

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 45—NO. 47.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1934.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

GROWERS FAVOR RETENTION OF BANKHEAD PLAN

Majority of 9 to 1 Throughout The Southern States Endorse This System of Control For Another Year.

By a majority far more than the necessary two-thirds, in fact more than 9 to 1, the South's cotton farmers went on record December 14 for compulsory crop control by voting to continue the Bankhead act in 1935.

The early tabulation showed 655,959 votes for continuance and a puny 67,432 against it.

Approximately 2,600,000 farmers were eligible to vote.

Texas favored keeping the Bankhead cotton allotment bill by a majority of more than 4 to 1. A tabulation including 208 counties showed a vote of 240,119 in favor of retention and 53,641 against.

TAYLOR COUNTY.

Taylor county farmers and landowners went strongly on record as favoring retention of the measure during 1935, with 1,387 votes for and 213 against it.

The Merkel-Trent district returns were: 193 for, 41 against.

25 More Enrollees Assigned to County

Assistant County Administrator Lloyd Thomas from Neal C. Guy, CCC enrollment supervisor of the Texas relief commission. Approximately 500 youths have been enrolled from this county. Taylor county boys, wishing to sign up under the new quota are asked to file applications before January 13, said Mr. Thomas.

To be eligible for enrollment a man must be unmarried, and between 18 and 25 years of age. No two boys from the same family may participate.

Roby Wins Class B Title in Region 4

San Angelo, Dec. 20.—Headstream, a bruising fullback, teamed with Tommy Beene, elusive 136-pound quarterback, to achieve a 20-0 victory for the Roby Lions over the Rocksprings Bulldogs in the regional 4 class B championship game before 1,500 fans here Friday afternoon.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, December 18, 1914.)

Wesley Edwards and B. F. Cox returned Sunday night from a two-week stay in Waco, where they attended the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas Masons.

A. C. Boney left Tuesday for Fort Worth on a business trip but expects to return today.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Eoff will regret exceedingly to learn of their removal from here to Coleman, where they will reside in the future.

Miss Sallie Toombs and father, J. R. Toombs, left Monday evening for Paducah, where Miss Toombs will teach school the remaining months of this winter. Mr. Toombs will return home in a short time and can be seen at his usual haunts in the streets of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Shelton of Abilene in Merkel Sunday visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Williams. Each of them draw from the city \$15.00 every three months for the patriotic services they have or have not rendered. They are J. O. Harris, L. Harris, J. P. Sharp, G. W. Williams. Each of them draw from the city \$15.00 every three months for the patriotic services they have or have not rendered. They are J. O. Harris, L. Harris, J. P. Sharp, G. W. Williams. Each of them draw from the city \$15.00 every three months for the patriotic services they have or have not rendered.

DOWN TO SEMI-FINALS TEXAS SCHOOL LEAGUE

Four survivors of a long season's competition will meet in semi-final Texas Interscholastic league games on two widely separated fields Saturday for the right to enter the titular game.

Amarillo will clash with the Masonic Home of Fort Worth at Amarillo, while Greenville's Lions, defending champions, will meet the dangerous Corpus Christi Buccaneers on neutral ground in Houston.

Quarter final results were: Corpus Christi 30, Jeff Davis, Houston, 6.

Greenville 20, Corsicana 0. Masonic Home 13, Highland Park 0.

Amarillo 31, Big Spring 20.

Urges Precaution With Decorations

"Christmas fires are largely caused by carelessness in the use of decoration and lighting effects," N. A. Dowell, chief of the Merkel Fire department stated in discussing fire hazards of the holiday season.

Special warning is issued as to evergreen trees, which are said to be highly inflammable when they are allowed to become dry. Decorations made of paper, cotton, celluloid and other materials having low ignition temperatures are also causes of large fire losses. The use of cotton for "snow" and placing candles on trees are classed as very dangerous, too.

Fireboys Want More Toys for Remodeling

Members of the Merkel Fire department have received only a limited number of toys to re-issue to the unfortunate children of the city, those who would otherwise be left without the remembrance of Santa Claus.

It is stated that papers will be picked from the relief rolls in order that the sponsors may be sure of issuing toys only to the most unfortunate. The toys are suitable for small children, those under five years of age, and it is planned for the fire truck to deliver these Monday afternoon between 1 and 3 o'clock.

There is still a little time left to mend and remodel old toys that are donated for the use of the fireboys in this cause. So all who have any toys to be contributed should leave them at the fire station at once.

Record of Births.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Knight, Sunday, December 17, 1934.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Jake Patterson, residing south of town, Monday, December 18, 1934.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sumpster, Tuesday, December 19, 1934.

The Day of the Child

By Wilbur Nesbit.

The tree shines with the candle glow,
The trinkets glitter jewel wise,
And we would that our souls might know
The joy told in the children's eyes.
Such sheer delight as this of theirs—
A wondrous happiness it is!
And every word the message bears,
This is the children's day—and His!

Let us come, as the Wise Men came
Those nineteen centuries ago,
Led by the Star's eternal flame
That bade them rise and hasten on;
They brought rare frankincense and myrrh,
They brought rich gems and graven gold;
They knelt, adoring, near to Her,
And all their marvelings they told.

Aye, as those Men of long ago,
Today we, too, may see the star,
May see its mystic heavenly glow
Flash out o'er Childland fair and far;
And from our hands now fall the gifts
And we know why the Wise Men smiled
With gratefulness; and each heart lifts
Its chant of worship of the Child.

KEEPING UP WITH TEXAS

Dr. A. J. Weeks of Dallas, editor of the Texas Christian Advocate, was elected chairman of the Texas Methodist Centennial commission.

Ten Texas Centennial half dollars brought \$378 at public auction at Austin last week. The first coin was sold to Governor Miriam A. Ferguson for \$90.

Arthur Huey was acquitted of a charge of murder in connection with the slaying of A. P. (Ace) Berger in the postoffice of the town of Berger, named after the latter.

Arthur C. Wilson, 29-year-old Ohio chemist, was assessed life imprisonment for the desert slaying of Mrs. Irene Debot, Ohio widow, near Van Horn on November 7, 1933.

Engagement of Miss Marie Dresden, former Texas relief director, to be married to Winthrop David Lamb, Trenton, N. J., was announced in messages received by Austin friends of Miss Dresden.

Directors of the Texas Rural Communities, Inc., have authorized purchase of 9,373 acres of land at Lubbock, Wichita Falls, Mexia and Nacogdoches for subsistence colonies to house 600 families.

Judge Edwin R. Bryan, 72, native Texan, high in the state's Masonic circles and prosecutor of the successful impeachment charges against former Governor James E. Ferguson, died at his home in Mineral Wells Sunday after a brief illness.

The executive committee of the Texas Centennial commission has recommended a state appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the Centennial. A bill to appropriate \$5,000,000 was introduced during the last special session but died on the house calendar.

Following the resignation of Dr. D. A. Penick of the University of Texas as president of the Southwest conference, Prof. E. W. McDiarmid of Texas Christian university was elected to serve the remainder of Dr. Penick's term, which will end next spring.

Milburn Welburn, Jr., former pastor of the Government Hill Methodist church, San Antonio, was sentenced to seven years in the state penitentiary on a charge of perjury in connection with testimony he gave when his wife obtained a bitterly contested divorce from him.

W. O. W. Camp Elects New Officers for 1935

New officers of W. O. W. Camp 719, recently elected, will be installed first Tuesday night in January. They are: W. O. Blair, council manager; B. J. Reynolds, advisory banker; A. J. ...

PERSONALS

Rev. G. H. Markley of Breckenridge was visiting friends in Merkel Tuesday.

Charles McPearson of Breckenridge was a guest Tuesday in the Will D. Williams home.

Miss Ruth Pinckley of the Salt Branch community was the guest Sunday afternoon of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell at Blair.

Elvis Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Darsey, Jr., Austin, were weekend guests of their respective parents last week, returning Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hughes and family of Abilene were recent guests of their brother, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hughes, and family at Blair.

W. L. Diltz, cashier of the Farmers State bank, was in Fort Worth Monday and Tuesday of this week on business.

Guests of the first of the week of Mr. and Mrs. N. A. Dowell were Mrs. Dowell's sister, Mrs. W. R. Beene and daughter, Miss Zula, and son, Gilmer, of Royce City.

Horton and Davis Williams arrived Sunday from Prescott, Ariz., to spend the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Williams.

W. R. Hampton, a former resident of Merkel now making his home with a daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Porterfield, of Post, was shaking hands with friends here this week.

Mrs. V. B. Sublett and daughter, Vernelle, returned Saturday from Loving, N. M., where they went Thursday to take her mother, Mrs. Edith Gilmore, home.

Buster (Red) Cyper arrived Friday from Clarksdale, Ariz., where he is stationed with a CCC camp. He will remain through the holidays, leaving on the 26th to return to camp.

Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Cyper, accompanied by Mr. Cyper's father, T. F. Cyper, all of Hamlin, were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Cyper. R. T. Cyper is a cousin of the Merkel man.

Misses Madge and Lillie Dean returned to their home in Dallas Sunday after visiting their brother, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Dean and family, and Miss Christine Collins for the week-end.

D. J. Rawlings of Trent, who underwent an operation three weeks ago at the West Texas Baptist sanitarium, Abilene, was brought to the home of his sister, Mrs. Pearl Hollingsworth, here on Friday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Morgan and their two daughters of Hillside attended services at the Baptist church at Blair Sunday, being also guests for dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Russell. Mr. Morgan is principal of Hillside school.

Family Reunions

Christmas is, and has been from time immemorial the season of family reunions. All Merkel homes having relatives and visitors for the holidays are asked to report them to the ... for chronicling next items must report before Wednesday ...

CHURCHES OF CITY SPONSOR PLAN OF CHRISTMAS CHEER

The churches of the city will join in collecting and distributing blankets, quilts, sheets, pillow cases and hand towels, as well as any other article of household comfort to the more needy on Christmas.

It is planned also to raise enough in cash by contributions through the churches to supply baskets of fruits and nuts to the unfortunate families of the city as part of the Christmas program.

While these families are supplied groceries and necessities through the local relief office, it is stated that funds from direct relief do not provide for either clothing or bedding, except in extreme cases; hence the special effort being put forth by the churches.

Herbert Patterson is acting as general chairman of the movement, and contributions may be made either to the several pastors or the church committees.

25th Member Added To Lions Club Roll

At the semi-monthly luncheon of the Lions club held at the American cafe Tuesday, Carlton Vick was voted into the organization, making the 25th member of the reorganized club. R. O. Pearson, previously elected to membership, also was welcomed at this luncheon.

Yates Brown gave an interesting report of the trip to Ranger by seven Lions who attended the banquet in honor of Lions International President Vincent C. Hascall of Omaha, Neb.

On motion of Dr. W. T. Sadler the club voted to assume the deficit of the Merkel High School Athletic association in the purchase of sweaters for 1934 Badgers, the amount to be raised by the sale of tickets to basketball games after the completion of the gym. A committee from the club is to sponsor an intensive sale of tickets.

In January the club will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays, instead of the first and third.

Mrs. Ella M. Barbian Struck by Car, Killed

Funeral rites for Mrs. Ella Mae Barbian, young Abilene woman who was fatally injured when she was struck by an automobile near San Angelo Saturday night, were said Monday afternoon from Sacred Heart Catholic church, Abilene, Fr. H. Knuffer, pastor, officiating.

Mesdames F. C. McFarland and S. D. Gamble, cousins of Mrs. Barbian, attended the funeral.

CAROLERS WILL RENDER SEASON'S SONGS AT TREE

Beautiful Program of Christmas Songs and Carols to be Given At 7:30 Saturday Evening Around Illuminated Tree.

Lights were turned on Tuesday night on Merkel's decorated Christmas tree, sponsored by the Lions club and placed on the corner intersection of Elm and Edwards street.

Around this tree it is planned to render a program of Christmas songs and carols Saturday evening of this week, beginning at 7:30. Rehearsals have been under way all week by a group of singers of the city under the direction of Miss Christine Collins, with Miss Helen Joyner as accompanist.

The public is cordially invited to enjoy the program as a special holiday entertainment feature.

Committees from the Lions club in charge are: tree lighting, W. W. Haynes, Fred Hughes and Yates Brown; program, J. O. Lusby, Charlie Jones and Roy Reid.

Twilight Musicale Sunday Afternoon

Miss Christine Collins and a number of her pupils will sing carols on Sunday afternoon in a twilight service at the Presbyterian church at 8:30. The public is cordially invited to the following program:

"Luther's Cradle Hymn," carol
"Jingle Bells," Fredda Nell Heston.
"A Babe in Bethlehem," Helen E. Tucker.
"Silent Night," Mrs. Leonard W.
"There's a Song," Dorothy Shanon.
"Holy Night," carolers.
"Trees," "Run on Home," Ele Tucker.
Pianolegion, Helen Heeter.
"All for You," Wanda Huddle.
"Glow Worms," Norman King.
"Tea You," Hollis Perry.
"In Hanging Gardens," Eleanor Tucker.

"Home on the Range," Harold King.
"A Dream of the Holy City," Mrs. W. A. McSpadden.
"Song in the Air," Mrs. Homer Patterson.
"The Holy City," A. J. Tucker.
"Joy to the World," carolers.

Salt Branch Tree. A community Christmas tree will be featured at the Salt Branch school on Monday night, Christmas Eve. Everyone in the Salt Branch community is invited.

THE BOOK

... the first line of which reads, "The Holy Bible," and which contains Four Great Treasures ... the BRUCE BARTON ... PAUL SCORES FUNDAMENTALISTS

Now Paul had great respect for the Mosaic law, and he did not object to the fundamentalists provided they kept on their own side. But to have them invading a field which he had developed and to start a divisive doctrine there, looking not forward but back, was too much for his hot temper and strong convictions. A once he called for his trusty pen and after the formal plunge plunged straight into his message:

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him you into the grace of Christ unto another Gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that would pervert the gospel of Christ.

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach another gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

He goes on to remind them of his history—how he was the persecutor of the church, but, being converted, received his message not from the group in Jerusalem but from God direct, in hours of quiet retreat in Arabia. He went to Jerusalem, he met with James, "the Lord's brother," and he and Paul agreed concerning the right of Gentiles to be received into communion without being compelled to comply with the Mosaic law and he won his fight. When later, at Antioch, Peter backslid the old hard-shell theology, Paul had refuted him openly.

But when Peter was come to Antioch, withstood him face to face, because he was to be blamed. By subsequent battles and by many perils he won the right of his church to be free from the yoke of the law. He won the right of his church to be free from the yoke of the law. He won the right of his church to be free from the yoke of the law. He won the right of his church to be free from the yoke of the law.

RURAL SOCIETY

BUSY BEE CLUB.

Mrs. Ollie Higgins was hostess to the Salt Branch Busy Bee club on Thursday afternoon.

During the business hour the club members quilted for the hostess. The basket was awarded to Mrs. Bill Hays. The club made plans for a Christmas party in the home of Mrs. W. C. Lee.

Those present were: Mesdames W. U. Boone, W. J. Higgins, Jack Higgins, Angus Garvin, H. B. Robertson, T. C. Allen, W. C. Lee, J. S. Pinckley, Misses Celia Hester and Ruth Pinckley and the hostess.

ESKOTA H. D. C. NEWS.

The Eskota Home Demonstration club met in regular session Tuesday afternoon, December 11, at the home of Mrs. M. T. Head.

During the business hour home-made Christmas gifts were suggested and exhibited. Plans were also made for the coming club year. As there will be no second meeting during December, the members resolved to offer their assistance in decorating the community Christmas tree.

Refreshments were served during the social hour to the following: Mesdames C. B. Johnston, D. I. Trent, L. E. F. Johnston, Clayton Nichols, Misses Essie and Mary Washburn and Donnie Yearl Nichols and the hostess.

The next meeting place will be at the home of Mrs. Clyde Neighbors on the second Tuesday afternoon in January. All members are urged to be present and visitors cordially invited to attend.

BRIDAL SHOWER.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell of Blair was the setting recently for a bridal shower in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Patton. The latter was the former Miss Clara Lee

Peterson, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Peterson.

Decorations centered about a Christmas tree and a mantle snow scene added color to the attractive setting. Gifts were presented the bride and groom by Miss Margaret Thomas, who impersonated a tramp, carrying two gunnysacks of many beautiful and useful gifts.

After games were played an old fashioned candy breaking was enjoyed by a hundred or more guests.

Mesdames Mason, Hogan, Luther, Osborn, T. A. Mitchell, Bob Malone, Carl Hughes and Hugh Campbell were hostesses along with Miss Doris Mitchell.

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday the 8th day of January, 1935, at six o'clock p. m., for the election of directors and the transaction of

such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Booth Warren, Cashier.

Read Merkel Mail Want Ads.

TELEPHONE THE MAIL

The Mail will be glad to receive news of entertainments or visitors in Merkel homes, as well as other new items of a general nature. If you have company, entertain friends or return from a trip please telephone 61 or 29.



Greetings
Missie's Floral Shop

FEWER COLDS
VICKS VAPOROL
HELPS PREVENT MANY COLDS

**Believe It Or Not
The Tractor of Your Dream
Is Here**

The measure of a tractor's value is judged by its usefulness. The Model "WC", with air tire equipment, is the most useful two-plow tractor . . . and the most advanced in design . . . on the market today.

**The Merkel Tractor
and Implement Co.**

Handling Allis-Chalmers line of Tractors and Implements

MILT A. DUNN, Manager
Location: Percy Jones Bldg., second door east of Chevrolet

Wishing You A Merry Christmas
And A Happy New Year

**FEEL TIRED, ACHY—
"ALL WORN OUT?"**

Get Rid of Poisons That Make You Ill

Is a constant headache, keeping you miserable? Do you suffer burning, stinging or too frequent urination; attacks of dizziness, rheumatic pains, swollen feet and ankles? Do you feel tired, nervous and unstrung? Then give some thought to your kidneys. Be sure they function properly, for functional kidney disorder permits poisons to stay in a blood and upset the whole system.

Doan's Pills. Doan's are for the kidneys only. They help the kidneys cleanse the blood of health-destroying poisonous waste. Doan's Pills are used and recommended the world over. Get them from any druggist.

DOAN'S PILLS



PETTY & WEST
SANITARY BARBER SHOP



C. S. Higgins Garage



WE ARE HEADQUARTERS

For

Fire Works

COME EARLY

WE NOW HAVE FULL DISPLAY IN
FRONT OF OUR STORE

WEST COMPANY



**THE SEASON'S GREETINGS—
TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS:**

May we wish you and each member of your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year at this, the best and happiest season of the entire year.

As we look back over 1934, we are moved to a deeper and more sincere appreciation of our friends. We want them to know that their loyalty, their confidence and their trust have contributed in no small way to our success.

And so at Christmas time we pause for a moment to lay aside the cares of a busy world and express the good will we have for you in our bank. To you and your family, a Happy Christmas Season and a Prosperous New Year.

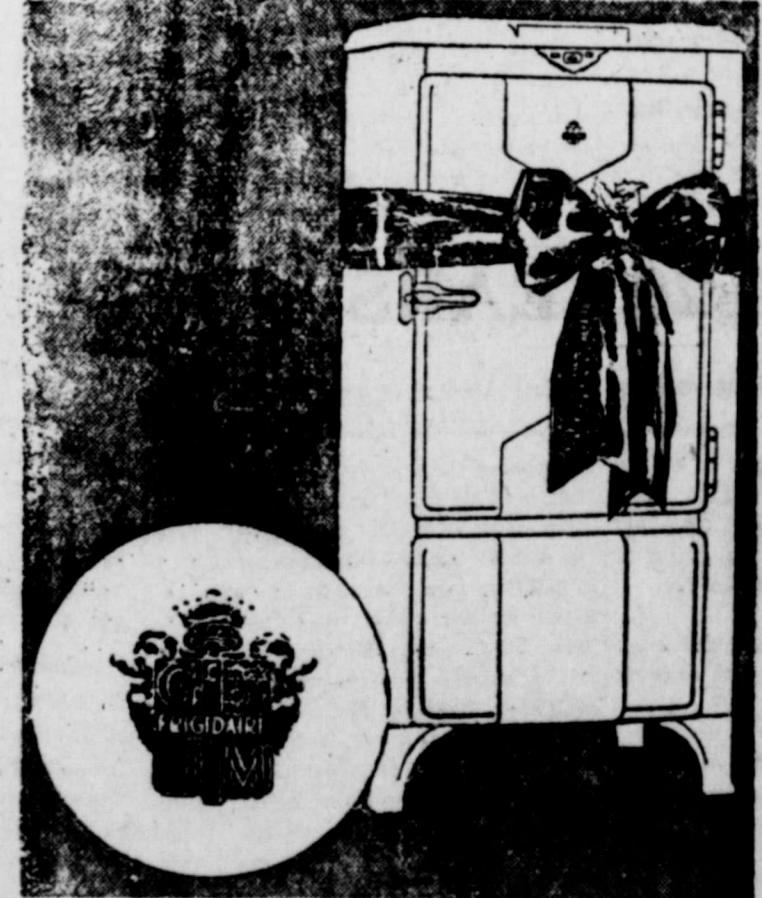
**Farmers & Merchants
National Bank**

Merkel, Texas

OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES:

J. T. Warren	G. F. West	Sam Butman, Sr.
Geo. L. Paxton	Booth Warren	F. Y. Gaither
Mrs. Floyd Davis	Geo. T. Moore	Weston West
	Mary Collins	

**The Christmas Frigidaire...
The Supreme Gift**



Clever husbands, thoughtful brothers, keen sons—all are solving their perplexing problems of what to give the family by selecting THE CHRISTMAS FRIGIDAIRE. It is the expression of your thoughtful loving care through the years—The Gift Supreme.

She will be delighted that your gift is a genuine Frigidaire, with all the Frigidaire features—the super freezer, cold control, hydrator for vegetables, and automatic ice tray release.

W. T. Texas I 14-1

THE BADGER WEEKLY

C H R I S T M A S

BADGERS SPLIT DOUBLE HEADER WITH HAMLIN

Swinging into action at Hamlin Thursday night after only two days of practice behind them, the Badgers lost the first game of a twin bill by the score of 32 to 11. The second game ended with Merkel on the long end of an 11 to 8 score.

Captain Boaz and Cybert stood out on offense, making most of Merkel's shots. Hudson, guard, stood out on the defense.

Tuesday night of this week Merkel meets Anson at Anson and on Friday night they play Roscoe at Roscoe. Nearly all of Merkel's games will be away from home until the gym is finished. With this in view Merkel's fans should get to see the team in action at home several times when they have had a chance to improve their technique.

AN IDYL.
They strolled down the lane together,
The sky was studded with stars,
He opened the gate before her,
And then he clicked the bars.
She raised her brown eyes to him,
There's nothing between them now,
For he was just the hired man,
And she was a Holstein cow.

The Badger Weekly

Published weekly by the students of Merkel High School and sponsored by the Senior class of '35—Mrs. R. B. Irvin, Sponsor.

The Staff:

Editor-in-Chief—Mary Helen Lancaster.
Assistant Editor—Clara Frances Largent.
Society Editor—Vivian Davis.
Sports Editor—Lloyd Robertson.
Joke Editor—Joe Earl Lassiter.

(Published by Clara Frances Largent.)

Our Seniors

Annie Lee Dubosc.

Annie Lee is quiet and good-natured; she always carries a smile. If you have Annie Lee as a classmate in any of your classes, you are a lucky person. Keep up your present ability in your studies, Annie Lee, and you will be with the Seniors in the near future with your cap and gown.

Verner Hester.

Verner is a good sport and a quiet boy. Can any one imagine a boy who is not noisy? You don't have to imagine any longer, just come and take a look at Verner. Due to Verner's quiet ways we don't know how he likes to be a dignified Senior, but we believe he likes it.

IS IT TRUE THAT—

Mary Helen really wants a "big" bottle of Evening in Paris perfume for Christmas?

Clifton likes typing?

Billie Bernice is going to have to put up with "Cookie" a few days pretty soon?

Several Freshmen have written letters to Santa Claus?

Mary Helen and Ethelda are just alike?

Joe, Oscar, Junior, Clara Frances, Betty and Mary Helen have blossomed into chorus "girls" (or maybe it's raving maniacs.)

Mr. Riddle thinks High school students don't like to hear him teach anywhere besides at school?

Harold Reese can really blush?

Mary Frances wants everybody to "drive" by her window and look at her Christmas tree.

Murphy goes to Abilene quite often and knows a girl named Lucile there.

Betty and Mary Helen had a good time at Stith Saturday night with Mary Helen M.

Anna Lou has better friends in other places besides Merkel.

Some people look enough like angels to play that part in a play.

ENGLISH CLUB MEETINGS.

The ninth grade English classes are working in earnest with their new organization—two After English

clubs. Under the supervision of able program chairmen, two splendid programs have been enjoyed.

In November Sis Gamble, with three other members, Ruth Smith, Laverne Hughes and Bud Gambill, planned an interesting hour for the first section around "The Story Hour." Various stories were studied, and each club member answered to roll call by impersonating some character found in the study of literature.

Betty Grimes and her helpers, Mary Frances Cook, Ray Hagler and Murphy Dye, based their program on "Our Yesterdays." Each member responded to roll call by presenting some phase of his earlier life. Riley's reminiscent poems were studied.

Both clubs are planning other meetings to be held before the holidays.

SOLILQUY OF A DIME.

(By Juanita Huskey.)

Well, here I am in the cash register at Reid's Variety store. Maybe I can rest for a while. Since the first big Christmas sale I have been changing hands rapidly. During this time, I have come in contact with many kinds of people. The last of these persons, in whose purse I stayed for almost ten minutes, was very typical of that kind of persons who are always in such a hurry that they do not have time to stop and think. Not thinking is a very bad habit and may lead to disaster in numberless forms. This lady was also typical of a common kind of Christmas shopper. I gathered from her conversation with a friend that she would be very glad when Christmas was over. She spent little time in choosing gifts. Her aim seemed to be to get a gift of some kind for everyone who she thought would give her a present. Some of these she despised. Though her purse was filled with coin and bill she begrudged every nickel she spent. I am sure that, if the people to whom she gives presents knew her attitude, they would not appreciate her gifts. There! Enough said about her! There are hundreds of her kind in the world. They forget that.

"The gift without the giver is bare." As my grandmother always said, "I don't know what this old world's coming to next." Goodbye. Here I go into another purse.

Funny Boners

Winston: "Do you see that girl over there under the tree?"

Harold M.: "Yes."

Winston: "You know, she once made a fool out of me."

Harold M.: "What a lasting impression some girls make."

Francis Scoggin: "Gladys, do you think that love is blind?"

Gladys M.: "Well, I don't know. Why do you ask?"

Francis Scoggin: "I was just thinking; if it weren't blind, what a hard time Jo Earl will have getting married."

Soph: "What is 5 q and 5 q?"

Frosh: "Ten q."

Soph: "Oh, you're welcome."

Newlywed husband: "Say honey, this roast tastes awfully funny. Did you burn it?"

Wife: "Yes, I did, but I applied Ungentine as quickly as I could."

Negro preacher: "Well, Rastus, I guess that yo' is all ready to get hooked up?"

Rastus: "Yas sah."

Preacher: "But, Rastus, you look so down-hearted and nervous. Did you forget something?"

Rastus: "Naw sah, I've got everything, but I've done lost my enthusiasm."

A QUESTION.

"When he was just a little lad,
What mighty Christmas trees he had!

'My tree,' he'd say, 'must touch the sky;
It wears a star, it is so high.'

But year by year, as he stretched taller

The Christmas tree shrank small and smaller—

One wonders if the reason was,
He lost his faith in Santa Claus."

the most joyful and happiest season of the year—is again here to give us the most priceless of all privileges . . . giving . . . and to bring all mankind closer together.

We wish you and yours a Merry, Merry Christmas and the happiest of days ahead.

This Bank Will Not Be Opened All Day

CHRISTMAS DAY

Tuesday, December 25th

FARMERS STATE BANK IN MERKEL

OFFICERS— C. M. Largent, President; W. L. Diltz, Cashier; Herbert Patterson, Assistant Cashier.

DIRECTORS— C. M. Largent, W. W. Toombs, J. A. Patterson, Jr., W. L. Diltz.

YULETIDE GREETINGS

We wish we could ever find words that would impart fully our appreciation for all you've done for us. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your trust and confidence that has made whatever success we have attained a possibility.

Our earnest endeavor for the New Year will be, in an even greater degree, to merit your reliance in us.

Merry Christmas
And A Happy New Year

DOUGLASS DAIRY



LOW FARES

for Christmas
and New Years

LIBERAL RETURN LIMITS

Holiday fares on sale daily beginning
DECEMBER 13th

... Treat yourself to the grandest thrill of all... a Christmas visit with home folks! Ride the train for speed, safety, comfort and economy!



FOR RATES AND RESERVATIONS SEE YOUR LOCAL TICKET AGENT

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

W. O. BONEY
MERKEL, TEXAS

Farm Loans and all kinds of Insurance



LIBERTY SERVICE STATION

JAY GREENFIELD, Manager

MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS
FOR RESULTS—PHONE 61

PROFESSIONAL

Dr. L. C. Zehnpfennig
Dentist

General Practice of Dentistry
Office, Merkel Sanitarium

Phone 163

M. SHAW,
Manager
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YULETIDE GOOD WISHES

QUEEN THEATRE

MAIL WANT ADS FOR RESULTS

MERKEL MAIL

Friday Morning
Caple, Publishers.
PHONE NO. 61

at the postoffice at Merkel,
as second class mail.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

For and Jones counties \$1.50
where else \$2.00
(In Advance)

Advertising Rates On Application.

Obituaries, resolutions of respect,
ads of thanks, etc., are classed as
advertising, and will be charged for
1c per word.

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS.

(By Mrs. P. H. Gates.)

Although Christmas is the celebra-
tion of the coming of a babe in a
manger in the humble surroundings of
a carpenter's shop thousands of years
ago, it has a deeper meaning every
year.

No wonder the angels from the cele-
stial choir sang over the Bethlehem
fields that night the babe was born.
It was no wonder they sang the
message of the prophet, "On earth
peace, good will toward men," for
peace was what the babe symbolized,
and that is what Christmas means
today.

If we believe in the Christmas mes-
sage, we shall look for God among the
lowly, the despised of earth. We shall
look for, and seek him in self-forgetful
service to the sinful, the heart-broken,
the weak, the friendless, the home-
less, the unemployed at this Yuletide
season.

At the mention of Christmas deep-
er feelings of the heart begin to sur-
round one's being. In general,
even the story is a romantic one of
goodness and good will. Humanity at
its conventional worst of poverty and
sin is made to blossom out with heav-
enly beauty and sacred joy as for the
moment it plays the god-like part of
the giver of gifts.

Such beautiful customs and legends
about Christmas have been given us in
song and story, it is hard to tell fact
from fancy. How much that has been
told leaves one "smiley" round the
mouth, and teary "round the lashes,"
and how much mellowness it has
brought! For instance, the story of
the humble wood cutter, who had cut
green branches for his hovel, but had
nothing with which to beautify those
branches for his children's joy. Then
in the snow he found a little child
shivering in his rags, hungry for want
of food. The wood cutter brought the
child to the warmth of his fire and
gave him his own supper. By morning
the child had disappeared, but there
on the boughs was a web of light, just
such a blaze of glory and silver as
many happy fingers will be tracing
over thousands of trees on Christmas
Eve this year. The wood cutter recei-

ved because he gave, not expecting
any return.

With great ceremony in the olden
days the Christmas log was chosen
with care and laid in the fireplace,
was lighted with a brand saved from
last year's "log." Eating, drinking,
singing, telling tales in the ruddy
blaze were part of the Christmas cele-
bration. All through the night that
Yule-log was kept burning and, if
overnight the flame went out, ill luck
would surely befall the home. This
Yule-log was the symbol of Christmas,
of cheer and happiness. Peer and
peasant joined together. Holly, Mis-
siletoes, games, the groaning Christmas
dinner, even the service at the church
were partaken alike by young and old,
rich and poor.

When Christmas comes, how nat-
ural to love even our enemies, caress
our friends, for we are happy, ex-
uberantly happy. How natural for
that mirth to bubble up from within.
It makes the young, the old want to
ring bells, blow a horn, shout, sing.
The fountain of youth opens up, and
backward to the childhood home at
Christmas time. Rows of stockings by
the old fireplace—and such joy when
first those stockings were beheld on
Christmas morning—each stocking
full, bulging with a dolly at the top
in one, a horn in another, on down
the line. Those stockings—how much
happiness they held! No doubt then,
there was a Santa Claus. A real, live
human with long white beard, a jolly,
round little fellow, with sparkling
eyes. Those were happy days and
Christmas meant cheer, mirth, happi-
ness.

But this is not all that Christmas
means. It means to wrap up every
secret worry, that canker of resent-
ment, that black depression, that im-
patience, that malice or hatred which
has been nursed, maybe for years,
and, having wrapped them all up
securely, place them at the feet of the
Christ Child and leave them there.
When the burdens are gone, free and
happy again, all can join in the glad
hallelujah chorus of the angels as
they sing "Peace on Earth, Good Will
Toward All Men."

Read the advertisements in this
paper. There's a message in every one
of them that may enable you to save
money. At least you will know where
to find what you want without doing
a lot of hunting and asking questions,
and you also know the merchants ap-
preciate your patronage because they
solicit your business and make special
offerings of their goods.

TWO PAPERS FOR \$1.50.
The Semi-Weekly Farm News costs
\$1.00 per year—the Merkel Mail, \$1.00
per year in Taylor county, (\$1.50 out-
side of Taylor county); both papers
for \$1.50 in Taylor county, \$2.00 else-
where. Send in your order, whether
new subscriber or renewal.

A PERSONAL MESSAGE

from the Management

Deep down in our hearts we have a feeling of gratitude and sincere thanks for those loyal patrons and friends who have been with us day in and day out, month in and month out for the past year.

We count first among the assets of this business, the only one that money can not buy . . . your good will and friendship. May the New Year hold much good in store for you and your Christmas be blest with every-
thing good.

We Thank You!

WOOZY'S CAFE

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

If you have a furnished apartment or furnished rooms for rent, why not try a classified advertisement in the Merkel Mail? It will cost only 25 cents per insertion.

PHONE 61

Preaches Twice to Trent Congregation

Rev. John W. Reynolds of Clyde, who is pastor of the First Baptist church at Trent, preached Sunday and Sunday night at the Trent school auditorium.

Letter to Santa Claus.

Dear Santa Claus:
I am a little boy seven years old. I go to school at Goodman. I have tried hard to be a good boy this year and there are lots of things I want, but don't want to be selfish. If you will please bring me a tricycle, I'll be willing for you to take the rest to other boys and girls.

Your little friend,
Donald Greene.
Trent, Texas, December 14, 1934.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.
A few boxes of the beautiful 21-card assortment left, 95c per box. Also individual cards and envelopes 5c per set. At the Merkel Mail office.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, 1935, being the 8th day of the month at 4 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and such other business as may come before the meeting.

W. L. Diltz, Cashier.

Complete line of office supplies at Mail office.

Standard Typewriter Ribbons 75c each at Merkel Mail office.

Edsel Church Wins Set of Silverware

F. E. Church, representative of the Southwestern Life Insurance company, who attended the company's annual convention at Fort Worth last week, was awarded a set of Sterling silverware by the company, he having been a producer each and every week for the past year. All told, Edsel has kept up that record for 136 weeks.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our deepest appreciation of the kindness shown us during the recent death of our dear loved one and for the words of comfort and beautiful floral offerings.

We shall always hold your love and sympathy in tender memory.

Mrs. L. W. Gilmore and Children.
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Jacobs and Son.
Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Campbell and Family.

Mrs. C. F. Gauden and Family
Roy Gilmore.
And Other Relatives.

YOUNG MOTHERS

Don't experiment with children's colds... Treat them as your own mother did—externally. No dosing! Just rub throat and chest with...

VICKS VAPORUB

PROVED BY 2 GENERATIONS



Wishing you much joy on Christmas



A. J. CANON

We have just installed

OUR NEW GREASING RACK

with SPECIAL GREASE GUNS FOR EVERY PART

Give Us a Trial

WOODRUM'S FILLING STATION

Save Money on This Clubbing Rate

ABILENE MORNING NEWS

and

MERKEL MAIL

Both Papers, one year, for

\$5.15

LET US SEND YOUR ORDER IN

THE MERKEL MAIL

New subscribers will be given until January 1, 1936, on Abilene Morning News.

Christmas Greetings

As Usual We Wish for You
A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

We also wish to remind you that we are headquarters for Useful

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Remember We Are

Giving Away \$138.50 worth of New FURNITURE FREE

Don't Fail to Get Your Ticket for This

FREE MERCHANDISE

Will be given away at 3 p. m. Jan. 1st.

BARROW FURNITURE CO.

Closing Out At Wholesale Cost

MUST VACATE BUILDING
JANUARY 1ST

W. I. PETERS

MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS

Our wish is that Christmas may bring Happiness and Prosperity to you and that your house may be their dwelling place the live-long New Year through. May your gifts be many, your heart be gay and all the joys be yours on this glad holiday.

Along with these wishes let us also offer our thanks to you for your patronage in the past and your good will. We hope that we have served you in such a way that you will find it pleasant and profitable to give us your business in the future. We expect and hope to see you the majority of the days in the next twelve months.

MERKEL DRUG COMPANY

MERKEL MAIL WANT ADS FOR

Friday, December 18, 1936

412 1

FOR SALE

Washed OATS free of Johnson grass 10c per bushel in small lots. Sam Putman.

FOR SALE—We have a number of boys' and men's good all-wool suits for sale at a ridiculously low price. Come in and see them. Blake's Dry Cleaners, next door to "M" System. Phone 68.

FOR SALE—Good piano. Vernon Horton, Merkel, Texas, Route 1.

FOR SALE

MULES AND HORSES

All Kinds Used Farm Implements

WEST COMPANY, Inc.

WANTED

WILL BUY your maize and grain. Write me about your hauling; prices sales. Light, Paul H. Douglas, Phone 133.

ONE THOUSAND back number magazines wanted at Neill's Cafe, next door to bus station.

WANTED—By family of four a place on shares or foreman of farm with land and pay; experienced Farmall and blacksmith. Reference on demand. L. S. Allen, Dunn, Texas.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—January 1, store building on Front street, now occupied by Lancaster Radio shop. W. O. Boney.

FOR RENT—Good four room house, garage and cow lot, close in. Call at City Furniture company. Joe Garland.

Trent Girl Appears In Christmas Recital

Miss Marjorie Adrian, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Adrian of Trent, was on program to play in a Christmas recital of the piano department of Abilene Christian college, given by Miss Pat Malone, director of the school of fine arts, in the main piano studio on December 18.

The final piano recital this fall will precede a Christmas party recital in the solicitor of Miss Malone. Seven students from the college piano will take part in the recital, and two from the lower grades. Those on program are: Lane McGregor, Marjorie Adrian, El Sears, Price King, Irene O'Neal, Lin Carruth, Kathleen Roberson, and Alene Morlan and Helen Ruth Rehrey.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

A few boxes of the beautiful 21-assortment left, 95c per box. Also individual cards and envelopes 5c per sheet. The Merkel Mail office.

• Classified Ad in The Mail.

• Classified Ad for Results.

• Classified Ad in The Mail.

The Mail Want Ads.



WATSON'S NEW SANDWICH SHOP

Monday on Highway East of Town



JOHN DUNN PRODUCE HOUSE

Merkel Students Home From Hardin-Simmons

Seven Merkel students now attending Hardin-Simmons university are returning home this week for holiday visits. They are Albert Cade, Janie Escue, Beth Hamm, Helen Joyner, Emily Newman, Floyd Beece and Himalaya Swafford.

Cade, a sophomore, is a member of the ministerial council. He was also a star member of the Minister's football team in intramural play. Miss Escue, a junior, is a member of the science club and the classical club.

Miss Hamm, a senior, is a Cowgirl and senior editor of the Bronco, university yearbook. Miss Newman, a freshman, is a member of the history club and the social science club. The other two are sophomores at the university.

Death Claims Rev. S. J. T. Williams

Rev. S. J. T. Williams, 57, nationally known Baptist evangelist and mission worker who was serving pastorates at Salt Branch and Talpa, succumbed to illness of five months at his home in Abilene Sunday night.

Funeral services were held at the First Baptist church, Abilene, on Monday afternoon, under direction of the pastor, Dr. M. A. Jenkins. All the other Baptist pastors in Abilene, and Dr. L. R. Scarborough of Fort Worth assisted.

Surviving are his wife, a son, Finlon Williams, a daughter, Miss Madelon Williams, teacher in the Salt Branch school, his mother, Mrs. C. F. Jennings, four brothers and three sisters, of Berea, Ky.

ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING.

Notice is hereby given: That the annual meeting of the stockholders of The Farmers and Merchants National Bank of Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank on Tuesday the 8th day of January, 1937, at six o'clock p. m., for the election of directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Booth Warren, Cashier.

Standard Typewriter Ribbons 75c each at Merkel Mail office.

Advertise in The Merkel Mail.



Now FINE DIAMOND RINGS ARE "TAILORED"



UNUSUAL VALUES in Clocks - Watches SILVERWARE

May we Suggest

One of Our **Diamond Rings** for **Christmas!**

W. C. FISHER

Jeweler and Optometrist

126 Pine St. Abilene, Texas

"Over a Quarter Century"



Xmas Specials at the

THE RED & WHITE STORES



Friday, Saturday & Monday, December 21, 22, 24

- CHRISTMAS FRUITS TO FIT ANY SIZE STOCKING**
- ORANGES, range in price from 1c each up to 60c Dozen.
 - WINESAP APPLES, priced 1c each to 25c Dozen.
 - DELICIOUS APPLES, priced 30c Dozen to 50c Dozen.
 - All Fruit is Quality Brand and Priced to Sell
 - FRESH COCOANUTS, each 9c
 - CELERY, stalk 10c
 - YAMS, 5 pounds 17c
 - FANCY SPUDS, Burbank', 5 pounds 19c
 - CRANBERRIES, pound 29c
 - WHOLE HAMS, 10 to 12 pounds, lb. 22c
 - BACON, sliced, pound 25c
 - CHEESE, full cream, pound 20c
 - FRITOS, krisp and tender—try them as they are—By all means do add them to that Turkey dressing, family size pkg 17c
 - PUMPKIN, No. 2 can, each 10c
 - CHERRIES, No. 2 can, each 14c
 - BLACKBERRIES, No. 2 can, each 10c
 - STRAWBERRIES, No. 2 can, each 27c
 - PINEAPPLE JUICE, per can 10c
 - CRANBERRY SAUCE, R & W, per can 19c
 - PEACHES, R & W, No. 1 can 13c
 - No. 2 1-2 can 19c
 - PEARS, R & W No. 1 16c—No. 2 1-2 25c
 - PINEAPPLE, B & W, No. 1 can, 3 for 25c
 - CALUMET BAKING POWDER, 1 lb. can 23c
 - TAPIOCA, Minute, package 14c
 - POST BRAN, package 10c
 - WALNUTS, budded, pound 23c
 - ALMONDS, pound 23c
 - BRAZIL NUTS, pound 19c
 - PECANS, fancy large, pound 35c
 - SHELLED PECANS, halves, 1-2 lb. 37c
 - POPCORN, 10 ounce cans, 2 for 25c
 - MIXED CANDY, pound 15c
 - CHOCOLATE CANDY, pound 15c
 - PEPPERMINT STICKS, each 5c
 - PITTED DATES, R & W, 10 oz. pkg. 19c
 - WHITE FIGS, 8 oz. pkg. 10c
 - MARSHMALLOWS, R & W, lb. 19c
 - WHITE KARO, 1 1-2 lb. can 15c
 - CRISCO, 3 lb. can 59c—6 lb. can \$1.15
 - WESSON OIL, pint 25c
 - SUGAR, pure cane, 10 lbs. 53c—25 lbs. \$1.29
 - POWDERED or BROWN SUGAR, 2 packages 17c
 - FLAV-R-JELL, all flavors, pkg. 5c
 - KNOX GELATINE, package 22c
 - MILK, R & W, 3 large 19c—6 small 19c
 - CHOCOLATE, Hershey's 1-2 lb. 17c
 - COCOANUT, R & W, 1-4 lb. pkg. 10c
 - COCOA, Hershey's 1-2 lb. pkg. 10c
 - MINCEMEAT, R & W, pkg. 10c
 - GRAPE JUICE, R & W, pint 19c
 - GINGER ALE, Sunset bottle 10c
 - EXTRACT, R & W, bottle 22c
 - SALAD DRESSING, Sun Spun, pint quart 20c 33c
 - CATSUP, R & W, bottle 18c
 - PICKLES, 16 oz. jar 25c
 - MACARONI, R & W, 2 packages 15c
 - ASPARAGUS, R & W, No. 1 can 15c
 - LIMA BEANS, No. 2 can, each 19c
 - GRAPE JAM, R & W, pound 19c
 - PEAS, R & W, No. 2 can each 18c
 - PEAS, Sunset, No. 2 can, each 10c
 - CORN, R & W, No. 2 can, each 16c
 - OYSTERS, 5 oz. can 14c
 - COFFEE, R & W, pound 35c
 - COFFEE, Sun Up, pound 19c
 - OLIVES, B & W, quart 35c
 - RIPE OLIVES, 16 oz. can 25c
 - OLIVES, stuffed, 7 1-2 oz. jar 28c
 - OLIVES, plain, 7 1-2 oz. jar 22c
 - CRACKERS, A-1 Soda, 2 packages 15c

TRAILS' END

by AGNES LOUISE PROVOST

ELEVENTH INSTALLMENT.
SYNOPSIS—Three weeks after a ram colored roadster had been wrecked in the sea at the foot of a cliff, a girl calling herself Anne appears at the desert town Marston. She has bought, sight unseen a ranch located thirty miles away. Barry Duane, her nearest neighbor and his man, Boone Petry procure a reliable woman for her and in Barry's car, loaded down with supplies, they start across the desert. In Marston her reticence has aroused suspicion. Barry and Anne become more than neighbors and when Anne is lost in the hills and rescued by Barry, each realizes that something more than friendship exists between them.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY:
 Her foot tapped impatiently. "Either."

Again that curious, speculative glance on her. "What's the inducement?"

"To you? I suppose you could use money. And of course you wouldn't want my father to know why you were here. Or Mr. Gage."

He let the threat pass. "It's worth ten thousand."

"That's a high price for just giving somebody an order." She seemed startled.

Kennedy waved the suggestion aside. "I'll take your check for five thousand on account and hold it uncashed until I've finished the job. Then I'll take the rest in small bills."

"Five thousand before you've done anything? That would be very foolish."

"Those are my terms," Kennedy shrugged unconcernedly. "I'm not worried about my end of the job. This is a game where I hold the cards."

For a moment a cold feeling crawled over Cleo. Kennedy did hold the cards. He could hold them against her, too.

"I agree. But it must be done quickly."

"A week or ten days ought to answer."

In five brief minutes he had his check out in the grounds, Kennedy lit his cigarette.

"The little devil!" he mused. "The little yellow-headed devil!"

He flung the cigarette away and ground it under his heel. It was tough, he reflected moodily, but if Duane was any good he would follow her, and if he didn't Nancy was well rid of him. Besides, she'd have to go away before the Gages came, or there would be the devil to pay all around.

The Gage house was nearing completion. About the middle of the morning a glittering black car shot smoothly along this highway. In the back sat a big man of about fifty, with iron grey hair, a strong jaw and grey eyes. He was not in the least handsome, but nobody ever overlooked John Gage. Strength and will and a bulldog tenacity showed plainly in the square lines of his face. His personal office staff agreed that the old man was as hard as nails, but fair. A few years ago he had startled his few intimates by suddenly marrying a girl who had been appearing in the Follies.



G. M. Presley
 JEWELER
 209 Pine Abilene, Texas

ing up for the week-end to their Lake George camp, and they want us to come."

"I'd love to go." She jumped at the chance of respite from Granleigh. They motored up to the Halliday's camp. A little after three they were running through the outskirts of a small city, and presently Halliday's car turned toward the railroad.

"He's probably going to the station," Dick volunteered. "Ward Riddle is coming up by train and I suppose it's due here about this time. Tom thought he might be able to flag him somewhere. Let's get out and help."

Halliday marshaled his party at various strategic points along the platform, where they might catch Ward Riddle's eye. Anne, who did not know him, found herself midway between Westbrooke and Atwood.

The train came in, Dick whooped at a face in a window and raced in pursuit. Anne looked after him, her face alight with laughter, and did not notice a group of people descending from a nearer car.

There were half a dozen of them, women and men, and it would not have taken a particularly initiated eye to see that they belonged either to a cheap road company or a small time vaudeville turn. One of them, a blonde, looked curiously; her widening eyes fell on Anne.

"Why hello, dearie! Where've you been all this time?"

Anne saw Barry's head turn quickly.

"I'm sorry, I think you must have mistaken me for someone else." She tried to be nice about it, and saw an angry lip curl.

"Oh, really!" The blonde flushed and her voice went a little higher. "I thought you were a friend of mine. We were in the same company a few years ago, but p'raps I'd better not mention names. Pardon me!"

"It was a natural mistake. I've been told before that I look like someone on the stage."

"I should say. You could double for her, easy."

"That's interesting," Anne smiled disarmingly, but her lips felt stiff.

The blonde girl moved on, still flushed and far from mollified. Dick called out as Anne approached.

"I thought the blonde was going to make a touch, Nancy."

There was a light barrage of chatter as they went back to the cars.

"I'm afraid I made her angry," Anne sent a quick glance after the vanishing group. "It was embarrassing for her."

"You can't embarrass that kind," said Halliday comfortably.

Anne looked around for Barry.

"Silly, wasn't it?" she asked nervously.

"Ridiculous." He looked ashamed of his ill humor, and shook it off.

The blonde girl looked after them as the two opulent looking cars curved away from the station. An older woman beside her laughed under her breath.

"You made a fine break, Tess. Didn't you know?"

"Did I know she'd throw down the folks she used to work with because she was with a lot of swells?" demanded Tess angrily.

The older woman laughed again. "Tess, you're funny. But I thought I was seeing ghosts myself for a minute. Hadn't you heard that Nancy Curtis was dead?"

"No!" The girl stared unbelievably. "When—"

"Last spring. She was killed in an automobile accident."

"Hmp. Are you sure? She's the image of Nancy?"

"Of course I'm sure. Don't be a goof, Tess, and don't hold any grudge against Nancy Curtis. She was a good kid, and if she got on better than the rest of us I guess it was because she had something that we didn't."

"It's easy to talk," said Tess sullenly. "Maybe she had and maybe she hadn't. You might have been further up the line yourself, Connie, if you'd had a John Gage to back you. Money talks, all right, and what's more, it can make folks listen."

(Continued Next Week.)

Standard Typewriter Ribbons 75¢ each at Merkel Mail office.
 Advertise in The Merkel Mail.

MAY THESE BE YOURS—

- HEALTH
- HAPPINESS
- PROSPERITY

During This Christmas and Coming New Year—1935!

BRAGG DRY GOODS COMPANY

Wishing You A Very Merrie

CHRISTMAS
 In The Good Old Fashioned Style...

The joy giving power of Christmas has spread to the remotest corners of the world. Its memories of happy days gone by... its promise of happy days to come invite us to share our joys as far as we may with our friends and to wish for one and all the choicest blessings of this glorious Yuletide season!

May we take this occasion to extend our thanks to our patrons who have favored us in ways during the past year and wish for them a thing worthwhile during the New Year.

MERKEL MOTOR COMPANY



CONTINENTAL OIL CO.
 H. L. DUFFER, Agent



AMERICAN CAFE

FLOSSIE

MACK

OUR "NEW DEAL" Wish For You—

This is a day of "New Deals"... when a Nation arises solidly in support of a President who strives for, and is succeeding in bringing our Nation back to prosperity.

And with the coming of 1935... and the "New Deal" in full swing, it is our New Year's wish for you, that you and yours will find all of the happiness and prosperity which the New Deal brings.

May the New Year bring a "New" and better deal for ALL!

MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM CO.
 C. H. JONES, Agent

WE ENJOY OUR BUSINESS

Duty is a pleasure when it is seasoned with good will and performed among friends. That is why we enjoy the daily routine of our business. It is a joy and a pleasure to be able to thank you for your kindness during the closing season and to wish for you a Merry Christmas and a bright New Year.

Wheeler & Vaughn Market

412 National Banks Reopened in 1934

Washington, Dec. 20.—Nine national banks were licensed in November, bringing the total reopened during the year to 412, J. F. T. O'Connor, comptroller of currency, stated.

These were banks which remained closed at the end of the bank holiday of March 1933.

Chevrolet Output Gains 35 Per Cent

Flint, Mich., Dec. 20.—November retail sales in the United States by the Chevrolet Motor Company, totaling 50,819 units, were the largest for that month since 1926 and were exceeded by only one previous November in the history of the company, M. E. Coyle, president, announced here today. November broke another record of 8 years' standing and it marks the first time since 1926 that sales for the month have exceeded October sales.

Based on production figures for the first 10 months of the previous year, Mr. Coyle estimated the 1934 production of Chevrolet passenger cars and trucks will show an increase of approximately 35 per cent over 1933. Pay rolls for the first 10 months of this year were 45 per cent greater than for all of 1933, Mr. Coyle said. The total of wages and salaries paid to Chevrolet employees up to November 11 of this year was \$67,606,994.59.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We will appreciate the privilege of sending in your subscriptions to the leading magazines. On a great many of them, if you want to include your subscription to The Mail, we are in position to make special clubbing offer. See us before you renew.

See special combination offer Semi-Weekly Farm News and Merkel Mail in this issue.

Read the advertisements in this paper. There's a message in every one of them that may enable you to save money. At least you will know where to find what you want without doing a lot of hunting and asking questions, and you also know the merchants appreciate your patronage because they solicit your business and make special offering of their goods.

TELEPHONE THE MAIL

The Mail will be glad to receive news of entertainments or visitors in Merkel homes, as well as other news items of a general nature. If you have company, entertain friends or return from a trip please telephone 61 or 29.

White Church News

Rev. Arthur Kendall of Abilene preached here Sunday morning and night.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Wilson and daughter, Miss Beryl Kathryn, of Levelland spent Thanksgiving in the home of Mrs. Wilson's mother and sister, Mrs. W. H. Brown and Nell Pressly.

Our school had a pie supper last Thursday night. We thank everyone for their support and also invite them to a Christmas program and tree Thursday night, December 20.

Mrs. A. D. Barnes entertained her Sunday School class of the Blair Baptist church with a dinner Sunday. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Patton, Misses Norma Patton, Francis Scoggin, Sarah and Neva Malone and Robert Malone and Woodrow Barnes.

Friends of Mrs. P. F. West will be glad to know she is doing very well, but still remains in the hospital at Temple. We hope she will be home for the holidays.

Rev. and Mrs. Alma Matthews and children of Caps visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Matthews, Friday night.

Mrs. P. A. Riggan visited her parents at Big Spring the past week-end.

Mrs. G. S. Phillips is improving slowly. We hope she will soon be well again.

Mrs. Raymond Demere has returned

home after some three months' visit with her parents in California.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

NOODLE FIFTH SUNDAY.

As we are nearing the Fifth Sunday once more we wish to call your attention to same so that you may make ready for it, and when I ask you why you were not there you cannot say, "I clear forgot it's being our Fifth Sunday singing."

So all you church people do not neglect any of your church worship, but arrange it so you can meet us and start the song service at 10:30 and remain to the close. If you have a singing friend, drop him a postal telling him to come, as we want all the big boys and most all the little ones there. The best way to have a singing is to get a bunch of singers together and just put the business over. And you need not worry about the Noodle people. They will have everything square on the dot. W.J. Bicknell and Mr. Justice will see to the arrangements; so everyone do your best for a good day. I just know we are going

to have it and please do not let the holidays bump you off. Just save some of the pleasure and good things for the singing.

We have the promise of some real talent, some good quartettes as well as others, to visit us at this time. So just tell the people it will be the biggest singing they ever met with.

Please be on time. Full house desired at 10:30.

Lovingly yours,
Tom Spears.

David Bruce of New York in 1838 invented the type-casting machine which has revolutionized the art of type founding.

If you have any visitors. Phone 29 or 61.



GOOD, AND ECONOMICAL TOO

TEXAS GIRL Coffee
Lb. 22c
4 lbs. 72c

Wm. P. Carey Lumber Company
(Formerly Merkel Lumber Co.)

MELTON'S GROCERY

R & R PALACE Sweetwater

Friday-Saturday
Gene Raymond in
"BEHOLD MY WIFE"

Sunday-Monday
Kay Francis in
"BRITISH AGENT"

Tuesday-Wednesday
Jack Oakie in
"COLLEGE RHYTHM"

Thursday Only
John Barrymore in
"20TH CENTURY"

R. & R. RITZ
Friday-Saturday
Tim McCoy in
"THE PRESCOTT KID"

Palace opens Sunday 2 p. m. and runs continuous. Complete show after 9 p. m.

SEASON'S JOY

With grateful acknowledgement of courtesies and good will that have made service a pleasure to us we wish you a Christmas of great joy and a New Year of happiness and prosperity.

MAX MELLINGER

HAPPINESS

May happiness be the key-note in your household on this Christmas day from the time the grape-fruit is served at breakfast until the after dinner coffee cups are back in their place and you are snugly tucked in bed, ready for peaceful dreams. The confidence and friendship that we have enjoyed during the past year gives us more courage and determination to serve you better during the coming twelve months of 1935.

CHURCH MOTOR COMPANY

In The Happy Spirit Of Old KRISS KRINGLE'S GREAT HOLIDAY

Happy old Kriss Kringle, who brings so much joy and happiness into the world, who brightens the eyes of little ones and thrills the hearts of everyone, may he come to your house this year and carry you away on his bright new sleigh for a glorious adventure into a bright, prosperous New Year.

We Wish You A Very MERRY CHRISTMAS

—and a Joyous, Prosperous NEW YEAR

"M" SYSTEM STORE
GROCERY AND MARKET

The World's Most Interesting Magazines EVERY WEEK FROM WASHINGTON The Most Important Place in the World

Local news—you get it in your favorite home paper. But you are equally well informed on national and world affairs without a finder. Think of all that is going on! New industrial developments. The all-important agricultural situation! Acts of Congress. Governmental orders and a thousand other things! But how will this reach you personally—THAT'S WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW. The true inside story of what goes on at Washington; understand and reliable information that is so hard to find; the maze of occurrences and fast changing conditions clearly analyzed and explained for you—that is exactly what the Pathfinder will give you. By all means order Pathfinder with this paper in the club which we have arranged for your benefit. ORDER NOW!

Every Week 5 Issues 1.00
PATHFINDER AND PATHFINDER BOTH ONE YEAR
MERKEL MAIL WANT AD...

With Heartiest Greetings 1934
PATTERSON'S MARKET

Ready to Serve
Ready to Share
We find it the easiest thing in the world to wish you one and all a holiday season rich in joys and shining with love. We want to share our feeling of happiness and friendliness with you at this gay season, and strive with renewed efforts to make every transaction of the New Year just as satisfactory and pleasant as though it were made on this glorious Christmas morning.
Merry Christmas and Happy Days Throughout the New Year is Our Wish For Everyone!
BULLOCK HARDWARE CO.

UP TO AND INCLUDING DEC. 31
THE MAIL
OFFERS THE FOLLOWING VERY LOW ANNUAL CLUBBING RATES:
Abilene Morning News 1 Year \$4.65
Merkel Mail 1 Year 1.00
Total \$5.65
Both Papers 1 Year \$5.15
Star Telegram, Daily and Sunday \$6.60
Merkel Mail 1 Year 1.00
Total \$7.60
Both Papers 1 Year \$7.10
Dallas News, Daily and Sunday \$7.50
Merkel Mail 1 Year 1.00
Total \$8.50
Both Papers 1 Year \$8.00
Don't wait until the last minute, as renewal subscriptions will be extended a year in advance from date of expiration. Bring order to our office or mail check to
THE MERKEL MAIL
"Your Home Town Newspaper"

NEWS AND PERSONALS

L. E. Adrian were hosts to the school faculty friends on Monday, '42" and music were enjoyed throughout the evening.

Mrs. Melvin Horton, who moved near Fort Worth to her home, have returned.

and Mrs. B. C. Hamner and daughter of Wink are expected of the week to visit with parents and other relatives and during Christmas holidays.

and Mrs. Bennie Butman and sons of Merkel visited Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Reneau Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Reaves had as their guests Monday Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Langino and little son and Mrs. E. Clyde Smith of Hamlin.

Miss Sallie Freeman has accepted a position in a beauty shop at Sweetwater.

Miss Inez Parker of Post was the weekend guest of her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Riley have as their guests this week a number of relatives from Fresno, Calif.

Messrs T. G. Hamner and Malcolm Beasley spent a few days this week deer hunting in Mason county.

J. A. Archer of Minneapolis came Sunday to spend the Christmas holidays with his mother, Mrs. Mary Archer.

Mrs. Belle Vessel spent Saturday as guest of Mrs. Rose Humphries in Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Reynolds visited relatives at Lamesa Sunday.

Quite a lot of improvement is going on on the south side of town. The T. L. Stevens home has recently been completed. The H. Floor house at the street is fast going up and completed will be a beautiful bungalow. The A. Williamson rock is being remodeled and completed will be a modern one.

Henry Kilgore, who has been in Tennessee for the past few months, has returned here for a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Winn attended the funeral of a friend, Leonard Reeves, at Brownwood Thursday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Kelly of Farwell are announcing the arrival of a baby daughter, Patsy Roth, born on the 13th.

Mrs. G. Hamner visited in the city with her mother, Mrs. E. K. Sorver, this week.

Rose Edwards has returned from Temple hospital and is recovering very well.

and Mrs. Allen Terry have moved into the Bert McRee home.

J. J. Reynolds, who underwent an operation at the West Texas Baptist hospital, Abilene, is back home. He is reported doing fine, but is still in bed.

and Mrs. Carl Carey and baby

were in Merkel Saturday to see "Old Santa."

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Woman's Missionary society of the Methodist church met Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. M. G. Scott, with Mesdames C. R. Shannon and H. K. Kegans as joint hostesses.

Mrs. W. B. Reaves presided over the program. Christmas carols and songs were sung; Mrs. E. E. Cribble led in prayer, and Mrs. R. B. Johnson, who brought the devotional, told in her own way the beautiful story

of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Christianity.

Following this, Mrs. E. Clyde Smith of Hamlin, district director of woman's work, brought a wonderful report on the achievements of the year and outlined the work for 1935.

Mrs. R. L. Langino, wife of the Methodist pastor at Hamlin, brought a beautiful message in song and at the closing of the program Mrs. Scott, assisted by her daughter, Gene, and Miss Dorothy Reaves, served a plate of fruit jello, cake and hot chocolate to the following: Mesdames Smith and Langino of Hamlin, R. B. Johnson, O. A. Smith, A. Terry, C. R.

Shannon, H. Kegans, J. Gafford, E. E. Cribble, R. Elliott, W. B. Reaves and Miss Maimie Gafford.

Typewriter paper for sale at Merkel Mail office.

Standard Typewriter Ribbons 75c each at Merkel Mail office.

Medicated!
 Ingredients of Vicks
 Vaporub in Convenient Candy Form
VICKS COUGH DROP



Jones Dry Goods Co.



ORCHID BEAUTY SHOPPE

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

to our

Many Friends and Patrons

You have given us during the past year a bountiful measure of that greatest of all gifts—

"GOOD WILL"

May joy and pleasure fill your cup to overflowing on Christmas Day, and here are our most cordial remembrances and good wishes for your happiness and prosperity during the coming year.

BARRON MOTOR COMPANY

Winters Are **EASIER**
 Than They Used To Be?
 CERTAINLY . . . Underground pipelines
 made the change

Santa Claus has slick chimney-work in 290 towns in Texas and Oklahoma on the Lone Star network of natural gas because we've been working 25 years to make your smokeless sky-lines. Since Christmas morning starts very early in most houses, our men are busy at the gas wells, the compressors, and along the field lines, building up a peak load long before day.



We know why the winters are easier now than they used to be—it's because of your natural gas. Why should a winter get out of control when a man can turn on a rich and inexpensive heat all over the place? Why should a north wind upset a household when water heaters are turning out two hot baths on a penny's worth of gas? What's a little sleet, so long as you don't have to bring in wood and kindling, and build fires? Thousands of miles of underground gas lines have changed the winters in this part of the country.

New Gas Inventions

Would you like to help yourself to still more comfort at your house for the New Year? Shop at your appliance dealer's for the new gas inventions, from heaters to refrigerators. We show some of this equipment in the panel below. It does its work, whatever it is, for much less cost than any other method, because of your natural gas.

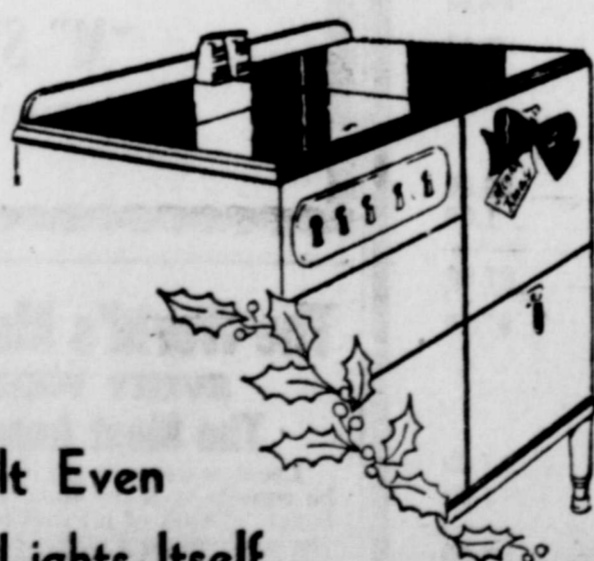
THE SEASON'S GREETINGS

Sincere and friendly approval of the only asset you can not buy. YOUR OWN.

Be true to you at this holiday season. Not as a customer but as a friend—

LIST OF WISHES FOR THE COMING YEAR

W. & WHATLEY VICE STATION
 PHONE 246



It Even Lights Itself

Cool Oven Walls. Temperature dial for CORRECT oven temperatures. Gliding smokeless broiler. New type burners. And gas is much faster and lower-priced than any other cooking heat.

New Heaters Work Like Furnaces

Have you seen the new enclosed heaters that work like furnaces? Here's one in this picture, the handsome lacquered cabinet. The flame never touches the air you breathe, because the firebox vents out the flue. The Floor Furnace is another popular invention, a highly efficient heater that fits under the floor.



So Modern It Needs No Complicated Machinery

And the Gas Refrigerator runs for much less cost than any other method. Not a speck of noise or vibration. Beautifully finished and equipped with the latest improvements.



Allday and Hatters

Community Natural Gas Co.

Honor Roll

TYE SCHOOL.

Honor roll of the Tye school was announced Saturday by J. C. Hinds, principal.

The roll follows, by grades:
Second, Bill Abbott, Waneta Askins, Margie Kimmy, Junior Warren.

Third: Imogene Hassey, T. V. Abbott, Billie Jean Baker, Molly Hinds.
Fourth: Bettie Lou Cade.

Fifth: Wayne Dalton, Ernest Toland.

Sixth: Winnie Mae Ayers, Oleta Abbott, Inez Askins, Ollie Belle Chase.

Seventh: Frances Baker, Yvonne Hassey, Irene Mauldin.

Ninth: John Bill Smith, Aubrey Isom Edgar Williams, Esther Thomas, Earl Cherry.

BLAIR SCHOOL.

The following pupils of the Blair school were on the honor roll for the second six weeks term:

First grade: Jo Dean Bryan, 90; Otilla Doan, 91.

Second grade: Orvell Brown, 90; Jimmie Campbell, 90; Durwood Doan, 91; Carlene Hughes, 91; Howard Mayberry, 91; Billie Jean Melton, 90.

Third grade: Betty Joe Peterson, 93; Donnie Melton, 92; Denzel R. Melton, 90.

Fourth grade: Jessie Merle Brown, 93; Geraldene Cox, 92; Dorothy Johnson, 90; Gladys Whatley, 90.

Fifth grade: Madlyn Brown, 93; Frances Peterson, 92.

Sixth grade: Madalene Addison, 95.

Seventh grade: Joy Doan, 90; Clayton Doan, 90; Oma Nell Scoggin, 90.

Eighth grade: Mary Griggs, 95.

Read the advertisements in this paper. There's a message in every one of them that may enable you to save money. At least you will know where to find what you want without doing a lot of hunting and asking questions, and you also know the merchants appreciate your patronage because they solicit your business and make special offering of their goods.

L HEADACHES GONE SIMPLE REMEDY DOES IT

Headaches caused by constipation gone after one dose of Adlerika. It cleans poisons out of BOTH upper and lower bowels. Ends bad sleep, nervousness. Merkel Drug Co.



McFarland Garage



City Shoe Shop

WEAK AND SKINNY MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Saved by new Vitamins of Cod Liver Oil in tasteless tablets.
Founds of firm healthy flesh instead of bare scraggy bones! New vigor, vim and energy instead of tired listlessness! Steady, quiet nerves! That is what thousands of people are getting through scientists' latest discovery—the Vitamins of Cod Liver Oil concentrated in little sugar coated tablets without any of its horrid, fishy taste or smell. McCoy's Cod Liver Oil Tablets, they're the best! "Cod Liver Oil in Tablets", and they apply work wonders. A little boy of 3, seriously sick, got well and gained 10 1/2 lbs. in at one month. A girl of thirteen after the same disease, gained 5 lbs. the first week and the second week after. A young mother who could not eat or sleep after baby came got all her health back and gained 10 lbs. in less than a month.
You simply must try McCoy's at once. Remember if you don't gain at least 5 lbs. of firm healthy flesh in a month get your money back. Demand and get McCoy's—the original and genuine Cod Liver Oil Tablets—approved by Good Housekeeping Institute. Beware all substitutes—insist on the original McCoy's—there are none better.

THE BOOK

(Continued from Page One.)
Stand fast there, ore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. . .
For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. . .
If we live in the Spirit let us walk in the Spirit.
Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, enjoying one another. . .
Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.
And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers State Bank in Merkel, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of said bank the second Tuesday in January, 1935, being the 8th day of the month at 4 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year and such other business as may come before the meeting.
W. L. Diltz, Cashier.



Vick Drug Co.
Prescription Druggist

GOLAN NEWS

The school play last Friday night was well attended by people in the surrounding communities.
Sunday morning we learned that all of our children saw Santa in Merkel Saturday.
The play, "Cabbages or Dollars," will be given Thursday night at the Golan school house. Everyone is invited to come.
The Juniors organized a league Sunday night. Mrs. Homer Finch was made sponsor.
Our school Christmas program will be on Friday night. The children have a nice program arranged.
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Cook returned last week from New Mexico.
Brother J. W. Price, our new Methodist pastor, will preach Sunday and Sunday night.
Little Calvin Stephens was seriously hurt Friday afternoon when his

horse threw him and stepped on him. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hill were notable visitors Sunday.
Several have canned beeves the past week.
School will close Friday afternoon for the holidays.

MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS

W. R. CAMPBELL
Next Door to W. T. Utilities

Seasons GREETINGS

May the three travelers, Health, Happiness and Prosperity abide with you this holiday season and throughout the year nineteen hundred and thirty-five. Your co-operation, goodwill and friendship are our most valued assets, and the greatest thing we can wish for you during the coming year is that your dealings in all phases of life may be as pleasant as ours have been with you.

Sublett Bros. & S. M. Hunter

Wishing You a Very Merry Christmas In a BIG Way

May this be the "HAPPIEST" Christmas you've ever known, and may the New Year hold "EVERYTHING" good in store for you. We want to say Merry Christmas, and many thanks in the "BIGGEST" way we know how, so we'll just wish for you, "EVERYTHING" you could possibly wish for yourself.

WEST CO., Inc.

"YOUR FRIENDS FOR 45 YEARS"

WISHING YOU A MERRY MERRY CHRISTMAS

And ---

3 6 5

Days of
Happiness
During 1935

McDONALD GROCERY

THE SAME OLD STORY

... But the More It's Told
The Better It Grows!



When this season returns again and it is once more time to give you our best wishes, our first thoughts are to make our greetings different from the years previous so that we may attract your attention in some novel or unique way.

But as we pause in the hurry and bustle of around us we realize that the more the old, old told the better it grows.

So we again send you the old order of greetings has been repeated over and over to become melior by tradition since the birth of Christ in Bethlehem.



MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

HUGHES MOTOR COMPANY

Chevrolet Sales and Service

