

"Your Home Town Newspaper"

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 58.—NO. 41.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1948.

On the "Broadway of America"

5c PER COPY

85th BIRTHDAY PARTY IN HONOR SAM BUTMAN, Sr.

All Ten of His Living Children Present for Occasion Which Was Celebrated in Ranch Home of Sam Butman, Jr.

With all ten of his living children and most of their families present for the occasion, the 85th birthday of Sam Butman, Sr., pioneer ranchman of Mulberry Canyon, was celebrated in the new ranch home of Sam Butman, Jr., 18 miles southwest of Merkel, on Sunday, Dec. 21.

The children are: Mrs. J. B. Sloan, Big Spring, Mrs. E. C. Ray, Coleman, Mrs. Joe Swinney, Mrs. Tom Russom, Will F. Butman, Sam Butman, Jr., Ford Butman, L. S. Butman, Ben Butman and Miss Lottie Butman, Merkel. There were 24 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren present.

The five daughters and five daughters-in-law were co-hostesses for the bountiful noon day dinner, which was served buffet-style. Napkins with imprints of cattle brands and bucking broncs further emphasized the ranch atmosphere.

The afternoon was spent informally in a manner typical of many similar occasions.

Other guests besides the family were friends invited by Mr. Butman, Sr., himself: Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Butler, Uncle Billy Teaff and daughter, Miss Selma Teaff, Mayor and Mrs. A. J. Canon, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Russell, Mrs. Lizzie Latham, Mr. and Mrs. Cayton F. Knox of Norman, Okla., Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McCandless and Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Demere.

Uncle of Merkel Man, Over 100 Years Old, Dies in Augustine

"Uncle John" Mathews, 101-year-old Civil War veteran, died at San Augustine on Nov. 22. An uncle of our fellow-townsmen, R. H. Mathews, he had visited here some 20 years ago and many will remember the occasion of his visit. Mr. Mathews had visited him frequently in times past.

The San Augustine Tribune, in its issue following his death, carried an extended historical sketch of his colorful career extending over more than a century of time. He came to Texas from Alabama 98 years ago in a covered wagon and had lived continuously in San Augustine since that time. He was the last surviving Confederate veteran in San Augustine county.

Surviving are three sons, 5 daughters, 25 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Interesting Scenes in Bavaria Described in Letter to Parents

Mrs. W. E. Fitzgerald, who left with her daughter, Sandra, the early part of December, 1946, to join Captain Fitzgerald in Germany, has written her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Addison, of many interesting scenes visited by them on a recent 10-day leave.

At Garmish, in the Bavarian Alps, they saw the Ettal monastery, home of the Benedictine monks, built in the 13th century. They also visited the religious city of Oberammergau, site of the Passion Play, which will be held again in 1950.

In the same place they saw a German castle planned by King Ludwig and Richard Wagner, the famous composer.

On an anticipated tour to Innsbruck, Austria, they reached the French zone of occupation only to be turned back because they did not have papers for French entry.

Announces Price Cuts.

New York, Dec. 31.—The General Electric company announced Tuesday night a 3 to 10 per cent reduction on about 40 per cent of its products, including refrigerators and home radios, which it said will save consumers an estimated \$50,000,000 in 1948.

Their Record Parallel.

Kendallville, Ind., Dec. 31.—Eighteen months ago Robert Reade and Donald Shippy, both of this city, entered the army together. They were sent to the same basic training camp and then were assigned to the same engineering battalion in Japan. They both became sergeants. They were discharged together in California.

REUNIONS MARK HOLIDAY WEEK IN MANY HOMES

All of the Russell children were home to spend Christmas with their mother, Mrs. S. G. Russell, except one daughter, Mrs. Bob Dunn, of California, who had been here recently. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Sam Nunnally, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Redwine and Mr. and Mrs. John Waylick and families of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Shive of Brownwood, from out of town, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Harris, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. James Russell and families and Ralph Russell.

Guests for the Christmas holidays in the W. J. Hayes homes were two daughters and a son: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Black, of Rotan, Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Gheen of Houston and David C. Hayes, from Silver Lake, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Skellett, visiting here from Corpus Christi, were guests the day following Christmas.

For their Christmas reunion in the Frank Hamm home were all the children, with their families. Present from out of town were: Mr. and Mrs. Guy Darsey and daughter, Jane, of Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hill and sons, Gary and David Bruce, of Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. Byers Petty, Marilyn and Bill, of Abilene, and Mr. and Mrs. Sie Hamm and Allan, of Colorado City.

Home to spend Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Murray, were: Mr. and Mrs. Dean Murray and family, of Midland, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Johnston of Pampa, Lt. and Mrs. James Denshoff, of Dallas, and Lt.-Commander James G. Murray, on USS Rochester, headquarters out of Philadelphia, Pa., who remains on leave until Jan. 5. Jana Dean and Wanda Lee Murray, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Murray, returned to Dallas with the Benshoffs and spent Christmas week there.

Those visiting Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clark were Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Jones, Freddie and Melva, of Abilene, Woodrow Clark of Marshall, Mo., Mrs. Chas. West, Clyde Irvin, Joyce and Dorothy Nell, and Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Watson and Travis, Abilene.

Christmas week visitors in the home of Mrs. M. E. Sharp were Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Bourn of Winters, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp and nephew, Jimmy Bourn, of Fort Worth, and Mrs. Kenneth Sharp and daughter, Shirley Ann, of El Paso, who spent the holidays with Mr. Sharp here. Shirley Ann returned the latter part of the week to be present when school resumed Monday.

Mrs. B. M. Williams had all three of her sons and a daughter here with her for Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Williams were here from El Paso, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams and Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Williams and daughter, from Wichita Falls, and Mrs. Kenneth Sharp and daughter, Shirley Ann, from El Paso. Other visitors in the Williams home were her sister, Mrs. J. D. Morrow, of Wichita Falls, and Mr. Morrow.

Holiday visitors in the W. T. McAninch home included Mrs. J. M. Taylor of Blue Ridge, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Earthman of Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Clamitt of Fort Worth, Miss Minta McAninch, Raton, N. M., and Miss Wilma McAninch, Dallas. At the annual family reunion on Christmas Day there were also present Mr. and Mrs. R. C. McAninch, Mr. and Mrs. Weldon McAninch, Mr. and Mrs. Cal McAninch, Ted, Jack, Jimmy, Minta Lue, Tommy, Carol Sue, Betty Lou and Barbara Anne McAninch, all of Merkel.

Year Ends with Sleet, Hail, Snow and Ice

The last day of 1947 brought sleet, hail, snow and ice to this section, with every indication of a severe cold spell, but after dropping to a low of 24 in the early hours Thursday morning the thermometer rallied after Old Sol put in his appearance, to produce a moderately cool winter day.

Hope Diamond Value Set. Washington, Dec. 31.—The internationally famous Hope Diamond, which was the property of the late Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean, capital society leader, was officially valued at \$176,920 Tuesday in the district court here.

MERKEL HOMES WELCOME RETURN OF SONS, DAUGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN CHRISTMAS SEASON

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Harris and children of Portales, N. M., were home to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Brown, of the Stith community.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter Petty and son, Jimmy, spent Christmas day with her brother, Sam Parks and family, of Haskell. Also going to Haskell were Mr. and Mrs. Alvin L. Shaw of Aledo.

Mr. and Mrs. David Largent spent Christmas at Crosbyton visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sherwood.

Billy Ray Browning went to Bryan to spend New Year's with Miss Doris Hale and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Sample.

Mrs. Erma Yeager and son, Aubrey Clyde, of Eastland, were Christmas Day visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Porter Petty. Mrs. Yeager is a sister of Mrs. Petty.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Bland, Jr., and daughters, Dianne and Donna, of Abilene, spent Christmas Day with his grandmother, Mrs. Pick Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Nichols and sons, Bobby and Eddie, of Tyler, were guests in the homes of G. A. Oliver and family in Merkel and the John Olivers and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Whisenbunt homes in the Canyon, John D. Oliver is visiting relatives in Terrell and Elmo.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bryan had both of their daughters home for Christmas this year, first time the younger daughter, Mrs. Murray Spiegel, had been here for Christmas in eight years. She and her husband flew from Los Angeles, Calif., arriving here on Christmas Eve. He went to visit his father at Houston part of the time and, returning here, he and his wife will leave Saturday for California. Mr. and Mrs. Ross Ferrier, Jr., and daughter, Rosslyn, of Fort Worth, were also here, dividing time between the Bryan home and that of Mr. Ferrier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Ferrier.

Mrs. J. M. Collins and daughter, Miss Mary Collins, spent Christmas in the home of a son, J. M. Collins, and family in Plainview and were accompanied home by their daughter, Ann, who visited them the past week and also visited in the Paul Collins home.

Mrs. J. O. Castles returned Sunday from Phoenix, Ariz., where she had been the past two months with her daughter, Miss Frances Castles, who was in the Good Samaritan hospital there 25 days following an operation.

Guests of Mrs. Amy Sears and Mrs. Mary Eula Sears Morris, 1609 Sayles boulevard, Abilene, Tuesday evening were Miss Christine Collins and C. J. Glover. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Clark and Mr. and Mrs. Jess Thornham. The party was held in the new studio of Mrs. Morris; entertainment was informal.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Gerald McDonald, of Iraan, who visited here before Christmas, were joined by her father, F. E. Church, and brother, Ectyl Church, now of Midland, and all of them spent Christmas with a sister and her husband, Rev. and Mrs. Noel Bryant, and family, in Wellington.

Among those visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Beaird during the Christmas holidays were Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gardner of Eula, Mr. and Mrs. John Bockman of Tulsa, Mrs. J. C. Berryman of Wichita Falls, Miss Ivelle Bockman of Abilene, Robert Bockman of Milwaukee, Wis., and Mr. and Mrs. Jake Bockman of Comper.

Visitors in the Philip A. Diltz home during Christmas week were Mrs. R. M. Diltz of Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Riley of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Coats, Sherry and Danny, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Diltz, Jr., and Tommy of Big Spring, and Jake Wright of Lubbock.

Billy Tittle and Preacher Windham were home visiting during the Christmas holidays from the School of Mines at El Paso.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Pinckley had as visitors during the Christmas holidays Mr. and Mrs. Hadley Reeve, Floyd Scott and Sharon, Friona, Rev. and Mrs. Roy Patterson and Charles, Whiteface, Marie Pinckley and Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Morgan, Perryton.

Floyd Scott Reeve of Friona is visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jarrett Pinckley.

Miss Lucile Hester, a student at Scarritt College, Nashville, Tenn., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hester, during the Christmas

holidays. Miss Hester is majoring in religious education at Scarritt.

Mrs. J. V. Arnold and sons, James, Dalton and Stanley, of Brownwood, were Christmas week visitors in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Reynolds and other relatives.

Out-of-town guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Campbell on Christmas Day were Miss Jimmie Nell Horton, of Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Denzel Melton and son, Kermit, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Farmer, San Antonio, Mr. and Mrs. John Patterson and daughter, Miss Lona Sue, of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Horton, of Wichita Falls, and Mr. and Mrs. Lynne Patterson and two sons, of Kermit.

Woodrow Clark returned Tuesday to Marshall, Mo., after spending the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clark.

Those visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sandusky for the holidays were Mr. and Mrs. Donald Latimer and Vance McClain of Chowchilla, Calif., Garrie Latimer and daughter, Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Winn Smith and children of Catarina, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Beaty and family of Monahans.

Guests in the Price Melton home during the holiday season were their children, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Nall and Sandy from Cleveland, Miss., and Mr. and Mrs. Denzel R. Melton and Mike of Kermit. It was Denzel's first Christmas at home since 1912.

Christmas guests in the home of Mrs. J. S. Blair were: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Parker and Jeanne, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Blair, Warren and J. K. Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Perry, Carole and Dianne, and Mrs. B. H. Riney.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Carey and daughter, Lanelle, on Christmas Day were Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Carey of Berclair, Mr. and Mrs. Rayford Cockerell and family of Breckenridge, Dr. and Mrs. Vernon Lofton of Caldwell, Mrs. W. M. Carey, Alice Carey of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Carey and sons, of Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Odell Dickerson and family of Seminole and Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Carey and family of Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. V. L. Merritt returned Wednesday to Marin City, Calif., after a two-weeks' visit with his mother, Mrs. J. F. Merritt, and her aunt, Mrs. Bertha Ensminger. They were met here by her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Tucker and family, of Borger.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Joyce and Larry spent Christmas in Houston with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Hendrix, with all members of the family present.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Jones of Dallas were here for a Christmas visit with his sister, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Grimes. Also visitors in the Grimes home were Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Grimes and daughter, of Georgetown, Luther Grimes of Georgetown and Robert I. Grimes, of San Antonio.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Buford spent Christmas Day in Salado as guests of a cousin, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Buford.

Mrs. Earl Stanford joined her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Corvin Leverich, and son, Jimmy, of Odessa, for a Christmas visit with Mr. and Mrs. Steve Leverich at DeQueen, Ark., returning Sunday.

Mrs. J. T. Warren spent Christmas week with her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Coit, and family, of Dallas. She was joined Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. Booth Warren, whom she accompanied home Monday. Don Warren, older son of the Booth Warrens, who is a student in the medical school of the University of Texas at Galveston, spent Christmas week here with his parents, having flown up via Pioneer Airlines on Dec. 20 and returning Sunday the same route.

Holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. I. Jackson were Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Jones of Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Capers of Houston and Miss Norah White, of Eastland, who also went out to see the handsome new home of the Carl Jacksons near Noodle. Later Mr. and Mrs. Jackson accompanied their sons, Fred and Carl Jackson and their wives, to Eldorado, Ark., for a Christmas visit with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Tipton have returned to their home in Weatherford after spending the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Ayers and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Tipton. Wayne will continue his studies in Weatherford Junior college.

ANDREWS COMES FOR WEEK-END RETURN DATE

The Merkel Badger basketball team will open its 1947-48 home schedule against the powerful Andrews Mustangs on the local court Friday and Saturday nights of this week.

The "B" games will start at 7:00 each night, followed by the "A" string game at 8:00. Admission will be 25 and 40 cents.

Thus far this season the local hoopsters have a record of one victory and two losses. With only three days of practice under their belts the Badgers upset the highly touted Anson Tigers, 54-31, in the Hamlin tournament, Dec. 18. Billy Pat Nash led the Merkel scorers with 14 tallies and Robert Sledge was runner-up with 13 markers.

Out at Andrews on the nights of Dec. 19 and 20, Benson's cagers were given two good lessons on how the "round ball" game should be played. The Mustangs, who are expected to win the 7A basketball title this year, outplayed the local boys from off the backboards to the tune of 38 to 26 and 50 to 38. Robert Hodge and Robert Sledge led the local scoring parade in these two encounters. The local reserves evened things up by downing the Andrews subs 31 to 20 and 44 to 19. Honors went to Larry Bailey with 13 points in the first game and Bobby Gilbert was tops in the second game with 16 points.

The Badger five will meet the Colorado City Wolves here next Friday night, Jan. 9, in the opening conference game of the season.

Brother of Merkel Man, Former Resident, Dies

Edwin Oscar Criswell, 70, former resident of the Noodle community, who had lived in Stamford since 1940, died at 9 p. m. Tuesday, Dec. 23, at his home there.

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Friday following from the Lawrence Funeral home in Anson, with Rev. W. K. Horn officiating. Burial was in Rose Hill cemetery here.

Pallbearers were Doc Calloway, A. J. Barbee, Buck Cook, Otis Sosebee, Mack McGinnis and Frank Sosebee. He was born in Fayette county, Texas, on Sept. 29, 1877, and moved to Jones county in 1882. He was reared in the Noodle community where he had resided until moving to Stamford.

A brother, C. W. Criswell, of Stamford, was making his home with him at the time of his death. Two other brothers also survive: Sid Criswell of Merkel and C. H. Criswell of Phoenix, Ariz.

Additional Donors To Cemetery Fund

Checks for \$5.00 each have been received from John Dunn of Cisco and Miss Loraine A. Boyce of Beaumont for the Cemetery Maintenance fund. It was reported the past week by T. L. Grimes, committee chairman.

MERKEL 20 YEARS AGO

(From Files of The Merkel Mail, January 6, 1928.)

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Harris were happy to have their daughters, Mesdames W. E. Duckett and S. A. Duckett, with their families visit them during the holidays. The former lives at Comanche and the latter at Tulia.

Judge and Mrs. Eakman of Amarillo, parents of Mrs. W. L. Diltz, Jr., are here to spend the winter with the latter. Judge Eakman and wife have visited here during the winter for several years and have many friends who are glad to welcome them back again.

AN OLD TIMER WRITES.
Chandler, Tex., Jan. 14.

To The Merkel Mail:
There have been so many of my old friends that have died and fearing you would think that I was dead, will write you. There are a few men there now that were there when I landed in Merkel the 12th day of November, 1886, George Richie, Jim Casey, Sam Butman, Demere, Charley Brown, James Tucker and the Campbell boys were living there then. I am living in the free state

YEAR'S RECEIPTS AT POST OFFICE SURPASS 1946

Total for Year Just Closing Was \$16,894.96; Bank Deposits Still Range Above the \$3,000,000-Mark on Dec. 31.

Merkel postal receipts for the year of 1947 showed a gain of \$1,284.33 over those for 1946, it was shown in the final figures for the year just closing in Postmaster Wrenn Durham's tabulation.

Receipts for 1947 were \$16,894.96, as compared with \$15,610.63. The 1945 total was \$20,303.77, while the all-time high—\$21,610.98—was reached in 1944.

BANK DEPOSITS.
While showing a decline from the all-time high at the time of the Oct. 6 call of \$3,292,336.15, deposits in the Farmers & Merchants National bank at the close of business on Dec. 31 were still above the \$3,000,000-mark.

Actual figure for December 31 was \$3,005,236.10, as compared with the above total on Oct. 6, a drop of \$287,100.15. Similar figure for the close of business Dec. 31, 1946, was \$3,050,212.06.

Loans as of Dec. 31 were \$333,288.26, as compared with \$399,989.53 on Oct. 6, while total loans at the end of 1946 were \$320,923.21.

Total resources as of Dec. 31 were \$3,133,544.94, as compared with \$3,418,521.27 on the date of the October call. Resources at the end of 1946 were \$3,170,869.59.

GINNINGS.
In the Merkel area embracing four gins in town and those at Stith, Blair and Noodle, 5,533 bales of cotton had been ginned out of the 1947 crop up to Tuesday night, Dec. 30.

The 1946 crop was very light, totaling only 2,081 in the same area. In 1945 a total of 6,399 bales were ginned.

RAINFALL.
Terminating an extended drought, that played havoc with crops, late fall rains brought the area rainfall total for 1947 to 21 1/2 inches.

Less than 15 inches of moisture was received in this area in 1946, the exact figure being 14 13-16 inches, but the 1945 total was 20 7-8 inches.

Temporarily Suspend "Appreciation Day"

Announcement was made Wednesday that the "Appreciation Day" program, sponsored by a group of Merkel merchants would be temporarily suspended.

In charge of this week's program were the firms of Campbell grocery and market, Seegin grocery and market and the West company, with J. Parker Sharp as announcer.

P-TA Rolls Increase.

Austin, Dec. 31.—Membership of the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers increased 35,000 this year for a total of 274,727, state headquarters said here Tuesday.

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
Elsewhere — \$2.00
[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.

Andy Shouse
Life Insurance
Real Estate

Will be glad to assist you with your income tax return.

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

Badges of Honor

Worn in your coat lapel, it tells the world that you are an overseas veteran and that you belong to the largest overseas veterans organization in the world. It is the "Cross of Malta", the V. E. W. emblem.

FOR YOUR COUNTRY'S SECURITY—JOIN TODAY!
"America's Overseas Veterans... United"

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

MERKEL POST 5683

Announcing

Opening of the

TOOMBS & MOORE
FEED STORE

In Same Bldg. with Donnelly Bros. Hatchery

Handling a Complete Line of
ABTEX and C. L. GREEN Feeds

CHECK THESE PRICES:

All Weather, per 100 lbs.	\$5.25
Good Value Dairy, per 100 lbs.	\$5.10
Ground Oats, per 100 lbs.	\$4.10
Hen Scratch, per 100 lbs.	\$5.50
Super Layer, per 100 lbs.	\$5.85
Growing Mash, per 100 lbs.	\$5.75
Starter and Grower, per 100 lbs.	\$6.00
Complete Hog Feed, per 100 lbs.	\$5.25
Broiler Mash, per 100 lbs.	\$5.85
11% Sweet Feed, per 100 lbs.	\$3.10
9% Sweet Feed, per 100 lbs.	\$2.95
Maize, per 100 pounds	\$4.00
Block Salt	65c

Serves Former College Mates as Best Man

On Dec. 20, Abie Turner, now a student at McMurry college, attended the wedding of two former collegemates at John Tarleton college, Stephenville, which took place at the First Methodist church in Lubbock and in which he served as best man.

Contracting parties were Leonard C. Pack, of Huxby, Texas, and Miss Virginia Carter, of Lubbock. While away for the nuptials, he visited several days in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Pack, parents of the bridegroom.

Leaves for Study.
Mrs. Ruth Pangle, of the nursing staff of Sadler Clinic-Hospital, will leave Friday for Chicago, Ill., to enroll at Augustana hospital for a two-months' study of anesthesia.

Birth Announced.
Mr. and Mrs. David Johnson of Denton are the parents of a 7 pound, 11 ounce baby boy born on Dec. 28. He was named David Bruce. Mrs. Johnson is the former Doris Clyde Miller and the maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Miller.

We take orders for egg stamps
The Merkel Mail office.

MOVIE CALENDAR

QUEEN
Friday - Saturday — Double feature program: Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton in "Flashing Guns" and Lionel Barrymore, Lucille Bremer, James Craig in "Dark Delusion;" color cartoon and Jack Armstrong serial.

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday — Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall in "Dark Passage;" color cartoon and latest in News Sports.

Wednesday - Thursday — Special roadshow attraction: Irene Dunne, William Powell in "Life With Father."

"DARK PASSAGE"
Excitement and gripping suspense accents Warner Bros.' new offering, "Dark Passage" which brings together for the third time on the screen the dramatic talents of Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

"Dark Passage" abounds in more than one happy result. Jerry Wald and Delmer Daves have joined together again and turned out a new gem of entertainment. It is packed with thrills, romantic interest and strikes a new high in smooth action. Most of "Dark Passage" was shot in San Francisco, with considerable footage devoted to outdoor scenes around the Bay City.

"LIFE WITH FATHER"

The Day household on Madison Avenue, in New York City in the Eighties presided over by Clarence Day, Sr., (William Powell) provides the setting for Warner Bros.' production of Clarence Day's memorable "Life With Father" to be shown at the Queen theatre Wednesday and Thursday as a special roadshow attraction. Powell is co-starred with Irene Dunne in this delightful screen version of the celebrated family classic, which boasts of lavish color by technicolor.

The flow of rich incident which unravels the Day problems provides a film of rare entertainment. Besides the two stars, excellent performances are also turned in by Edmund Gwenn as the minister and the three younger Day boys, Derek Scott, Johnny Calkins and Martin Milner. Others sorted out for mention in the top-flight cast include: Heather Wilde, Monte Blue and Clara Blandick.

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Sale of Bob Fowler's 100-acre farm on Route 2, Merkel, to G. W. Hobbs, was announced last week-end by Andy Shouse, real estate agent.

Quannah Dudley, owner of Dudley's Radio service, announces that with the New Year he has secured the services of A. D. Doan, who formerly operated the Doan Radio shop in connection with Moore's Electric shop. The latter business, which occupied one of the Mellinger buildings on North Second street, has been discontinued.

Stores Observe New Year's as Holiday

The post office, Farmers & Merchants National bank and all the stores in town, except cafes, drug stores and service stations, closed for New Year's Day (Thursday, Jan. 1), which was observed as a general holiday.

The public schools also dismissed for the one day, but will resume Friday.

C. M. PRESLEY
Jeweler
Watches—Diamonds—
Silverware
209 Pine Street
Abilene, Texas

LET
Lydick-Hooks
Roofing Company
Make your estimate to Re-Roof your residence or store building. Estimates FREE. All work Guaranteed.
We Use Genuine Rubberoid Roofing Material
Phone 4088
Abilene, Texas

OUT OF GAS?
GOT A FLAT?
BATTERY DOWN?
As close as your telephone—
Magnolia Service Station
Phone 159

RURAL SOCIETY

GOODMAN CLUB.
The Christmas party of the Goodman Home Demonstration club was held in the home of Mrs. St. John. The house was decorated in cedar and gumdrops, candles and Yuletide trimmings.

A beautiful Christmas tree was loaded with gifts, and even Santa was there. Club pals were revealed and new ones drawn.

Guests were presented with corsages upon arrival. A delicious refreshment plate was served to 32 women.

Mrs. St. John, Mrs. Zed Bright, Mrs. R. A. Swinney, Mrs. Frank Carter, Mrs. Truman Carey, C. P. Hodges, Mrs. Karl Bonneaux and Mrs. Morison went to Anson for the Christmas tree for the county council, with approximately 75 women present.

Each woman was presented a corsage. A delicious plate of banana bread, mints and tea was served, after which gifts were exchanged and a beautiful program presented by the several clubs in the county.

COMPERE CLUB.

Mrs. Clyde Chancey was host for the annual Christmas party of the Compere Home Demonstration club. Games were played and gifts exchanged.

Present were Mesdames Ben Adkins, T. A. Tucker, Dewey Ramsey, W. A. Crumpler, H. R. Chancey, W. J. Spurgin, Pearl Graham and Charlie Childers; Ida Beth Adkins, Alice Spurgin and Loretta Allen.

Hospital Notes.

Patients admitted to Sadler Clinic-Hospital during the past week for treatment were: the J. F. Walker, Jr., child, Mrs. H. A. Purser, Dec. 25; Miss Dorothy Jackson, Karen Kay Kelly, the Denzel Melton baby, Mrs. Bertie L. Davis, Dec. 26; Mrs. G. B. Richards, Truett Thompson, Michael Blackburn, Dec. 27; Box

RESOLUTIONS

Save Regularly

As we start a New Year, make your No. 1 resolution "Be Thrifty—Save Regularly". . . then make that one resolution you keep. The importance of saving money increases with the difficulty of saving . . . and it is more difficult to save during a period of high prices. Save regularly and you'll have the kind of 1948 we want you to have . . . a Happy New Year!

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers & Merchants National Bank
MERKEL, TEXAS

CARD OF THANKS.
We wish to thank our neighbors and friends who were so kind and thoughtful to bring in such a bountiful Christmas dinner, and also for the many lovely flowers that have been sent during Mrs. Blair's illness. All these kind acts and many others will be long cherished in our memory.
Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Blair.

Lovely to Look at - Marvelous to Use

EASY TO CLEAN

... BECAUSE IT'S

porcelain finish will again save you cleaning time and effort. Spill-overs are not likely though. Special stops for racks and drawers, which slide easily and quietly, prevent spilling.

Add these conveniences to the clean blue flame of natural gas. You'll like your new gas range most because it's so easy to clean!

Smart design of new automatic gas range will save you time and effort in keeping it just as beautiful as the day it was new.

White, stain-resistant porcelain exterior cleans quickly with simple soap and water care. New improved burners won't clog from spill-overs. Their rust-resistant finish wipes clean as easily as the top of range.

If you should spill something in the oven its smooth-as-glass

... look for this seal. It's your guide to the finest in modern gas ranges. It's found on twenty-two different nationally advertised automatic gas ranges.

for Cleaner, fully Automatic Cooking
select a **NEW** gas range
GAS HAS GOT IT!
See Your Gas Appliance Dealer or
LONE STAR GAS COMPANY

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

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.

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



SIX YOUNG PATIENTS at the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children at Dallas "turn tables" on the nurses and join in singing Christmas carols to the "angel" in white on the steps of the latter's home, the Alex. A. Slaughter Memorial Nurses Home, unit of the Masonic institution which provides free treatment to crippled children of Texas. The nurses' quarters were built and are maintained yearly by Mrs. Dorothy Slaughter in memory of her late husband.

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 the 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.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
 THE STATE OF TEXAS.

TO: V. C. George, 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 2nd day of February, 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 20th day of Dec. 1946. The file number of said suit being No. 15,124-A.

The names of the parties in said suit are: Ruby Mae George as Plaintiff, and V. C. George as Defendant.
 The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit: Plaintiff and defendant were duly and legally married on October 15, 1933, and lived together until October 7, 1945. Three children were born to plaintiff and defendant. There is no community property. Plaintiff sues for divorce on grounds of cruelty and also sues for custody, control and support of the children.

If this Citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. Issued this the 18th day of December, A. D., 1947.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, at office in Abilene, Texas, this the 18th day of December, A. D., 1947.

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

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.

REWARD
THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$300.00) for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties who poisoned my small black and white Collie dog, named 'Lady' on Friday and/or Saturday nights, Dec. 12th or 13th.
 Sam Butman, Sr.

NOTICE

We Will Be Closed
For Inventory
Saturday, Jan. 3

MERKEL MOTOR COMPANY

Just Received...

New Shipment of

Ladies' and Children's Underwear and Nylon Hose

Nice Assortment of Bowls and Pottery

DOYLE'S VARIETY & GIFT SHOP

SIS and DOYLE, Owners

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE...

From the Texas Butane Dealers Association

To Those Who Use or Plan to Use Butane or Propane:

If your butane or propane tank is not large enough to serve you through four winter months without refilling, you may find yourself without heat this winter.

Many people have outgrown their present systems. They have added new appliances, more heaters, more conveniences, all of which are a drain on present winter supplies.

The war created new industries which demand tremendous amounts of butane-propane the year round—while your demand is mostly for the winter months. Now, gas users must spread that demand over the warm months as well.

A 4 Months' Winter Supply In Every Tank

These new industries demand butane and propane gases all year round. But domestic users burn four to seven times more in winter than in summer.

Users must plan to buy their gas earlier in order to insure a four months' winter supply. Your dealer will not be able to furnish you much more gas in winter because approximately the same amount of gas is available all year round.

You should begin planning to install a larger system if your own tank cannot hold at least a four-months' winter supply. It is for your own winter comfort and convenience that we urge this action.

You will have your four-months' supply in your tank when you need it most. By requiring your dealer's services less often, he can supply you more efficiently and economically when road conditions are bad.

If you have a **SMALL TANK**, please conserve fuel for the benefit of both yourself and your neighbor.

WATTS BUTANE

(A BLENDED FUEL)

Phone 169

Merkel, Texas



Yes Johnny, '47 is gone—but REDDY is STILL here!

Yes, Johnny, '47 is gone. But Reddy Kilowatt, your electric servant, will be on the job with service to you and other youngsters (as well as grown folks) during the new year.

All around the clock, low-cost, dependable, friendly Reddy Kilowatt will serve you. He'll help get the breakfast... show you safety on the way to school... provide proper lighting at school... assist mother to cook a wonderful dinner... make your homework easier with good light... and then to bed with the radio to lull you to sleep.

Yes, Reddy is helping youngsters to grow up to be sturdy men and women. Before long they'll have homes of their own, and Reddy will still be waiting to serve them day and night.

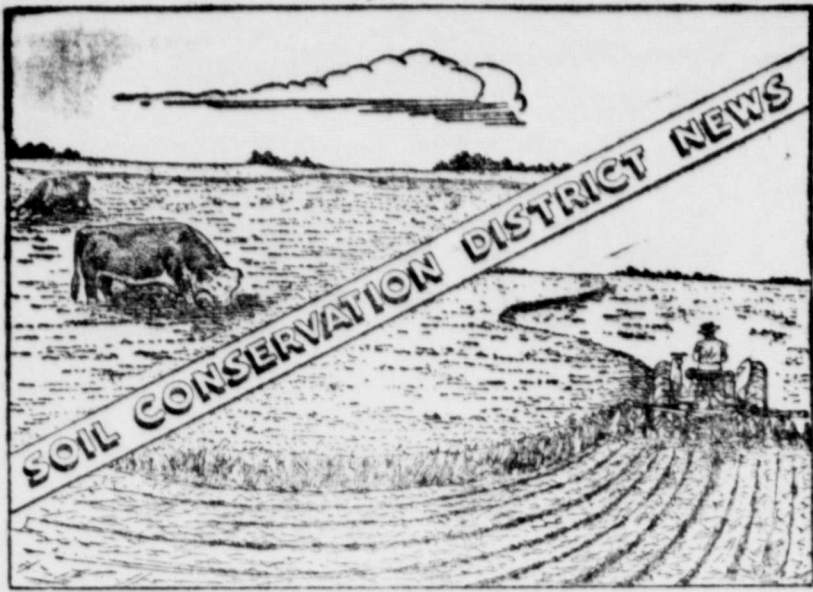
West Texas Utilities Company

Your Local USED-COW Dealer Removes Dead Stock FREE

For immediate service
Phone 4001 Collect Abilene



CENTRAL HIDE & RENDERING CO.



W. E. Byrom, district cooperater in the North Golan group, has recently made his first planting of hairy vetch on his sandy land farm. Mr. Byrom planted about 20 acres of vetch in combination with abruzzu rye as a winter cover and soil improving crop. Mr. Byrom's land is seriously effected by wind blowing.

Buck Cook, conservation group leader for the Carpenter's Gap group, is actively taking the lead in planting winter legumes in his group. He has planted 32 acres to hairy vetch and rye and is planning on planting to 20 acres of winter peas. Mr. Cook seeded his vetch at the rate of 10 pounds vetch and 25 pounds of

abruzzu rye per acre. He made an application of 125 pounds of super phosphate per acre on this area. Mr. Cook has about 150 acres of cropland which needs this winter cover crop practice and if this planting proves successful he is planning on making a large increase in his acreage of vetch next year.

Z. Edgar Boaz, who is also cooperating with the district in the Carpenter's Gap group, is vitally interested in winter cover crops on his farm. To date he has planted 50 acres to hairy vetch and abruzzu rye and plans to plant about 20 more acres. Mr. Boaz purchased a combination grain and fertilizer drill for use on

"Milestone Model" and the Men Who Made It



Twenty men whose combined crafts and skills are representative of the myriad trades contributing to production of a motor vehicle, pose at Flint, Mich., with a "milestone model"—the 20,000,000th unit produced by Chevrolet in its 35-year history. From the engineer with his designs and blueprints, to the polisher with his buffing tool, from the chemist to the hooded welder, these are the men who keep the nation's traffic arteries humming. Despite production difficulties, Chevrolet has produced its latest million cars and trucks in almost exactly a year.

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Oil Investments
LEASES and ROYALTIES
Vernon Simpson
Phone 90 Box 426

Visit Our Fountain

- Sandwiches
- Sodas
- Coffee and Hot Chocolate

Open Until 10 p. m.

CITY DRUG COMPANY

"Your Friendly Store"

Farmers

Only 15 Days Left to File Report or Make Estimate 1947 Income Tax

R. O. ANDERSON

his farm and others in the conservation group. Mr. Boaz planted vetch at the standard planting rate of 150 pounds per acre. Mr. Boaz is hoping this planting will prove successful as he has about 600 to 700 acres of sandy land which is in great need of soil improvement and protection from blowing.

Terrace lines for terrace construction have recently been run on these cooperating farms: G. C. Blair of Goodman group, Mose Jones of NE Noodle group and G. C. Bond and Clyde Chaney of the Comper group.

Burleson Announces New Secretary for Washington Office

Washington, D. C., Jan. 1.—Congressman Omar Burleson today announced the selection of John Hardesty of Abilene, Texas, to serve as his secretary in his Washington office.

Mr. Hardesty has for the past several years held a position as field

accounting supervisor of the finance division, Farmers Home Administration, U. S. department of agriculture, with headquarters in Washington, D. C.

He is a veteran of World War II, entering the Army as an enlisted man, going overseas with the 79th Infantry Division, which saw action in Alsace-Lorraine and the Rhine Valley as a unit of the American Seventh Army. He received an honorable discharge in April of 1946, with the rank of staff sergeant.

He was for two years a student of Hardin-Simmons university, Abilene, Texas, and is a business administration graduate of Benjamin Franklin university, Washington, D. C.

His wife is the former Eddis Lee Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Powell of Lueders, Texas.

He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. John P. Hardesty of Abilene, Texas, a retired Baptist minister, well known throughout West Texas as a minister and as a representative of the West Texas Child Aid and Welfare association.

ATTENTION FARMERS

Planting Seed

Any farmer wishing us to secure Harper, or Northern Star cottonseed, or Martin's Combine milo for next spring's planting, please let us have your order at once, so we will know how many seed to buy.

FARMERS COOP SOCIETY GIN

BIGGER SAVINGS ON THESE Balanced READING OFFERS



Any Magazine Listed and This Newspaper, Both for Price Shown

- American Girl 32.50
- American Home 3.40
- Boy's Life 3.10
- Calling All Girls 2.85
- Child Life 3.45
- Christian Herald 3.45
- Coronet 3.50
- Country Gentleman (3 Yrs.) 2.50
- Ettude Music Magazine 3.40
- Everybody's Digest 3.45
- Flower Grower 2.95
- Front Page Detective 2.55
- Inside Detective 2.55
- Jack & Jill 3.40
- Judy's (News & Views) 3.00
- Modern Romances 2.75
- Modern Screen 2.75
- Movies in Review 3.45
- Nature (10 Issues, 12 Mos.) 4.45
- Open Road (Boys) 3.45
- Outdoors 2.50
- Parents' Magazine 3.25
- Pathfinder (26 Issues) 2.50
- Photoplay 2.50
- Popular Mechanics 3.50
- Popular Science Monthly 3.50
- Reader's Digest 4.25
- Redbook Magazine 3.50
- Screen Romances 2.75
- Sport 3.50
- Sports Afield 2.50
- The Homemaker 3.45
- The Woman 3.45
- True Romance 2.50
- True Story 2.50
- U. S. Camera 2.95
- Walt Disney's Comics 2.85
- Your Life 3.45

NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINES 1 YEAR, UNLESS TERM SHOWN

THE FAMILY SPECIAL

Magazines Appealing to Every Member of Your Family! Make Big Savings on a Whole Year of Reading Pleasure!

THIS NEWSPAPER (1 Year) AND THREE FAMOUS MAGAZINES \$5.10 For Both Newspaper and Magazines

GROUP A — Check One Magazine

- American Home 1 Yr.
- Child Life 1 Yr.
- Correct English 1 Yr.
- Everybody's Digest 1 Yr.
- Flower Grower 1 Yr.
- Forum 1 Yr.
- Front Page Detective 1 Yr.
- Hygeia 1 Yr.
- Inside Detective 1 Yr.
- Judy's (News & Views) 1 Yr.
- Modern Screen 1 Yr.
- Reader's Digest 6 Mo.
- Redbook Magazine 1 Yr.
- Science Pictorial 1 Yr.
- Screen Romances 1 Yr.
- Sports Afield 1 Yr.
- The Homemaker 1 Yr.
- The Woman 1 Yr.
- True Comics 1 Yr.
- Your Life 1 Yr.

GROUP B — Check Two Magazines

- American Fruit Grower 2 Yr.
- American Girl 1 Yr.
- American Poultry Jnl. 2 Yr.
- Breeder's Gazette 1 Yr.
- Christian Herald 6 Mo.
- Country Gentleman 5 Yr.
- Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife 2 Yr.
- National Livestock Producer 2 Yr.
- Open Road (Boys) 1 Yr.
- Outdoors 1 Yr.
- Parents' Magazine 1 Yr.
- Pathfinder (26 Issues) 1 Yr.
- Photoplay 1 Yr.
- Poultry Tribune 2 Yr.
- Progressive Farmer 2 Yr.
- Southern Agriculturist 2 Yr.
- Southern Romance 1 Yr.
- True Story 1 Yr.
- U. S. Camera Magazine 1 Yr.

Mark an "X" Before the 3 Magazines Desired. Clip List and Enclose with Coupon.

BUDGET BARGAIN OFFER

This Newspaper, 1 Yr.

AND 3 BIG MAGAZINES All 4 For Only \$2.50

- AMERICAN FRUIT GROWER 1 Yr.
- AMERICAN POULTRY JNL. 1 Yr.
- BREEDER'S GAZETTE 6 Mo.
- FARM JOURNAL & FARMER'S WIFE 1 Yr.
- MOTHER'S HOME LIFE 1 Yr.
- NATIONAL LIVESTOCK PRODUCER 1 Yr.
- PATHFINDER (13 Issues) 6 Mo.
- POULTRY TRIBUNE 1 Yr.
- PROGRESSIVE FARMER 2 Yr.
- SOUTHERN AGRICULTURIST 2 Yr.
- TRUE ROMANCE 6 Mo.

Mark an "X" Before the 3 Magazines Desired. Clip List and Enclose with Coupon.

FILL IN AND MAIL TO THIS NEWSPAPER TODAY!

Check magazines desired and enclose with coupon. Gentlemen: I enclose \$_____ Please send me the offer checked, with a year's subscription to your paper.

NAME _____
STREET OR R.F.D. _____
POSTOFFICE _____

ONYX Products

CALL 91

WE PICK UP FLATS

You Are Invited To Patronize

HIGGINS BLACKSMITH SHOP & SERV. STATION

We Specialize in Quick, Courteous Service. You Are Certain to Save Money if You Trade With US!

We Boast Lower Prices,--Guaranteed Service

Classified Ads

FOR SALE
 FOR SALE—Will sacrifice my home, 3rd and Marion, in Merkel; can be seen at any time. For further information, call G. R. Smith, 810 Hickory, Abilene. Phone 8191 collect.

FOR SALE—1936 Ford tudor, also 1939 International truck with winch and bed, 5-speed transmission. Inquire at Texaco Service station.

FOR SALE—150 Harmison hens and pullets. Mrs. J. Pierce Horton, Route 4, Merkel.

BUNDLED FEED for sale. Mrs. J. D. Porter.

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

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY—7, 8, 9 and 10-ft. G. E. Admiral and Philco refrigerators. Palmer Tire and Appliance Co.

FOR SALE—6-ft. International one-way. See P. A. or Tomray Diltz.

FOR SALE—Milk cow. See J. L. Douglas, 3rd and Rose.

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

FOR SALE—Officer's tent, 8x12, with 6-ft. walls and windows; also 2-wheel trailer. W. G. Richardson, Cor. Martin and Mesquite.

FOR SALE—Young Shorthorn bull, subject to register. J. W. Teaff, Jr., Route 3, Merkel.

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

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

FOR SALE—Harper, Northern Star cottonseed, also Martin's combine milo. Farmers Coop Society gin.

FOR SALE—5 rooms and bath; best location; best built house in town; block south new hospital. Ben Sublett, Box 206, Merkel.

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

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

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.

PLENTY Black Hull seed wheat. Patterson Grain.

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

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

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

FOR SALE—1931 Model A coupe. If you want an A that'll push a barn down or run like a nymph—bring 3C's and a pair of wings and fly it away. L. B. Whitaker.

FOR RENT
 FOR RENT—Furnished apartment on Oak street. Inquire at Merkel Mail office.

FOR RENT—Furnished 3-room apartment with private bath. Mrs. John Ensminger.

FOR RENT—Furnished house; to couple only. See F. E. Church.

FOR RENT—Bedroom, close in, private entrance, with bath, modern conveniences and comfortable. Fred Groene.

FOR RENT—Four room house. See J. L. Douglas, 3rd and Rose.

FOR RENT—2-room unfurnished house. Mrs. Bert Melton. Phone 282.

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.

APARTMENTS for rent; nice, close in, at Clyde; furnished; \$30.00. Shanks Apartments, Clyde, Texas, Phone 74.

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

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

LOST AND FOUND
 LOST—Red silk glove, right hand. Please notify Lottie Butman.

STRAYED—Coming 2-year-old yearling, branded C. H. on right hip. Notify Billy C. Haynes.

DOLL FOUND—Owner can get same by describing and paying for ad. T. J. Neill, Route 4, Merkel.

WANTED
 WANTED—Sewing and ironing to do. See Mrs. Velma McCoy, Thornton street.

NOTICE—Will pay 1c per pound, \$1.00 per hundred or \$20.00 per ton for scrap iron. H. J. Bowles Plumbing Shop.

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

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

LODGE CALLS
 NOTICE MASONS
 Stated meeting of Merkel lodge No. 710, A. F. and A. M., Thursday, Jan. 8, at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to be present. Visiting brethren cordially invited.
 C. B. Rust, W. M.
 Andy Shouse, Sec'y.

PERSONALS

First Lt. David Gibson, who flew home from the Aleutians, where he is stationed, on leave until Jan. 15, and his wife from Houston are visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dent Gibson. Also here for the holidays were Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Gibson from Lubbock, where L. B. is a student in Texas Technological college.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hutchins, Ronnie and Suzanne, of New Orleans, were visitors Monday and Tuesday with Mrs. C. D. Hutchins and Mrs. Jodye Clark.

Spending the holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Curington, were their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Wisdom Curington and two children, Nancy and Junior, of Austin, and Miss Christine Curington, student in Abilene Christian college.

Mr. and Mrs. Sampie McGehee from Lubbock and Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Jones, Jr., of Fort Worth, were holiday visitors with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Gaither.

Little Miss Glenda Abbott spent part of the Christmas holidays with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Horton, of Wichita Falls, returning home with them Christmas Day. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Abbott, went up the following Saturday to bring her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Patterson and son, Jack Coleman, were up from Houston to spend Christmas week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Patterson, remaining over until Jan. 1. Also home for Christmas with her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Kemp Hinch and two sons, Henry Homer and Kemp, of Odessa.

Mrs. J. R. Pee had as Christmas visitors, her son, Milam Pike, of Bagwell, and his son, Jack, and daughter, Joy, of Dallas, also a daughter, Mr. and Mrs. William F. Hunt, of Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Holt of Waco were Christmas visitors with her two sisters, Mrs. J. A. Milliken and Mrs. Vernon Simpson, and brother, Wilbur Thomas, and families.

Mr. and Mrs. John Strawn, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Strawn, Mrs. Dena Seago and Strawn, made a Christmas visit with relatives in Greenville.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Seago and Mr. and Mrs. Zed Bright and three children spent Christmas with their son and brother, Edward Seago, and family at Crane.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Boswell and family of Midland were Christmas week visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McCandless. Other visitors in the McCandless home were Mrs. McCandless's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. N. F. Roberts, of Anson.

Miss Anne Greene, student at Texas Christian university, Fort Worth, visited during the holidays with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Groene.

After a Christmas visit home, Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Sublett, who were accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Edith Gilmore, and their daughter, Mrs. Vernelle Crow and children, all of Corpus Christi, returned home Sunday. Mrs. Crow and children were guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Crow, Sr., while here.

C. J. Glover spent Sunday in Dallas in the home of a sister, Mrs. W. A. Little, where his other sister, Mrs. Eva Prendergast, of Austin, was also visiting.

Visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Artist Cook for Christmas were all their children, Sgt. and Mrs. John W. Cook and Linda of Biloxi, Miss. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Herrington of Odessa, Rev. and Mrs. F. E. Healer and sons and Miss Betty Joyce Cook of Merkel. Mrs. John W. Cook

also visited her family in Slaton.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Turner, Jr., and children, of Fort Worth, were Christmas visitors in the homes of his mother, Mrs. Ed Turner, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Tiner. Both the other Turner boys were also home for the holidays: Ike, from Texas Technological college, Lubbock, and Abie, from McMurry.

Mrs. J. R. Patterson and children, of Fort Worth, arrived on the early morning train Monday to spend the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. DuBose.

—FOR—
Oil Investments
LEASES and ROYALTIES
Vernon Simpson
 Phone 90 . . . Box 426

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RADIO REPAIRS
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Free Pickup and Delivery
Electric Iron Service
 Repairs, Fully Guaranteed
DUDLEY RADIO
SERVICE



How LITTLE You Need Pay For So MUCH Clothing Satisfaction

Enjoy the luxury of a ROYAL tailored-to-order suit! More than 200 beautiful worsteds, gabardines, flannels, coverts, tweeds, shetlands and sport fabrics . . . 80 smart new fashion models. You choose the fabric . . . you select the style . . . and your suit or topcoat is tailored to your measure by ROYAL'S master tailors. Come in and check up on these unusual values at your first opportunity. You'll be surprised how little you pay for so much clothing pleasure and satisfaction!

\$38.50 up

WHIT'S DRY CLEANER
 107 ASH Street

We also measure for "BURTON'S" Hollywood's Exclusive line. If it's Clothes you need—come to see "Whitt" first—everytime!

Specials for Friday & Saturday
JANUARY 2nd and 3rd

CRISP GREEN CELERY, stalk 17c	NEBRASKA COBBLER POTATOES, 10 lbs. 39c
Louisiana YAMS, lb. 11c	Texas ORANGES, 10 lb. 29c
STAYMEN OR ARKANSAS BLACK APPLES, pound 09c	

Crustene SHORTENING 3 pound carton **\$1.05**

SUNSWEEP Prune Juice, qt. bottle 29c	STALEYS GOLDEN Syrup, 5 lb. can 55c
Valley Bloom APRICOT Nectar, No. 2 cans 10c	DORMAN BLACKEYED PEAS, 16 oz. cans, 2 for 25c
MOTT'S Apple Juice, qt. bottle 18c	DRY—Blackeyed Peas, pound 26c
SUPER SUDS, lg. box 37c	AUNT JEMIMA Corn Meal, 5 lb. bag 53c
NILE Salmon, 8 oz. can 3 for \$1.00	BRIMFULL—CUT Green Beans, No. 2 can 14c
VAN CAMP Sardines, 16 oz. can 4 for 99c	RED and WHITE Coffee, 1 lb. jar 49c
SPICED Luncheon Meat, 12 oz can 47	Ozark Fancy—WHOLE Green Beans, No. 2 can 18c
THRIFT Tamales, lg. can 23c	SUGAR LOAF—Fancy Tomatoes, No. 2 can 19c
BANG-O Black Beauty Popcorn, 10 oz. can 15c	Alma—MUSTARD AND Turnip Greens, No. 2 can 11c
MOTHERS ALUMINUM Oats, lg. box 44c	

Red and White 25 pound bag \$1.97
FLOUR 10 pound bag89

Red and White **WHITE CORN** No. 2 can 23c

MEAT MARKET DEPARTMENT

SWIFT PREMIUM BACON, pound 79c	(3 to 5 pounds average) SPARE RIBS, lb. 44c
DRY SALT JOWLS, lb. 29c	FRESH PORK LOIN, lb. 51c
WISCONSIN CHEESE, lb. 59c	BOSTON BUTTS, lb. 49c
STAR SAUSAGE 1 lb., Cello Bags 49c	

THE RED & WHITE STORES

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MISCELLANEOUS

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McCOY-DIERKSEN RITES READ IN LUTHERAN CHURCH AT SHINER.

Miss Margret Dierksen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theo Dierksen of Shiner, and Medford Arthur McCoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. McCoy of Merkel, were united in marriage Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21, at 5 o'clock in the United Dr. Martin Luther church in Shiner.

Rev. Edwin Oehlke read the double ring ceremony before an altar adorned with four white candelabra supporting softly burning cathedral tapers and flanked with large white mums. White tapers in crystal holders gleamed over the entire sanctuary.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride chose a white slipper satin design, styled with a drop shoulder effect with a yoke of net illusion and long, fitted sleeves, tapering to points over her hands. The skirt in full tunic effect fell into a cathedral length train. Her fingertip veil of imported illusion fell from a tiara of ivory satin orange blossoms. She carried a white orchid, resting on a white Bible, the gift of the groom. For something old she wore an ivory brooch of her mother's and a strand of pearls for something borrowed.

Mrs. Joseph Reagh, cousin of the bride, served as honor matron. The bridesmaids were Miss Mary McCoy, of San Antonio, sister of the groom, and Miss Earline Kroulik of Austin, and Best man was Eugene Howland of Florence, while the groomsmen were John Green of Houston and Bob Dunn of Santa Anna. Ushers were Raymond Dierksen and Otto Remmers.

The bride is a graduate of Shiner high school and also of Commercial college in Austin. For nearly four years she has been employed in the Internal Revenue department at Austin.

The groom is a graduate of Merkel High school, class of 1939, and is now attending the University of Texas at Austin. He was in the Army Air Corps for three years during World War II.

Those attending the wedding from Merkel were: Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McCoy, parents of the groom, Melvin McCoy and Morelle McCoy, brother and sister.

A reception was held at Luther Hall immediately following the ceremony.

When the couple left for a brief honeymoon to an unannounced destination, Mrs. McCoy was wearing a grey and white pinstripe suit, maroon blouse, black hat and accessories.

The couple will make their home in Austin.

CHURCH WOMEN HEAR VISITING SPEAKER.

The Council of Churches of Merkel met Monday afternoon at Grace Presbyterian church, with Mrs. Virgil Patterson as leader.

After the opening song, "Give of Your Best to the Master," Mrs. Henry West gave the devotional. The opening prayer was led by Mrs. W. S. J. Brown and a special song by Mrs. E. M. Weathers and Mrs. Don Riney.

Guest speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. C. A. Foley, of Abilene, who made a very interesting talk on

the condition of our state penal institutions.

Mrs. Riney led the closing song, "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," and Mrs. Herbert Patterson gave the closing prayer.

CHRISTMAS DAY GUESTS IN BONEY HOME.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Boney had as their guests for the Christmas Day, their son, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Boney, and three children, Sylvia Ann, Fanelle and Robert, and Mrs. Boney's sister, Mrs. Mary Harkins, all of Roscoe.

A three-course turkey menu was served at the noon hour. The table decorations were blue and silver.

They were joined by Mr. and Mrs. Horace Boney and Annette for six o'clock dinner, gifts were distributed from a blue and silver Christmas tree and all had a very enjoyable time.

PAST MATRON'S PIN PRESENTED MRS. D. S. NEEL.

Merkel Chapter No. 212, Order of the Eastern Star, held its regular meeting on Tuesday evening, Dec. 23. Preceding the meeting a covered dish luncheon was served to members and visitors. Mrs. D. S. Neel, the worthy matron, was the honor guest for the evening.

At the close of the meeting the chapter had a Christmas tree, with Santa Claus distributing gifts after numbers were drawn. Mrs. Neel was presented special gifts of a blanket and a past matron's pin. Since she will soon be moving from Merkel this was the chapter's way of showing their appreciation of her fine work with them.

On Jan. 12, a called meeting will be held for initiatory purpose.

YOUNGER SET COMPLIMENTED WITH CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The Community Center was most elaborately decorated on Dec. 23 when Miss Mona Madelyn Robertson entertained with a dance for approximately forty teen-agers. Mesdames Earl Hughes and W. T. Sadler assisted Mrs. Owen Robertson in entertaining.

Guests entered the Community Center through a huge cedar wreath tied with a red bow and lighted with Christmas lights. Many white candles and a Christmas tree lighted the interior and poinsettias and other Yule decorations were spotlighted. The table center was a wreath fashioned of divinity candy on a reflector and tied with a big red bow. Punch bowls of red cranberry punch were at each end of the table. Decorated cookies, candies and mints were served. Dancing was the diversion of the evening.

HOME EC HAYRIDE.

All of the home economics students and their guests piled on two large wagons for a big hayride on the evening of Wednesday, Dec. 17.

In spite of the cold, they rode to the country in high spirits, where huge bonfires were lighted and wieners roasted. Main entertainment was singing and when they arrived back in town they rode around some more, singing Christmas carols.

Adding machine rolls, 15 cents each, at Merkel Mail office.

In The Churches

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Attendance at the seven reporting Sunday Schools last Sunday was 628 as compared with 761 on the previous Sunday. On the same Sunday a year ago, 455 were present.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Morning sermon 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. Offering for Reynolds Home. Morning sermon at 11, followed by Communion Service. Christian Endeavor will meet at 6 p. m. Mid-week prayer meeting at 7 p. m. Wednesday.

D. S. Neel, 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.

CALVARY 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.

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- GIFTS

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Merchants Sales Books, 5 cents each, at Merkel Mail office.

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Box Office Opens: Nights 6:30; Sunday Matinee 2:00

Friday and Saturday
2 BIG SHOWS FOR THE PRICE OF 1
A Bold Buckaroo Blasting the Badlands!
JOHNNY MACK BROWN -:- RAYMOND HATTON

"Flashing Guns"

— P L U S —

How Much Can A Guilty Girl Hide?
Lionel Barrymore -:- Lucille Bremer -:- James Craig

"Dark Delusion"

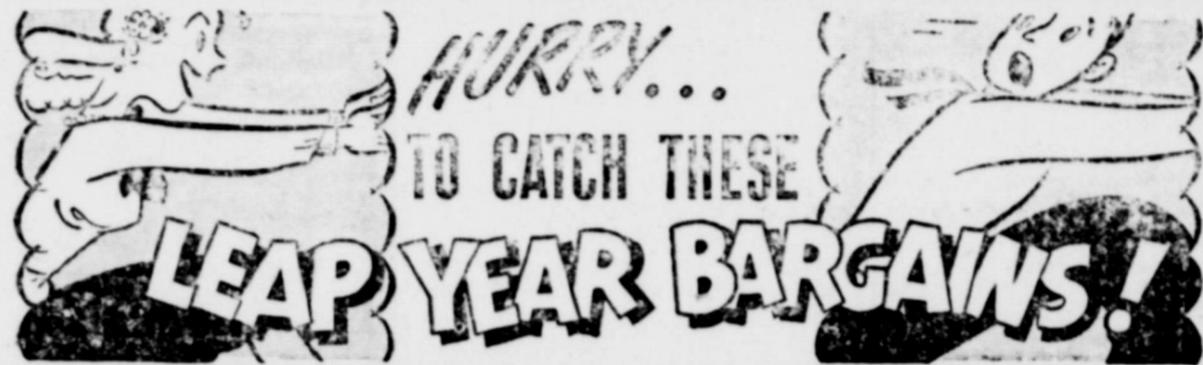
Color Cartoon—Jack Armstrong Serial

Sunday, Monday and Tuesday

There Was A Threat He Had to Do Something About!
HUMPHREY BOGART -:- LAUREN BACALL

"Dark Passage"

Color Cartoon—Latest in News Sports



SPECIALS

Fri. and Sat.
JAN. 2 and 3

- DENCO—Red Sockeye
SALMONS, No. 1 tall can 59c
- ALL BRANDS
CIGARETTES, carton \$1.63
- NOLA—Pure White—
SOAP FLAKES, giant box 39c
- KING OSCAR—NORWEGIAN
SARDINES, 6 1/2 oz. can 19c
- KING SOLOMON—Tomato Sauce
SARDINES, No. 1 tall can 25c
- SWERL — CHIFFON
SOAP box 29c

- DELGADOS
TAMALES No. 303 can 15c
- HONEY
BUTTER Box 39c

- PHILLIPS, CHICKEN, and CHICKEN NOODLE
SOUPS 10 ounce can 10c
- FOLGER'S—
COFFEE One Pound 48c
- HEART'S DELIGHT—
CATSUP 14 oz. bottle 19c
- PURE CANE
SUGAR Five Pound 45c
- EVERLITE
FLOUR, 25 lb. sack \$1.79

Mrs. Tucker -:- Swift's
THREE POUND CARTON SHORTENING \$1.09

MIXED CANDIES
ONE POUND SACK 25c

RICH-NUT
Sweet, Tender PEAS No. 2 can 10c

NOW 10c EACH
ORANGE and GRAPEFRUIT
ORANGE -:- APRICOT
PEACH -:- GRAPEFRUIT
JUICE can 10c

FOR HOT TEA
Use One Pound
LIPTON'S, box 98c



Mary Lee Taylor's

Supper Spaghetti
Broadcast: January 3, 1948

- 1/4 cup condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1/2 cup Fat Milk
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 teaspoons grated onion
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- few grains pepper
- 1 1/2 cups cooked spaghetti, macaroni or noodles
- 1 cup drained peas, cooked or canned
- 1/2 cup flaked fish, cooked or canned
- 2 tablespoons diced pimiento (can omit)

Mix together soup, milk, water, onion, salt and pepper. Add remaining ingredients. Heat slowly, but do not boil. Makes 4 servings.

*2 sliced, hard-cooked eggs can replace the fish.
Pet MILK, tall can 14c

QUEEN THEATRE

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY

Box Office opens at 1:00 P. M.
Features at 1:30 — 4:04 — 6:38 — 9:12

SPECIAL ROADSHOW ATTRACTION

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The Happiest Play of Our Day is now the Happiest Picture of all Time! . . . It broke every long-run and long-laugh record in stage history!

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- Night Children .50c Adults \$1.25c

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CHOICE MEATS

- USE FAT MILK IN ALL YOUR COOKING
- PURE PORK SAUSAGE, lb.** 49c
- Fresh—SKINLESS
WIENERS, lb. 38c
- LEAN—Choice Cuts—
PORK CHOPS, lb. 59c
- FRESH—
GROUND BEEF, lb. 39c

Salt
JOWLS
Pound 29c

Vita Best
BLACK EYE PEAS
No. 2 can 15c



- Fresh—PURPLE TOP
TURNIPS, lb. 5c
- CRISP
CELERY, stalk 19c
- TEXAS
ORANGES or GRAPEFRUIT, sack 29c

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