

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 22. - NO. 46.

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1911.

8 PAGES

## OUR WEEKLY SERMONETTE

In the hope to make our paper of more interest to the majority of our religious readers and of some force for the promotion of our moral as well as material interests the Mail invited these contributions from our local ministers. Their cheerful acceptance enables us to promise this as a regular feature for our many readers during the new year.

### Ministerial Association.

On Monday at 10 a. m. the following ministers, Revs. Crane, Martin, Lowrey and Taggart, met in Rev. Martin's study and organized a Ministerial Association composed of the following officers: Rev. Crane chairman, and Rev. Taggart secretary. As members of this association we solicit every resident minister to become a member.

The association voted to accept the courtesies extended by the editor of the Merkel Mail to contribute a Sermonette weekly. These articles will appear in alphabetical order, Rev. Crane contributing first.

The time of meeting of this association will be on Monday following the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month but our next meeting will be on Monday following the 4th Sunday, in Rev. Martin's study. W. C. Taggart, Sec.

### "Weeds."

Text: Matt. 13:25.

"But while men slept his enemy came and sowed tares."

The best definition I have found for the word weed is "a plant out of place." If I were to sow a field of cockleburrs with the expectation of raising cockleburrs I would not consider my cockleburrs weeds. They would be plants in place and the product for which I have labored.

But if I should sow wheat or corn and cockleburrs should appear in my crop then they would be weeds. Corn coming up voluntarily when we do not wish for it to grow is a weed and therefore a plant out of place.

We have various kinds of weeds—burs, thistles, nettles, rag-weeds, water-weeds, etc.

But of all the hurtful noxious weeds that I know anything of are human weeds.

Sampson disobeyed God's command and married a heathen woman and because of his folly has been termed a fool among the Philistines, or in other words, he was a plant out of place.

Peter standing among the accusers of Jesus denied his Lord and was a plant out of place.

Simon the Sorcerer was also a plant out of place. Peter steadfastly beholding him said "Thy heart is not right in the sight of God." Many other bible characters might be mentioned who were weeds.

In the last year of Jesus public ministry we are told that many turned back from following their Lord. Why? Weeds, weeds.

At the time of the triumphal entry into Jerusalem there were perhaps thousands followed him shouting their hosannahs, whose voices were never heard to acclaim his praises again. These were weeds of short duration. At one time they were the great Brooklyn bridge.

ed with the noted actor... door was

called to another pastorate and then the Brooklyn congregation vanished like vapor before the morning sun. A religion that is founded upon men and not on Christ is weedlike and out of place.

Jesus said "Not every one that sayeth unto me Lord, Lord, but he that doeth the will of my Father in heaven." A person may belong to the church and at the same time be the sorriest kind of a weed. If you belong to God and are really his child and know you are a christian and at the same time go to a dancing hall and spend your time, energy, money and influence at a place where you know Jesus Christ would be an unwelcome guest, then you surely are a weed. If you are really a christian and stand around on the street corners and laugh and talk with men who are using profanity, vulgarity and obscenity then you are a weed and out of your place.

David said "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful."

If you are in the church and do nothing for its support but criticise others and pay no attention to your own conduct then you are a weed. Be a live plant, a true and tried plant, "a plant in place," bearing fruit in its season, its leaf never withering and always prospering in the service of the Lord.

Geo. A. Crane.

### Subscription Statements

The Mail is this week mailing to all of its subscribers a statement of their accounts.

It is not our desire to seem over-insistent and it is but a modest suggestion to your mind that we need the money and your duty to pay us. It is our desire to rapidly as possible get our large list in shape to adopt a strictly cash-pay-in-advance policy but in view of present conditions we wish to carry every good farmer of the Merkel country who can not pay. All that we ask is that you come into see us, make arrangements and save us the extra expense of coming or sending to see you.

Thus far we have no complaint for our subscribers have been treating us mighty good and all others are just slow but sure—we hope.

Start the New Year right.

A good resolution for our merchants should read something like this: "Resolved, that I will advertise my business, build me a modern awning, patronize our city waterworks, and do my part for my town, country and friends." Sign it and get right.

Miss Bessie Hall of Sweetwater was a guest during part of the holidays of Miss Fannie Burroughs in our city.

## SAN ANGELO CASES

Ed Newman Dismissed and the Other Cases are Continued.

### ACTION TAKEN BY THE STATE

The Mysterious Cases Which Clouded Reputation of Our Former Citizens Were Called for Trial This Week.

A number of Merkel citizens this week visited San Angelo to attend the trial of Felix R. Jones and Ed Newman, charged with the theft of diamonds from a jewelry store in that city.

T. J. Coggin, one of the friends of the former Merkel citizens in attendance, returned Thursday and reported the action taken by the state. The case of Ed Newman was dismissed by the state as no evidence whatever had been unearthed to sustain the charge and seemingly for the same reason or lack of evidence the state refused to proceed in the other case, which was continued. Mr. Coggin talked to many of the business men of San Angelo, attorneys and others who kept posted on the proceedings and learned that little if any sentiment there implicated the Merkel boys. It seems that the charge was registered on a mere supposition and in the hope that the detectives who were employed might later produce the evidence for sustenance. In this, however, they failed and it is to be hoped that the whole matter will be cleared entirely and adjusted to the satisfaction of all interested.

G. H. Adams the first of the year took active management of the lumber business of Burton-Lingo in this city. Mr. Adams is an experienced business man and very popular with all of our people. Guy Hamilton was transferred to the Sweetwater yards, for he is one of Burton-Lingo's most valued employees.

## THE COLDEST SNAP IN SEVERAL YEARS

The blizzard which was so general over the United States did not slight our country and the first of the week we experienced the coldest weather in several years.

The thermometer registered but four or five notches above the zero mark and a cold biting breeze out of the north made it very unpleasant for those who were compelled to face same out of doors. However this condition lasted but a couple of days and it is not thought that much damage was done. Some uneasiness is expressed for the oat crop and the weather was pronounced by others as a benefit. These latter claim if there were any insects at home in this section they are now dead and there is no fear from this item during the year.

The greatest complaint is registered by those citizens who neglected to cut off their water and were compelled to contribute to the prosperity of our plumbers.

## '11 OUR GOOD READERS '12 THE OLD & THE NEW

In saying idios to 1910 and hello 1911 the Mail has no complaint to register.

We wish everybody well for the new year and we feel morally certain that prosperity and good luck will come to the following who have contributed to our subscription department since our last issue. The man who takes and pays for his home paper ten times out of nine is a good patriotic citizen, will do well all through life and then go where all good men go. We imagine that a man so stingy that he will do without this rag just to save two cents a week will be denied admittance by St. Peter for fear that he would whittle ivory and gold bricks out of the streets and gate posts and be compelled to take up a permanent residence where there are no good newspapers and the devil furnishes all "extras" free gratis.

The following is our honor roll for the week:

John A. Edwards, Comanche; E. Burroughs, Canyon City; James F. Body, Baltimore; J. W. Tally, Trent; Claude Miller, Lindale; B. R. Crow, Childers; P. R. McLean, Blair; Mrs. Della Randall, Guyman, Okla., (by T. J. Coggin) Mrs. R. T. Pence, Marshall, Mo; J. D. Hogg, D. O. Huddleston, G. W. Moore, Elbert Dean, J. B. Morrison, R. A. Martin, Joe Holmes, W. T. Macanich, W. H. Brown, I. S. Allen, A. L. Hogue, J. E. Musick, J. L. Banner, J. E. McGaughey, J. P. Sharp, J. C. Provine, W. F. Hughes, J. R. Lamar, Rust & McCauley Drug Co., J. S. Touchstone, J. W. Campbell, Judge C. D. Mims, T. J. Coggin, L. Sparkman, Dr. M. Armstrong, B. C. Gaither, L. D. Gaither, J. D. Gaither and possibly others whose names we failed to record.

### Stay With 'Em, Si.

It is a source of much satisfaction to our minds that the great majority of our citizens are big and broad enough to give others the right of their own views.

Among our renewals this last week was J. W. Tally, one of our good citizens and he gave us the dollar with the following ejaculation: "Stay with them. Have your own ideas, right or wrong for everybody loves an independent newspaper and nobody cares for a man or newspaper who is just nothing on everything. You put up a game fight for good roads and let me tell you that you are not the first to lose in a good cause. I have some recollection of the civil war and this makes me sympathize with you. We fought for a good cause but lost—that's all."

E. L. Woodroof of Waxahatche spent the holidays in Merkel and returned last week. He is making extensive improvements in his Waxahatche store, making arrangements for more room and installing modern shelving throughout.

Ottis Barnett left Sunday night for Sweetwater, where he went to accept a position with the Santa Fe in some of their work in that city.

## BUSINESS CHANGES

Several Firms Will Occupy New Quarters During New Year.

### C. W. HARRIS QUILTS GAME

Retiring Merchant One of Strongest Financially and Only Retires Because of a More Inviting Field of Labor.

After the first of the New Year the business district of Merkel presents a new lineup of business men, but the changes are mostly that of location.

In reading of the failures in other towns and sections of the state it is a source of some consolation to know that while the business firms of Merkel have suffered as well as all others during the short crop years there has not been and will not be a single petition to the bankruptcy court. Merkel merchants and business men are strong financially and have ample cash and credit to tide over a couple of lean years.

C. W. Harris, who has enjoyed a very popular patronage during the year retires from business to take up work in another field which he believes more promising. This is his only reason and he stated to our reporter that he really regretted to give up the nice list of friends and customers who had treated him so liberally during the year.

J. T. Dennis, one of our old reliable general merchants has purchased the interest of J. H. Whitehead in the firm and has resumed business after the holidays in new quarters, those vacated by C. W. Harris.

The drug store of Armstrong & Co. will occupy the quarters vacated by J. T. Dennis & Co. about the first. W. M. Jenkins & Co., formerly on Front Street moved to the store vacated by Armstrong & Co.

Hamblett & Rogers have moved their stock of groceries to the Wheeler building vacated a few months ago by the Elite Confectionery.

Pipes & Walker have moved from the Crenshaw block to the building of Dr. J. A. Adkisson on Kent and Front streets.

Woodroof Bros. have moved back to their old stand in the center of Edwards street.

These are the only changes known to our reporter and all other firms will continue business in their present places.

### Notice of Stockholders' Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Merkel will be held at the office of said bank in the town of Merkel, Texas, on Tuesday, January 10, 1911, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the meeting. J. E. Faucett, Cashier.

Merkel, Texas, Dec. 9, 1910.

There was lots of news for this issue but the cold snap the first of the week froze the tongues of some of our friends who failed to tell us what they know. Tell or telephone us all items of interest, personal, local or otherwise.



# Armstrong & Co.

JIM GILLIAM, Manager

Edwards Street      Merkel, Texas

# HOME, SWEET HOME

There is no place like it, and we want you to make our store your home when in town. We are in our new quarters, the store vacated by J. T. Dennis & Co., in the middle and on the shady side of Edwards street. We sell **DEPENDABLE DRUGS—Pure Drugs.**

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. M. D. Ussery is in Abilene visiting.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Brown left Monday for an extended trip South.

N. M. Elliott, wife and little son, Roy, of this city visited in Fort Worth last week.

Cull Plott, of Sipe Springs spent the holidays with the family of Dr. W. V. Cranford.

Ben T. Merritt and sister Miss Ruth were visitors with friends in Sweetwater last week.

J. D. Hogg rooted a dollar and six bits into our cash box for the Mail and the Gal-Dal News.

Chas. Edwards and family of Midland spent Christmas with his mother in our little city.

Mr. and Mrs. Orr and children of Putnam visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Sanders last week.

Miss Mattie Henderson of Crandall, Texas, has been spending the holidays with her aunt, Mrs. West Edwards.

Merle Alsobrook, who is attending school in Abilene spent Sunday at home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Alsobrook.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hughes are proud parents of a fine boy which came to their home in the Canyon Sunday night and we join in congratulations.

As a household remedy for cuts, burns, bruises, piles, pain and soreness of all kinds, Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment, 25c size, has no equal. If not satisfactory, money refunded. For sale by all druggists.

D. O. Huddleston is an economist by the most sacred sworn resolutions for the new year. He is doing his own shaving, uses home-made soap and tried to start off the year without the Mail but we drew the money at his bank and will continue to tantalize him every week as of old. The idea of a man owning more than a half section of our best land and trying to keep house or stay here without reading the Mail is preposterous and an act of disloyalty which we will not tolerate.

J. E. McGaughey suffered a week or so with a bad tooth and when it quit hurting he felt so good he gave us a dollar on subscription. The chances are that if the tooth had not gotten well he would have changed to some other reading matter for the Mail pleases those who are pleased with life, of no use for a citizen who suffers with the gout, grouch, belly-ache or bubonic-pessimism.

B. C. Gaither, Dewitt Haynes and Dr. J. A. Adkisson were among the Merkel citizens in attendance upon the trial of Felix R. Jones at San Angelo this week and expressed little uneasiness but that the former Merkel citizen would have speedy clearing of the charge implicating him.

The Masonic supper, a social entertainment given by the local order for Masons and their families Christmas week at the Thornton building on Kent street was a pronounced success and reflected much credit on the lodge and committees. Plates were laid for probably 240 guests.

M. W. Picklesimer, one of our successful farmers who recently moved to town to enjoy our school advantages effected a deal the first of this week whereby he became interested in the firm of Pipes, Walker & Company where he invites the visits of his many friends.

Miss Winnie Sandlin received the sad news of the death of a dear girl cousin Miss Alba Bates of Wichita Falls Christmas eve after an eight days illness. Miss Bates was just budding into young womanhood—only fourteen years old when the reaper, Death called her.

J. F. Provine who has been connected the First National here for several years left this week to accept a position at Van Horn. He is one of our most popular young business men and while we hate to lose him we wish him continued success.

The W. O. W. are arranging for a supper and entertainment to be given Friday evening and the attention of those interested is directed to the program which we publish in this issue.

## "LOOK OUT FOR THE CARS"

**DO YOU** know of anyone who is old enough to read, who has not seen that sign at a railroad crossing?

If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why doesn't the railroad let the sign rot away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing?

Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise."

Your store and your goods need more advertising than the railroads need do to warn people to "Look Out for the Cars."

Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world.

The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business.

If it pays to run a few ads 'round about Christmas time, it certainly will pay you to run advertisements about all the time.

It's just business, that's all, to **ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER**

### Stith Items.

As I haven't seen anything from Stith I will write a little.

Old Santa Claus has come and gone. I hope everybody had a merry Christmas.

Rev. C. E. McDonald and family are spending the holidays with his father, W. D. McDonald.

Dr. Hendrix preached Sunday. F. H. McDonald and family spent the day with Mr. West Monday.

Mrs. Ida Campbell, of Roby, is visiting home folks at Stith this week.

A crowd of youngsters spent Monday on the mountains south of Merkel. They reported a big time.

George Cannon of Noodle was visiting here Wednesday.

Mathis Reed has returned from Ford county, where he has been at work.

W. A. Donaldson and family took dinner with Bud Smith Wednesday. Stith Iker.

### Pioneer Resumes Business.

The mercantile business of our city profited this week by the opening of a new grocery and grain business, which will be one of our strongest enterprises, when Geo. F. West, a pioneer merchant returned to merchandising after a leave of absence of many years. Mr. West opened in his building recently vacated by W. M. Jenkins and will carry groceries and grain. The style of the firm is Geo. F. West & Sons, the three sons being associated with him in the business.

The Mail speaks for the new firm success from the beginning.

J. S. Touchstone came in to see us this week and we Touched him for a dollar on subscription. He reads the buzz saw and when he has anything he doesn't want or wants something he has not got he uses the want ad service.

# START RIGHT

If you will buy your groceries from us this year you will have the consolation of knowing that you get best groceries for the least possible price. We handle none but the best and cater to those who appreciate quality. Give us your future orders.

## B. C. GAITHER & SONS.

MERKEL'S RELIABLE GROCERS

## Peters' "Diamond Special"

### The Best Shoes In Texas

These shoes give that classy, high-arch effect, so much desired by ladies who are particular, because they fit perfectly at the instep making the foot appear smaller and neater. Combined with this dressy effect is genuine comfort as enough room is left across the ball of the foot to give a roomy, walking surface for the foot.

Ask your dealer to show you a pair. If he does not have them—write us.

## Peters Shoe Co.

ST. LOUIS.



# Farmers State Bank

TRENT, TEXAS

Capital Stock \$15,000      Surplus Fund \$2,000

GUARANTY FUND BANK

Why should you deposit your money elsewhere when this bank offers you the benefits and protection of the Depositors Guaranty Fund, created by the State of Texas?

**IT'S BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY**

J. S. SWANN, President      W. D. HUTCHESON, Vice-Pres.  
E. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

It is sometimes hard to turn anyone from old ideas to new, but when the new are so much better than the old, then take the new.

If you have not yet used

## TEXACO AXLE GREASE

get a can and you will prove to yourself that it is superior to any you have ever used.

MADE ONLY BY

## The Texas Company

For Sale by All Dealers

# ABILENE HOSPITAL

Corner Osage & Clinton Ave.—Both Phones

IS NOW OPEN FOR SURGICAL AND MEDICAL CASES. NO CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ADMITTED.

Open to all Ethical Physicians—Building New and Modern Conveniences  
S. C. GAGE      MISS ANNIE CALDWELL      MRS. R. E. SHAW  
Surgeon in Charge      Graduate Nurse in Charge      Matron





# A GOOD RESOLUTION

Start the new year with a bank account, no matter how small. Deposit all of your savings, write checks, which make indisputable receipts for your accounts and let us be of the same assistance to you and your financial interest during 1911. We invite you to come in and let's talk it over.

C. L. BARKER, Pres.

J. E. FAUCETT, Cashier

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Groene's Art Store. Open 8 to 7; and 8 to 10 on Saturdays.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bigham are in El Paso.

W. R. Walker attended the Elks' ball Monday night.

Miss Lucy Bean visited Abilene friends last week.

Misses Susie Penn and Mamie Rister are Abilene guests this week.

Percy Deane and Rufus Grisham visited Merkel friends New Year's day.

Misses Ollie Kate and Juanita Harris of Nugent visited Merkel friends last week.

Mrs. Jeffie Hibbetts of Odessa visited her father, R. J. Adcock, at Christmas tide.

Miss Moosberg of Fort Worth was guest of Mrs. Alice Templeton's last week.

Pa Cranford has been a holiday test of his parents, Dr. and Mrs. V. Cranford.

Mrs. E. Edmison of Ovalo was a guest of her daughter, Mrs. Ink Johnson.

Missary Gunn, who is teaching in Mason, spent the holidays here with home folks.

Mrs. L. Woodroof has been very ill. We are glad to know she is much better.

Miss Annie T. Daniel went down Abilene to attend the Elks' New Year ball Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Woodroof and child are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Will Woodroof.

Dr. Geo Howard returned to Dallas Monday where he will resume studies at the Baylor Medical College.

Miss Ma Martin left Saturday for Dallas, where she will take a special course in art at the Baylor University.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bigham and little daughter, Alice, of Midland, were holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bigham.

Mrs. T. Ansou and little son, Marion, at home from Gorman, Texas, where Mrs. Johnson visited her parents.

Miss Mattie Jackson came in from Bisbee, Arizona, Saturday to visit Mrs. Templeton and Mesdames E. and Will Woodroof.

Miss Mabel Collins left Saturday night for St. Louis, Missouri, where she will attend the Mozart Conservatory. Collins will visit her sister, Vernon Jones at Bagwell's route.

## Explosion of Range.

The family of Dr. J. A. Adkisson suffered an experience Tuesday morning which was certainly one of unusual occurrence, the explosion of their large cooking range just before the breakfast meal. It is the supposition that the explosion was caused by steam in the hot water connections which could not escape otherwise on account of frozen pipes. Mrs. Adkisson, who was preparing breakfast was thrown across the kitchen and seemingly miraculously escaped serious injuries. The range was broken into a thousand pieces and ashes and fire mixed with the breakfast scattered over the room. Neighbors passing extinguished the fire while the physician gave his attention to his wife.

Dr. Adkisson's resolutions of economy were among the items smashed, as he was compelled to dig up for another \$65.00 range, but is grateful that there were no more serious results.

## THE DEADLY DELAY.

Those who put off using Halls Texas wonder for their kidney, bladder and rheumatic trouble makes a deadly delay, \$1.00 bottle gives quick and permanent relief. Write for testimonials, Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive Street, St. Louis Mo. Sold by Druggist

Mrs. E. Leach of Independence, Iowa, who has been visiting Mrs. R. E. Tracey and daughters, left last Monday for Troy, N. Y., where she will visit her nephew, Charley Hill. En route Mrs. Leach will visit relatives in Cleburne, Texas.

Mrs. Austin Fitts is up from a siege of grip and "loneliness." Mr. Fitts made a flying visit home from Temple Christmas day. He went back Monday.

All druggists sell Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment, 25c, 50c and \$1 bottles. Guaranteed to heal without leaving a blemish, or money refunded.

Mrs. W. T. Cordell of Tucson, Arizona, and daughter, Mrs. Victor Harroll, of Sweetwater, are visiting the family of T. J. Coggin.

Miss Bertha Boring has returned to Fort Worth after a delightful visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Boring and many Merkel friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Brittain had as holiday guests Miss Mollie Burleson and their brother and sister, Arthur Haley and Miss Cecil Haley, all of Matador, Texas.

A few choice young registered Hereford bulls for sale. C. M. Largent, Merkel, Texas. 5tpd



## TWO SWEETS RODGERS BAKERY

### MUST BELIEVE IT

When Well-Known Merkel People Tell it so Plainly.

When public endorsement is made by a representative citizen of Merkel the proof is positive. You must believe it. Read this testimony. Every backache sufferer, every man, woman or child with any kidney trouble will find profit in the reading.

J. W. Hardy, farmer, of Merkel, Texas, says: "For nearly three months I was in misery as the result of an acute attack of kidney and bladder trouble. I could not rest well and no position I assumed was comfortable. Though I tried remedies of various kinds I did not get relief. The kidney secretions were too frequent in passage and scanty, plainly proving that my kidneys were disordered. Having read a great deal about Doan's Kidney Pills, I finally procured a box at Bust & McCauley's drug store and began their use. My backache disappeared and my kidneys were restored to a normal condition. I feel that anyone suffering from disordered kidneys should give Doan's Kidney Pills a trial."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

### Stock and Implements.

Good work horses and mules, double disc and sulky plows, cultivators, planters, etc., cheap for cash. Dr. M. Armstrong, Merkel, Texas. 16tf

## The Advertised Article

is one in which the merchant himself has implicit faith—else he would not advertise it. You are safe in patronizing the merchants whose ads appear in this paper because their goods are up-to-date and never shopworn.

## Another Big Porker.

The Mail, which pleads guilty to being an enthusiastic friend and promoter of the interests of swinedom in this section gave the record of weight this week to J. S. Swann, who killed a Poland-China Tuesday which tipped the scales at 460 pounds. Competitors will please not think us hasty for this action was only taken after the story had been verified by Uncle Frank and Arthur Sears, who witnessed the weighing. The Merkel farmer-stockman takes great pride in raising mules, hogs and jersey heifers and claims he always has the very best.

### Card of Thanks.

We take this opportunity of returning our heartfelt thanks for the kindness shown us by our friends in kindly remembering us with a nice and valuable Christmas box, which contained many nice presents.

We hope the donors of these presents will never have occasion to regret having presented us with them.

Yours Fraternally,  
Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Cypert.

R. A. Miller and son Claude left last week for Lindale where they go to work in the orchard recently purchased by our worthy citizen. Mr. Miller has a valuable piece of real estate property in that prosperous community and is also owner of the cannery which has proven a success since its establishment and the fruit growing is but yet an infant industry. He will still claim Merkel home and be absent only a few months.

W. R. Russell created considerable excitement in the vicinity of the home of Grandma Woodrum Sunday morning by the dangerous sport of exploding big cannon fire crackers while holding them in his hands and all because he thinks he has got the finest boy who ever opened his eyes to the grandeurs of life in this glorious country. Bob says he is just what was ordered and arrived Sunday morning. The Mail joins in congratulations.

Almost the entire family of Mr. and Mrs. Laney are confined to their beds this week with La-grippe. Mrs. Laney is suffering with pneumonia as a complication and her condition has been the cause of much uneasiness by her physician and friends.

The Taylor County Farmers Union will meet at Ovalo Jan. 5 and 6 and all locals are requested to have delegates present.

W. A. Campbell, Pres.  
J. L. Tucker, Sec.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

All kinds of fresh fruits and nuts at the Elite.

Mrs. John Banner visited Abilene friends several days this week.

J. S. Bond shipped a car of cattle to the Fort Worth market Wednesday.

Mrs. A. W. Swafford of Anson has returned to her home after visiting S. H. L. Swafford.

Miss Maud Martin left Monday for Waco where she will attend Baylor University.

Go to the City Barber Shop for first-class work. West & Evans, Proprietors.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sykes of Williamson county arrived here Sunday to make this their future home.

H. Ewing, principal of the schools at McCauley spent the holidays here with his sister Mrs. L. H. King.

W. A. Moon has been at home with his family during the holidays after an absence of several weeks.

Miss Eva Perkins of Abilene was a guest during the holidays at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vol Martin.

Dr. Cox's Painless Blister, price 50c. Guaranteed to blister without pain or money refunded. For sale by all druggists.

Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Rister have the congratulations for a fine baby girl Monday morning at Abilene.

L. R. Porter who has been away on business for several months returned to spend the holidays with his family.

Mr. Lane Corley, Traveling Auditor was the guest of his little son, George Lane Corley and Mrs. Alice Templeton Christmas.

Miss Ruth Mims returned to Fort Worth Tuesday after spending the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Mims.

Dr. Cox's Barbed Wire Liniment does not burn or blister, relieves pain quickly and flies will not bother the wound. For sale by all druggists.

Mr. Morrison, a friend of Dr. Davis returned this week to his home at Carthage after a prospecting trip to our town and country.

R. H. Collins shipped a car of mules to Blossom this week. This is the tenth car shipped by Mr. Collins this fall and the fifth sold at that point at satisfactory prices.



## WIFIE WON'T HELP AGAIN

Popular Author's Spouse "Improved" His Book to the Extent of a Loss of \$7,000.

It isn't fair to tell the name of the author. But one of the writers of best sellers turned out a fine piece of work a year or so ago. He took the rough draft of it to a publisher, and the man of ledgers fell for it in a minute. "I'll take it back to my wife and let her go through it to catch any errors of English," said the author, and the publisher agreed.

When the corrected draft was returned, it seemed that the lady had caught errors that were not of English. She didn't agree, for example, with the hero's liking for brunette ladies, being of the opinion that blondes are the highest type of beauty. It is just a coincidence that she is herself a blonde. And there were one or two elinorglyn episodes that the lady expurgated. And she changed the plot a bit, because, as she justly said, things like that never happened in real life—and if they did, they were never referred to by nice people. The sale of the book was confined to the three copies sent to the reviewers. Last week the author brought the draft of another story to the same publisher.

"Fine, great, magnificent!" said the ardent gentleman when he read it. "My readers are crazy about it. I cried like a child in chapter 10 and, although my eyes are getting weak, I sat up until two o'clock in the morning to finish it. Just sign the contract on the dotted lines."

The author signed, and then asked for the draft. "I want to take the draft home and let my wife go over it and catch the errors," said he. "You know my grammar gets a little cross-eyed sometimes."

"Never again," said the publisher. "I have that manuscript locked in a safe, and if your wife tries to interfere with it I'll have her pinched. She's an estimable lady and a good housekeeper—but the last time she tried to improve one of your stories she cost me \$7,000."

## SLENDER BALTIMORE WOMEN

They Take Off Flesh by Rolling on the Floor and Running Up Stairs.

"How slender the Baltimore women are," remarked an admiring critic the other day.

And so they are. There is hardly an ounce of superfluous flesh in the entire city.

Elderly women who once appeared after a summer trip rolling in flesh now come home tanned and weather-beaten, but with firm muscles and slender waists.

It is marvelous how they do it. Watching in a tearoom, however, one learns something of the secrets.

"I must not eat oysters; they make flesh, you know," the woman next you remarks, while her neighbor murmurs that it is hard to have to give up the things you most care for simply to keep below 140 pounds. "I love chocolate in any form," she says. The last sentence is not germane, but every one seems to understand what she means.

"Try rolling on the floor," darkly whispers the woman at the suffrage meeting to one near her.

"I have," she replies sibilantly; "it took off ten pounds in a month. But it was ruinous to my bones."

"Your bones must get used to it. With gowns that are tight around the knees you cannot afford to have hips, and they must be got rid of some way."

"You cannot roll in an apartment," groans a listener.

"But then you cannot live in an apartment at all if you are fat."

"True," she sighs, and subsides.

"Run up and down stairs," suggested a lecturer not long ago, her subject being "The Good, the True and the Beautiful," with particular attention to the last.

But it turned out that her entire audience lived in apartments, and they had fewer stairs than anything else in their lives.—Baltimore Evening Post.

Hunters Caught in Traps.

A peculiar double accident marked the opening in northern New Jersey of the season for shooting quail, partridge, grouse, English pheasant, squirrel, wild turkey and woodcock. Among the hunters who left Bloomfield were Wiemer and Isaac K. McGirr. They reached a patch of woods on the second mountain, fronting on Little Hills road, by daylight, and started out in opposite directions, so that they would not shoot each other.

Soon Wiemer heard his companion scream for help. He ran toward McGirr, fell into a bear trap and was held fast, the sudden shock almost dislocating his thigh. McGirr shouted to Wiemer that he also was caught in a bear trap.

Timothy Spear, a farmer, went to their assistance and released them.

## HOW DAY ENDS IN DESERT

When the Sun Sets the Colors in the Sky and Earth Are Almost Too Beautiful for Description.

A fitting close to a day of songbirds and flowers is a desert sunset! The Calico mountains to the north first announce the day's decline. Late in the afternoon its rents and gashes become masses of purple shadow, strikingly outlined by the exposed sunlit stretches which are gradually absorbed until the whole mountain is dull and lifeless. When the sun is low, the rugged range to the southwest is tinged with a rosy glow varying from a dull pink to a deep rose, into which a purple hue gradually blends till it subdues all the brightness and the purple, in turn, changes to blue. As the sun sinks out of sight the light clouds in the east become softly pink, the color spreading around to the north, and finally centering in the west, where the clouds are masses of burnished gold, which merge into a brilliant rose color. Sometimes between the bright clouds and the horizon is a stretch of delicate green, with a hint of yellow light shining through; and always, in living over a desert sunset, you will see the soft circling flight of the night hawk skimming over the ground and hear the low call of the dove. When the brightness has faded and the blue has crept in and banished the red you draw a deep breath and feel yourself a part of the peace and quiet of the sky. You begin to understand the lure of the desert. You feel as if body and soul had always been crowded for room and had suddenly been set free in this immensity. When night falls and you lie down to sleep under the sky thickly studded with stars the clear wind-swept air caresses your cheek with a touch as soft as velvet and you fall asleep thanking God for this country of vast spaces and rugged mountains, the playground of mighty winds, and sleep under the stars is sweet and refreshing.—Mary Alberta Beal in the Outlook.

## ART CRITICISM IN KANSAS

Harvey Parsons Found Much Fault With His Friend's Picture of the Girl and the Cow.

Albert T. Reid and Harvey Parsons, two well known Kansas artists, are very good friends. Reid was one of Parsons' teachers.

Recently Reid drew a handsome water-color picture depicting a very pretty girl dressed in a milkmaid's costume. She had one arm thrown lovingly about the neck of a big, fine Holstein cow—the kind they raise in Kansas. In the other hand she carried a milking stool. The girl and the cow were wandering through a field of daisies. It is a good piece of work and was accepted readily and gladly by the publishers who ordered it.

Just about the time Reid had it finished Parsons wandered into his studio.

"What are you working on?" asked Parsons. Reid pointed to an easel on which stood the picture of the girl and the cow.

Parsons looked it over for some time and, blowing out a big wreath of pipe smoke, asked:

"What is the girl going to do?" "Going to do?" ejaculated Reid. "Why, milk the cow, of course."

"What is she doing with her arm around the cow's neck?" asked Parsons.

"Leading the animal to the lot," replied Reid, mixing some paint.

"Well, where is the milk pail?" demanded Parsons.

"She hasn't any milk pail," replied Reid.

"H'm," replied Parsons. "Then maybe she isn't going to milk the cow?"

"Well, maybe she isn't," asserted Reid.

"Well, if she isn't," persisted Parsons, blowing another puff of smoke, "what is the girl going to do with that milking stool?"

"Oh," snorted Reid, "she is going to hit the darned cow over the head with it!"—Kansas City Journal.

Roughing It.

James J. Hill, at one of the Conservation congress banquets in St. Paul, told a railway story.

"When sleeping cars first came in," he said, "the bedclothes in the berths were very scanty. On one of these early cars one night after everybody had turned in and the lights were low a loud voice called from an upper berth:

"Porter, got a corkscrew?" "The porter came hurrying down the aisle.

"Boss," he said, in a scandalized tone, "we don't allow no drippin' in the berths. It's against the rules."

"Oh, it ain't that, porter," the voice answered. "I just want to dig out a pillow that's sort of worked its way into my ear."

**ELECTRIC BITTERS** THE BEST FOR BILIOUSNESS AND KIDNEYS.

Master Jack, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson of Trent suffered a very painful accident Christmas week while playing on the lawn at the home of his grandparents in this city. Jack in some manner caught his hand in the lawn mower and received cuts and bruises which made necessary the amputation of a couple of his fingers. The little fellow gamely withstood the operation and he has the sympathy of all his many friends in this city.

Joe Holmes is among those who advanced his subscription figures into the year 1912 and said: "Mark my paper to stop at expiration if I do not renew." We wish that all of our more than 1,000 readers had the same idea of business.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mayfield have the sympathy of our people in the loss of their little girl Thursday afternoon. Interment was made in Rose Hill cemetery this afternoon. This good family lost last year their home in the Canyon country by fire and just recently moved to our city.

The Anchor Hardware Company, H. C. Burroughs and Armstrong & Company stores are receiving treatment at the hands of painters and decorators which make for improvement in looks.

Notice to My Friends.

It is my wish that my friends know that I am retaining my interests in the Anchor Hardware Company at Merkel and I ask that they continue their favors and patronage for this institution. I decided to return to my farm and will raise a bumper crop. If possible, this year but will continue my interests with and for the Anchor Hardware Company. When in need of anything in our line go to see them. Yours cordially, H. L. Propst

Likes The Mail.

Comanche, Dec. 23, 1910. I will drop a few lines. I sure do appreciate The Merkel Mail, so I will push up till March, 1911, and I will try to send you one more wheel. Wishing you a prosperous new year, I remain, Your friend, Jno. A. Edwards.

Town of Ovilla Burns.

Waxahachie, Jan. 4.—Practically the entire town of Ovilla, thirteen miles north of this city was destroyed by a conflagration last night. The loss, it is thought, will exceed thirty thousand dollars. Telephone communications are cut off and details are meager.

A Dreadful Wound.

From a knife, gun, tin can, rusty nail, fireworks, or of any other nature, demands prompt treatment with Bucklen's Arnica Salve to prevent blood poison or gangrene. It's the quickest, surest healer for all such wounds as also for burns, boils, sores, skin eruptions, eczema, chapped lips, corns or piles. 25c at U. C. Burroughs.

Our Plumbing.

We are pleased to announce to the trade that we have secured the services of Mr. W. L. Burns, an experienced and official city plumber who will have charge of this department of our business and will promptly and properly execute all orders left with us. Anchor Hardware Co.

For Eczema Tetter and Salt Rheum. The intense itching characteristic of these ailments is almost instantly allayed by Chamberlain's Salve. Many severe cases have been cured by it. For sale by Rust & McCauley Co.

PROGRAMME

# Woodmen of the World

Supper and Entertainment

In Thornton Building, Kent Street

Friday Evening, 7:00 O'Clock

JANUARY 6, 1911.

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Put On Your Old Gray Bonnett.....Orchestra

Welcome Address.....Sov. T. A. Johnson

By The Light of the Silvery Moon.....Orchestra

Quartet, Silver Threads Among the Gold.....

.....Misses Pitzer, Potter, West, Largent

When the Robins Sing Again.....Orchestra

Installation of Officers.....By the Lodge

Fair Confidants (Waltz).....Orchestra

Supper.....By the Lodge

Morris Dance.....Miss Dethel Jenkins

Witches Frolic.....Miss Dethel Jenkins

Turkey in the Straw (Piano).....Miss Bessie Settle

Male Quartet.....Crane, Ussery, Wisdom, Black

Duet.....

Social Entertainment.....

.....Short Talks by Charter Members and Others

---

All W. O. W. widows and children especially invited.

H. M. ROSE  
T. A. JOHNSON  
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Committee.

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## Livery, Feed and Sale Stable

### SOUTH SIDE

Solicits a share of your patronage during the New Year and promises courteous treatment. Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL TEXAS

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Capital Stock \$15,000 Surplus Fund \$200

### GUARANTY FUND BANK

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IT'S BETTER TO BE SAFE THAN SORRY

J. S. SWANN, President W. D. HUTCHESON, Vice-Pres.  
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It is sometimes hard to turn one from old ideas to new, but when the new are much better than the old, then take the new.

If you have not yet used

# TEXACO AXLE GREASE

get a can and you will prove to yourself that it is superior to any you have ever used.

MADE ONLY BY

# The Texas Company

For Sale by All Dealers



## BELIEVING THE WORST OF IT

Sam Bernard's Story of His Intoxicated Friend Illustrates a Common Failing of Humanity.

If Sam Bernard is to be believed, one of the most common sins to which a frail humanity is prone is that of believing the worst in any given case. "There's my friend Jones," said Bernard. "I met Jones wobbling up Broadway the other night. Just before I got to him Jones sought the comparative shelter of a lamppost. He glistened at me weakly when I touched him on the shoulder.

"Come on, Joneste," said I. "I'll take you to the hotel and put you to bed."

"Jonesie looked at me for a moment and then he spoke. 'How far'sh hotel from here?' he asked.

"About five minutes' walk."

"'Hub,' said Jonesie, nodding his head; 'F' minutes' walk, huh? F'r you or f'r me?"

"Now, I know what your conclusion is. You think that Jones was drunk, but how do you know he didn't have a wooden leg? One should always practise the virtue of charity. You remember the time that Admiral Bob Evans, walking down Broadway, came to one of his quartermasters. The sailor straightened up and saluted. Admiral Evans looked down and there lay another quartermaster, asleep in the gutter.

"Drunk, eh?" said Evans.

"Oh, no, shir," said the erect quartermaster, deprecatingly. "Ow, I wouldn't call him drunk, sir. I just seen him move his fingers a little."

Cincinnati Times-Star.

## RARE FORMS OF MARINE LIFE

Beaked Whales and West Indian Echinoids Are Described in the Bulletin of the National Museum.

The United States National Museum has issued two bulletins in the quarto series.

Of these the first, Bulletin 73 is "An account of the beaked whales of the family Ziphiidae in the collection of the United States National Museum, with remarks on some specimens in other American museums," by Dr. Frederick W. True, head curator of the department of biology in the United States National Museum.

The beaked whales are among the rarest cetaceans and of the three genera only specimens representing about 100 individuals are known. The three genera in the family Ziphiidae are Mesoplodon, Ziphius and Berardius, and to the discussions of these with their individual species Doctor True has devoted his attention.

The second of these bulletins, No. 74, is "On Some West Indian Echinoids," by the well known authority, Theodore Mortenson of the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Of special interest in this bulletin is the list of North American and West Indian Echinoids, which he has carefully compiled from the specimens obtained by the Blake and the Albatross. The bulletin is beautifully illustrated by 16 full-page plates of these interesting forms of marine life.

## Strength in Advancing Age.

To Hugo the years that bend and weaken and wrinkle the genius of the master seem but to bring fresh strength and energy and beauty. He ages like the lions. His brow, seamed with august furrows, rises under a mane larger, thicker, more bristling and more disheveled than ever before. His yellow eyes are like suns within caverns; when he roars the other animals are silent. Or, changing the comparison, one might liken him to an oak that dominates the forest; its enormous wrinkled trunk bursting into leaf, its branches mighty as trees. Its deep-reaching roots drink of the sap of the heart of the earth, its head almost touches heaven. In its vast foliage the stars shine at night, the birds sing at dawn. It braves the sun, the tempest, the wind, the thunder and the rain. The very scars of the thunderbolt have added to its beauty something formidable and superb.—Gautier's "Portrait of Victor Hugo."

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WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS  
Putting out good printing is our business, and when we say good printing we don't mean fair, but the best obtainable. If you are "from Missouri" give us a trial and we will  
**Show You**

## SHE HAD LOST NEW HUSBAND

Many Languages Tried on Frantic Woman Before the Cause of Her Trouble Was Explained.

She wailed, gesticulated, declaimed. Every language that got off sixteen north-bound subway trains at Thirty-third street station was tried on her. But nobody could make out more than was obvious to all from the start, that the woman was frantically excited and had lost something on the line.

Into both tunnels she pointed. She was about thirty years old and good looking. People thought the poor creature must have mislaid her baby somewhere along the track. Several wanted to go to search. But she pointed mostly into the tunnel through which she had not traveled. None could solve the mystery.

For nearly an hour she went through all the regular signs of intense distress, and caused a block among the passengers at the station. The crowd extended into the street and gave rise to rumors that there had been a terrible accident. Still no one could understand her, and she would not understand any sort of persuasion to take her departure.

Policemen Hughes got off the seventeenth train and took her to the East Thirty-fifth street police station. There the twelfth person sent for tried Polish and learned that the woman was Katherina Gorud, recently arrived, and still more recently married, and lived somewhere on a hill in Spuyten Duyvil, but she did not know where.

She had been shopping with her husband in Fourteenth street, and in the rush at six o'clock the crowd on the subway had carried her into a local train and her husband into an express. The police gave her coffee and cakes and sent out to find her husband.—New York World.

## THIS IS THE PAPER HANGER

Never Comes When He Promises, Criticizes Your Taste and Does Just Exactly as He Pleases.

A paper hanger is a man who promises by all that he holds sacred to be at your house on Monday morning at 8 o'clock, and sends word on Wednesday afternoon that he cannot come until Friday.

He brings a bucket of paste and some shears with him, and as soon as he sees the paper you have bought he says it will not do. He criticizes your taste and judgment and shows you why the pattern is utterly unsuited to the room, until he convinces you that you must send the paper back and purchase the proper supply from him, although you know very well that he gets a commission. Then he goes away to order the paper and you continue to sleep on the davenport until the following Tuesday.

You discover ere long that the laws of paper hanging are as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and that no matter how you want the room papered you are absolutely mistaken.

If he weren't a paper hanger he would be a plumber. But after this you will welcome the snail-like plumber gladly.

Gabriel will have to blow several encores before he gets the paper-hanging brigade to resurrect.

## Pensions for Cats and Horses.

Old age pensions are spreading. But who would have thought of St. Francis of Assisi as contributing to so modern a movement? Nevertheless, the kindly saint who preached to fishes and birds is still a factor to be reckoned with. As witness the case of the maiden lady who died in London recently and made provision in her will for pensions for her cats and horses. Her orders to her trustees were to the effect that they are to pay \$200 a year for the care of each of her cats. They are also to see that each animal is properly looked after and treated with kindness. Her horses are also to be provided for, not allowed to do harder work than they have been accustomed to, or are to be mercifully destroyed. All these unusual bequests are explained by the further orders of the will to the effect that the kindly provider is to be buried in the full habit of the Order of St. Francis of Assisi, to which she belonged.

## According to Schedule.

Eugene Higgins, in the smoking room of the Kronprinzessin Ceclie, condemned the too hurried tours of Europe that some Americans make. "Europe, to give its best," said Mr. Higgins, "must be taken slowly. Once, in an Italian picture gallery, I heard one broad-shouldered woman ask another: 'Is this Florence or Venice?' 'What day's today?' the other asked in turn. 'Wednesday.' 'Then it's Florence!'

**We're Opposed to Mail Order Concerns Because--**

They have never contributed a cent to furthering the interests of our town--

Every cent received by them from this community is a direct loss to our merchants--

In almost every case their prices can be met right here, without delay in receiving goods and the possibility of mistakes in filling orders.

**But--**

The natural human trait is to buy where goods are cheapest. Local pride is usually secondary in the game of life as played today.

**Therefore**

Mr. Merchant and Business Man, meet your competitors with their own weapons--advertising.

**Advertise!**

The local field is yours. All you need do is to avail yourself of the opportunities offered. An advertisement in this paper will carry your message into hundreds of homes in this community. It is the surest medium of killing your greatest competitor. A space this size won't cost much. Come in and see us about it.

## When One Has Fever.

In cases of excessive thirst that arise from feverish conditions the juice of half a lime poured over cracked ice or mixed with charged waters will give relief if slowly sipped a little at a time.

It is often found that very hot water taken by the teaspoonful will satisfy thirst more quickly than any other drink. The effect is heightened if a few drops of orange, lemon or lime juice is added, or a half teaspoonful of baking soda.

The main thing in thirst quenching is not to gulp down great quantities of liquid, to take nothing too sweet, or too rich and to avoid ice water, which, contrary to usual belief, increases rather than decreases thirst and against which all doctors fight.

## He Bore it Grinning.

Captain Kendall, the capturer of Crippen, was talking in the smoking room of the Montrose about the horrors of seasickness.

"Some men bear it well, though," he said. "I took a Liverpoolian to Canada last month and the poor fellow did have a time! Sick from the first day to the last!

"But he bore it well, and when we reached Father Point he said to me: 'Captain, I think I'll go straight back with you!'

"Why," said I, "I thought you were going to make an extensive tour?"

"No, I think I'll go back now," he said, gulping as a nasty swell lifted over his bow. "I see by your rate card that you carry 'returned empties' at half fare."

## The Worm.

"I insist upon an allowance of \$500 a month—not a penny less!" he cried.

"Absurd! That's more than I pay my cook," she retorted with curling lip.

"Then get your cook to dance attendance at all manner of boresome affairs; to give you the face to do what an unmarried woman never dares do; to be always at hand yet out of the way; never to mind no matter how you choose to conduct yourself—in short, to be a husband to you in the modern sense of the term!" he flared out defiantly.

She perceived that the worm had rumbled. "Hush!" she implored, and reached for her checkbook.—Puck.

## The Last Resort.

Victorious woman had unthinkingly left prostrate man a last weapon, and he, the graceless, treacherous wretch, scrupled not to use it.

That is to say, it was still permitted to get up the latest fashion in feminine apparel, and with fiendish ingenuity he lost no time in devising the hobble skirt.

"Ha, ha!" he chuckled, his idea being, of course, that if the hated sex hereupon took any more long steps forward, it would fall on its individual and collective faces.—Puck.

**Are You in Arrears?**  
on your subscription? You know WE NEED THE MONEY

## STARVING WITH \$15,000

Plight of Two Alaska Prospectors Who Had Plenty of Gold Dust and Offered It for a Meal.

Mining the glittering gold successfully on a claim and then transporting it to some bank or assay office seems to be a task fraught with many difficulties for the Alaska miner. Word has just been received from Katalla, Alaska, of the exciting experience of H. Parsons and A. Hill, two prospectors, who nearly starved to death with \$15,000 in gold dust in their possession.

Parsons and Hill had made a nice clean-up on their claims at Yakatage and decided to take their gold to the bank at Katalla. Leaving Yakatage in a dory, they proceeded as far as Seal river, where they encountered a dense fog. Fearing they might be blown to sea, they landed at the mouth of the river. As the fog cleared a storm came, causing a heavy surf which smashed their dory and destroyed the greater part of the provisions.

The gold dust had been carefully packed ashore, but the men were miles from any camp, and their only hope of reaching civilization was a march of miles over rough country and the swimming of glacier rivers, or perchance a passing fisherman might pick them up.

After waiting several days for some chance relief, their scant food supply gave out and they were compelled to make the mush to Kennuck island, which was accomplished by swimming several glacier rivers and depending on wild strawberries for food. An Indian canoe was obtained at Kennuck, in which the men made the remainder of the trip to Katalla.

Throughout the trip the men clung to the gold dust, but declared they would have given it all for a boat and a square meal many times during the trip to Kennuck island.

## HE PRACTISES LAW BY EAR

Pierce Butler's Retort to the Supercilious Question of a College Man in a Chicago Club.

Pierce Butler, special counsel for the government in the bleached flour cases, according to his own description of himself, is but a plain, rough-necked Irishman who grabbed his knowledge of law between times while making a living by other kinds of work. When he went into the prosecution of the flour cases he met up with a large number of university lawyers and chemists. While they were all dining at the Chicago club one evening the university men began telling stories about their boys at Yale, Harvard, Princeton and other places where Butler had never been.

"Ah, by the way, Mr. Butler," asked one of the high brows with appropriate university accent, "of what school are you a graduate?"

"Not any," said Butler; "I just practise law by ear."

Butler thinks the time of the black letter lose pretense in the professions and science is past. In cross-examining one of the high brow chemists he wanted to know something more about a proposition in chemistry the witness had laid down.

"Well, really, Mr. Butler," said the chemist in a superior sort of way, "you see this is a matter of involved inorganic chemistry and I doubt whether I can explain it so that you can understand it."

"Um—well, suppose you give me the benefit of the doubt," said Butler.

## Now the Crewless Warship.

A new type of warship, invented by Messrs. Wirth, Beck & Knauss of Nu remberg, is causing a great sensation in naval stations. All the movements of the new vessel can be controlled from a land station many miles distant.

During recent experiments at Dutz endteich a 30-foot boat was made to go forward, backward, turn in a circle and fire mines and torpedoes, all its operations being directed from the shore. Nobody was on board the boat.

Representatives of foreign naval powers are negotiating with the inventors. Experts predict a great future for the new craft.—New York Sun.

## His Conclusion.

Claude Grahame White, the English aviator, praised, at a dinner in New York, the American stage.

"Your plays are livelier than ours," he said. "Our plays are very dull and stupid. A novelist said to me one night at the Automobile club in London:

"I have written several plays and they have all been rejected." So I devoted last month to a study of the London theater. I took in every play in town. I was resolved to get a lot of points on the English stage.

"And did you learn much?" said I. "Well," said the novelist, moodily, "I came to the conclusion that I'm the only man alive who can't get a good play put on."

## SCOLDING FOR SUMMER GIRLS

Irate Vicar in England Denounces Their Costumes as Mussed and Immodest, and Blames Motor Cars.

"For some weeks past we have enjoyed the presence of summer visitors. But who devises their 'clothing?' Thus writes the vicar of Carlis-brooke, Isle of Wight, in his parish magazine, says a recent London dispatch to the New York Tribune. He continues: "We can remember a time when the English girl was a most attractive creature. Look at Leech's pictures in the old numbers of Punch—pretty, tasteful and bright, they were a pleasure to look at.

"But the 1910 female seems either to be wrapped up in a bundle of rags, with the least clean one spread over her hat and tied under her chin, or else she discards as much of her clothing as she can—leaves her hat at home and gets her head full of dust; exposes her chest to every wind that blows, displays ankles that show the solidity of her understanding, runs about the island half-clad, crumpled and dust-laden. Is it to convey the impression that they have all traveled in motors?"

"But the motorist deserves a line to himself. He represents the last arrogance of wealth. He comes hooting, squeaking, bellowing, tinkling, roaring or whistling with a piercing scream, to tell everybody to get out of the way."

## WAS NOT A BEAUTY LECTURE

Timid Little Woman Found Herself Seeking Dress Hints at Federation of Club Women.

"The conservation of the natural resources of this country is one of the paramount issues before the American people today and—"

The speaker adjusted her nose glasses, raised her eyes confidently from her manuscript to meet the expressions of approval from the thirty or more clubwomen of Iowa, says the Des Moines Register and Leader. It was a stupendous statement and well worth readjustment of one's pose for the dramatic effect. The speaker, who stopped now and then to look up from the script, was neatly but severely tailored, her hair was brushed carefully and not unbecomingly from her high brow. There was not a curl nor a ripple of a marcel wave. Higher education was writ large.

A little woman on the back seat in common clothes, seamed face and hard hands adged and looked startled at such an intellectual outburst.

"Excuse me, mum," she ventured timidly, as she nudged her neighbor, "is this Mme. X's beauty lecture?"

"It is not," was the grim rejoinder. "It is the annual meeting of the official board and chairmen of standing committees of the Iowa Federation of Club Women."

"Mercy!" ejaculated the woman out of place. Then she "scouted."

## Novels by Weight.

Bernard Shaw's latest contribution to the world's fund of wisdom is the suggestion that fiction be sold, or bought by weight. This certainly is Mr. Shaw's profoundest utterance. It marks the acme of his greatness as a sage. By all means buy it by weight, then there can be very little ground for complaint at the high price of novels. Moreover, it will be in direct line with this popular movement to buy groceries by weight, as a means of solving the high-cost-of-living problem and getting one's money's worth.

Perhaps, also, this Shaw system will have the desired effect of limiting the output, of bringing the supply somewhere near the demand. The present method of buying it by the yard seems utterly to have failed in this achievement. That means of measurement has not even proved wholly successful with reference to Dr. Elliot's five-foot book shelf, which, of course, no one but Shaw ever would have thought of buying by the pound.

**THE VALUE**  
of well-printed neat-appearing stationery as a means of getting and holding desirable business has been amply demonstrated. Consult us before going elsewhere



## CHURCH NOTICES

[We will be glad to make any announcements of services, special programs or other items where no revenue is to be received, free of charge. Notices of entertainments for revenue or charging admission, at half the regular price.—Editor.]

### At The Baptist Church.

Sunday school 10 a. m.; preaching 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunbeam Band 3 p. m.; Junior Union 4 p. m.; Senior Union 6 p. m.; Ladies Aid on Monday 3 p. m.; prayermeeting Wednesday 7:15 p. m.; choir practice Friday 7:30 p. m. We cordially invite the public. W. C. Taggart, Pastor.

### At The Presbyterian Church.

Preaching every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday School 7:45 a. m.; Y.P.S.C.E. 4 p. m.; prayermeeting Thursday 7:30 p. m.; Ladies Missionary Society Monday 4 p. m. after each 3rd Sunday; regular session meetings on Thursday 7:30 p. m. on or before the first full moon in the month. Geo. A. Crane, Pastor.

### Epworth League Program.

Program for January 8, 1911. Leader, Miss Lela Nisbett. Subject, "Relationship to God." Song. The Lord's Prayer in concert. Roll call. Song. Scripture lesson by leader, Rom. 5: 8-10. All repeat John 3: 16. Prayer by leader. Leader's address. Scripture reading with comments, Deut. 6: 4.—Miss Allie Jennings. Song. Talk, "Some Tokens of Our Friendship to God."—Miss Hawkins. Talk, "Tokens of His Friendship."—Mr. Jack Provine. Duet.—Misses Christopher and Moore. Announcements. Song. Benediction.

### Baraca Social.

The Baraca Class gave a "Progressive Poverty Social" last Monday night. The party gathered at Mrs. Jennings'. Here they indulged in a spelling match, the words being spelled backward. Slips of papers with numbers on them were passed and every one matched numbers for partners. Refreshments were served then Miss Hawkins told every one to get their wraps. From here we went to Mrs. Geo. Brown's. Their partners were changed and delicious refreshments were served. Then they were treated to peanuts. After staying here awhile the party left for Dr. Armstrong's. There they were all introduced to the new bride and groom, Dr. and Mrs. Barnett.

Capt. Hawkins entertained them with a reading about old maids and bachelors. Punch, cake and pop corn were served. Those present were Misses Josie Lowery, Ola Pope, Mary Lee Hicks, Leno Tucker, Gladys Christopher, Mattie Paylor, Mattie Christopher, Mittie and Minnie Fulbright of Hamilton, Allie Jennings, Annie Lou O'Briant, Tennie Pope, Maxie Banner, Laura Jennings, Messrs Leslie and Rufus McNeese, Ira and Ollie Shaffer, Simpson Christopher, Ernest Duckett, Frank Smith, Frank Hunter Forest Gaither, Ross Ferrier, Samuel Rainbolt, Bert Hudgins, Lowe Barnett, Mr. Barnett, Adam Sibley and Will Brown.

Miss Virginia Mackey returned Monday from a delightful visit to her parents in Durant, Okla.

# SOCIETY; THE CHURCHES AND CIVIC IMPROVEMENT

Mrs. W. H. Dickson Editor. Telephone 6-4

### Twentieth Century Club.

The 20th Century club meets with Mrs. W. H. Dickson at 3:30 p. m. next Saturday. This will be a business meeting. The election of officers, etc. Each member requested to be present. The lesson is Henry the Eighth. Roll call, Shakespearian quotations.

Give date of writing the play. When played? Who is the dramatist to whom joint authorship of this play is ascribed?

Mention the parts assigned to Shakespeare.

Give the four main sources used for the historical facts of the play.

What is supposed to have become of the original Shakespearian writings?

What is the temper of the play as evidenced by the Prologue? Do you think Shakespeare wrote the Prologue?

Give date of Henry Eighth reign.

What event is discussed by Norfolk and Buckingham at the beginning of the play?

Whom does Norforks glowing description serve to introduce and what impression of him is given thereby?

What bits of personal biography of Wolsey does the scene furnish?

What is the dramatic purpose of the scenes between Wolsey and Buckingham?

Of what treasons does Buckingham accuse Wolsey? How is the former prevented from carrying out his threat? How is the Prologue fulfilled in the arrest of Buckingham?

Who was buckingham? Norfolk? Wolsey?

### Zenobia Club.

The Zenobia Club meets this afternoon at 3:30 with Mrs. J. T. Warren. Lesson, Japan Vol. 3. Pages 7 to 51.

Roll call, current events. Introduction, Mrs. Otho Williams, 7 to 9.

The route selected, 9 to 14.—Mrs. McCauley.

The stop at Banff and on to Ocean Gateway, 14 to 18.—Mrs. Porter.

Vancouver and voyage of North Pacific, 18 to 23.—Mrs. Adams.

Japan and some explorations, 23 to 27.—Mrs. Burroughs.

The Jinrikisha and Grand Hotel 27 to 30.—Mrs. T. A. Johnson. Yokohama, 30 to 36 inclusive. Miss Jennings.

Surrounding country, 36 to 42.—Mrs. Frank Johnson.

The Island of Enoshima, 42 to 47.—Mrs. Hudgins.

Tokis, 47 to 51.—Miss Williams.

A Christmas dance was held at the Crenshaw hall on Dec. 27th and was chaperoned by Messrs and Mesdames L. D. Gaither, Lanier Brown, R. O. Anderson, W. R. Walker, Homer Magness. The guests in attendance were Misses Annie T. Daniel, Zora and Jewel Coggin, Jessie O'Briant, Agnes and Margaret Hall, Juanita and Ollie Kate Harris, Olga Sheppard, Messrs Lester Magness, Dee Grimes, Joe provine, Ernest Faucett, Paul Cranford, Wm. Berry, George Howard, C. Hunt, Frank Anderson of Colorado City, J. D. Gaither and Dr. George Miller.

Mrs. C. D. Mims entertained the Home Mission Society at her home Thursday, Dec. 29 from 9 to 11 a. m. and from 2 to 4 p. m. with an old fashion quilting. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" so Mrs. Mims furnished amusement in a very unique manner. The three questions asked gave chance for wit and humor as well as actual truths. 1. Your greatest fault? 2. What do you most dislike to do? 3. Things you take the greatest pride in and about your home? Miss Ruth Mims furnished music and was assisted by Miss Maude Martin in serving cake, chocolate and whipped cream.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Daniel entertained a number of Christmas guests Saturday and Sunday. Their coming was to bring bright and cheery greetings to the household especially so to John who has been a shut-in since his accident last March. In their going they carried thoughts of patience and cheerfulness. The week-end and dinner guests were Misses Jessie O'Briant, Jewel and Zora Coggin, Olga Sheppard, Ollie Kate and Juanita Harris of Nugent, Messrs Dee Grimes, Lester Magness, Ernest Faucett, John Daniel, Harry Harris of Abilene, Dr. Geo. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Tucker. Miss Annie T. assisted her mother in entertaining.

Miss Isla McDonald entertained her young friends Saturday at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. C. Hunt on Oak Street. Music and 42 made the evening pass all too soon. Misses Elma Sheppard, Fanny Burroughs, Eunice Nisbett and Jessie Sutphen assisted Miss Isla in entertaining the following guests: Misses Zora West, Tommie Lou and Gladys Coggin, Roxie Moon, Pauline Johnson, Bessie Touchstone and Ona Hamblett. Messrs Conna Adams, Dillard Coggin, Emzi and H. C. Burroughs, Raymond Touchstone and Bob McDonald.

Friday evening's dance at the New Hall was well attended and enjoyed by all. Those present were Misses Annie T. Daniel, Margaret and Agnes Hall, Lulu and Gertrude Thornton, Ruth Mims, Jessie O'Briant, Zora Coggin and Miss Eddens. Messrs Dem Rust, Joe Provine, George Howard, Dee Grimes, Lester Magness, Ernest Faucett, Paul Cranford, J. P. C. Hunt, Messrs and Mesdames L. Brown, L. D. Gaither, R. O. Anderson, Homer Magness.

Mrs. E. D. Simpson had a family reunion Monday evening in honor of Mrs. C. A. Bickley of DeLeon. A lovely supper was served to the following guests: Mrs. J. S. Bickley (a sister) and family from the Canyon, Mrs. Henry Frazier (a sister) and family from the Mt. Pleasant community, Mr. C. L. McNeese (a brother) and family, Mr. Tom Christopher and family, Mr. Jno. S. Hughes and little sons, Mr. Mrs. Rufus Adcock, Mr. Clifton Bickley and family and the honoree Mrs. C. L. Bickley, wife of Rev. C. A. Bickley of DeLeon. A most enjoyable time was reported.

### New Years Dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sears entertained their friends New Years day at their home north of Merkel with an elegant dinner. A seventeen course menu was served. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sears, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sears, Misses Lucy Beene, Jewel and Zora Coggin, Eula, Mossie and Pet Sears, Messrs Clyde and Claude Sears, Little Miss Vivian Sears, Masters Lance Sears and Thurmond Coggin. The day will be long remembered by all present as an ideal day. Mr. and Mrs. Sears are charming in their home and it is a pleasure to be there.

A guest.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker served a Christmas dinner to a few friends Christmas day. It is always a treat to be a guest at this "Liberty Hall." Miss Lucy Beene and Mrs. Walker have few equals and no superiors when it comes to feeding the inner man. Master Jack had for his guests, H. C. and Emzi Burroughs and Clarence Hamm. The other dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dickson.

Thursday, Dec. 29 Mr. and Mrs. Homer Magness honored their mother, Mrs. James Carrigan of Altus, Okla., with a well appointed dinner. Their guests: Mr. and Mrs. Claud Comegys and little daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Doss Sheppard and littl daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Groene and little son, Misses Annie T. Daniel, Agnes Hall, Zora Coggin, Messrs Dem Rust, Dee Grimes and Lester Magness.

Master Jack Walker was at home Dec. 26th from 7 to 9 to a few of his young friends. They were royally entertained at 42 and Ten Pens. The invited guests were Misses Tommie Lou and Gladys Coggin, Jackie Jennings, Amelia Porter, Messrs H. C. and Emzi Burroughs, Paul Pitzer and Dillard Coggin. Mrs. Walker and Miss Beene served the guests with candies, cakes and fruits.

Miss Frankie Falconer entertained her friends at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Groene Saturday evening with a watch party. At eleven o'clock Miss Falconer assisted by Mrs. Groene served cake and coffee to the following young people: Misses Tucker, Roberts, Hamblett, Jenkins Welch of Abilene, Messrs Ernest, Ferguson, Cordell, Sharp, Tucker, Swann and Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Groene gave a Christmas dinner Monday Dec. 26. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. Will McGarr of Stanton, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Comegys and Rev. Dunning of Sweetwater. A pleasant day was spent and a dinner fit for a king served. Nothing was left to be wished for. Mrs. Groene is a charming hostess.

The Christmas tree at the south side Christian Church Saturday afternoon, Dec. 24th was a joyful surprise to the little folks. Santa Claus let his son visit the tree and give out the gifts. The hearts of the little ones were made glad. To see their bright faces more than repaid each one that labored for their happiness.

## PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS

Dr. C. M. McCauley

Dentist

Office over F. & M. Bank, Merkel, Tex.

Dr. S. L. Davis

DENTIST

Office Over The F. & M. National Bank MERKEL, TEXAS

## DOCTORS

ADKISSON & MILLER

General Practice

Special Office Treatment Ear, Nose, Throat, Chronic Ailments Office—City Drug Store

Dr. W. V. Cranford

Office at

Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

TELEPHONE

Office 4-3 Residence 2-7-6

Dr. M. Armstrong

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON

Office in rear Armstrong & Harris Drug Store. Office Phone 105. Residence Phone 12

C. D. MIMS

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

Practice in State and Federal Courts. Land and Collection Law a specialty. OFFICE OVER FIRST NATIONAL BANK

W. W. Wheeler

Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado

Insurance Agent

Notary Public.

Office up stairs in First National bank building

WALTER S. POPE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Practice in all Courts, County District and Federal.

Office over F. & M. National Bank Anson, Texas

H. C. WILLIAMS G. W. JOHNSON

WILLIAMS & JOHNSON

Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident

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Respectfully Solicit Your Business

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Merkel :: Texas



GLASSES FITTED DR. MILLER

LANEY & WALTERS BUTCHERS

Fresh Meats and Fresh Bread Phone 77 for Prompt Delivery First door west of Hammans Bros.

Abilene Steam Laundry

H. M. WARREN, Agent

Baskets shipped Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, returned Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Work called for and delivered promptly or received at the City Barber shop. I will appreciate your patronage.

H. M. WARREN

Phone 48 In City Barber Shop

Mrs. James Carrigan of Altus, Okla., visited her daughter, Mrs. Homer Magness a few days last week. Mrs. Carrigan has a number of friends here, having lived here for years.

William Berry, our young friend, left Thursday for Needles, Arizona, to accept a position at that place. Our best wishes go with him for success.

W. R. Walker and Lytton Howard went to Stamford Christmas to visit Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Middleton. While there they went hunting and found lots of game.



# OUR SUBSCRIPTION BARGAINS

**\$1.75--Merkel Mail and Abilene Semi-Weekly Reporter--\$1.75**

## Club Offer No. 2

The Merkel Mail and  
Dallas Semi-Weekly, both one year... **\$1.75**

## Clubbing Offer No. 3

The Merkel Mail and the  
Fort Worth Semi-Weekly Record, both 1 year **\$1.75**

## O Special Clubbing Proposition

The Land Ranch is a Texas paper for Texas farmers and should be read by every progressive tiller of the soil and stockman, and you should include Holland's Magazine for the ladies. We offer the following

The Land Mail, Farm and Ranch and Holland's Magazine, all one year for **\$1.75**

The Land Mail and Farm & Ranch... **\$1.50**    The Merkel Mail and Holland's Magazine **1.35**

## Magazines and Weeklies

We can save money on any magazine or paper published in the U.S. In short we are allowed a liberal discount on this to our readers who take our paper and pay for take out your list of papers and magazines and we will give you a sufficient amount to include your home paper

**THE PAPER THE PEOPLE READ**

## ORDER FOR PAPERS

Be sure to write plainly and give initials and address and state for each paper if you are a NEW or OLD subscriber, that is, if you are now receiving the paper or not.

MERKEL MAIL: Please find enclosed \$..... for which order me the following papers:

	NEW	OLD
THE MERKEL MAIL.....	.....	.....
and.....	.....	.....
and.....	.....	.....
and.....	.....	.....
and.....	.....	.....

Name..... P. O. ....

P. S.: DO IT NOW.                      Box..... Route.....

## A Brain and Muscle Food

# DR. PICE'S ALGRAIN FOOD

The valuable tissue-buildings in this food make it an important brain and muscle food, (I want of such nourishment, many invalids are slowly passing out.) It will restore and keep mankind in good health and vigorous, healthful and life-giving. You get all the nutritive properties combined cereals, WHEAT, RICE, OATS and BARLEY. Air Grocer.

## THE TEXAS & PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY

Have the only line connect with all the Exchanges between Abilene and Big Springs. Also we own exchs in all the towns between Abilene and Big Springs, and we are prepared to give best service at any time. No waiting for you. Through copper lines

Connection at Abilene With the Roberts and Southwest Telephone Companies

### Obituary.

Albert Morrison was born Aug. 15, 1887, and died Dec. 11, 1910. Albert was a good boy and was loved by all who knew him. He gave his heart to God some two or three years ago. God's promise was sweet to him. He was always at his place in Sunday school. His suffering was intense but he was patient till the last. He did not complain.

While our hearts are sad and his chair is vacant and his voice is silent in the home our sadness disappears when we think about his triumphant death. Just a few minutes before he died he said: "farewell, I am going to glory," and then he kissed his loved ones and told them that they had been so good to him. He said the neighbors had been very good to him. He asked his mother to forgive him wherein he had done wrong and then went home to God.

It is a sweet thing to live for God but it is sweeter when we come to cross the river of death.

The father and mother and brothers and sisters look with sweet anticipation to that great reunion where death is a stranger.

He leaves a father and mother, brothers and sisters and a host of friends to mourn his death.

May the God of love and of mercy give his loved ones grace in this hour of sadness to comfort them. J. J. Gentry.

Anson, Texas, Dec. 22, 1910.

### Choked to Death

is commonly said of babies who have died of the croup. How unnecessary this is. No child ever had the croup without having a cold or cough at the start. If you will stop the first symptom of the cough with Ballard's Horehound Syrup there is no danger whatever of croup. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

## OUR ADVERTISING COLUMNS

are read by the people because it gives them news of absorbing interest. People no longer go looking about for things they want—they go to their newspaper for information as to where such things may be found. This method saves time and trouble. If you want to bring your wares to the attention of this community, our advertising columns

Should  
Contain Your  
Ad

□□□□□□□□

### Health is More Expensive than any Cure.

This country is now filled with people who migrate across the continent in all directions seeking that which gold cannot buy. Nine-tenths of them are suffering from throat and lung trouble or chronic catarrh resulting from neglected colds, and spending fortunes vainly trying to regain lost health. Could every sufferer but undo the past and cure the first neglected cold, all this sorrow, pain, anxiety and expense could have been avoided. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cures of colds, and can always be depended upon. Use it and the more serious diseases may be avoided. For sale by Rust & McCauley Drug Co.

### Located and Wants The Mail.

Ford City, Texas, Dec. 16.  
Dear Editor: As I left Merkel Oct. 6 and had only enough money to get away in daylight and not knowing what my post office would be I never paid up nor ordered my paper changed so now I am settled at least till next fall and of course I want the Mail but as money is the shortest thing I have found this year anywhere I shall only send you \$1.50 for which I want you to send me the paper now and after awhile I will send you some more money. Hoping that the Merkel country will have a bumper crop and take her place in front where she rightly belongs, I am yours truly,  
John Sims.

### Marvelous Discoveries

mark the wonderful progress of the age. Air flights on heavy machines, telegrams without wires, terrible war inventions to kill men, and that wonder of wonders—Dr. King's New Discovery—to save life when threatened by coughs, colds, lagrippe, asthma, croup, bronchitis, hemorrhages, hay fever and whooping cough or lung trouble. For all bronchial affections it has no equal. It relieves instantly. Its the surest cure. James M. Black of Asheville, N. C., R. R. No. 4, writes it cured him of an obstinate cough after all other remedies had failed. 50c. and \$1.00. A trial bottle free. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

### He Can Come Back.

Hillsboro, Texas, Dec. 20, 1910.  
Editor Merkel Mail, Merkel, Texas.  
Just received your dun  
So I'll send along the man  
In shape of a dollar cash  
To get some Xmas hash.  
So if it is not against the law  
Send along your old Buzz-saw  
And when the season is over  
Will come back to the City in Clover.  
W. F. Dupree.



# OUR SUBSCRIPTION BAGGAINS

**\$1.75--Merkel Mail and Abilene Semi-Weekly Rorter--\$1.75**

## Clubbing Offer No. 2

The Merkel Mail and the Dallas Semi-Weekly News, both one year... **\$1.75**

## Clubbing Or No. 3

The Merkel Mail and the Fort Worth Semi-Weekly Record 1 year **\$1.75**

## Our Special Clubbing Proposon

The Farm and Ranch is a Texas paper for Texas farmers and should be read by every prive tiller of the soil or stockman, and you should include Holland's Magazine for the ladies. We offollowing

The Merkel Mail, Farm and Ranch and Holland's Magazine, all one year for..... **\$1.75**

The Merkel Mail and Farm & Ranch..... **\$1.50**    The Merkel Mail and Holland's Mag **1.35**

## Magazines and Weeklies

We can save you money on any magazine or paper published in the United States. In short we are allowed a liberal discount and give this to our readers who take our paper and pay for it. Make out your list of papers and magazines and we will save you a sufficient amount to include your home paper

**THE PAPER THE PEOPLE READ**

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Be sure to write plainly and give initial address and state for each paper if you are a NEW or OLD subscriber, that you are now receiving the paper or not.

MERKEL MAIL: Please find enclosed \$..... for which order me the following papers:

	NEW	OLD
THE MPRKEL MAIL.....		
and.....		
and.....		
and.....		
and.....		

Name.....

P. S.: DO IT NOW. Route.....

### A Little Reminiscence.

The resumption of business by G. F. West was the occasion of some reminiscence one day this week when he was in conversation with T. B. Story, another pioneer of our little city.

They drew a picture of Merkel in 1889 and we must confess that our little town made a slim showing. Of course J. H. Thornton was in business and carried probably the largest stock, probably \$2,000 which was half of the entire amount of merchandise in the little town which claimed a population of about a couple of hundred. Marion Fisher was proprietor of a small drug stock, mostly patent medicines and the post office. Clark ran a small grocery store, J. L. Vaughan the depot. Revs. S. H. Blair and A. A. Baker were the only ministers and Drs. Richardson and Taylor the only physicians. Mr. West started in business by the purchase of a small stock of hardware owned by Mrs. M. E. Thornton which invoiced about \$400. The buildings were all frame. The first rock building was erected by C. M. Largent the next year, now the property of Dr. J. A. Adkisson on Kent and Front streets and Mr. West erected the first brick building the year following, now occupied by the West Texas Hardware Co. T. B. Story was the whole show in the real estate business and laughed about unloading a couple of half sections of dirt on his victim, Mr. West at \$8.00 and \$6 25 per acre, respectively.

Simpson Christopher, who suffered a broken leg a couple of months ago is able to resume his studies although compelled to use a crutch.

### Merkel Country Farming.

J. R. Pee who has been farming and reading the Merkel Mail in the Merkel country for the past 22 years was among the pleasant callers at our office this week.

It was the first of the year and our subscriber was making mental balances in comparison and thus we learned his experience. He has raised 22 crops since 1888, coming here after the drouth of that period and has raised but two short cotton crops and the only feed bought was this last year. The last year was his worst experience of the long period and then he had some feed in his barn which he raised two years ago. Of the 22 he has had feed to sell 18 years and always made a liberal allowance as a saving for his own use, 75 bushels of corn totaling the entire amount of his purchase of feed during the nearly quarter of a century.

Mr. Pee feels it in his bones that this year will be a good one and his experience forms a mighty sound basis for his confidence in this section.

### Stanly--Clark Wedding.

Mr. E. F. Stanley of Nubia and Miss Nettie Clark made a flying trip to Sweetwater Thursday, the 22 of last month and were married and returned back home Saturday.

We all wish them a long and happy life. Red Rose.

J. W. Haley of Lone Wolf, Okla., is here a guest at the home of his uncle, T. H. Spears, and admitted upon cross-examination and direct comparison that we had the best country.

Read the Mail--\$1.00 a year.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE.--Poland China pigs from 6 weeks old to a 150 lbs. J. S. Touchstone, Route No. 1. 10 4t

LAND FOR RENT.--Three places, two 120 acres each, 1 50 acres, third and fourth and one place on halves to proper party with good force. Andy Hunter, Nubia, Tex. 3tpd

FOR RENT--80-acre farm 2 miles of Merkel, good land, free of Johnson grass. Ross Ferrier. 23t2

FARM for rent. S. F. Haynes. tf

FOR RENT.--A good farm with plenty of pasture and good improvements. Apply to A. C. Boney, Merkel, Texas, Box 291. 5tf

Anyone having sows or gilts to breed please see A. V. Dye's Poland China male. 4tpd

Anyone wanting carpenter work done or fence building phone A. V. Dye. Work reasonable and satisfaction guaranteed. 4tpd

R. M. Barnes of Commanche is among his friends in our city for a visit of several days this week. Mr. Barnes has in the last few months suffered two sieges of fever and although much reduced in flesh is looking and feeling much better than in several years. He is living on the ranch of his mother in Commanche county and reports Mrs. Barnes and children in the best of health. He says that he has entirely recovered from all afflictions except financialitis which is such an epidemic in this state this season and that is not dangerous.

Two choice farms for rent. 100 acres or more. C. M. Largent.

### The Best Yet.

Canyon City, Tex., De Editor Merkel Mail,

Dear Jack:--Here's a for the Mail, the best paper I'm sorry I can't bring this big. It is making Canyon ter town than any on the Business is very good here, am coming back to Merkel day. Yours, E. Burrough

**\$40,000 Fire at Wichita Falls**  
Wichita Falls, Jan. 4.--early today caused property of fully forty thousand dollars the business section of Wichita Falls. A one story brick on Eight street owned by J. Ward was destroyed at an mated loss of ten thousand lars. Other losses were sustained, the principal losers being W. Kennedy, jeweler, and M. French, owner of a nickel store. The Kennedy loss is placed twelve thousand dollars, and French loss at three thousand. Officers are today making thorough investigation into case of the conflagration.

### Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain the post office at Merkel Tex. week ending Jan. 7, 1911:  
Chandler, Mrs. Jennie.  
Chandler, Miss Ida.  
Good, Oscar.  
Hollinger, E. B.  
Plunkett, J. W.  
Reaves, W. B.  
Stevens, Ben.  
Whittaker, T. F.  
Gutierrez, SrBibrano.

If not called for will be sent dead letter office Jan. 21, 1911. H. W. Derstine, P. M.

Read the Mail. 1.00 a year.

### Butman Community.

The farmers are all preparing their land for another crop.

The school is progressing nicely at Butman with Mrs. Davenport teacher.

Miss Monta Whetsel was among our visitors at prayer meeting Sunday night.

R. B. Grider and family spent Sunday with R. N. White and family.

Miss Della Sutphen attended services at Butman Sunday morning.

Bro. Masters preached at Butman Saturday night and Sunday.

D. D. Coats and family spent Sunday with J. A. Dulin and family.

Ira Thornton was a pleasant caller at J. A. Negighbors' Sunday.

Miss Pearl Perkins attended meeting in our community Sunday.

Emmitt Patterson transacted business in Merkel Tuesday.

Misses Lillie add Laney White ere the guests of Miss Lottie Butman Sunday.

Misses Mary Grider and Laurie Doolin spent Saturday night Sunday with Miss Estelle Moore near Castle Peak.

Willie White is with home lks this week.

Mr. Woods and family spent unday with Bob McClain near ubia.

There will be a spelling match Butman school house Friday, Dec. 5. Everyone is invited to come. Red Rose.

By the courtesy of Dr. W. V. ranford E. W. Pollock, an old friend at Moro, will receive and ad the Merkel Mail during the year.