



### WHAT'S DOING IN WEST TEXAS

A Canyon, Texas, man produced a tomato plant this season ten by twelve feet in area, from which he harvested two bushels of tomatoes. Careful culture, he maintains, will make three tomato plants produce enough to supply the average family.

Irrigation with electrical power is being promoted around Lockley in Floyd county. Shallow wells producing from one thousand to sixteen hundred gallons of water per minute can be installed complete with pumping plants for sixteen hundred dollars.

Texas Technological college, Lubbock, had forty-five hundred students enrolled in all departments and all terms during 1930-31.

San Saba has a 4-H club of boys from twelve to eighteen years old engaged in livestock feeding experiments.

Lampasas is to have a new city hall,

having recently voted the bonds by a five to one majority.

The Capitol Syndicate Land company recently donated one thousand dollars to the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society museum fund. The company formerly owned the X. I. T. ranch, famous in West Texas history, located near Canyon, proposed home of the museum.

Free sites on railroad trackage, low natural gas rates, plenty of water and an abundance of building materials produced locally are inducements held out for prospective industries at Borger in the Texas Panhandle.

A large number of trench silos are being built in Randall county for the preservation of the present large silage crop.

A highway extending from Canada to Mexico through West Texas is being promoted to be called the Chisholm Trail highway to perpetuate the same of the historic trail of early cattle days.

The Bankhead Highway through Callahan county is being widened.

Taylor County's new jail at Abilene,

costing \$100,000.00, was recently opened with a "housewarming party" given by the sheriff.

Eight inch water mains were recently installed at Vega.

The West Texas State Teachers' college, Canyon, recently obtained the celebrated Chicago Madrigal club music library of 40,000 pieces.

Dalhart has a new electrical distribution line in the down town section.

Wheeler County's taxable valuation exceeded last year's by a half million dollars.

The next dirigible to be built by the United States navy may be named for the West Texas city, Amarillo.

The site for the proposed \$180,000.00 federal building at Pampa has been secured.

Four pure bred Jersey cows in Randall county made the Texas July honor roll for production excellence.

Again we offer for Saturday 2 p. m.—heavy 36-inch outing at 9 cents. Brown's Bargain Store.

### 70th Wedding Day is Celebrated by Couple

Clyde, Texas, Oct., 22.—The Rev. and Mrs. George B. Ely celebrated the seventieth anniversary of their marriage Saturday. He is 91 and she will be 90 next January.

They were married Oct. 17, 1861, in Marion county, Arkansas, where Mr. Ely was visiting after an Indian scouting trip into West Texas as a ranger. They moved to Texas in 1877, and came west with the Texas & Pacific railway in the early '80's, Mr. Ely preaching as a Baptist minister. He was in the ministry for sixty years.

The Elys reared eleven children, six still living. The aged couple still maintain their home here. Mrs. Ely doing her own housework.

5 1-2 per cent Federal Loans are Better Loans. Longer time, lower rates; plenty of money; never come due. W. Homer Shanks, Sec'y.-Treas., Citizens N. F. L. A. Farms, Ranches, Business Property for sale or exchange. Room 1, Penney Bldg., Abilene, Texas.

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# CONFIDENCE

## IN MERKEL AND THE MERKEL TRADE TERRITORY

The Farmers & Merchants National Bank believes in Merkel and the Merkel Trade Territory. The Officers and Directors of this bank know this community and understand its problems. They are looking forward to the coming years with the same confidence and optimism that they did 25 years ago.

They believe that co-operation built this territory and will continue to sustain it. That conditions have been bad before and have always improved. That business is coming back to normal.

They have confidence in the ability of the people of this territory to adapt themselves to changing conditions. That they will meet their problems with the same courage that they have always shown, looking forward and not backward. That hard work and economy will gradually bring a return to prosperity.

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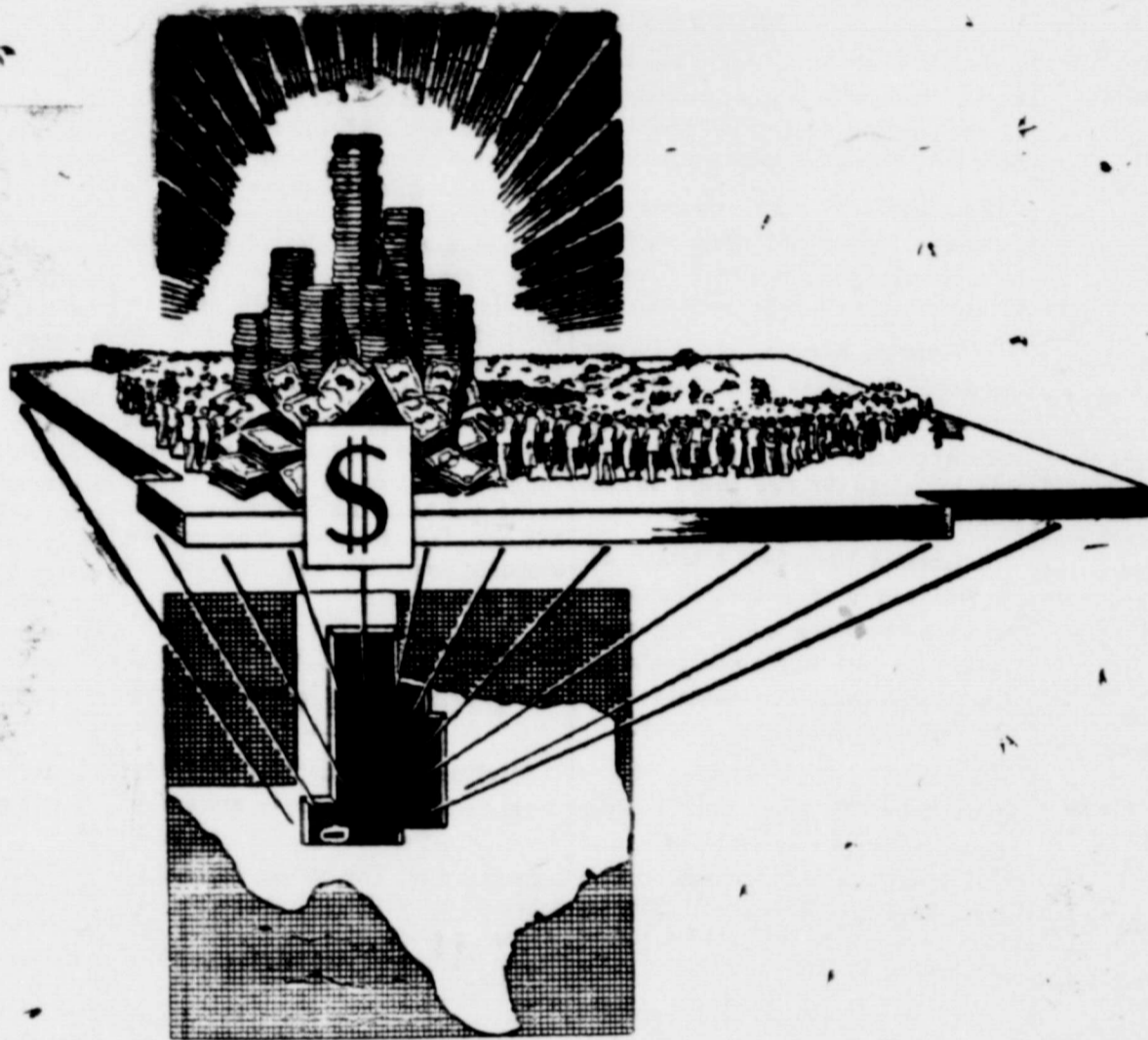
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## TWO MILLION DOLLARS PAID IN WAGES AND SALARIES...

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PROVIDING a livelihood for over 1,200 employes... many of whom are your friends and neighbors... the West Texas Utilities Company has contributed to the prosperity of West Texas, for the last three years, an annual payroll of over \$2,000,000.00.

Two millions of dollars is a powerful agency toward the stabilization of business conditions... Its expenditure means a substantial amount of trade for retail stores, grocers, laundries, doctors, dentists, and commercial establishments of all kinds.

Only the continued expansion and development of the West Texas Utilities Company has made possible the building of this payroll. Through efficient management and economical operation, this company has expanded its facilities, reduced rates and stimulated the industrial and agricultural development of its territory. To carry forward these important projects, the assembling of a loyal, enthusiastic and hard-working corps of native West Texan employes has been a logical outgrowth.

These employes are genuinely concerned over their company's activities. They are working for West Texas... its growth and development... just as you are working toward the same goal. To co-ordinate our activities is the constant aim of the West Texas Utilities Company.

Every dollar you spend for electric service... and more!... has, for the past eight years, been re-invested in the future of West Texas. Payrolls alone, for construction and operation, are equal to 30c out of every dollar you spend for electric service—a sum which goes back into this "Land of Opportunity" in salaries and wages paid to West Texan employes.

### Do You Know?

... that if you are an average user of domestic electric service you can increase your use and enjoyment of the comforts and conveniences of electric service by three times, and only increase your total bill by approximately 10c a day? This is made possible through a major transmission line electric system and an organization accustomed to doing large things in a large way.

## West Texas Utilities Company











## DEATH CLAIMS MRS. B. JENKINS

Resident of County for 50 Years  
Passes Away at Age of 70;  
Funeral Rites Held Tuesday.

Writing first to a residence of 50 years in Nolan and Taylor county and having lived to enjoy her allotted three score and ten years in devotion to her family, in usefulness to her fellowman and in consecrated service to the Master, Mrs. Benjamin Jenkins passed away at 11:15 Monday morning at her home here, following an illness of five weeks. Three daughters, who live in other cities, had been at her bedside for more than a week: Mrs. Lily Bryson of Tokio, Mrs. H. B. Hill of Galveston and Mrs. J. O. Steele of Sweetwater. Others of the seven surviving children are: T. C. Jenkins and Fred Jenkins of Merkel, Claude Jenkins of Noodle and Mrs. Jasper McCoy of Merkel.

A half-sister, Mrs. G. W. Whiteaker of the Divide community, was also with Mrs. Jenkins at death. George Hawkins of Stanton and John Hawkins of Balmorhea are half-brothers. Fourteen grandchildren are surviving.

Funeral services were held from the Methodist church at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. T. C. Willet of Hamlin, former Methodist pastor here, officiating, and interment was in Rose Hill cemetery beside the grave of her husband, who died twenty years ago.

Thomas Ellen Woodson, (the maiden name of Mrs. Jenkins,) was born in Johnson county July 12, 1861, and was married to Benjamin Jenkins in Ellis county Feb. 7, 1878. The couple moved to the Divide community on the Taylor-Nolan county line more than 50 years ago and Mrs. Jenkins continued to reside there until about 15 years ago when she moved to Merkel.

Mrs. Jenkins had been a member of the Methodist church since young womanhood. During her long residence in this section, she had acquired a large circle of friends, all of whom had come to love and respect her as a type of the ideal wife and mother, a living example of true Christian womanhood and all that her religion stood for. She had lived unselfishly and found life's cup of joy full to overflowing in the reciprocal love of her children and the satisfying as-

sociation of countless friends and neighbors.

Among the many from out-of-town who came for the funeral were: Mrs. A. G. Elliott and family, C. F. Sanders, Mrs. C. S. Boyles, Mrs. R. Robbins and family, and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Elliott, of Sweetwater; Mr. and Mrs. Tom McCoy, Mrs. G. W. Wallis and family, Mrs. S. Dennis and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Cook and family, of Dora; Mrs. Alice Wood, Mrs. C. E. Whitaker, Mrs. Eugene Hargrove, Mrs. Hal Brittain and Mrs. Burl Wheeler, of Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Meeks, Mrs. Walter Bryson and children of Tokio, and the sons-in-law, Messrs. Hill of Galveston, Bryson of Tokio and Steele of Sweetwater.

### William H. Tarpley.

On Monday morning, Oct. 19, at 11:30 the death angel visited the home of Boyd Tarpley at Comper and took from him his father, William H. Tarpley, age 84.

Funeral services were held at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the Comper Baptist church, with Rev. U. S. Sherrill, Methodist pastor at Trent, officiating. Interment was in the family lot at Comper cemetery.

Grandpa Tarpley was born in Tennessee June 16, 1847, and was married to Sarah Sadler in 1869. He was a pioneer of this section, having lived in Texas for 52 years. It was in 1915 that he and his wife and son, Boyd, moved to Taylor county, settling near Merkel in the fall of that year and having resided there ever since.

Besides his wife, he is survived by seven children, only two of whom were present at the time of his death, E. M. and Boyd. Other children are: Shelly Tarpley, Ida, Okla.; Mrs. Nan-

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nie Taylor, Avery, Texas; Mrs. Annie Hudson, Boswell, Okla.; Roy Tarpley, Holdenville, Okla., and Reb. Tarpley, Muleshoe, Texas. 45 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren also survive.

Mr. Tarpley professed religion and joined the Methodist church as a young man. A kind and devoted husband and father, an upright christian man, familiarly known to everyone in this section as just "Grandpa," he will be greatly missed in his home and community and by all who knew him.

Again we offer for Saturday—2 p. m.—heavy 36-inch outing at 9 cents. Brown's Bargain Store.

#### BARGAIN DAYS.

From now until Dec. 31st, subscription price for The Merkel Mail in Taylor and adjoining counties is only \$1.00 per year. This will save you 50 cents, if you will renew your subscription during these three months. If you are in arrears, you can pay up the past year and extend a new year at the bargain offer of \$1.00 per year. Do it now. Offer positively expires December 31st.



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### Miss Collins Named Chairman of Local Festival Committee

Abilene, Oct. 22.—Miss Christine Collins of Merkel has accepted the chairmanship of the Fall Music Festival committee of that place. The festival is sponsored by the Civic Auditorium Association of Abilene, of which Mrs. E. L. McGintie is secretary. The association makes its bow to West Texas by bringing three out-

standing artists to West Texas for concerts November 2-4-6.

Miss Collins joins with the Abilene group and other West Texans in welcoming Mlle. Clairbert, Doris Kenyon

and Mary Garden, and their assisting artists, in their appearances here

November 2-4-6. A number of Merkel people will avail themselves of the opportunity to attend these concerts.

## THE RED & WHITE STORES SPECIALS FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY OCTOBER 23 AND 24

Tomatoes fancy pinks	5c
GREENS, turnip and mustard, bunch	5c
LETTUCE, firm heads	5c
CABBAGE, per pound	2c
SPUDS, U. S. No. 1, 10 lbs. for	15c
APPLES, Washington Delicious, large size, dozen	33c
BANANAS, pound	5c
GRAPE FRUIT, Texas Sweet, 2 for	5c
FLOUR, R & W, 24 lbs.	58c, 48 lbs. 98c
WHEAT CEREAL, R & W, package	18c
MILK, R & W, 3 tall	20c, 6 small 20c
SUGAR pure cane, cloth bags, 10 lbs.	53c
RAISINS, 2 lb. pkg.	19c, 4 lb. pkg. 35c
PRUNES, fresh stock, 2 lbs. for	15c
RICE, R & W, 2 lb. package	19c
SALT, B & W, 3 packages	10c
SOAP, R & W, Naptha, 6 bars	19c
BROOM, good house quality	29c
BRAN FLAKES, R & W, package	10c
MATCHES, B & W, 2 boxes	5c

Compound 8 pound pail	65c
BACON, slice, sugar cured, lb.	18c
JOWLS, dry salt, pound	7 1-2c

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29x4.40 Super-Tread Tire	\$6.20
29x4.50 Super-Tread Tire	\$6.55
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All other sizes in proportion. (We also handle a cheaper line.)

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1—1927 Olds Sport roadster	\$140.00
1—1927 Dodge coupe	\$140.00
1—1926 Buick sedan, four door	\$150.00
1 four wheeler trailer a bargain	\$35.00
Batteries from \$2.50 to	\$9.25

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El Paso	1.55
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Los Angeles	\$24.30

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