

Taylor County's  
Only Legal  
Weekly  
Newspaper



15¢

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THANKSGIVING DAY

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## Between you

and me

By SARAH ECKOLS



In this week's column I'd like to talk about women. We all know some. I, for one, am glad and proud to be one.

One of my favorite commentators, Earl Nightingale, once stated on his program, "Our Changing World," the reasons a woman buys. According to Nightingale: "There is usually only one reason why a man buys, but with a woman, so they say, it might be one of eight reasons: (1) because her husband says she can't have it; (2) it will make her look thin; (3) it comes from Paris; (4) her neighbors can't afford it; (5) nobody has one; (6) everybody has one; (7) it's different; or (8) 'because.'"

Of course, we all know that a woman really has three ages, the one she feels, the one shown on her birth certificate and the one she tells people.

Some time ago at a banquet I attended, the speaker told his audience his views on after-dinner speeches and women's skirts. "A woman's skirt," he said, "should be like a speech; long enough to cover the subject but short enough to be interesting."

Then there are the types of love shown by women. A woman should be the type of person whom she can love herself. I feel strongly that no person, man or woman, can love others if first there is no self love. There is the special love of a woman for her man, Elizabeth Barrett Browning expressed her love for her Robert through poetry. Some women say I love you by cooking special meals. Some women express love through jealousy of their man's affections. Others are patient and tenderly understanding.

Women more easily and readily express love of friends than does the male. Women seem to be able to share their feelings and problems with other women. Most women have that special friend with whom they share even the most personal and intimate parts of their lives.

Womanhood and motherhood are practically inseparable. A woman has instinctively the desire and knowledge to be a mother. I have yet to find the woman who doesn't become tender and wistful at the sight of a small baby or a child who is sick or hurt. Even those of us who are not with children daily find them hard to resist. I think Mother Nature knew what she was doing when she made women instead of men mothers.

There are two other types of love I think are very important to a woman. These are love of family and love of God. Usually a woman's weak spot is her family. She may not agree with them all of the time and they may at times make her angry, but most women feel strongly about the family unit and family ties.

Finally we must talk about the love of God. But then isn't love in itself, no matter how it is expressed, love of God. For if one loves the creations of the Deity, in effect he loves the Deity.

In summation, I'd again like to quote Earl Nightingale. He says "Not being able to understand women wouldn't be so bad if they didn't understand men. Actually, the so-called weaker sex is the stronger sex because of the weakness of the stronger sex for the weaker sex."

Now that Thanksgiving is here, to me the holidays have begun. I find it difficult, if not impossible, to begin thinking of Christmas the day after Halloween. I think the commercialization of Christmas and even the discussion of it so early is distasteful. I (along with some mothers of school aged children, I'm sure) think two or three weeks of Christmas is quite enough. I could even tolerate, with little ill temper, a month of Christmas lights and decorated trees and streets. I by no means consider myself to be a Scrooge. I do, however, find two months of it a little much to handle.

To Pat Castille and her family, we extend our sincere and heartfelt condolence at this time. The tragedy of fire that struck Castille Hardware Monday morning, we know, will dampen the holiday spirit around the Castille home. At this time friends mean so much and those of us who know this family might make things a bit brighter by letting them know we are here if needed.



PRESENTS CHECK TO TRI CITY BASEBALL ASSN.-Pam Bishop presents a check for \$35 to J. A. Sadler representing Tri-City Baseball Association in the absence of J. C. Carson. The money was raised on behalf of the baseball park by Alpha Nu Nu Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. Mrs. Bishop is treasurer of the Alpha Nu Nu chapter.

## Natural Gas Rates To Increase

Lone Star Gas Company has established new industrial gas rate schedules for all its standard industrial contracts in the state of Texas, with the exception of Dallas and Irving. The new rates will apply to approximately 3,400 Texas industrial customers that presently receive the Company's services. Lone Star anticipates the new rates to increase revenues by \$9.9 million annually when fully effective based upon sales volumes to these customers during the twelve months ended September 30, 1975.

Filings have been made with the cities of Dallas and Irving and upon approval by their respective city councils, new industrial rates will be implemented in those cities.

The new industrial gas rates will apply immediately to new contracts and will be effective after January 1, 1976, on the anniversary dates of existing contracts which will expire throughout the calendar year.

## PTO Meeting December 6

The Merkel Parents Teacher Organization will meet December 6 in the high school auditorium at 7:30 p.m. All members and interested persons are urged to attend this meeting.

## Sam Swann Killed In Accident Near Wichita Falls

An 83-year-old Merkel man, Samuel Dean (Sam) Swann, was killed in a two-car collision at 10:20 a.m. Saturday three miles west of Wichita Falls at the intersection of Farm 369 and Loop 370.

The Department of Public Safety reported that Swann was going north of Farm 369 when his car was in collision with a car driven by Tyra Wilkinson of Iowa Park, which was east-bound on Loop 370.

Swann was pronounced dead at the scene. The woman was listed in good condition Saturday night at Wichita Falls General Hospital with a head injury.

Mr. Swann was well-known in Texas and the nation as a Polled Hereford breeder. Services were at 2 p.m. Tuesday in First Baptist Church of Merkel. Burial

## Blaze Claims Castille Hardware In Early Morning Hours Monday

The Merkel Time Capsule was filled and sealed Saturday afternoon at ceremonies which featured presentations by Don

Hensley, president of Farmers and Merchants National Bank and the Merkel Industrial Foundation; "Ben Franklin," alias

Bob Fine of Dallas; John Curtis, owner of KWFA radio station; Mayor Lou David Allen; John Hammond, owner

of the Ben Franklin Store in front of which the capsule will lie for the next 100 years; and Sarah Eckols, editor of The Merkel Mail.

Though it is unlikely they will return for the opening of the capsule 100 years from now, a crowd of Merkelites viewed the presentations and the planting of the capsule itself by John Hammond along with newsmen from Abilene. The capsule is a fiberglass cylinder 12' in diameter and 20 inches in length. It was sealed after items were placed in it by citizens of Merkel, placed into a metal container already in the ground and then covered with cement. It is said to be airtight and indestructible by the elements of time.

Included in the capsule are personal letters, a letter from President Gerald Ford, a letter from Senator Lloyd Bentsen, a proclamation from Mayor Lou David Allen, a letter from the editor of The Merkel Mail, Sarah Eckols to the editor of The Merkel Mail, items from various clubs and organizations of Merkel such as the Lions, Fortnightly Study Club, Alpha Nu Nu Sorority and the Cemetery Association; a contribution from the Abilene Bicentennial Committee and a copy of The Merkel Mail.

In his letter President Ford commended citizens for par-

ticipation in the nation's Bicentennial celebration. Senator Bentsen expressed his confidence in America as a nation and stated that we are now living in "a time of severe economic problems."

Letters from the President of The United States, U. S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen and several clubs and individuals were presented by Sarah Eckols. "Ben Franklin" led the pledge to the U. S. Flag and Rev. Curtis led the audience in prayer.

A plaque will be placed at the location of the Merkel Time Capsule to remind residents of its existence for generations to come. Though it has been the project of John Hammond, he told the crowd that the original idea belonged to Bill Button, manager of West Texas Utilities of Merkel. Hammond expressed his thanks to those who have made contributions to the Merkel Time Capsule, the media and Sarah Eckols for her help with the project and friends who have encouraged him to create the Merkel Time Capsule.

The dedication of the Merkel Time Capsule was held in conjunction with the grand opening of the Ben Franklin Store. Ribbon cutting ceremonies for the new 10,000 square foot business were held Thursday morning, November 20.



100 YEARS AND COUNTING - John Hammond, owner of the new Ben Franklin store in Merkel, buries the Merkel Time Capsule at dedication ceremonies Saturday afternoon, November 22. The Merkel Time Capsule is to remain buried under the flag pole in front of Hammond's store until it is opened 100 years from now.

## Merkel Time Capsule Sealed At Ben Franklin Store Saturday

An early morning blaze claimed the contents of Castille Hardware in downtown Merkel Monday, November 24. The blaze was discovered by the Jerry Byrds when a noise awoke them around 5 a.m. According to Byrd the noise sounded like something inside the store exploded. Mrs. Byrd called the owner of the business, Mrs. Pat Castille who in turn called the Merkel Fire Department. Merkel Fire Chief, Waymon Adcock and 15 Merkel volunteer firemen were on the scene in a matter of minutes and had the fire extinguished by 7 a.m. "Those three or four minutes it took the fire department to get there seemed like hours," stated Byrd Monday night.

Little, if anything, can be salvaged from the burned structure according to Fire Chief Adcock. Primary estimation of damage is in the \$45,000 range, however a definite dollar figure won't be known until investigation is complete. Investigators include three from Abilene Fire Department, the local force and a man from Austin it was reported Monday afternoon.

Castille Hardware Store has been the home of Lone Star Gas collections for some time and more recently has also been a collection station for TV Cable of Merkel. As the news of the tragedy spread through the town, John Hammond came forward to extend a helping hand. He gave Mrs. Castille the key to his recently vacated building at 129 Edwards Street for her use as a temporary headquarters. As of late Monday afternoon, Mrs. Castille had set up a temporary desk in the form of a card table and will begin business of taking Lone Star Gas and TV cable payments once again Monday-

Friday 9 a.m. til 5 p.m. as of December 1.

As is common with small towns, neighbors who heard the news of the Castille plight began offers of help. Lambda Beta, Alpha Nu Nu, personal friends, other business people and neighbors pitched in to begin the reconstruction process.

Mr. Castille is presently on a TDY mission in England with the United States Air Force. It was reported that Mrs. Castille did com-

municate with him Monday morning by telephone and attempts are being made to bring him home as soon as possible. However, it is not known at this time whether he will be back before the originally planned date of January 8.

Immediate plans for the Castille family, which includes five of seven children at home, are uncertain. Mrs. Castille did state that they want to continue as business people in Merkel and do not

plan "to drop out of the active business community."

Records for the gas and TV cable companies were saved though they were slightly damaged. The composed Mrs. Castille dove into work like a trooper Monday morning following the disaster to which she was rudely awakened before dawn. She seemed brightly optimistic as she talked to reporters about rebuilding or finding a new location at which to begin anew.



NO TRESPASSING-So order the signs on the doors of Castille Hardware Store in downtown Merkel. Castille Hardware burned in the early morning hours of Monday. Temporary headquarters for Pat Castille, owner of the store, are at the old Ben Franklin building at 129 Edwards Street.

## What Thanks Giving Means

By BONNIE ENGLISH

Today I'm taking a long walk,  
So the Lord and I can have a talk.  
I've been going about my busy days,  
Doing a hundred things in a hundred ways.  
There's always so many things to do  
So little time, seems I never get through.  
But today is Thanksgiving,  
And I'm taking this walk  
To slow down my pace and have this talk.  
"So thank you Lord, for this beautiful day,  
For the earth, the sun,  
And for just passing our way."



LEARNING FIRST AID-Tommy Cutler (center) a Member Service Advisor for Taylor Electric Cooperative recently presented a program on first aid and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to the sixth grade classes of Merkel Junior High School. Also pictured are Sharyl Lucky (right) and Kim Smith.

A weekly public service feature from  
the Texas Department of Health Resources

# Accent on Health

Fratris L. Duff, M.D., Director

No one would purposely buy a toy which could injure the child for whom they plan happiness, but thousands of Texans this Christmas may be doing this unknowingly.

If the wrong toy falls into the hands of a child, this toy could produce a serious injury, says the Texas Department of Health Resources. When buying toys this year, think toy safety, advises Dr. Fratris L. Duff, director of the Texas Department of Health Resources.

A few months, or a year or two, in a child's development can make quite a difference in that child's ability to cope with toys. "That's the reason manufacturers are required to place precautionary labeling on toys," says Harold Ray, director of the Department's Division of Product Safety.

"Consumers should look for the warning label on a toy which states that the toy isn't recommended for a child under a certain age," Ray said. "If such a label warns that the toy is too advanced for the child in mind, the purchaser should heed the warning and find one to fit the child."

Ray noted that a testing process has been used in determining the right toy for the right child. During the past year the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission issued final regulations for use and abuse testing of toys. While not banning toys, the regulations provide tests for impact, bite, flexure, torque, tension and compression—all of which simulate normal and reasonably foreseeable use, damage and abuse of toys, games and other articles by children at play. These testing levels were used reflecting the ages of children for whom the toys are intended. These age levels are 18 months and less,

over 18 months but not over 36 months, and over 36 months but not over eight years of age.

What can you as an individual do to prevent this mismatch of toy and child?

First, be aware of how the toy is built, says Ray. Toy buyers in the family should reject those with obvious hazards—sharp points; rough or unfinished surfaces; small, detachable parts that may be swallowed; brittle plastic or glass that breaks easily and leaves sharp edges that may cut; poorly constructed toys with sharp spikes or pins that are exposed when the toy is pulled apart by a curious child; toys with triggers, gears, or other parts activated by a spring or motor that may pinch fingers or catch hair.

Most of these types of toys have been eliminated through Consumer Product Safety Commission standards. But, some 5,000 new toys enter the marketplace each year. The holiday season will find more than 150,000 different kinds of toys for sale in an estimated one million retail outlets. Despite the efforts of toy manufacturers, retailers, state and federal inspectors and different governmental agencies, it is impossible to inspect every toy.

It is possible, however, for parents, relatives, friends and older sisters and brothers to check every new toy they buy and every old toy around the house for possible hazards.

There are some specific things you can do in thinking toy safety. These suggestions include:

\*Buy toys that suit the

skills and abilities of the child. Avoid toys that are too complex for young children. No small child should be subjected to electrical toys or those which can produce burning temperatures.

\*Look for labels that give age recommendations or safety information such as "Not Recommended for Children Under Three" or "Non-Toxic" on toys likely to end up in little mouths.

\*Watch out for toys that have sharp edges, small parts or sharp points.

\*Avoid toys that produce extremely loud noises that can damage hearing, as well as propelled objects that can injure eyes.

\*Explain to the child how to use toys properly and safely.

\*Always try to supervise young children while they play.

\*Insist that children put their toys away so they do not get broken, and so that no one trips or falls on them.

\*Examine toys periodically. Repair broken toys and discard toys that cannot be fixed.

Keep these toy tips in mind before, during and after purchase of toys, says the Department of Health Resources, and you'll feel more confident that the toys you buy will bring nothing but pleasure to their young owners.

People once grew leeks on their roofs to ward off lightning and similar evils which could cause leaks in their roofs.



By Jack House, The Director  
Teacher's Scotch Information Centre

## THE LAND O' CAKES

Robert Burns called Scotland, among other things, "the Land o' Cakes." He knew what he was talking about, because Scottish housewives have been renowned for their baking for centuries. Today Scottish shortbread goes in special tins all over the world, but there are a number of baking goodies which can be eaten only in Scotland, fresh from the oven.

A famous Scottish housewife-baker was Mrs. Macnab, the wife of a farmer who lived near the village of Ballater in the Highlands in the time of Queen Victoria. She was such a famous baker that King Frederick of Prussia and other noble guests at Balmoral Castle went from the Queen's Highland home to the modest farm in order to have tea with Mrs. Macnab and taste her scones.

A scone (pronounced "sawn" in Scotland) is baked from flour, baking soda, salt, and milk of water. It is eaten with fresh butter and/or marmalade, though home-made jam is also acceptable.

# THANKSGIVING

It's A Time Of Reflection

For the persevering spirit of our forefathers... who founded us a nation... let's stop and pay homage. For the abundance of freedom and our right to happiness... let's show gratitude with continued allegiance.

**A Peaceful Holiday All!**

The following merchants in Trent invite you to join in giving thanks for all we have in America

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| DUNN TEXACO          | STAR HARDWARE     |
| DUBOSE SHAMROCK      | CARRIKER FOOD     |
| HOME STATE BANK      | CAL-TEX FEED YARD |
| CARL EDWARDS GROCERY |                   |

## Lambda Beta Holds Pledge Rituals

The Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held their Pledge Ritual Ceremony at the Wyatt's Cafeteria in Abilene on November 10, 1975. Everyone enjoyed supper together then the Pledge Ritual Ceremony was conducted

## Basketball Schedule

\* Denotes district game.

|            |                         |
|------------|-------------------------|
| Nov. 18    | Trent (There)           |
| Nov. 24    | Clyde (Here)            |
| Nov. 25    | Trent (Here)            |
| Nov. 28-29 | Abilene High Tournament |
| Dec. 2     | Winters (Here)          |
| Dec. 4-6   | Jim Ned Tournament      |
| *Dec. 9    | Albany (There)          |
| Dec. 12    | Winters (There)         |
| *Dec. 16   | Jim Ned (There)         |
| *Dec. 18   | Rotan (Here)            |
| Dec. 22-23 | HSU Tournament          |
| Jan. 2     | Anson (There)           |
| *Jan. 6    | Roscoe (There)          |
| *Jan. 9    | Baird (Here)            |
| *Jan. 13   | Wylie (Here)            |
| *Jan. 16   | Albany (Here)           |
| *Jan. 20   | Jim Ned (Here)          |
| *Jan. 23   | Rotan (There)           |
| *Jan. 27   | Anson (Here)            |
| *Jan. 30   | Roscoe (Here)           |
| *Feb. 3    | Baird (There)           |
| *Feb. 6    | Wylie (There)           |

**Card Of Thanks**

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY to thank each and every one for their kind expression of sympathy in the loss of our Mother.

The family of Cassie Berry

**WATCH FOR ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW IN MARCH**

DAY TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE

**When in Abilene... Shop River Oaks**

So. 14th & Willis

33 merchants welcome the opportunity to serve your every shopping need!

**TWO DAYS A WEEK FOR MERKEL CUSTOMERS OF ABILENE SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, THE ABILENE SAVINGS MOBILE FACILITY WILL BE IN MERKEL ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS FROM 9:00 TO 2:00 EACH WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 18th.**

**Abilene Savings**

**Trent Flea Market**

At **Dunn Texaco**

NOVEMBER 29th & 30th FROM 8 A.M. TILL 6 P.M.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND MANY OTHER GOODIES!

SOME NEW, SOME USED! SOME OLD, SOME MOLD!

COME ONE COME ALL!

**GM FALL HARVEST VALUES**

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p><b>GM Tune-up Special</b><br/>\$26.91 plus tax<br/>For Most V-8 Cars</p> <p>Get ready for winter. Have us install fresh GM-specified spark plugs, ignition points and condenser. We'll also set engine dwell, and timing and adjust your carburetor, all for this special low price.</p> | <p><b>Free Exhaust System Check</b></p> <p>Let us check your car's exhaust system this week while you can get our special low price on a Genuine GM Muffler with a tough, aluminum-coated, carbon-steel jacket to fight corrosion.</p> | <p><b>Free GM Cooling System Check</b></p> <p>Make sure your cooling system's ready for winter. We'll check coolant level, anti-freeze protection, drive belts, hoses and clamps. Come in this week for all of our Fall Harvest of Value Specials.</p> |
|---|--|--|

Keep That Great GM Feeling With Genuine GM Parts

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**DANCE**

SATURDAY NIGHT NOVEMBER 22 FROM 9 TIL 1

**BILLY KILPATRICK & THE COUNTRY EXPRESS**

MEMBERS & GUEST ARE INVITED

**ATTENTION FARMERS**

Cal-Tex Will Pay You Top Dollar For Your Milo -- Plus A **FREE** Trip for Two to Las Vegas or National Rodeo Finals

Be Sure to Register And Get A Ticket When You Bring in Your Milo

Contest Now in Progress. For More Information, contact Ed Sandusky at Ed's Feed and Seed in Merkel, 928-5019 or R.L. Bland at Cal-Tex in Trent, 862-2951.

—Previous Winners—  
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Toliver  
Mr. & Mrs. Orval Ely

**CAL-TEX FEED YARD**  
Trent, Texas



HOLIDAY BREAD FOR SALE-The Lambda Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi will hold their annual Holiday Bread sale Saturday November 22 in front of West Texas Utilities Building. They will offer yeast breads, coffee cakes and tea breads all homemade. Their turkey drawing will be at 12 noon and the winner need not be present to win. Pictured are (left to right) Glenda Teaff, Betty Allday (ways and means chairman) and Pat Castille.

**Words on Water**  
TEXAS WATER QUALITY BOARD  
AUSTIN TEXAS 78711

**ON PICKING UP AND PUTTING DOWN**

Someone has said that we are not a nation of consumers but a nation of users. We use then discard what is left over. This brings up a question of increasing concern. Cities and towns are beginning to run out of room for landfill sites for disposal of their gar-

bage. Even more complex is the problem of industrial wastes, some of which can be toxic, and nearly all of which present disposal problems.

These are commonly referred to as "solid wastes," though, in fact, they can include materials which may be solid, semi-solid, and often-times a form of liquid. Responsibility for seeing that industrial wastes are disposed of properly rests with the Texas Water Quality Board, though in many cases industries dispose of their wastes on their own property. So long as they do it properly,

without a threat to water quality, there is no problem.

The big problem arises in trying to find disposal sites for other industrial wastes which may include a variety of materials-chemicals, paint solvents, resins, and other by-products of industrial production.

Even though we live in a very large state, few such disposal sites have been established because of the many factors which must be considered. First, there must be no danger of water pollution, and that includes surface waters in our lakes.

**STATE CAPITAL Highlights AND Sidelights**  
by Lyndell Williams  
TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

AUSTIN — State government ended its 1975 fiscal year with a record cash surplus of more than \$1.4 billion, but if the legislature continues its spending ways it may not last long.

This was the good news and the bad news of Comptroller Bob Bullock last week as he released his annual financial report for the fiscal year which closed August 31.

"We're in the best shape ever for now," said Bullock. "But our analysis consistently shows that if spending increases as usual in 1977, we will face a tax bill in the \$1 billion range."

The Legislature this year passed a \$12.1 billion biennial appropriations bill.

Gov. Dolph Briscoe and others have predicted that, with reasonable economies and continuing high yield from sales and oil and gas taxes, a major state tax bill can be avoided in 1977 as in the last two legislatures.

Bullock said the state had \$6.9 billion in the last fiscal year to meet an expenditure level of \$5.5 billion.

Revenues, the Comptroller said, increased 13 percent over 1974 income — reaching \$5.7 billion.

"The real story," said Bullock, "is that revenue increased because of inflationary prices while the tax base remained the same. Spending jumped 21 percent over the previous year. If legislators want to increase spending another 25 to 30 percent in the next biennium, they had better have that billion dollar tax bill ready."

**GOP Moving**

Texas Republicans outlined major plans for 1976 campaign activities at a meeting here recently.

The State GOP Executive Committee approved Chairman Ray Hutchison's proposal to establish a powerful new executive cam-

aign committee and central political fund.

Special recruiting committees were also appointed to seek out qualified congressional and legislative candidates.

Republicans decided to conduct their presidential preference primary on a congressional district basis. Ninety-six of the 100 GOP presidential nominating delegates will be elected at the polls May 1, and only four will be picked at the June 19 state party convention in Fort Worth.

Mrs. Pat Archer, wife of Houston Congressman Bill Archer, was elected new GOP National Committeewoman to succeed Mrs. Rita Bass Clements of Dallas who resigned.

Hutchison named Ernest Angelo of Midland to head the new 15-member GOP executive campaign committee. Bob Flournoy of Lufkin was designated vice chairman.

**Rates Studied**

A 7.1 per cent increase in workmen's compensation insurance rates has been recommended by State Insurance Board actuaries.

Insurance company spokesmen aren't happy. They recommended a 12.3 per cent boost. Industry representatives weren't pleased either. They pointed out Texas business and industries already pay \$611.6 million a year to insure employees against on-the-job death and injury, and they claimed this is too much.

**Courts Speak**

The State Supreme Court left standing a lower court ruling that state and local governments can charge fees for access to large records computer data and microfilm.

The Open Records Act, court rulings have held, permit charges to examine such records.

In another ruling, the

High Court affirmed a Texas Railroad Commission gas curtailment order placing Houston Lighting and Power Company in seventh priority as a customer of United Texas Transmission Company.

The Supreme Court also held that a Smith County man must be jailed for contempt of a court order by returning a tractor which he sold out of Texas.

The Court of Criminal Appeals reversed the 100-year prison sentence of a Grayson County man in the death of a fifth-grade girl from Denison who had been abducted on her way home from school.

A three-judge federal court in Tyler set arguments in the continuing controversy over whether voters can be signed up under the new Texas registration act without U.S. Justice Department approval.

**AG Opinions**

Atty. Gen John Hill's opinion banning many special school fees may cause loss of district accreditation, State Board of Education warned recently.

In a recent opinion, Hill held school districts should not contract with one of their trustees to furnish garbage service even if there is only one such service in the area.

Hill also concluded the Smith County domestic relations court judge's pay should be equal to the state portion of the county's district judge salary.

**School Session Urged**

Texas Association of School Boards executive committee has urged Governor Briscoe to call a special legislative session to deal with school finance problems arising from the Hill fee opinion. (See above).

Texas Association of School Administrators executive committee also asked the governor to help ease the strain on districts which the opinion may cause. Briscoe said he has no intention of calling a special session and will be "looking for other ways to meet the problem."

Hill's opinion October 1 concluded special school fees for such things as driver education, band uniform rental and workbooks are illegal.

**Short Snorts**

The State Insurance Board formally approved rules and regulations for new prepaid group legal insurance.

Stephen Oden of Texarkana has been appointed to the board of regents of East Texas State University, succeeding Joseph Zeppa of Tyler.



**The Consumer Alert**

by John L. Hill  
Attorney General

AUSTIN—A number of Texans will be shopping for new or used cars this fall. Most are aware that one important indicator of how much wear and tear a car has received is the number of miles shown on the odometer.

Of course, if an odometer reading has been altered, the ability to assess the car's value, reliability, and safety is impaired.

But what some car-shopping consumers may not be aware of is that since 1973 the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices-Consumer Protection Act has provided protection against sellers who disconnect, turn back, or reset the odometer of any car or truck so as to reduce the number of miles shown.

Anyone who suspects odometer tampering should contact our Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division immediately. If they are correct, the law provides that the seller can be enjoined from such practices and that the buyer is entitled to restitution. Or a consumer can consult a private attorney and collect three times the amount of damages, plus attorney's fees and court costs, if a judge finds the suit is valid.

Our lawyers have won a court judgment against a car dealer who was picking up new cars in one city, unhooking the odometers, driving them to another city several hundred miles away, and selling them there as brand-new cars with little or no mileage on them.

And we've received reports of a few dealers who routinely unhook odometers on demonstrator cars, use them for test drives or as personal transportation, then sell them as new when they may have several hundred or thousand miles on them.

Sometimes used car shoppers discover a "bargain"—a car several years old with a minimal number of miles on it. Such a car may have had its odometer "rolled back" to show far fewer miles than it actually has.

In addition to protection from such deception under Texas law, there is a federal law that requires anyone—dealer or individual—who sells a new or used car to give the buyer an odometer "disclosure statement" which gives the car's true mileage reading and a statement that the information is correct. If the seller doesn't know the true mileage, he must declare that it is unknown. Then if a consumer can prove he was sold a car by someone who violated these requirements, or gave false information, he

can collect three times his damages or \$1,500, whichever is greater, plus attorney's fees and court costs.

But even with protection under both state and federal laws, it's still better to avoid problems with false odometer readings. Our Consumer Protection attorneys recommend the following precautions:

"Trade with a reputable dealer or individual and get an odometer disclosure statement."

"Be suspicious if the speedometer and odometer aren't working when you test-drive a new or used car."

"If a car looks 'well-worn' but the mileage is low, be suspicious of possible odometer tampering."

"Get a history of a used car's title from the Texas Highway Department's motor vehicle registration division. Then check with previous owners if possible for information on the car and its mileage."

**Texas Taxes**

By BOB BULLOCK  
State Comptroller

Austin—There is frequently confusion among retail merchants about the use of sales tax Exemption Certificates and Resale Certificates.

A Resale Certificate can be used only by a person or business holding a valid sales tax permit and buying an otherwise taxable item from another person or business holding a sales tax permit.

An example of this might be a small auto repair shop buying parts from a large store or distributor who does both wholesale and retail business. The auto repair shop — which would have a sales tax permit — would give the distributor a Resale Certificate and not pay sales tax on the parts purchased.

The repair shop would then sell the parts to its customers, charging them the sales tax and remitting it to the state. The distributor, meanwhile, would use the Resale Certificate to prove to the state why that amount of his sales weren't taxed.

The Comptroller's Department has a suggested form for the Resale Certificate and usable copies are usually available at business houses which deal in both wholesale and retail. The important line on the form is the sales tax permit number of the buyer.

Persons dealing in both wholesale and retail should never let a customer sign a Resale Certificate unless the customer can provide his sales tax permit number.

A change of fortune hurts a wise man no more than a change of the moon.

Save money with bargain off-hour out-of-state long distance discount rates. By dialing your calls direct after 5 PM, Monday through Friday, there is a discount of 35%...after 11 PM, all day Saturday and Sunday 'til 5 PM, there is a discount of 60%. Minimum rates now apply to one minute calls. These bargains are yours even if your area does not yet have direct dialing.

**happy hour... after five**

**Continental Telephone of Texas**  
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Every day, more than 186,000 adults in The Big Country read more local West Texas news and sports in The Reporter-News.

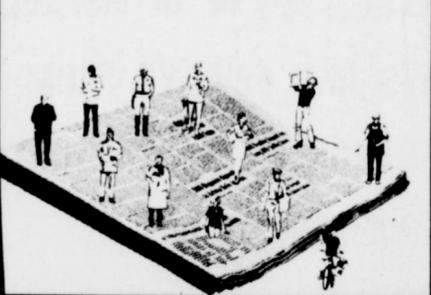
By mail in West Texas

ONE YEAR morning and Sunday . . . . . \$42.00

ONE YEAR morning only . . . . . \$34.00

Or for carrier delivery contact your Home town agent.

PEGGY RASCO 862-3081



**AUCTION**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 22,  
1975 10:30 A.M.

HOLLIS PARMELLY

**ESTATE**

Located 2 1/2 Miles North of Caps or 3 1/2 Miles South of Tye, Texas on F. M. Road 707. "G6" Moline Tractor, "M5" Moline L.P. Tractor W/W.F. and 3 Pt., "M4" Moline L.P. Tractor W/Tricycle Front, "Super M" Farmall Tractor W/W.F., 14 Ft. "B.W.A." John Deere Wheel Type Tandem Disc, 12 Disc John Deere One-Way W/Cylinder, 10 Disc "Pratt" One-Way, "Moline" One-Way, 9-Shank "Hohome" Chisel Plow, 11 Shank "Case" Chisel Plow, 16-10 John Deere Grain Drille (35 Bu. Box) Green Box, 16-10 Moline Grain Drille (35 Bu. Box), 6 Ft. 3 Pt. Rear End Blade, 500 Bu. Grain Storage Tank, 4-Row 3 Ft. Rotary Hoe, 2 - 4-Wheel Trailers, 1 - 2-Wheel Seed Trailer, 1973 Chevrolet 3/4 Ton "Cheyenne" Pickup(Loaded), 1958 Dodge 3/4 Ton Pickup, Approx. 150 Bales of Hay Grazer Hay, Used Sheet Iron, 20 ft. Gooseneck Cattle Trailer W/Metal top. PLUS: Feed Troughs, Hydraulic Cylinders, Sweeps, Foot Pieces, and other related items too numerous to mention. Appendix Mare (Gentle Using Horse).

Loader Tractor Available - No Charge - Courtesy of Auctioneer. Col. Tex Herring - Full Time Auctioneer.

Col. Tex Herring -  
License #1012  
Full Time Auctioneer

Catering By Handy-Ann  
of Abilene

**SYBLE'S BEAUTY NOOK**

Open Tue. through Sat. noon

SYBLE RINEY MAE SEAGO

**SPECIAL ON PERMANENT**

\$20.00 Permanent For \$15.00

\$15.00 Permanent For \$12.50

**SPECIAL GOOD THRU NOV. 15**

**70 Pontiac Catalina**

Pontiac Catalina, 4 dr. sedan air and power, white with blue vinyl top, only

**\$1095**

**74 PONTIAC**

Grand Ville 4 dr. This one has all the goodies, white with white vinyl top, real nice

**\$4395**

**74 CATALINA**

Sedan, air, power, tilt wheel. Cruise, stereo tape player. Bronze with white top. Real nice for

**\$3495**

**70 Pontiac Catalina**

4 dr. sedan, air and power, clean, only

**\$1195**

**74 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX**

Grand Prix, A. & power, 17,000 miles. Light green-white landau top-Real Nice. Only

**\$4695**

**73 PONTIAC**

Catalina, 4-door sedan, air & power, 36,000 miles. Blue color. Nice. ONLY

**\$2895**

"We Sell 'Em-We Lease 'Em"



**PALMER PONTIAC & GMC**

MERKEL 929-5113

ABILENE 673-1182

# GET ACTION USE

## CLASSIFIEDS

### PHONE 928 - 5712

**Miscellaneous**

**FOR MONUMENTS and CEMETERY CURBING**  
M.A. (Sarg) Noster  
1404 Herring Dr.  
Merkel, Texas  
Phone 928-5565

**Help Wanted**

**CUSTODIAN WANTED:** Immediate opening for school custodian, \$2.36 per hour-2 week paid vacation annually, 5 holidays plus sick leave. Contact Mack Fisher or Obie Coker. Telephone 928-5813.

**For Sale**

**FOR SALE-Farm-150 Acres.** Well located parallel to Interstate 20. Most of land in cultivation. Cyrus Pee, 37-tfc

**Garage Sale**

Let us have your garage sale. If you plan to have a garage sale let us help. However, at this time we are unable to handle anymore clothes on a percentage basis due to our limited space. If you hold it in the youth center we only charge 10 percent of your gross. If you wish to leave the sale entirely up to us we will charge only 50 percent. Proceeds will go to the Merkel Youth Center.

Buy Your Prepaid Funeral Plan Direct From The Funeral Home and Save

**STARBUCK FUNERAL HOME**

**MERKEL VFW POST 5683**  
MONTHLY REG MEETING  
8:30 P.M.

**SECOND THURSDAY POST & LADIES AUXILIARY Y'ALL COME NOW!**

**MASONIC MEETING**  
Stated meeting of Merkel Lodge No. 710 on 2nd Saturday and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Members urged to attend.

**BILLY D. DOAN, W.M. ROY MASHBURN, Sec'y**

**NEED HELP?** Call the Merkel OUTREACH PROGRAM. 928-5859 or 928-5017.

**CAN HAUL**  
DIRT  
ROCK & GRAVEL  
LEVEL & REPAIR  
DRIVEWAYS  
Call Evenings  
Harold Walker  
Phone 928-5872  
202 Cherry

**Wheat Seed**  
Early Triumph Bu. Bags  
Cleaned & Treated By  
Bronco Seed Co. J.D.  
Poland Ph. 823-3969  
Anson Charles  
Cromwens 823-3086

**PRESTIGE HOMES & PROPERTIES**

317 N. Willis Suite 20  
Abilene 673-6444

GARAGE, wrecking yard and home package, doing good business-owner wants to re-tire.

ANSON-100' x 160' residential lot.

ACREAGE-40 to 640 acres. For details call: 673-6444

FT. PHANTOM Lake deeded lot, rock building.

MERKEL-attractive 3 bedroom brick home, all electric, less than 2 years old.

J. Frank Jones 673-6532  
Jewel Nixon 692-9767  
George Schroeder 677-5713  
Shannon Teal 692-0787  
Pauline Butman 692-2222

Merkel Branch Office Pat and Billy Neff 928-5623  
Equal Housing Opportunity.

**SEAMSTRESSES**-Now hiring experienced sewing machine operators for new Wilkerson Co. plant. Positions will be filled immediately. Wage Scale-\$2.25 to \$2.40 per hour. Call Logan Cravens or Steve Hamilton at 677-2606.

**TRAINEEES:** If you can sew, you can earn \$2.25 per hour as a sewing machine operator. Call Logan Cravens or Steve Hamilton at 677-2606.

**WANTED-WANT TO BUY** 3 bedroom, 2 bath house between 16 and 18 hundred square feet. Call Western Auto-928-4815.

**LOST - 3 HEIFERS** 400-450 lbs.; Have backward rocking 7 on left hip. Strayed within last week from 5 miles north of Trent. Call 862-2091. H. H. "Spud" McLeod.

**LADIES HAND BAGS MADE** BY Jessie Reagan, 403 Runnels. Make nice Christmas gifts. 928-5940.

**LEARN TO PAINT**  
FROM BEGINNERS TO INTERMEDIATE  
CALL RUTH ADAMS  
AT 673-8739  
OR 673-5575

**Need wheat pasturage for light calves already worked and turned out- no health problems**  
R.L. BLAND Jr.  
915-862-2951  
or 672-9362

**FOR BEST RESULTS AT LOWEST COST USE MERKEL MAIL 'Quick Action' Classified Ads**  
JUST TELEPHONE MERKEL 928-5712

**AUTHORIZED DEALER**  
Lawn & Garden Equipment  
ALLIS-CHALMERS Allis-Chalmers-Owatonna  
Hay Machinery  
Farm Equipment and Forney  
Welding Equipment  
Shafer Plows - Continel Belton Products  
677-4349  
**DOTY FARM EQUIPMENT CO.**  
366 Chestnut  
Nights-Sundays-Holidays 672-2451 - 698-2572

**A-A Chain Link Fencing Co.**  
JESSE R. USSERY, RET.  
U. S. A. F., OWNER  
PHONE: 915-692-5223  
ABILENE, TEXAS  
Free Estimate  
Formally Sear Employed

**FOR SALE-3 bedroom house,** 1 3/4 bath, den, brick double garage, fenced, and water well. 928-5935 after 6 P.M.

**L.H.C. 12 X 16 SEMI DEEP** furrer grain drill on steel with rope power lifts. Call 846-4241.

**FOUR TIRES FOR SALE** 645-14. Call after 5 P.M. please. Leo Washburn, Box 495, Merkel, Texas, 928-5766.

**FOR SALE-1964** Valiant Slant 6. Recently overhauled, good economical school or work car, 1969 Yamaha. See at 312 Locust - Merkel. 928-5377.

**FEW SALE-Our Mother** Catholic Church is selling their old church pews. They are approximately 12 feet long, 1 1/2 inches thick wood painted white. Ideal for patios, \$15 each. Call Charlotte Starbuck at 928-4707 or 928-4711.

I still have some copies of "The History of the Merkel Schools." Price \$2.00 by mail \$2.25. Mrs. H. C. Reid, 710 Yucca, Merkel, Texas 79536. Phone 928-4946.

**GAS DRYER-Excellent** condition, \$75. 1969 Chevrolet, 6 cyl. \$350. Call 928-5855 after 4:30 P.M. All day Saturday and Sunday.

**It's Time To Trim Trees**  
And Cut Grass Low  
CALL 928-5744  
**NORMAN ODEN**

**SERVICE**  
Our Specialty

**J. L. FISHER FINA SERVICE**  
TWO LOCATIONS  
INTERSTATE 20 & WEST HIGHWAY 80  
MERKEL  
AUTO PARTS  
921 N. 2nd  
OPEN SATURDAYS TOO  
WE WELCOME YOUR BUSINESS

**FARMERS UNION INSURANCES**

ONE STOP SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

**MACK SEYMORE**  
102 Edwards  
928-5379

**FOR THOSE GOOD SHELL PRODUCTS STOP BY DISHMAN'S SHELL**  
211 KENT  
928-5222  
MECHANIC ON DUTY

**BUILT OUT OF METAL TO LAST**  
Car Parts Patio Covers  
Small Buildings  
Security Window Guards  
Mobil Home Porches  
And For All Your Welding Needs Call  
John Luckey  
928-5149  
MERKEL

**WE PAY 150% OVER FACE VALUE FOR ALL SILVER COINS.**  
(\$2.50 FOR \$1.00 SILVER) (We pay 25% for silver dimes)  
**PRATTS COIN & STAMP SHOP**  
2155 S. 1st.  
Abilene, Texas

**ALL TYPES OF INSURANCE BONEY INSURANCE AGENCY**  
Phone 8-5151

**Disposable Vacuum Cleaner Bags**  
ALL MAKES  
STARBUCK FURNITURE  
Service All Major & Minor Appliance  
Call  
**WESTERN AUTO**  
928-4815

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas-GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for one week, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: Ulver Dean Williams, Defendant, Greeting:  
**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of Twenty days from the date of the issuance of this citation, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 6th day of November

**SEAT COVER CENTER**  
\*Seat Covers  
\*Truck Cushions  
\*Door Panels  
\*Arm Rests  
\*Headliners  
1056 BUTTERNUT  
677-1349  
ABILENE

**BACKHOE SERVICE SEPTIC SYSTEMS FRONT-END LOADER WATER SYSTEMS STORM CELLARS SWIMMING POOLS ANY KIND OF DITCHING**  
L. R. McGEE  
928-5423

**LUCAS & HAYS WELDING**  
111 Kent  
All Types Welding  
Ph. 928-5630 or 928-5794

**NEED A New Water Well Drilled? Also Install Meyers Subs & Jacuzzi Jets**  
**ROBERT HIGGINS**  
928-5998

**FOR YOUR BUILDING AND REMODELING NEEDS**  
**FRED RICHIE**  
928-5030

## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

To any Sheriff or any Constable within the State of Texas-GREETING:

You are hereby commanded to cause to be published once each week for four consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least twenty-eight days before the return day thereof, in a newspaper printed in Taylor County, Texas, the accompanying citation, of which the herein below following is a true copy.

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION**  
THE STATE OF TEXAS  
TO: Milton Epperson, Defendant, Greeting:  
**YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED** to appear before the Honorable Domestic Relations Court of Taylor County at the Courthouse thereof, in Abilene, Texas, by filing a written answer at or before 10 o'clock A. M. of the first Monday next after the expiration of Twenty (20) days from the date of the issuance of this citation, to Plaintiff's Petition filed in said court, on the 12th day of November A. D. 1975, in this cause, numbered 11,260-DR on the docket of said court and styled Alice Faye Epperson, Plaintiff, vs. Milton Epperson, Defendant.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to-wit: Parties were married on or about February 1, 1947 and separated on or about May 3, 1974; respondent left petitioner with intention of abandonment has remained away for at least one year; no children under the age of 18 years; parties own community property and petitioner requests the court to divide the property in an equitable manner; petitioner prays the Court grant petitioner a divorce from Respondent; Petitioner prays for general relief; as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit.

If this citation is not served within ninety days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, this 10th day of November A. D. 1975.

**Notice To Bidders**

The City of Merkel will receive sealed bids until 1 p.m. January 12, 1976, on the sale of the following described property:

Lots 1 and 2, Block 7-E; lots 11, 12 and 13, Block 20-A; Lots 9 and 10, Block 20-D all in the College addition to the City of Merkel, Taylor County, Texas.

Minimum bid of \$200 is required per each lot with purchaser assuming all legal costs of transaction.

Lou David Allen  
Mayor of the City of Merkel  
4C-7tc

**NOTICE**  
The Trent School Tax Office will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving.

**All Types Building & Remodeling Work**  
Albert Gregory  
928-5474  
Jerry Goode  
928-4890

**THANKSGIVING BUFFET**

**ROAST TURKEY BAKED HAM**

Dressing Cranberry Sauce  
Red Cabbage Yams  
Potato Salad Jello Veg. Salad  
Giblet Gravy Jello Fruit Salad  
Cream Corn Rolls & Butter

Pumpkin Pies  
Pumpkin Cake  
Key Lime Pie  
COFFEE OR TEA

\$3.15 INCLUDING TAX  
**BIG COUNTRY INN**

**THE COUNTRY CLUB OF MERKEL**

WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE NOW SERVING DINNER & SUPPER.

IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO BE A MEMBER  
**TRY OUR SPECIALTY OF THE HOUSE**

**TAHITIAN SANDWICH** - Ham, Turkey, Crab, Meat Served On Toast, Covered Generously With Delightful Cheese Sauce, French Fried Potatoes & Salad. Choice Of Salad Dressing. \$2.50 plus tax

**CHICKEN FRIED STEAK** - Served With Vegetables, Potatoes & Dessert Of The Day. \$2.25 plus tax  
PLUS OTHER INTERESTING DISHES. CALL FOR RESERVATIONS NOW !! OR JUST DROP BY.

**EVERY FRIDAY** From 6 till 9 Starting Friday Nov. 28th  
CATFISH Will Be Served With Coleslaw, Pinto Beans, Homemade Rolls. \$2.50 plus tax  
ASK FOR MORE! IF YOU DON'T GET ENOUGH - IT'S YOUR FAULT NOT OURS!

**EVERY TUESDAY** Starting Tuesday Dec. 2nd From 6 till 9 FRIED CHICKEN, Country Gravy, Potatoes, & Vegetables & Dessert. \$2.25 plus tax Served Family Style - All You Can Eat.

**EVERY THURSDAY** Starting Thursday Dec. 4th ITALIAN SPAGHETTI With Meat Sauce, Served With Salad, & Parmesan Toast. \$2.25 plus tax DON'T BE BASHFUL - ASK FOR MORE!  
SORRY, WE WILL NOT BE SERVING FOOD THANKSGIVING DAY.

**TRY OUR OPEN-FACED - CHARBROILED 1/4 LB. HAMBURGER OR CHEESEBURGER.** Served With Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Kosher Dills, & Crisp French Fries.

WE WILL BE SERVING DINNER 12 TILL 2 & SUPPER 6 TILL 10 P.M. TUES. THRU SUN.  
EVERYONE WELCOME!!!!

**Farmers Union To Meet December 1**

The Farmers Union will meet Monday evening at 7:30 in the Taylor Electric Cooperative building in Merkel. Plans for the state convention to be held in Fort Worth December 5 and 6 will be the main topic of the business meeting. Members are urged to attend.

(SEAL) Attest: Irene Crawford Clerk, Domestic Relations Court Taylor County, Texas.  
By Sandra Van Cleave, Deputy.  
39-3tc