

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 58.—NO. 38.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1947.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

PILE UP 19-12 VICTORY TO WIN IN BI-DISTRICT

Badgers Stage "Whale of a Football Exhibition" Against Seminole Indians Last Friday; Success Well Earned.

A courageous band of Merkel Badgers trekked to the windswept plains of West Texas last Friday, staged one whale-of-a-football exhibition on the Seminole Indian "reservation" to come home with a well-earned 19-12 victory and the bi-district championship of District 8A and 7A.

In view of the fact that Seminole had been doped to win by a 50-7 count and arrangements had already been made for Seminole and Levelland to meet in the new Texas Tech stadium for the Regional 2 championship game, this impressive triumph was regarded as quite an upset and one that made some newspaper reporters look "silly."

Approximately 4000 fans, including about 400 from Merkel, saw the underdog Purple and Gold machine display a powerful ground assault, aided by some timely aerial thrusts, to rack up their eleventh consecutive win of the season.

The 8A champs electrified the crowd the first time they got the ball with a sensational 51-yard pass, Jimmy Walker to Robert Hodge, Seminole returned the opening kickoff to the 35 and on the third play Center Billy Pat Nash, who played a stellar defensive game at his line-backer post, recovered an Indian fumble on the Merkel 48. On the next play Walker faded back and heaved a long aerial to Right End Robert Hodge, who was 10 yards behind the nearest defensive man, and the hustling little wingman galloped to the one-yard line. Corky Land, who was probably the outstanding offensive player of the game, circled left end and for the initial T. D. Bobby Gilbert's kick for the extra point was (Continued on Page Three)

Holiday Street Lights Decorate Downtown

Around 30 streamers of gayly colored lights were turned on the early part of the week, spanning four blocks on the highway through town and two blocks north on Edwards, giving downtown Merkel a truly Christmas spirit.

More than 500 lights were purchased to add to the carry-over on hand. The holiday street lighting was made possible by cash subscriptions of Merkel business men and the labor donated by West Texas Utilities company and REA crews and C. M. Williams, fire truck driver.

John Deere Program At Bullock Hardware

Tuesday, Dec. 16, is the date for the big John Deere Day program at Bullock Hardware company, which begins with lunch at the noon hour. Feature in the afternoon will be the showing at the Queen theatre of "Doctor Jim," starring Stuart Erwin, plus several other interesting and educational talking pictures.

The John Deere Day program is a free to all farmers and their families. Admission is by ticket only. "If you don't have tickets, or need more, ask for them," Harry Bullock said.

Mother of Merkel Man Dies in Memphis

Marshal M. Owen was called to Memphis, Hall county, last Thursday night to the bedside of his mother, Mrs. G. P. Owen, who was seriously ill. Mrs. Owen died at 3:30 Friday morning and funeral services were held from the Church of Christ at 2:30 Sunday afternoon. Marshall was their only child residing in Texas.

Merkel Boys Make Trip With McMurry Band

As the McMurry Indian band was returning Tuesday afternoon from a three-day tour of eight West Texas cities, during which they gave twelve concerts, Abie Turner stopped over here for a brief visit with his mother, Mrs. Ed Turner.

Abie is with the percussion section of the band, first chair. Another Merkel boy, James Harris, who plays the clarinet, also made the trip.

Merkel's Badgers Compete With Levelland for Regional Honors Here Today



Champions of District 8A, the undefeated and untied Merkel Badgers achieved the bi-district title by defeating Seminole 19-12 last Friday at Seminole and engage in battle for the regional title with Levelland on Badger

Field at 2 p. m. today. Members Front row, left to right: Hollis McLean, Sanford Carr, James Land, Billy Pat Nash, Leroy Teaff, Miniford McCoy, Lon McDonald, Jimmy Walker. Second row: Paul Bow, Donald

Douglas, Donald Fratt, John English, Bobby Criswell, Bobby DuBose, Jack Boone, Leon Floyd. Third row: Mgr. G. H. Suber, Jimmy Floyd, Marvin Holloway, Don Dudley, Robert Sledge, Larry Bailey, Bobby Hodge, Oris

Reynolds, Bobby Gilbert, Coach Carroll Benson. Fourth row: Gaston Walker, Max Springer, Brandon Wade, Willie Robertson, Roger Bailey, Jimmy Black, J. D. Gregory, Wayne McLean.

IF CITY'S GROWTH IS TO CONTINUE INCREASED WATER SUPPLY A "MUST"

Bond Issue of \$100,000 Proposed for Water and Sewer Improvements Here.

Believing that the experience of the past summer, when an extended drought caused such a water shortage in the city that use of water for irrigation purposes had to be stopped and service to consumers had to be shut off during a portion of each day, proved in no uncertain way the need of an additional source of water supply, the city council of the City of Merkel has ordered an election for the issuance of bonds in the sum of \$100,000.00 for water and sewer improvements.

The election is to be held Saturday, Dec. 20, and all qualified voters of the City of Merkel who own taxable property and who have rendered the same for taxation are eligible to vote.

Speaking as one tax-payer, the editor of The Mail would like to stress some of the salient points in favor of the bond issue, the most important of which is that, if Merkel is to continue to grow, an adequate water supply, with proper extension of the sewer system and improvement of the disposal plant at the same time, is a prime essential. If the people that make up the present population of Merkel are to remain happy and contented, (and we might add healthy), additional sources must be provided for supplying enough water for necessary purposes and for assuring a continuing supply, even in the face of a drought, for irrigation of gardens and beautifying of lawns.

In planning to meet this pressing need for more water, the city council contracted with the French Engineering company of Abilene to study the situation and to submit a program that would tend to solve the water problem. The engineering firm came through with a well defined plan, embracing: (1) digging new wells and laterals; (2) providing pumps and pipelines; (3) an additional storage reservoir; (4) a water softener or treating plant; and, in connection with the water improvements, equipment for complete sewerage.

(Continued on Page Two)

Enrollment for Blue Cross Closes Saturday

According to the report of W. R. Derr, who has charge of the Blue Cross Hospitalization Enrollment campaign, there have been a number of people who have taken advantage of this special opportunity and have made application for this service. Several firms are in process of enrolling groups for their own particular places of business.

The enrollment for the Community Group will close Saturday, Dec. 13. After that date it will be at least 6 months before another opportunity will be offered for membership. Those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity to enroll will make application at the Blue Cross headquarters at Merkel, located in the Red Cross offices.

South Side Bleachers To Accommodate 1,800

While practically all of the 2,500 reserved seats for the Levelland-Merkel regional game to be played here Friday have been sold, Supt. R. A. McCollum of the Merkel Public Schools stated Thursday morning that the bleachers on the south side of the field at the new stadium would accommodate 1,500 to 1,800 holders of general admission tickets, providing a total seating capacity of around 4,000, with standing room available to increase accommodations for at least another 1,000 persons.

School officials at Levelland asked for 1,000 reserved seat tickets, which were sent them Monday. The other 1,600 were placed on sale here beginning Tuesday morning.

Former Resident Dies At Lakeside Lodge

Robert Grady (Cap) Collins, 56, owner of the P-K Lodge on Possum Kingdom lake and a former resident of Merkel, died Monday morning, Nov. 24, at the lodge. His death was due to a heart attack, according to report of Justice of the Peace J. R. Watkins of Mineral Wells, who investigated.

His body was found by a visitor to the lodge, who went into Collins' quarters after failing to arouse any one. A sister, Mrs. Annie Grafford made her home with him but was at the bedside of a daughter in Dallas at the time.

He is survived by another sister, Mrs. R. H. Hays, of Pulaski, Tenn., his birthplace.

Deceased was a veteran of World War I and a past commander of the Grafado American Legion Post, which had charge of his burial in McAdams cemetery. He was widely known among Possum Kingdom fishermen and hunters.

White Church to Give Comedy, Dec. 17

The White Church Methodist church is sponsoring a three-act comedy, "Lena Rivers," to be given at the Butman Tabernacle Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 7 o'clock. The admission will be 15c and 30c.

There will be plenty of entertainment in this play which is packed with laughter and tears. All proceeds to go for the benefit of the church.

Doyle Seifrieds Buy Tidwell's Variety

Doyle's Variety and Gift is the new name of the variety store, formerly Tidwell's variety store, of which Mr. and Mrs. Doyle Seifried, (Doyle and Sis), became owners Monday morning. Both Doyle and Sis will be actively connected with the operation of the store.

Abilene Woman Guest Speaker for P-T. A.

A most interesting and worthwhile talk on "Keynotes to World Peace" was given by Mrs. L. E. Dudley, of Abilene, guest speaker for the regular monthly meeting of the Merkel Parent-Teacher association, held Tuesday evening in the Grammar School auditorium. The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Johnny Cox.

In keeping with the theme of the meeting, "Christmas—The Prince of Peace," Rev. D. S. Neel, pastor of Grace Presbyterian church, read the Christmas story.

Mrs. Carroll Benson presided at the meeting in the absence of the president, Mrs. Louie Herring. The Choral club of the grade school sang two groups of songs under the direction of Mrs. Norman Winter. The first group included Christmas songs and featured the boys' quartet. The girls' sextet was featured in the second group.

Following the choral numbers a brief business session was held. Mrs. Jud McReynolds gave a report of the State P-T. A. convention held recently in Galveston, Mrs. Sam Swann accompanied Mrs. McReynolds to the convention.

The bake sale, sponsored the day preceding Thanksgiving, netted the sum of \$50.00, it was reported.

The year's project was presented and approved by the assembly, the project or goal being: (1) to set aside \$200 for a large ditto machine to be used for the entire school; (2) to buy three small machines, \$4.71 each, for the first grade; (3) to buy a \$50.00 record player; (4) \$50.00 for maps for the grammar school, and (5) \$10.00 for National Education Week.

Total of 81 Parents Visit First Grade

In spite of the bad weather last Thursday, a total of 81 parents visited at the first grade school building during the day to have conferences with the teachers and to see some of the work done by the children during the past six weeks.

Ninety per cent of all the parents of first graders were in attendance, which is an increase over the number visiting on Oct. 23.

School officials and teachers stated that the response made by parents on visitation days so far has been very gratifying.

Accepts Pastorates of East Texas Churches

Rev. D. S. Neel, who has resigned his pastorate of Grace Presbyterian church here, effective Jan. 15, announced Sunday to his congregation that he had accepted a call to the Atlanta and Jefferson churches in East Texas and would assume his new duties about Feb. 1, residing at Atlanta.

SIX-WAY FLOOR LAMP IS PRIZE FOR DISPLAY

Three prizes are to be offered for the best Christmas lighting display in the residential sections of Merkel, the contest to be sponsored by the Merkel Garden club, which completed plans at their regular meeting in the Community Center on Thursday of last week.

First prize is a six-way floor lamp, donated by the West Texas Utilities company and now on display in their window. Second and third prizes are to be announced.

Judging in the lighting contest will be done by competent out-of-town judges on the night of Dec. 22. Entries should be registered by Dec. 20 through Mrs. W. S. J. Brown or Mrs. D. Grimes.

Christmas lighting displays in the residential sections may include any outside decorations, also the windows and doors of homes. The club urges all who are interested to register for this lighting display contest, for which such valuable prizes are offered.

Well Child Clinic Dec. 19, 2-4 P. M.

The December Well Child conference, sponsored by the Merkel Parent-Teacher association will be held at the office of Mrs. Elma McFarland from 2 to 4 p. m. on Friday, Dec. 19. The clinic is open between these hours for infants and school children of all ages.

It is urged that children who have started their immunizations have them completed.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From Files of The Merkel Mail, December 16, 1927.)

BIG RODEO HERE FOR TWO DAYS.

In this paper will be found the announcement of the coming for two days during the Christmas holidays of a big Cowboy Rodeo, which will be in charge of and under the direction of Malone Brothers.

The big rodeo will take place in the west part of the city on the north side of the T. and P. railway, beginning Saturday, Dec. 24, and it is coming under the auspices of the local fireboys, Malone Brothers are experienced and nationally known rodeo managers and will, no doubt, give a good exhibition.

83RD BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED BY MRS. A. A. BAKER.

A very delightful surprise was planned by the immediate relatives of Mrs. A. A. Baker on her 83rd birthday, which came on the 11th of December. At the dinner hour the guests arrived with laden baskets of good things to eat which were added to the already bountiful repast spread on the table. Among the viands was a large white birthday cake decorated

CROWD OF 5,000 EXPECTED FOR REGIONAL PLAY

When Badgers Meet Levelland Here Friday, It'll Be First Time a Play-Off Game Has Been Staged in Merkel.

A crowd of 5,000 is expected to witness the clash between the Merkel Badgers, champions of District 7A and 8A, and the Levelland Lobos, champions of District 5A and 6A, for the Region 2 championship here Friday afternoon at the new Badger Athletic stadium.

Kickoff time has been set for 2:00 o'clock.

A press box has been constructed to meet the requirements of two radio stations and about ten newspaper reporters.

According to scout reports, Coach Carroll Benson's Badgers will face their toughest opposition of the season in the undefeated Scarlet and Black Lobos. Coach Truett Rattan's boys won their District 5A without a close call and then rolled over Tahoka 38-0 in the bi-district contest last Friday. In winning eleven straight games, the speedy Lobos have rolled up 315 points to their opponents 73. Their record to date:

- Levelland 7—Monahans 7.
- Levelland 27—Ralls 6.
- Levelland 46—Sundown 27.
- Levelland 14—Brownfield 7.
- Levelland 45—Morton 0.
- Levelland 28—Sudan 0.
- Levelland 28—Lubbock "B" 12.
- Levelland 27—Springlake 0.
- Levelland 28—Muleshoe 7.
- Levelland 17—Littlefield 7.
- Levelland 38—Tahoka 0.

Merkel has likewise won eleven consecutive games, chalking up 299 points while holding their opponents to 52.

On the basis of indirect comparative scores, the Lobos can easily be rated three or four touchdowns better than the Purple and Gold and gridgers of Merkel. The Lobos have a lot more speed than the Badgers and a line that is just as heavy as that of the local eleven. The only advantage that Benson's boys can boast is a ten pound to the man edge in the backfield. Over all the Badgers will top the Lobos about four pound to the man on the average.

The Levelland club has four extremely fast boys in the backfield, led by 155 pound quarterback Bobby Hart, who is rated as the greatest passer in any Class A school in West Texas. Halfbacks E. C. Seifert and Bobby Blundell are great climax runners and will likely give the Badgers plenty of trouble. W. A. Wise, the heaviest man in the backfield at 170 pounds, handles the blocking back chores on Coach Rattan's single wing T formation and spread formations. One of their outstanding linemen is right end Lonnie Northam, a rugged 180 pounder.

The starting lineup for the Lobos: Pete Morris, C. 170 lbs.; Tom Alexander, LG, 145; John Morton, RG, 155; Garland Ham, LT, 180; Vernon Wright, RT, 165; Billy Bickham, LE, 165; Lennie Northam, RE. (Continued on Page Two)

with 83 tiny candles to denote the 83 years of Mrs. Baker's long and useful life.

Mrs. Baker is one of the oldest, if not the oldest settler in this community and has done much to aid in the development of this splendid country. To quote Mrs. Baker, "There has been lots of changes in this country since I came here. There were no fences, the roads were mere trails over mesquite prairies and the only means of crossing the creeks and rivers were by fording them. Principal mode of travel was by ox wagon. Deer and buffalo grazed in countless numbers over the very ground along which the T. and P. railway now runs." Mrs. Baker was too ill to partake of the feast.

Dr. W. M. Gambill and family arrived last week from their extended stay in several of the northern states and the doctor is now busy getting things in shape to re-open his dental offices in the Boney building.

He will add considerable new and modern furniture and equipment. We join their many friends in welcoming them back home.

The Merkel Mail
Published Every Friday Morning
C. J. GLOVER, Editor

MEMBER 1947
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as second class mail.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Taylor and Jones Counties \$1.50
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[In Advance]
Advertising Rates On Application
TELEPHONE No. 61.

All obituaries, resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, etc., are classed as advertising, and will be charged for at 1 cent per word with a minimum of 35 cents.

Regional Tilt

(Continued from Page One)

180; Bobby Hart, QB, 155; E. C. Seifert, LH, 150; Bobby Blundell, RH, 150; and W. A. Wise, Fullback, 170.

The Purple and Gold Badgers came out of the Seminole fracas in good physical condition and apparently all hands will be ready to go Friday afternoon.

Coach Benson will depend upon his hard-charging line composed of John English, Sanford Carr, Bobby Gilbert, Billy Pat Nash, Bobby Criswell, Lon McDonald and Robert Hodge to stop the fast-stepping visitors. Thus far this season this line has yielded only 89 yards per game to the opposition.

The Merkel business department will be in charge of Corky Land, the leading scorer of the team with 193 points; tailback Jimmy Walker, the team's passer and leading ground gainer of the club; halfback Leroy Teaff, who has had a bum leg since the Roscoe game, but has managed to average almost 8 yards per run this season, and blocking back Leon Floyd, a good defensive man and one of the "hustlingest" boys on the team. This quartet has averaged 249 yards per game rushing this season. In the passing department, Jimmy Walker and company have completed 50 passes out of 114 attempts for 897 yards.

Although the Badgers will be the underdogs again they are confident that they can make a real ball game out of it in their own back yard—the first time a playoff game has ever been staged in Merkel.

Record of Births

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Garvis Tarpoley, Thursday, December 4, 1947.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Church, Monday, December 8, 1947.

Boy, to Mr. and Mrs. Truett Thompson, Tuesday, December 9, 1947.

Girl, to Mr. and Mrs. I. V. Garrett, Jr., Wednesday, December 10, 1947.

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In The Churches

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Attendance at the seven reporting Sunday Schools last Sunday was 794 as compared with 786 on the previous Sunday and 728 on the same Sunday a year ago.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning worship at 11. Training Union at 6:00 p. m. Evening sermon at 7:00. Prayer meeting at 7:00 Wednesday evening.
Merle Weathers, Pastor.

METHODIST CHURCH
Church School 10 a. m. Morning worship 11. Youth Fellowship 6:30 p. m. Evening worship 7:00. WSCS Mondays, 2 p. m. Mid-week prayer Wednesdays, 7:00 p. m.
R. L. Butler, Pastor

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning sermon at 11 o'clock. Christian Endeavor meets at 6 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting at 6:30 p. m. Wednesday.
D. S. Neel, Pastor.

FUNDAMENTALIST BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting at 7:00 Wednesday evening.
A. T. Suskey, Pastor.

NAZARENE CHURCH
Sunday School 10:00 a. m. Preaching at 11. NYPS at 7:00 p. m. Preaching at 8:00. Prayer meeting at 7:00 p. m. Wednesday.
R. T. Smith, Pastor.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Bible School 9:45 a. m. Sunday. Worship 10:50 a. m. and 7 p. m. Young People's meeting 6:15 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7 p. m. Troy M. Cummings, Minister.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Services Thursday 7:45 p. m.
H. S. Earp, Pastor.

Children Visit Mrs. L. A. Watts Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day visitors in the home of Mrs. L. A. Watts were all of her eight children, their families, two married grandsons and a great-granddaughter, Martha Ann Tipton. Those from out-of-town were Mr. and Mrs. James R. Brown and son, Jimmy, Portales, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Walden and daughter, Dolores, Barbara, Mary and Kathryn, of Odessa; Mr. and Mrs. Foster Watts and sons, Bobby and Lloyd, of Hobbs, N. M.; Mr. and Mrs. Sherman J. Lane, of Weatherford, and a grandson, Wayne Tipton, who is a student at Weatherford junior college, and his wife. They also visited in the homes of other relatives.

Two of her grandchildren are students at Texas Technological college, Lubbock: Dolores Walden and Glyn Johnson.

Large Numbers Visit West's Open House

Accepting the privilege of open house hours from 2:30 to 5 p. m. last Sunday, a large number of Merkel folks and interested residents from surrounding communities inspected the modern new home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul West on Oak street, and all visitors were unanimous in praise of the completeness of this home and its furnishings in every detail.

Assisting the owners in showing visitors through were Mrs. Carroll Benson and Mrs. Pete West.

In peacetime the automobile industry uses more aluminum than any other industry.

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RURAL SOCIETY

CLUB AUCTION SALE.
The Union Ridge Home Demonstration club met Friday, Nov. 28, in the home of Mrs. J. E. Jaynes with the president, Mrs. O. E. Harwell, in charge.

The program was on "Child Care," with the following taking parts: Mesdames Buster Hester, John Rister, Beauford Buntin, Leroy Riney, J. H. Clark and J. E. Jaynes.

All turned attention then to the auction sale, sponsored by the club but for all the community. Some 59 items were sold by the grand auctioneer, Mrs. George Crow. A total of \$24.45 was raised from the auction, and every one had lots of fun.

The club will meet Dec. 19 at 2 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Beauford Buntin for the Christmas party. All members are urged to come and bring a gift valued at 50 cents.

Refreshments were served to these visitors: Mesdames John Rister, Bernard Clark, Leroy Riney, Jesse Adams and Buster Hester and Patsy Clark, and the following members: Mesdames O. E. Harwell, M. L. Douglas, George Crow, J. H. Clark, J. D. Jaynes, Beauford Buntin, Miss Mabel McRee and the hostess.

BLUEBONNET CLUB.
The Bluebonnet Home Demonstration club met in regular meeting on Dec. 2 at the club house. Mrs. Ford Butman gave a council report.

A new member, Mrs. Doyal Barnes, was welcomed into the club.

Plans were completed for the Christmas party slated for Dec. 16 to be held in the club house at 2 p. m. At this time 1947 pals will be revealed and 1948 officers installed.

Members who do not have a pal are to bring a gift to exchange. Visitors are always welcome.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Russell of Brooklyn, N. Y., arrived on the Sunshine Special Sunday evening to spend the Christmas holidays with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Russell of Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. Elliott had as their dinner guests Saturday, a brother of Mr. Elliott, G. W. Elliott, of Abilene.

Mrs. W. H. Orr and Mrs. Ernest Kelly, of Wickett, visited a few days last week with Miss Sally Orr.

Leaving Monday night, Mrs. Dewel McLean accompanied her son, Hollis McLean, to St. Louis, Mo., where he is to enter Barnes hospital.

Miss Kathleen Bryan, who is doing postgraduate chemistry at Wesleyan university, Middletown, Conn., has returned home to attend the bedside of her father, M. G. Bryan, who suffered a heart attack recently.

Mrs. M. M. Owens visited from Sunday until Wednesday of last week with her sister, Mrs. Mae Snyder.

Following an emergency operation at a Dallas hospital, Fred Groene is recuperating nicely at his home here. He had started by train to Arkansas on business and his trip was interrupted soon after he had passed through Dallas, to which city he was returned by ambulance for the operation.

Seaman 2-C G. M. Reeves, after a 30-day leave with home folks and friends, has returned to San Diego, Calif., where he is now on duty on the USS Piedmont.

Seaman 1-C Orville Kemper, who has only recently completed a round-the-world trip on the USS Mattaponi AO-41, arrived home Sunday on leave to visit his mother, Mrs. E. A. Kemper, and other relatives.

Corn was the chief agricultural crop of Maine for 200 years.

New Operator.
Mrs. Dent Gibson, owner of the Modern Beauty shop, announces the employment of Bobbie Books, formerly of Sweetwater. Miss Books is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Burns.

Bond Issue

(Continued from Page One)

age and sewer extensions.

Whether or not the City of Merkel shall issue bonds in the sum of \$80,000.00 for waterworks improvements and \$20,000.00 for sanitary system improvements is to be determined at the polls on Dec. 20, when it is the duty of every qualified voter to exercise his franchise to take part in the city's financial affairs.

With the increased property valuations, recently established by an appraisal system, it is probable that the proposed bond issue will cause no increase in taxes, or very little. Especially is this true, in view of the fact that maturities of any consequence are set in advance not to begin until after the current outstanding bonds (amounting to \$118,000.00) are retired. In other words, until and including the year of 1971, maturities of the proposed new issues would be in the nominal sums of \$1,000 or \$2,000 annually; then, after the retirement of the present outstanding indebtedness, maturities would begin with \$10,000 annually.

MOVIE CALENDAR

QUEEN

Friday - Saturday — Double feature program: Allan Lane, Bobby Blake in "Rustlers of Devil's Canyon" and Franchot Tone, Ann Richards, Tom Conway in "Lost Honey-moon;" Popeye cartoon and Jack Armstrong serial.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday — Van Johnson, Janet Leigh, Thomas Mitchell in "The Romance of Rosy Ridge;" latest News events including All-American football selection.

Wednesday - Thursday — George Raft, George Brent, Randolph Scott, Joan Blondell, Virginia Field in "Christmas Eve;" color cartoon and Musical.

TEXAS

Friday - Saturday — Double feature program: Gene Autry, Smiley Burnette in "Bells of Capistrano" and Sidney Toler, Gloria Warren, Victor Sen Young in "Dangerous Money;" color cartoon and Jesse James serial.

"THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE"

Romance, adventure and an excitement-packed story of the after-feuds between Yankee and Rebel factions after the Civil War make for big entertainment in "Romance of Rosy Ridge." M-G-M's new Van Johnson starring vehicle, which comes to the Queen theatre Sunday matinee, Monday and Tuesday nights.

Van Johnson has a totally new type of characterization in this Mackinlay Kantor story of a young schoolmaster whose buddy dies while fighting with him in the Union Army, and who goes to the latter's Rebel family in Missouri and falls in love with his buddy's sister.

"DANGEROUS MONEY"

When an F. B. I. agent is killed on the high seas, Charlie Chan is confronted with one of his most mysterious cases in "Dangerous Money," which is to be shown at the Texas Friday and Saturday. The latest in the Monogram Charlie Chan detective series promises to be "tops" in thrills and chills.

Sidney Toler, as the sage Oriental detective, finds himself mixed up with the puzzling knife murder of an F. B. I. agent who is investigating the transfer of stolen currency and art treasures from the Philippines.

Birth Announced.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Tiede, of Grokane, Wash., are announcing the birth of their second son, named David Rex, on Nov. 30, at Sacred Heart hospital in that city. The mother is the former Gwen Renfro, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Renfro.

CLASSIFIED ADS

BERT MELTON, agent for Abilene Reporter-News and Dallas Morning News; office on Kent street. Phone 282.

WATER WELL DRILLING — I have 2 machines; all work guaranteed. B. T. Sublett, Box 206, Merkel.

Monthly Statement of the CITY OF MERKEL For November

Showing Receipts for the month of November, 1947, and expenses for the month of October, 1947, paid in November.

RECEIPTS	
Taxes	\$2,457.47
Water revenue	747.60
Sewer revenue	327.80
Water meter deposits	30.00
Occupation license	2.50
Sewer main taps	45.00
Traffic fines	3.00
Miscellaneous	4.00
Total	\$ 3,602.37
On hand, Nov. 1, 1947	7,728.24
Total	\$11,345.61
DISBURSEMENTS	
Administrative	\$ 284.23
Water department	447.38
Sewer department	104.00
Sanitary department	251.17
Street department	716.03
Fire department	170.21
Police department	255.20
Lights, city hall	8.68
Street lights	131.50
Signal lights	4.93
Relief office expense	70.30
F. and M. National Bank— borrowed money	4,000.00
F. and M. National Bank interest	59.96
Water meter refunds	10.00
Total	\$ 6,503.59
Cash in general fund, Dec. 1, 1947	\$ 4,842.02
REFUNDING BOND ACCOUNT	
On hand, Nov. 1, 1947	\$13,668.11
From tax collections in November	1,638.31
On hand, Dec. 1, 1947	\$15,306.42
W. M. ELLIOTT, City Secretary.	

THE SPIRIT OF THIS BANK

There is more to this bank than steel and concrete, strong vaults, time locks, and machinery; it has a personality; it embodies the spirit of human service, which makes it useful in your life.

The most valuable part of this bank is the men and women who serve you. It is a friendly place where you can come to transact financial matters and be sure of helpful cooperation from people who know you and who are interested in your welfare. We are always glad to see you.



THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

"Merchants Day" a Feature Each Week

With J. Parker Sharp as the announcer, the firms of Merkel Coop Station, Patterson Brothers and C. F. Curb were in charge of the "Appreciation Day" program this week. "Appreciation Day," sponsored by a group of Merkel merchants, is held each Wednesday, with the big event scheduled at 4 p. m.

Satterwhite, Dec. 4; Mrs. S. B. Thomas, Dec. 5; the Johnny Frazier child, Dec. 6; Mrs. Ira Stanley, Robert Williams, Dec. 8; Mrs. John Groves, Dec. 9. Wilma Modrall was admitted Tuesday with a fractured arm, Mrs. Grady Childress received a tonsillectomy Saturday.

Andy Shouse

Life Insurance Real Estate

CHRISTMAS PHOTOGRAPHY

Indoors or Outdoors of Nearly Anything

1 Negative — 3 prints \$1.50
1 Negative — 6 prints \$2.00

from DEC. 22 to JAN. 3

Phone 121

IKEY D. TURNER

YOUR LAST CHANCE

Saturday, December 13th, is the last day you have to enroll with the Community Group for Blue Cross Hospitalization. You can't afford to pass up this opportunity when you can provide this liberal Hospital Service for your entire family at the cost of only a few pennies a day.

James H. Chaney

CHIROPRACTOR

Specializing in
NERVOUS DISORDERS

—o—

Next Door to
Bullock Hardware

Office hours—9 a. m. to 6 p. m.
Tues. and Sat.—Close 4 p. m.

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 13th day of January, 1948, 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, President.

CARD OF THANKS.
I wish to express my thanks and appreciation to my neighbors and friends for the many nice things done for me, and my family, and for the beautiful flowers and cards sent during my recent illness.
Mrs. W. H. Little.

Badgers

(Continued from Page One)

partially blocked.
On the second play after the ensuing kickoff, Robert Hodge recovered another Indian fumble on the Seminole 25, but two pass plays and two stabs at the line netted only 5 yards and the ball went over on downs. Eight plays later the Badgers recovered another enemy fumble at mid-field. From this point the local gridders launched another drive which netted another tally early in the second frame. Land and Walker, behind good blocking, bore the brunt of this 50-yard march with Walker, who turned in probably his best performance of the season, lugging the leather through the middle of the Seminole line from the one-foot line. Don Dudley's kick was wide, leaving the score at 12-0.

Four minutes before the intermission the determined Badgers took a punt on their own 18 and apparently were headed for another marker when Seminole's Val Joe Walker intercepted one of Jimmy Walker's pitches on the Seminole 40 and returned it to the 50. Two line plays netted 5 yards and then Powell tossed a pass to end Richard Stanfield, who dodged every Merkel secondary man and was out in the open but was caught from behind by Billy Pat Nash on the 10-yard stripe. Val Joe Walker picked up 3 yards around left end and then the left-handed Jones passed to Stanfield over the double stripe for Seminole's first score. Hunter's placekick was blocked by Nash. Score at the half: 12-6.

Don Dudley, who was substituting for the lame Leroy Teaff, returned the second half kickoff about 30 yards for one of the best runs of the afternoon. Again it appeared that Benson's boys would reach pay dirt, but the attack bogged down on the Indians' nine-yard line. Late in the third canto the Indians took a Merkel kick on their own 33. On the second play Jones circled left end on a reverse that was good for 58 yards and a touchdown. Two Merkel lads should have stopped him just as he crossed the line of scrimmage. Val Joe tried to plunge for the extra point, but he certainly picked the wrong spot in the Merkel line, right over Sanford Carr, for his journey. Score: 12-12.

The not-to-be-denied Purple and Gold warriors took the next kickoff and marched with calm precision, behind deadly blocking, to the winning touchdown. John English started the offensive drive with a return to the

Merkel 38. Teaff carried to the 44, then Land picked up a first down on the 49. On the first play of the last quarter Don Dudley went around left end to the Seminole 43. Walker and Land took turns carrying the mail the remainder of the distance, Land going around left end from the one-foot line to score the winning touchdown. Coach Gordon Woods' boys were caught napping as Walker passed to Teaff for the extra point which made the final count 19-12. Late in the period Donald Wayne Douglas, who played a nice defensive game, stopped an Indian march by recovering a fumble on the Merkel 45.

The Merkel line can be given a large share of the credit for this hard-earned win. From stem to stern the front wall played a rugged heads-up game on the defense and constantly outcharged the Seminole line on the offense to open gaping holes for the Badgers backs. The vaunted Indian speedsters were held to 128 yards rushing. Special recognition goes to Billy Pat Nash, Len McDonald, Donald Douglas, Sanford Carr and John English, all linemen, and to Leon Floyd and Leroy Teaff, secondary defensive men.

Here's why the Badgers won: First downs, Merkel 19, Seminole 3; yards rushing, Merkel 265, Seminole 128; passing, Merkel 3 out of 9 for 68 yards, Seminole 3 out of 10 for 53 yards; punts, Merkel one for 7 yards, Seminole, 2 for 86 yards; fumbles, Merkel none, Seminole 4, all recovered by Merkel; penalties, Merkel 2 for 20 yards, Seminole 1 for 5 yards.



What's quicker than a wink?

WHY, the way Reddy Kilowatt, your electric servant, jumps to your service when you flip a switch!

How quick is a wink? Well, scientists have clocked it at 1-300th of a second. But electricity arrives at 1-10,000,000th of a second after you make contact. That's speed! That's service!
And it's not only quick service, it's dependable service, too. Day and night, summer and winter, Reddy is ready and waiting. Keeping him constantly ready to serve you takes plenty of planning, plenty of skilled and experienced people. Yes, and it takes plenty of keeping up with the latest technical developments!
That's why today, in spite of rising costs in living, the average family is getting twice as much electricity for its money as it did 20 years ago. That's why electricity is the smallest item in the family budget!

West Texas Utilities Company

U.F.W.
for the good of all of "U.S."

Veterans of Foreign Wars stands for the good of America, for continuance of our way of living. It is a service organization, offering its help to every "G.I."... it is a civic helpmate, a local institution, a national force. It is the largest organization of overseas veterans... for the good of all of U.S.

FOR YOUR COUNTRY'S SAKE—JOIN TODAY!

"America's Overseas Veterans... United"

MERKEL POST 5683

Certified Martin Seed and Sudan Seed

—o—

Distributed by Luker Brothers of Levelland

We carry a Complete Line of **Bewley's Dairy and Chicken Feeds**

DOAN FEED STORE

D. C. DOAN

The REVOLUTIONARY GRAHAM-HOEME Plow

10 BIG FEATURES

BUILT TO LAST A LIFETIME!
• Self Sharpening Points • No Side Draft • Extra Light Draft • Nothing to Grease • Plows all Types of Land Without Adjustments • Prevents Erosion by Wind and Water • Cuts Plowing in Half • Doubles Sub-Soil Moisture.

HOLLAND-PROCTOR
MERKEL, TEXAS
Elmer Holland J. D. Bradley

MRS. McDONALD'S
Hollingsworth and King's CHOCOLATES

also an assortment of **LADIES' AND MEN'S GIFT SETS**

CITY DRUG COMPANY

A Christmas for the Home...

SEND YOUR SEASON'S GREETINGS WITH THESE DELIGHTFUL GIFTS

LOUNGE CHAIRS \$29.50 up A big and comfortable spring filled, tapestry covered lounge-chair with large knuckle-arms.	PLATFORM ROCKERS \$19.50 up One of the most comfortable chairs made. Mahogany or walnut finish arms and base.	PULLUP CHAIRS \$16.50 up One of the most popular gift items in our store. Walnut finish arms and legs.
4-SHELF BOOKCASES \$32.50 Mahogany bookcases in three or four shelf styles.	4 DRAWER CHESTS \$27.50 Here is the 4-drawer chest you've wanted. Choice of maple or walnut finish.	9 x 12 RUGS \$69.50 up Spruce up your living room with a smart new rug. Choice of colors and patterns.
HASSOCKS \$6.50 up Many new styles—many colors—all well made of good quality leatherette in a wide assortment of shapes.	ROCKERS \$12.50 up A nicely styled rocker is one gift that everyone in the family will like. Spring filled seat. Walnut finish arms and rockers.	3-WAY LAMPS \$11.25 up A lovely lamp is the ideal gift and at Barrow-Sheppard's you can choose from a wide variety for every purpose.

BARROW-SHEPPARD CO.

YES...

TIRES ARE UP 7½ PER CENT

But We are still Selling at the **OLD PRICE**

SPECIAL ✨ SPECIAL

Up to and including Dec. 24, we will make **\$3.00 Allowance**

On any old tire, (like size), regardless of condition.

PALMER TIRE & APPLIANCE CO.
PHONE 15 MERKEL, TEXAS

FEDERAL LAND BANK LOANS
on farms and ranches in Taylor County.
-:- Long Terms -:- -:- Low Interest -:-
Abilene National Farm Loan Association,
RALPH C. SOUTH, Sec-Treas.,
925 N. 2nd St., Abilene, Texas

BUILDING CONTRACTOR
New Construction and Repairs—Free Estimates
No Job Too Large Nor Too Small
Headquarters: Higginbotham-Bartlett Co.
ETCYLE SPURGIN
Box 248 Merkel, Texas

We Have
INSURANCE
and **BONDS**
for
your Every Need

—SEE US TODAY—

W. O. BONEY & SON

Consult Your Insurance Agent as
You Do Your Doctor or Lawyer

Office, 21 -:- PHONE -:- Res. 181 or 184W

NOTICE
FARMERS and RANCHMEN

Farmers and Ranchmen are required to file an estimate of their 1947 income by January 15th, 1948, unless they make and file their 1947 return between January 1st and January 15th, 1948. To avoid the rush between Jan. 1st and Jan. 15th, 1948, if your books are closed for the year I have 1947 forms and can make your return ready to mail after Jan. 1st. Come in December and avoid the rush.

R. O. Anderson

KEEP THIS DATE OPEN
Tuesday, Dec. 16
and bring the family to our big
JOHN DEERE DAY PROGRAM
"DOCTOR JIM"
starring... **STUART ERWIN**
Barbara Wooddell
William Wright
Hobart Cavanaugh
PLUS
SEVERAL OTHER INTERESTING
AND EDUCATIONAL
TALKING PICTURES
FREE! TO ALL FARMERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

BULLOCK HARDWARE

If you don't have tickets or need more — ASK US FOR THEM

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION.
THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: J. Stoddard Johnston, and the unknown heirs of J. Stoddard Johnston. G. W. Price and the unknown heirs of G. W. Price. The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, a corporation, and the unknown stockholders of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, and Oscar N. Whitney, Assignee of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, and the unknown successors and unknown heirs of said Oscar N. Whitney, assignee, Greeting:

You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 19th day of January, A. D. 1948, at or before 10 o'clock A. M. before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 4th day of September, 1947. The file number of said suit being No. 15,495-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Mrs. Bessie M. Radford and O. E. Radford as Plaintiff, and J. Stoddard Johnston and the unknown heirs of J. Stoddard Johnston, G. W. Price and the unknown heirs of G. W. Price, The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, a corporation, and the unknown stockholders of The Peoples Building Loan and Saving Association, Oscar N. Whitney, and the unknown successors, and unknown heirs of said Oscar N. Whitney, Assignee, as Defendants.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: The Plaintiffs are suing the Defendants in trespass to try title for the title to and possession of Lots Nos. 7 and 8, in Block "U" of the Subdivision of Lot 1, in Block 209, in the City of Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, as shown by plat of said Subdivision recorded in Vol. J, on page 631, of the Deed Records of Taylor County, Texas; and also it is alleged that the Defendants for a period of more than 25 years, have not exercised dominion over said property and have not paid any taxes thereon, and that during said period of 25 years the Plaintiffs have openly exercised dominion over said property, and have paid

taxes thereon for 25 years, before such taxes became delinquent, and they sue for the title and possession of said property.

If this Citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. Issued this the 5th day of December, A. D. 1947.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 5th day of December, A. D., 1947.

(Seal) J. Neil Daniel, Clerk, District Court, Taylor County, Texas. By Thelma Graham, Deputy.

Baker Family Reunion Held Here Sunday

Visiting Mrs. G. L. Baker last Sunday in the home of her son, Fred Baker, were all her other children: Mrs. A. B. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Mashburn, of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Baker of Hamlin and Mrs. J. E. McLaughlin of Spur. Also present were the following grandchildren: Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd McLaughlin of Carlsbad, N. M., Claude McLaughlin of Lubbock, Mrs. Earl Beech and Mr. and Mrs. Buck Leach, and these great-grandchildren: Jack Dennis of ACC, Elaine Jones of H-SU, Patsy McLaughlin of Lubbock, Marietta and Kayuta McLaughlin of Carlsbad, N. M., Patsy and Don Beech and Linda and Dick Leach.

After the sumptuous noon meal the afternoon was spent in reminiscing and in singing the songs typical of all Baker family reunions.

NOTICE.

Any one to whom my late husband was indebted is asked to notify me, as I wish to pay all outstanding indebtedness as soon as possible.
Mrs. Bob Malone.

FOR SALE: 640 ARMY SURPLUS BUILDINGS

Located at Camp Bowie, 4 miles southwest of Brownwood, Texas. Anyone can buy. No red tape, no delay. All types and sizes. Can be moved whole and are suitable for homes, garages, barns or storehouses. Double floors, drop siding, storm sheeting, composition shingles and other types. Also, lavatories, commodes, 1400 natural gas stoves, all types and sizes. Write, wire, or call ERNEST E. AYRES, Brownwood Hotel, Brownwood, Texas, or ED HOLLAND, Phone 6380, Brownwood, Texas.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the love and sympathy shown us during the illness and death of our beloved husband and father; also for the beautiful floral offerings and every kindness extended.
May God's richest blessings rest upon all of you.

Mrs. A. J. Graham and Family.

The first marriage in the White House was on March 11, 1811, when Justice Thomas White married Lucy Payne Washington.

FOR COMPLETE RADIO REPAIRS
Phone 193
Free Pickup and Delivery
Electric Iron Service
Repairs, Fully Guaranteed
DUDLEY RADIO SERVICE

Happy hours
with
Driva
the watch of confidence



Ladies' Watch—14k yellow and white gold. 17 jewels.
Men's Watch—10k gold-filled—10k gold end pieces. 17 jewels.

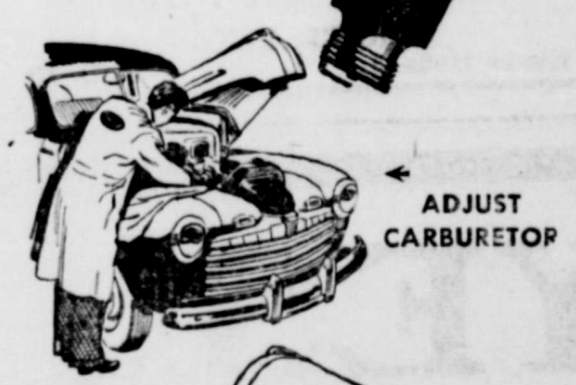
An honored Swiss watch of superb workmanship and unsurpassed accuracy. Beautifully designed to suit your discriminating taste; moderately priced to suit your budget.

WILSON JEWELRY

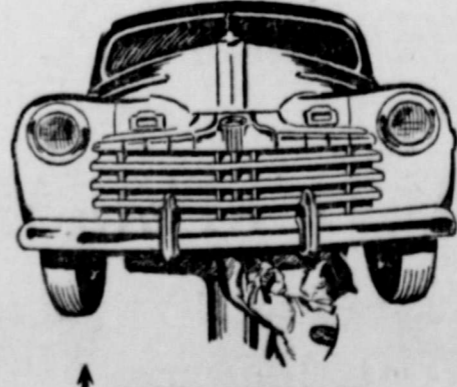
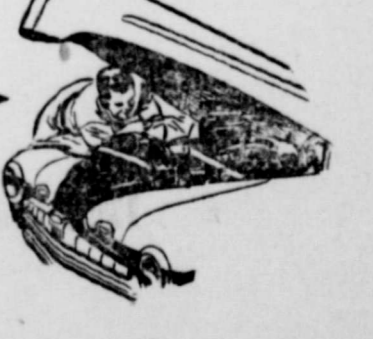
GET THIS FORD WINTER TUNE-UP

Come in Now and let us...

CLEAN AND ADJUST SPARK PLUGS →



CHECK DISTRIBUTOR →



YOUR FORD DEALER WILL SAVE YOU TIME, WORRY AND MONEY

You'll get an extra thrill out of driving this winter when you keep your Ford running "like new" again. And only Genuine Ford Service gives you this important 4-Way advantage of:

1. Ford-Trained Mechanics
2. Factory-Approved Methods
3. Special Ford Equipment
4. Genuine Ford Parts

Merkel Motor Co.

Phone 84

Merkel, Texas

Classified Ads

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—Big white Pekin ducks, fat; \$1.00 each. Bobby Harvell, Route 2, Merkel.

'38 FORD TRUCK for sale; fair condition, six good tires; if sold at once. \$250. A. J. Wright, north end El Paso street.

100-lb. porcelain Coolerator for sale Mrs. A. H. Thornton. Phone 76.

Finer nursery fruit trees and pecan trees; visit us, Shanks Nurseries, Clyde, Texas. "Largest Apple Orchard in Texas."

FOR SALE—'42 Army Dodge pick-up. B. M. Ueckert, Route 2, Merkel.

FOR SALE—1937 GMC pick-up; in good condition. See Holt Vaughn.

SPECIAL

A wonderful Christmas gift—a cabinet model Radio-Phono combination and a cabinet model G. E. Radio; both have all the trimmings and both are priced to sell fast. See them today at

DOAN'S RADIO SERVICE

Have you got that . . .

Christmas Permanent?

If not, call

MODERN BEAUTY Shop

At Merkel Drug

Artificial Wreaths

FOR

CHRISTMAS

Please Place Your Order Early

MISSIE'S Floral Shop

"Flowers for All Occasions."

Poultry Raisers,

ATTENTION!

I will exhibit my Silver Spangled Hamburg chickens all day Saturday, Dec. 13, in front of the Sharp Hatchery. The history and originality will be given at 2 p. m.

Orders will be booked all day for spring hatch. Only the orders booked will be hatched.

See me or Mr. Sharp at Sharp Hatchery for orders.

F. E. HEALER

We Have Plenty of Feed . . .

LAYING MASH
STARTENA
MILK CHOW
COW CHOW
OMOLENE
HOG CHOW

20-80 FEED
MEAL
HULLS
GROUND OATS
LASSES FEED
MAIZE
HAY

We also have a limited amount of "Purina Range Checkers"

Get Our Prices—Compare Quality
Phone 155 We Deliver

EAGER GROCERY AND FEED

RAYON BEDSPREADS, 80-105, in rose or blue, \$3.65; if interested get your order in by Dec. 18. See Ira Cross at J. T. Darsey's Furniture store.

HOUSE for sale, second house south of Mr. Marshall on Marion street, \$700. See R. M. Evans, at W. C. Gregory home.

FOR SALE—Two cows, one registered, have papers, with first calf, gives four gallons of milk; other one also gives four gallons of milk. Second house on Manchester St., Mrs. Mack Hodo.

Healthiest, quickest-maturing OIC hogs, pigs. Shanks Nursery Hog Farm, Clyde, Texas.

FOR SALE—Double sheet iron garage, thousand feet of one inch pipe, also eight foot Electrolux, butane or gas. Jennings Winter, Merkel.

FOR SALE—Some of those good OIC pigs, extra choice. Johnny Cox.

FOR SALE—30-gallon gas water heater, slightly used; priced to sell. Irl Walker.

AVAILABLE NOW—Rubber puncture-sealed tubes and white Sidewall tires, in all popular sizes. Magnolia Service Station.

4-room house, adjoining the school ground, for sale, trade or rent; vacant now. Rogers Grayson, at Goodman Store.

NICE SELECTION of Christmas Cards, with or without name imprinted; also print names on other Christmas cards and do other kinds of printing. Billy Reid, at Merkel Mail office.

UNIVERSAL jet type pumps, with all the pipe, etc. Palmer Tire and Appliance Co., Phone 15.

FOR SALE—Batteries for all autos, trucks and tractors. \$3.00 trade-in on old battery. Dudley's Radio Service. Phone 193.

SOUTH WIND and Tropic Air heaters; for immediate delivery; we install same. Magnolia Service Station.

HAVE several nice residences for sale in Merkel; take your choice. ANDY SHOUSE

FOR SALE—Two-story brick building 40x80, formerly occupied by Sadler Clinic. W. T. Sadler, M. D.

"HOME OF GOOD FEEDS"—We handle Abtex, Stanford, Golden Oak, Ledgers, C. L. Green and Mar-Ket feeds; also dealers in poultry and eggs, handling Dr. LeGear's and Dr. Salsbury's poultry and stock remedies; see us for all your needs. Hale's Feed and Seeds, Trent, Texas.

Brick building and fixtures; very good investment for some one. Quick Sale, 3-room house, to be moved; at a bargain. CYRUS PEE, Agent.

HAVE a nice stock of hot water and gas heaters, defrosters for hot water heaters. Badger Chevrolet Company.

IF you want a nice Christmas present, buy a Crosley radio; guaranteed for five years; also have a nice stock of car radios. Badger Chevrolet Company.

PLENTY Black Hull seed wheat. Patterson Grain.

NEED LUMBER—2x4, 2x6, 1x4, 1x6, 1x8, center match, shiplap, kiln-dried flooring; direct mill shipments on any amount of common yellow pine lumber; inspect our stock; cash and carry. J. W. Hammond Lumber Co., Merkel; located in alley behind Ben Franklin store.

FOR SALE—Good used tires, 600x16 and 650x16; also good used 900x36 and 10-38 and 12-36 tractor tires. Magnolia Service Station.

PLENTY of seed wheat and seed oats; also a few sacks of maize for chicken feed. Toombs and Moore Grain Co.

FOR SALE—Everbearing strawberry plants, the best; 50 plants for \$1.00. See Bill Merritt, or Phone 220W.

FOR RENT

APARTMENTS for rent; nice, close-in, at Clyde; furnished; \$50.00. Shanks Apartments, Clyde, Texas. Phone 74.

FOR RENT—Two rooms, unfurnished. Mrs. I. I. Vancil.

FOR RENT—2-room apartment, furnished or unfurnished; also 3-room house, partly furnished. Ph. 9047 after 6 p. m.

MY BEST furnished 2-room apartment vacant. Mrs. A. H. Thornton. Phone 76.

FOR RENT—Brick business building, 20x90, corner Edwards and North Second. Bob Hicks.

VACUUM CLEANER for rent, 75c per day. Farm and Home Supply.

FOR RENT—Furnished 3-room south apartment; Frigidaire, Innerspring mattress, nice large closets; couple only. Mrs. J. C. Comegys. Phone 125-W.

FLOOR SANDING machine for rent. See Forrest Barnett at Farm and Home Supply.

WANTED

COUPLE with two children want to rent unfurnished apartment or house with bath. Write Box 542, Merkel.

HEMSTITCHING. Mrs. Joe Douglas, 3rd and Rose.

WANTED TO BUY: Several buckskins, Louis Butman, Route 4, Merkel.

WANTED—Will every one who has any of our vases please return them at once, as we are badly in need of them. Missie's Floral Shop.

FURNITURE upholstering and repairing; also have a state health department permit to do any kind of furniture upholstering. See Ira Cross at J. T. Darsey Furniture store.

WILL BUY your maize; pay best market price. Toombs and Moore.

WILL PAY 85 cents per 100 lbs. for scrap iron; also junk batteries and radiators bought. Bowles Plumbing Shop. Phone 286.

SEE Lendon A. Coats for water well drilling. Phone 281W.



CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS

TRACTOR CAB for DAD'S "M" FARMALL Tractor.

EASY RIDING TRACTOR SEAT.

TRACTOR UMBRELLA.

TRACTOR SUN SHADE.

Toy TRACTOR for junior, just like DAD'S FARMALL.

TOY TRACTOR TRAILER.

INTERNATIONAL HOME FREEZER for the entire family; 4 cu. ft. size for the small family; 11 cu. ft. for the large family.

Shop early to insure getting what you want, instead of having to take a substitute later.

WEST FARM Machinery Co.
Phone 30
Merkel, Texas

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND—One Schlage key; appears to be valuable. Inquire at Merkel Mail office.

Legal Notice

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS.
TO: Dewitt Young, Greeting:

You are commanded to appear and answer the plaintiff's petition at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday the 29th day of December, A. D., 1947, at or before 10 o'clock A. M., before the Honorable 42nd District Court of Taylor County, at the Court House in Abilene, Texas.

Said plaintiff's petition was filed on the 8th day of November, 1947.

The file number of said suit being No. 15,551-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Eula Mae Young as Plaintiff, and Dewitt Young as Defendant.

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Plaintiff and Defendant were married on August 15, 1945, and lived together until October 12, 1947.

One child was born to Plaintiff and Defendant. There is no community property.

Plaintiff sues for divorce on grounds of cruel treatment and asks for custody and support of child and that she be awarded her separate property and court costs.

If this Citation is not served with-

MISCELLANEOUS

ELECTRIC MOTORS repaired. Dudley's Radio Service. Phone 193.

FOR QUALITY DRY CLEANING come to WHIT'S DRY CLEANER 207 Ash St., Merkel Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Whitaker

Announcing

Change of Ownership

Effective Monday morning, we became owners of the Tidwell Variety Store, which will hereafter be known as

DOYLE'S VARIETY AND GIFT

Carrying a complete line of

CANDY AND GUM TOYS SEWING NEEDS COOKING UTENSILS PICTURES STATIONERY SCHOOL SUPPLIES CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS CARDS CARDS for all OCCASIONS BOOKS GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

SIS and DOYLE, Owners

Specials for Friday & Saturday

DECEMBER 12th and 13th

WASHINGTON DELICIOUS APPLES, pound	10c	432 SUNKIST LEMONS, lb.	12c
YELLOW ONIONS, pound	11c	8 Pound—TEXAS ORANGES, bag	35c
NO. 1 WHITE NEBRASKA Cobbler Potatoes, lb.	45c	BLEACHED CELERY, pound	17c
FRESH CRISP LETTUCE, head	14c		

Campbell's VEGETABLE SOUP 10 1/2 ounce can 13c

R&W—All Purpose FLOUR 25 pound sack \$1.97 10 pound sack 97c

SUNSWET DRIED—Apricots, 11 oz. pkg.	35c	Red and White—PREPARED Spaghetti, 16 oz. can	15c
BONNER SEEDLESS Raisins, 15 oz. pkg.	17c	Red and White VANILLA Extract, 1 1/2 oz. bottle	27c
GEORGIA PEELED Pimientos, 7 oz. jar	25c	RED and WHITE Chocolate Drops 8 oz pkg	23
RED and WHITE Cider Vinegar, qt. bottle	19c	AUNT ELLEN'S Pi-Do, 8 oz. pkg.	14c
RED and WHITE Sliced Peaches 16 oz. can	22c	BETTY—WHOLE Sour Pickles, qt. jar	29c
CRYSTAL PACK Spinach, No. 2 can	13c	RED and WHITE Fancy Catsup 14 oz bottle	23
KUNERS Pork & Beans, No. 2 can	16c		

Clabber Girl BAKING POWDER 25 ounce can 23c

MEAT MARKET DEPARTMENT

FRESH—8-10 PORK LOINS, lb.	55c	MELROSE SKINLESS FRANKS, lb.	39c
STAR—1 lb. Cello SLICED BACON, lb.	83c	FRESH—20-24 SKINNED HAMS, lb.	65c
STAR—1 lb. Cello PORK SAUSAGE, lb.	49c	FRESH—8-12 BOSTON BUTTS, lb.	53c
LONGHORN CHEESE SOUTHERN, pound	59c		

THE RED & WHITE STORES

WEST COMPANY HAROLD BROWN MERKEL TRENT

Bird's Store NOODLE



CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR STUDY CLUB MEMBERS.

The hospitable home of Mrs. Henry West was beautifully decorated for the annual Christmas party of Fortnightly Study Club members on Tuesday afternoon.

A subdued lighting effect from a huge Christmas tree and soft glow of Christmas candles furnished a lovely setting for a Christmas program, "O Holy Night" was sung by Christine Collins, accompanied by Mrs. Andy Shouse. "Ave Maria" was a group number by Miss Collins, Mrs. Shouse and Mrs. Edwin Read who played the violin obligato. A Christmas message, "There Was No Room for Them in the Inn," was impressively related by Mrs. Johnny Cox. Buddy McKeever, a senior speech student, read "How to Keep Christmas," by Van Dyke, and "Christmas Morning," by Emma Sampson. Mrs. Read closed the program with a "Medley of Christmas Carols," accompanied by Mrs. Shouse.

During the refreshment hour, recordings of carols by Bing Crosby were particularly pleasing. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Jack Dawson West and Mrs. Pete West in serving dainty sandwiches and cookies fashioned as Santa Claus and Christmas trees with spiced tea. Those present were Mesdames Johnny Cox, Grif Barnett, S. D. Gamble, David Gamble, Powell Miller, Earl Hughes, W. T. Sadler, Carroll Benson, Henry West, Comer Haynes, Elma McFarland, Edwin Read, Jud McReynolds, Vincent Barnett, Chester Collinsworth, Andy Shouse, Earl Lassiter, Pete West, Jack Dawson West, Paul West, Wrenn Durham, Owen Robertson and Weldon McAninch and Christine Collins.

ALATHEAN CLASS BANQUET.

Members of the Alathean class of the First Baptist church met in the church parlors at 1 p. m. Tuesday of last week for their "jolly-time" Christmas social under the direction of the class social chairman, Mrs. J. J. McNiece.

Dinner tables arranged in the form of an "A" made an attractive setting for the occasion where a blue and silver color scheme was carried out in all details. After a lovely three-course dinner was served, the class assembled around a lighted tree for another hour of entertainment.

The afternoon program was sponsored by the president, Mrs. Frank Hamm. Following the opening prayer by Mrs. J. B. Jones, the devotional was led by Mrs. H. R. Hicks, and roll was called by Mrs. W. L. Johnson. An interesting talk was given by Mrs. Twyman Collins and members exchanged gifts. The closing prayer was given by Mrs. E. M. Weathers and to close the meeting class members sang "Silent Night."

Attending were these ladies: Mesdames W. L. Johnson, W. O. Boney, W. A. McCandless, F. A. Baker, Lige Harris, Twyman Collins, Frank Hamm, Hugh Campbell, J. B. Jones, Laura Payne, J. Ben Campbell, W. W. Wheeler, H. R. Hicks, Sid Coats, H. A. Deavers, J. M. Stephens, Chas. West, O. B. Tatum, G. M. Sharp, J. McNiece, S. R. Dwiggin, P. F.

Harris, E. O. Carson, E. M. McDonald, J. T. Warron and Eli Brooks. Also present were Rev. E. M. Weathers, Mrs. Weathers and Nelda.

HARVEST DAY PROGRAM.

When the annual Harvest Day program of the Abilene district of the Women's Societies of Christian service was held at the Methodist church here on Thursday of last week, reports from the societies were made with special recognition of life memberships given by each society and the different zones.

Mrs. J. B. Thompson of Albany presided. Mrs. J. F. Michael of Abilene gave the call to worship, which was followed by a prayer poem by Mrs. Virgil Patterson. Mrs. Homer Patterson sang "Still, Still with Thee," accompanied by Mrs. C. B. Gardner.

In the afternoon program, following lunch served at the Community Center, a special memorial service was conducted by Mrs. Harry Steen, of Clyde, with a solo by Mrs. Dorris Egger, accompanied by Mrs. Royce Womack. Workshops for different divisions of the work in the society were held. Miss James Hughes sang "The Holy City," accompanied by Mrs. Robert Malone, pianist, and Mrs. Edwin E. Read, violinist. Mrs. Earl G. Hamlett of Abilene conducted the closing worship.

ENGAGEMENT OF FORMER MERKEL GIRL ANNOUNCED.

Announcement was carried recently in a Sacramento, Calif., paper of the engagement and approaching marriage of Miss Bettye Hassey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil L. Hassey, former residents of Merkel, and granddaughter of F. A. Sanders, to James C. Harvey.

The wedding is to take place Dec. 20 in the Westminster Presbyterian church, at Sacramento.

INTERMEDIATES COMPLIMENTED WITH BANQUET.

The Intermediate department of the First Baptist church was complimented with a Thanksgiving banquet in the church basement on Tuesday night, Nov. 25.

Barbara Sandusky played the departmental song, "Serve the Lord with Gladness," while fifty-three of the guests found their places around the table decorated with the holiday's fruits, nuts, and flowers. The invocation was given by the pastor, Rev. E. M. Weathers.

Mrs. Comer Haynes served as toastmistress. The program was in the form of an Indian court, watched over by the spirits of dead Indian braves. Every one answered to roll call by confessing his troubles.

Claude Warren gave a toast, "To the Boys and Girls." Mrs. Dean Higgins gave "To the Church," and Mrs. Mack Tucker toasted "Friendship." Mrs. Weathers discussed "Love for One Another," and Comer Haynes paid tribute to the department. Special music was given by Sandra Sadler, Barbara Sandusky, Ann Booth and Voncil Rust. Readings concerning the season were given by Betty Joan James, Ralph Miller, Patsy Thomas, Betty Buchanan and

Buddy McKeever. "Proposal by Proxy," a choric-speaking Thanksgiving skit, was given by a group of high school speech students: Vivien Gasio, Billie Seymore, Nena Joyce Best, Barbara Sandusky, Betty Buchanan, Carol Best, Don Dudley, Buddy McKeever, Betty James, Sue McWilliams and Geneva Carr. Joe Frank Warren gave a toast to the pastor and his family.

Rev. Mr. Weathers brought the after-dinner message, choosing "Intermediates at Thanksgiving" as his subject. He stressed the fact that youth has a greater opportunity to be heard today than ever before.

The program ended with a song of friendship songs, led by Sue Mayfield and Sandra Sadler.

ROSE MARIE AUXILIARY.

Tuesday night, Dec. 9, the Rose Marie Young Women's Auxiliary of the First Baptist church combined their business meeting with a Christmas party in the home of Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

The president, Lucille English, called the meeting to order and Mary Jo McConnell led the opening prayer. Mrs. G. D. McConnell read the Christmas story from the Bible. A group of poems were given in the following order: "December Tryst," Mary Jo McConnell; "The Christmas of the Past," Billie Bland; "Special to Santa," Barbara Sandusky, and "Winter Thought," Otilia Doan.

A number of Christmas carols were sung after which a contest was held, with Mrs. McConnell being the

winner. Gifts were exchanged by drawing numbers, while Tokio Denton played various records.

Delicious refreshments of sandwiches, potato chips, cocoa and candy were served to Gerrie Jinkens, Lucille English, Barbara Sandusky, Billie Bland, Otilia Doan, Mary Jo McConnell, Betty Buchanan, Betty Joan James, Tokio Denton, Mrs. G. D. McConnell and Mrs. Hugh Campbell.

The next meeting will be on Jan. 12.

BAPTIST CIRCLE.

The Blanche Rose Walker Circle of the First Baptist church met on Monday afternoon in the home of Mrs. Sam Swann for Bible study. Mrs. P. F. Harris taught a very interesting Bible lesson to Mesdames J. S. Swann, A. R. Booth, Sam Swann, E. O. Carson, H. R. Hicks and Irl Walker.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Mrs. H. R. Hicks and Mrs. E. O. Carson closed with prayer.

The next meeting will be a Royal Service program at the church on Monday, Dec. 15.

MHS PLAYERS CLUB.

The Merkel High School Players club was entertained on Monday night of last week in the band house by ten members of the speech class: Geneva Carr, Betty Joan James, Betty Buchanan, Nena Joyce Best, Sue McWilliams, Buddy McKeever, Carol Best, Douglas Baker, Billy Bowen and Jackie Brown.

Betty Joan James presided for the business hour. Members answered to roll call by impersonating radio stars.

During the social hour, the hosts directed speaking games. Janice Patterson and Jackie Toombs gave readings, and Barbara Sandusky and Vivien Gasio gave musical numbers. Inspirational talks were given by Ralph Miller, Walton Dye and Donald Pratt. Every one present took part in the melodrama, "Fair and Warmer." Refreshments of orangeade and

doughnuts were served to thirty-three members.

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SPECIALS
Fri. and Sat.
Dec. 12 and 13

BIG 10c CANNED FOOD SALE 10c

GREEN BEANS — SPINACH, No. 2 can	10c
Adams ORANGE JUICE -- PINTO BEANS, No. 2 can	10c
PEACH NECTAR — APPLE SAUCE, No. 2 can	10c
ENGLISH PEAS — HOMINY No. 2 can	10c
Chicken NOODLE SOUP, 10½ ounce can	10c
EGG NOODLES — SPAGHETTI, with Cheese, 15 oz.	10c
KRAUT — BEETS No. 2½ can	10c

OXYDOL -:- DUZ
large box 31c

FOLGER'S COFFEE
pound 46c

PINTO BEANS, 2 pounds	33c	Gold Bar, No. 2½ can	38c	Heart's Delight PEACHES No 2½ can	28c
Everlite, 25 lb. sack	\$1.79	Pure Cane, 10 lb. sack	89c	WATER	ALL TIMES

WATER
WE HAVE IT AT ALL TIMES

PET MILK, small 7c
CRANBERRIES, pkg. 39c
LEMONS, pound 15c
SALAD OIL, Pints 54c

Mary Lee Taylor's Cranberry Salad Dressing
Broadcast: December 13, 1947
½ cup Pet Milk 2 tablespoons water
½ cup cranberries 2½ tablespoons salad oil
2½ tablespoons sugar 1½ tablespoons lemon juice
½ teaspoon salt
Chill milk until icy cold. Wash cranberries, dry on towel, then put through medium knife of food chopper. Add sugar, salt and water. Boil 3 min., stirring frequently. Chill thoroughly. Stir in salad oil. Whip chilled milk with cold rotary beater, or electric beater at high speed, until light and fluffy. Add lemon juice. Continue whipping until stiff. Fold into cranberry mixture. Serve on fruit salads. Makes 1½ cups.

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Allan Lane as Red Ryder
Bobby Blake as Little Beaver
"Rustlers of Devil's Canyon"
— PLUS —
The Bride Wore White—And the Groom Wore Himself out trying to Learn What Happened!
Franchot Tone -:- Ann Richards -:- Tom Conway
"Lost Honeymoon"
Popeye Cartoon—Jack Armstrong Serial

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
Lusty Men and Lonely Women Fight, Sing, Romance in a Terror-Swept Land!
Van Johnson -:- Janet Leigh -:- Thomas Mitchell
"The Romance of Rosy Ridge"
Latest News Events including All-American Football Selection

\$\$ **WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY** \$\$
You've got a Thrill Coming 'cause—They've got Their Hands Full of Trouble!
George Raft -:- George Brent -:- Randolph Scott
Joan Blondell -:- Virginia Field
"Christmas Eve"
Color Cartoon—Musical

Home Made FRUIT CAKE
lb. \$1.00

TEXAS ORANGES AND GRAPEFRUIT
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A Complete line NOW So Get 'em EARLY!

TREND—It's New
For Hard Water
—GET 'EM WHILE THEY LAST—
Special 1c Sale, 2 boxes 33c

FRESH FRUITS and VEGETABLES

Fresh CRISP—GIANT LETTUCE, head	15c
LARGE CRISP—CELERY, stalk	19c
TOKAY GRAPES, pound	15c
FRESH GREEN ONIONS — MUSTARD TURNIPS and TOPS — RADISHES	
FRESH TOMATOES, lb.	15c
FRESH TURNIPS, lb.	5c

DECKER'S Tall Korn Sliced BACON, lb. 79c

Butch Says:—

SKINLESS WIENERS, pound	38c
SWIFT'S PREMIUM—½ or Whole LEG OF LAMB, pound	78c
LONG ISLAND DUCKS, oven ready, lb.	68c
CHOICE TENDER T-Bone STEAK, lb.	54c
PORK—Shoulder ROAST, lb.	55c

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