Your Home Town Newspaper

THE MERKEL MAIL

On the Broadway of America

VOL. 64. -No. 42.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1954.

IN THE FRIENDLY TOWN

5c A COPY

March of Dimes Quota Is Set Here at \$1,500

Merkel's quota for the 1954 also goes to buy gamma globulin, March of Dimes is \$1,500, accord- the blood factor thought to give ing to Principal C. A. Farley, local from four to six weeks protection

higher than last year's made neces- people exposed to direct contact sary by the increased use of gam. with polio victims. ma globulin in fighting polio. Last year \$1,000 were raised locally.

The drive in Merkel and sur- pointed as folows: rounding communities will be

Special events in the local camketball game, a talent show, Mothers' March on Polio.

dation will spend approximately at Cross Roads; \$19 million on a gamma globulin; program of prevention and \$7.5 John Oliver at Butman; Mrs. Tom illion on a vaccine field trial.

from polio. Shots are administered This year's goal is 50 per cent free by the National Foundation to

> Directors in communities surrounding Merkel have been ap-

Mrs. A. D. Scott and Mrs. Leroy from January 2 through January Riney at I. X L.; Mrs. Price Melton and Mrs. Bill Henager at Blair; Mrs. Jeff Chancey and Mrs. paign will include a hilarious bas- Cramer Reynolds at Union Ridge; Mrs. Buck Leach and Mrs. C. B. Rust at Stith and Warren; Mrs. A. During the next year the foun- L. Cunningham and Mrs. Matt Ely

This year's drive will help fi- at Castle Peak and Mt. Pleasant; nce experiments in a new vac- and Mrs. J. C. Brown and Mrs. which will be given a mass Lawrence Bird at Salt Branch and trial next summer. Money Mulberry.

Mrs. J. Ford Butman and Mrs. Hogan and Mrs. Tommie Patterson



Postal Receipts Merkel 20 Years Ago TAKEN FROM THE 1933 FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL

TO BUILD ROADS

Three road projects in precinct gauge of Volunter Weather No. 2, calling for a total expendi- server Grover Hale, brought the ture of \$39,670, have been approv- figure for the year 1933 to 14 1-8 ed by the state CWA board, an- inches. Normal is 20.22 inches. In nounced Commissioner A. J. Can- 1932 it reached over 47 inches. on. The projects cover 14 miles of roads in this precinct. A crew was started to work Wednesday morn- BUSINESSES CHANGE ing at Butman on graveling the school bus route and the other has moved its stock of goods from ham. work will start at an early date.

MRS. M. A. MOORE DIES

Mrs. Margaret Ann Moore, who observed her 96th birthday on Spring is to be the manager. Nov. 17, died Sunday night at the home of her son, W. C. Moore, five vived by three sons, W. C., and Jim Hulsey residence on Oak Street. and John, both of Colorado.

STOP KILLINGS, WARNS JUDGE Declaring "it is time the people of Taylor County did something to stop murder," Judge M. S. Long empaneled a grand jury Monday for a new term of the 42nd district hews, Sr., and L. L. Murray, are on the panel.

G. F. HAAS SUCCUMBS

G. F. Haas died at 3 a. m. Wedfire which broke out late Monday temporarily. along a gasoline line leading from a refinery near Longview. Funeral services were held from the home of his cousin, Ansell Coats, Thurs-Cemetery. He was 31 years old.

BAINFALL BELOW, NORMAL

The Jones Dry Goods Company Big Spring and will re-open here next week in the Jones Building which the company formerly oc- Watt L. Blair cupied. E. B. Wallace of Big

home of her son, W. C. Moore, five Abilene, announces that he will be miles north of Tye. Interment was here from 10:30 a. m. to 2 p. m. At Age of 76 in the Stith Cemtery. She is sur- each day, his office to be in the

court. Two Merkel men, R. H. Mat- delivery business to Marshall Stalls Starbuck Funeral Home was in by B. P. Middleton.

HOLD FAMILY REUNIONS

Family reunions were held by day. Interment was in Rose Hill the family of Mr. and Mrs. Sam

TAKEN FROM THE 1913 FILES OF THE MERKEL MAIL

Jne. B. Boden, who has been con- parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Evans.

isses Mary and Amy Gunn motored to Stith Sunday.

ed at Noodle Sunday, going and Coggin says "never, never again." She doesn't believe in joy rides

Messrs. Ruford and Dukes Mix- man Collins. ture Evans of Dallas were here during the holidays, visiting their | Mr. and Mrs. Gayland Lassiter of ents, Mr. and Mrs. Lassiter.

Dr. Joe Busby, chiropractor of Abilene, announces that he will be

Reid's Variety Store moved across the street to the building a heart attack. formerly occupied by W. J. Sheppard, the latter moving into part of the J. T. Dennis store, occupying the south half of same.

Marvin Smith sold his truck and while Spencer Bird has assumed charge of arrangements. the management of the Highway

Mayor W. M. Elliott has closed children were with them. One nesday from burns received in a his Busy Bee Cafe on Front Street daughter, Mrs. R. F. Whisenhunt,

Butman, Sr., the Sublett family, the Baker family, the family of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt, the Last week's rainfall, totalling family of Mrs. I. R. Trent.

This Happened in Merkel Forty Years Ago

ected with the Star Store for the st few years, has accepted a po-Miss Ada Vantreese left Wed-

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stevens and

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Coggins visitoming in their car, Mr. Coggin visiting their son, J. S. Cordill, at Blair, Kyle of Hurlwood and Tom of Fort Worth. The sisters are Mrs. Misses Ida Smith, Maude Skillens Hutchins and Mrs. Harry Riney. and Floy Leeman of Trent are vis-

Increase \$803.11

over 1952, reported Postmaster Wrenn Durham. It increased \$803. 11 as of the end of Dec. 26.

45 while those of 1952 were \$21,-

Dies at His Home

Watt L. Blair, 76, a resident of Chaney. Taylor County 50 years, died at his home here Monday after suffering

Funeral was held at 2:30 p. m. Wednesday in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. R. M. Mc-Ginnis of Comanche officiating, assisted by Rev. M. E. Randolph.

Mr. Blair and his wife observed Service Station, formerly operated their golden wedding anniversary in 1947, when all eight of their has since died.

Mrs. Blair died Oct. 10, 1952, from injuries suffered in an automobile accident in Santa Rosa,

California. Born Feb. 25, 1877, at Centre. Ala., Mr. Blair was marired March as ushers and delivery boys. 14, 1897, at Annison, Ala., to the former Ogis Gwin. The couple moved to Comanche in 1899 and to Merkel in 1904 making their home at first in what is now Blair com-

munity, which was named for him. In 1905 they moved to Mulberry Canyon and lived there until 1928 when they moved to Merkel.

Survivors include five sons, Doyle Blair of Santa Rosa, Calif., nesday for Mart to visit her sister, John, Hayden and O. C. Blair, all Mrs. E H. Scott. Mr. and Mrs. Homer E. Nesbit Antonio; two daughters, Mrs. Roy and baby Jack spent Saturday and H. Mathews of Pyote and Mrs. Sunday with Mrs. Nesbit's sister, Cramer Reynolds, 24 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren; three half brothers and three half Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Cordill are sisters. The brothers are Grover Jack Parker of Odessa, Mrs. Dewey

iting the latter's sister, Mrs. Twy- Lamar County came in last week to spend a portion of their honeymoon here with the former's par

STORES CLOSE JANUARY 1

be closed.

Says Postmaster Vrenn Durham. It increased \$803. 1 as of the end of Dec. 26. The 1933 receipts were \$21,851. Fills Church at 048.34, stated the Postmaster Dur-ham. Assembly of God

The crowd that came to the Christmas program Wednesday night of last week at the Assembly of God Church filled the auditorium and extra chairs had to be brought in. The evening was well received and was under the general direction of Dr. James H.

very well. serve Christ.

The pianist for both programs was Mrs. James H. Chaney. The Boy Scouts of Troop No. 19 acted

surprised their scoutmaster, Dr. beautifully decorated with the chaney, with a billfold.

Rev. Earp gave a case of jelly School secretary.

No injuries were suffered in these wrecks but all cars were the club promised to make the de- for 3° years.

lightful event an annual affair and Mr. Clark's father, H. D. Clark, arrives.'

Postal receipts in Merkel soared Xmas Program

The Junior Department program was in charge of Mrs. Tom Christ, Sunday School superintendent. The children sang and read poems, stressing the spiritual aspects of Christmas. The youngsters did

The Adult Group play went off very smoothly. They not only developed the spiritual atmosphere of Christmas but also the gay humor of the season was injected by a couple of "tramps," portrayed by Richard Chaney and Tom Christ. The stars of the play were Betty Price and Carrolton Earp, as brother and sister, seeking to

The church presented Mrs. H. S. their living room. The Boy Scouts Community Center. The hall was

of six assorted flavors to each of the church officials: Mr. and Mrs. at 2 p. m. many came as early as Tom Christ, Sunday School and assistant Sunday School superintendents; Mrs. John Wheeler, Junior Department superintendent; Rob- boy Christmas Ball." Mrs. E. L. Mail," remarked Mrs. Clark.

1:20 p. m. many came as early as selves and five for their children. Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five for their children. The hauled lumber from Fort Worth and Selves and five f dents; Mrs. John Wheeler, Junior Department superintendent; Robof Levelland, and Maj. Russell T.

Department superintendent; RobBlair, with the U. S. Army in San
ert Smith, president of the Young
ert Smi People; Dr. Chaney, scoutmaster, marked that she knew "Windy Mail, they or their family have and Mrs. Vayden Horton, Sunday Billy," caller in the story, quite been taking it. Before they were

ONE DAY, 2 WRECKS

Two car wrecks took place Monday of last week. At 12:15 noon at 4th and Oak the cars of audience joined in singing "Silent here. He is 63, she is 62. R. Irvin and Miss Jennie Smith Night." crashed. At 6:30 p. m. the autos Smith hit

Economic Picture For Merkel in 1954 Here it is Jan. 1, 1954, and the year ago, about 33 1-3 to 50 per payroll. The West Texas Utilities question arises: What are the pros- cent acros sthe board.

pects this year for Merkel and its;

surrounding area? First let us ask; How has the past year treated this area? Let us look first at the agricultural picture of 1953.

better than anyone anticipated or servative. could think it would be in the summer that we have to admit that we found them operating, sometimes all night, in Merkel, two of 1, four miles north of town. them, in Stith, Noodle and at

The stores of Merkel and the drouth, much cattle was marketed persons with an average payroll the 1954 volume to be good and bank will be closed all day Fri. due to necessity. In late August monthly of \$11,000. The Hicks one said that he thought it would day, New Year's Day. This is and September, when the rains Auto Supply has 11 employees be better even than 1953. one of the five days of the year came, stocker or replacement cat- with a payroll that helps the pic- As a measuring stick for the that all the stores have agreed to the were bought. Right now those ture. The Sadler Hospital has a real picture the bank has the figfolks are forced by necessity to large staff and a naturally large ures as to what is actually happensell because the wheat crop has been disappointing due to lack of

The price on livestock declined materially during the year and worth substantially less than a

NEW YEAR'S EVE SINGING

Final plans for the annual allnight singing New Year's Eve at the Pioneer Church are set, announced Tom Russom. Quartets from Coleman, Sylvester, Nolan and Sweetwater will be present. Doughnuts and coffee will be served at midnight. Everyone is welcome.

ALL BOYS ON XMAS

Hospital, named Monty Charles. Young People or Mr. Gulley. On Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 1937 a boy was born to Mr. and Mrs

pital, named Gary. Cullens now lives at Eagle Pass. and prayer.

the Fortnightly Study Club.

attractively arranged.

served to everyone.

The affair was held from 2 to 4

sang solos, trios and quartets. The

Golden Years' Party Brings

Golden Hours to Golden Hearts

In some instances Federal Crop Star Gas Company has employees Insurance has helped, especially here. those who had a virtual crop fail- All these organizations mean Drastic acreage reduction for that have money to spend in town, another year of wheat and cotton that brightens the economy. The crop, though not all that we is going to have a tendency to The pusinessmen of the town

hoped it would be, was so much make lending agencies more con- almost without exception are op-

The oil picture is good. Many new wells are being drilled as re- ported 1953 equally as good or betit was a pretty good crop after all. ported in last week's issue of The ter than 1952. The Christmas busi-Considering the commodity price Mail. Prospects for additional ness was exceptionally good. it was a profitable crop where drilling are bright. Numerous prorains came and produced any crop ducers were added to the produc- had been better, a whole lot betat all. Where the cotton gins in tion in this area. Equipment has ter in 1953 than in 1952. They 1952 were more or less idle in 1953 been moved in on the W. J. Lar- looked for 1954 to be good but that gent well, offset to Swafford No. the dollar volume might not be

Then there are the payrolls that ering in prices bolster the economy here. The Tay- The auto dealers reported 1953 In the summer, we are forced to lor Electric Coop and the Taylor as a very good year, better than admit, on account of the continued Refrigeration Coop employs 35 1952. The local dealers looked for

follow-up cains. Now they must leither sell or feed them. Party for Young People Is Set

Eve Party to be held by the Young People of the Church of Christ at the Community Center are about completed, announced Roy E. Gulley, minister. It will start at 8 p.

m. Thursday, Dec. 31. All young folks of Merkel and surrounding area are invited, 1953, a boy was born to Mr. and or not. Those who intend to come Mrs. Neely Tittle at the Sadler are asked to contact one of the

Games will be played. There will be group singing and special num-Cullen Tittle at the Sadler Hos- bers from different churches. At midnight the New Year will be The elder Tittles are brothers | brought in by Scripture reading he made any cotton at all."

has six employees and the Lone

more families in Merkel, families

timistic about the future. The dry goods merchants

Grocers asserted that business

as great on accounted of the low-

ing here. "The local bank deposits constitute a very dependable barometer as to the health of the local economy," remarked Booth Warren. president of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank. "They show as of Dec. 23, 1953, that there were \$3,463,660.29 on deposit while last year at the same there were \$3,329,623.60.

"Loans as of Dec. 23 were \$474,-609.74, showing material liquidation, which is a good sign of the economic condition.

The statement of the bank reflects \$1,320,000 cash and due from banks and in excess of \$2.000,000 in U. S. bonds and securities, including Commodity Credit Corporation Certificates of Interest and On Christmas Day, Dec. 25. whether they belong to the church Government Loar Cotton, as secondary reserve.

"Almost without exception farmers in this area are in better shape financially than they were a year ago," stated President Warren. "This is on account of the price of cotton and that he made a profit if

As far as the farmer is concerned he goes into 1954 economically firm but the future will depend upon adequate seasonal rainfall. The picture is one of conservative

optimism. The conclusion, as it was at the beginning of 1953 is that the farm-The Golden Years' Party brought to make the crowd bigger next er, the stockman, the oil man, the golden hours to the folks with year. The Golden Years' Party businessman and the public in gengolden light in their hair and eyes. brought back many happy mem- eral have a right to be hope It was all brought about by the ories to the golden hearts who at and optimistic about the Merkel

Golden Years' Party sponsored by tended the golden event. economy in 1954. Earp with a nice black dress and The affair was held from 2 to 4 gave the Earp family a desk for p. m. Saturday, Dec. 19, at the Hauls Lumber From Fort Worth To Build Home in Wild Country

ttractively arranged.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clark came came here from Red River County
in and renewed their subscriptions in 1878. There was nothing here the church officials: Mr. and Mrs. at 2 p. m. many came as early as . . . six of them . . . one for them- but wild country. The Elder Clark

> married their parents took it and Dr. James H. Chaney delighted ever since their marriage 44 years the golden year folks, with his ago they have continued to sub-

> jigging. Others on the program scribe for The Mail. They were both born and reared They were married on Dec. 15, Christmas cookies and candy 1909 by Rev. J. W. Saffle at the

J. V. West. Mr. and Mrs. Clark out The Mail; in fact, sor The party was so successful that have lived at their present home

Mr. and Mrs. Clark are a very congenial couple. She remarked, When Rev. Saffle marries you, you stay married. I remember something about the wedding that Rev. Saffle may have forgotten. I recall that he ate more pumpkin

Then she smiled sweetly, "You of Grady Knight and Kenneth canes with hot spiced tea were home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. know, we couldn't get along withwe need two as we both want to look at it at the same time when it



It's a real pleasure for all associated with this firm, to extend to our many, many friends -Our Best Wishes for Luck in '54!

BRAGG'S

UNIENNIS WANBOUU NIMTHON VIN W

Gerald West, son of Mrs. James parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Kail, West, is visiting his mother and at Odessa. sister, Gloria, over the holidays. He is a chemical engineer with the Naval Ordnance Test Station at China Lake, California.

Mrs. Jackie Pyle and children of Long Beach, Calif., Mr. and Mrs.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Y. Gaither had as their guests during the Christmas holidays their daughters, Mrs. E. D. McGehee, Mr. McGehee and children David and Trezlyn of Del Rio and Mrs. James Garner and Mr. Garner of Austin.

Mrs. Dick Musser and son Stevie D. Moore of Abilene. of Arlington, and Mrs. Grimes' brother, Davis Jones, and wife of

Tiede of Sweetwater and Mr. and Horace Boney and family. Mrs. Clovis Harrison of Monahans.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Wood and family of Edna are here over the holidays, visiting his parents, Mr. and W. O. Boney Mrs. N. E. Wood.

Larry spent the Christmas holi- aunt, Mrs. Goldia Malone. days in Dallas with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller spent wood with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Hooks.

the Christmas holidays with her



Let us give your hair a new lease on youth with
... A new Holiday Coiffure

NORMA'S

Operators - Mrs. Mark

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Elliott of Dalhart were here Saturday, visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Weldon McAninch.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Scroggins and Clarence Melton, Jr., of Hutchison, daughters of Odessa visited her Kans., and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Land mother, Mrs. J. E. Boaz, Sr., over and children of Snyder were home the holidays. Other visitors were for the holidays with their par- Mr. and Mrs. Harry Boaz of Seaents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mel- graves and Mrs. Lula Smith of Houston.

> Postmaster and Mrs. Wrenn Durham, Penny and Dana spent the Christmas holidays in Brownwood with her mother, Mrs. Earl Cle-

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Moore had Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Grimes had for Chirstmas dinner Mr. and Mrs. their daughter and family, Mr. and Joe Vanzant and Mr. and Mrs. D.

Mrs. R. T. Gray of Winters, Mr. Dallas over the Christmas holidays. and Mrs. Doyle Gray and daugh-Visitors in the home of Mr. and ter Dinah of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Mrs. L. J. Renfro over the holiday Clyde Sears, Jr., and daughter, were Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Renfro Carolyn of Wingate were Christof Odesssa, Mr. and Mrs. Gene mas Day visitors of Mr. and Mrs.

> Mr. and Mrs. Harold Boney and family of Colorado City were Sunday visitors in the home of Mrs.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Pillars of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Joyce and Hominy, Okla., are visitors of her

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hicks and family visited in Lubbock over the the Christmas holidays in Edge Christmas holidays with her mother, Mrs. J. R. Stratton and sisters, Mrs. Ronald Corn of Roswell, New Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Rust spent Mexico, Mrs. Hubert Knight of Amarillo and Mrs. Elbert Herbst of Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bullock spent the Chirstmas holidays with her sister, Mrs. S. A. Duckett, in

Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Carson had as guests for the Chirstmas holidays Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Carson and sons of La Junta, Colo., Dave Carson of Corpus Christi and the home folks. Rev. and Mrs. George Epperson and family spent Thursday and Friday of last week with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Lewis, in

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Pursley and family of Shreveport, La., spent the Chirstmas holidays with his brother Gordon and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jessop and son Jamie of Eastland visited Christmas with Grandma Bell and Burney Bell.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Griffin and Hubert-Mrs. Allen Agnew | family of Longview visited from Wednesday to Saturday with his brother Odis and family.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Stockbridge spent the Christmas holidays in Breckenridge with her mother, Mrs. J. M. Glenn.

1/c Robert W. Sledge spent the Christmas weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sledge. All went to Clyde to visit her sister, Mrs. W. E. Norwood, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Fox and son J. D. and family of Abilene went to Lubbock Thursday for the Christmas holiday with Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Walker and Satur-

day they visited Ollie's mother, Mrs. J. C. Fox in Amarillo. Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Miller of Mineral Wells was a Christmas visitor of his nephew, R. H. Miller and Mrs. Miller. Also other guests during the holiday were his brother, W. O. and wife of Dallas.



We extend sincere New Year Greetings to all the friends and patrons of this bank.

May the New Year multiply your blessings and, also, our opportunities for helpful service to

THE OLD RELIABLE

Farmers and Merchants National Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation



then top this, with our cordial wishes that each and every one of you will surely Prosperous New Year!

LINTZ'S

"Your Friendly Store" 3rd & Cypress, Abilene



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Gas and Electrical Appliances

and Butane Gasoline



Mina Winter Butane Gas Co.

ear



SADLER CLINIC HOSPITAL



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BADGER CHEVROLET Miller Implement Co.

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N & N Appliance **SERVICE**



SPECIALIZING

Leslie's Fried Chicken (REGISTERED)

As 1954 comes marching in, let us hope that it will form a parade of happy days, and be a banner year for you in every way!

GRIF BARNETT CONOCO AGENT Phone 224

see the Old Year go, Happy New Year to you!

hello. 1954

MERKEL TELEPHONE CO.

TOMMY ODUM, Manager



for a happy and prosperous 1954...as it unfolds, may your fortune expand and your troubles float away!

O-K GROCERY & MARKET



The Nook Cafe



Max Mellinger



Higgins Blacksmith and Welding Shop



May we join in your New Year celebration this year, with a crowd of good wishes including health, happiness, prosperity, and peacel

ABILENE SAVINGS ASSOCIATION 1155 NORTH THIRD ABILENE, TEXAS



Dudley Electric

Quannah Dudley

John Oliver, and Patsy.

"Here Come Girls" Stars Bob Hope At Queen Theatre

bright and lavish song-an-dance | Hewitt. film that charmingly flows along with a gag-a-minute pace that plays Sunday and Monday at the Queen Theatre.

The Edmund Hartmann-Hal- Kanter script places Bob Hope as an awkward chorus boy with a genius for messing up production numbers. After being literally "thrown out" of show business he is suddenly catapulted into the lead of a

The idea behind the insane move being to set him us as a clay pig- Leigh cavorting in high and handcon for "Jack the Slasher," a craz- some spirit, this riot of rhythm ed killer in love with the star of the show, Arlene Dahl. The killre everything that a topflight musical Force Base and Col. and Mrs. Galveston. has sworn to assassinate her leading man, who, up till the advent of bumbling Bob, had been Tony Mar-

An outbreak of infectious bronchitis in the chick flock usually means that from 10 to 20 percent BUMPER GATE of the chicks will be lost. The egg | A time and labor saver is the ly and prevention is more effective Ask for plan 206-Bumper Gates.— than known controls. — A. & M. A. & M.

HOSPITAL NOTES

Admissions to the Sadler Hospital the past week were: As medical patients - Lee Ann Holloway, Marvin Holloway, Tom | Largent, Bill Brazzil, Mrs. J. R.

For surgery - Edna Marie Rus-Arlene Dahl and Rosemary Cloonsell and Craig Litton, tonsillectday were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Toombs and Mr.
day were his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Toombs and Mr.
ey, "Here Come the Girls" is a omy, Mrs. E. M. Tarpley, Mrs. Roy
L. F. Green, of Dallas and other
Toombs is stationed at Ft. Bliss in

Riot of Rhythm **And Romance** At Queen Theatre

"Walking My Baby Back Home" comes Tuesday, Wednesday and of Rotan Thursday at the Queen Theatre. With Donald O'Connor and Janet showpiece needs.

The very engaging romance beand ex-WAC songbird Janet Christmas holidays. Leigh is a highly plausible story line on which to build a veritable bonanza of a dozen bouncy song and dance productions

production drop in a laying flock bumper gate. Plans for Constructis rapid and income losses are ing such equipment may be obtain- S. Navy Training Center of San and Mrs. R. B. Vancil. A delicious heavy. The disease spreads rapid- ed from your local county agent.

Abilene were Christmas Day visi- spent the Christmas holidays with tors of their daughter, Mrs. Floyd Green, and family. Visitors Sun-

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Honeycutt and family spent the Christmas holidays with his sister, Mrs. J. W. Short, and family in Frost.

his mother, Mrs. Faye Purser, of Trent and Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gruben,

Frank H. Mathews of College Sta-

children and grandchildren and two weeks his brother. Jim McAninch.

North Merkel spent Christmas about 35.

with their parents, Mr. and Mrs.

gether, December 27, to report back to their respective stations.

Mrs. Harry M. Ellis of Cleveland,

Tenn., spent the Christmas holi-

days with her son, Coach Tommy

Mrs. Johnny Armour and chil-

dren of Plainview are visiting her

sister, Mrs. Leon Walker and fam-

Mary Jo Garland, head of the ex

ed her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe

Mr. and Mrs. Waynye Tipton

and sons, Sammy and Gary, of

Samnorwood are holiday visitors

in the home of his parents, Mr. and

Visitors over the week with Mr.

and Mrs. L. Miller and Mrs. J.

Dean were Mrs. Lydia Hayes of

Anson, Mrs. Harrison of California,

A. R. Preslar and daughter Joy of Eastland, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Dean

Ellis, and family.

holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Nelson of ohn Oliver, and family recently. Sgt. and Mrs. Leon Toombs, Jr., their parents and grandparents,

Mrs. H. A. Randall of Snyder, Mr. Toombs is stationed at Ft. Bliss in

Mrs. Dixie Scott had Christmas dinner with her son Percy and family of Trent. This is the first time in 25 years that she had eaten Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Purser and Christmas dinner away from home family spent Christmas day with as all her children could not get together at her home this time.

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Paine had all of their children home Christmas tension service at Kerrville, visitday. They were: Wilma Paine, Mr. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith and and Mrs. Tom Hutcheson and son Garland, during the Christmas family spent the Christmas holi- Steve of Houston, Mr. and Mrs. days with her mother in Uvalde. | Willard Paine and children of Sny-Mr. and Mrs. Roy H. Mathews der and Mrs. Willard Paine's parand romance has an abundance of and sons Roy Kent of Pyote Air ents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. West, of

Mr. and Mrs. David Reidenbach Mrs. Lee Tipton. tion visited their parents, Mr. and and boys of Charleston, South Cartween ex-GI bandleader O'Connor Mrs. R. H. Mathews over the olina, and Mr. and Mrs. Galen Metz of San Antonio visited their par-Mr. and Mrs. W. T. McAninch ents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Reidenhad around thirty guests for bach, during the holidays. The Christmas dinner including their David Reidenbach's were here for

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Love of Trent Mr. and Mrs. John D. Oliver and had all their children and grandtwin daughters of Midland and children together Sunday for a Jimmy Wayne Oliver, S. R., of U. family reunion in the home of Mr. Diego, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. dinner of turkey and all the trim-Jack Whisenhunt and children of mings was served buffet style to

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Castles spent, of Lauri and Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher son, and Mrs. Elmer Patterson's the Christmas holiday with Mr. Hooper and son. and Mrs. J. O. Castles of Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wallace and of Maryneal. on Mikey and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Visiting Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Yan-Patterson, Jr., and son Jerry dell during the Christmas holidays were their sons in the service, Pfc. Benton Yandell, Fort Bliss, and Clinton Yandell, M. E. 3-C, Centra, Calif. The boys left

Wayne, all of Arlington, spent the the Christmas holidays with their

Polyandry is the form of marparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Patter- than one husband

parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Roane

riage in which a

For The Best In

Body and Paint Auto Work And Expert Electric Polishing JOHN BROWN IN CHARGE

FOR

24-Hour Wrecker Service NEW EQUIPMENT

PHONE 159

Palmer Motor Co.

BRAGG'S PRE-INVENTORY SALE

One Group LADIES'

COATS & SUITS 1-3 OFF

Reg. \$39.75 to \$79.95 Now \$26.75 to \$49.95

One Group

SKIRTS & BLOUSES **SWEATERS** 1-3 OFF

> Boys' Corduroy O'Alls Sport Coats - Twill Western Pants & One Lot

> > SHIRTS Age 1 to 7 1-3 OFF

Gilbrae Combcord CORDUROY

Velverized Finish CLOSEOUT \$1.00 yd.

COTTON PRINTS 4 yds. ---- \$1.00

SURPRISE TABLE

Here is your chance to get pecial values at a big saving. Each is priced at

only \$1.00

One Group BAGS Leather - Suede CLOSEOUT

Fieldcrest Electric
BLANKETS

LADIES' HATS 1-2 PRICE

\$29.95

LADIES'

DRESS SHOES

Reg.	Sale Price
\$8.95	\$5.95
\$6.95	\$4.95
\$5.95	

Men's Western

SHIRTS \$7.95 -- - value \$5.95

\$6.95 -- Value \$5.45 \$5.95 - - Value \$4.95 \$4.95 - - Value \$3.95

MEN'S

TOPCOATS \$49.75 -- for \$29.95 \$37.50 -- for \$2.4 75 \$29.75 -- for \$19.95

SPORT SHIRTS

\$4.95 --- for \$2.99 \$3.95 ---- for \$2,69 \$2.95 --- for \$2.45 \$1.95 --- for \$1.59

SPORT SHIRTS \$5.95 --- go at \$3.95 MEN'S

SPORT COATS

\$27.50 - - for \$19.95 \$17.50 - - for \$12.95

One Lot Men's

SPORT SHIRTS Values to \$3.95

at \$2.69

MEN'S

SPORT SHIRTS

\$5.95 --- for \$4.69 \$4.95 ---- for \$3.69

MEN'S

SPORT JACKETS

\$17.50 --- for \$12.95 \$12.95 --- for \$9 95 \$9.95 ---- for \$8.45

\$8.50 and \$7.95

for \$6.95 Men's Bersolina

HATS

\$20 Val. go at \$14.95 \$15 Val. go at \$11.95

\$45.00 Values for

GalaFoods	To see	1111	TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT
for Mos			
NewYears		THE PARTY OF THE P	
SUN SPUN DIE CHEDDIEC	Gration	CARNATION MILE	0 120 3A

PIE CHEKKIES 2 - 303 Cans

2 tall cans 27c TUNA C

COCONUT 4 oz. box 17c POWDERED bottle 15c SUGAR

can 39c

PEACHES

RUSSELLS

29c

SUN SPUN CATSUP

OUR VALUE ELBERTA

2-303 Cans

DIAMOND

1 lb. box 15c

TIDE APPLE BUTTER 28 oz. Jar

GIANT SIZE

69c

TOMATOES

2 No. 1 CANS

19c

SAUSAGE

·2 cans 33c

2 lbs. 45c

OLEO

OUR VALUE SALMON TALL CAN 39c

LEMONS lb. 14c

ORANGES 5 lb. bag 29c

ONIONS lb. 5c SPUDS lb. 50

TOMATOES ctn. 17c | HAMBURGER

DENISON FRYERS lb. 53c, LONGHORN CHEESE lb. 49c ROAST lb. 39c LOIN or T-BONE STEAK lb. 39c PRESH GROUND lb. 35c

ALS FOR THURS: & SAT., DEC. 31 and Jan. 2nd.

Merkel, Towns

BARGAINS

IN USED CARS AND TRUCKS

CHEVROLET 1/2-TON, HAS RADIO, HEATER, RUNS AND DRIVES LIKE NEW —

only \$745

CHEVROLET COUPE, HAS HEATER, GOOD TIRES AND WE JUST FINISHED A VALVE JOB. LOCAL OWNER

FORD, RADIO, HEATER, WHITE TIRES, REAR-ED AND RAISED IN TYE, TEXAS. BETTER HURRY!

KAISER 4-DOOR, HAS RADIO, HEATER, SEAT COVERS, NEW WHITE TIRES, RUNS AND DRIVES LIKE NEW. DRIVE IT AND YOU WILL BUY IT.

FORD, HAS RADIO, HEATER AND THE MOTOR HAS JUST BEEN OVERHAULED. HOW CHEAP

CAN THEY GET? ONLY-

PONTIAC, HAS RADIO, HEATER, HYDROMA-TIC. IF YOU WANT A GOOD CAR WORTH THE MONEY, HERE IT IS. WON'T LAST LNG.

LINCOLN, HAS RADIO, HEATER, FINGER TIP

CHEVROLET, POWERGLIDE, 4-DOOR, WITH HEAT AND MUSIC, AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS, ONLY—

\$965

PLYMOUTH CRANBROOK WITH THE BEST HEATER. RUNS AND DRIVES LIKE NEW. ONE OWNER.

CHEVROLET 4-DOOR, HAS HEATER, TAILOR-MADE SEAT COVERS. EASY EYE GLASS, U. S. ROYAL MASTER TIRES, DRIVE IT AND YOU WILL BUY IT. LIKE NEW.

GMC 2-TON, HAS 8:25 TIRES ALL AROUND, 2-SPEED AXLE, LOTS OF GOOD TRANSPORTA-TION LEFT, BARGAIN.

LINCOLN, HAS FOUR GOOD TIRES AND A 12-CYLINDER MOTOR. WOULD TRADE FOR A CALF TO PUT IN THE LOCKER

FORD 4-TON, THIS PICK-UP HAS BEEN DRIV-EN ON THE HIGHWAY MOST OF ITS LIFE. THE BODY IS SOLID AS A ROCK, BARGAIN -

FORD 2-DOOR, HAS RADIO AND HEATER WOULD MAKE A REAL WORK CAR. WON'T LAST LONG.

S HELD LAST SATURDAY

neld last Saturday night at the 7 with Mrs. Dee Grimes as hostess. nome of Mrs. Dent Gibson. About 35 were present.

All the annuals were looked over and a Mexican supper followed Then they all sat around and sang and talked about school days. Everyone enjoyed the evening and set Dec. 27, 1954, as the next reunion date.

MRS. LIGE GAMBLE HOSTESS TO GARDEN CLUB

Twenty-four members attended he Garden Club meeting held in the home of Mrs. Lige Gamble on

Roll call was answered by "What s Here."

Mrs. B. H. Jones spoke on "Let's o Shopping for Chrysanthemums. Ars. Lucy Ford gave the garden

Music, Comedy, Fun On January 5 For **March of Dimes**

The Western Parson and the Cir cuit Riders from KRBC-TV in Abilene are scheduled for an appearance in Merkel for the benefit of attending the autumn quarter at the March of Dimes on the night of January 5 at the school auditorım, at 8 p. m.

The show will feature music, Eleven Baskets omedy and fun for all ages . . starring Orville Sanders (the Wesern Parson) and his Circuit Rid-

In connection with this westernstyle program there will be outstanding amateurs of this area parners as selected by the audience street for the donations. will be guests on the Western Parson-TV Show on Saturday evening the brotherhood.

January 9. Admission prices for the West- BUILDING PLANS ern Parson Show are: Adults 60 n the March of Dimes.

Doan and Mrs. Lige Gamble made my illness. The reunion of the senior Mer- an arrangement using drift wood. tel High School class of 1953 was The next meeting will be Jan. you.

BIG CHRISTMAS DINNER

ENJOYED IN PALMER HOME Day, bringing with them a big bar- of you. becued turkey with all the trim-mings to visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Palmer. They all took their dinners on to the R. S. Palm- Income Tax Laws

day. Mrs. Devaney is the daughter of the R. S. Palmers. Visiting in To Reclaim Losses our garden club should mean to the afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. this community." Mrs. Joe Hartley Joe Bell and children, Mrs. Clona spoke on "Garden Roundup Time McClure and George Smith, all of Abilene, and Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Smith of Hawley.

> LT. ZEDIC G. JOHNSON RECEIVES DISCHARGE

FROM U.S. ARMY has ben serving with the Army seven months, arrived home in time for the Christmas holidays. He got his discharge December 31.

AT OHIO STATE

Are Distributed To Needy on Xmas

amateurs but entries must be turn- the Baptist Brotherhood on Christnoon Tuesday, January 5. The everyone and the response was Internal Revenue Service."

first, second and third place win-splendid. Boxes were placed on the Mr. Bates explained for splendid. Boxes were placed on the

Alvin Wozencraft is president of

Farm families desiring building cents and children under 12, 30 and equipment plans should ask ents. Tickets may be purchased their local county extension agents from the Merkel Drug, any Boy for information on this phase of Scout or from the elementary farm and home management. The school office. All profit from this agents have a catalogue of the without cost. - A. & M.

PRE-INVENTORY

1953 LEONARD HOME-FREEZERS

LFR-63 6.0 Cubic Feet ---- \$269.95 \$199.95

LFR-93 9.4 Cubic Feet --- \$379.95 \$279.95

LFR-133S 12.9 Cubic Feet -- \$399.95 \$299.95

1953 DETROIT JEWEL GAS RANGE

8240U Apartment 4-Burner - - \$119.50 \$99.50

GAS HEATERS

Armstrong 20,000 BTU 5 Radiant \$23.95 \$19.95

HEATING PADS & ELECTRIC BLANKETS

- Century Electric Blanket - - - \$34.95 \$24.95

G-E Heating Pads ---- \$5.95 \$4-29 G-E Heating Pads ---- \$7.95 \$5-95

1-4 OFF ON ALL TOYS

AUTHORIZED DEALER

PHONE 228 - MERKEL

THANK YOU CARD We wish to express our sincere appreciation to everyone who has been so helpful with your many

May the Lord bless each one of

thoughtful deeds and gifts during

Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Satterwhite. WORD OF GRATITUDE

We wish to express our appreciation to all who helped in any way A big Christmas dinner was en- by expressions of sympathy, sendjoyed in the R. S. Palmer home. ing cards, food and flowers and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Frick and chil- your presence in the time of our dren of Odessa came Christmas recent sorrow. May God bless each

The Zollinger Family

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Devaney also brought dinner and spent the

Texas farmers who suffered net operating loss in 1953 should investigate provisions of federal income tax laws that make alowances for unprofitable farm opera-

Farmers showing a net loss this year can use the loss to offset income in future years, said C. H. Lt. Zedic G. Johnson, son of Bates, extension farm management Mr. and Mrs. Z. L. Johnson, who specialist, Also, Mr. Bates explainspecialist, Also, Mr. Bates explained, any farmer who paid federal Engineers in Korea for the past taxes on 1952 income and who operated at a loss during 1953 is eligble to claim refund.

This is done by refiguring tax on 1952 income taking into account this year's deficit. If all 1953 defi-Frances M. Higgins Bennett is ciencies are not absorbed, the remaining loss may be carried forward for five years consecutively commencing with 1954.

> Whether a farm showed a net loss or gain during the year is determined by the figure derived on tax schedule 1040F, page one, line

"The computation and claiming of a farm loss is not as easy as it first appears," said the specialist. Eleven baskets of food, cloth- first appears," said the specialist ticipating. There is no entry fee for ing and toys were distributed by "Farmers desiring to claim deficits should consult a competant aced in to Principal C. A. Farley by mas Day. Donations were made by countant or a representative of the

Mr. Bates explained farmers should claim the refund when submitting this year's tax return, using form 843. Otherwise, they lose the chances to file losses for the 1952 period when income was subjected to tax.

WINTER COVER CROP

Regular Price - Sale Price

Regular Price - Sale Price

the winter months. - A. & M.

MAISISTOPHOPALED MSIENCETHIN

LODGE CALLS

NOTICE MASONS Stated meeting of Merkel lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M., Saturday, January 16, at 7:30 p. m. All members are urged to attend. Visiting brethren cordially invited.

A. B. Parham, W. M. C. B. Rust, Ser'y

BUS SCHEDULE

ł	Eastbond	Westbound
1	2:20 a. m.	12:10 a. m
١	3:36 a. m.	12:15 a. m
ì	5:22 a. m.	1:21 a. m
1	6:32 a. m.	2:39 a. m
1	6:47 a. m.	5:54 a. m
	11:40 a. m.	7:52 a. m
1	11:45 a. m.	9:09 a. m
1	2:37 p. m.	11:40 a. m
	3:01 p. m.	1:01 p. m
	5:00 p. m.	1:25 p. m
	7:57 p. m.	4:19 p. m
	11:52 p. m.	8:17 p. m
	9:01 p. m.	4:57 p. m
		9:07 p. m
d		

LEGAL NOTICE 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, January 12th, 1954, at 7:30 o'clock P. M., for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Respectfully, BOOTH WARREN President. Adv. - Dec. 25, Jan. 1, 8.

Stirring Sea Drama In "Botany Bay" At Queen Theatre

An adventure-filled tale of ro mance and intrigue on the high seas blossoms forth in Paramount's 'Botany Bay" the brand new Technicolor film which opens Friday and Saturday at the Queen Theatre. Starring Alan Ladd, James There is still time to plant a Mason and Patricia Medina with winter cover crop. For the sake of Sir Cedric Hardwicke, "Botany program will go for Merkel's quota many plans which are available the soil give it protection during Bay" is one of the most stirring sea drama ever unfolded on the



... if only

for THEIR sakes

... learn how to protect yourself from death from cancer. They need you!

And for your sake and theirs you must keep on remembering that the best cancer "insurance" is:

FIRST ... to make a habit of periodic health check-ups no matter how well you may feel, always including a thorough examination of the skin, mouth, lungs and rectum and (for women) the breasts and generative tract. SECOND ... to learn the seven

danger signals that may mean cancer, and go straight to the doctor at the first sign of any one of them-(1) Any sore that does not heal (2) A lump or thickening, in the breast or elsewhere (3) Unusual bleeding or discharge (4) Any change in a wart or mole (5) Persistent indigestion or difficulty in swallowing (6) Persistent hoarseness or cough (7) Any change in normal bowel

For other life saving facts about cancer, phone the American Cancer Society office nearest you, or address your letter to "Cancer"-in care of your local Post Office.

> American Cancer

ADVERTISING RATES Classified per word ..., 2c (Minimum 40c)

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions and Obituaries per word ... 3c

WANTED

WANTED — High Line or Hybrid Eggs. See Hearn's Hatchery, 23: Edwards. 1142p			
WANTED — Will pound for clean cot	tton rags, no		
buttons or zippers. I rolet Co.	tf36c.		

WANTED-We need several good electric refrigerators. Will trade television sets, refrigerators or electric stoves. Badger Chevrolet

WANTED-We need several nice radio phonograph combinations. Will trade television sets and carry the balance monthly. Badger Chevrolet Co.

FOR PENT

FOR RENT - 2-room apartment with private bath. North 5th El Paso St., No. 513. Mrs. Johnny Warren.

FOR RENT - 4-room house with bath. Modern 41/2 miles north of town. See Joe Douglas. 3t41c. FOR RENT - 4-room house, edge of town. Dowdy & Toombs tf41c FOR RENT - Furnished modern

2-room apartment. Private entrance. South exposur 212 Cherry or see Andy Shou.

FUR SALE

FOR SALE-A good milk cow and alfalfa hay. See Carl Carey, Rt. 2 Merkel. FOR SALE - 7-room house with 2

complete kitchens, bath and 6 lots. Good well of water and electric pump. S. D. Campbell, 810 3t40p.

FOR SALE -Gas Heater. See Ray Wilson at Campbell Grocery.

FOR SALE - Re-possessed 1954 Model Automatic Washer, big discount. Palmer Motor Co. tf39c FOR SALE -Re-possessed Electric Home Clothes Drier, used 3 months. One-half price. Palmer Motor Co.

FOR SALE - Small Air Compressor. \$65. Palmer Motor Com-FOR SALE - Late Model Bendix Automatic Washer, \$75. Palmer

FOR SALE - Special Late Model used 16-ft. freezer, 3-year guarantee, for limited time. only \$229.50. Palmer Motor Co. tf39c. ORDER NOW BARGAIN PRICES The Merkel Mail and the Abilene Reporter or Fort Worth Star-

Telegram at The Merkel Mail FOR SALE — 1950 Model Cushman Motor Scooter. Recently overhauled, good condition, \$125. Palmer Motor Co. tf32e NEW SHIPMENT - Cash Regis

ter Paper and Adding Machine Paper and many other stationary items. See The Merkel mail.

FOR SALE — Business dot Well located. Cyrus Pee, agent tf26c. FOR SALE - Bike, 26-inch, boys, good, used. Palmer Motor Co.

ET your typewriter ribbons all makes, also adding machine and cash register paper at the Mer-

SAVE MONEY by ordering your magazines from The Merkel

FOR ARTISTIC wedding an-nouncement and other fine printing see The Merkel Mail. All printing done in our own OR your Stationary and other supplies see The Merkel Maile

MISCELLANDOUS 2"

FOR CEMETERY Cornersed M. A. Noster, 1404 Herring Dr. Catimates gladly given. tf17e WATER Well drilling and Surface pipe set. L. A. Coats, Phone 287. drilling needs. B. T. (Tye) Sublett Phone 166. Residence 108 705 Oak St., Merkel

WATER WELL drilling and surface pipe set. Higgins & Malora Box 267, Merkel. Phone 26 for MONUMENTS, see J. T (Tom) Coats, Phone 131. P. O

have to SELL by advertising in

this poper. BUSTER HESTER, agent for Abr lene Reporter-News and Dallas

Morning News Phone 268W.



Merkel Farm

Machinery Co.



from our entire staff!

THE MERKEL MAIL

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HY WHITE, Editor and Publisher
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TELEPHONE No. 61

SUBSCRIPTION RATES and Jones Counties one, per year

Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may occur in the columns of THE MERKEI MAW, will be gladly corrected upor being called to the attention of the additor.

The publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors or any other unintentional errors that may occur other than to correct in the next is sue after it is brought to our attention All advertising orders are accepted on this basis only.



EDITORIAL

NEW YEAR 1954

Today is January 1, 1954. The New Year is here and with it is a He knows that they understand new hope, a hope that the world one thing and one thing only, the situation will be much better than Ann's Beauty Shop

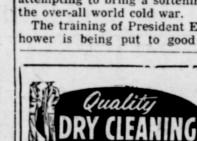
definite signs, that things may be

At the beginning of 1953 we men were there fighting and dying two-sided. Both sides will lose. Lang of Abilene and Alberta with other warriors of the United Nations. And we were continuing the fighting while trying at the same time not to spread the war beyond the Korean borders.

Since then, what has happened? The Korean war has stopped. be seen this year. The United Nations however is determined to end it.

When President Eisenhower took over the helm of state he said that he would do everything possible to end the conflict in Korea. All his actions have been bent

The President is going even attempting to bring a softening in to pool atomic material for the



EXPERT CLEANING. From cleaning to spotting to pressing -your clothes get personal ser-

.PHONE 27 MACK'S



We're "Popping Up" with our wishes for YOUR HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Farmers Coop Gin **BURTON-LINGO** Morris B. Smith, Manager **COMPANY**



Merkel, Texas

MERKEL COOP. **STATION**

For 1954

Best Wishes

May the 12 months to come bring you 365 days of complete loy

Toombs Insurance and Real Estate

L. T. Toombs Billy Joe Toombs



Bowen's Service Station

COSDEN PRODUCTS



MR. AND MRS. H. B. CHAMBLESS

... and grandchild, Sara Hunter

Couple Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary

He has been a soldier. He knows that the best defense is a good offense. He has dealt with Russia. power of the stronger weapon.

Speaking as a soldier he said at This hope is not a matter of the U. N. that no one can win in home with Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Bodwishful thinking. There are signs, an atomic war or a hydrogen war. en who had been there two weeks. Devastation on one side will bring And civilization itself may be lost. Walker.

An atomic war is not a war of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Ashley will be among the casualties. Not and Mrs. W. H. Laney. Whether it is ended is a matter to only factories producing war materials will be wiped out but induswill also be destroyed.

> An atomic war is a war with no punches pulled. This the President told the UN

which also includes Russia. Speaking as a statesman, Presiin that direction and he is making dent Eisenhower told the world what could be done for the betterment of mankind with atomic mafurther: He is not only trying to terial. He told the world what the end the Korean conflict he is also United States was willing to do. good of everyone, for peace pur-The training of President Eisen- poses, for the healing of the hower is being put to good use. wounds of the world. He asked the world to go along with him, he asked Russia to participate in this

humane enterprise. At this writing Russia has indicated that she wants to talk the matter over. Though the bid to speak may be just a matter of talking the offer to death, at least, as many have said, it is "hopeful." John Foster Dulles, our Secretary of State, is no amateur in world affairs. He realizes that the

time for action among the European powers to defend themselves has come. They must unite or they will perish. He has bluntly told them that we do not intend to "commit suicide

with them." What the result of his blunt statement will be is yet to be By not letting down our guard and with the peaceful purposes of President developing into action we may look for this year of 1954 to be a more peaceful year than

"WHITE-ICISM"

That's ALL - and the Sage of Figfield adds that a new year is not only a new chance, it is a challenge.

TO PREVENT CANNIBALISM Debeaking is the most satisfac tory method of preventing cannibalism among chickens. The job should be done several weeks before pullets commence to lay.

A. & M.

ONE ON SAFETY Every citizen of the state should include in their 1954 resolutions at least one on safety. Until safety becomes the number one business of everyone, accidents will contin-

ue to take an increasing toll.

Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Morris and family in Wichita Falls. They returned

Visitors in the home of Mr. and catastrophe on the other side. Mrs. A. A. Reagan Sunday were Atomic war, hydrogen war, is not Mr. and Mrs. Tura James and famwere still at war with Korea. Our a one-sided affair. It is definitely ily of El Paso, Mr. and Mrs. Bertis

> soldiers. It is a war of peoples. No and Ollie McMillon of Wills one is safe in an atomic war. Not Point were here over the weekend, only the warrior but the civilian visiting Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Walters

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Patterson and daughters spent Christmas tries making peaceful products Day in San Angelo with her sister, Mrs. Norris Lineweaver, and fam-

> Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sego had as Christmas holiday visitors their children, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Seago

ANDY SHOUSE -Real Estate-115 KENT ST.



Let Us Sell Your Farm for CASH L. T. TOOMBS Real Estate

1101 N. FRONT PHONE 380

We Repair All Kinds of ELECTRICAL **APPLIANCES** N&N Appliance

Service

109 KENT PHONE 148

HAPPY NEW YEARS 10 Percent DISCOUNT

TO EACH NEW CUSTOMER ON

\$10 PURCHASE OR MORE

NOOK GROCERY

MR. AND MRS. W. D. WEBBER

and children of Midland, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Seago and children of Big Spring and Mr. and Mrs. Zed Bright and children of Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Garner of Amarillo and Wayne McLean of T.C.U. of Fort Worth spent the holidays with Mrs. J. A. Milliken.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bingham spent the Christmas holidays in Fort Stockton, visiting his nephew, T. W. Neill, Jr., and family.

HAPPY SNAPPY LAUNDRY

Help Your Self OWNED BY G. A. FISHER 309 RUNNELS, PHONE 116 SEE US FOR

RADIO and TV SERVICE

Badger Chevrolet

1 COUNTER OF **JEWELRY**

½ PRICE

Including

All Costume Jewelry A Few Watches And other desirable items



USED CAR CLEARANCE

New 1954 Fords will be here soon, so we're going to sell out of used cars to make room for trade-ins on the new cars.

1951 CHEVROLET BELAIR

Radio, Heater, White Tires, Power Glide, SALE PRICE WAS \$995

1951 FORD TUDOR V-8 Radio, Heater, Overdrive

\$995 \$1195

1950 FORD SIX, TUDOR

Radio, Heater, Black

\$ 895 \$695

1949 Studebaker Starlight Coupe Radio, Heater, Overdrive, good tires \$ 795 \$595

1947 OLDSMOBILE 4 DOOR 8

Heater, Radio, a good clean car

\$ 595 \$450 1946 FORD V-8 TUDOR

Radio, Heater, good transportation

at a small price. \$ 495

PICK - UPS!

1950 GMC 1/2-TON PICK-UP 5 New Tires - Clean

\$595

1946 FORD V-8 PICKUP

Has a good rebuilt Motor This one will sell soon

\$275

\$295

Any automobile older than 1946 that we have in stock will sell this week for only ----- \$99

Paul Honeycutt Motors

MEATY SUBJECT

A gossiper talks about others, a conversationalist about you.

"There are three kinds of marbore about himself, and a brilliant riages- trial, companionate and fight-to-the-finish."

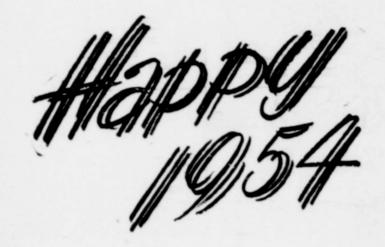
\$50.00 FOR YOUR OLD RADIO

ON ANY CONSOLE TELEVISION AND ANTENNA SOLD IN JANUARY

ADMIRAL - CROSLEY - EMERSON - ZENITH STROMBERG - CARLSON — WESTINGHOUSE

Remember, you deal with us on the purchase of your set - the service and the terms. We have a full time television technician.

BADGER CHEVROLET COMPANY



YOU'VE BEEN WONDERFUL!

AND WE WANT YOU TO KNOW

THAT WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE

YOUR BUSINESS.

THE BETTER BOOT SHOP

LEDDY BOOT SHOP

"THE HOUSE OF QUALITY BRANDS AND COURTEOUS SERVICE"

450 Pine St., Abilene



MACK EPLEN'S

DRIVE-IN RESTAURANT CAFETERIA DRAKE HOTEL COFFEE SHOP "WHERE ABILENE DINES"

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Higgins and daughter Bettie Lou of Corpus Christi are spending the week with her mother, Mrs. J. M

Charles Higgins was in San Antonio for Chirstmas and returned home Saturday with his son James

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Ferrier, Jr. and Roslyn and George Ronnie of Fort Worth were here for the Pete Rutledge. Christmas weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Ferrier. Sr. Also visiting them were his day on business. brother George and wife of Fort Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Walton had E. O. Carson.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Stevens and family of San Angelo, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Stevens of Abilene, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry McGehee of Lubbock.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Bailey of Dallas spent Christmas with his mother, Mrs. R. O. Bailey, his sister, Mrs. Andy Shouse, and family

Charles Church of Dublin spent the Christmas holidays with his sister, Mrs. E. B. Wallace, and family. All went to Abilene over the weekend to be with her brother sonny and family in Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Dudley had all their family for dinner Christmas, including some from out of town. They were: Mr. and Mrs. M C. Church of Plainview, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Dudley of Ballinger.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Raines and family of Wichita Falls visited over the weekend with his sister, Mrs. Jim Kuykendall, and Mr Kuykendall,

Mr. and Mrs. Forrest G. Bar nett and family of McCamey were here for the Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs Harry Barnett. Mr. and Mrs. Cadmus Brown and

family of Jayton spent the week end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Randal and

daughter Penny of Vernon were here during Christmas, visiting Mrs. Randals mother, Mrs. R. B. Johnson, and sister, Mrs. John R

Those visiting in the home of Commissioner and Mrs. Rufe Tittle were: Mr. and Mrs. Orion Tittle and family, Mr. and Mrs. Cullen Tittle and boys from Eagle Pass, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Tittle and Becky of Mason.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sheppard and sons Rodney and Billy of Big Spring visited Christmas Day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hale of Dal-las and Wilbur Wilson of Austin spent the holidays with their mother, Mrs. E. L. Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dismuke and daughter Debra Sue of Ira visited over the Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob McDonald and his parents in Sweetwater.

Visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hamm during the holidays were: Mr. and Mrs. Guy P. Darsey and Jane of Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Byers Petty and Bill of Abilene; Mrs. Tom Adams and Angela of Lawton, Okla., Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hill, Gary and David Bruce of Grand Prairie. Visitors on Saturday were: Sie Hamm of Colorado City, Alan Hamm of Austin and Mrs. Bim Carlock and Tommy of Colorado City.

Visiting in the home of Mrs. P. J. Sharp during the Christmas holidays were: Jimmy Bourn of Fort Worth, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Pat Nash of Abilene Mr. and Mrs. Arl Sharp and daughter Margaret and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sharp of El

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Gregory and their five youngest children visit ed his brother Charles and family in Hobbs, New Mexico over the Christmas holiday.

Miss Mary Collins spent the Christmas holidays with her brother and family, the J. M. Collinses of Plainview. She also visited Mr and Mrs. Elmo Collins of Lubbock

LAUNDRY Wet Wash Rough Dry Pick Up And Delivery

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PHONE 231 O. D. WATSON, Owner Deluxe Laundry and another brother, Q. A. Collins Christmas Day visitors their child-and other relatives and friends in ren, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Pratt and

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Johnson and visiting his mother, Mrs. J. T. Johnson, and aunt, Miss Delia Cross of Hobbs, New Mexico. Kuykendall.

over the weekend with her parents Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Campbell. City Marshall and Mrs. A. D. Ful-

mesa spent the Christmas holidays daughter Evelyn of Midland and with her parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle Miller were Mertzon. in Fort Worth Monday and Tues-

Mr. and Mrs. Coleman O'Brien the Christmas holidays Mr. and and Jr., and Susie attended a famand family spent Christmas Day Mrs. E. L. Turner, Jr., and family ily reunion Christmas Day, held at with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. and Mrs. Ike Turner and the home of Mrs. Hadley Reede

from Houston and Lamesa were Christmas with their parents, Mr.

visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll visited their sister, Mrs. W. W. Toombs.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Cross had as ert Sunday.

family of Detroit, Texas, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Cross and Mike, Mr. Evelyn and Billy of Texarkana are and Mrs. Earl Cross and Kay of Abilene and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Lay and Mr. and Mrs. Henry McGuire children of Fort Worth spent Christmas Day with her parents,

Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Adcock had as Christmas holiday guests Mr. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Moore of La- and Mrs. Betterton, son Joe and on Monday and Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Adcock and family of

> Mrs. Artie Jarrell of Abilene spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs.

as visitors from Fort Worth over Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Pinckley, Sr. and family of Friena.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Dowdy had Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Alexander Mrs. Billy Joe Toombs over the Christmas dinner with his mother and children of Borger returned holiday were Mr. and Mrs. Calvin and sister in Abilene. His brothers home Monday after spending

and Mrs. B. H. Riney. Mr. and Mrs. James Dickey Den- Mr. and Mrs. Grady Bishop, Mr. nison and family of Houston are and Mrs. Lewis Spratlen and son W. L. Johnson and family of Wein-

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Mr., Mrs. J. F. Cox Celebrate 60th Wedding Year

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Cox celebrat ed their 60th wedding anniversary with a family reunion and open house on Sunday, December 20, at the Community Center

Mr. and Mrs. Cox were married by a Methodist minister on Dec. 23, 1893, in Corywell County at the home of Mrs. Cox's sister. Mrs. Cox was the former Mollie Ellen

They moved from Waco to Hawley and later went into the Rober son Pasture, which is now Golan Community in Jones County. where they lived for 36 years Here they were active workers in the Methodist Church and Mr. Cox was a trustee of the Golan School for many years.

After retiring Mr. and Mrs. Cox moved to Merkel.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox have 10 children, 33 grandchildren and 45 great grandchildren. Children and their families present for the anniversary were:

Chester Cox, Mrs. Gertie Mitch-Mrs. Jewel Clark of South Burling- comed. ton, Vt., was not present.

At noon a turkey dinner was served and in the afternoon punch and cake were served to about 175 persons. Christmas decorations were used in the building.

HAS MAJOR SURGERY Mrs. Leon Walker underwent major surgery at the Sadler Hos-

pital December 28. INJURED IN WRECK

James Earl Stévens suffered face injuries when his car hit a bridge nine miles north and west of here Christmas Eve. He went to sleep and lost control of the car, stated City Marshal A. D. Fulton. He is in the Sadler Hospital. The car was badly damag-

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in basic training at Ft. Bliss

Free Xmas Show Packs All Seats At Queen Theatre

The annual free Christmas show ell, Mrs. J. P. Ford of Azle, Mrs. at the Queen Theatre last week Connie Stockton of Corpus Christi, on Thursday morning drew a Mrs. Efford Brown of Trent, Mrs. packed house. The show was for Manson James of Midkiff, Pratt children but the grown-ups who ac-Cox of McCaulley. One daughter, companied them were also wel-

> A few were on hand before the show started at 10:30 a. m. There were one hour and 30 minutes of comedies and cartoons. N. T. Hodge, the genial host, even show- they begin by the 1954 deadline in ed some of the films over again order to continue afterwards. as the children sat and waited for

They all enjoyed the free show immensely and in their hearts voted Mr. Hodge a "big thank you."

AT GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Elliott went Saturday to Cisco and attended the golden wedding of her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Shelton. There were 30 relatives present at the turkey dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Shelton lived here 40 years ago. They were married in Merkel.

HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

Among the students who are home from college for the holidays are: Bertha Patterson, Carolyn and Marilyn Teaff of McMurry: Jerry Gibson and Bruce Knight of Texas Tech: Eddie Breux and Derrel Kelso McLean of Texas Christian.

D. R. THOMPSON IS ILL D. R. Thompson of Lubbock is ill. He is 97 years old and the father of Mrs. Ollie Fox, who saw him

QUEEN THEATRE

MOVIES ARE BELLERTHAN EVER!

BOX OFFICE, OPENING TIME 6:30

COME EARLY - STAY LATE **NEW YEAR'S EVE MIDNIGHT SHOW**

THURSDAY 11:15

"BANDWAGON"

FRED ASTAIRE - CYD CHARISSE

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2

16,000 miles of Sea Terror as a prison ship heads for "BOTANY BAY"

ALAN LADD — JAMES MASON

Colored by TECHNICOLOR

Also Color Cartoon, Comedy and Serial

STARTS 6:45

JE THURSDAY NIGHT

Coach Ellis' **Badgers Beat** Winters 52 to 32

Merkel Badgers defeated Winters cagers 52 to 32 on Dec. 22 here. At the end of the first quarter the score stood 13 to 7, at the half 28 to 14 and at the end of the third quarter 42 to 21. The Badgers always in the lead.

Robert McLeod was high man with 17 points, Jerry Cunningham 4 and Dink Whisehunt 11.

The "B" team was defeated by Winter 24 to 41. Terry O'Brien and Kermit Rutledge wer high with 7 points each

Albany plays here on Jan. 5 Roscoe comes here on the 8th. Roscoe has a good team and is a favorite for district championship. This will be a most important

LAST ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR POST-KOREA VETS

The spring school terms, starting early in 1954, mark the last enrollment opportunity under the Korean GI Bill for thousands of post-Korea veterans, Robert W. Sisson, manager of the eVterans Administration in Lubbeck an-

The reason, VA explained, is that the law's cut-off date of Aug. 20, 1954, (exactly eight months Sisson, manager of the Veterans' separated from service before Aug. 20, 1952. If they want GI training,

RONNIE FREEMAN ENTERS STEER IN FAT STOCK SHOW

Ronnie Freeman of Trent has entered an Aberdeen-Angus steer in the junior division of the 1954 Houston Fat Stock Show, to be held February 3 through 14.

CANCEL LOG PARTY

to be held New Year's Eve at the Congressman Llyd M. Bentsen, Jr., Noodle Hereford Ranch, owned of McAllen, and Houston Mayor by Mr. and Mrs. W. S. J. Brown, Roy Hofheinz, all of whom have has been cancelled this year due been mentioned as candidates for to a number of the folks who at- governor. tend are ill or out of town. This is the first time in 20 years that the group of 11 couples has not Young Democrats during January.



By VERN SANFORD

Texas Press Association

An air of expectancy is beginning to form as the time for decisions in the governor's race draw near. Gov. Allan Shivers declared he would announce his future political plans "some time after the first

of the year," but he added, can't say how long after." Gov. Shivers said he knew nothing of the plans of House Speaker Reuben Senterfitt, Attorney Gen-

JAMES H. CHANEY

Chiropractor

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PHONE 18

eral John Ben Shepperd, Agricul-The Yule Log Party that was ture Commissioner John C. White.

A series of local organization cause it was "his symphony and he meetings will be held by Texas wanted it to play" and, that when she removed the kettle from the They will elect delegates to a state stove, he struck her. convention to be held in Mineral

Wells February 26-27. Gov. Shivers may soon face the estion of whether to call a specisession of the Legislature to hunting on the opening day of the gain tackle the problem of raising State's season* and never shot a

An allowable reduction of 370,million in taxes.

Concerning the outlook for 1954, Commisisoner Olin Culberson asked refiners to help avoid a "worse situation" in gasoline than already

now. He asked refiners to take the was to be auctioned off. lead in reducing the surplus.

Only 15 per cent of Texas motorists have complied with the state automobile inspection law. Just three and a half months remain ternal clothing, jewelry and other Department of Public Safety anounced.

February draft calls for Texans far has come collect." will be the smallest in 18 months, according to State Selective Service officials.



We DO appreciate your business BOX 251

Joan Brown, 21, was granted a divorce in a Chicago court after she testified that her husband, Clem, 27, kept a whistling tea kettle on the fire continuously be-

Pa., who for 27 years went deer deer, stayed home on opening day this year, spotted a five-point buck 000 barrels daily in five months from her back porch and bagged has cost the state more than \$7 it. Her husband, Steve, who went deep in the forest with five companions, got none.

Mrs. Kate Schlossberg, 65, filed \$15,000 suit against three charitable organizations, charging that a He said that gasoline stocks may horse stepped on her in a Chicago be "dangerously high" by April hotel during a bazaar sponsored unless corrective steps are taken by the groups at which the horse

In Phoneix, Ariz., Mrs. John G Henry explained why she hasn't appreciated the wedding cake, mabefore the April 15 deadline, the presents which she has received from an anonymous sender: "Gifts are always nice, but everything so

> Millie Hudson, a 35-year-old ondoner, called off her "offer'



With State Health Permit

o be a "husband sitter" for wiv who want a night out after she had a number of telephone calls from bachelors who "got the wrong idea altogether."

In Cape Town, Keith Canning announced that he will be married next Saturday to Miss Gaynor Matherapike, whom he met last October when Gaynor saw him practicing cricket pitching, asked him if she could bat a few and Mrs. Mary Vacula, of Deer Lake, Canning "blowled easy balls to her until she asked for a faster one . and I sent down a really fast one," which hit her in the face and broke her jaw.

> Chuck may be just a parret but he's like many a human- he can't wait for that morning cup of cof-

> The Nathan Rowells of Jackson ville, Tenn., own Chuck, a "double yellow-head" parrot. Every morning Chuck wings into the room of Mrs. Rowell's mother, Mrs. Will Long, walks the floor and fusses until she gets up. Then he goes to the back of a breakfast chair to wait for that coffee. He with cream and lots of sugar

> Chuck will sleep only in Inc room of the Rowells' 15-year-old son, Bill, but Mrs. Long is the only person who can touch him without getting nipped.

Among Chuck's food favorites are bread, nuts, soft drinks, sunflower seeds and loops from a shag

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WE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, JANUARY 1st.

SUGAR

Domino 10 pounds 89c

Hi Note

SNOWDRIFT

3 lb. can 79c

PEACHES Del Monte No. 21/2 can 29c

Kimbell RSP

CHERRIES

No. 2 can 23c

TUNA can 19c

Swift

lb. 79c

PREM can 39c

Pet

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COFFEE Maxwell House

PPLES

CELERY

GRAPEFRUIT'

MILK

2 cans 25c

2 bottles 33c

2 cans 25c 2 cans 35c 2 cans 39c PEAS

RED DELICIOUS lb. 19c

NO. 1 IDAHO lb. 4c stalk 15c

SEEDLESS WHITE

lb 7c

2 lb. bag 35c KIMBELL'S FRESH NO. 303 2 cans 29c NO. 1 CLEAR —BACON

lb. 49c FRYERS

PURE PORK SAUSAGE lb. 59c

CHUCK ROAST lb. 39c

STEAK

lb. 49c WE GIVE

lb. 43c

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Colored by TECHNICOLOR
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FEATURES SUNDAY 2:50 — 4:41
FEATURES MONDAY 7:20 — 9:11 TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 6, 7 Gee, but it's Great! The last happy word in miracle, Musical Entertainment! VALKING MY BABY BACK HOME"

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and the big man of Laughter, BUDDY HACKETT
Also Color Cartoon and Short
FEATURE 7:01 — 9:02