

THE MERKEL MAIL

THE MERCHANTS WHO ADVERTISE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS—READ THE ADS

VOL. 37—NO. 28

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1925

12 PAGES

BIG SPEED CONTEST AT THE ABILENE FAIR

Abilene, Sept. 10.—Speed contests unrivalled in the annals of West Texas history; football clashes with the zest of battle of the old Roman arena; spectacular Hippodrome circus acts before the grandstand throughout the six-day period of the Fair; magic fireworks and a "Joy Zone" of choice features; and finally a spell-binding historical pageant, "The Vanishing Frontier." Such is the story in brief of the best line-up of entertainment ever offered a West Texas holiday crowd. This is the program that will be turned loose when the West Texas Fair gates swing open here September 21st.

As to the automobile races, which draw annually huge crowds of spectators, this year's event will mark a high point, as did the July Fourth races. With increased grandstand capacity, the "dustless" track, one of the finest in the Southwest, for which Abilene is famous, and with the nationally known racers who have signified their intention of competing in the two-day events, the races of Wednesday, September 23, and Friday, September 25, give promise of the biggest thrills offered in the entire state during Fair season. Names to conjure with full feature the races program of the West Texas Fair: Red Shafer, West Texas' racing idol, and national figure, will meet Ralph DePalma, that speed wizard; and Frank Lockhart the boy wonder who bids fair to challenge all records. And that's only a part of the story of the famous racers scheduled for the Fair dates.

No need to emphasize the call of college football contests to West Texas crowds. There will be plenty of pep and interest in the events scheduled between West Texas colleges and leading high schools.

The greatest single feature of entertainment offered by the Fair association is the brilliant spectacle, outstripping any similar event held in the West, when the colleges and schools of the city cooperate in a magnificent pageant called "The Vanishing Frontier." Gorgeous lighting effects, people from wide sections taking prominent parts; all the glorious history of this section which is the vanishing border-line, flashed before the assembled crowds in a magnificent pageant of events. Such is the program for the opening night of the 1925 West Texas Fair, scheduled to bring thousands of West Texans to Abilene.

Little Miss Doris Diltz is visiting her aunt, Mrs. W. E. Diltz, in Abilene.

NEWSPAPER BARGAIN DAYS ARE HERE NOW

For the next few days we can send the Fort Worth Star-Telegram for 3 months for only \$1.90. The regular price for this, one of the best papers published in the entire South, is \$2.50 for 3 months. The new rate will be quite a saving to those taking advantage of same.

Or we will send you the Star-Telegram for 3 months and the Merkel Mail for one year, to new subscribers only, for \$3.00 for both.

THE MERKEL MAIL

OPENING PROGRAM COMMUNITY FAIR

Promptly at eleven o'clock, Friday morning, September 18, 1925, the Community Fair will open with a program from the band stand just opposite the Woodrum Hotel.

It is expected there will be several short addresses, music, readings, etc., but in the absence of full details of the program we are unable to announce the same at this time; however, our next issue will carry the full program in detail.

LARGENT CATTLE WIN IN IOWA

Away up north, at Des Moines, Iowa, the great Hereford show cattle, belonging to C. M. Largent and Sons, of Merkel, Texas, are on exhibition in competition with all the fine Hereford breeders of the great Northwest, and in a letter to the Farmers State Bank of this city, Mr. W. J. Largent, who is with the cattle states among other things that "the Herefords are doing lovely. Was high man here. Five firsts, six seconds, five thirds, besides champion steer. We were showing against sixteen of the best herds in the U. S. A."

As the Buick automobile manufacturers say about their cars, "When better Hereford cattle are grown, C. M. Largent & Sons will grow them," on their fine ranch near Merkel, Texas.

COMMUNITY FAIR

(Editor's Note—The following poem came to us unsolicited from a young lady who has been corresponding for the Merkel Mail from a rural community for some time, and shows further the interest manifest among the rural communities.

Farmers, Farmers, one and all,
Come to the Community Fair this fall,
Bring your Cotton and your maize,
Show other people what you raise.

Bring your chickens, turkeys, Ducks;
Bring some fodder and some truck;
Bring melons and pumpkins, too;
Win big prizes, not a few.

Give your kids a holiday,
Don't make them work on Community Fair day,
When you talk of the Merkel Fair,
Tell your neighbors you'll be there.

Go in and see the merchants booths;
You'll learn something and that's the truth;
See their displays, visit their store;
Buy something before you go out the door.

Take in the sights, see the town;
Get your friend and take him around.
See the displays thru and thru,
It will cheer and teach you too.

—A Farmer's Daughter.

\$500 PREMIUM LIST PRINTED THIS ISSUE

In the center of the big double page advertisement in this paper will be found the big Community Fair Premium List. More than \$500 has been raised for premiums and conducting this Merkel Community Fair, and the premiums, many of them, are large and interesting enough to assure this Fair being the best ever before held in Merkel. In fact the premiums offered by the Merkel Community Fair are far above those generally offered in towns even much larger than Merkel.

The premiums offered for the best Community Exhibit will be \$50.00 for the first; \$25.00 for the second; and \$15.00 for the third, a total of \$90.00 for Community Exhibits. They are ample and sufficient to cause every school community in the Merkel trade territory to want to get busy and gather up everything that is raised on the farm and bring it for exhibition.

Of course you may not win, but some of your neighboring communities will, and the fact that you and your community brought your best and entered will amply repay you for all your trouble and effort, for in such contest is the way to stimulate and encourage every one to try next year to do a little better.

Besides the fact that your community may win the premium, every farmer entering products will have an opportunity of winning an individual premium on such items as the best ten heads of Maize, etc.

The Merkel Community Fair is going to be a success, so don't fail to bring something along for exhibition. You will regret it if you fail.

Band Boys Entertained

Mr. Jack Anderson and Mr. Wayman Rose, members of the Lone Star Band, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Pence Tuesday evening at dinner at their country home. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Rose are from Merkel, Texas, the girlhood home of Mrs. Pence, and it was a great pleasure to have the boys, as the families have always been great friends. Mrs. H. C. Williams, of Merkel, mother of Mrs. Pence, and a sister, Mrs. E. Q. Warren and Mr. Warren, formerly of Merkel, but now of Knox City, Texas, are also guests at the Pence home.—Marshall (Mo.) Democrat.

MULBERRY CANYON WILL EXHIBIT HERE

Mulberry Canyon is perhaps the first community in this section where farming was taken up. It's a fine community, populated with fine people, and they are proud of their community and from reports we are told coming from that big hearted and energetic citizen, Mr. Eli Cordill, Mulberry Canyon will enter a Community Exhibit at the Merkel Community Fair. And they have a fine chance of winning that \$50.00 premium, or at least one of the others. But let us drop a gentle hint to all competitors that Mulberry Canyon will make a lively fight for the first prize.

BADGERS OPEN THE SEASON BRADSHAW

The Merkel High School "Badgers" have been going through a stiff work-out this week under Coach Jackson, preparing for the opening game with Bradshaw tomorrow, and some men are out on account of minor injuries. The new material is showing up well and old men are up to expectations.

Everybody is all pepped up, players are fighting hard for places, and a grandstand of enthusiasts witness the practice every afternoon. No places have been assigned to men yet, and Coach Jackson expects to take 25 men on the trip to Bradshaw. The starting line-up is doubtful yet, but the following men will likely draw the first assignments:

Polley (Captain) and Toombs, ends; Witcher and Tittle, tackles; two of the following will draw the guard positions: Vick, Wells, Howard, Daniels, Gorden, and Walker. Center will be filled by Joe Bailey Toombs, Bob Mayfield or Giles. Rogers will likely play quarter. The Chaney twins on halves, L. T. Toombs or Adams will probably play full. Haynes, who is laid up with a "charley horse" will take an end position, as will Thomas, Ashby, and others alternate in the line.

The boys are set on starting the season with a win. Go with them and see it well done. Coach Jackson asked us to state that transportation is needed for players, and asks that those who can furnish a way for one or more to please report to him before Saturday.

Following is the 12-game schedule that has been arranged, seven of which will be played at home:

September 12—Merkel at Bradshaw.

September 19—Bradshaw here.

September 25—Merkel at Cisco.

October 2—Merkel at Colorado.

October 9—Baird here.

October 16—Clyde here.

October 23—Ballinger here.

October 30—Winters here.

November 6—Haskell here.

November 11—Big Spring here.

November 20—Merkel at Sweetwater.

November 26—Merkel at Hamlin.

Mrs. Duncan Briggs and little daughter, returned last week from Colorado Springs, where they spent the severe hot summer months.

SALT BRANCH IS COMING STRONG

Yes, Salt Branch is another prosperous community, peopled with a good, progressive and energetic citizenship as are to be found anywhere, and according to Jess Higgins and J. A. Jaynes, live wires of that community, the people out there will bring to the Merkel Community Fair a Community Exhibit of the fine products that can be grown in that section, and they say they are coming fully expecting to take away some of the highest honors. They mean business and will be hard to beat.

DR. GRIMES IS THE NEXT TOASTMASTER

The next meeting of the Merkel Luncheon Club will be held at Ed's Cafe next Tuesday evening, September 15th, at 7:30. Dr. R. I. Grimes will be the able and interesting Toastmaster. Dr. Grimes is one among our progressive citizens, a man who believes in his town and wants to see it grow and prosper, and, being well qualified, may be expected to bring forth a very interesting and inspiring program.

Since the next meeting will be only a few days prior to the opening of the Community Fair, it should be well attended by the business men of the city, for plans for the Fair must be finally completed at this meeting for carrying the Fair to a great success. Let the membership committee get out early and sell many tickets to the next Luncheon meeting.

DORA WILL BRING COMMUNITY EXHIBIT

Over at Dora, on the Divide, 25 miles away, the people are alive and up and doing, making preparations to bring one of the biggest and best community exhibits of farm produce ever grown to the Merkel Community Fair next Friday and Saturday, according to A. W. Cook, pioneer and substantial citizen of that community, who with Mr. T. H. McDonald, Principal of the Dora School, were in Merkel one day this week.

They came down just to look the situation over and to learn first hand from the Fair committee just all about what the requirements would be to enter the Community Exhibit, and they went home fully determined to have their community enter. They have turned the matter of getting up their exhibit over to Prof. McDonald, and considering the fine crops they have the community that beats them according to citizens from that section, will have to go some. But if that community 25 miles away can afford to enter an exhibit surely every community in the immediate country surrounding Merkel can well afford to enter.

DORA FOLKS DOING BUSINESS IN MERKEL

Quite a number of customers of the local banks and business firms have been added this week from the Dora community, among which are noted the opening of bank connections here by the Dora gin, as well as a number of farmers and other citizens. Merkel has always enjoyed a nice trade from that prosperous and thriving community, but many who have not lately been patrons of Merkel institutions have signified their intention of coming here to do their banking and buy their goods, saying that they can get better prices for their produce and can buy goods cheaper. And as for banking connections there is no place under the sun where a farmer can beat the banking interests of Merkel.

John Pace, Jr., of Haskell, was a guest of Miss Mary Eula Sears last week-end.

SCHOOL OPENS WITH 220 IN HIGH SCHOOL

It was an interesting and inspiring occasion on last Monday morning to witness the gathering of the some five or six hundred pupils who came to enter the 1925-26 term of the Merkel Public Schools. It was a scene that should have been witnessed by every mother and father who is a patron of same, while there were not more than two dozen present.

The High School is now crowded to the limit, there being 220 in attendance. This fine body of boys and girls was called together by Superintendent J. A. Summerhill, who delivered a most interesting address before same, outlining his plans and the work expected of them during the term. He very forcibly demonstrated that he was not only a school man of experience, but a man of highest ability and energy sufficient to warrant one of the finest terms of school that has ever been experienced at Merkel.

However, let us say here that he nor any other superintendent can possibly make a success of the school without the strict support and cooperation of both the student body and parents. He may be ever so capable, but he must have your cooperation if the school is to succeed as every good citizen would want it to do.

In the High School, besides the Superintendent and Principal, Mr. I. E. Jackson, we find Miss Baylor Durham, of Hico, Texas, who received her education at John Tarleton, Stephenville, and State University; Miss Kathleen Sudderth, of Leonard, Texas, who has taught with Mr. Summerhill for the past two years, and who received her college training at C. I. A.; Miss Mellie Gilbreath, of Fort Worth, received her A. B. at Simmons this summer; and Miss Martha Bird, of this city, who for several years has been the able English teacher.

In the Grammar school Mrs. L. C. Sublett is the excellent Principal, and has associated with her, Mrs. I. L. Jackson, Mrs. Holland Teaff, Mrs. Bill Haynes, Miss Minnie Coats, Miss Mamie Ellis, Miss Alzada Pogue, Miss Elnore Harrison, Miss Eunice Russell, Miss Maurine Hearn, of Roscoe, Miss Vennie Heizer and Miss Francis McMurray, of Colorado, Miss Mary Cleo Booth, and Miss Sterling of Lawn.

In the Music department Miss Madge Yoakum of Cooper, who is from Trinity University, will have charge, while Miss Tracy is again in charge of the Expression department, and Miss Mary Eula Sears will be in charge of the Art Department.

The religious beliefs of the faculty show to be eleven Baptists, eight Methodists and 3 Presbyterians, according to reports.

Mr. C. T. Beckham, most excellent and substantial citizen of Trent, dropped into the Merkel Mail office last week and had us send the Mail to him at Mt. Calm, Arkansas, where he will spend some time visiting old friends and relatives.

B. C. Gaither left last week for another visit with friends and relatives. B. C. declares he will return to his home here alone, notwithstanding we accused him otherwise.

Community Fair Premium List On Pages 4 & 5

We Stand on Our Record

The things a bank stand for are best determined by its record in the past.

In inviting people to avail themselves of the service of this bank, we make no promises of conferring unusual privileges; but we do stand on our established policy of giving every one who comes to us the same courteous, efficient, service, and every assistance that sound banking practice will allow.

If you want assurance of the fair treatment you will receive here, ask those we have served.

FARMERS STATE BANK

Banking Friendship that Encircles this Section

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. S. Swann, President J. C. Mason, Vice-President R. O. Anderson, Active Vice-Pres, W. L. Diltz Jr., Cashier Herbert Patterson, Assistant-Cashier. David Hendricks

Mrs. Roy Adams Entertains

Thursday afternoon Mrs. Roy Adams was hostess to the Thursday Club.

Cut flowers in attractive vases and containers added charm to the pretty entertaining suite of rooms, where tables were arranged for the interesting diversion of "84."

At the end of the games Misses Melba West and Mona Margaret Jones gave vocal selections.

A tempting refreshment plate of Hawaiian salad with chicken sandwiches and iced tea was served to Mesdames R. O. Anderson, L. A. Arrington, Twyman Collins, O. R. Dye, Ross Ferrier, S. D. Gamble, R. I. Grimes, Robert Hicks, C. H. Jones, Earl Lassiter, Tom Largent, Geo. Miller, L. B. Scott, Sam Swann, Jim West, John West, F. C. McFarland, Fred Groene, and Misses Jess Sut-

phen, Mona Margaret Jones, Melba West, and Mrs. Homer Easterwood of Taft, Texas.

Senior B.Y.P.U. Program

"The True Vine." Leader, Mrs. Warren Smith. Introduction by leader.

- Part 1, Flossie Campbell.
- Part 2, Floyd Dowell.
- Part 3, Stella Wilson.
- Part 4, Mary Parrack.
- Part 5, Bill Haynes.
- Part 6, Alva Wheeler.
- Part 7, Yates Brown.

Mrs. Pearl Hollingsworth has as her visitor this week, Mr. T. O. Wood and family, also her sister, Mrs. Blanche Brooks, all of Ardmore, Oklahoma.

Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt returned last week from a very pleasant visit with friends and relatives in Breckenridge and other Stephens county towns.

REAL ESTATE, FARM LOANS FIRE INSURANCE

After a Fire==

you'll find no satisfaction in figuring up the amount of insurance you should have had. But there is a lot of satisfaction in knowing that your property as it stands today is fully covered by dependable fire insurance.

Our fire insurance policies are dependable.

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Consult your Insurance Agent as you would your Lawyer.

"WORST BOY," BUT NOT WHOLLY BAD

Judge Astonished at Remarkable Reformation.

A police court reporter sees a great deal of the wrong side of human nature. He could perhaps become a hopeless misanthrope if once in a while something did not happen that shows how much good there may be hidden even in the most unpromising human beings. William T. Ewens in "Thirty Years in Bow Street" tells of a case that came under his own eye that taught him not to condemn anyone as wholly bad.

"He's the worst boy in the district," said the jailer, referring to a red-haired urchin in the dock. "He treats his mother shamefully."

"Oh, don't say that," pleaded the mother tearfully. "He's a dear, good boy to me, ain't you, Joe?"

Joe grinned. He was an accomplished young liar, but he drew the line at aiding and abetting his mother when she told such a palpable untruth as that. The jailer had not slandered him when he described the way in which he treated his mother.

Fortunately perhaps for her, he was the only child she had. She lavished all her love on him, worked day and night in order that he might live in idleness and contented herself with scanty fare so that he might have good food and plenty of it. Even in the depth of winter she wore thin clothing in order to provide him with good boots and a warm overcoat. Every night he went to her for pocket money and got it. At least twice a week she had to give him enough to take him into the gallery of one of the cheap theaters, and while he was enjoying the play for sixpence or so, with perhaps fried fish and potato to follow, his poor old mother was probably crying herself to sleep. He rewarded all her kindness with base ingratitude, and sometimes with personal violence.

As years rolled on and the boy grew into a red-haired ruffian it was useless for his mother to plead for mercy on the ground that he was "a dear, good boy," and he was sent to prison on several occasions. His mother always met him at the prison gates, and he had what he described as "a high old bean" with the money she had saved during his retirement.

Then there came a sudden change—the most remarkable change the missionary then at Bow street had ever known or heard of—the poor old woman suddenly became blind. The son, instead of ill-using her because she was no longer able to minister to his wants, became a reformed character. He gave up his evil companions and worked hard in order that his mother might have all that she required. On Sunday night he was astonished all who knew him by leading the poor creature to church. He was virtually the only nurse she had during a painful illness, and just before she died in his arms, she was heard to say: "He's a dear, good boy to me, is my boy. I'll pay his fine, sir, if you'll let me."

And soon after the funeral Joe went to one of the colonies where he did well and reared a number of red-haired boys who never saw the inside of a police court.

Dog Was Cap Collector

It was a great mystery for a time, the disappearance of caps belonging to children at a Philadelphia public school. It threatened to be one that only a master mind could solve. Then one day the blacksmith across the way came to the office of the principal with four caps. Asked where he got them, he said: "Why, ma'am, my dog brought them to me—one at a time—this morning." And sure enough, as the blacksmith and the teacher stood there talking, along came the dog. He went into the cloak closet and in a jiffy was out again—a cap in his mouth. They followed him into the blacksmith shop, and there, in a corner hidden by anvils, was an assorted collection of caps.

Modern Girl's Champion

Basil King, the Canadian novelist, said as he boarded the Mauretania for a visit to Spain:

"It is true that I am going blind, but I see clearly that the world grows better. Some people condemn the modern girl with her audacious dress, but I see clearly that the modern girl is the same prudent and clear-minded creature that her mother was, plus greater strength and courage.

"Yes, she's prudent and clean-minded. A Montreal girl in boots and riding breeches said to me one afternoon over a cigarette and a cup of tea:

"Men are not bargain hunters—and the girl who cheapens herself soon finds it out."

Poor Doggie

A woman called police headquarters on the telephone recently and sobbed out a tale that her "dear little doggie" had been captured unleashed, as required by the health officials, and was languishing in the pound. She was informed the pound would not be open until 8:30 a. m. next day. "My gracious, she'll die in that awful place overnight, and besides she is on a diet," pleaded the woman. "That's all right; your doggie will be treated all right and kept on the diet," the woman was informed. "And will you bathe her before sending her back?" she queried. "Yes, before we send her back," was the reply.—Detroit News.

"COMMUNITY FAIR, AND IT'S VALUE"

By Phebe K. Warner

It is not the size of a fair that marks its success. It is the good it does in proportion to its size, the territory it represents and the inspiration it brings to its exhibitors. That's why we believe the biggest fair in the world is the smallest one. By this analysis the most representative fair of all the list is the community fair.

Scarcely heard of a few years ago, it is growing in interest and numbers and power every year. Fairs are very much like every other form of education. They have had to come from the top down, rather than from the bottom up.

A few of us have seen one or more of the World Fairs that have been held in recent years. But how many of us had anything on exhibition there? How many of us got a real thrill out of anything we had ever done? How many of us had a chance at the World Fair or ever a State Fair to prove to even the little world in which we live what we could do? How many of us came home from the World Fair determined to do better next year? Determined not only to beat our neighbors raising cane, or cotton, or corn, or cattle, or cantaloupes, but determined to beat ourselves another year?

That's what makes a country grow and that is what makes the people grow. And that is what keeps up the fair spirit the world over. It is the multiplied little things that make the big things possible everywhere. And that's why we are a firm believer in the community fair.

Go to the community fair and almost every family in that community will have something on exhibition there. It will be the nearest 100 per cent fair of all the people in the territory it represents. And how in the world are you going to know who has the best corn in the country or the best calf if you do not have a sample of everybody's product, whatever that may be?

Of course, it is some trouble and work. So is wash day, and we women pull off a wash day exhibit almost every Monday morning of the year, rain or shine, sick or well. If we would have a community fair once a year we might discover a way to make the cash that would pay for that washing and thus save ourselves two whole days every week of the year to get up more fairs and home entertainments for the children. If we would have a community fair once a year somebody might discover that you had the very best White Leghorn or Plymouth Rock chickens in the country, when very likely you would not go to the bother to take them to the county fair unless you discovered they were the best in your community. And if they won in the county fair they might prove to be the finest chickens of their class in the state.

Everybody's prize pullet, pig, pup, pumpkin, peach, pear, peas, peanuts, or popcorn that will take the State prize this fall is running round or lying round in somebody's yard or farm right now. Some of you have the best stuff in the state right in your home community and don't know it. How are you going to discover it if you do not have a community fair? How will the State of Texas or any other state know whether its very best products are at the State Fair or not if the whole State has not been culled over thru the community fair where everybody ought to have their products on exhibition. And there would not be room for them anywhere else.

Every farm boy in Texas may have his stalk of corn or cotton or his watermelons on exhibit

STRENGTH

The strength of a bank is indicated by its FINANCIAL STATEMENT, to which we have been calling your attention in the last several issues of the Merkel Mail.

It is also indicated in the character of the service rendered, as well as in the EQUIPMENT for rendering that service.

Since 1904 or for Twenty-one years
**THE OLD RELIABLE
FARMERS & MERCHANTS
National Bank**

has through FAT and LEAN years taken care of its Borrowers, its Depositors, and its Shareholders.

We are at the beginning of another COTTON HARVEST and we solicit your Business on the Record we have made and on our ability to care for your needs.

Make this Bank your Headquarters when in town. Plenty of desk room, figuring tablets, chairs and other conveniences at your disposal.

Nothing is more to your interest than a strong Banking Connection with a Strong, Well Equipped Bank.

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

DIRECTORS— J. T. Warren, Geo. F. West, L. R. Thompson, Sam Butman Sr., Booth Warren

Never Missed a Dividend
Never Assessed a Shareholder



at his home community fair. Every girl in the state has a chance to prove what she can do in canning at the community fair. It is the only fair where there is room for everybody to try. It is the most democratic fair of all. And it is the only fair way to build up a country or a state fair. Are you planning to have a community fair this year?—Fort Worth Record.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris left first of the week for a visit to their daughter at Tulia.

BLUE BUGS?

Feed MARTIN'S POULTRY TONE to your chickens and paint the hen house with MARTIN'S ROOST PAINT to kill and keep away insects. Guaranteed by Merkel Drug Company

* * * MERKEL GARAGE * * *
* More People Ride on *
* GOODYEAR TIRES *
* More Miles Less Trouble *
* MERKEL GARAGE *
* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Mrs. Minnie Coppinger and children of Cottonwood, Mr. J. M. Jones and family of Abilene, and Mr. J. J. Kuhn and wife of Miami, Texas, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Jones Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Brashier and family of Lubbock, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lee Acuff, left for the Rio Grande Valley where they will make their home.

You can finish anything in your home with



and use it in less than one-half hour.

Lacq is a brand new discovery in household finishes. Neither paint nor varnish, it is made in all colors for floors, furniture and woodwork. There never has been a finish that gives such a beautiful surface, stands so much wear or is so easy to apply. There never has been a finish like Lacq.

Come in today and see samples of Lacq-ed surfaces.

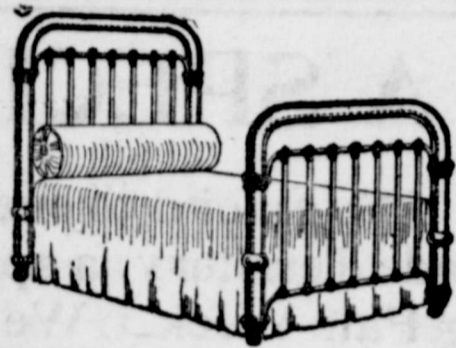
Price per quart \$2.00

West Company

Big Attractions For Community Fair Week

We want you to come to Merkel on September 18th and 19th, be our guest for those two days. Bring your wife and children, they will enjoy the many worth while attractions that will be here. Take in the Fair, it will be profitable to you, and remember when you get tired and want rest, we have plenty of good seats, with ice water on the side.

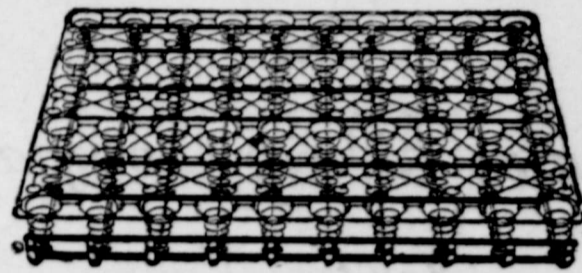
In order to make it doubly attractive for you to come to Merkel on the above dates we are going to make it possible for you to buy your Furniture at prices you have never had offered you before. Please compare our prices with the Mail Order prices, and remember you have to pay freight on mail order goods. Take advantage of these two days, and buy your furniture at prices that mean a saving to you. Below we list just a few of the many money saving prices that prevail Community Fair Week.



Full 2 in. post
1/2 in. filling
rods, any
finish; with
slats.
\$7.50

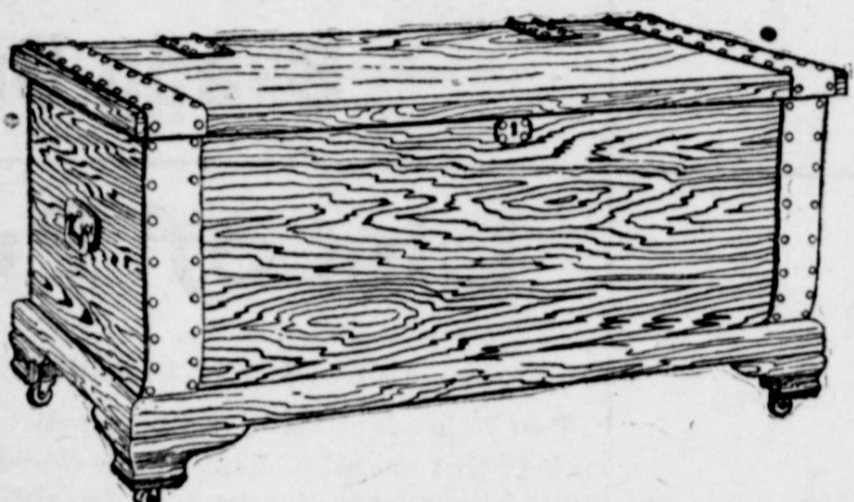


Full Size 45
lb., all cotton,
good art
tick,
mattress
\$7.50

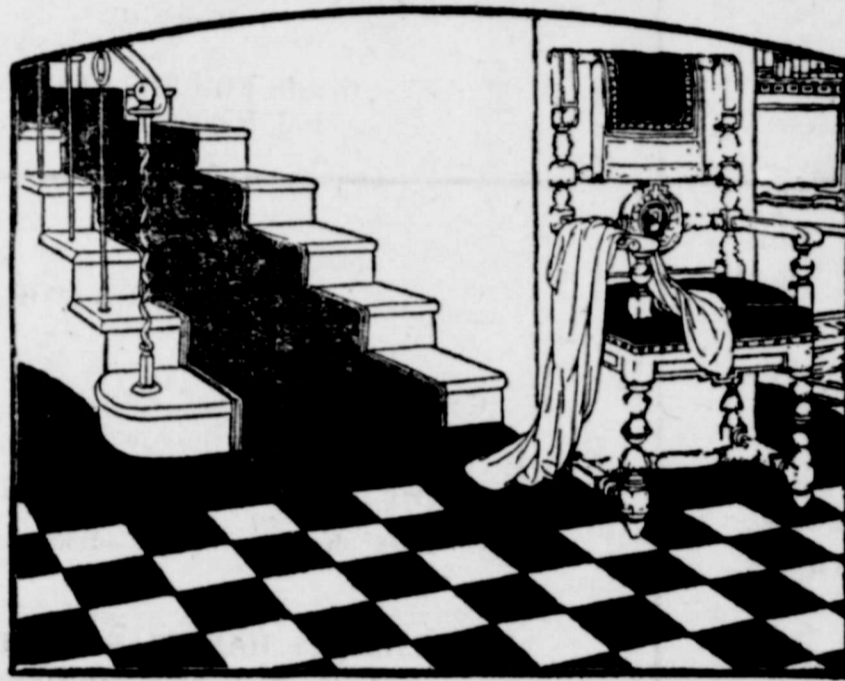


A good, dura-
ble Spring,
99 coils
and heavy
border wire
\$4.50

Buy the Three Pieces Together; Bed, Springs and Mattress for Only - - \$16.95



25 different Styles and Sizes of Cedar Chest to select from, all priced special for fair week. Priced from \$11.50 up.



A Linoleum Pattern suitable for any room in the house. We carry a very large stock of Linoleum, so you can find just the pattern you want. We carry Armstrong Linoleum in the first quality only, no seconds or drops. It pays to get the best. Let us figure your room for Linoleum during Fair week. Special discount on all Linoleum.

Special Prices on All Suit Goods

Bed Room Special--Four piece Suit consisting of full Vanity Chiffoner, Bed and Bench. Finished in two-tone Walnut, Community Fair Week Special.-----**\$78.95**

Don't fail to make your plans to attend our fair, and include in your plans a visit to our store. See our Booth at the Fair.
A Souvenir for the Children.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

TOWNS DIE FOR WANT OF PUBLICITY, IS SAID

Deport, in Lamar county, is suffering seriously from the epidemic of "buy away from home." Its predicament is no different than many other towns of the state. Deport's editor is Sam Holloway, who is president of the commercial club. The epidemic of trading away from home had so seriously affected the town that Sam called for help, and he solicited aid from gentlemen living in a town that was virtually situated at the back-door step of Dallas, a city ranking with the greatest in the south. He was aware that these gentlemen had experience with this trade away from home movement, and had overcome it to the extent that their little city experiences no ill effect from trade going to Dallas. This had been accomplished through the building up of a loyal sentiment over the trade territory which no big town can take away from it, according to the Garland News. The gentlemen, whom Editor Holloway called upon to come over to his little town and join the members of

the commercial club in a luncheon and relate to the meeting their experiences in establishing a loyalty sentiment in their trade territory, hailed from Garland. The Garland gentlemen advised the Deport merchants that a thorough course of publicity, and an everlastingly keeping at it together with keeping on hand complete stocks of goods would win back the trade they had lost to Paris, and other wide awake towns. Little by little the trade began to drift away from Deport. While other towns nearby flooded the country with publicity, the Deport merchants thought the expense too great to combat this publicity with some of their own, and consequently the trade went to the towns that actively solicited it. Though Deport has changed front since the visit of the Garland representatives, it will find that the expenditure to gain back the trade lost be far greater than it would have been had the merchants cooperated and stuck to their publicity program. The program outlined by the Deport Chamber of Commerce was a thorough campaign of publicity, the merchants putting on Dollar Day events, etc.

In this day of good roads, motor transportation, and the unusual activity on the part of the cities to branch out in the rural districts after trade, it behooves every town and city outside of the industrial center to guard well their own business interests "Sleeping at the switch through the failure of adopting a systematic publicity campaign, failure in the cooperation of business and rural interests through

live chambers of commerce; a disregard and non support of a county wide event that has for its purpose the improvement and building up of the agricultural interests, all go to drive trade away from home and make of the home town a "flag station" in the eyes of commercial activity.

The merchant must fight for his business and fight hard. The day when a storekeeper can sit on a barrel head and play checkers while the customer helps himself has passed. The customer who once drove ten miles to town in a buggy and thought the trip a good day's work, and whose word was a gold bond, has made away for the one who travels fifty miles an hour, trades at the place where he can get the most for his money, and expects a half a dozen clerks to be on their tip-toes to wait on him.

Sitting down in store fronts discussing the calamity that is casting its shadow over the country, allowing the flag of petty jealousy to wave in front of every store, and all such, have for their ultimate results a dead town left to wallow in its own misery.—From the Kaufman Herald.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Garrison, of Illinois, are here this week for a short visit among friends. Mr. and Mrs. Garrison spent some time here during the prospective oil boom days of 1919 and 1920, he being interested in one or two of the wild cat tests that were going down near here then. He says his visit here at this time had no connection with the present oil operations.

FOURTH QUARTERLY CONFERENCE OF M.E. CHURCH HELD WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Presiding Elder W. E. Lyon, of the Abilene District, came over from Abilene Wednesday evening and held the Fourth Quarterly conference at the Methodist Church in this city.

An unusually large congregation was present to witness the winding up of the business session of the church. The report from the pastor as well as all other departmental heads was interesting and complete. The finance, while not paid out by any means, showed to be in better condition than for some time, and the Chairman of the Board of Stewards stated that they expected to see the church pay all claims in full this year.

The pastor offered the following nominations for the official board for the ensuing conference year, all of whom were declared elected:

Stewards: T. G. Bragg, Dr. M. Armstrong, L. W. Cox, A. T. Sheppard, W. D. Hutcheson, W. F. Golliday, J. L. Harris, Thos. Durham, W. H. Frazier, Herbert Patterson, Eli Case, Clyde Sears, L. R. Thompson, H. M. Rainbolt, and Cyrus Pee.

Trustees: Dr. M. Armstrong, H. M. Rainbolt, L. W. Cox, Seth Hamilton and J. L. Harris.

Also a religious Educational committee was appointed as follows: L. R. Thompson, Dr. Armstrong and T. G. Bragg.

The church under the leadership of pastor T. J. Rea showed a splendid growth and to be in most excellent general condition.

Puett's Drug Store

157 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

Everybody in and around Merkel is invited to come and headquarter at Puett's Drug Store during the Fair Sept. 21 to 26. Come and see us.

We appreciate your visits.

Puett's Drug Store

Expert Repairing

The way we repair shoes, it is really more of a re-made rather than a repaired shoe. Naturally the service a re-made shoe gives is almost equal to a new shoe.

Goodyear Shoe Shop

176 Cypress-Opposite Gambill's Abilene, Texas

FOR SALE!

Two \$65.00 Scholarships in Tyler Commercial College, of Tyler, Texas. The best business College in Texas,

At an Attractive Discount

See Jack Durham at Merkel Mail

STEPHENS HOTEL

Serving meals daily.

Phone your order in not later than 9; o'clock, A. M. for special Sunday dinner.

MERKEL COMMUNITY FAIR OFFERS PRIZES

On Products Brought to **COMMUNITY FAIR** September 18th and 19th

Premiums will be offered on Agriculture, Livestock, Poultry, Fine Arts, Textile, Home Canning, Cooking, Community Exhibits, Etc.

<p>The <i>Hamm Drug Company</i> Invites You to attend the Fair and visit our store while in Merkel. Make this store Your Headquarters Free Souvenirs</p>	<p>While visiting the Community Fair in Merkel Stop at the OASIS FILLING STATION —For— GAS - OILS - ACCESSORIES We Carry a Complete line of Federal Extra Service Tires. "SERVICE is our Motto." FREE ROAD SERVICE Phone 25 OASIS FILLING STATION Bill Haynes, Manager.</p>	<h2>A SPECIAL INVITATION</h2> <p>We extend to every man, woman and child in Merkel Trade Territory, a special invitation to visit our store during Fair Week. We want you to see the pretty new things we have on display for your inspection, infact we want you to make our store your store.</p> <p>Bragg Dry Goods Company</p>	<p>SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS Dear Old Golden Rule Days That's what the children of Merkel will be singing the next two weeks, and parents will be turning their attention to the preparation for school. We carry a complete line of School Supplies, and solicit your business on the basis of good service. When you think of School Supplies think of this Ad. Be Our Guests During the Community Fair THE MERKEL DRUG COMPANY</p>	<p>WEST COMPANY Merkel's Oldest and Largest Firm Bids You Welcome to the MERKEL COMMUNITY FAIR Make our store and our booth at the Fair Your Headquarters while in town Hardware, Groceries, Grain, Auto Supplies Windmills and Plumbing Supplies Farm Machinery, Farmall Tractors</p>
<p>GOOD, FRESH, CLEAN GROCERIES That is the kind of merchandise we handle. We also endeavor to give to our patrons along with the best in GROCERIES, the BEST and most ACCOMODATING SERVICE. If you are not now numbered among our large list of satisfied customers, come around and give us a trial. "Our Prices Are Always Right" We are for the Community Fair and bid you Welcome. BOB MARTIN GROCERY COMPANY</p>	<p>GET AN INCUBATOR Get an Incubator and raise some Good Chickens for the Fair next year. We have the JERSEY INCUBATOR They shell the Chicks—Look 'em over LIBERTY HARDWARE COMPANY "If It's Hardware, We Have it."</p>	<h2>List of Premiums Offered</h2> <p>ARICULTURAL DEPARTMENT Best 10 heads of maize (white or red) \$5.00 2nd best 10 heads of Maize (white or red) 2.50 3rd best 10 heads of Maize (white or red) 1.00 Best 10 heads of Kaffir 5.00 2nd best 10 heads of Kaffir 2.50 3rd best 10 heads of Kaffir 1.00 Best 10 heads of Feterita 5.00 2nd best 10 heads of Feterita 2.50 3rd best 10 heads of Feterita 1.00 Best 10 heads of Higeri 5.00 2nd best 10 heads of Higeri 2.50 3rd best 10 heads of Higeri 1.00 Best 10 ears of Corn 5.00 2nd best 10 ears of Corn 2.50 3rd best 10 ears of Corn 1.00 Best 5 stalks of grain sorghum with the root system, including maize, kafir, feterita or hegeri \$2.50 Best entry of 20 bolls of cotton 5.00 2nd best entry of 20 bolls of cotton 2.50 3rd best entry of 20 bolls of cotton 1.00 Best entry of 3 cotton stalks with the roots and bolls or burrs \$2.50 Best gallon of dry peas with one vine \$2.50 Best gallon of peanuts with one peanut vine \$2.50 Best bundle of forage crop (5 in. in diameter) as sudan, darso or grasses \$2.50 Best six fresh fruits any variety or kind \$2.50 2nd best six fresh fruits any variety or kind \$1.00 3rd best six fresh fruits any variety or kind50 Best jar of fruit any variety or kind \$2.50 2nd best jar of fruit any variety or kind 1.00 3rd best jar of fruit any variety or kind50 Best 10 ears of popcorn \$1.00 Best Watermelon \$1.00 Best pumpkin \$1.00; Best 2 kershaws \$1.00; Best 3 cantaloupes \$1.00; Best 10 ears of roasting ears \$1.00; Best 12 tomatoes \$1.00; Best 12 radishes \$1.00; Best 6 eggplants \$1.00; Best 3 cabbages \$1.00; Best 10 beets \$1.00; Best peck of sweet potatoes \$1.00; Best peck of irish potatoes \$1.00; Best gallon of onions \$1; Best gallon of turnips \$1; Best one-half gallon of dry beans \$1; Best 6 sweet peppers \$1; Best 6 cucumbers \$1; Best half gallon of syrup \$1; Best quart of strained honey \$1; Best quart of comb honey \$1.</p> <p>SPECIAL PRIZES TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB Best 10 heads of maize (white or red) \$10.00 2nd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 5.00 3rd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 2.50</p> <p>FOR THE CHILDREN Best breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$10 2nd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$5 3rd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$2.50</p> <p>POULTRY DEPARTMENT Best Cock, any breed \$1.00 Best Hen, any breed \$1.00 Best Cockrell, any breed \$1.00 Best Pullet, any breed \$1.00 Second bests .50; 3rd, ribbon. Best pen, all breeds \$1.50 Best turkey old tom \$1; Best turkey hen \$1; Best young tom \$1; Best pen all varieties competing. \$2.50</p> <p>SPECIAL PRICE TO BEST COMMUNITY EXHIBIT Best Community Exhibit \$50.00 2nd Best Community Exhibit 25.00 3rd Best Community Exhibit 15.00</p> <p>CULLINARY DEPARTMENT BREAD—1. Loaf salt rising 50c. 2. Loaf yeast bread 50c. 3. Rolls, plain or fancy 50c. 4. Plain Biscuits 50c. CAKES—1. Devil's food cake 75c. 2. Angel food cake 75c. 3. Plain white cake 75c. 4. Caramel cake 75c. 5. Coconut cake 75c. 6. Plain cookies 50c. 7. Fruit or nut cookies 50c. PIES—1. Caramel pie 50c. 2. Chocolate pie 50c. CANDY—1. Divinity candy 50c. 2. Date loaf 50c. 3. Fudge 50c. CANNED Fruits and Vegetables—1. Peaches 75c. 2. plums 75c. 3. Strawberries 75c. 4. Tomatoes 50c. 5. Beans 50c. 6. Fancy canning 50c. 7. Best display of canned vegetables \$1.00. JELLIES and PRESERVES—1. Peach 50c. 2. Pear 50c. 3. Watermelon 50c. 4. Strawberry 50c. 5. Apple 50c. 6. Best display preserves \$1.25. JELLIES—1. Apple 35c. 2. Grape 35c. 3. Plum 35c. 4. Berry 35c. 5. Best display, six kinds, \$1.25. PICKLES—1. Pear sweet pickles 50c. 2. Peach sweet pickles 50c. 3. Cucumber pickle, sour 50c. 4. Mixed pickles sour 50c. 5. Beet pickles 50c.</p> <p>WOMANS DEPARTMENT Articles in the textile department can only be exhibited by the maker of the article. KNITTING. Knit bed spread 25c. Sox 25c. Lace 50c. PLAIN Sewing. Darning and repairing 25c. Hand work 25c. Quilt worsted patch work 25c. Quilt cotton patch work 25c. House dress 25c. Best display plain sewing 50c. FANCY Sewing. Child's Dress 25c. Infant's outfit, dress skirt and cap, 50c. Hemstitched garment 25c. Sheet and pillow cases 50c. Feather stitched garment 25c. Rolled and whipped garment 50c. Bed spread applique 25c. CROCHET. Baby sack and cap 25c. Spread 25c. Center piece 25c. Rag rug 25c. Collar 25c. Best display of crochet 50c. TATTING. Handkerchief 25c. Baby cap 50c. Collar 25c. EMBROIDERY. Luncheon cloth and napkins 25c. Center piece, colored embroidery 25c. Center piece of white 25c. Table runner 25c. Infant's cap and sack 50c. Set of underwear not less than 3 pieces 50c. Pillow cases 25c. Best monograms 25c. Cross stitch 25c. Night dress 25c. Handkerchief 25c. Child's dress 25c. Bed spread 50c. Hardanger 50c. French embroidery 25c. Buffet set 50c. CHILDREN'S Work. Open to children under 16 years of age. Button holes 50c. Machine work 25c. Darning and repairing 25c. Handkerchiefs 25c. Doll outfit 50c. Pillow cases embroidered 25c. Monogram 25c. Vanity set 50c. Fancy apron 25c. Best display of children's work, 4 pieces 50c. Crochet towels 25c.</p> <p>OLD RELIC DEPARTMENT Most unique curio \$1.00. Civil War relic \$2.00. World war relic \$1.00. Oldest coin \$1.00. Oldest musical instrument \$1.00. Old lace \$1.00. Old Bed spread \$1.00. Oldest Relic exhibited \$2.50.</p>	<p>THE CROWN HARDWARE Welcomes the Coming of the Community Fair We have a booth in the Merchants' Exhibit Room. We invite our friends and the public to visit our Booth. After you have visited the Community Fair, we would be glad to have you call at the store, where you may further inspect our splendid stock of Hardware. We always appreciate your business and do our best to please and satisfy our customers. THE CROWN HARDWARE</p>	<p>MAGNOLIA FILLING STATION Welcomes all Community Fair visitors to Merkel on September 18th and 19th We strive to serve our patrons courteously and efficiently at all times, and will make special effort to serve all who visit us on these days with entire SATISFACTION Chas. H. Jones, Manager.</p>
<p>FRESH GROCERIES At All Times—Guaranteed to Please Try a Sack of our LIGHT CRUST FLOUR And while attending the Merkel Community Fair Make our Store Your Headquarters McDONALD & COLLUM GROCERY</p>	<p>ED'S PLACE FOR GOOD EATS A Place where good, clean meals are served night and day, to Ladies and Gentlemen. Try Our Service We appreciate all patronage extended us. E. L. TURNER, Proprietor</p>	<p>WOMANS DEPARTMENT Articles in the textile department can only be exhibited by the maker of the article. KNITTING. Knit bed spread 25c. Sox 25c. Lace 50c. PLAIN Sewing. Darning and repairing 25c. Hand work 25c. Quilt worsted patch work 25c. Quilt cotton patch work 25c. House dress 25c. Best display plain sewing 50c. FANCY Sewing. Child's Dress 25c. Infant's outfit, dress skirt and cap, 50c. Hemstitched garment 25c. Sheet and pillow cases 50c. Feather stitched garment 25c. Rolled and whipped garment 50c. Bed spread applique 25c. CROCHET. Baby sack and cap 25c. Spread 25c. Center piece 25c. Rag rug 25c. Collar 25c. Best display of crochet 50c. TATTING. Handkerchief 25c. Baby cap 50c. Collar 25c. EMBROIDERY. Luncheon cloth and napkins 25c. Center piece, colored embroidery 25c. Center piece of white 25c. Table runner 25c. Infant's cap and sack 50c. Set of underwear not less than 3 pieces 50c. Pillow cases 25c. Best monograms 25c. Cross stitch 25c. Night dress 25c. Handkerchief 25c. Child's dress 25c. Bed spread 50c. Hardanger 50c. French embroidery 25c. Buffet set 50c. CHILDREN'S Work. Open to children under 16 years of age. Button holes 50c. Machine work 25c. Darning and repairing 25c. Handkerchiefs 25c. Doll outfit 50c. Pillow cases embroidered 25c. Monogram 25c. Vanity set 50c. Fancy apron 25c. Best display of children's work, 4 pieces 50c. Crochet towels 25c.</p> <p>OLD RELIC DEPARTMENT Most unique curio \$1.00. Civil War relic \$2.00. World war relic \$1.00. Oldest coin \$1.00. Oldest musical instrument \$1.00. Old lace \$1.00. Old Bed spread \$1.00. Oldest Relic exhibited \$2.50.</p>	<p>THE QUALITY BAKERY First Class BREAD, CAKES, PIES AND CANDY All Kinds of the Best, most Tasty and most Delicious Pastry Try our Goods and be convinced of their HIGH QUALITY We welcome every one to Merkel's Community Fair A. A. McGehee, Proprietor</p>	<p>WHITE HOUSE CAFE Will appreciate your patronage at any and all times. We assure you the best of eats, with courteous and fair treatment. We will be especially prepared to care for your Restaurant wants on the Community Fair days. J. F. HOLLAWAY, Proprietor</p>
<p>OUR COMMUNITY FAIR We are for it. Let's make it the best possible. We invite you to make our store your headquarters while attending the Community Fair. And incidentally we call your attention to our Mammoth line of New Fall Dry Goods. They are New, Up-to-date and of the best makes. And the price—we'll be always right on that. MAX MELLINGER, DRY GOODS</p>	<p>A REAL WELCOME The Largest Public Servant in West Texas is for THE COMMUNITY FAIR Service through Growth, Progress and Efficiency Is Our Slogan. We are 100 per cent for Progressive Development. WEST TEXAS UTILITIES COMPANY</p>	<p>SPECIAL PRIZES TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB Best 10 heads of maize (white or red) \$10.00 2nd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 5.00 3rd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 2.50</p> <p>FOR THE CHILDREN Best breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$10 2nd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$5 3rd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$2.50</p> <p>POULTRY DEPARTMENT Best Cock, any breed \$1.00 Best Hen, any breed \$1.00 Best Cockrell, any breed \$1.00 Best Pullet, any breed \$1.00 Second bests .50; 3rd, ribbon. Best pen, all breeds \$1.50 Best turkey old tom \$1; Best turkey hen \$1; Best young tom \$1; Best pen all varieties competing. \$2.50</p>	<p>A. R. BOOTH, Staple and Fancy Groceries FRESH GROCERIES—We have them. If you are not numbered among our customers, give us a trial. "OUR MOTTO IS TO PLEASE" Try a Sack of LIGHT CRUST FLOUR We Welcome you to our Community Fair Make Our Store Your Store A. R. BOOTH, GROCERIES</p>	<p>CAN YOU AFFORD TO LOSE THE PROFITS THAT BUILDING WILL GIVE? If we could reduce building costs we would cut them fifty per cent. We can make more money when prices are low. But what indications is there that prices will be lower; none that we know of. It is our advice to build now what you need. THE MERKEL LUMBER COMPANY Dealers in Carey's Blue Ribbon Paints and Roofing, Wall Board, Builders Hardware & Glass. Infact everything in the Builders Line. Sash, Doors, Screening goods, Lime, Cement and Sand—Gravel, Sheetrock and Valspar. Make this your headquarters when in town. Wm. P. Carey Company, Owners Phone 62 Established 1881</p>
<p>HAMILTON & CASE, GROCERIES GROCERIES—That's our stock in trade. That's what we study about most. We must do that if we are to render our patrons the kind of Grocery Service they are entitled to. And our fast growing patronage is indicative of the kind of service we are putting out. However, we are always glad to cooperate with the people of our town and community; hence we are for the COMMUNITY FAIR. If you are not a customer now, give us your next order and then you will know how to appreciate our goods and our excellent service. HAMILTON & CASE</p>	<p>When You Think of Building Material Think of Burton-Lingo Company Dealers in LUMBER, BUILDERS HARDWARE AND GLASS LOWE BROS. HIGH STANDARD PAINTS Phone 74 Corner Lamar & North Front Sta.</p>	<p>SPECIAL PRIZES TO BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB Best 10 heads of maize (white or red) \$10.00 2nd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 5.00 3rd best 10 heads of maize (white or red) 2.50</p> <p>FOR THE CHILDREN Best breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$10 2nd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$5 3rd breeding pen of chickens (4 females & male) \$2.50</p> <p>POULTRY DEPARTMENT Best Cock, any breed \$1.00 Best Hen, any breed \$1.00 Best Cockrell, any breed \$1.00 Best Pullet, any breed \$1.00 Second bests .50; 3rd, ribbon. Best pen, all breeds \$1.50 Best turkey old tom \$1; Best turkey hen \$1; Best young tom \$1; Best pen all varieties competing. \$2.50</p>	<p>—SCHOOL SUPPLIES— School Supplies— School Supplies— School Supplies— GRIMES-SMITH DRUG COMPANY Phone 9 Front Street</p>	<p>THE WOODRUM FILLING STATION Where REAL AUTO SERVICE is rendered those who patronize our Filling Station, is glad to contribute toward a Community Fair in Merkel. While attending this Community Fair, come to us for that Good Gulf Gasoline, Supreme Auto Oil, and Mobiloil. We thank you for any and all patronage GEORGE WOODRUM, Proprietor</p>

The Merkel Mail

Published on Friday Morning by
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Thos. Durham, Editor-Mgr.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
In Taylor, Jones, Nolan and
Fisher Counties, per yr. . . \$1.50
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IN ADVANCE

TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Mer-
kel, Texas as second class mail.

**MERCHANTS SEEK AID OF
LAW TO HOLD BUSINESS**

We are told that years ago Merkel boasted an ice plant, an oil mill and a laundry. We are also told by citizens residing here now, who lived here then, that the reason those enterprises went out of business long ago was because such institutions in nearby towns, towns larger than Merkel, came here and offered to sell the same products that were manufactured here at cheaper prices. What is the result? The people fell all over themselves to get to patronize the out of town concerns just because they were at the time offering goods a little saving. Hence the home enterprises were forced to quit business. And the result—Merkel has no such enterprises, no pay roll that is afforded through such enterprises, and last, today her people are paying the same companies twice as much for services as she could have then gotten from the home concern. In other words the people, by their desire to save a few pennies then, helped to keep their own town from growing, and in the end themselves are having to pay more for goods manufactured away from home.

Let us say further, that when the people of Merkel and surrounding country have further extended their patronage to the Mail order houses and other out of town concerns, the day is just

as sure to come when their own home town will be so small that they will be unable to buy scarcely a single item they need, not even a decent place to buy groceries, that they will be compelled to go to the larger places or send to the Mail Order Houses to buy all their needs—and then when that day comes, they will see and experience prices that will make them shudder to think about. This condition is no dream; it is already happening, even right here in Texas. For example towns within seventy miles of Dallas and Fort Worth good towns, towns with ten thousand population, are gradually feeling the encroachment of those cities upon their trade. The firms of the big cities are sending daily their delivery cars right into the heart of these towns with loads of dry goods, groceries, bread, fruits, etc. each day. Read the following from the Hillsboro Star of recent date:

Competition by Fort Worth and Dallas bakeries, hauling bread to Hillsboro by truck and alleged to be selling to merchants here at one cent under the Fort Worth price, has become so keen local bakeries may be forced to close down unless the situation changes soon.

Gebhardt's Bakery and the Hill County Baking Company claim that Mother's and White Star Bread will be things of the past if Hill County people fail to support the home institutions.

Practically failing in an educational campaign to induce Hillsboro people to buy bread baked at home, Nick Chrono representing the Hill County Baking Company, and Albert Farmer, representing Gebhardt's Bakery, appeared before the City Council last Tuesday night and pleaded for intervention of that body in behalf of local institutions dependent upon Hill county patronage for existence.

"It isn't only bakeries that are suffering," Mr. Farmer told the

Council, "but sales of other establishments are being materially lowered by outside competition. Fruit and produce trucks and candy trucks are entering Hillsboro from nearby cities and selling products that can be bought at home. I want to know if the City can't levy a tax that will stop peddlers coming to Hillsboro, getting the people's money and running back home with it."

"Ft. Worth bread wagons are paying \$5 a year to sell bread in Hillsboro, and I'm paying \$600 taxes a year on a building that does nothing but produce the bread," Albert Farmer Said.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Y. Gaither and baby daughter, of San Angelo, spent the past week end here.

Mrs. L. D. Gaither of San Antonio spent the past week here, visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. V. Cranford.

Mr. Farmer, read the big premium list published in the middle of the double page advertisement in this paper. Read all the advertisements in the paper. It will pay you to read them all.

Mr. and Mrs. John Holt, of Sweetwater, were guests of Col. and Mrs. J. A. Buford last Friday and Saturday.

Mrs. T. T. Davis has as her guest this week her father, Mr. J. E. Badgley, sisters, Mrs. Claude Caviness and Mrs. Ivie Taliaferro, all of Roscoe, Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Haynes have recently had quite a lot of nice improvements made on their home, which when finished will add much to the appearance and comfort of same.

Mrs. Wm. O'Brian returned first of the week from an extended trip with relatives in California.

**Gold Beating Done as
It Was Centuries Ago**

For 30 centuries gold leaf has been made in one way and the yellow metal that is used on store windows and office doors is identical with that which gilded the throne of Pharaoh.

Small crumbs of gold placed between layers of parchment, called gold-beaters' skins, were beaten interminably with mallets. As the gold spread under the blows it was cut, put between more skins and laboriously beaten again for days and weeks until one grain of the precious metal, weighing about one five-hundredth of an ounce, became an almost impalpable sheet of 40 square inches. The cost of the labor greatly outweighed the cost of the gold, says the New York Herald-Tribune.

Electro-chemistry has now entered the field and a new process recently invented promises to make gold leaf far less expensive. Upon a ribbon of thin silver a film of gold is electrically deposited from a solution of gold and potassium cyanide. The silver ribbon, with the gold on its upper side, is then laid upon a celluloid band and immersed in a bath of nitric acid. This eats away the silver, which is later recovered, and leaves the gold leaf on the celluloid band. There it is washed in alcohol and the warm air from electric fans blows the gold leaf from the celluloid and slides it between protecting leaves of paper.

**Dilemma the Result
of Higher Education**

A visitor to Farmer Hayseed's farm was greatly astonished to see the poor old fellow hobbling around on a pair of crutches. Having tendered his regrets at seeing him thus, the visitor inquired as to how the accident happened.

"Well," replied old Hayseed, "it's like this. I sent my boys to college and had one trained as a lawyer and the other as a doctor." Here he shifted his crutch.

"You should be very proud of them," answered the stranger, wondering what this information might have to do with the farmer's disabled leg.

"I don't know about that," said the aged agriculturist; "it looks as though it was a goin' to break up the family. I got run into by a motor, and one of 'em wants to cure me and the other wants me to go lame so that he can sue the car owner for damages."

Britain's Constitution

The constitution of Great Britain, many of whose principles form the foundations of about every free constitution in the world, is an accumulation of statutes, customs and decisions. The Magna Charta, granted in 1215 by King John, may be regarded as a starting point. Other salient features are the Petition of Rights and the Declaration of Rights, the Habeas Corpus act, the Act of Settlement, the franchise laws, the practices and customs respecting the responsibility of government. The sovereign would accept or decline gifts of small value or of no political significance, according to his own wish or judgment; but a gift of very considerable value would not be accepted without the advice and consent of the ministry.

Great Early Teacher

Zoroaster was one of the great teachers of the East and founder of what might be called the national religion of the Perso-Iranian people, that is, speaking generally, the Persians. When he lived and taught is not exactly known, but it is held that it was between the years 1000 B. C. and 600 B. C. He taught a dualism of power, one good and the other evil. Light represented the former and darkness the latter. As corruption grew up the sun became worshiped as the great source of light and, therefore, of all good.

Vassar's Bootjacks

On one occasion a building foreman who had annoyed Mr. Vassar with too many needless questions asked what was to be done with a certain pile of hickory boards. "Oh, that lumber is to be cut into bootjacks," replied the irritated founder. Whereupon the carpenter did saw out bootjacks by the hundreds. They were distributed throughout the dormitory and, when finally the first class came to Vassar, each girl found a bootjack in her room.—Charles A. Selden telling of the founding of Vassar, in the Ladies' Home Journal.

Latin America

France, Spain, Italy and Portugal are known as Latin countries, because they were influenced by the Roman civilization and language more than the other countries of Europe. They speak what are known as the Romance languages. Since South and Central America were settled chiefly by the Spanish and Portuguese, they are called Latin America. Rumania, the French part of Belgium and the Italian and French parts of Switzerland were also affected by ancient Rome in the same manner as the other countries named.—Exchange.

Hard to Answer

Two commuters were discussing life in general. "I've been commuting three years," said one, "and I've never yet missed the train I intended to take." The other commuter admitted this was quite a record, but as an afterthought he inquired: "What in the world do you tell your wife when you miss the train she intended for you to take?"

Intermediate B. Y. P. U.

Information, an Evil Alliance. 3rd part, Our Example, by Florence Ligon. 4th part, Jehoshaphat's sin, by Vera Richie. 5th part, the Choice of a bad friend, by Mary Ellen Ashby. 6th part, the Battle, by Orion Tittle. 7th part, What we conclude from the story, by Ima Parrack.

We urge every member to read the daily Bible readings.

Large Watermelons a specialty. Merkel Fruit and Vegetable Company. 1t

TO MOVE—A 5-room house from lot. A real bargain if sold before Saturday. Phone 69. 1t

Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford left this week for a visit with relatives in Kansas City.

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Diltz announce the birth of a girl, born August 24th.

**COZY
THEATRE**

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, Sept. 11-12

Adolph Zukor and Jesse L. Laskey Present
An Irvin Willat Production

"NORTH OF 36"

—With—

JACK HOLT, ERNEST TORRENCE
LOIS WILSON and NOAH BERRY

From the Famous Novel by Emerson Hough
Screen Play by James Hamilton

A Paramount Picture

—Also—

Universal Chapter Play
William Desmond and Eileen Sedgwick in

"THE RIDDLE RIDER"

Chapter 15—"The Final Reckoning"

WALTER HIERS in—

"SHORT CHANGE"

—An Educational Comedy

Admission—10c, 20c and 35c.



NIGHT LIFE OF NEW YORK

An ALLAN DWAN Production



with ROD LA ROCQUE
DOROTHY GISH
ERNEST TORRENCE
GEORGE HACKATHORNE

MONDAY and TUESDAY, Sept. 14 and 15

Adolph Zukor and Jesse L. Laskey Present
An Allan Dwan Production

"NIGHT LIFE OF NEW YORK"

—Also—

EDUCATIONAL COMEDY and
International News Reel

Admission—10c, 20c and 30c.

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Sept. 16-17

Carl Loemmel Presents

REGINALD DENNY

—in—

"THE RECKLESS AGE"

From the novel, "Love Insurance" by Earl Derr Biggers. Directed by Harry Pollard, Universal Jewel.

—Also—

E. W. Hammonds Presents
"FUN'S FUN"

With Bowes and Virginia Vance
An Educational Comedy

Admission—10c, 20c and 30c.



WAGONS ARE HERE

We have just received a car of John Deere Wagons. We have them in steel wheel trucks, wood wheel trucks and also the regular farm wagons. We would like to give you our prices, and show you what we have.

Our stock is complete on Wagon Sheets, Tents, Cotton Sacks, Cotton Scales and knee pads.

Also remember we have our general line of Hardware which is complete at all times.

Your Trade Appreciated

Crown Hardware Co.

STATE FAIR of TEXAS Dallas Oct. 10-25

New Auditorium "SKY HIGH" "puppets"—"Jansons" direct from Broadway
Races, Rodeo Agricultural Show Manufacturers' Display Live Stock Show Fall Automobile Show 5 Football Games



TALK WITH A MERKEL MAN

Mr. Meek tells something of interest to Merkel folks.

There's nothing more convincing than the statement of someone you know and have confidence in. That's why this talk with Mr. Meek of N. Front St., should be mighty helpful here in Merkel.

Jim Meek, prop. of blacksmith shop, N. Front st., Merkel, says: "Straining work caused kidney weakness. My Kidneys acted so often I had to get up several times at night and the secretions were painful in passage. There was a soreness and dull aching in my back, too. I used Doan's Pills from the Hamm Drug Co. and they stopped the ill feeling in my back and fixed my kidneys up fine."

60c at all dealers. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Haynes have recently had quite a lot of nice improvements made on their home, which when finished will add much to the appearance and comfort of same.

Mrs. L. L. Davis of Waco, sister of Mrs. W. J. Sheppard, was here this week guest of the latter.

FORD DEALER EXPECT NEW CARS THIS WEEK

Curiosity of a lot of people is going to be satisfied this week. Anyway, indications point in that direction.

Ever since announcement of the improved Ford cars was made just about every man, woman and child in town has been on the alert for a glimpse of the new cars.

A few of the Touring Cars reached dealers during the last week, but not near enough of them were distributed to satisfy the curiosity of the populace. In the first place, every dealer experienced some difficulty in securing cars—some were only able to get one—and in the second place, after the dealer got the car he had a hard time keeping it—someone wanted to buy it right away.

Several hundred people, however, have been able to get a peep at the new Touring cars and everyone of them is firmly convinced that they sure are attractive automobiles.

The Ford dealer in Merkel is expecting the coming week will bring them all the new body types, both open and closed. If this transpires, it is certain that the dealer's show rooms are going to be the most popular place in town, for everyone is eager to see and inspect all the new Fords.

Misses Julia Martin and Elsie Sharp left last week for Childress, where they will hold positions in the public schools of that city. These fine teachers and splendid young ladies will be under Superintendent R. A. Burgess, who for several years was the able Superintendent of the Merkel schools. They were very popular here and will be greatly missed in church and social circles.

Mr. Ellis Warren was in the city one day this week from his home at Knox City, coming over for a visit to his mother, Mrs. J. B. Warren. Mr. Warren stated that he and his wife had just returned from a trip to Missouri, where they visited relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Anderson of Sweetwater were here this week for a visit with friends and relatives.

"NORTH OF 36"

At the Cozy Theatre Friday and Saturday, Sept. 11 and 12.

What "The Covered Wagon" did for the romantic pioneer days of '49, "North of 36" does on the same sweeping scale for the rollicking, turbulent after-the-war period of the '70's. It is the time when the great republic, having weathered the storm of war, is setting sail for further adventures.

Irvin Willat, producer of "Wanderer of the Wasteland," has caught the glamour and fascination of his remarkable period of our history perfectly in "North of 36"—no less perfectly than did Emerson Hough, who wrote both the novels, "North of 36" and "The Covered Wagon." On the same wideflung plan on which "The Covered Wagon" was produced, Willat has pictured the story of "Taisie Lockhart" (Lois Wilson), girl rancher, who has inherited the greatest herd of cattle in Texas. How "Taisie," to avert poverty, drives her gigantic herd North, aided by her ranch foreman "Jim Nabours" (Ernest Torrence) and a certain handsome mysterious stranger "Dan McMasters" (Jack Holt), is harassed at every turn by the villainous "Rudabaugh" (Noah Berry) and his cohorts, by indians, stampedes, raging rivers, and all sorts of perils, and finally fights through to victory, is unfolded in a picture that will thrill Americans to the very marrow!

Mr. O. O. Oliver, a substantial citizen of the Dora community, who gets his mail at Nolan, was here first of the week trading with local merchants. He states that he expects to come to the Merkel Community Fair and that the whole Dora community might be expected to come and bring along some fine exhibits.

Mr. J. L. Hunter of Fort Worth, many years ago a citizen of Merkel, came in last week for an extended visit with his sons, Bishop Hunter, of this city, and J. H. Hunter, of the Canyon.

Mr. J. H. Grayson, former good citizen of the Shiloh community, came down first of the week from his present home in Parmer county. He reports the finest crops he ever raised.

Firestone

Tire Prices Are LOW—CRUDE RUBBER HIGHEST IN YEARS

Buy Now and Save Money!

The unprecedented demand for Firestone quality and mileage has more than doubled the sales of Gum-Dipped Cords to car owners so far this year, enabling us—because of this tremendous volume—to keep prices low.

Experienced car owners insist on tires that deliver the greatest mileage at the lowest cost per mile, because such tires last longer—make the restricted rubber supply go further—reduce crude rubber costs—and help maintain the present low tire prices.

Gum-Dipping, the



MOST MILES PER DOLLAR

West Company

AMERICANS SHOULD PRODUCE THEIR OWN RUBBER... *Abilene*

Firestone extra process, is also one of the biggest and most important economy factors in tire performance. This method of treating cord fabric, developed by Firestone tire chemists and engineers, insulates every fiber of every cord with rubber, and gives the sidewalls the extra strength to withstand the extra flexing strain—insuring maximum safety, comfort and economy.

Buy now—make sure of economical transportation by obtaining these outstanding Firestone superiorities at present low prices.

Mr. Jack Anderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson, returned first of the week from two months tour of four of the central states, including Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, and South Dakota, where he had been as a member of the Lone Star Band, traveling with a Chautauqua Company. Young Anderson attended North Texas A. & M. College at Arlington last year, being a member of the Military band there, and was selected from same to make this tour of the great central states. He made good in that splendid school last year and will return there last of the week to re-enter for the next term.

Our good friend B. M. Williams, residing on his splendid farm near this city, was strutting around town one day this week, laughing and talking loud, and upon inquiry about why all the fuss, knowing him to be a sober man, the editor was informed that it was only because he was happy over the arrival at his home a day or so before of a 10 pound boy. We extend congratulations.

BACK HURT BAD

Lady Had Severe Pains in Back and Got Very Weak.

"I think very highly of Cardui for I have had great benefit from its use," says Mrs. Cora Nicholson, of Ware Shoals, S. C.

"I was in bed quite a while. It looked like my strength would not come back, and I suffered with severe pains in my back whenever I would try to get up. Sometimes I would scream out, my back hurt me so bad.

"My husband got me some Cardui and I took two bottles. Very shortly after I began to take it I could notice I felt better. I began to get stronger. My appetite was improving and I could see that I was much better.

"After I had finished the second bottle I was able to be up and do all my own housework, so of course I think Cardui is fine. It is the best tonic for women that I know anything about, and I am glad to recommend it. Not long ago I told a lady friend of mine about it, and it did her as much good as it has done for me."

At all drug stores. C-32

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

MANY SICK PEOPLE HAVE PELLAGRA & DON'T KNOW IT

Dr. W. C. Rountree, M. D., Texarkana, Texas.

Dear Doctor: I had Pellagra six years. I was very nervous, had stomach trouble, lost weight hands blistered and peeled off, very despondent and thought I would lose my mind. I took over 700 hypodermics and got worse all the time. I heard of Dr. Rountree's Pellagra Treatment, took three treatments and am now sound and well. The last treatment was taken 18 months ago and I have had no recurring symptoms.

Mrs. W. W. Powell, Route 7, Sulphur Springs, Tex. Dr. W. C. Rountree, Texarkana, Texas.

Dear Doctor: I had been having stomach trouble and losing in weight; my skin had turned brown. I had a general weakness all over my body, felt tired all the time and could not sleep well at night. I had changed my diet often, trying to get rest, as I was very nervous. One of my neighbors had Pellagra and told me possibly I had it. I did not believe at that time that I did have Pellagra, but I tried one of your treatments and got immediate relief. My nervousness was at once relieved; my stomach cured and I am now a well man. I only took two ten dollar treatments which cured me.

W. W. Fletcher, Carrolton, Tex. If you are suffering from any of the symptoms mentioned in the above testimonials write for booklet The Story of Pellagra, and FREE Diagnosis.

W. C. Rountree, M.D., Texarkana, Texas. tpd

Subscribe for the Merkel Mail

GOVERNMENT COMPETING WITH PRINTERS

A gentleman handed us a letterhead the other day and asked if we could reproduce it and we said certainly. He said for how much for one thousand and we said so much and he said that is less than the Abilene Printing Co. offered to do it for and we got the job and are grateful. The Chronicle is the only concern in Jayton that we know of that is asked to compete in prices with Abilene, Fort Worth, New York and London and Timbuctoo. We wonder why?—Jayton Chronicle.

You didn't tell half. You might have told that the local paper is the only institution in town that has the Government for a competitor. The Government sells the stamp and practically gives the customer the envelope with the printing thrown in. So could the local printer do the same thing if allowed to charge two cents for a home-made stamp. Now, the thing for the government to do is to put in a grocery store, a dry goods store, hardware store—every other kind of store in every town or else go out of the printing business in competition with the country printers. If the business men and professional men of the country would quit buying Government envelopes, the Government would soon quit manufacturing and printing them for the trade. If you are buying Government printed envelopes you are helping the Government to put the local printer out of business.—Snyder Signal.

TO MOVE—A 5-room house from lot. A real bargain if sold before Saturday. Phone 69. It

Attend College Near Your Home

RANDOLPH COLLEGE

CISCO, TEXAS

A Coeducational Junior College

AIM—Character and Culture.

Faculty carefully selected. Class work unexcelled. Session opens September 15th. Expenses reasonable. For catalogue write, Randolph College, Cisco, Texas.

Grissom's Department Store

Abilene, Texas

Takes pleasure in announcing a Parade of Fashion

To be held on the nights of September the 15th. and 16th, at the new

Majestic Theatre

And cordially invite you to attend.

Show begins promptly at 7:30;

Parade of Mannequins at 7:45

The Fashion Show

Will be in addition to the regular theatre program; however, no additional charge will be made.

Orchestra and Pipe Organ Music

Admission

Children -10c..... Balcony -25c..... Downstairs -35c

Cigars

Soda

We welcome you
to the
Merkel Community Fair

Make our store your headquarters,
while in town.

Grimes-Smith Drug Co.

Prescription Druggist
"The Home of Service"

School Supplies

Pangburn's Cream

MULBERRY ITEMS

Cotton picking will soon be the order of the day. Some few are picking now and others are harvesting the feed.

Miss Ethel Bird returned home Friday from New York, where she has been visiting relatives for several months. She reported having had a pleasant trip and visit.

Misses Pearl and Gladys Burns entertained the young people with a party Saturday night.

Mrs. Delia Holburn, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. M. G. Guin, returned to her home at Fort Worth.

Miss Thelma Smart of Lubbock is visiting her sister, Mrs. Gene Reagan.

Miss Hazel Arnwine was the guest of Miss Ethel Lee Waldon

Sunday.
Miss Sallie Childress has been in the Alexander Sanitarium for several days with typhoid fever. She seems to be improving slowly now.

Mr. L. M. Walsh is on the Plains on business this week.

Mrs. Fletcher Jones called on Mrs. Walsh and also Mrs. Thomas Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Gene Reagan and Misses Lois Reagan and Thelma Smart visited Miss Hazel Thomas Tuesday afternoon.

W. O. Boney can make you a loan from 5 years to 33 years at 6% interest.

MERKEL GARAGE
More People Ride on
GOODYEAR TIRES
More Miles Less Trouble
MERKEL GARAGE

WARREN NOTES

By Miss Vera Jones

The farmers are all picking cotton and are not wishing for rain at present.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones of McCauley visited Mrs. V. T. Jones Saturday night.

Miss Willie Newman spent Saturday night with Miss Rose Ellington.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. McCormick visited Mr. and Mrs. Shouse of Merkel Sunday evening.

Misses Helen McCormick and Vera Jones spent Saturday night with Miss Stella Kelseo.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jones visited in Abilene Sunday eve.

All who attended the party at Stith Saturday night reported a nice time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Harris spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jaynes.

Mr. and Mrs. Medford Jones spent last week end with his parents Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Clay Cowger of Louisiana is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Jones.

Messrs. Wilmer and Wilber Criswell visited Mr. Boyd Dobbs Sunday.

SALT BRANCH ITEMS

By Miss Wynona Patton

Sunday School was attended by a large crowd and several visitors Sunday. The singing in the afternoon was a success.

The B.Y.P.U. social met with Mrs. Walker Friday night which was a great success.

Mrs. S. O. Patton, who has been very, very ill, is improving. She had a light touch of mastoiditis which the doctors think she will not have to undergo an operation.

Miss Annie Reeves left Monday for Abilene where she will attend Draughon's Business College.

Those who were at the bedside of Mrs. Patton through the week were Mrs. Joe Jaynes, Mr.

The Merkel Community Fair Is Your Fair

Come visit Merkel during the fair. You will be welcome everywhere. And at no place will you find a more cordial greeting than we extend to you. Make our store your headquarters while here, and take a look at our complete stock of furniture and oil stoves. We will be glad to fill your wants for anything in the house-furnishing line, and are sure we can please you in both quality and price.

J. T. Darsey & Co.

Furniture and Oil Stoves

phone 196

Merkel, Texas.

and Mrs. W. E. Petty, Mrs. Walker and Mrs. W. A. Thornton of Merkel, who has just returned from Fort Worth.

SHILOH HAPPENINGS

By Mrs. C. W. Seago

Farmers are all busy, some heading maize, and others gathering the white fleecy staple.

A good many from here attended the Jones County Association at Noodle last week.

Mr. Deavers and Mr. H. R. Grayson, Sr., spent a few days in El Paso visiting Mr. Deavers' son.

Mr. and Mrs. Hardie Rutledge and children visited Mr. and Mrs. Bert James Sunday.

Annazell Seago returned home last Saturday from a visit with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson, at Friona. Mr. George Grayson, having returned with her, reports everything prosperous in their section.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grayson of Lockney visited relatives here Saturday night.

Miss Mollie Hardie spent Sunday with Miss Lottie and Grace Washburn.

Mrs. B. L. James and son, Robert, and Mrs. Alice Lewis of Silvervalley spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Bill James.

Mr. J. H. Grayson of Friona, Mr. and Mrs. Lovel Rutledge Miss Bessie James, the writer and family spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Grayson.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Winter, visited Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Howell on Sunday.

Rev. G. C. Tiner and wife spent Tuesday night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tiner.

Mrs. L. C. Cade is on the sick list this week.

Those visiting Ye Scribe and family Saturday night were: Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Bert James, Mr. and Mrs. Maude Watson, Mr. N. J. Maynard, Mr. J. H. Grayson, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grayson, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Grayson, and Miss Mollie Hardie. All enjoyed a social talk of old times and afterward ice cream.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Cade of Noodle visited Mrs. L. C. Cade Sunday.

Mr. J. D. Womack's son from

Texarkana is visiting them this week.

There will be no singing Sunday evening on account of the baptizing at Mr. Wheatley's tank about 4 o'clock. There are eleven candidates for baptism.

Sunday School Sunday morning at 10:30. Everybody invited. Prayermeeting at 8 p.m.

Mr. Tabor is visiting friends and relatives here this week.

There will be preaching at Shiloh the first Sunday in October.

MERKEL MAIL APPRECIATES CORRESPONDENTS

This paper appreciates very much the large number of fine correspondents representing the various communities surrounding Merkel. In their interesting weekly news letters they tell the news of their respective communities, all of which makes the paper more interesting to all our readers. And we would also call attention to the fact that these letters are coming from communities ranging from with 3 miles to 30 miles. Mr. Merchant this is another proof that this paper's circulation covers well the Merkel Trade Territory, and is by far the best advertising medium for you.

The Editor accepted an invitation from Dr. M. Armstrong one morning this week for a drive out to the doctor's fine 430 acre farm a few miles east of town in the Salt Branch community, and to our surprise we were shown some of as fine cotton and feed as one could possibly expect to find anywhere this year—yes, much better. While there is some very sorry feed and cotton on this fine farm of Dr. Armstrong's, there certainly is some good stuff, too. We also noticed that the farm was perfectly clean of weeds, grass, etc., and showed that same was in the hands of good farmers. The Doctor is a busy man in the practice of his profession, but he takes much pleasure in looking after his various farms of this community. In our office we have some of the fine maize heads from his field, and they are beauties, too.

Large Watermelons a specialty. Merkel Fruit and Vegetable Company.

Mr. Jake Massey of Munday visited home folks the past week.

LOOK!
A Good Place to Eat
And Drink
GEORGE'S CANDY KITCHEN
The Home of Fine Hand-Made Candies
Hamburgers—Sandwiches
Cold Drinks and Cigars
The Store That Sells The Big Bottles of Soda Water
For 5 Cents
Look For the Bungalow Sign
On North Front Street

Try our Repair Service for Satisfaction.
PRESLEY'S
Jewelry & Gift Shop
Expert Repairing
209 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

STOP THAT ITCHING
If you suffer from any form of skin diseases such as Itch, Eczema, Tetter or Cracked Hands, Poison Oak, Ring Worm, Old Sores or Sores on Children. We will sell you a Jar of **BLUE STAR REMEDY** on a guarantee. It will not stain your clothing and has a pleasant odor.
For sale by **MERKEL DRUG CO**

MEMBER TEXAS QUALIFIED DRUGGISTS LEAGUE
Legally Registered Pharmacist

Merkel Drug COMPANY
S. D. Gamble, Mgr.

* CASH for Dental Gold, Platinum, Silver, Diamonds, magneto points, false teeth, jewelry, and valuables. Mail today. Cash by return mail.
* Hoke S.&R. Co., Otsego, Mich.

No Time and Energy Wasted in Useless Labor With Electricity

HAVE you ever thought seriously of the freedom from hot-kitchen drudgery, the saving in time, and the economies in food and fuel which the Hotpoint Electric Range with its automatic operation and its perfect scientific cookery will bring to you?

You are spared endless scouring and polishing of pots and pans. Electric Timer and Heat Control afford a dependable automatic operation that enables you to cook perfect meals without carefully watching the process. You don't even need to remain in the house if you don't want to.

The air-tight insulated oven—possible only with electric heat—prevents evaporation with its consequent shrinkage of foods and loss of flavor and food value.

FAMOUS 6-INCH SPEED UNITS
THE six-inch, 1000 watt, Hotpoint "Speed Units" fit four out of every five utensils in the average home, giving speed and economy.
Hotpoint
ELECTRIC RANGES

Heat is stored up for cooking after the current is turned off. None escapes. The kitchen stays cool and pleasant. There is no danger from fumes, matches or overheating.

If you will come in we will gladly demonstrate these advantages to you and show you a style of range particularly adapted to your needs.

WEST TEXAS UTILITIES CO.

PROFESSIONAL

E. S. CUMMINGS
Attorney At Law
Offices 307, 308, 309
Citizens National Bank Building
Abilene, Texas

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.

W. O. Boney represents the
San Antonio Joint Stock and
Land Bank. See him for 6%
money.

Len Sublett

Water well Driller,
all work guaranteed
first-class.

Merkel, Texas

POULTRY INSECTS can be
killed and kept away by painting hen houses
with MARTIN'S ROOST PAINT and feeding
MARTIN'S POULTRY TONE to your
chickens. Guaranteed by
Hamm Drug Company

MERKEL GARAGE
More People Ride on
GOODYEAR TIRES
More Miles Less Trouble
MERKEL GARAGE

NOTICE

If you want a well drilled,
windmill or pump repaired,
or anything in the well or
pipe line. See—

TOM COATS
Or Phone No. 2.

BILIOUS SPELLS

Kentucky Man Finds Relief
from Dizzy Attacks.

"I suffered with severe bilious
attacks that came on two or three
times each month," says Mr. J. P.
Nevis, of Lawrenceburg, Ky.
"I would have dizziness and
couldn't work.

"I would take pills until I was
worn-out with them. I didn't seem
to get relief. After taking the pills
my bowels would act a couple of
times, then I would be very
constipated.

"A neighbor told me of Black-
Draught and I began its use. I
never have found so much relief as
it gave me. I would not be with-
out it for anything.

"It seemed to cleanse my whole
system and made me feel like new.
I would take a few doses—get rid
of the bile and have my usual clear
head, feel full of pep and could do
twice the work."

Made from pure, medicinal roots
and herbs, Black-Draught is nature's
own remedy for such symptoms
as the above, when due to a
torpid liver.

Sold everywhere; 25c. C-32a

Black-Draught
LIVER MEDICINE

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Grayson Tourist
Camp, Store, Filling Station and
farm of 90 acres. Located one
mile west of Merkel on Bank-
head Highway. Will give some
terms. For particulars see Sam
L. Grayson, owner. 4t4p

FOR SALE—By owner, 160
acres land 4 1/2 miles of town on
state highway, \$32.50 per acre,
terms. G. D. Anderson, Friona,
Texas. 28t4

FOR SALE—Entire crop, teams
and farming tools. See S. O. Pat-
ton, 2 1/2 miles northeast of Mer-
kel on route four. 4t2p

TO MOVE—A 5-room house
from lot. A real bargain if sold
before Saturday. Phone 69. 1t

FOR SALE—A nice four-year
old Shetland pony. See P. A.
Diltz. 1tp

FOR SALE—My Merkel home
for \$500 less than cost, terms to
suit. Will trade for small farm
clear of encumbrance. H. D.
Simpson. 1tp

FOR SALE—Buggy and harness
cheap. Mrs. J. R. Barnett. 11t3

FOR TRADE—10 head of good
work stock and tools to trade in
on a farm worth the money or
will sell cheap for cash and rent
a good 300 acre farm for next
year. See E. D. Coats. 1t

FOR TRADE—Dodge car on
good team and wagon. See me
at once. T.W. Collins, Merkel. 1tp

FOR SALE—Stationery for in-
dividuals, 200 sheets of paper
and 100 envelopes to match with
your name and address printed
in blue ink, or monogram, on
both paper and envelopes for
\$2.00. Colors: white, pearl gray,
royal blue, pink and yellow. It
has individuality when it's printed.
See samples at THE MER-
KEL MAIL OFFICE. 1t

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Two unfurnished
rooms. First house north Chris-
tian church. See Dan Reiden-
bach. 1t

FOR RENT—Farm of 100 acres
in cultivation, 6 miles northwest
of Abilene, half mile south new
Hope school. Rent feed and one
team and plow tools for sale.
See or write J. F. Davis, Merkel,
route 2. 1tp

FOR RENT—Two-room fur-
nished apartment, close in with
water and bath. Would rent
sleeping room. Inquire at City
Furniture Co. 1t

FOR RENT—My residence, in
part or the entire building of 9
rooms. See W. L. Diltz, Sr. 1f

WANTED

WANTED—Sweet milk custo-
mers. We deliver; price 50c per
gallon. Mrs. R. L. Proctor. 1f

WANTED—Plain sewing, in-
cluding dressmaking. Mrs. J.
Willie Moore. Phone 199. 1t

LOST AND FOUND

STRAYED—Registered Poland
China Male Pig from my place.
Pig is about eight weeks old.
Will pay reward for return of
same to Jim Mayfield. 1t

NOTICE

Edna Marie Jones, teacher of
piano, will open a studio in Mer-
kel Monday, September 7. Studio
will be located convenient to
school buildings. Especially in-
terested in beginners as well as
advanced pupils. Call 171 for
appointment and enrollment. 1t

Large Watermelons a special-
ty. Merkel Fruit and Vegetable
Company. 1t

**"ONLY CHILD" IS
UNDER HANDICAP**

**Fated Not to Succeed Well
in Life.**

In a discussion of the "Influence of
Early Environment on Personality,"
before the members of the New York
Academy of Sciences, section of an-
thropology and psychology, Prof. Wil-
liam Ogburn of Columbia university
presented the results of his research
into one specific phase of the general
subject, but added that some additional
data were not quite ready for presen-
tation.

Taking for granted that a repeated
stimulus in the life of the child inter-
ests the personality of the child, Pro-
fessor Ogburn expected to find some
objective evidence of this factor in a
study of family life. He therefore de-
cided to study "the intelligence quoti-
ents" to see if they varied with the
position of the child in its particular
family; that is, to see in what manner
the oldest child, the youngest child
and "the only child" would be affected
by the investigation.

He said that in this way he could
study the emotional stability of the
child, its achievement in school, and
the teacher's estimate of the child's
personality. His first consideration,
he said, was to define the position of
the child in its family, and in this
procedure he used fifty different cate-
gories, which included differentiations
according to age, taking a period of
five years as the dividing line, and
also considering differentiations ac-
cording to sex. But the data in the
matter of the sexes had not been com-
pleted, he added.

Selecting "Who's Who" as a cri-
terion of success, Professor Ogburn
said that by analyzing the data given
here in reference to the position of
the child in the family, he might com-
pare his results with the statement of
Doctor Brill and other psychoanalysts
who claim that "the only child" does
not succeed very well in life, that it
tends rather to fail in the struggle
for existence.

Three thousand names were select-
ed at random, the professor stated,
covering three separate lines of en-
deavor, namely, 1,000 artists, includ-
ing painters, actors, musicians, au-
thors; 1,000 scientists of all grades,
and 1,000 of a more general classifica-
tion, including statesmen, business
men, journalists and others of "good
mixing qualities." In these question-
naires, he said, the position of the in-
dividual in his family was requested,
and there was no classification for
females, since there were only a few
listed. From the 1,700 replies re-
ceived he endeavored to see whether
a certain type of child appeared in
the lists of "Who's Who," with the fol-
lowing results:

Of these families of "Who's Who"
were found 577 individuals who were
the oldest males in the family, each
of whom had a brother less than five
years younger, and all of them living;
342 of them were in "Who's Who,"
making a proportion of 59 out of 100.
There were 388 of these who were the
youngest children with a brother five
years older; 155 of them were found
in the lists of "Who's Who," repre-
senting 39 out of 100. Regarding the
intermediate children, that is, be-
tween the oldest and youngest, 729
were discovered and only 237 of them
in "Who's Who." These results, Pro-
fessor Ogburn concluded, seemed to
favor the intelligence of the oldest
child, with the youngest next and the
intermediate child in last position.
He found these data the most signifi-
cant of the many categories.

Sting in It

Edward S. Harkness of New York,
congratulated on his recent gift of
\$1,000,000 to Yale, laughed and said:
"Philanthropists never like to hear
any allusions to their philanthropy.
These allusions are always well meant
but they are somehow apt to resemble
the butler's speech more or less.

"A Lady Bountiful, famous for her
charities, once declared to her butler
that if the townspeople persisted in
their design of building a garage right
opposite her bedroom windows she
would leave the town.

"That's what I told 'em, ma'am,"
said the butler excitedly. "I told 'em
that at the town meetin'. And I asked
'em, ma'am, if they wanted to lose
the goose what laid the golden eggs."

Cannibals Still Exist

Until the recent murder of the
Canadian explorer, Charles Penrose,
in New Guinea, by cannibals, the fact
that man-eating humans still existed
was not generally realized. This
tragedy revealed authentic modern
records of the cannibalistic tribes in
the outreaches of civilization. In New
Guinea they live in the extreme in-
terior where the country is thickly
forested and the tribes are difficult
to locate. No traveler has dared to
go too far into this interior although
neighboring tribes have given out in-
formation on their less sociable neigh-
bors.

Mimic's Fun Ended

For some time at Pasadena, Cal.,
V. K. Fisher enjoyed his ability to
imitate a police siren to perfection
with his voice. He fooled the traffic
policemen as he drove his car down
the street at a terrific rate, emitting
siren-like screeches. At each corner,
the policeman would wave traffic to
a stop and would give the youth the
right of way. Fisher met his Water-
loo when a motorcycle officer heard
the siren and followed to see what was
happening.

HEBRON GOSSIP
By Mayflower

The farmers have begun to
gather their cotton.

There was services at the
church Saturday night and Sun-
day. Also B.Y.P.U. Sunday even-
ing.

Several from this community
attended the Baptist association
at Noodle this week. They re-
ported a nice time and fine ser-
vices.

Mr. and Mrs. Whatley enter-
tained the young people with a
party Tuesday night.

Miss Evelyn Pannell spent the
day with Miss Sallie Davis Sun-
day.

Misses Winnie Bayless and
Blanche Carey were the guests
of Miss Alma Davis Sunday.

There was a party at Miss
Winnie Bayless' home Friday
night, which was very much en-
joyed by all present.

Mr. and Mrs. Pannell were in
Abilene last week on business.

Mr. James Harris was the
guest of Mr. Robert Davis Sun-
day.

Bro. O. B. Tatum, our pastor,
took dinner with Mr. and Mrs.
Davis Sunday.

Mr. James Harris was in Ab-
ilene one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Dunn,
Jr., have moved to Merkel.

Revival at Compere

The revival meeting at Com-
pere will continue through un-
til Sunday night. The Lord is
blessing wonderfully. Some of
the most respected citizens of
the community are finding God
in the old fashioned way.

Rev. R. E. Gibbs of Merkel
and Evangelist Lee Hameric
are doing the preaching. Come
and be with us for the next few
days.

Mr. Lon L. Lee and family of
El Paso, were guests of Mrs.
Pearl Hollingsworth last week.

Guaranteed Coal

For Delivery on September Orders

Dawson Fancy Egg, per ton.....\$13.00
(Satisfies Most People)
Colorado Fancy Lamp, per ton.....\$13.00
McAlester Lump, per ton.....\$14.50
(If you like McAlester you will like this)

SWAFFORD'S

Phone 44

COMPERE ITEMS
By Miss Alma Stout

A few of the farmers have
started picking cotton in this
section.

The meeting will continue for
several days yet. Rev. Hameric
from the Nazarine church of
Merkel is conducting the meet-
ing, but is being assisted by
several other preachers. Come
and hear him. He has the credit
of over 22,000 conversions dur-
ing his 24 years in the ministry.

Mr. Edd Spurgin left last
week for a several days visit at
Seagraves.

Miss Juanita Winters of Abi-
lene spent Wednesday night
with her aunt, Mrs. Allred.

Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Howard
and children and Mr. Howard
Tarvin and family spent Sunday
with Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin.

Mr. Allred and family were in
Abilene Saturday.

Rev. Gibbs and wife and Rev.
Hameric took dinner with Mrs.
Ola Spurgin Sunday.

Mr. Urbon Childress from Abi-
lene spent the week end with
home folks here.

Mr. and Mrs. Tarvni have as
their guest this week their
daughter and baby from Mc-
Kinney, Texas.

Those visiting at Mrs. Stout's
for a while Sunday were Mrs.
Cannon, Minnie Ethel and Carl
Cannon, Ollie Hobbs and Charlie
Allred.

Mrs. Childress from Hamlin
and Ina Mae Childress spent
Sunday at Mrs. Allred's.

Mr. Arthur Cranston left a
few days ago for El Paso where
he will remain for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Ramsey and
baby are visiting Mrs. Ramsey's
parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S.
Childress.

Miss Evie Farmer spent
Thursday night with Miss Vir-
gie Marshall.

Rev. Parrack held his regular
services at the Baptist church
Sunday afternoon. There was a
large crowd out to hear him.

Rev. Hameric spent Monday
night with Mr. Allred and fam-
ily.

Miss Amanda Curtis received
a telegram Tuesday from Mrs.
J. D. Boring stating that her
grandson, Mr. Earl Martin, had
died. Mrs. Boring was visiting
in Merkel when she received
news of the serious illness of her
grandson, and immediately re-
turned to her home at McKin-
ney, where the young man died.
Mr. Earl Martin was the son of
Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Martin, and
succumbed to meningitis.

Jones Dry Goods

**Snowed under with new goods---
can't find time to write an ad---**

**We extend to one and all a most
cordial welcome to visit us during
the fair. We have for your inspect-
ion a big stock of brand new up-to-
date dry goods-clothing for Men and
Boys', Ladies coats, dresses, and
millinery.**

**Come and make our store your
headquarters**

Jones Dry Goods

"The Store Ahead"

ANNOUNCES----

The arrival of large and complete shipments of both.

Fall and Winter

Merchandise

DIRECT FROM NEW YORK CITY

Featuring the Latest Creations in Ladies'

Ready-to-Wear

Charming frocks, exquisit gowns and beautiful color designs.

Smart Millinery

Showing new shapes direct from Fashions Great Center---Alluring Designs that will Appeal to Every Woman.

You Will Like the Pretty New Styles We Are Showing

Make our store your headquarters during the Community Fair. Come--It's Your Fair.

Max Mellinger

"The Store with Quality and Service"

Bank Closing Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Farmers & Merchants National and the Farmers State Banks, of Merkel, will, after this date, open their doors for business each day at 8:00 a.m. and close at 5:00 p.m. It

Mrs. Haurey H. Huffman, of Dallas, came last week to attend the bedside of her father, Mr. G. J. Jones, who died Sunday evening.

Robert Compton left last week for Blythe, California, where he will make his home in the future.

Mr. and Mrs. Twyman Collins and Miss Christene Collins returned last week from an extended visit to points in East Texas, Corpus Christi and other South Texas points also. On their return they were accompanied by Mrs. Homer Easterwood and baby, who will spend some time here visiting friends and relatives. Mr. Easterwood was at one time Editor of the Mail and for several years was Cashier of the First State Bank of Trent. He is Cashier of the Taft State Bank, Taft, Texas.

Miss Eunice Russell returned last week from a visit to friends in Plainview.

CLASS OF 1921 HOLDS 4TH ANNUAL REUNION

The class of 1921 of the Merkel High School held its fourth annual reunion last Friday evening when its eleven members enjoyed a picnic at Shannon's pool northeast of town.

A picnic lunch was spread on the green after a series of games were played. Members of the class present were: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Largent, Mrs. Iva Landreth Bacus, Mrs. Myrtle Scott Doan, Misses Mae Beidleman, Lucille Russell, Evelyn Hamm, and Loyce Dry, and Bill Stevens, Sewell Harvell and Wade Darsey. Guests were Byers Petty, Roy Doan, and Sam Nunnally of Abilene.

A business meeting was called by the president of the class, Bill Stevens, following the spread, to discuss plans for the next reunion which will be held on September 4, on which date all previous reunions have been held.

Miss Mona Margaret Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Jones, will attend McMurray College, Abilene, the coming school term, which begins next week.

M. J. Shaw, Sr., and family of route four returned this week from a visit to points on the plains and in New Mexico. They report a most pleasant trip and visit.

Miss Jess Sutphen left this week for Wichita Falls, where she will be a member of the faculty of the public schools of that city. Miss Sutphen is the daughter of Mrs. J. P. Stephen of this city, and is a school teacher of experience and splendid ability.

Mrs. J. E. Davis and sons, N. J. and J. Q., of Nevada, Texas, were here this week to attend the funeral of Mr. G. J. Jones, they being mother and brothers of Mrs. G. J. Jones.

DESPOTIC ACTION CHANGED HISTORY

When King Forbade Cromwell to Leave England.

A fascinating speculation concerning both American and British history is aroused by memories associated with May day. For it was on that date, 287 years ago, that Charles I of England forcibly prevented a certain trio of English Puritans from following those of their fellows who had already migrated to North America. The significance of the incident is seen in the identity of the three men. They were Arthur Haslerig, John Hampden and Oliver Cromwell.

The Stuart mind was a law unto itself, and we cannot venture to interpret the inner motives which caused that misguided king to insist upon keeping those troublemakers of his realm at home, instead of letting them go to the colonies, perhaps to forget their grievances in the strenuous work of building up new communities, or perhaps to get scalped by the Indians. Possibly he thought it safer to have them where he could keep his eye upon them. He could scarcely have feared that they would foment rebellion among the mere handful of colonists when settled on these shores. Anyway, he did it; and tremendous were the consequences, an editorial in the Washington Post comments.

For it requires no stretch of the imagination to suppose that with those men out of England, there would have been no civil war; or, at any rate, none so serious as to upset the throne. We cannot envision Nasby and Marston Moor without the general of the Ironsides. It is certain that the Puritan protest against royal absolutism would have been made, and it might have been effective, but it would have been made through less strenuous and inexorable means. There would probably have been no scaffold in Whitehall, and no protectorate, and the Stuart dynasty might have been maintained even down to our own time.

No less interesting is speculation upon the effect upon America of the coming hither of those great Puritan leaders. Cromwell would almost certainly have become a dominant figure in the politics of New England. And a continuance of undisturbed Stuart sovereignty would have meant a different policy toward the colonies than the varying policies pursued by the Commonwealth, the Restoration, and the reign of William and Anne. Whatever had happened we may feel sure that we should not now be commemorating the sesqui-centenary of the beginning of our Revolution. The break might have come earlier, or later, or not at all; but it certainly would not have come just when it did and for the same causes and in the same manner.

On the whole, despite the tragedies which it entailed, that act of Charles I, in keeping Cromwell and his companions in England was probably for the best for both England and America—we might say for all concerned, save for Charles himself. To him, it was the bitterest irony of fate.

Remarkable Experience

Experience with lightning is described by a Rand (South African) pioneer in a letter to a Johannesburg paper. He says, "Some years ago I was riding a bicycle in the country and was caught in a thunderstorm; in making a Kaffir hut for shelter I was struck by lightning. The flash caught me in the back of the neck, and made a hole there; it then ran all over my body, took one shoe clean off, and burned my clothes to ribbons. The flesh was peeled off my body, and I was unconscious for a long time. The doctor said I could not live through the night, as my injuries were so severe. The drums of my ears are broken, so I am still very deaf, but after careful nursing and six months in bed I got better, and grew a new skin, which I find quite as comfortable as the old one."

Glacier May Yield Dead

Reports from Geneva, Switzerland, are that alpinists are watching the glacier Des Bossons closely this year in the expectation of finding the remains of six men who perished there in September, 1870. One was an American, H. Randall of Chicago, and it is regarded as possible that his body may be among the others which it is hoped will be given up by the "river of ice." Statistics show that the glaciers usually give up their dead within from ten to thirty years, but one case is recorded of a glacier's retaining bodies more than forty years. The hopes of recovering the bodies of the party that met death fifty-five years ago are based upon the recent discovery of an ax belonging to a local guide who met death at that time.

Popular Ailment

A ten-year-old boy developed a rash and was sent to the doctor. The doctor said the malady was not serious or infectious and placed no restrictions on diet or exercise, but advised staying out of school, thinking, apparently, that the boy's appearance might occasion false alarm among teachers and pupils.

Much of the "enforced" vacation was spent on a new bicycle. While on an errand to the grocery one afternoon the "victim" met a schoolmate who inquired as to his absence from school. On hearing the facts, he began to look envious and ejaculated: "See, how'd you get it? I wish I had it too."



We are offering a genuine, high-quality six-volt Prest-O-Lite Storage Battery in wood or rubber case for

\$15.50

Don't Take a Chance on an Unknown Battery

Quality, dependability and long full-bodied service from your battery is yours if you buy Prest-O-Lite Batteries.

We are ready to show you how you save 25% when you buy a Prest-O-Lite. Pull up at the sign of "Friendly Service."

Columbia Storage Battery

6-VOLT FULL CAPACITY \$11.95

WEST COMPANY

Everything for the Automobile

CARD OF THANKS

I take this method of extending my thanks and appreciation to the business men, ginners and all others taking part in same, for the first bale premium. P. L. Frederickson. 1tp

Ed J. Leeman, Editor of the Duncan Democrat, was here last week, guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sheppard. Mr. Leeman came down to Abilene to attend the Herring funeral last week and came to Merkel to visit old friends and relatives. He was at one time Editor and owner of the Merkel Mail, and under his management and editorship the paper thrived and was a power for the upbuilding of the community.

Mr. L. C. Patton, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Allen Patton first of the week to Vernon, where they attended the funeral of the latter's father, Mr. T. L. Stewart, an aged and highly respected citizen of that place, whose death occurred Monday. On their return they were accompanied by Mrs. Patton's mother.

Eld. W. G. Cybert returned first of the week from El Dorado, Texas, where he has just closed a two weeks revival. He reports a very fine meeting with a number of additions to the church.

Mr. Dick Gillespie of Alpine, and Misses Crystal and Maurine Hearn of Roscoe, visited friends in Merkel last week.

The West Texas Fair

ABILENE, TEXAS
SEPT. 21-26 1925

NINTH ANNUAL EXPOSITION

Bigger'n Ever

Intensely Interesting
Varied Exhibits

Best of the Boundless West

In Livestock, agriculture, manufacturers exhibits, poultry show supreme, kennel show, automobile show.

\$20,000.00 in Prizes.

Amusement Program Second to None.

AUTOMOBILE RACES

Among the World's Fastest Drivers:
Ralph De Palma, Frank Lockhart, Red Shafer and Others.

Good Public Utilities Make A Good Town

Everybody in every good Texas town has an answer to the question; what makes a good town?

Naturally, the answers are not all alike. Good citizens working together for their mutual interests and the common welfare are community builders. But there are basic factors of modern community life that must exist to make a good town.

For instance, without adequate telephone service according to size and conditions, no town can be a good town.

As a community's public utility service is good or bad so is that community a good place or a poor place to live in.



SOUTHWESTERN BELL
TELEPHONE COMPANY

Big Reduction In Tires

We are going to have a booth at the Community Fair, we want you to attend the Fair, see the exhibits, and enjoy the attractions, And we want you to come around and visit our booth. Yes, we are going to make it profitable for you to do so.

During both days of the Fair we will make a reduction in all casings in stock of

\$4.00 Per Set

You can look these casings over in our display at our booth, or at the Garage, on Front Street.

EVERYBODY'S GARAGE

Miss Lucille Russell came up from Abilene to spend the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell.

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Williams are the proud parents of a 10-pound boy.

Mr. Arthur Sears and family of Abilene visited relatives here Sunday.

Mr. A. H. Thornton spent several days this week in Abilene, serving as a member of the grand jury.

A "BIG TOWN" STORY OF JAZZ AND ROMANCE

"Night life of New York," the new Allan Dawn-Paramount production, which comes to the Cozy Theatre on next Monday to remain for two days, is based on an original story of metropolitan jazz and romance by Edgar Selwyn, the noted playwright and producer of stage plays. Rod La Rocque, Dorothy Gish, Ernest Torrence and George Hackathorne have featured roles in the cast.

When John Bentley failed both in making money in New York and in winning Sally, the girl of his heart, he went west, made a fortune, and married somebody else. He retains a grudge against New York, however, and has always forbidden his son Ronald ever to go there. Ronald, therefore, is crazy to hit Broadway. The young man is useless in business and is continually painting the old home town red. After Ronald has an escapade with a one-night-stand actress named Carrie, old Bentley decides that the only cure for the boy is to give him a fling at Broadway. So he gets Sally's husband, Mr. Workman, to give his son a job and to see that he gets into as much trouble as possible so that he will quickly sick-en of New York.

And Ronald went to New York.

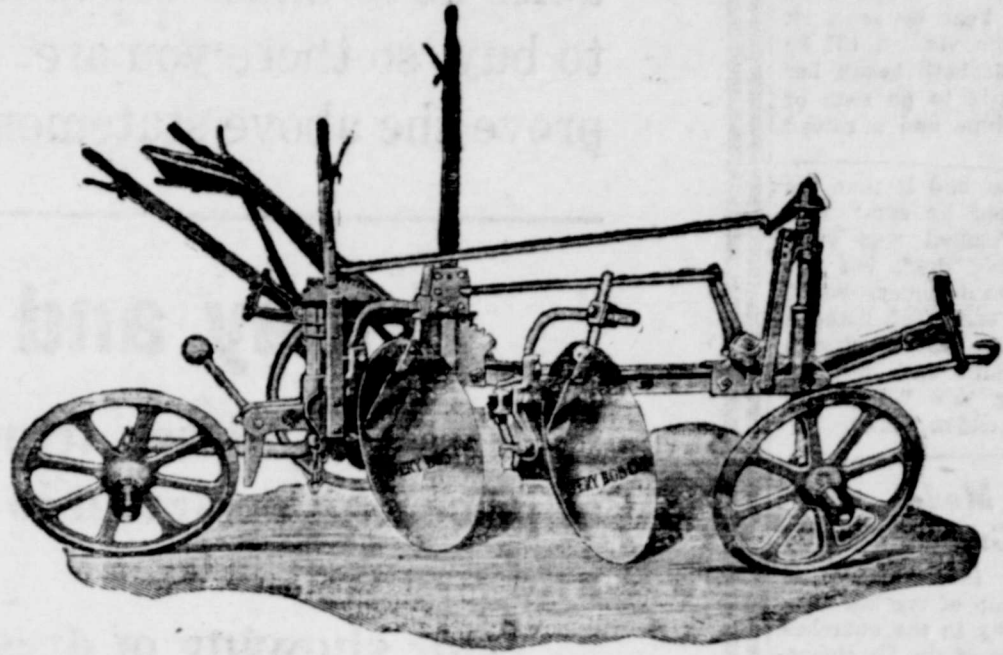
STATIONERY SPECIAL

200 sheets of paper and 100 envelopes to match with your name and address or monogram printed to order in blue ink for \$2.00. You may have your choice of folder or straight sheet in white, pearl gray, royal blue, pink or light yellow. You can't beat this for a stationery bargain. Makes appropriate gifts. Also have \$1.15 box. THE MERKEL MAIL. tf

Try a Classified Ad in the Mail.

BOB CAT DISC PLOWS

"Bob Cat Disc Plows" are Real Plows and are the kind you need if you want to plow when you plow.



If a "Bob Cat" wont plow there is no use trying any other kind. Ask a "Bob Cat" owner. On display at the Fair September 18th and 19th. See it! We invite you to make our store and booth your headquarters.

LIBERTY HARDWARE CO.

If it's Hardware we Have It

See Our Exhibit!

AT THE MERKEL COMMUNITY FAIR
September, 18 & 19th.

MAKE OUR STORE YOUR
HEADQUARTERS.

Most complete line of hardware between Ft.-
Worth and El Paso.

Groceries
Auto Accessories
Electrical Goods
Radio supplies
Queensware

Farm Implements
Wind Mills & Pumps
Plumbing Goods
Mule Jewelry
Binders

Don't fail to see the McCormick-Deering Farmall Tractor
Greatest aid to farmers of modern times

WEST COMPANY

"Thirty five years of public service"

GABRIEL JEFFERSON JONES PASSED ON

After many months illness and suffering, Mr. G. J. Jones, for many years one of this city's substantial, influential and good citizens, on last Sunday evening at about six o'clock answered the summons of his Maker and Saviour to come up higher where life is everlasting and suffering and sorrow is no more. For all these months everything that medical skill and loving hands could do to alleviate his suffering and prolong his life was done with the result that his spirit went out to meet his Maker, and the man will be found to walk among men on earth no more.

Deceased was born September 2, 1861, in Person county, North Carolina, and at the age of 22 years he was converted and became a member of the Presbyterian church, remaining true and steadfast throughout all the years of his useful life.

He came to Texas in 1880, settled in Collin county, where in 1886 he was married to Miss Aurora Davis, of Nevada, and to this happy union five children were born, four of whom survive, as follows: Mrs. T. L. Grimes, Chas. C. Jones, Davis Jones, of Merkel, Mrs. Maurey Huffman of Dallas.

Mr. Jones, with his family came to Merkel in the year 1907, where he has since lived, enjoying the friendship and esteem of all with whom he had become acquainted. He was not a man who had much to say or to make a show nor lived for self, but quietly went about his own business, yet always ready and willing to lend a helping hand to any one in need and to any worthy cause of the community.

Besides a loving wife, the 4 children, he leaves to mourn his departure two brothers, E. D. Jones of Persons county, North Carolina, and John C. Jones of Nevada, Texas. For many years he had been a successful cotton buyer of this city.

Funeral services were conducted Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock at the Presbyterian church, by the pastor, Rev Chas. H. Little, with burial immediately after in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Baptist Announcements

Sunday School 10 a.m. with places for all who want to study the Bible. Our Sunday School has held up remarkably through the summer, but the time is here now not to be satisfied with holding up. We need to go forward. We hope that no class in the school will be satisfied with holding up. Let's plan to reach another.

Preaching by the pastor 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Morning subject, "The Yearning of the Christian Heart." Evening subject, "Saving Faith or Spurious" All B.Y.P.U.'s at 6:30 p.m. Training Class and Council meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m. Ladies meeting Tuesday 4 p.m. Prayer-meeting Wednesday 7:30 p.m. Choir and Orchestra Rehearsal following prayer-meeting.

We were happy to have visitors with us Sunday. At the morning hour Rev. Reynolds, representing the Baptist Standard was with us and preached. He secured some 25 new subscribers to the Baptist Standard. At the evening hour Rev. Nicholas spoke a few words about his work of finding homes for homeless children and the people gave him some \$25.00 to help pay for surgical operation for one of his wards.

The attendance at all the services was gratifying through the week. The prayer-meeting still increases both in attendance and interest.

We hope that all the people coming to town for the school will find a church home in Merkel. Your children will be associated with Merkel children all the week so you should be interested in helping the Merkel churches to help Merkel be a better town.

You will find a cordial welcome at any of the churches. You will also find that the Merkel churches need you. Do not leave your membership away-off some place else thinking you are not needed here. If the Lord had not needed you here He would have let you move where you were needed.

Ira L. Parrack, pastor.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to sincerely express our thanks and appreciation of every kindness extended us during the recent illness and death of our beloved husband and father. May the richest of blessings be with and rest upon each and every one is the prayer of the undersigned. It

Mrs. G. J. Jones and children.

FOR SALE—\$130.00 Scholarship in Tyler Commercial College at an attractive discount. We guarantee it. If you are planning to attend a commercial college we can save you money, and there is none better than Tyler Commercial College. Apply to Jack Durham at Merkel Mail office. tf

Large Watermelons a specialty. Merkel Fruit and Vegetable Company. It

Miss Mary Campbell left Sunday for Canyon where she has been employed to teach in the Canyon school for the coming term.

A. C. Rose, R. L. Bland and family and Mrs. Austin Fitts, were among those over from Abilene Monday to attend the G. J. Jones funeral.

After three weeks visit in Dallas and Fort Worth, Mrs. J. E. Badgley visited her daughter in this city, Mrs. T. T. Davis, for several days.

Mr. S. D. Gamble was called to Dallas first of the week by a message announcing the serious illness of a brother-in-law there.

**Old City of Wales
Buried Under Sand**

We are accustomed to buried cities of the East, and even in the forests of Africa one is not surprised to hear that ancient ruins have been buried in the jungle. But to find a buried city in Wales seems something of an anomaly.

Yet on the borders of Swansea bay, in the heart of a great sandhill, lies the buried city of Kenfig. There is today a village close by called Ton Kenfig. It is behind the sandhills in which the buried city lies, and from which the broken wall of a ruined tower projects to this day.

In the days of the Conqueror Kenfig was a walled city, a great commercial center, and filled with armed men. But an insidious foe—the blown sand—was always liable to break down its best defences. Year by year, bit by bit, it gained the victory, till by the time Queen Elizabeth began her reign there was little to be seen of the city except a dune and a ruined tower.

Of ages tradition had it that the town was submerged by sand in a great storm, as Pompeii was overwhelmed by volcanic dust, but the chronicles of Margam abbey, which have recently been examined, make it plain that the sand encroachments lasted for many years, and that the process of burying this Welsh city was a slow one.—London Times.

**Errors Made
by Great Painters**

Magnificent and incomparable as was the workmanship of the old masters, as found chiefly in the churches and picture galleries of the Continent, when it came down to detail, things both ludicrous and anomalous were apt to appear. A picture is to be seen dealing with the crucifixion in which a confessor holds out a cross to the dying thief. A painting by a Dutch artist, representing the sacrifice of Isaac, is to be seen in which Abraham stands over his son holding a blunderbuss! In the National gallery, too, may be found an old-master painting, in which a saint holds a very modern-looking pair of horn-rimmed spectacles. Painters of extremely advanced views seem to delight in this sort of thing. Not long ago a picture of "The Deluge" was exhibited in London, by a student of the Slade school, in which Noah and his sons wore derby hats.—London Mail.

The Man Who Counts

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the door of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and short coming; who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.—Theodore Roosevelt.

Wrong or Right

There is an old judge of the Supreme court in New York who recently in private conversation was heard to vigorously defend one of his friends who had fallen by the wayside. He was challenged for defending a man who had been proved to be wrong.

"That was only one failure," said the old judge. "Consider the fine things about him—"

"But," objected one of the critics, "I don't see how you can stand up for this fellow even if he is a friend. He certainly was wrong."

"Any man will stand up for you when you are right," replied the old judge. "But it takes a friend to stand up for you when you are wrong."

And there was silence.—Dellneator.

Birth of Rocking Chair

Rocking chairs are commonly referred to as an American institution purely. They had their greatest development, of course, during the Nineteenth century, when they passed through the stage of makeshift rockers cut flat on top with the bottom in the form of an arc, to those which constituted an integral part of the chair, and from these to those monstrosities of furniture called patent rockers. That was the beginning of their decadence, says the Boston Transcript. Rocking chairs are made now, but they are simple in construction, and the elaborate arrangements of springs and bases are known no more.

Had Learned Something

A woman called at a studio for a sitting. The photographer made two negatives and promised proofs for the following day.

The next day her husband called for the proofs, but the photographer showed him only one. The husband said: "My understanding was that there were to be two proofs."

"I did make two sittings of your wife," replied the photographer, "but in one she held her lips apart and showed the end of her tongue."

"My goodness," gasped the husband, "let me see that one. I didn't know there was an end to it."

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Married at Buffalo Gap

At Buffalo Gap, on last Saturday evening at six o'clock, Miss Opal Patterson of this city, and Mr. Marvin Brookreson, of Buffalo Gap, were happily united in marriage, the presbyterian minister of that city pronouncing the ceremony.

The bride is the granddaughter of Mr. J. C. Tucker of this city, and is well and very favorably known here, having been reared here.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brookreson, of Buffalo Gap, and is also well known here, he having attended the Merkel public school here in 1924.

Mrs. W. E. Campbell of Bellevue, Texas, visited in the home of her brother, T. T. Davis, last week.

**ELD. CYPERT PREACHES
HERE NEXT SUNDAY**

Eld. W. G. Cypert asks this paper to announce that he will preach at both the morning and evening hours at the Church of Christ, next Sunday.

He extends a very cordial invitation to every one to be present at either or both of these services.

Junior League Program

The "Do it Now" Brigade. Leader, Nadine Tippett.

Scripture: Matt. 19:13-15, Burrell Chaney.

Song: Scripture Matt. 13:3-8, by Florene Rider.

Topic: "Little ten minutes" by Christene Rister.

Horatius at the Bridge, by Lynn McSpadden.

Presbyterian Church

Sunday School at 10 a.m. Preaching at 11 a.m. and 7:45 p.m. Junior Christian Endeavor at the 11 o'clock hour.

Senior Christian Endeavor at 6:45 p.m. Choir practice Wednesday at 7:45 p.m.

We extend a cordial invitation to the public to worship with us at all the above services. Twenty minute song service at the evening hour.

Senior League Program

Subject: "What is the Gospel? Why Preach it?"

Leader, Dorris Durham.

Scripture: 1 Cor. 15:1-11.

Talks: 1. Cyrus Pee. 2. Murphy Thomas. 3. Jack Durham. Announcements; Benediction.

The Methodist Church

Last Sunday was a banner day at the Methodist church, there being a large attendance at both the Sunday School and morning services. There was every evidence that the membership was ready to get down to the business of the Master, following the usual summer vacations.

But there is no reason why we should not make next Sunday a greater day for the Master. Let every member be in his or her place at both Sunday School and church next Sunday. Let's make the Sunday School attendance go over the three hundred mark, where it belongs. The pastor at the morning hour will use for his theme: "Faith, Hope, Love, the greatest of these is Love."

All visitors and strangers are cordially invited to be present.

**Both Swift and Sure
Was Vigilante Justice**

The Montana Vigilantes, who delivered that territory of such notorious gangs as Henry Plummer's in the '60s, were nothing if not methodical in their self-appointed task. Besides Plummer's band of road agents and murderers, to which a total of 102 deaths alone is credited, the population of the gold fields numbered many fugitives from justice from all parts of the country.

In many places the lawless element was totally superior in force to the honest citizen group, which was driven to the establishment of a Vigilance committee to protect lives and property. Outnumbered as they were, the Vigilantes worked in secret and as unobtrusively as possible; their principal tools were the mask and the rope. Some time during the night a white card always exactly seven by nine inches and bearing the numerals 3-7-77 in black ink, was pinned on the tent or tacked on the door of the desperado who had been sentenced to be banished at a secret meeting of the Vigilance committee.

The men who received such a notice knew whence it came and that it meant, "Pack up and leave within 24 hours or swing on the second night." If he had the least glimmer of sense he also knew the warning was no bluff.

The Vigilantes held no public trials, but if sometimes a mistake was made and the victim appealed for a review of the facts through certain channels, he was certain of a second hearing. In such a case a midnight tribunal was held which reconsidered and sometimes reversed the sentence. More often it reaffirmed the banishment with a second placard, against which there was no appeal. If the warning was disregarded, the lawless one found himself the center of a very interesting and determined crowd on the second night and he did not live to see the next sunrise.

The Vigilantes constituted themselves judges, jury and executioners all in one, and their trials were certainly short. Whenever a highwayman or murderer was caught, the leader of the Vigilante band would say:

"All in favor of hanging this man step to the right of the road; those who are for letting him go step to the left."—J. R. Johnston in Adventure Magazine.

Positive Identification

C. S. Collins, superintendent of the identification bureau of Scotland Yard, who has made nearly 500,000 finger prints of criminals and suspects, retired recently after 30 years' service in the London police department. From the finger prints on file in Mr. Collins' department some 280,000 identifications have been made, according to authorities, without a single mistake. "I would stake my life on the probability that there never will be finger prints alike, even if the world goes on indefinitely," Mr. Collins said recently, in speaking of his work. During the next generation, he asserted, finger prints would be much more generally used everywhere, not only in the identification of criminals, but as a matter of record in births, and numerous other directions.

Having Their Fling

It was last year in a strict boarding school, and my roommate and I had always been on our good behavior, writes a correspondent of the Chicago Tribune. We realized we had missed a lot of the fun the other girls had enjoyed, even though they had paid for it by being up before the faculty many times.

One night we decided we'd be daring and slip down, after midnight, to the rarely occupied guest room and sleep in the four-poster bed in there. The corridors were dark and the stairs creaked, but we tiptoed along until we had almost reached the guest room. Just then we heard the watchman coming down the corridor. We peeped into the guest room and onto the bed.

A series of screams aroused every one. We had sat upon a visiting missionary from Africa.

A Surprise

Amateur theatrical stuff had been indulged in by certain members of the group out for a day's outing. One of these stunts included the placing of black wax on one or two of the front teeth, which left an appearance of toothlessness.

One young man, tiring of the wax, tried to remove it and found he could not. He asked a young woman of the party whether she knew how to get the wax off.

"Sure," she said, boldly. "That's easy." And forthwith she grasped the wax firmly between thumb and forefinger and pulled.

Imagine her amazement a moment later when she held in her hand the full upper set of false teeth belonging to the young man.—Indianapolis News.

Ominous

"I've been studying a good deal about resigning my office!" declared Constable Sam T. Slackputter, the guardian of the peace and dignity of Petunia. "It's getting too ominous."

"Too-what?" returned Mayor Numbers.

"Ominous—or dangerous, if you like that better. You know the new shooting gallery that opened up last week? Well, I've seen no less than eight women, all told, practicing shooting there. It may mean nothing, and it may not; but—"—Kansas City Times.

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