; Jim, as usual was absent. As he sat across the moon-lit path fled a shadow. He got to his feet, interested—the witch, beyond a doubt. He saw a dark enveloping cape, a peaked hood rolled low.

The witch eluded him; but moonlight showed a touch of scarlet lining, where the person's arm had tightened for a moment the cape about her—or him.

Next day Glen King astonishingly received notice that his services on the great engineering commission were dispensed with. When he sought out his chief John Kirkwood received him coldly.

"This grieves me more than it can possibly grieve you," he said. "If I had not undoubted authority, I would not find it possible to believe you guilty of the very fault you have apparently been eager to help me to subdue. You were an active gambler at last night's disgraceful meeting on High Top."

Stunned, indignant, Glen King spoke but one word. "Mistaken," he said brusquely, and went to pack his things.

Black Jim brought him coffee. "Dat rascal call himself Bob Whitely, tell Mr. Kirkwood lies 'bout you, Mr. King," Jim said. "Pretendin' to look up the gamblers when he's one of 'em. Dressed up like you last night. Went to the whites' cabin. Got out so no one could catch him, an' den made the detective believe it was y'elf. I know it. An' it's Miss Monna Kirkwood that rascal wants, an' maybe'll get her, on account of his' smooth ways."

"But to think," Glen murmured brokenly, "that after all our association Mr. Kirkwood would disbelieve in me—"

"Dat Bob," Jim confirmed, "is mighty smooth, Mr. King." Glen bowed his head in his head—toward him a slender figure came. The negro flew. "The witch!" the disheartened man heard him cry. Glen raised his head. Monna stood before him. A dark cape wrapped about her, its lining showed scarlet. She held out to him a wide black ribbon. "The peaked hood," she said and smiled.

"I have been High Top witch, Glen." She came to sit beside him. "After Angel was put to bed for the night I roamed the Top; really it was fun, but I had an object. Bob Whitely had whispered things about you—had insinuated to father. I had to know. So, I peeped in the cabin windows where games were played. How did I know where to go? I followed Mary Murphy's Tim one night, secretly. She had bewailed the fact of his nightly visits. And last night, Glen, I saw through a cabin door, left open but for a moment to admit a man—that man dressed as you might be dressed—but it was not you. I have told my father who the man was. And here I saw you, solitary, on your own doorstep—until you went in to bar for the night your cabin door. I have told my father that, too. Tomorrow it will be Bob Whitely who will leave the High Top commission—and not you, my Glen, dear!"

His longing arm was around the slender figure in the dark cape. "It was love for you," he said. "I was love for you," she said. "I was love for you," she said. "I was love for you," she said.

His longing arm was around the slender figure in the dark cape. "It was love for you," he said. "I was love for you," she said. "I was love for you," she said. "I was love for you," she said.

Miss Mary Campbell visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell last week end. Miss Campbell teaches at Wingate.

A GIFT WE APPRECIATE

The writer takes this occasion to extend through the columns of the Mail, our thanks and appreciation to our friend, and most distinguished citizen, Mr. Porter A. Whaley, the efficient manager of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce, with headquarters at Stamford, for a lot of very fine berry vines, which we shall plant in the most choice spot of our garden, and then some day we will invite our good friend over to help enjoy the fruit there from. Thanks, gentlemen of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce.

Classified ads get the result.

PILES CURED

No knife—No Pain—No Detention from work. See Dr. E. E. Cockrell, Abilene, Texas, Phone number 359.

Will be in your town at the office at Collins Hotel, Monday afternoon from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m. for purpose of treating piles and skin diseases. Free Consultation.

TWELVE JOBS TO DO NOW

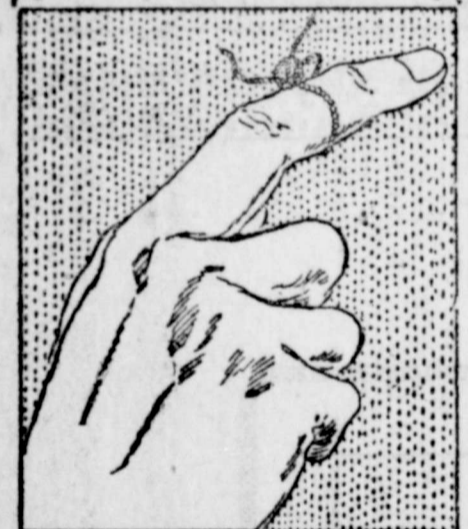
Another new year is now on us, consequently we wish to call attention to twelve "going-to-do-sometime" jobs that most of us keep promising ourselves to do, and know we ought to do—and yet first one new year and then another finds undone:

1. Make a will.
2. Take out some life insurance.
3. Have a medical examination.
4. Arrange to take the winter short course for farmers at your agricultural college or high school.
5. Have the children examined for eye, ear, nose, and throat defects, and their teeth put in good condition.
6. Start a bank account.
7. Take out some fire insurance.
8. Provide raincoats, over-shoes or cloaks for every member of the family.
9. Make wood and water more convenient for the good wife.
10. Arrange to have purebred sires for all farm animals in 1924.
11. Build sanitary privies and an implement shed.
12. Make up with any neighbor with whom you have been "at outs," arbitrating anything you can't agree about.

There are very few farms on which one or more of these dozen jobs do not need attention—simply because we just keep putting them off. If we are really ever going to do them, why not get them done now—now before another new year comes to mock us and our procrastination?—The Progressive Farmer.

Mr. Pat Addison was here from Blair Wednesday on business. Another good rain has fallen this week, all of which continues the already fine season in the ground.

REMEMBER



That we have every facility for turning out neat printing of all kinds. Letter heads, bill heads, office stationery, etc., furnished at the lowest prices first class work will permit.

QUEEN THEATRE ABILENE TEXAS

TWO DAYS FEBRUARY 18th and 19th
2:30 TWICE DAILY 8:30

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Prices: Matinee, 50-75c. Night, 50-75c, \$1.00, plus tax

THE SECOND BIG AMERICAN PICTURE "LITTLE OLD NEW YORK"

A Delightful Photoplay Romance of the Days When America Was Young.

WITH BIG SPECIAL ORCHESTRA.

NOTE.—This is the sister picture to the Covered Wagon. Sent Gale Now Open. Mail Orders Received.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our church year is drawing to a close, we have only six more weeks and another year of history will have been written. We are counting on every member of the church to help close a successful year.

Every department of the church is in excellent condition, but let us make it just a little better. Come next Sunday and make your class the best in the church. We seek to make every service spirited.

At the Vesper Service, Rev. E. S. Tucker will preach especially to the Masons. His subject will be: "Building The Temple." This will be worth while, hear him. Fred S. Rogers, Pastor.

Judge E. S. Cumimags spent one day first of the week in Anson on legal business.

We're Shouting

about the excellent quality of our printing. We don't care what the job may be, we are equipped to turn it out to your satisfaction. If we can't, we'll tell you so frankly.

Let Us Convince You

SEVERE CRAMPING SPELLS, PAINS IN BACK AND SIDES

"My trouble has been periodic cramping spells," says Mrs. C. C. Draper, of Atlanta, Texas. "For several years these have come on me so bad that I had to quit my work and go to bed. Every month I would stay in bed from one to two days. The pains in my back and sides were awful."

"This went on for several months after I was married until, one time when I was having a bad spell, my husband suggested that I try Cardui. I said I would try it, so he got me a bottle at the store and I began to take it."

"It seemed like I improved from the very first dose. When I had taken one bottle I was very much better. I did not cramp so hard the next month and I ate and slept better. I was not nearly so nervous, either. I thought Cardui was fine, so I continued the treatment until I had taken five bottles, at which time I felt completely well. I had no more cramping spells at all, and my health was as good as anybody's. I am feeling fine now and I give all the credit to Cardui, for I had been suffering for years before I took it."

Cardui is a vegetable extract, containing no harmful ingredients. It is made from mild-acting medicinal herbs with a gentle, tonic, strengthening effect upon certain female organs and upon the system in general. Its users have testified to its special value at the time of entering womanhood at maturity and at the time of the change of life. For over 40 years, Cardui has been tested in use by thousands of women who have written to tell of the great benefit they have received from it. For over 600 years, medical authorities have recommended one of the principal ingredients of Cardui in the treatment of certain female complaints. Cardui, the woman's tonic, tested by time, is today the product of many years of experience and investigation. It is manufactured in up-to-date laboratories by the most modern and sanitary methods of pharmaceutical science and is for sale by all druggists.

At the McFarland Garage

You will find a complete line
of

TIRES and TUBES

With prices on same that are
sure to interest you

And don't forget that we
handle all grades that good

"Mobil Oil"

Drive your car around and let us refill
it and then watch the increased mileage
you get from the use of this oil.

Come to see us, we appreciate your
business.

McFarland GARAGE

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—White Wyandotte
Eggs \$1.50 per setting, Silver
Spangled Hamburg Eggs, \$2.00.
Bob McDonald, at Chas. West
Barber Shop. 1t4

FOR SALE—100 acre cotton
farm, 65 in cultivation, plenty
good water, average improve-
ments. One-third cash, balance
easy. Also 320 acre stock farm,
plenty of water and new set of
improvements. A. B. Cranston,
Merkel, Texas. 8t2p

FOR SALE—Two spans of
good young mules. Would sell
on time or would let out to be
broke for feed to the right parties.
A. W. Hunter, Merkel route
five. 8t2p

FOR SALE—Wood, delivered
at \$4.00 or on ground at \$2.75.
Phone 214, Earl Lassiter. 8t2

FOR SALE—Silver Laced Wy-
andotte Eggs, per setting \$1.50.
Mrs. V. N. Ellis, Merkel, Texas,
route one. 8t2p

FOR SALE—Wood. If you want
good wood see T. J. Amason, in
the French pasture, Merkel, Rt.
four. 8t4pd

FOR SALE—M. Johnson sepial
mating S. C. White legorn hatch-
ing eggs. \$1.50 for 15—\$9.00
for 100—\$44.00 for 500. J. S.
Touchstone, Hawley, Rt. 2. 15t6

FOR SALE—20 early hatched
Rhode Island Red Pullets, now
laying. Also one dozen Barred
rock Pullets. Can furnish Bar-
red rock eggs for setting at \$2
and \$3.50. Mrs. H. P. Wilkins,
Merkel, Route 1. 1tp

FOR SALE—A good John
Deere Planter at a bargain. See
Homer Patterson. 1tp

WANTED

WANTED—Grubbing done by
the acre; 20 acres in all. S. F.
Haynes. 1tpd.

COPELAND BROS. HERE NEXT WEEK

Every one in Merkel who has
ever attended a Tent show will
remember the Copeland Bros.
splendid company. This dramat-
ic and comedy organization has
played Merkel on numerous oc-
cassions and have always pack-
ed their big tent theatre, and
can count their friends and ad-
mirers by the thousand.

The Copeland Brothers have
stored their big tent for the
winter months and with a well
balanced company of well known
players are playing a short sea-
son of theatres, presenting a
repertoire of late comedies and
comedy dramas with polite
vaudeville and delightful music.

All of the old time favorites
including the Four Copelands
quartet, and old TOBY are with
the company. Grady Stapps, a
novelty orchestra is one of the
pleasing features with the
show.

Miss Audress Walsh, pleasing
little leading lady and
Minnie Wardell, character com-
edienne will be remembered.

The list of plays are all good.
The opening play on next Mon-
day, Feb. 18th will be, "Sunny
Tennessee," a beautiful stage
story with lots of Toby comedy.

Ladies will be admitted free
on Monday night when with es-
cort holding paid adult ticket.

The prices will be twenty,
forty and sixty cents which in-
clude war tax, admission and
reserve seat.

CLEAN UP YOUR PREMISES

You are hereby notified to
clean up all loose papers and
rubbish about your premises.
This order includes both busi-
ness houses and residences.
Help us to avoid fires by com-
plying with this order. A. V. Dye
city fire Marshal. 1t

HELP WANTED—We will put
you in business and show you
how to become successful. You
need little capital and no experi-
ence. Opportunity open to any
one with good character, who
has initiative and ambition. Full
particulars free. Write E. B.
Barnes. 1t4pd

WANTED—Some one with good
teams to plow 25 acres of sod
land, at \$3.00 per acre. 8t2

LOST

LOST—Saturday night in or
near Armory Hall, gold link
bracelet, set with large topaz and
six small turquoise. Valuable to
owner for personal reasons. Lib-
eral reward for return to this
office. \$5.00 reward for positive
information leading to recovery.
1t

FOUND—1924 Liscense plate,
No. 182381. Owner may have
same by paying for this notice.

Mr. and Mrs. Arch Howarton
of Wingate, Texas spent Sunday
with Mrs. Lee Acuff.



Those
night attacks
of coughing

STOP the first coughing spell
with Dr. Bell's Pine Tar Honey
—then sleep returns. Dr. Bell's
contains just the medicines that
your own doctor prescribes for
coughs—combined with the old-
time remedy, pine-tar honey, so
soothing to inflamed tissues and
pleasing to the taste. Keep Dr.
Bell's in easy reach of all the
family.

All druggists. Be sure to get
the genuine.

Pine-Tar Honey

AUCTION

Horses and Mules

AT

Old Hellums Wagon Yard

Merkel, Saturday, February 16

Commencing at 1:30 p. m.

28 head Horses and Mules, 5 teams all-purpose
Horses, ages and sizes right, weight 1100 to 1300.
2 Saddle Horses and all-purpose horses, 8 spans
Work Mules, ages 3 to 5 years, weight 900 to 1200

All these animals are bred and raised by the
owners on the Cochran Ranches at Hays City,
Kansas, are malien treated and vacinated against
distemper, and strictly guaranteed by us.

C. G. Cochran & Sons, Owners

Clerk, F.&M. Bank.

L. D. PRESCOTT, Auctioneer

A CARD OF THANKS

In deepest appreciation and
love for those who in any man-
ner expressed their true friend-
ship for Lula Belle and their
deep sympathy for me, in the
realization of our loss, I wish
by this means, to thank each
and all of the Merkel commu-
nity.

In days to come may her life
still continue to bless others as
it has mine and may every rich
blessing of goodness come to
you who have proven your uni-
versal love for us both.

(Signed) E. Yates Brown

Special low prices on all goods
every day at A. L. Jobe's store.
Come and see. 15t2.

Mrs. Hattie Simmons, of Abi-
lene spent the week end in this
city visiting her parents, Mr.
and Mrs. A. L. Jobe.

Misses Mary Cleo Booth and
Annie Mae Swann were here
last week end visiting with
their parents. These two young
ladies attend school at Simmons
College, Abilene.

We are glad to learn that it is
thought that Miss Ola Sharp
who has been very sick from
Dyphthera, is now improving and
will likely soon regain her for-
mer good health.

LAYING HENS PAY

Make 'em Lay and Pay...Feed
MARTIN EGG PRODUCER.
And get more Eggs or your
money back
Martin's Roup Tablets, Blue Bug
Remedy and Taroline Guar-
anteed by
SANDERS DRUG STORE

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

Free Demonstration

AT

W. F. Hamblett Store

All Day Saturday, Feb. 23rd.

of the

FAMOUS SUNSET COFFEE

"Its Flavor Tells the whole Story"

Come and Drink with us

It's all FREE

FREE

50 VISITING CARDS 50

To the first girl under 12 years old determin-
ing which of the top squares are the largest the
Merkel Mail will present 50 visiting cards of the
latest style.

25 VISITING CARDS

To the girl under 10 years old determining which
of the lower squares is the largest we will give
25 cards of the best quality.

CANDIDATE AND
VISITING CARDS
A SPECIALTY

We Have Bill of Sale Blanks and Legal Forms

The
Merkel Mail

Is prepared to do your
Job Printing in a neat and
tasty manner.

**Give Us a Trial
and Be Convinced.**



Those making use of our
advertising columns are ev-
idently finding same to be
a good investment, well
worth the money.

Read the Classified advertisements in This paper

CON AMORE

By IDA M. GOULD

(© 1922, by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

ELINOR GAGE fastened her boat and wandered through a path she had dearly longed to explore. A narrow path led irregularly to Nowhere.

She rested on a fallen tree trunk, listening to the humming of insects. She let her eyes search the bypath, and they fell on a glittering small object, which proved to be a ring. A large amethyst, bearing the words "Con Amore," set in diamonds. Brushing the moss particles from the trinket, she slipped it on her finger.

When the old routine of school teaching was resumed the ring adorned her slim finger.

As the next summer vacation ended she planned to spend a few days in Boston sight-seeing. On one of her jaunts she lost the ring. How she missed it! She inserted a description and promise of reward in the lost and found columns of the newspapers.

Returning from her pilgrimages next day, she found a tall, middle-aged gentleman awaiting her.

"I am Mr. Linn Childs," he announced, stiffly. "You are the advertiser of a ring, Miss—"

"Gage," faltered Elinor. "Miss Gage, is this the ring you lost?"

Carefully holding the ring so that it might be seen on all sides, he noted the joyous expression of the girl's eyes as they identified her lost property.

"Yes—oh—yes," gasped Elinor, reaching for the ring, which the man still held.

"This is my ring," he began, with his unsympathetic manner. "Where did you find it?"

"At Beechwood."

"I thought so. I lost it there last summer. It was a gift from my wife." The stern eyes softened.

"Miss Gage, why not accept a duplicate ring from me? I owe you that much for restoring a cherished keepsake."

"I cannot agree to such an arrangement."

"It seems fair to me," smilingly said the owner of the ring. "May I ask if you are in Boston permanently this winter?"

"Oh—no. I start tomorrow for the West, where I teach school." Elinor looked frankly into the man's honest eyes.

"At least, Miss Gage, the ring having been the vehicle by which we have met, may I hope to see you soon again?"

"I think not. I leave here for my home tonight." And Elinor Gage extended her hand.

"Au revoir, then; perhaps at Beechwood next summer."

"Perhaps," Elinor watched him disappear past the crowds in the lobby.

"No more adventures until I find another keepsake," thought Elinor.

At Beechwood the following season Elinor went, as usual, walking, boating through familiar scenes with revived memories of the beautiful ring she had so unexpectedly found. Nothing was farther from her thoughts than the man she found awaiting her one day, after a long tramp in the woods. Her face was aglow with her walk. Her hands full of pine branches; so, greetings exchanged, she disappeared until tea time.

Few guests remained on the porch, for the air became chilly early.

Mr. Childs asked Elinor if she would go for a constitutional stroll.

When he said good-night he placed a package in her hand, saying it was a trifle he had picked up in Boston and asked her judgment on it.

Elinor found the package to be a ring, almost a duplicate of the lost one, differing only in the omission of the words "Con Amore."

Next morning, intercepting the giver as he was about to start on one of his daily walks, she protested that he should not have offered her the gift.

Fearing to create comment from bystanders, she walked slowly down the road, trying to appear unconcerned, he keeping step, until they reached a turnstile.

"Take care!" he warned, too late, however, for she had twisted her ankle in stepping back too quickly.

"Lean on me, until we get to the house, Elinor."

White with pain from exertion, she had to submit.

The nearest doctor was called. He prescribed perfect rest for ten days.

Chapters could be written narrating the daily talks and readings and Mr. Childs' tender ministrations to distract Elinor from her painful condition.

When Elinor was able to limp to the hammock under the apple tree, her devoted attendant ceased his readings and began to plead his own suit.

Once more he placed the package in her hands.

"Is it just like the one you offered me before my accident?" queried the girl.

"No. Look for yourself, Elinor."

"Oh—how lovely!" exclaimed the girl, coloring as she met the earnest eyes near her.

"Accept it with the inscription, 'Con Amore,' which has been added. Does the phrase find an echo in your heart, dear?"

"Con Amore," whispered Elinor, as he kissed her.

Snappy Comment.
He—Pardon me, but haven't I seen your face before?

She—I don't doubt it. This is the one I always wear.

HER EXILE

By JANE JORDAN

(© 1922, Western Newspaper Union.)

SHE came among them in strange reticence; tactfully aimed questions met with no success. There was a kind of haughtiness about the new resident which forbade intimacy. Later it was the exacting townsfolk who encouraged the coldness. Mrs. Gay was not desirable, they decided. True, her frocks in their modish good taste were superior, and the bungalow she had taken the finest in town.

There was craning of necks on Sunday when the remote neighbor attended service at the beautiful stone church, whose ancient date was registered on the doorpost. The organ was the pride of all. It was the gift of a now great musician who had come from Plainsville in his boyhood.

Rupert Rolf had repeatedly promised to return to his old home town to give an exhibition of his skill. The promise had been unrealized.

One day printed placards announced that the musician was to arrive that week in Plainsville; the following Sabbath he would play upon the gift organ in the beautiful church.

The placard in the store window seemed to scream at her with its red letters—Rupert Rolf! Rupert Rolf! And next Sabbath he was to play at the church she attended. Well, might she not still attend?

"Good-by," said the little girl; "my mamma would not want me to stop. Oh, Mrs. Gay, your eyes are wet."

Mrs. Gay laughed shakily. "Why, so they are," she said.

She wore a dark dress the day of Rupert Rolf's church recital. She went early to take her seat in the gallery, and sat palpitating throughout the preliminary opening of the service.

The minister explained that he was waiting, with little hope, the appearance of Rupert Rolf. The musician had not arrived in the town as expected, detained by engagements, but he had sent a letter, assuring his presence if possible, at the morning service.

The allotted time of waiting passed. The minister looked, smiling, over his people. "Our usual organist is out of town," he said. "I wonder if some one will not volunteer to play for us this morning? Please," he begged—and paused. There was no response; again the request was given.

"This is an unusual circumstance," the minister explained, troubled. "Will not some one kindly help in this manner?"

Again no response. Some one arose in the gallery—signified her willingness.

The audience could not see the volunteer organist who went swiftly to take her place before the keys. They saw a dark-clothed back, an enveloping small hat.

The music poured forth. It was an offertory. This was a musician indeed who played for them; untrained ears recognized the sympathetic skill, the beautiful rendering of a great composition.

She stood a moment, finding her way—the volunteer organist was the disappointed Mrs. Gay. Her face shone white and sweet beneath the drooping brim of the prim black hat—then she was seated beyond their sight. The minister came down the pulpit stair hurriedly afterward that he might not miss her, to extend his thanks. Many lingered, looking back curiously. A man arose in the rear of the building—a distinguished-looking blonde man. He, too, pressed hurriedly forward until he stood with the minister, and the one who had come to his assistance. But the man's hand went out first to the woman—"Gay," he murmured chokily; "Gay!"

The little woman smiled; a smile which set her blue eyes all at once ashine. "Rupert!" she answered him; the minister waited. Suddenly his hand went out to the man. "Rupert Rolf," cried Reverend Roberts. "Here and I did not see you."

"I arrived very late," the musician replied. "My substitute was already at her post filling acceptably my place." He whirled about. "Mr. Roberts," said Rupert Rolf, "let me present to you—my wife."

The minister hesitated—"Mrs. Gay." "Gay," said the musician, "is my wife's given name. To you I may as well now explain. My wife and I were rival musicians. We met abroad, upon a musical tour. After our marriage we traveled together giving recitals. I had lived but for my music before I met her. You know, my life was so ordered. And—in an artist's madness of pride—I found myself humiliated one night, the very night I had so wished to excel—by my wife's superior performance. I and my loud attempt was lost, in her glory; can you understand a man's bitter jealousy? Now—I am overwhelmed at that madness. I know not what reproaches I brought to my wife—I know that next day she left me secretly, and my most absorbing effort to find her was unavailing. In order to place me first in the musical world which she thought my all—she had effaced herself completely. And—the musician's eyes, filled with remorseful tears, met those of his wife—"and broke my heart," he finished.

She met the townspeople gracefully, the gifted wife of the famous musician.

"Such a charming pair!" the residents said. "No doubt it was Mr. Rolf's wish that his wife remain unknown among us until he himself might present her."

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

Is Receiving Big Shipments of
New Spring Merchandise
Every Day

You will enjoy seeing the new things here. The Suits, Coats, Dresses and Hats are beautiful.

-All So Different-

Let us have the pleasure of showing you right away.

Prices are Cheaper and Styles Prettier

We are Expecting You

Bragg Dry Goods Company

The Place Where Most People Trade

Mrs. H. T. Merritt, wife of Editor H. T. Merritt of the Hale Center American, was here this week the guests of her brothers Messrs. F. A. and L. E. Sanders as well as her host of other good friends in the city.

Dr. Albert Venting and wife of Fort Worth were here this week the guests of E. N. Brown and family. Dr. Venting is a professor of theology at the Baptist Seminary at Fort Worth.

Messrs. W. T. Daniel and G. W. Boyce went to Winters Wednesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Toombs returned last week from a visit to relatives at Snyder, Texas.

Mrs. M. R. Woodrum and family were in Abilene Wednesday calling on relatives.

Mr. Wayman Rose was here Sunday from Swetwater calling on friends.

We Invite YOU

To See the New 1924

PLEASING, SNAPPY MERCHANDISE

STYLISH SPRING COAT SUITS, DRESSES, SPRING COATS AND APRONS FOR OUR LADY FRIENDS

SPRING FABRICS

Drawn work, Chambrays and Tissues

Double Shrunk [re-shrunk]

Linens, 'Indian Head', 'Peter Pan Cloth'

BEAUTIFUL SILK CREPES, SILK CRETONS, SILK

TAFFETAS, and shades IN CHIFFON SILK HOSE

COME! We will be delighted to Show You

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

Quality Merchandise