

BUSINESS FEATURES LUNCHEON MEETING

The Luncheon Club meeting was held at Ed's Cafe on last Tuesday evening, with Dr. M. Armstrong ably and interestingly acting as Toastmaster. That is the Doctor was only present at the beginning of the entertainment and program, being called away in a hurry to see a sick patient, and turned the program as he had planned same.

Mr. L. R. Thompson, president of the Luncheon Club. However, Dr. Armstrong before he left brought out some mighty good thoughts and suggestions for a number of things which if carried out will prove of much help and benefit to our little city, and among which was the securing of the removal of the Railway stock pens, which for many years has been considered a nuisance, and a park and play ground arranged for the children. And Dr. Armstrong also brought up the matter of getting the proper drainage made in the southwest part of the city so as to drain the great amount of water that comes down through the city by the school building which, in rainy weather, makes it hard for the school children to get to school. In this matter Mayor H. C. West also made a few remarks and pledged the city's cooperation in the matter.

At this time Mr. Thompson, who had also been asked by the Toastmaster to make an address on Athletics in the school, gave a very interesting talk.

The next number on the program was a reading by Miss Lucy Tracy, who is the very efficient and popular expression teacher in the Merkel schools, always interests her hearers, and her reading at this time was one of her best and was highly appreciated.

Following Miss Tracy, Mr. W. N. Hall, the newly appointed City Marshal, was introduced and made a very fine report of his work of cleaning up our city, stating that he was receiving splendid cooperation from the citizens in general. Mr. Hall's remarks were appreciated very much by all present, as they readily realized that he was interested in anything that will be for the upbuilding and betterment of Merkel.

Next those present were highly entertained by a violin solo, by Miss Lynn Thompson, who always pleases her audiences and upon this occasion her selection was enjoyed by one and all.

Following this Mr. J. A. Buford, who has been one of the Club's staunchest and most enthusiastic members, was called on for a few words. He paid especial attention in his remarks to the citizenship of the entire town giving their cooperation in the matters of making Merkel one of the cleanest towns in all this section of the state, and urged the members of the Luncheon Club to make the clean up campaign go by starting in to clean up their own premises and then their neighbors would follow. Mr. Buford is a booster for his home town, and is willing to spend his time and money to make the old town a better place in which to live. We need more like him.

Mayor H. C. West suggested that a committee be appointed whose duty it would be to take under advisement any plans and suggestions that might come up from any citizen, and help to properly arrange them for presentation to the club, which resulted in the appointment of Messrs. J. T. Warren, T. G. Bragg, H. C. West, W. O. Boney and Emory McDonald.

The fact that the District

CHEVROLET COMPANY ANNOUNCES NEW FEATURES

In this issue of the Mail will be found the announcement by the Witt Chevrolet Company of Abilene, concerning the New Chevrolet car. They announce many new features and improvements, and we call special attention of our readers to this announcement. The Witt Chevrolet Company is represented in Merkel by Mr. Dick Loving, who makes his headquarters at the Woodrum Filling Station, where he will be glad to have you call on him.

CUMMINGS MAKES A NOMINATION

At the opening of the present session of the state legislature, Hon. E. S. Cummings, of Merkel, who is to represent Taylor county in that august body, made the nominating speech for Hon. T. K. Irwin, of Dallas, for speaker of the House, but after a lively battle in which it took six ballots to elect, the Dallas man was beaten for that position by Hon. Lee Satterwhite of the Amarillo district. Mr. Satterwhite was nominated by Representative R. M. Chitwood of Sweetwater.

SAYS A NEW STATE CONSTITUTION NEEDED

Austin, Texas, Jan 13—A new State Constitution for Texas is needed to care for the several amendments, declared Representative J. R. Donnell of Rogers, Bell County.

In reshaping the organization of the state, Mr. Donnell favors substantial increases in salaries for the heads of constitutionally created departments. This could be done without increasing expenses if several departments are consolidated, he said.

For Governor he favors a salary of at least \$7,500, but said \$10,000 would be better. Membership of the House should be reduced to 100 or less, and members of both houses should receive at least double their present salary of \$5 a day while the Legislature is in session.

A small annual salary would be better, he said.

He asserted that he would vote against the proposed twentieth amendment to the Constitution, regulating child labor, which should be regulated by the individual states.

OVER ADVERTISED

The only commodity we know of that is over advertised is the fourflusher. And he has to do it all without a good word from anyone else.

Mr. M. D. Smith of Buffalo Gap was here one day this week, and while here drove around to W. F. Hamblet's Grocery Store and loaded up with a nice lot of groceries because he found them cheaper there. 1tp

meeting of the West Texas Chamber of Commerce is to be held at Big Spring on February 5th, was brought to the attention of the club, and since a special invitation is extended the members, including our excellent orchestra, a committee was appointed to ascertain just how many would go to the meeting.

Notwithstanding the fact that the attendance at this meeting was small, it was without doubt one of the best and most interesting meetings that has been held for some time, and those present pledged their efforts to press on and lay plans for many good things for Merkel during the year 1925.

LEGISLATOR OPPOSE EXONERATING BILL

Austin, Texas, Jan. 14.—A cloud the size of Representative John H. Veatch's hand appeared Wednesday in the otherwise clear sky which has recently portended an early exoneration of James E. Ferguson.

"I am not in favor of the Legislature passing a bill to exonerate Jim Ferguson or declare him not guilty," said Mr. Veatch, "the gentleman from Joshua," who served in the memorable Thirty-Fifth Legislature which impeached the former Governor.

"All I am willing to agree to," he added, "is submission of a constitutional amendment to the people empowering the Legislature to pass on the Ferguson case. I do not think this Legislature or the present Senate can, by their own acts, nullify the decree of the court of impeachment of a former Senate. The only way is by a vote of the people and this is the only way I will consider it."

Mr. Veatch is a veteran legislator, having served in every Legislature since the Thirty-Fourth, with the exception of the Thirty-Eighth.

NAZERINE REVIVAL GOING ON HERE

Last night, Thursday, at the Old Christian Church near the New High School building, a revival meeting began with Rev. Emma Jones, of Abilene, and Rev. J. M. Messer, of Durant, Oklahoma, ministers of the Nazerine church, in charge of the meeting.

They are said to be able and forceful talkers and will no doubt interest all who hear them. A cordial welcome is accorded each and all to attend these services.

KEEP STREETS CLEAN

A national association of street commissioners held a meeting in Chicago and made a report.

"The public could have finer, cleaner streets if people would consider the street as something besides a community refuse box.

"The great number of cars parked along the curbing these days, makes it necessary for the street cleaner to get on the job early in the morning," said one speaker. "Then by eight o'clock the business men drive to work, park their machines along the curb, open their stores, and sweep the rubbish and dirt out into the street."

While we may have no serious problem here in Merkel due to the number of cars parked along the curb early in the morning, we are as careless as people everywhere about littering up our streets.

Clean streets are usually evidence of a clean town. They make a community more inviting to outside shoppers, and more pleasing to travelers from far away places.

But if we are to have clean streets, we must all be as careful of the appearance of our town as we are of our homes or our stores.

Mr. W. U. Beene and family of the Noodle community have recently moved to Merkel. We are glad to welcome them among our splendid citizenship.

Jack Britain was here this week from his home at Gatesville visiting among friends and relatives.

"PA" NOT CURTAIL HIGHWAY MONEY

Austin, Texas, Jan. 13.—Pa Ferguson has no intention of curtailing the finances of the state Highway Department, according to W. E. Lea of Orange, president of the Texas Highway Association. Mr. Lea made the announcement at a meeting of directors of the association who assembled here Monday to outline a highway legislative program to be presented to the Legislature.

Mr. Lea said he put the question squarely up to Mr. Ferguson who unequivocally asserted, he told the meeting, that he had nothing of that kind in mind in his previously announced economy program.

ASSIGN ROOM TO WOMEN LOBYIST

Austin, Texas, Jan. 13.—A room adjoining the Senate has been turned over to the legislative council of Texas Women's Clubs, an organization of women lobbyists, by Lieut. Gov.-Elect Barry Miller.

A committee headed by Mrs. Claude De Van Watts of Austin called on Mr. Miller Monday and asked him to give the women lobbyists a convenient place for their headquarters.

PARENT-TEACHERS CLUB IN REGULAR MEETING

The Parent-Teachers Club met in regular session Wednesday afternoon. A splendid program was rendered at the beginning of the meeting. One number on the program, worthy of special mention, was a group reading by four boys. Each of these boys gave a splendid short reading containing a good lesson or moral. Those in the group were Ross Ferrier, A. C. Toombs, Harold Boney and E. L. Turner. Other numbers on the program were a piano solo by Miss Hazel Lee Rainbolt, reading by Tommie Durham, and a discussion of one of the loan papers by Mrs. Fred Rogers. During the business session, the supt. of room mothers reported Miss Hearn's room as receiving the picture offered by the P. T. A. There will be a school circus at the High School building on February 6, sponsored by the P. T. A.

The next Lyceum will be Jan. 20 and will be given at the Cozy Theatre.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davis, on their way to Portland, Oregon, where the former has a splendid traveling position, spent a few days here last week with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S.H. L. Swafford, as well as other friends and relatives. Mrs. Davis was formerly Miss Virginia Swafford, having become the bride of Mr. Davis during the holidays. She has many friends with whom this paper joins in extending to her and her husband congratulations and good wishes.

Rev. O. B. Tatum of this city pronounced the words that bound in holy wedlock Mr. C. P. Hodges and Miss Annie Jones, on last Wednesday afternoon.

Read J. N. Carson Grocery Company's advertisement in this issue of the Mail. It will pay you to do so. 1tp

Try a Classified Ad in The Mail.

W. H. LANEY APPOINTED DEPUTY SHERIFF HERE

Sheriff H. T. O'Bar, who took charge of the office of Sheriff of Taylor county on January 1, has undoubtedly made a wise and excellent selection in his appointment of Mr. W. H. Laney of this city as Deputy Sheriff at Merkel and this part of the county.

Mr. Laney is a man of the highest honor and integrity, has had considerable experience in this capacity, and with his natural turn as a peace officer, will most assuredly make a most able deputy.

INTRODUCE BILL REGARDING FUTURES

Austin, Texas, Jan. 14.—Dealing in cotton and grain futures will be permitted in Texas thru any brokerage concern which belongs to a legal exchange, under the provisions of a bill introduced in the House Wednesday by Representatives Henry E. Webb and James W. Stell of Paris.

Under the present law governing dealings in futures only brokerage houses which have connections with stock exchanges outside of the state can legally operate in Texas. Firms in Dallas, Houston, and Fort Worth deal in futures through connections with exchanges in New Orleans, New York and Chicago.

Mr. Stell explained that his proposed law will permit firms to operate if they have connections with a Texas stock exchange. The bill meets the provisions of the Federal statute governing dealings in futures, he said.

"The dealings in futures are taking place in Texas and there is no reason why it should be necessary for a firm to have its connections outside the state," Mr. Stell said.

LOCAL POULTRY RAISERS WIN AT ABILENE

At the West Texas Poultry Show at Abilene last week, Messrs. John West, Bob McDonald, Booth Warren, Joe Higgins, and possibly others of this city and immediate section were winners in their respective breeds.

All these gentlemen have some lovely birds and take great pride in bringing them up to the highest possible standards, and are really showing that it pays to raise the best of any breed.

Our good friend D. M. Miller who resides beyond the river in Jones county, but who comes to a good town to do his trading, was in the city one day early in the fall and stated to this writer that owing to the fact that a hail had damaged his crop along in the summer, he did not expect to get more than 30 bales of cotton, and again one day this week Mr. Miller was here and stated that he had already gathered 40 bales and would get about five more.

At noon today, Thursday, we are informed that Mr. J. S. Burns, who a short time ago suffered a severe stroke of paralysis, is indeed very low and not expected to live but a short time.

We are informed that Mr. J. E. Costephens fell from a wagon some few days ago and has been suffering considerably from injuries sustained. We, with his friends, trust that he may recover from the painful accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Owen who have been residing at Winters, came in this week and will make Merkel their future home.

COMEDY DRAMA AT COZY TUES. NIGHT

Vincent Lawrence's much discussed "broadway hit" will be given at the Cozy Theatre January 20th, Tuesday night.

"The Ghost Between" is essentially a love story, full of wholesome fun and clean humor, laughter and tears. A combination of thrills, suspense and irresistible comedy. The cast consists of the Doctor, the Doctor's Wife, the Doctor's friend and the Nurse. These players are the "Carlyle Players," personally chosen and coached by Richard Carlyle.

You will also enjoy the picture which features Tom Meighan. This double attraction will only cost 50c for adults, 35c for all school children, or present your season Lyceum Ticket at the entrance.

"FAMILY NIGHT" FOR ALL THEATRE GOERS

Mr. Clyde Foster, the genial manager of the Cozy Theatre, in order that he might create more interest in theatre attendance in Merkel, and at the same time accommodate his patrons, has established what he calls "Family Night" at the Cozy, which will be every Monday night.

As an inducement for everybody to attend, the price for any single family regardless of number, that is the parents and their children, on "Family Night" will be only 50 cents for the whole family, and it makes no difference how many actual members of the family there may be. If there are just two, man and wife, they get in at only 50 cents, which is ten cents less than the regular admission price for two adults any other night. Likewise the young man and his girl will be allowed the same privilege, and you can see that where there are several in the family there will be quite a saving.

"Family Night" should prove quite a success, and this paper feels sure that the people will take advantage of same.

Merkel has 2 excellent shows the Gem and the Cozy, and the managers of each are striving hard to give the people as good as the best in motion pictures, and since they are home concerns theatre goers in Merkel and vicinity should give them their patronage.

In making our rounds this week soliciting advertising from the business men we were pleasantly greeted by one of our best and most constant advertisers who readily remarked, "Yes, we want that \$10.00 space again this week, for from that space last week we received mighty good results." Then this same advertiser also stated that the firm had always received good results from advertisements in the Mail, and were going to keep it up.

When you see a newspaper published in the average small town, that is well filled with advertising from the business men of that town, you can readily realize that there is a live set of business men in that city, and further more you can generally count on that town receiving its share of patronage from the surrounding country. Of course, this is the day of good roads and automobiles, and the farmer and other citizens are readers of both daily and local papers, and they are going to do their trading where the business men make the best offer. Then it's up to the business men of the small town to pay close attention to advertising his business. In fact there never has been a time when advertising pays more than it does at this time.

STATEMENT FARMERS STATE BANK

Merkel, Texas
December 31, 1924

RESOURCES

Loans & Discounts	\$185,248.22
Overdrafts	521.40
Banking House & Fixtures	13,902.50
Stocks & Bonds	4,430.40
Warrants	915.57
Liberty Bonds Held in Trust	8,950.00
Other Resources	12,108.27
Other Real Estate	22,314.40
Due from State Gty. Fund	31,611.80
CASH, EXCHANGE & COTTON	340,416.30
Total	\$620,418.86

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus & Profits	12,166.43
Liberty Bonds held for customers	8,950.00
Bills Payable	NONE
Rediscounts	NONE
Borrowed Money	NONE
DEPOSITS	549,302.43
Total	\$620,418.86

The above statement is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. L. DILTZ, Jr., Cashier.

TRENT SCHOOL NOTES

We are glad to report that the Senior class is one hundred per cent to the good in deportment. Whisper the words—there is only one senior.

J. P. Stevens found a ring on the floor and held it up to find the owner. This caused the following discussion:

Miss Ellison: "Bring it here, J. P., and I will see if I can find the owner."

Ruby: "It looks like Mary Nalley's ring"

Estelle: "Take it to Floyd Martin, he can tell. He gave it to her."

Homer McLeod has returned to school after a spell of the "Flue."

The Trent Basket ball girls played the Sweetwater girls on the local court last Friday afternoon. The score was 12 to 20 in favor of the visitors.

Edward Rogers, Velma Rogers and Loney Bright entered school last Monday. The seventh grade now boasts of twelve pupils.

We have been having very interesting chapel exercises since Christmas. Mr. McAdams has been reading a love story from the Bible. Next Tuesday we are promised a special program.

Millie Lee Chapman entered school this week. She moved to Trent from Abilene.

Oscar Pennell was out of school Tuesday and Wednesday.

Carmen Walker and Ruby Johnson were sitting together studying history and trying to be good. Ruby started to cough and received five demerits. She's glad she didn't finish the cough.

Miss Martin is reported very ill and cannot speak to anyone, but Mr. Whitmire. She has such a bad cold.

J. T. Bright, while visiting St. Paul's Methodist church last Sunday, was asked if he were a Christian. J. T. replied, "No, I'm only a visitor."

Save your money and see "Safety First". It's the best play of the season.

T. E. L. Class Members Enjoy Luncheon at San Angelo, Tex.

A luncheon of exquisite appointment was given Friday at one o'clock by Mrs. Victor Tippet of San Angelo, who entertained a few members of the T. E. L. Class of the First Baptist Church of Merkel who drove over for the day with Mrs. Tippet. The beautiful and handsome new brick home on 241 South Adams Street, in the Heights, was artistically adorned with cut and potted flowers, especially the sun room where flowers were in profusion and a singing bird gave exquisite beauty.

Unique hand-painted place cards and pretty candy baskets marked each guest's plate where a two-course luncheon was served. After the luncheon a social hour proceeded which time was spent in meeting the officers and teachers of the class of the First Church of San Angelo. An interesting program was listened to. First Mrs. L. B. Howard of Merkel sang a beautiful solo. A violin solo by Miss Wanda Hanks, accompanied by Mrs. Howard at the piano. Mrs. Thos. Head gave an interesting reading. Again Mrs. Howard favored the group with a selection of vocal numbers. Miss Hanks gave another violin solo. At the conclusion of the program the hostess assisted by little Miss Joy Tippet passed an appetizing refreshment plate of sandwiches, olives, potato chips, cream and cake. Just here Mrs. Thos. Head gave a toast to the Merkel ladies: To the folks whose visit was the occasion for the invitation extended us, Merkel may be just a small place on the map, but what it lacks in size, I'm sure we agree, is made up in the quality of its people that's a fact, whose good taste in many things we can see, music and long tresses, leaves no room for guesses as to the substantiability. Of Merkel's fine quality we like you fine and wish you could stay, and hope you'll come to see Mrs.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION THE OLD RELIABLE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

Merkel, Texas
Close of Business December 31, 1924

RESOURCES

Loans, Time and Demand	\$158,805.10
Loans, Commercial	169,000.00
Loans, Cotton	54,060.61
Overdrafts	2,183.01
U. S. Bonds and Treasury Certificates	64,850.00
Other Bonds and Warrants	9,490.62
Stock in Fed. Reserve Bank	1,950.00
Stock in Fed. Int. Bkg. Co.	900.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,735.00
Five per cent Red. Fund	312.50
Cash and Sight Exchange	242,229.95
Total	\$707,016.79

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus Fund	15,000.00
Undivided Profits	6,360.04
Circulation Acct.	6,250.00
BORROWED MONEY	NONE
Deposits	629,406.75
Total	\$707,016.79

J. T. Warren, Pres. L. R. Thompson, Cash.
Booth Warren, Ass't Cash. Owen Ellis, Ass't Cashier

DIRECTORS

Henry James G. F. West J. T. Warren
L. R. Thompson Sam Butman

Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



Letters Of Acknowledgement

Have you acknowledged all your Christmas gifts yet? If so you have done better than many folks who let this recognition drag along, and very likely omit it altogether.

It is one mark of true ladies and gentlemen, that they are usually careful to write suitable notes of acknowledgement, not merely for holiday gifts, but whenever courtesies or kindly things have been done for them.

The gift that you receive does not always mean much effort or sacrifice. The pleasant thing done for you may not have cost one a particle of trouble. But when some friend stops in the midst of busy days, and takes the pains and thought to write a graceful message of appreciation it shows that whatever you have done is valuable.

There are many people who never seem to have this spirit of appreciation. Such people find it hard to keep friends. Those who show that they value things done for them manifest a spirit that promotes warm regard.

MAGIC FIGURE

France suggests one-half of one per cent as interest on the war debt to this country. Evidently French statesmen think that the Volstead act has made that number a magic figure in this country.

WONDER

The editor of the Merkel Mail often wonders if some people here who like to have their paper say scurrilous things about others, would be willing to have a real hot communication published over their own names.

SOLVES ITSELF

From what we see in the papers it seems that unless some of our cities solve their crime problems before long, there will not be many decent people in them left to worry about.

Be Sure to See The New Chevrolet Cars

Now on display at our salesroom at 325
Cypress Street, Abilene, Texas.

Open Friday, Saturday, and all next
week until nine o'clock each evening.

New Bodies - New Finish
- NEW Chassis -
New Values - New Quality

In fact a complete NEW CAR and the
Best Car you ever saw for the money.

Witt Chevrolet Co.

ABILENE, TEXAS

325 Cypress St.

Phone 231

Tippet again some day.

Members of the class there enjoying Mrs. Tippet's hospitality were: Mesdames Ewing Avera, A. L. Montgomery, Gus Jones, W. E. Morton, Taylor Rowe, A. J. Cleary, Chas. Sheffield, Burt Whaley, E. M. Steele, R. J. Kenney, Frank Wood, Thos. Head, and Miss Wanda Hanks.

After adieux were said to the San Angelo women, the Merkel Women were soon off for home, each declaring Mrs. Tippet to be a wonderful hostess and having the best time ever, and feeling it had been an enjoyable and delightful day spent. The Merkel women were: Miss Willie Swann, Mesdames Henry Coit of Renner, Sam Swann, Earl Lassiter, A. R. Booth, L. B. Howard and Mr. E. Yates Brown.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Send to the Laundry and be convinced. Regular family washing. Everything included except stiff collars, silk and woolen goods at ten pounds for one dollar. Phone 218. Alfred H. Ligon.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones left first of the week for South Texas, where they will visit their daughter, Miss Mona Margaret, who is attending school at Omaha, Texas.

Finley Martin, formerly of Merkel but now residing near Stanton, in Martin county, was here first of the week. Mr. Martin reports having had a very prosperous year out there and is well pleased with his new home.

Leonard Wills returned first of the week from a trip to the plains, where he had been to look after improvements on some farm lands they have out there.

People recognize "Our Specials" as something worth while. Brown Dry Goods Co.

It's mighty easy to say a mean dirty thing about your neighbor or competitor, but does it pay?

Mr. W. C. Neil, one of the splendid citizens residing some twelve miles south, who some time ago suffered a broken limb as the result of a runaway team, was brought to town first of the week and the limb placed in plaster paris. We join many friends in the sincere hope that this good man may soon recover from the unfortunate accident and suffering.

Car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal now on track. Swafford, phone 44, south side.

I now have a complete line of Rawleigh's goods at W. D. Ramsey store. When in need of same call at this place or phone 147 or 265. I will give a good house broom with \$12.00 worth of the goods bought. E.B. Barnes. 16t3

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann.

PROFESSIONAL

THOS. C. WILSON
The Jeweler
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry
Repaired
All Work Guaranteed
Located at Merkel Drug Co.

DR. R. I. GRIMES
Physician and Surgeon
Hours 10 to 12 a.m. 2 to 5 p.m.
Phones 105-163 Res. 165

DR. S. W. JOHNSON.
Surgeon Dentist
Office over Farmers State Bank
Office Phone 306

G. W. JOHNSON
Insurance—Notary Public
Over West Company—Front St.
Merkel — Texas

W. W. WHEELER
Real Estate, Fire, Accident and
Tornado Insurance Agent.
Notary Public.
Office over Crown Hardware Co.

Mr. Cash Customer

You don't get what you pay for when you trade at a "charge it" store.

A part of every dollar of the money you spend at such stores is prorated to cover cost of a credit service which is being extended to the other fellow.

Spend your money at a cash store and save the cost of credit men, bookkeepers, collectors, bad accounts, etc., etc.

PAYING CASH PAYS

Carson & Son Groceries

SOME FACTS ABOUT TEXAS

Texas was a republic in 1835 and Sam Houston was the first President of the republic, but was not acknowledged a republic by the United States until 1837, and other nations later. In 1837 Texas made application as a state of the Union, and there was great opposition by some of the Congressmen, and some advocates of its admittance as a state, but Congress passed a bill admitting the Lone Star State, and while waiting for ratification by the states, Henry Clay was a candidate as a Whig for President of the U. S. He was opposed to annexation, and was opposed by Jas. K. Polk, a democrat, who was in favor of admitting Texas into the Union, and was overwhelmingly elected over Clay, and Texas became a state of the Union in 1845.

Since Texas was admitted into the Union it has been going forward at a rapid rate of development, and while yet in her infancy she has become one of the most progressive commonwealths of the Nation.

Texas raises about one third of the cotton crop of the whole United States. She is one of the leading agricultural states, and agriculture is the basic industry of our Southland. She claims to lead any state of the Union in agriculture. There are about nine-tenths of the citizenship of Texas that have no idea of the magnitude of our state, nor the great agricultural products, so for the benefit of those who have a vague conception of the size of Texas and its agricultural advancement, we will quote what good authorities say about Texas and he is not a citizen of our state, but has visited Texas often and noticed its products and the geography of same, and as near as I recall his words, viz: Texas occupies all of the con-

continent of North America except a small part set aside for the United States, Mexico and Canada. Texas owns all of the Rio Grande, the only dusty river in the world with the possible exception of the Trinity, which is navigable for mud cats and pe-destrians.

Texas is bounded on the North by possibly twenty five or thirty states, on the East by all the Oceans in the world except the Pacific and on the South by the Gulf of South America, and on the west by the Pacific Ocean, the milky way, and by the side-ral Universe.

If Texas was chopped off from the rest of the United States and the Panhandle, it would float out in the Ocean as it rests upon a vast subteranean sea of fresh water.

Texas is so big that the people of Brownsville call the people of Dallas Yankees, and the people of El Paso sneer at the citizens of Texarkana, Texas, as being snobs from the effete East. It is one hundred and fifty miles farther from El Paso, Texas to Texarkana, Texas, than it is from Chicago to New York. Fort Worth is nearer St. Paul, Minn., than it is to Brownsville, Texas.

The chief occupation of the people of Texas is trying to keep from making all the money in the world. The chief pursuit of the people of Texas was formerly Mexicans, but now it is land-buyers, steers and Texas crop records.

The United States with Texas chopped off would look like a three legged Boston Terrier.

Texans are so proud of Texas they cannot sleep at night. If a Texan's head should be opened, the map of Texas would be photographed on his brain, this is also true of his heart.

Unless your front gate is eighteen miles from your front door, you do not belong to society as constituted in Texas.

One Texan's gate is one hundred and fifty miles from his front door, and he is thinking of moving his house back so he will not be annoyed with passing

Never Sorry That He Stuck to Dependents

Nearly every one of us is helping to take care of those unable to take care of themselves. We generally consider it a thankless task of which we would gladly see the end. But once we begin to help, the objects of our benevolence have a way of hanging on forever.

Here once more I had been obliged at an early age to work out a guiding principle. If I go on like this, I had often said to myself, I shall have nothing saved. Later I had to express it in terms that applied to old age and the future of my family. At times it looked like a duty to abandon dependents now, so that I myself might be secured in the years to come.

But here I reasoned that I could never be a loser from standing by those who had a claim on me. It could not be that having done what I could for them I should be left with nothing for myself. I was not generous at heart; I was doing what I did only because there was no one else to undertake it; but even so, it seemed to me, the Giver of All Things would not desert a man who was humbly trying to be a giver in his turn.

And He never did. As the first of each month came around, I always had money, even at the worst of times, to pay my bills and meet my obligations of affection. There was often no more; but there was that; and by the time the first of the next month came round the empty purse filled up again. Many a time I was reminded, and I am reminded still, of the barrel of meal and the crust of oil of the widow of Sarepta. "And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the crust of oil fall, according to the word of the Lord."—Basil King, in Hearst's International.

automobiles and pedlers. Other Texans have whole mountain ranges and rivers on their farms. One farmer has forty miles of navigable river on his farm.

If the proportion of cultivated lands in Texas were the same as in Illinois, the value of Texas crops would equal that of forty seven other states.

Texas has enough land to supply every man woman and child in the world a tract five feet by twenty and have enough left over for the armies of the world to march around the border five abreast.

If all the alfalfa in Texas was baled and built into a stairway, it would reach the Pearly Gates.

If all the hogs in Texas were one big hog, he would be able to dig up the Panama Canal at 3 roots.

If all the steers in Texas were one big steer, he could stand with his front feet in the Gulf of Mexico, one hind foot in the Hudson Bay and the other one in the Arctic Ocean, and with his tail he could brush the mist from the Aurora Boreallis.

Some State. J.C.M.

See our ad on back page each week. It means dollars saved for you. Brown Dry Goods. Co. 1t

All mail orders filled promptly. Phone us your Drug orders. Hamm Drug Co. 1t

The longer you use it the better you like it. Try it. Motorgain Fordoyle lasts longer, makes motors run smoother. Get it at the OASIS Filling Station. 1t

Half and half Cotton Seed. Pure, first year seed from originator in Georgia. Write for circular and price list. I guarantee 1,100 pounds seed cotton to make 500 pound bale. Address ED TAYLOR, Queen City, Texas. 1Apr

Neglected Cough Dangerous—How to Stop It Quickly

When the delicate tissues of your throat are raw and sore from coughing, and your strength is exhausted with the constant hacking, you may fall an easy prey to more serious trouble. So stop the cough the quickest you can, before it creeps too deep. By a very simple treatment you can stop the spell practically at once, and relieve the heaviest cough often in 24 hours. The treatment is based on a remarkable prescription known as Dr. King's New Discovery for Coughs. You simply take a teaspoonful and hold it in your throat for 15 or 20 seconds before swallowing, without following with water. It has a double action. It not only soothes and heals soreness and irritation, but it quickly loosens and removes the phlegm and congestion which are the direct cause of the coughing. With the ease treated in this way, the whole cough condition goes in a very short time. The prescription contains no opiates or harmful drugs. It simply helps Nature. It is for coughs, chest colds, hoarseness, bronchitis and spasmodic croup. Very economical, as the dose is only one teaspoonful. For sale at all good druggists. Ask for



-SAFETY-

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TEXAS QUALIFIED
DRUGGISTS' LEAGUE

Legally
Registered
Pharmacist

Bring us your
Prescriptions

Hamm Drug Co.

Agents for

King's
CHOCOLATES
for American Queens

25 PER CENT DISCOUNT
ON PORTRAITS THIS MONTH ONLY.
"BABY CROWS OLDER DAY BY DAY — A PHOTOGRAPH NEVER."
PARAMOUNT KODAK FINISHING
Best service in Southwest. Special Attention given mail orders.
EIGHT HOUR SERVICE.
RODDEN STUDIO Merkel, Texas

The Quick Tire and Radiator Shop

Radiator repairing and Acetylene welding our Specialty.

We also do general repairing of all kinds, and we are prepared to give you first class Battery and generator-starter service.

Give Us a Trial

We have That Good Gulf Gasoline and Supreme Auto Oil. And that Michelin Tire and Tube we handle can't be beat. Absolutely guaranteed to be as good as the best. Come to see us, we appreciate your business.

Boney's Garage
Marvin Boney, Prop.
V. B. Sublett and Frank O'Briant Mechanics

"Incubators"

See our display of Incubators and Brooders. Get those chicks hatched early, and top the market on prices. If you are interested talk it over with us we have a good proposition for you. The Incubators that shell out the chicks.

IMPLEMENTS

IMPLEMENTS THAT YOU WILL LIKE.

See our Samples on the Floor.

We have anything you want in Hardware
If we haven't, we'll get it.

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.
—If It's Hardware We Have It—

*** WITH THE CHURCHES ***
METHODIST CHURCH

The District meeting of the Pastors and Laymen held here Monday and Tuesday, which had been called by our Presiding Elder, W. E. Lyon, was splendidly attended and pronounced by all as an excellent success. We feel that same will not only prove a blessing and a help to our church, but that the inspiration and blessings will likewise be extended to other churches of the district through the delegates attending.

On last Sunday the attendance at both the Sunday School and church services was splendid, but we trust that each and every one will take it upon themselves to help to bring out others at the services next Sunday. At the morning hour I shall use for my subject, "The Problems of the Church," while at the evening hour my theme will be "The Problems of Ambition". These are both timely subjects, and I sincerely trust that the entire membership will avail themselves of the opportunity of being present.

And while our church is progressing nicely so far this year, time is floating by and if we are to make the progress that we can and should, it behooves every member, every one who loves the Lord, to be up and doing. Will we do it? We say yes, what do you say? T. J. Rea, pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a.m.
 Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
 All B.Y.P.U.'s meet at 6 p.m.

Sunday morning the sermon subject will be "Breaking up the fallow ground." Sunday evening, the fifth commandment, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." This is a sin against the home, against society, and against God. It precludes divorce, the modern dance, mixed swimming of the modern type, midnight petting parties, etc. Hear this sermon.

The men's Bible Class that has been meeting in the Gem Theatre will meet in its former room at the church, the room in the northwest corner on the third floor. All members are urged to be present. The room will seat a hundred men, it ought to be full. The class expresses its appreciation to Mr. Acuff for the use of the theatre for these two years. W. H. Albertson.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday January 18, we hope to see the largest crowd of the new year present at all our services. The session at the meeting Wednesday night formulated plans which it is expected will result in much good.

During February some time, we plan to hold a Sunday School institute. One or possibly two of our state leaders will be present to conduct this work. Then the month of March will be devoted to Evangelism, and a great program will be arranged. Let us begin to prepare now, to carry out these plans.

May we not have the pleasure of welcoming all of our Sunday School next Sunday at 10 o'clock and feel sure your presence will add to the general interest.

Preaching service at 11 a.m. and four p.m. Visitors and strangers made to feel at home. Fred S. Rogers.

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

Bible teaching about a church.
 Leader, Miss Hearn.
 Introduction, Miss Hearn.
 Part 1, Floyd Dowell.
 Part 2, Gyrle Howard.
 Part 3, Mr. Stevens.
 Part 4, Willie Swann.
 Part 5, Bro. Albertson.
 Part 6, Stella Wilson.
 Part 7, Miss Harrison.

NOT NEW

Potato vines poison tobacco plants, says a scientist. But some cigar makers learned how to do it with cabbage long ago.



JANUARY CLEARING SALE

Of All Men's and Boys Furnishings

During January you can buy choice of our men's suits, overcoats, boys' suits and overcoats, men's and boys, shoes, wool hose, sweaters, hats, caps shirts, underwear, etc., at the biggest saving you have ever found this merchandise in Merkel.

- Men's \$7.50 Corduroy duck lined coats, at extra special price of . . . **\$4.45**
- Men's \$4.00 blanket lined coats, special **\$2.65**
- Boys' \$3.50 blanket lined work coats special **\$2.25**
- Men's \$7.50 Rain coats priced special **\$4.95**
- Boys \$9.50 & \$10.00 overcoats, special **\$6.95**

Extra Special prices on all ladies high grade Selby Shoes.

We positively Guarantee to save you money on any item in men's and boys goods.

Bragg Dry Goods Co.

THE PLACE MOST PEOPLE TRADE

Senior Epworth League Program

Subject: "The part of the Epworth League in the Program of the church."
 Leader, Marie Williamson.
 Song, Scripture: (Romans 12:3-13; I Cor. 12:1-6, 13-28)
 Prayer, Special Music.
 Talk by Leader.
 Youthful Enthusiasm, Julia Martin. Discovery of leaders, Madge Pierce. Development of leaders, Murphy Thomas. Training for the big task of the church, Mrs. Hutchison. Generating and conserving spiritual power, Tom Al-day. The church's worship for its young people, Roberta Gay. The Church's best recreational agency, Ermalee Rea. Development of Loyalty, Loring Hamblett. Reading, Mrs. W. A. McSpadden. Announcements, Benediction.
 Don't fail to come to League Sunday, we have a Surprise for you.

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

Junior League Program

Noah who was obedient and Noah of later times.
 Leader, Imogene Middleton.
 Why Lot's wife became a pillar of salt, by Lynn McSpadden.
 Hymn, Onward Christian Soldiers. Prayer.
 An early Christian who was obedient, Thelma Leach.
 A woman who obeyed, Nadine Tippett.
 Nails in the Gaitpost, by Ethel Hamilton.
 Reading, Obedience, by Duncan Briggs.

Drive around to C. P. Stevens' New Drive-in Filling Station, and fill your car before starting on that trip. Plenty of free water and air, and the best of service. 1tp

Magazines of all kinds, El Paso Herald Sunday only with 8 pages of comics for 5c. Hamm Drug Company. 1t

WANT ADS BRINGS RESULTS

In speaking about "It Pays to Advertise," Mr. S. F. Haynes, one of our best and most substantial citizens, who owns considerable farm and city property and who constantly uses the "Classified Columns" of this paper, dropped in one day this week and had us place a "For Sale" ad in the paper, saying that he always got results and found that it payed mighty well to use the columns of the Mail if you have anything to sell, rent or want to buy something. Yes people read the papers this day and time, and there is where they expect to find the bargains offered by the citizens and business interests of the towns. And the fellow who does not avail himself of the use of legitimate advertising is standing in his own light.

Corn and maize for sale. See Sam Swann. 1t

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson Give Birthday Dinner

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Thompson and daughter, Miss Lynn, entertained with a birthday dinner Sunday, honoring little Mary Joe Russell, it being her third birthday. A bountiful feast was spread consisting of turkey and all the accessories, followed with ice cream and delicious white cake trimmed with three candles. Every one wished her many more happy returns of the day.

Those enjoying this hospitality were: Mrs. Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Latham, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Russell and daughters, Anna Lou and Mary Joe, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and Miss Lynn.

Car Dawson Fancy Egg Coal now on track. Swafford, phone 44, south side. 1t

Messrs. R. H. Phillips and R. T. Williams, of Rotan, were here last Sunday on business. 1t

WOMANS MISSIONARY SOCIETY NOTES

The Womens Missionary Society of the Methodist church had a very interesting meeting at the church on last Monday afternoon. The meeting was planned as a "pledge" service, and a pledge program had been arranged. Every one on program responded heartily to the parts assigned them, making the program both impressive and enjoyable. We had as visitors Bro. Stutts of Abilene and our pastor Bro. Rea. On invitation by the president, Mrs. Largent, they both made talks, praising the work the women have done in the past and encouraging us to press forward to even greater things in the future. At the close of the program, the president asked that we, as a society, make a pledge for the coming year. A motion was made and seconded to make it \$100.00 but during the discussion of the question it seemed the opinion of most of those present that we should make it more, so this motion was tabled and another made and carried to make it \$125.00. This pledge is raised by free will offering and is over and above the dues which usually amounts to about \$110.00 or \$115.00. Both of these amounts are sent away to be used in the cause of missions. Our local needs are supplied by other means. Only a few pledge cards were on hand for this meeting, these being readily signed, many of the ladies doubling their pledge of last year. At the close of the meeting the president attended to a few items of business, one being the appointment of a committee to arrange for the serving of the Baraca and Philathea banquet on the 23rd of January. The new study books were also given out and the first chapter assigned as the lesson for next Monday afternoon. The meeting begins promptly at 2.30. Publicity Supt.

WE ARE IN THAT BUSINESS

If it is cleaning and pressing you want, that is one of our specialties. Phone 218. Ligon, the Laundryman. 1t

CITY FURNITURE Co. buys, sells and exchanges new and second-hand furniture. Large shipment of dishes, rugs and army goods. Joe Garland, Prop. Across from Post Office. 1t

Mr. J. L. Beene is among the many other splendid citizens to whom this paper is thankful for the renewal of his subscription.

The longer you use it the better you like it. Try it. Motorgain Fordoye lasts longer, makes motors run smoother. Get it at the OASIS Filling Station. 1t

FOR SEWER Connections—See Sid Criswell. 1t

Have car of Domino Fancy Grate Coal will be here the next day or so. Get it off the car and save money. South Side Gin, L. L. Murray, Mgr. 1t

Car of Cake Flour just received. Want car of Eggs, can make out on half car. W.F. Hamblet. 1t

We are glad to have the renewal to Mr. H. E. Campbell's subscription to the Mail.

I want a good, reliable man to go into business for himself in S. Taylor county selling Raleigh's Good Health Products to farmers. A permanent, profitable and pleasant business all your own. Very little capital required. See me quick. E. B. Barnes. 1613

THROW IT AWAY

A few Merkel citizens seem to believe that the only tool to be used in community building is a hammer.

Miss Blanche Durham is spending the week with friends in Fort Worth and Dallas.

Wool Is Going Higher!

Specials for Friday and Saturday Only

Ladies Special

48 in. All Wool Serge.
 Colors, wine, brown, green and blue. **98c yd.**
 Better Come Early Ladies.

Men's Special

Men's All Wool Coat
 Sweaters. All **\$2.85**
 Sizes. Good Colors

Brown Dry Goods Co.

WE SELL FOR LESS—BECAUSE WE SELL FOR CASH