

Keeping Up With Texas

After holding a 7-0 lead at the half and 7-6 as the final period opened, Temple's Wildcats lost to the Amarillo Golden Sandies, who made two touchdowns in the last quarter to win the Texas schoolboy championship, 20-7, at Dallas Saturday.

Dr. C. P. Berkey of Columbia university was installed as president of the Geological Society of America at Austin Saturday as the scientists chose Boston for their December, 1941 convention.

With permits of \$134,172, Dallas was on top among Texas cities in building during the final full week of 1940. Dallas' building permits of \$10,454,180 for the year were still far behind Houston's total of \$22,147,373.

A suspension bridge linking Hidalgo, Texas, and Reynosa, Mexico, and replacing a similar structure which fell into the Rio Grande, was dedicated and opened formally with ceremonies Monday.

Joseph Weldon Hale of Waco was appointed Monday by Gov. W. Lee O'Daniel as associate justice of the court of civil appeals at Waco, to fill out the unexpired term of James P. Alexander who resigned last summer to run successfully for the chief justiceship of the supreme court.

Dr. Acker C. Miller, pastor of the First Baptist church at Belton and Eighth infantry captain during the first World War, will supervise all Baptist church activities at Texas army posts, it was announced Monday by R. C. Campbell, executive secretary of the Baptist general convention.

Two Randolph field instructors were killed instantly when their training plane crashed and burned Monday afternoon near Kendalia, Texas. The officers were: Second Lieutenant Garritt W. Mack, 25, of Birmingham, Mich., and William S. Cathcart, 21, of Fargo, N. D. The latter was a bridegroom of only a few days.

Texas raised a total of 2,144,000 pigs in 1940, but this is 22 per cent less than the 1939 record, the federal agricultural marketing service reported Tuesday.

Marion McElhaney, 34, of Huntington, Ind., an electrician working at Camp Bowie, Brownwood, was electrocuted in the camp's hospital area Tuesday when he came in contact with a highline while climbing a utility pole.

Vice-President John Garner left Uvalde Tuesday for Washington, expecting to reach the nation's capitol Thursday and to remain through the inauguration on Jan. 20. Mrs. Garner did not accompany him but instead went to Amarillo to visit with their son.

Abundio Quezada, 33, of Corpus Christi, died in a hospital at Alice Tuesday of chest injuries he suffered when an automobile in which he was riding left the highway Monday night north of Sandia.

The Heart O' Texas News, weekly newspaper at Brady, changed hands Jan. 1, when E. C. Olds of Healdton, Okla., and his son, George Olds of Springfield, Mo., purchased the plant from W. J. Harpole.

Public schools of Texas will receive \$2 per capita this week in state school funds, with \$3 to be paid in February. The \$2 makes a total of \$7 per capita paid to date on this year's total apportionment of \$22,500.

C. J. Allen, 48, of Snyder, died Tuesday night of injuries received in a truck-auto collision at Waco in which his wife, Mrs. Katie Allen, 45, was killed.

Greenleaf Fisk, 66, publisher of The Abilene Times and a newspaper man for 45 years, died Sunday morning at his home in Abilene.

Other directors are Sam Butman, Jr., Merkel, president; Mrs. Tom Russum and Comer Haynes, Merkel, and O. S. Moore, Divide.

Kelso Well Flows Ten Barrels Hourly

Natural flow of 10 barrels an hour was reported Tuesday on the first gauge for the Dancier Oil & Refineries Inc. No. 1 F. B. Kelso, east of Stith.

The well was reported to have made 163 barrels of oil through tubing in 16 1-2 hours. Production is from the Cook sand section at 2,336-42 feet.

Shirley Signs Again

Hollywood, Jan. 2.—Shirley Temple, who retired from motion pictures at the advanced age of 11 as one of the big ten at the box office, has signed a contract to make a single picture for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, her family announced Christmas day.

BADGER CAGERS TAKE ON TEAM FROM CLINT

Strong Aggregation on State Tour to Open Local Basketball Season Friday; Badgers Play Trent Next Tuesday Night.

Merkel High Badgers open their 1941 basketball season this Friday night when a strong aggregation from Clint, Texas, invades the local gym. The Clint team is coached by A. C. Bell, former Noodle mentor, who at the present time is touring the state with his team. The Badgers have been working hard for two weeks in preparation for this game and from all indications they will be ready.

The game with Lawn, postponed from before the holidays, will not be played until Jan. 16, but the Badgers go to Trent Tuesday night for a conference tilt. Next Friday night Merkel will be host to the Bradshaw team.

About 25 boys are trying out for the squad, among them being James Cox, Donald Cade, Buster Jack Melton, Glen Barbee, Elbert Hickam, Raymond Smith, Tag Shouse, Billy Tom Hutcheson, H. F. Hennington, Orville Ely, Billy Joe White.

The Merkel team will be dressed out this winter in as classy suits as could be bought, with new uniforms of white satin, trimmed in purple and gold, white shoes and white socks with purple tops. "If the boys are as good as their suits, Merkel will assuredly have a winning basketball team," that's the way it looks to one who has seen the new suits which are to be worn for the first time Friday night.

A colorful show will be presented between halves of all the home games by the band and Pep Squad. Admission price will be 10 cents for all students and 15 cents for adults.

Date for Energizing REA Line Tentatively Set Around Jan. 20th

Progress of installation of circuit breakers and meters, now under way, indicates that part of project "A" of the Taylor Electric Co-Operative's lines can be energized during January, tentative date having been set as around Jan. 20.

Six crews of two men each have been installing breakers and meters since last Friday. In two or three days, they will be joined by four more crews now engaged with house wiring.

The three sub-station transformers are expected to arrive at Merkel Jan. 5.

Five members of the board of directors, Superintendent Johnny Cox, and Attorney Bryan Bradbury, of Abilene, went to Johnson City, Blanco county, Monday to inspect the 3,000 miles REA project in operation there.

Directors who went were A. W. McKee, Potosi; W. C. Church, Merkel; Ed Gist, Hamby; N. A. Estes, Elmdale, and H. R. Roberts, Guion.

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MANY VISITORS, HAPPY FAMILY REUNIONS MARK THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Annual Christmas dinner of the W. D. Haynes family, which was celebrated as usual in the home of a son, W. W. Haynes, now residing in Abilene, bore additional significance this year in that it marked the observance of the sixtieth wedding anniversary of the pioneer couple. Actual date of the anniversary was Dec. 3, but the observance had been delayed until Christmas week.

Children present, besides Mr. and Mrs. Bill Haynes and four children, were Mr. and Mrs. Comer Haynes and two sons, Merkel; Mrs. H. H. Anderson, Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Wade Haynes and son, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Arnett and son, Anson. Other guests were Mrs. Blanche Rose Walker, of Abilene, a cousin of W. D. Haynes, and Mrs. Fowler Joyner of Caps, mother of Mrs. Bill Haynes.

The home of W. J. Hayes was the scene of the annual Christmas dinner of the Sublett family, with the following present: Mr. and Mrs. Luther Allen, Miss Jeanette Hayes, Denton; Miss Imogene Hayes, Miss Joyce Hayes, Odessa; Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Orsborn, Lena Fae and Nina; Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Hunter and Marvin. Mrs. Lynn Shelton; Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Woody and Butch, Lubbock; Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Sublett and Jim, Lubbock; Geo. Sublett, Mr. and Mrs. Odell Crow and Bettie Evaline. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Orsborn, Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Sublett and Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hayes and David.

Members of the Church family gathered at the home of C. P. Church for a family reunion Sunday, Dec. 29. Turkey dinner was served buffet-style to the following: Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Davis, Fort Worth; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Church and M. C. Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Church, Bess, of Corpus Christi, Eteyl, Jr., and Bonnie; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Dwiggs and Clara Frances; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Church, Jerry and Joyce; Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wallace and Colonel James, and the hosts, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Church, Charles and Oscar Bonnie.

James Swann came from Chicago to spend Christmas day with his mother, Mrs. J. S. Swann, and accompanied a sister, Mrs. Carson Miles, to San Angelo, before going to Dallas and Wichita Falls. He was to remain in Texas until Jan. 7. Others of the Swann children here during Christmas week were: Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Dennis of Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Sears and daughter, Carolyn Ann, Snyder; Mr. and Mrs. Carson Miles and children, San Angelo, and Miss Irene Swann, Roswell, N. M.

The home of Mrs. R. B. Shive in Brownwood was the scene for the annual Christmas dinner of Mrs. S. G. Russell, Sr., and children. Going from here were Mrs. Russell, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell, Jr., and three children, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Harris and James and Ralph Russell, and they were joined by Mrs. Sam Nunnally and son, Sam, Jr., of Abilene.

In joint celebration of the birthdays of her mother, Mrs. S. G. Russell, and her husband, which fell on Saturday, Mrs. Leo Harris planned a birthday dinner in her home Sunday. Present were Mrs. Russell, Ralph and James Russell, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell and three sons, Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Don Riner, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harris and Barton, Abilene, Bernard Clark and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Harris.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin, Sr., during the Christmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tarvin and son, Charles, McCombe; Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Howard and daughter, Jerry Fern, Barnhart, and Milton Howard, Sul Ross, Alpine; Mrs. Jack Lanier, Mrs. Banty Hammond and daughter, Cherry Jane, McKinney; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Tarvin, Jr., and sons, Arthur and Clinton, Barnhart; Mr. and Mrs. Cody Cardwell and son, Dudley, Junction; Mrs. Emory Wilburn, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wilburn and son, Jerry Don, Mr. and Mrs. Burley Bond and Peggy, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Bond, Mrs. A. C. Bond and Ruby, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Wil-

burn and children, Norman, Delores Ann and Leon, and Miss Emilie Newman.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Walker and daughter, Mary Evelyn, of Paris, paid their mother, Mrs. R. A. Walker, and family a holiday visit. For Christmas day dinner, they with Mrs. Walker and daughters, Miss Robbie and Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Compton, were guests in the C. O. Patterson home in Abilene. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Walker and two children, John Robert and Marjorie Ann, and Miss Velma Walker.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm had their usual family reunion during the Christmas holidays with two daughters and a son and their families from out of town here: Mr. and Mrs. Guy Darsey and daughter, Jane, of Austin; Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hill and son, Gary, of Seminole, and Mr. and Mrs. Sie Hamm and two children, Ray Ann and Allan, of Colorado City.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Pannell had two of their children home for Christmas, Jack, Jr., of Austin, where he is attending school, and Effiebel, who works at Skillern's in Dallas. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere of White Church were also Christmas guests. Mrs. Demere is Mrs. Pannell's sister.

(Continued on Page Two)

Dinner in Honor of 78th Birthday Of Sam Butman

Sam Butman, Sr., was complimented Sunday, Dec. 22, on his 78th birthday by a birthday dinner in connection with a Christmas party given by his children in the home of a daughter, Mrs. Tom Russum.

This has been an annual affair for the Butman family since the loss of their mother five years ago, and also in keeping with the way Mrs. Butman enjoyed observing Christmas.

All of the ten children were present with their families, except a son, Louis, and wife of Yuma, Ariz. Ford Butman and family arrived on Saturday night from California.

At the noon hour a bountiful dinner of turkey with all the trimmings was served to 59 guests.

About 2 o'clock every one gathered into the Yule-tide decorated living room to enjoy a program of songs, readings and talks. Mr. Butman had written a history of progress made in the B.-T. Ranch from the spring of 1876 to the present time. Another highlight of the program was a poem composed by a life-time friend, Mrs. John Brandon. It read:

"Mr. Butman, all your life,
You've done the things you should do;
Kindly things and thoughtful things
That made us fond of you;

And though we don't say half enough,
How grand we think you are,
We're saying now you're the dearest friend
Anywhere, near or far."

As a token of appreciation a hand-painted picture was presented Mr. Butman and an autograph book in which each one present had written a note to the honoree.

Old Santa arrived just in time to distribute gifts to each and every one from the Christmas tree; thus, revealing capsules among the Butman children.

Climaxing a perfect occasion a three-tier birthday cake was sliced and passed to guests, capsules were drawn for 1941 and a unanimous vote to go to another daughter, Mrs. Joe Swinney's for the party next year.

Besides the family those enjoying this affair with Mr. Butman were: Mr. and Mrs. John Brandon and Mrs. J. B. Stewart, Abilene; Mr. and Ruth Isenhower, Putnam; Rev. and Mrs. F. Demere, Mrs. Sallie Whisenhunt, Mrs. Fannie Perry, Vergil Harrison, Dorothy Hurd, Coleman, and Harold Gray, Big Spring.

MHS REUNION HIGHLIGHTS THE HOLIDAY WEEK

Approximately one hundred members of the graduating classes of '38, '39 and '40 were ushered into the gayly decorated Lions hall last Friday evening. Thoughts of by-gone days filled the air until Waymon Adcock, president of the older class and master-of-ceremonies, called the group to order and introduced W. I. Wozencraft, president of the class of '39, who gave a welcoming speech.

Typifying the reunion, Helen Heeter, Gay West and Pearl Mathews gave their version of "We Three." Betty Reid, president of the class of '40, drove over from Santa Anna Friday afternoon to be present at the reunion. Other officers, Marvin Hunter, secretary of the '38 class and student at McMurry; Mabel Murray, secretary of the '39 class and student at Texas Tech; Billy Largent, vice-president of the class of '40 and student at Hardin-Simmons university, and Gay West, reporter of the class of '40, responded to the welcoming address. Leon Walker gave a most interesting talk on his work in California and expressed his joy in being with old friends again. Other talks were made in appreciation of the reunion.

Table games, popular music and a scavenger hunt afforded diversion for the evening. The winners of the hunt were announced at the close of the meeting as Gay West, Grovener Ford, Leon Walker and Don Warren.

Plans for a reunion next year were discussed, including the three classes present and adding the graduating class of '41, with definite arrangements to be announced later.

Largest Dispersion Sale Scheduled Jan. 8, Important Event

Catalogues announcing dispersion of the famous Largent herd of Publican Domino Herefords were placed in the mail early this week, destined for almost every state in the union and foreign countries.

The entire herd—made up of 110 lots—will go on the block at the Largent ranch, 2 1-2 miles north of here, Wednesday, Jan. 8, in what may be the greatest sale since the dispersion of the great Hazlett herd.

For more than 40 years Largent cattle have been winning championships at the leading live stock shows of the nation. During 38 of those years the herd went under the name of C. M. Largent & Sons. Following his death two years ago, a son, W. J. Largent and his son, Billie, took over operation of the ranch and management of the herd.

Due to ill health of W. J. Largent, who has been working with show cattle since he graduated from high school, it was decided to disperse the (Continued on Page Two)

SECTION WINDS UP OLD 1940 AS PROSPEROUS ERA

Bank Deposits Exceed \$650,000; Ginnings Reveal Gain of Nearly 50 Per Cent; Postoffice Receipts for Year Also Up.

With government loan cotton carried in the sum of \$332,777.49, available cash of the Farmers & Merchants National bank of Merkel, as of the close of business Dec. 31, 1940, represented a figure of over half a million dollars—\$538,174.24, to be exact, which closely approached the total deposits, \$663,582.44, as of that date. Deposits at the end of 1939 were \$573,833.42.

Closing the past year, the directors increased the surplus account to \$25,000, a growth of \$4,000 during the year, with undivided profits at the end of 1940 at \$6,023.40, making a total of surplus and undivided profits of \$31,023.40, compared with a similar total of \$26,616.77 at the close of 1939. The final statement of 1940 also reflects a charge of \$1,000 against furniture and fixtures, reducing this item to \$1,500.

As of Dec. 31, the bank declared a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent, having previously declared the same dividend in June, making 8 per cent distributed to stockholders during the year. The December dividend was the 62nd annual dividend voted by the bank.

GINNINGS FOR YEAR. Area ginnings for 1940 showed nearly 50 per cent gain over those of 1939. Final tabulation by The Mail gives a total of 10,270 bales through Dec. 31 by the six plants in town and those at Stith, Noodle and Blair, as compared with 6,800 for the 1939 crop. In 1938 the yield was 7,234 bales. Last crop larger than 1940 was in 1937 when 15,680 bales were ginned.

POSTAL RECEIPTS. Postoffice receipts for 1940 exceeded those of the previous year by \$268.65, according to figures furnished by Postmaster Wrenn Durham. Receipts for 1940 were \$9,874.43, as compared with \$9,605.78 in 1939.

ANNUAL RAINFALL. Total rainfall of 26 1-4 inches was slightly more than normal in the Merkel area, which is generally reckoned at between 22 and 25 inches. In 1939 the record showed only 18 1-4 inches.

Merkel Poultry Show Has Been Cancelled

Owing to the failure to find a building suitable for holding the poultry show, it is announced by President Grover C. Gilbert of the Merkel Poultry association that the annual show, tentatively announced for Jan. 16, 17 and 18, has been cancelled.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From the Files of Merkel Mail, January 7, 1921.)

CURFEW BELL TO RING IN MERKEL

Mayor J. J. Stallings informs the Merkel Mail that the city council has passed a curfew law for Merkel, which will go into effect on January 15 and which will mean that all boys and girls under the age of 16 years, unless accompanied by their parents or a proper guardian authorized to look after them, must cease loafing and running around on the streets of this city after 8:30 in the evening. The mayor states that the law has been passed with the intention of protecting the coming young men and women of this city and to stop, if possible, the growing wave of crime. So, our advice is stay off the streets; the hour is 8:30.

HAYNES-FERGUSON

On Monday, December 27, Mr. R. L. Ferguson of Temple and Miss Gladys Haynes were married at Grace Presbyterian church. The first herald of the wedding party was the singing of "I Love

You Truly" by Miss Eva Williams, accompanied by Miss Edith Brown, at high noon. Rev. C. C. Dooley awaited the bridal couple at the altar steps.

Miss Gladys is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Haynes. She is loved by young and old alike. In her wedding gown of brown velvet with hat and shoes of blending tones and a corsage bouquet of American Beauty roses Miss Haynes was a winsome sweet picture and one that will linger in the minds of her friends.

Mr. Ferguson came to Merkel wooing as a stranger but during his recent visits here has made many friends who believe him a young man of sterling qualities and worthy of one of Merkel's fairest flowers. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson left over the afternoon Santa Fe for Temple and if good wishes of interested friends could soothe the paths of these two, their future years would be brightened by much happiness and cheer.

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Reunions

(Continued from Page One)

Coming for a Christmas visit with their mother, Mrs. J. H. Grayson were Mrs. Tom Greene and son, Donald, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Grayson and two children, Hobbs, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Grayson and two children, Monument, N. M., and Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Grayson and three children, Tahoka.

Spending Christmas with their mother, Mrs. J. M. Collins, were Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Collins and daughter, Ann, of Pampa; Rev. and Mrs. Paul Collins and sons, Johnnie and David, Vincent, Okla., and Quinton Collins, Lamesa. Rev. and Mrs. Paul Collins, and children also visited with her mother, Mrs. Seth Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beech and daughter, Patsy, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Patterson, spent Christmas day at Breckenridge in the home of Mr. Beech's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Beech, where all their family gathered for holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dye and two sons, Billie and Bobby, spent Christmas day in San Angelo in the home of Claude's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Dye, Jr., and Mrs. A. V. Dye, Jr., and two children, Peggy and Jerry, from Amarillo, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray King of Merkel were also present for the occasion.

Christmas visitors in the J. M. Garrett home were Mr. and Mrs. Barney Garrett and Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Garrett, Waco; Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Bullock and two daughters, Sweetwater, and Mr. and Mrs. Forest O. Harper of Hamilton, who were returning from a honeymoon trip to San Antonio and Old Mexico.

Christmas day was a merry one for the G. C. Smith household when almost the whole family was present. Mr. Smith, who has been ill for three months, was proud to have all his children with him once more. A bountiful dinner was served in picnic-style to Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Smith; G. F. Smith and children, Alveria, Ullis and Mr. and Mrs. Henry McKay; Mrs. E. C. Smith and children, Billie, Martha and Carl Vernon; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Smith and sons, Doyt, Scooter and Wesley; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hendricks and sons, Junior and Buddie; Mrs. Erne Woods and children, G. F., Bitsy and Perry Lee, all of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Smith and son, Claude Thomas, Noodle; Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Smith, Redding, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Seals and son, J. R., and little Mary Ellan Stephenson, Sonora; Mrs. Toda Newman, San Antonio; Mrs. W. L. Spurlock and daughter, Marie, Marfa; Mrs. Willie Neal and daughter and grandson, Mrs. Edith McMillen and Billie, Fort Worth. Only members of the family unable to attend were a son-in-law, a daughter-in-law and four grand children.

Mrs. Inez Chadwick and Mrs. J. M. Cook of Noodle, Sam Cook of Coahoms and Mr. and Mrs. Waymon Adcock spent Christmas day at Slaton in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Weeks.

Enjoying the holidays with their mother, Mrs. W. L. Harkrider, were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Largent and two sons of Brownwood, Mr. and Mrs. Dub Harkrider of Hyman in Mitchell county, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Firstbrook of Dallas.

Christmas found the head of the family, W. H. Pence, still seriously ill, but at the same time surrounded by visiting sons and daughters. Present were Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Pence and family, Snyder; Luther Pence, Mrs. John Pence and daughter, Sweetwater; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Pence, Lamesa; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jinks and family and Mrs. Henry Farr and family, Merkel.

Refuses Ban on "Dictator."

Mexico City, Jan. 2.—The ministry of foreign relations has rejected an official German protest against the showing here of Charlie Chaplin's anti-axis film *The Dictator*, it was learned authoritatively Tuesday.

A. F. Geske, about 65, of Breckenridge, was killed Tuesday when his automobile collided with a truck near Brad, Palo Verde county.

Personals

Visitors for Christmas in the Ira Moore home were their daughters, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry, Jr., of Lubbock, and Mrs. J. T. Darsey, Jr., and daughter, Linda Kay, of Abilene.

After visiting in Albany with her mother, Rev. Chas. Tucker and Mrs. Tucker and family of Mercedes spent part of the Christmas holidays with his parents here, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tucker. Other visitors for Christmas week were another daughter, Mrs. E. E. Tankersley, and three children of Fort Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brewster and daughter, Melba, of Sudan, were holiday visitors with her sisters and brother, Mrs. Vernon Simpson, Mrs. J. A. Milliken and Wilbur Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Craven and daughter of Matador, who visited her mother, Mrs. J. W. Turner, of Abilene, were guests part of the holidays of Truett Patterson in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Patterson.

Mrs. R. M. Diltz of Dallas visited during the holidays with relatives in Merkel and Abilene.

Mrs. G. F. Woods arrived home Tuesday from a holiday visit with her son, W. P. Mauldin, who is a member of the police force in San Jose, Calif.

R. A. Ellis and daughter, Miss Mamie Ellis, went to Lubbock to spend Christmas with a son and another daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Odie Latimer and son, Jimmy Lee, of Chowchilla, Calif., reached here before Christmas for a holiday visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Latimer. They were accompanied by Malvaline Seymore, who visited with relatives.

Mrs. Jack Latimer, who had gone to Douglas, Ariz., with Mr. and Mrs. Othell Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas, to spend the holidays, returned home Friday.

Dallas Sharp was home to spend Christmas day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Sharp.

Mrs. J. T. Warren is spending two weeks in El Paso with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Beckett.

Mr. and Mrs. Castle B. Ellis and son, Glen, were pre-Christmas visitors with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. N. Ellis.

Miss Mary Kate Campbell, after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ben Campbell, returned the first of January to Amarillo, where she teaches in the schools.

Mrs. Ruby Johnson, accompanied by a friend, Miss Helen Mann, was here from San Antonio to spend Christmas day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Golladay, and daughter, Mary Faye.

Mrs. Mary Carr, Miss Grovenc Ford and Roland Miller drove to Sheaman, where they were guests in the home of Mr. Miller's mother for Christmas.

Clifton Bellamy returned the day after Christmas to Plainview, where he is employed by the state highway department, after a Christmas visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Sumpter.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Grayson had as guests during the holidays, their daughter, Mrs. Ernest Hill and husband and son, Boyd, and their son, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grayson and son, Lonnie Fred, of Burleson.

Mrs. J. M. Taylor of Ennis and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Earthman of Quitaque joined the W. T. McAninch household for the Christmas holidays, Mr. and Mrs. Earthman dividing time also with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Earthman.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cypert returned Sunday night from a holiday visit with his brother, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Cypert, at Port Arthur.

Jack Lowe of the U. S. Marines, San Diego, Calif., home on a Christmas furlough visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Lowe, in Abilene, was a frequent holiday visitor with friends in Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Lige Harris spent Christmas week in Quitman with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Harris.

Mrs. Cora Robbins of Bakersfield, Calif., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Carl Black, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jackson and son, Carl, Jr., of Heston, Kans., visited during the week in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Jackson.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wilson of Longview were holiday visitors with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Wilson.

Visiting in the M. Elliott home Christmas were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Camp, of Lamesa, and Mr. and Mrs.

Derrell Finch and family of Brownwood.

Here for a Christmas visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hunter, were Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Hunter of Lubbock, who also visited with her sister, Mrs. Delle Richie, and with other relatives in Abilene. Arriving Thursday after Christmas for a visit in the A. W. Hunter home was a daughter, Mrs. Dora Clark, of Fort Worth.

Spending Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis, were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Dennis and Herbert Dennis of Corpus Christi and Mr. and Mrs. Olin Lusby of Big Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Burleson of Granbury visited in the S. O. Patton home during Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Davidson of Milsap spent Christmas week here in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Beech and three children, James, Clara Jean and Dorothy, from Gladewater, spent Thursday and Friday in the home of the former's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Beech.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Coats of Big Spring visited in the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dolph Coats and Mr. and Mrs. Philip Diltz, during the holidays.

J. A. Barnett of Lubbock spent Christmas day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barnett. Passing visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Bills and son, of Los Angeles, Calif., nephews and nieces of the Barnetts.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Blair of Noodle have returned home after spending last week with Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lassiter and son of Big Spring. Mr. Lassiter, who has been in the Big Spring hospital with pneumonia, was moved to his home last Thursday, where he is reported getting along as well as expected.

Miss Minnie Coats, who spent Christmas week at home with her mother, Mrs. S. A. Coats, returned Sunday to Coleman where she teaches in the schools. Another daughter, Mrs. A. Yates, and children, of Big Spring, also visited in the Coats home during Christmas.

B. D. Veach of Dallas, brother of Mrs. R. H. Mathews, visited a few days this week in the Mathews home.

Week-end visitors in the W. T. McAninch home were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Neill and two children, Mrs. Ed Self and Jack Neill, of Thalia. The elder Neill is an uncle of Mr. McAninch.

After participating in a family reunion at the home of a sister, Mrs. Arthur Steele, in Sweetwater, Miss Ruby Jinks visited during Christmas week with her father, Tom Jinks, and friends here.

Here for a Christmas visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Castles, were J. B. Castles, Mr. and Mrs. Volney Castles, of Abilene; Conrad Castles of Houston, and Miss Frances Castles of Casa Grande, Ariz.

After spending the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Tipton, Mrs. Lou Petty returned Sunday to Dallas and Miss Maurine Tipton went to Ballinger to resume her school duties.

Mrs. Len Sublett and her father, T. H. Christopher, spent the holidays with their sister and daughter, Mrs. R. A. Stuart, at Lamesa. For Christmas dinner they drove over to Plainview, where Mrs. H. L. McCandless resides.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Spears of Comanche were week-end visitors with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Spears.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hartley of Plainview were joined here by Mr. and Mrs. Houston Robertson for a visit during Christmas week to relatives in Palacios, also visiting a brother in Dallas.

Christmas visitors with their mother, Mrs. T. J. R. Swafford, were Don and Miss Himalya Swafford, both from Odessa, and Miss Mildred Swafford of Dallas.

Holiday guests of Mrs. H. C. Williams were a daughter, Mrs. E. Q. Warren, of Knox City, and a grandson, A. C. Pence, of New York City, who was accompanied by Miss Joyce Samuels of Wichita Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lassiter of Big Spring and their son, Joe Earl Lassiter, who is a student in the University of Texas, were guests Christmas day in the home of Mrs. Lassiter's sister, Mrs. W. B. Stevens.

Miss Gay West, who visited during Christmas week with Miss Betty Reid at Santa Anna, was accompanied on her return Friday by Miss

Reid, who attended the joint reunion of the last three classes of Merkel High school, leaving Saturday for her home.

Mrs. V. B. Jones, of Bagwell, accompanied her sister, Miss Christine Collins, home from Taft Saturday and is a guest in the John and Twyman Collins homes.

Miss La Verne Harwell, student at Hardin-Simmons university, spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Harwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Douglas, accompanied by their son, Jack Douglas, and his two sons, of Graybull, Wyo., visited during Christmas week with their brothers, Tom and J. L. Douglas.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Elliott of Dallas arrived Christmas Eve and spent Christmas day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. John Grable returned Tuesday from Throckmorton, where they spent the holidays with her mother, Mrs. R. P. Lee, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Grable.

Burlee Smith of Sweetwater spent the week-end with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Smith.

Holiday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Rube Henslee were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Cogburn, and her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cox, and daughter, Ona Fay, all of Fort Worth, also another sister, Mrs. Lula Beall and family of Tuscola, Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Dye and Uncle Bill Shepard. Mr. and Mrs. Cox and daughter also visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cox, arriving Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cogburn of Fort Worth were visitors in the Henslee home.

After a week's leave of absence, Miss Sis Gamble returned Wednesday to resume her duties at the Hendrick Memorial hospital, Abilene.

Robert Grimes, U. S. navy, stationed at San Diego, Calif., was home for a visit with his mother, Mrs. Harriet Grimes, and other relatives during Christmas, returning the latter part of last week.

Alvin Bell of Dallas spent several days here during Christmas week, visiting his mother, Mrs. J. F. Bell. Leon Walker, now employed with the Douglas Aeronautical factory at Santa Monica, Calif., is visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Walker, while on a month's leave of absence.

Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Hodge, Norma Jean and Robert Tom, visited over the week-end with her mother, Mrs. T. A. Clarida, at Terrell.

After a holiday visit with her father, John W. Wheeler, Mr. and

1941

WE ENTER A NEW YEAR!

As Father Time draws the curtain on 1940, we turn to a New Year . . . to the possibility of world peace, to a certainty of greater progress and achievement, to a closer national unity and growing appreciation of our privileges as American Citizens.

For 1941, the Farmers & Merchants National Bank pledges a continuation of the helpful, dependable service and security which have been characteristic of this bank in the past. You'll find here the complete answer to your 1941 banking requirements. So . . . bank in often — this is YOUR bank at YOUR service.

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Mrs. R. A. McCollum returned Sunday to their home at Dimmitt.

Misses Eula and Mossye Sears and Mrs. Della Campbell, who is visiting them, accompanied Mrs. L. M. Touchstone and daughter, Miss Mollie Frank, of Abilene, to Phoenix, Ariz., to take another sister, Mrs. Odie Mathews, home after an extended visit here. They returned home Wednesday.

Hugh Leonard, student at the University of Texas, who is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Leonard, has as his guest, Oliver Roberts, also a student at the university.

Returning from a holiday visit to Gatesville and Rockdale, Leon Cruse was accompanied by his grandmother, Mrs. F. J. Louis, of Rockdale, who is visiting in the Cruse home.

Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Sadler joined friends in Dallas New Year's day for the Cotton Bowl tussle between A. & M. and Fordham.

Mrs. R. E. Neat and daughter, Margaret Rebecca, arrived Wednesday morning for a visit with her aunts, Mrs. Ada Heeter and Miss Sadie Woodrum. She had planned a visit after New Year's but advanced the date because of the serious illness of her great-uncle, George Boyce.

Largent Sale

(Continued from Page One)

entire herd—the most important announcement in the Hereford fraternity.

Included in the offering is Publican Domino 10th, highest ranking Register of Merit bull in America. The eight-year-old sire is due to be sought by many. Another attraction is Publican Domino 102nd, junior herd sire.

In addition to the herd bulls, 48 breeding cows—many with calves at side—will be offered, along with the entire show herd, open and bred heifers, herd bull prospects and a few commercial bulls.

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TRENT NEWS AND PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jones and son of Roxton were Christmas guests of Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Bright and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jones and family, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Jones and family and Mrs. M. B. Jones. Mrs. Edward Welch, the former Doreen Scott of Trent, and small son, Danny, of San Angelo were visiting in Trent Christmas Eve. Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Terry and daughter, Johnnie Julia of Odessa, were holiday guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kent and son of Sweetwater spent Christmas day with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Duncan, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Louie Woods and children, Harold, Helen and Howard, of San Angelo, were Christmas day guests of Mrs. M. B. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Jones and family, Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Bright and family and Mr. and Mrs. Ox Jones and family. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Terry and Sharon of Lubbock visited Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry, Sr., during the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Beckham and children of Lamesa spent the Christmas holidays with his mother, Mrs. C. T. Beckham. Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Bonner of Clyde were Christmas Eve visitors in Trent. Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Boyd and family spent Christmas day with Mrs. Boyd's mother, Mrs. John Skillons of Sweetwater, the occasion being a reunion of Mrs. Boyd's relations. Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Randel and Penny spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Johnson. The Randels are from Quanah. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Winn enjoyed Christmas by visiting Mr. and Mrs. Horace Taylor and Jo of Sonora. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnson of Houston visited Mrs. Johnson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Martin. Mrs. M. B. Jones had as her Christmas dinner guests, Mr. and Mrs. N. B. Head and children of Eskota; also Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Jones and Lindley of Crane. J. W. and Paul Goode, who are working in Brownwood, were Christmas Eve visitors in Trent. Mr. and Mrs. Schylar Gentry of Paradise returned after having spent a few days with his mother, Mrs. Jack Bright. Mrs. W. H. Hale spent Christmas with her daughter, Mrs. "Sonny" Rudd of Eskota. A. C. Wash, formerly of Trent but now of Goldsmith, was visiting here Christmas Eve. Mr. and Mrs. Allen Terry and daughter visited Mr. and Mrs. Otho Smith and Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Terry, Sr., during the Christmas holidays. Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Blankenship and Lane Boyce spent the Christmas holidays visiting Mr. Blankenship's relatives in Wood county. Mr. and Mrs. Cecil McRee had as their Christmas guests, her mother, her brother and sisters. M. M. Owens was called to near Memphis, Texas, Friday on account of the death of his brother, who was burned to death there. Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Woods returned Sunday after spending the holidays with relatives and friends in and near Memphis, Tenn.

MEN'S PARTY.

A party is to be held at the High School auditorium Tuesday night at 7 o'clock. This party is for men only and is to present the athletic awards. There is to be a big feast and plenty of fun for those attending this gala New Year's Eve party.

Rooney Tops List of Film's Money Makers

Hollywood, Jan. 2.—That little barrel of cinematic dynamite—tousled-haired Mickey Rooney—heads the 10 biggest money making movies stars for 1940 as elected by the Motion Picture Herald, a trade publication, while his nearest feminine competitor is Bette Davis, in ninth position.

Judy Garland, in 10th place, is the only other actress on the list.

Spencer Tracy placed second to Rooney, while following in order came Clark Gable, Gene Autry, Tyrone Power, James Cagney, Bing Crosby and Wallace Beery.

Selection of Autry, the singing cowboy, for fourth place was one of the highlights of the poll which declared that not since the late Will Rogers headed the 1934 list has a cowboy been voted into the 10-best list.

Standard Typewriter Ribbons 75c each at Merkel Mail office.

NEWMAN NEWS

There were quite a few people of our community in bed with the "flu" during Christmas. We still have a few cases of "flu."

The school children enjoyed a Christmas tree at the school house on Monday night.

Velma Cook, of Abilene, spent the Christmas holidays at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cook.

Herman Tindall of Hamlin and Mr. and Mrs. Blackie Ford of Tahoka spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Tindall.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Smith had as their guests during Christmas their daughter of Midland and their son of Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Alda Cunningham and children, Glenda and J. R., Mr. and Mrs. Lea Dickerson and sons, Thelbert and Arvalce, and Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dickerson and son, Elton Lenoir, spent Thursday in the home of Mrs. John Dickerson at Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie McRee and son, Earnest, of Eskota, Velma Cook of Abilene, Lura and Maudie Cook and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd and daughter, Ruby, visited in the Reeves home Wednesday night.

Mrs. Carl Underhill and Patsy Creswell of Rotan spent a few days in the Creswell home last week.

Visitors in the Reeves home Tuesday and Wednesday were: Doris Hazel Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Reeves and son, Mr. and Mrs. Irl Walker and children, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Jones and daughter of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Alderige and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Cross of Rotan, Othell W. Reeves of Lubbock, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dickerson and son and Mr. and Mrs. Lea Dickerson and sons. A family tree was enjoyed Wednesday morning.

Brother Evans, the home missionary, will preach at the Baptist church Sunday night, Jan. 5. Every one is invited to attend.

BLAIR ITEMS

Elder W. W. Brown, Primitive minister of Abilene, is to fill the pulpit at the Baptist church at Blair Sunday, Jan. 5, at the 11 o'clock hour.

Rev. A. C. Healer, of Sweetwater, will fill the pulpit at the Baptist church on Jan. 5 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, with a New Year program following.

Holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Moore were Mr. and Mrs. Riley James and family of Malakoff; Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Moore, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Monta Moore, Woodsboro; Mr. and Mrs. John Ivy of Lueders, and Jack Moore, Bowie.

Mrs. T. H. Russom has been on the sick list. There is quite a bit of colds and "flu" in our vicinity, but nothing serious at this writing.

James Earl Stevens of Trent was a week-end guest with his cousin, J. D. Sandusky.

Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Hill and attractive little son, Boyd, of Burleson, were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Doan and family of Post, Mr. and Mrs. Jess Scott of Trent and Mrs. J. S. Grant and two children, John Mack and Mary Sue, of Merkel, were guests also in this home Wednesday.

Those participating in a Yule-tide dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Moore on Thursday were Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Moore and two sons, Kenneth and Donald, of Red Springs; Mr. and Mrs. Dee Moore and daughter, Miss Irene, and Miss Clarice Faye Blair of Tye; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Melton and family and Mrs. R. B. Horton and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Ponk Loper are the proud parents of a new baby girl since Dec. 27. The little lady weighed 4 1-2 pounds and has been christened Sandra Sue.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Doan and son, Sammie, and Mrs. Susie Doan visited relatives at Anson last week.

The Junior Sunday School class of the M. E. church enjoyed a Yule-tide outing on Blowout mountain Friday. Those enjoying the happy occasion were Misses Annie Doan, Gwendolyn Sandusky, Lena Faye and Nina Osborn, Wallace Doan, Sammie Doan, Jimmie Campbell and John Doan and Mrs. V. L. Doan.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Campbell and son, Billie, spent Christmas day with Mr. and Mrs. Melt Hand of Trent.

Mrs. Whitt Farmer and two sons, J. H. and Billie Don, of Snyder, spent the past week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jim H. Campbell, and sister, Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Doan and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hamp Campbell and son participated in a family reunion at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Smith of Abilene, Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Abbott of Abilene were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Addison Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Meeks and son of Butman, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Patterson and son, Merkel, and Mr. and Mrs. Knox Beall and children of Abilene were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Meeks.

Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Pruitt and family motored over to Cleburne and dined with Mr. and Mrs. George Lowery and family Christmas day.

Harold Cox and Howard Windham and Misses Mickie and Dutchy Diltz of Merkel were seen in our midst Friday.

R. B. Horton of Brownwood visited home folks Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Patterson and daughters of Abilene visited relatives here Sunday. Mr. Patterson is a salesman for the American National Insurance company.

Mr. and Mrs. Hosea Myers of Anson were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Scogin Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Till Howell and daughter, Leree, and J. E. Perkins of Lyford were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Perkins.

We have had a Merry Christmas and almost every one has had a good time, (with the exception of quite a few people who are sick,) and are ready to begin the New Year with new hopes and determinations to make the next year a little better.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gee and children of the Fanhandle spent Christmas

with Mrs. Gee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. McLean.

Morgan Frazier, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Frazier and sons of Clint and Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Frazier of Putnam visited the past week with Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Frazier and family and Mr. and Mrs. Beryl Brown and daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell and Mrs. Susie Doan of Blair were recent visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Artist Cook.

Johnnie Weston of Austin is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weston and family.

Mrs. Raymond Russom and children, J. R. and Cleo, of Lamesa spent Christmas here in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Conley and Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Riggan.

Pete Swinney has been at the bedside of his mother, Mrs. T. H. Russom of Blair, who has been seriously ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weston and children, Mary Tom, Stanley Joe and Billie Frank spent the week-end in Waco and Temple visiting relatives and also to attend the 50th wedding anniversary of a sister of Mrs. Demere.

Mrs. Beryl Brown, A. D. Barnes and Lola Mae Riggan have been quite sick but are improving at this time. Floyd Hardin, who has been seriously ill in the hospital at Abilene, is reported to be improving slowly.

Miss Martha Ruth Denton spent the past week with her aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Horton of Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demere were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fannell, north of town.

Mrs. Claude Minter of Guthrie, Okla., and Mrs. A. H. Barnes of

south of town were week-end visitors of their nephew and son, A. D. Barnes.

Clarence Demere of Abilene and son, Howard, of Wichita Falls, were visiting in our community the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Artist Cook and daughters, Pauline and Betty, have been sick but are better at this time. We sincerely wish each of you a happy and prosperous 1941.

Troop 20 Schedules Hike for Saturday

The Boy Scouts of Troop 20, Merkel, met at High school at 7 Monday night.

A hike was planned for this coming Saturday.

"We didn't get the plaque that was given this time, but ran second. We are going to get it next time," said Scoutmaster Clark.

Only seven out of the thirteen that

were going were able to go to Abilene, as most of them were sick. A good time was had there. After the presentation of the badges and the party, the scouts went over to help the Goodfellows.

The troop is growing all right but could use lots more boys. Every boy 12 years of age is urged to come.

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White Church News

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Mr. Shevnan says: The Zoetic Shield is a tremendous improvement over all former methods, effecting immediate results. It will not only hold rupture perfectly but increase the circulation, strengthens the weakened parts, thereby closing the opening in ten days on the average case, regardless of heavy lifting, straining or any position the body may assume no matter the size or location. A nationally known scientific method. No under straps or cumbersome arrangements and absolutely no medicines or medical treatments.

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Table with 2 columns: Magazine Name and Price. Includes True Story, McCall's Magazine, Pathfinder, Farm Journal-Farmer's Wife, Household Magazine, Progressive Farmer, This Newspaper. Price: \$3.00.

Table with 2 columns: Magazine Name and Price. Includes American Boy, American Girl, American Magazine, Better Homes & Gardens, Child Life, Christian Herald, Collier's Weekly, Columbia Digest, Farm Journal-Farmer's Wife, Flower Grower, Flying Aces, Household Magazine, Hunting and Fishing, Liberty Digest, Magazine Digest, Modern Romances, Nature Magazine, National Sportsman, Open Road (Boys), Parents' Magazine, Popular Mechanics, Prize Photography, Redbook Magazine, Science Illustrated, Silver Screen, True Experiences, True Romance, True Story, World Digest, Your Life, You. Price: \$2.15.

Table with 2 columns: Magazine Name and Price. Includes McCall's Magazine, True Romance, Screenland, American Boy, American Girl, Parents' Magazine, Motion Pictures, Pathfinder (weekly), Modern Romances, Silver Screen, Sports Afield, Open Road (Boys), True Experiences, Christian Herald. Price: \$2.15.

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QUEEN THEATRE CALENDAR

Friday-Saturday—Charles Starrett in "The Durango Kid," special, "Mack Senett Revival," hilarious 2-reel comedy, Popeye cartoon and serial.

Saturday preview, Sunday matinee, Monday night—George Brent, Brenda Marshall in "South of Suez," also color cartoon, News and short.

Tuesday only — "Christmas in July," with Dick Powell and Ellen Drew.

Wednesday-Thursday—Kay Kyser and his band featuring the "College of Musical Knowledge," in "You'll Find Out," added, selected short subjects.

"South of Suez"

Exciting drama, mystery and adventure are in store for Queen Theatre patrons when they see the new Warner Bros. film, "South of Suez," Saturday preview, Sunday matinee or Monday night. The action takes place in the adventure-laden atmosphere of a South African diamond mine.

George Brent plays the role of a soldier-of-fortune mine foreman who meets his share of murder, theft and intrigue at the hands of a ruthless mine owner played by George Tobias. He is framed with the murder of a rival mine operator and clears himself after many a harrowing escape. Charming Brenda Marshall supplies the romantic interest when she allies herself with Brent in an effort to prove his innocence. Lee Patrick, in the role of Tobias' embittered wife, gives the story a novel twist that will surprise the most sophisticated moviegoer.

Screen favorites James Stephenson and Eric Blore lend their talent to the supporting roles.

"Christmas in July"

"Christmas in July," showing at the Queen theatre Tuesday only, co-starring Dick Powell and Ellen Drew, is the second picture to be written and directed by Preston Sturges. His first picture was "The Great McGinty," a political comedy that was hailed with enthusiasm throughout the country as a masterpiece.

His current picture is another equally hilarious farce developed from a simple story of a boy and girl in love trying to get enough money ahead to get married. The hero is addicted to solving national contests as a short road to fame and fortune. He has never won one, but figures that every one he loses makes his chances so much greater the next time.

Some practical jokers send him a wire announcing that he has won the \$25,000 slogan contest for a nationally known brand of coffee. Taking the wire to the president of the company he collects the check, although the committee judging the entries is still trying to make up its mind about a winner.

Armed with the check he goes on a spending spree buying presents for every one, even the neighborhood children. The department store is unable to cash so large a check but let him have the merchandise on credit. The coffee company president finds his mistake, notifies the store and both proceed with haste to his home. It is impossible to get the presents back, but the coffee executive does get his check and tears it up. How they get out of this embarrassing situation makes one of the funniest pictures of the year.

Sturges selected the supporting cast for Dick Powell and Ellen Drew with an expert eye for comedy. It includes Raymond Walburn, Ernest Truex, William Demarest, Alexander Carr and Franklin Pangborn.

"You'll Find Out"

Mix melody and melodrama and you have a melodrama or, to be more explicit you have "You'll Find Out," starring Kay Kyser and featuring his famous band and the College of Musical Knowledge, coming to the Queen theatre Wednesday and Thursday.

The melody—five new song hits—is by James McHugh and John Mercer, responsible for "I Can't Give You Anything But Love" and other successes. The new songs are put across in the well-loved Kyser style, with special assistance from Ginny Simms, Harry Babbitt, Ish Kabibble and Sully Mason. One novelty number, "The Bad Humor Man," has special sound and musical effects by Sonovox. The other new songs are entitled "I'd Know You Anywhere," "You've Got Me This Way," "Like the Fella Once Said" and "I've Got a One Track Mind."

The melodrama—set in a gloomy mansion on a stormy night—is motiv-

Pretty Girl Dons Lineman's Togs, Offers to Help Restore Electric Power in Ice-Stricken Panhandle

Grim, leathery-faced linemen found nothing to laugh about when they reached the ice-stricken Panhandle to begin the serious business of restoring light and power following late November's freakish storm. But they smiled when they learned that a pretty girl had volunteered to help them.

Fellow workers with the West Texas Utilities, which had anticipated just what happened and had lined up their emergency crews from as far as 400 miles away a day ahead of the actual breakage, were first to reach Amarillo. Loyal, sympathetic Miss Sarah Smith, employed as cashier at Anson, volunteered to help, said she could climb a pole as good as a man in an emergency. Although she proved her willingness by donning a lineman's togs and squirming up a 50-foot pole, her offer was declined.

"We thought she might distract attention from the task at hand," smiled a harassed line foreman, dog-tired after 36 sleepless hours. "I like the idea though. Maybe we can use her to pass out doughnuts and coffee."

The company, serving four counties in the storm area, including the principal towns of Dalhart, Texline, Dumas and Stratford, all equally hard hit with Amarillo, rushed a total of five fully-equipped "heavy" trucks and 60 linemen to the storm center, more than any other neighboring service company. Two trucks and crews proceeded to Dalhart, joining with Roy Norvell's local line repairmen, while three trucks and 30 workmen stopped to do yeoman service in the larger task of rehabilitating Amarillo's light and power lines.

Superior resources, to draw on for badly needed equipment, and a highly trained personnel within a few hours distance were credited with enabling the West Texas Utilities Company to handle its own repair problem in record time and, in addition, render aid to a neighboring community.

Men, trucks and equipment were on their way north from as far as San Angelo, McCamey and Abilene within a few hours after power and telephone lines began crumbling under the weight of many thousands of tons of ice. Earlier, crews had been dispatched from Stamford, Cisco, Quanah and Childress, leaving behind only a skeleton force to guard against ice-olation should the freezing rain drop below the cap-rock area. Like the Anson girl, inspired to offer her help because "it's the neighborly thing to do," many workers pleaded for the assignment. Not only did its crews forego sleep during the emergency but also short wave radio operators with the company remained at their posts 24 hours a day. The company had an emergency station, W5-DVQ, in service at its Abilene headquarters from Sunday noon, shortly after the first lines went out, until communications were restored more than 48 hours later. WTUers Dan Whitaker and Bill Green operated the station day and night, transmitting messages and orders for material. At intervals it was the only station (1,000 watts) able to communicate with Amarillo amateur operators, and served as a clearing house for



The West Texas Utilities alone had 200 men at work at one time repairing damage wrought by the Panhandle's worst ice and sleet storm. Among volunteers who pleaded for the assignment of "helping out" was a girl, Miss Sarah Smith, WTU cashier at Anson, who said: "I think it's the neighborly thing to do." She proved her willingness by squirming up a 50-foot power line pole.

messages throughout the emergency.

A portable set, W5-BAY, was rushed by truck to Dumas, on an overnight drive made hazardous by 90 miles of icy pavement, where a WTU radio trouble-shooter, H. S. Peake, established the first contact the North Plains area had with the outside world.

Dalhart escaped without any shortage of water. Lights in the business area and hospitals were out less than 24 hours, restored Monday evening as soon as distribution lines could be rebuilt. The company's stand-by generating plant went into immediate operation, providing power for water pumps and light circuits as fast as reconstructed. Lights did not go out in Dalhart until 10 P. M. Sunday, November 24.

Power was extended from the standby plants to Stratford and Dumas as quickly as distribution lines could be restored. Another factor in earlier restoration of service in the Dalhart area was the fact that both men and equipment reached the scene from the company's nearby Childress and Quanah districts a day ahead of other outside help. Equipment surpluses are maintained, it was learned, in event of such contingencies.

The stand-by plant at Dalhart made the West Texas Utilities independent of its interconnection with the Southwestern Public Service Company of Amarillo. A 50-mile transmission line, connecting the two, suffered heavily and so did the lines from Channing to Hartley and Dumas where 80 to 90 per cent of the poles were splintered and rendered unfit for further use.

Repair work on the North Plains, however, was made even more difficult by snow and sleet which followed the freezing rain.

"The only cheerful note to be sounded as a result of the storm," said Charlie Coombes, WTU district manager at Dalhart, "is that it'll mean some extra Christmas money for a lot of people. In addition to our own crews, we put every available man to work. The storm has made a lot of jobs for our local people and provided the much needed moisture for farm and pasture lands."

Assisting Coombes in supervision of reconstruction work is Jim Longley, transmission line superintendent of Abilene. First estimate of damage and replacement costs was set at \$60,000 for Coombes' company alone.

At one time, Coombes said, he had 200 men at work.

CARD OF THANKS.
Words cannot express the gratitude we feel in our hearts to our friends for the shower of gifts sent us Christmas. May God richly bless you.
Mr. and Mrs. Hardie Rutledge and Children.

In April, 1917, the U. S. army had 3,039 trucks and 437 automobiles. A year and a half later, it had 85,000 trucks.

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 14th day of January, 1941, at 7 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.

"PERCE STRINGS" by JIM WEST

WEST'S AUTO SUPPLY STORE
"Serving the Car Owner Since 1914"
TEL. 222 Merkel, Texas

CHRISTMAS SAVINGS CLUB FOR 1941

We will be disappointed if we do not have twice as many depositors in our Xmas Savings Clubs for 1941 as we had last year — — —

Many customers, not heretofore depositors in this department have already indicated their intention of knowing the thrill of systematic saving during the year ahead.

OPEN NOW !! MAKE YOUR INITIAL DEPOSIT ANY DAY THIS MONTH

Deposit Weekly	Receive in 50 Weeks
\$.25	\$ 12.50
.50	25.00
1.00	50.00
2.00	100.00
3.00	150.00
5.00	250.00

PLUS INTEREST

Ask Any of Our Employees for Details

THE OLD RELIABLE
Farmers & Merchants National Bank
Merkel, Texas

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

ated by Hollywood's three most famous demons of devilry, Peter Lorre, Boris Karloff and Bela Lugosi. They plan to murder (by accident) Helen Parrish, lovely debutante heiress, in love with hero Dennis O'Keefe, so that they can continue their dominance over Alma Kruger, the spook-spoofy aunt who will control Helen's money.

List of Petit Jurors Called for Next Week

Members of the petit jury panel ordered to report next Wednesday in 42nd district court, Abilene, are as follows:
Dan Reidenbach, L. A. Coats, J. R. Collins, Robert Malone, N. T. Hodge, M. M. Jenkins, Merkel; W. E. Hamner, Harold L. Terry, S. H. Estep, Trent; J. W. Kinsey, Tye; Gray Wooten, R. M. Wolfe, Cecil Medlin, C. J. Hilburn, Paul Scott, Carl Wiliford, P. A. Hooker, E. O. Keeton, Cress W. Watson, F. T. Edmonson, L. E. Gowan, I. A. Roach, W. H. Johnson, J. C. High, Tracey

Gilbreath, E. L. Haag, J. M. Hatton, E. C. Powers, A. T. McDaniel, J. M. Nichols, N. J. Tims, J. M. Osborn, J. M. Eager, W. R. Truss, H. P. Compton, Max Bentley, D. J. Dugger, Jas. L. Cullar, Abilene; Paul Cook, E. W. Whittle, Sam Knight, Lawn; D. D. Dickinson, G. L. Clark, W. L. McCormick, J. R. Stovall, Ed S. Jones, Juscola; J. D. Yoes, J. E. Hurt, Ovalo; W. F. Tripp, Buffalo Gap.

If you do not take The Mail—subscribe now and enjoy it every week.

FLOWERS
For ALL OCCASIONS
MISSIE'S FLORAL SHOP

Our Best Wishes to You for 1941

The NEW YEAR will bring the usual demands on every family, together with some hazards that can not be foreseen.

HAVE YOU MADE PREPARATION

that will enable you to meet the unexpected? OUR RATES are very reasonable. Our Plan of Protection is fully adequate. Our reputation for fulfilling our part of our contract with you is unquestioned. Our ability, through OUR LARGE CASH RESERVE, is assurance to you, that if you pay more than OUR DEPENDABLE RATES for your Insurance, you are letting others spend money that your family deserves.

IF YOU ARE AN INSURABLE RISK, WE WANT YOUR APPLICATION

Ideal Security Life Insurance Co.

W. H. Littlefield, Sec'y-Treas., Anson Tex., Pho. 3731
Res. Pho. 4421
H. L. Willis, 942 Chestnut, Abilene, Representative

But "The Masses" were not so foolish, after all!

LESS LOUDLY NOW, you may still hear an occasional agitator blasting away at the American system of business—which depends on big factories, big networks of dealers, trade-marked goods, heavy advertising, and low prices.

on having trade-marked goods which their customers could recognize. And the heavy advertising helped to give us our modern newspapers, magazines and radio.

Who built this system? The masses built it, by insisting on crackers they could recognize in the package, on automobiles, soaps, chewing gum, cigarettes, and all other articles that carried well-known trade names.

So the agitators have had to pipe down. They have discovered that "the masses" were not so easy to lead astray after all.

Agitators complained for years that "the masses" were injured by this system, and that we'd all be richer if we went back to the old cracker-barrel days.

But in spite of the complaints, little factories which have made dependable goods grew into big factories. Dealers insisted

Courtesy Nation's Business



FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Frigidaire and table top gas stove; also house for rent. See Johnny Jacobs.

FOR SALE—Four white sidewall Corduroy tires; 6.00x16 size; fifteen month road hazard insurance; \$45 with tubes complete; your old tires in exchange. West's Auto Supply Store.

HAVE 4-year-old draft horse and brown Shetland pony for sale or trade. John Grable.

HOUSE FOR SALE—Apply M. B. Bell, at barber shop.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Black horse mule and one bay mare. See Otis Foster, Merkel, Texas, Route 1.

FOR RENT

ROOMS FOR RENT, furnished and unfurnished. Mrs. Irl Walker.

FOR RENT—NICELY furnished apartment to couple; also furnished room. Mrs. John Shannon.

FOR RENT—Furnished 3-room apartment on Oak street. Mrs. Fredrickson.

FOR RENT—Building, corner Elm and Edwards street; can give possession Jan. 1, 1941; building now occupied by Barrow Furniture company. Write E. G. Neely, 4311 Hall St., Dallas, Texas.

RENTAL EXCHANGE—Have opened office at Lee-Bailey Drug store. If you have houses, apartments or rooms to rent, list them with me; reasonable charge. Cyrus Pee.

WANTED

WILL TRADE 11 disc one-way for thrifble disc. C. E. Morgan, Merkel, Texas, Route 1.

Gas Changed to Liquid Heads Achievements of Great Utility Industry

The achievement of reducing natural gas to a liquid for storage is listed at the head of gas engineering accomplishments in the annual report of Alexander Forward, managing director of the American Gas association, who told also the part the industry is playing in national defense, its use of advertising, and its growth in many fields.

A huge plant built at Cleveland, Ohio, reduces natural gas to a liquid at a temperature of 250 degrees below zero and stores it in a special container from which it is later withdrawn in its original form and fed into distribution mains. Some of the advantages are saving in storage space, availability of gas in emergencies, and the meeting of peak demands.

The industry is taking a leading part in supplying the vast heating needs of national defense.

"From hardening intricate parts of machine guns to the final heat treatment of the largest guns, specially designed gas furnaces are speeding production at an ever-increasing pace," says the report. "In the navy yards, some of the largest industrial furnaces ever built are annealing fully assembled gun turrets with gas. Equipment developed for peace-time uses through co-operative research and engineering under sponsorship of the American Gas association, is rapidly being put to work to speed production in war industries."

American housewives bought more than 1,600,000 gas ranges in 1940. The gas industry, supplying towns and cities with a population of more than 84,000,000, served a total of 17,980,300 customers, an increase of 481,000 over 1939.

Much of the increase is attributed to expanded advertising programs. The industry has announced its intention of increasing advertising to promote use of gas for the four big jobs—cooking, water heating, house heating and refrigeration.

Record of Births.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Harvel Dean, Friday, December 27, 1940.
 Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Loper, Blair, Sunday, December 29, 1940.
 Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Leach, Monday, December 30, 1940.
 Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Willie Jo Douglas, Monday, December 30, 1940.
 Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Emmett H. Salter, Abilene, Tuesday, December 31, 1940.

Asks Co-Operation of Friends in Staging Sale

As previously announced, Jan. 8 is the date of the Hereford Auction sale of W. J. Largent and Son, at which time the Largent herd is to be dispersed. Anticipating a very large crowd, W. J. Largent offers some timely suggestions to his friends in Merkel and local communities in the following statement:

"No one appreciates their Merkel and Merkel territory friends any more than I, and I know that you will want to co-operate with me on Jan. 8, the day of my Hereford Auction sale.

"I am expecting an unusually large crowd, especially if the weather is pretty, and it is going to be quite a task to feed and seat the visitors that I am expecting from all over the United States. Therefore, I am asking my friends that if they do come at the noon hour to be sure that all visitors have been served before they eat and that all visitors have been seated in the sale tent before they occupy seats. Thank you. "W. J. Largent."

New County Officers Take Oaths Jan. 3

Two new county commissioners took their oaths of office Wednesday, but illness of County Judge Carl Hulseley forced cancellation of the scheduled New Year's meeting of the commissioners' court.

Lem Dudley is successor to Jack Canon as commissioner from precinct 2, while R. L. Young succeeds Luther Webb in precinct 1.

Only a very few other changes took place in the county's official family. Theo Ash, justice of the peace, succeeded Esco Walter as county attorney, the latter moving up as the new district attorney of the 104th district court, succeeding Otis Miller.

Judge W. R. Chapman's successor on the 104th district bench is Owen Thomas of Anson. Judge Chapman, it will be remembered, withdrew from the race for re-election last summer on the advice of his physician.

Safety Record Ruined.

Pampa, Jan. 2.—Pampa missed by 21 hours having a perfect traffic record for 1940. A 58-year-old negro died Tuesday at 3 a. m. of complications which set in after he was injured when struck by an automobile here last Thursday.

Basketball Tournament At Trent Begins Jan. 2

The Trent girls' basketball tournament will get under way Thursday night, Jan. 2, at 6 o'clock with Blackwell playing Hawley. Noodle plays Trent B team at 7 p. m. and McCaulley plays Trent A team at 8.

Friday evening the tournament gets under way again at 6 o'clock with Sylvester playing Avoca, Divide vs. Lawn at 7. At 8 o'clock the Trent boys' team will play their first conference game of the season against the Bradshaw quintet.

Following that the May sextet from Brown county will tangle with Ledo Dowdy's Callahan County six. The games will continue through Saturday and into Saturday night with the finals being played Saturday night.

Awards are being given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, 1st and 2nd in consolation and individual awards to the all-tournament team.

The boys invitation tournament will be held at Trent Jan. 10 and 11.

Tax Assessor-Collector To Visit Here Jan. 17-18

Beginning Saturday, Jan. 11, C. O. (Pat) Patterson, county tax assessor-collector, and a deputy will visit Taylor county towns to make tax collections and take renditions of property for 1941 taxes.

Payments on state, county and school taxes (in common school districts) will be accepted.

Tax Collector Patterson will be at the city hall in Merkel Friday and Saturday, Jan. 17 and 18.

He will be in Trent Saturday, Jan. 11, which is the first town on the schedule.

Draft Board Rates Ten Merkel Men Class 1-A

Out of nine men placed last week in class 1-A by Draft Board No. 2 (Taylor county outside of Abilene) six from Merkel were included: Cecil Edwin Turner, Jack Dawson West, William Pierce Hamm, Fred Thomas McMinn, James Milton Pilcher and Woodrow Wilson.

A group of eight placed early this week in class 1-A by this draft board included J. Lynn Shelton, Homer Henry Reynolds, Robert Brown Higgins and Jack Keith Graham.

Three Business Firms Change Locations

Following a three-way move, the first of the New Year found Emory McDonald's feed store in the Ashby building, between Eli Case & Son and Adcock's Dry Cleaners; Bullock Hardware occupying the quarters vacated by the feed store, and the Barrow-Sheppard Furniture company in the G. M. Sharp building, formerly used by Bullock Hardware.

The new funeral home for the Barrow-Sheppard company, now under construction, is nearing completion, but it will probably be two or three weeks before it will be ready for occupancy.

The Barrow Furniture company, under that name, had occupied the building they are vacating since 1917, and prior to that A. T. Sheppard, manager and part owner of the Barrow-Sheppard company, had been employed five or six years by Behrens and McMillen in the same location.

Meet to Elect Delegates To State Convention

Annual meeting of the Taylor Agriculture association will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the district court room in Abilene, President J. Walter Hammond announced Tuesday.

Election of officers and delegates to the Texas Agriculture association convention to be held Jan. 14 and 15 in Dallas will headline business matters.

Hammond said there will be three voting delegates, and 15 or 20 non-

voting delegates chosen for the convention.

Hammond will report on the recent American Farm Bureau Federation convention he attended in Baltimore, Md.

The 1941 government farm program, particularly as it applies to cotton farmers, will be discussed at length.

Decision of association members Saturday will govern votes of the county's delegates to the state convention.

NOTICE.

Effective Jan. 1, my office is temporarily located at my home. If you want to see me or make payments on accounts or notes, you will find me uptown or at Phone 121.

John Grable.

Just say you saw it in The Mail.

Local Bank to Accept Payments for Premiums Of Ideal Security Life

To Our Policy-Holders in Merkel Territory:

The Farmers and Merchants National bank, Merkel, will now accept your payments for your insurance with Ideal Security Life Ins. Co., Anson.

They do this to save you postage, money order fees and trouble. If convenient take your card that you may show them the correct amount, and they can mark your card paid. Or they will give you a duplicate of your deposit which will be your receipt.

Please let them know that you appreciate this favor to you.

Very truly yours,

Ideal Security Life Ins. Co.,
 W. H. Littlefield, Sec'y-Treas.

Happy New Year

AND A THOUSAND "THANK YOU'S" FOR YOUR GOOD WILL TOWARD US DURING THE YEAR JUST PAST!

BEN FRANKLIN SORE
 J. DOYLE NUTT, Prop.

SPECIALS

for FRIDAY-SATURDAY

JANUARY 3-4



WINESAP APPLES DOZ. 15c

CRANBERRIES Lb. 19c
 LETTUCE Head 5c
 YAMS 4 lbs. 15c

SPUDS 10 lbs. 19c
 ORANGES Doz. 15c
 CARROTS 3 bunches 10c

SUN SPUN PINT JAR
SALAD DRESSING 22c

PURE CANE
SUGAR 10-lb. cloth bag 49c

RED & WHITE
 Coffee Lb. 25c
 RED & WHITE
 Milk 4 small or 2 tall 15c
 CORN
 Flakes Pkg. 10c

RED & WHITE
 Fruit Juices 3 cans 25c
 BLUE & WHITE
 Pork & Beans 1 lb. can 5c
 BLUE & WHITE
 Tamales 2 cans 25c

R & W FLOUR PRICES

6 lb. bag 29c 24 lb. bag 89c
 12 lb. bag 49c 48 lb. bag \$1.65

RED & WHITE
 Catsup 14 oz. bottle 15c
 RED & WHITE
 Apricots No. 2 1/2 can 25c
 GREEN
 Beans No. 2 can 10c

OUR VALUE
 Corn No. 2 can 10c
 OUR VALUE
 Peas No. 2 can 10c
 RED & WHITE
 Soap 7 bars 25c

MARKET SPECIALS

PORK SAUSAGE Lb. 19c
 PIG LIVER 2 lbs. 25c
 PORK ROAST Lb. 19c
 PORK CHOPS Lb. 22c

SLICED BACON Lb. 23c
 BRICK CHILI Lb. 19c
 SHORTENING 4 lb. ct'n 39c
 CRISCO 3 lb. can 49c

WEST COMPANY, Merkel A. W. WOOD, Trent
 Herring & Thompson, Noodle E. BRADLEY MERC. CO., Stith

STAR Bargain RATES

Latest WAR NEWS by RADIO & CABLES

Lots of PICTURES LOCAL and by WIRE

Complete MARKETS Stocks, Grain Livestock etc

DAILY FULL PAGE COMICS 12 Colored Pages Sunday

BEST EDITORIALS Columnists & Cartoons

Society WOMAN'S PAGE fashions, Recipes Serial Stories

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

1941 WILL BE one of the most eventful years in the world's history. The war spreading throughout the world and our own national defense program affect the lives of every man, woman and child in the United States. It affects every phase of agriculture and business. Next year—of all years—you will want The STAR-TELEGRAM which will reach you first, with all the news and pictures from everywhere. A COMPLETE STATE DAILY NEWSPAPER with features for your entire family. Take advantage of the special low rates that enable you to keep fully informed of fast-changing events as they happen in 1941.

DAILY WITH SUNDAY Regular Price \$10.00

YOU SAVE \$2.55 **\$7.45** BARGAIN PRICE (7 DAYS A WEEK)

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY Regular Price \$8.00

\$6.45 BARGAIN PRICE (6 DAYS A WEEK) YOU SAVE \$1.55

For a short time only the mail subscription price is reduced. SAVE BY BRINGING YOUR ORDER TO THIS OFFICE.

of the sale than 2,000



WATCH PARTY ALSO GUEST NIGHT FOR FORTNIGHTLY STUDY CLUB MEMBERS.

The "Lodge" on the Sears ranch was a perfect setting for a New Year's party Tuesday evening when members of the Fortnightly Study club were each privileged to bring one guest. Upon arrival, places were found at foursome tables and a chili supper was served, after which entertainment became very informal.

"Information Please" proved very diverting and many "New Year's" resolutions were presented. At a late hour delicious popcorn balls were served with spiced tea. At the midnight hour fireworks were shot off and all joined in the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

The guest list for this enjoyable affair was Messrs. and Mesdames John Leonard, Byers Petty, Connor Robinson, Lige Gamble, Tom Largent, Bill Brown, Owen Robertson; Mesdames Len Sublett, Comer Haynes, Elsie Nash, Elma McFarland, Ellen Duncan; Misses Mildred Holt, Vennie Heizer, Johnnie Sears, Mamie Ellis, Christine Collins; Messrs. C. J. Glover and T. H. Christopher.

HARPER-GARRETT.

Holy rites were solemnized on Monday afternoon, December 16, uniting as husband and wife, Forest O. Harper and Miss Iris Garrett, prominently known and universally popular members of the faculty of Hamilton public schools. The ceremony took place in the parsonage of First Baptist church at 4:00 o'clock, with Rev. T. Lynn Stewart reading the sacred service.

Attending the bride and groom were Miss Marie Atchley, maid of honor, and DeWayne Harper, both of Evant, brother of the groom, who served as best man; and witnesses of the marriage were Robert Norman Hamilton, of Evant; Mrs. Glenn Secrest, Misses Pat, Maud and Nell Secrest, Miss Estelle Gardner, and Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Jones.

Mr. and Mrs. Harper left immediately after their marriage to spend their honeymoon in San Antonio, cities of the Texas coast country and a trip over into Mexico. They will be guests for Christmas of J. M. Garrett, father of the bride, a merchant of Merkel, Texas. The bride traveled in her wedding costume, a spring suit of navy blue with a rose coat and accessories in navy. Her corsage was of gardenias.

Mr. Harper came to Hamilton two years ago to accept the responsible post of principal of west Ward school, and has proven himself to be an instructor of distinction, a progressive educator and is one of Hamilton's best citizens. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Harper, prominently known ranchers of near Goldthwaite, Texas. In preparation for his profession Mr. Harper graduated from Daniel Baker college at Brownwood, and holds a bachelor of arts degree.

The beautiful young bride is a graduate of North Texas State Teachers college at Denton, and was also added to the west Ward school faculty two years ago, and is teach-

er of fine arts. She is a talented musician with especial training as a pianist, giving liberally of her art to the entertainment of society and for public benefit. She is gracious in hospitality, always fascinatingly cheerful and is sweet in her nature and endears herself to every one who is privileged to be associated with her in life's work and pleasures.

With the coming of the New Year Mr. and Mrs. Harper will return to resume their school work in Hamilton. They will be accorded a royal reception as husband and wife, and will be complimented with a number of delightful society affairs.

CLARK-PARKS.

Friends and associates of Charles Clark, teacher of science at Merkel High school and assistant football coach, were interested to learn of his marriage to Miss Yvonna Parks, which occurred on Friday evening, Dec. 20, at Post. The ceremony was read by Minister Reid of the Church of Christ in the school auditorium, with pupils from the classes of Miss Parks witnessing the rites.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Parks of Post. After graduating from San Angelo high school, she attended San Angelo Junior college two years and completed her B. A. at Sul Ross college.

A graduate of Tuscola high school, Mr. Clark holds a bachelor of science degree from Sul Ross college, where the romance began.

Until the close of the school session, Mrs. Clark will continue as a teacher in the Post schools.

DINNER GUESTS.

Following their annual get-together tradition at Christmas time, a group of boys who went through High school together were entertained with a dinner party, Friday night, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley King, with Norman King as host.

The group included Truett Patterson, Norman King, Robert Bickley, Jimmie Bickley, Holt Vaughn, A. C. Sears and Kenneth Campbell, a guest of A. C. Sears.

MARRIAGE ANNOUNCED.

The marriage of Don Swafford, formerly of Merkel, and Thesa Ruth Hull was solemnized Sunday afternoon at 1:30 at Odessa. They left immediately on a honeymoon trip to Cisco, and after a short visit here with his mother, Mrs. T. J. R. Swafford, they returned to Odessa where he is employed at the Sunbeam Market place.

HOME DEMONSTRATION CLUB.

The Merkel Home Demonstration club will have their first meeting of the New Year, Friday, Jan. 10, at 2 p. m., at the home of Mrs. John Hughes, with Mrs. Grover Gilbert co-hostess.

JUNIOR G. A.

When the Junior G. A. met Monday, Dec. 30, at the First Baptist church, there were eight present: Alma Lou Smith, Florene Stover, Irene Stover, Louise Graham, Jean Mathews, Joanna Ramsey, Geraldine Jinkens and Mrs. W. A. McCandless.

RURAL SOCIETY

DOUBLE WEDDING UNITES POPULAR COUPLES.

A double wedding ceremony, performed by W. R. Smith, vice-president of Abilene Christian college, at his home on College Drive in the Abilene Heights addition on Saturday, Dec. 21, 1940, united Geraldine Sloan and Cline Satterwhite, and Juanez Jones and Norman Bicknell.

Mrs. Satterwhite, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sloan of Noodle, is a graduate of Noodle High school and attended Abilene Christian college. She was dressed in light blue sheer wool with black accessories. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Satterwhite of Noodle.

Mrs. Bicknell is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Jones of Stith. She is a graduate of Merkel High school, John Tarleton Junior college and attended Abilene Christian college. She is at present a teacher in the Noodle school. She was dressed in aquatint with black accessories. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bicknell of Noodle.

Both couples will make their home in the Noodle community.

MOORE-IVY.

Miss Lucy Moore and John Ivy of Lueders were united in marriage December 21 at Abilene, the ceremony being performed by Paul C. Witt of Abilene. Mr. and Mrs. Otis Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Monta Moore witnessed the nuptials.

The bride is the pretty daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Moore of Blair and has lived there all her life. She finished High school at Merkel, later attending Abilene Christian college, Abilene; she spent two years at Texas Tech, Lubbock. She is a very accomplished young lady, with a host of friends to wish her happiness in her new relation of life.

The groom graduated from Abilene Christian college, Abilene, and is now teaching at Paint Creek school, near Stamford. Those that have met Mr. Ivy say he is a young man of industry and pleasing address.

The wedding culminates a romance of long standing and nothing but success is expected of them. The couple will live at Lueders.

ENJOYS CHRISTMAS DINNER.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Armstrong of Salt Branch was the scene of a family get-together Christmas day. All their children and grandchildren were present except Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Armstrong and son, J. D., of Dallas.

At the noon hour a sumptuous turkey dinner was served to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Armstrong and children, Dora, Joe Ansel and Leroy of Goodman; Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Woodard and son, Ronnie Joe, of Merkel; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Perry, Tye; Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Armstrong and Linnie Faye, Salt Branch; Mr. and Mrs. Horace Armstrong, Salt Branch, and Mrs. Armstrong's little sister, Melba Sue Ellis of Hodges. In the late afternoon Lewis Farmer called.

No Change in Condition of George W. Boyce

Condition of George Boyce, pioneer real estate man, remained practically unchanged Thursday morning at the Sadler Clinic, where he was moved last Thursday. He has been critically ill since a heart attack on Dec. 18.

Mrs. J. A. Boyce, Miss Alycmae Boyce, Price Boyce, Mr. and Mrs. Coke Mingus and Mrs. John Woodrum and two daughters, Misses Wintterdean and Jannell, all of Abilene, have been frequent visitors here during his illness, also Mrs. R. E. Neal, a grand-niece, and daughter, of Hugo, Okla., who arrived Wednesday.

Long-Time Resident Succumbs at Lubbock

Mrs. Jess Pribble, 66, long-time resident of this section, died Monday at the home of a son near Lubbock. The family had only recently moved near Lubbock from Merkel.

Surviving are her husband, three sons, E. T. of Lubbock, B. L. and O. A. of Abilene, and a daughter, Mrs. W. W. White, of Oil Center, N. M. She was a sister of Ben Lilly of the Mount Pleasant community.

Hospital Notes.

George W. Boyce was received at the Sadler Clinic Thursday, Dec. 26, for treatment.

Other medical patients received the past week were: Mrs. Annie Scott, Route 2, and Mrs. Paul W. Newman, Route 1.

A. G. Costin, of Ackerly, injured in an automobile wreck, was brought to the hospital Tuesday night and released the next day.

A daughter was born at the hospital to Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Leach Monday, Dec. 30.

Baptists Have Student Nights During January

In keeping with the plan of many churches of having a "Student Night" program at Christmas time, the First Baptist church had observance Sunday evening. Students from colleges for the holidays were the honor guests. These students together with the local High School students took complete charge of the program.

Billy Largent, of Hardin-Simmons university, presided over the program. The invocation was given by Dwight Swafford. Scripture was read by Mildred and Sue Bird and Marjorie Jo Fulton. Two High School students were interviewed on questions relative to their intentions of college. These students were Doris Clyde Miller and Joseph Winter. An open letter from the parents to their children in college was read by Mrs. Owen Robertson and two short talks in response were given by Miss Jessie Margaret Berry of East Texas State Teachers college, and Miss Himalya Swafford, a teacher in the Odessa public schools.

The pastor, Rev. Cooper Waters, was called on for a brief message on "Wise Investments for College Students." The benediction was given by Douglas McCoy after a moment of silent prayer with instrumental accompaniment. The choir was filled with the young people of the church and the ushers were local High School students. The music was provided by Mrs. Comer Haynes at the piano and an orchestra composed of Billie and Jack Haynes and Clyde Bartlett, Jr.

After the service at the church a fellowship hour was held at the pastor's home, where a large group of students were served light refreshments.

All the Sunday evening services during the month of January are to be dedicated to the young people of the church. The pastor will discuss problems of young people and their home, school and church life. The sermon subject announced for next Sunday evening is "Those Responsible for Youth." This is a sermon directed to parents and others responsible for the welfare of the young people. There will be a fellowship hour for the young people following each service.

Fire Destroys Boaz Home Christmas Day

At an early hour on Christmas morning, the J. E. Boaz home across the street east of the High school, occupied by the Rex Myers family, was almost completely destroyed by fire, the origin of which is undetermined, according to the city authorities.

Mr. Myers and family had gone to Meridian for the holidays, having left here when school dismissed on Wednesday, Dec. 18, and no one was at home at the time the fire occurred.

Insurance of \$600 was carried by Mr. Myers on the furniture and household goods, while the house was insured for \$2,500.

The Myers family will occupy the Lige Gamble home, recently vacated by Blackie Callaway, when repairs, re-painting and other improvements are completed.

Falls Dead at Communion.

La Salle, Ill., Jan. 2.—As the bells of his church pealed forth tidings of the holiday, the Rev. Quinter Kephart, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, fell dead on the altar during Christmas services.

If you have any visitors, Phone 29 or 61.

In The Churches

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

There were 473 present at the six reporting Sunday Schools here last Sunday, as compared with 508 the previous week. On the same Sunday a year ago the attendance was 557.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning sermon at 11. Training Union 6. During January the evening service, 7 p. m., will honor the young people. Teachers' and officers' meeting and prayer meeting 7 Wednesday evening.

METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Morning worship service 11 a. m. Intermediate League 6:15 p. m. Senior-Y. P. League 6:15 p. m. Evening service, 7 p. m. Woman's Society of Christian Service Mondays at 2:30. Mid-Week service Wednesdays at 7:15 p. m. Stewards meet second Tuesday night in each month.

CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Sunday services: Bible classes 9:45, preaching at 10:45, young people's meeting at 6:15. Preaching at 7 p. m. Wednesday evening Bible study at 7 o'clock.

NAZARENE CHURCH.

Sunday School 10 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. NYPs at 6:30 Sunday evening. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST CHURCH.

Preaching Saturday night at 7 o'clock. Sunday School 9:45 a. m. Preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7.

NEW LIVE OAK CHURCH.

Sunday, Jan. 5, there will be preaching and Sunday School at the New Live Oak Baptist church in the Butman community. At 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon Rev. A. C. Healer will preach at the Blair community.

There will be preaching at Butman Sunday night also. Everyone is invited to come. You will be welcomed.

New Presbyterian Pastor to Preach Here

Word was received early in the week by W. M. Elliott, clerk of the session of Grace Presbyterian church, that Rev. J. Basil Ramsey, who tendered his resignation to the Post church, effective the end of the year, had accepted the call to the local church. Rev. Mr. Ramsey, who preached here one Sunday in October, was considered very favorably by the congregation at the time, and arrangements have now been completed whereby he will divide time between Merkel, Tuscola and Tye, making his home here at the manse. He will preach here Sunday, both morning and night.

Kimbell's Best — Guaranteed

Mrs. R. A. Walker, wife of the beloved former pastor, has stored her furniture in the Murray garage until she completes details for the purchase of a home. She and daughter, Miss Robbie, also have a room at Mrs. L. L. Murray's.

In England today there are 2,000,000 private motor cars capable of service.

Advertisement for Pathfinder Polls of Public Opinion. The ad features a large illustration of the United States Capitol building. Text includes: 'PATHFINDER polls keep millions of folks everywhere posted in advance on vital questions—war, politics, elections, farm problems, labor, world events. An exclusive PATHFINDER feature. Nothing else like it. A real news sensation. Read in More Than a Million Homes. Besides, PATHFINDER is the world's oldest and most widely-read news magazine, bringing to you in words and pictures everything that happens, fresh from the world's news center in Washington. World events verified and interpreted, boiled down into 20 interesting departments—unbiased, non-partisan, dependable, complete. Costs 75% less. This Newspaper & PATHFINDER BOTH one year Only \$ 1.60' and 'Every Week from the National Capital'.

Advertisement for Queen Theatre. Text includes: 'QUEEN THEATRE "Showing the Pick of Pictures for Less" FRIDAY-SATURDAY CHARLES STARRETT IN "THE DURANGO KID" Special: "Mack Sennett Revival," Hilarious 2-Reel Comedy, Popeye Cartoon and Serial Saturday Preview, 11 p. m., Sunday-Monday GEORGE BRENT — BRENDA MARSHALL In "SOUTH OF SUEZ" Also Color Cartoon, News and Short TUESDAY ONLY—Bargain Nite—10c-15c "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" With DICK POWELL and ELLEN DREW WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY KAY KYSER and HIS BAND Featuring "THE COLLEGE of MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE" in "YOU'LL FIND OUT" Added: Selected Short Subjects'.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Deputy Sheriff P. A. Diltz was away from his official duties several days during Christmas week because of the "flu." A son, Philip Diltz, Jr., who is now in Legion hospital, writes that he is improving slowly.

White and Palmer, proprietors of the Magnolia Service station, started the New Year with the installation of a new car washing machine of very latest design.

Dillard Dunn is now in charge of the market department of West Company's Red & White store, taking the place of Holt Vaughn, who is now assisting Manager Hodge at the Queen theatre. Mr. Dunn will move his family here at an early date from Southland.

Advertisement for ELI CASE and SON. Text includes: 'ELI CASE and SON GROCERY & MARKET PHONE 234'.

SUNKIST LEMONS ... Doz. 19c Seedless Grapefruit .. Doz. 19c

BANANAS 2 doz. 25c Fresh Cocoanuts .. Each 5c

TURNIPS Lb. 3c SPUDS 10 lbs. 14c

LETTUCE ... Head 5c CARROTS 3 bchs. 10c

No. 2 Cans Tomatoes .. 2 for 15c PEANUT BUTTER Qt. Jar 19c

Crackers 2 lb. box 15c Pure Cane — Kraft Bags

Sugar 10 lbs. 46c CORD or LINEN

MOPS Each 19c PURE RIBBON CANE

SYRUP Gal. 55c SOUR PICKLES Qt. 49c

Flour 48 lbs. 1.44 Marshmallows lb 15c

Large Cellophane Bag Vanilla Wafers .. 10c

Bright & Early Coffee LB. 19c

BRISKET ROAST Lb. 15c

Chuck Steak .. Lb. 20c Sliced Breakfast

Bacon LB. 23c Cottage Cheese .. 15c

Sugar Cured Bacon Squares lb 14c

Pork Chops .. Lb. 19c Lily Brand

OLEO LB. 10c Fresh Cat Fish