

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 23—NO. 43

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1911

MERKEL TRADE WEEK

Second Monday Starts Week in Way to Mean Success.

IS GOOD FOR EVERYBODY

Idea meets With Approval of Merchants, Farmers and Stockmen and Next One Will be Bigger and Better.

Someone said nothing succeeds like success and the Merkel Trade Week was as good as could have been expected.

There were several hundred farmers and stockmen here from all parts of our country and a big crowd, considering the bad weather and bad roads. It was the first and this crowd and interest showed that the idea is a good one and the day and week will be better in the future.

We have not room to publish all of the expressions we heard but it is well enough just to say all were pleased and if continued and managed right it will be a good thing for our town and country. We saw a number of sales and trades made and our merchants report the best Monday business in a long time. Roland B. Rains sold a coming 3-year-old mare to Sam Matteredly for \$110 00 cash and it was a bargain. E. D. Massey sold five full blood Duroc Jersey pigs for \$5 00 each cash and they were worth the money. A. J. Hartley sold a half dozen fine Buff Orpington hens for a good price and there were many such sales and a lot more trades. The Mail, hotels, restaurants, wagon yards and livery stable enjoyed their full share. It was a good natured and jolly crowd, and nothing unpleasant happened to damage the day. Every visitor got a fair and square deal everywhere and the merchants are giving the trade more for their produce and money than they can get anywhere else in this part of the country.

Jan. 6th to 13th.

The next Trade Day and Bargain Week will be better, for already plans are being made for improvement. One change is made at suggestion of farmers and that is the week will begin on first Saturday, following first Monday and end on Saturday. The merchants and city will arrange for a market place with plenty of hitch racks and show pens. The first day will be a regular stock, produce and poultry show and sale, as well as trade day. A number have already promised to exhibit some fine stock. Some of the famous "Blue Ribbon Herd" of Herefords will be on exhibit and the best pair of young mules in Texas. If you have nothing to buy, sell or trade just come and see for this will do you good.

The date: Jan. 6th to 13th.
The place: Merkel.

8 Per Cent Loans on Land.

Do you want to borrow on your land this season? If so, see us at once. Our rate and terms are the same that they have been during the eight or ten years we have been lending. We advise to apply early and avoid the E. B. Bynum & Co.

DEC. 22---OUR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EDITIONS---JAN. 6

These two issues will chronicle the passing of the old and the beginning of the new year and we are going to make a special effort to make them ones of credit for our town and country.

Our Christmas edition will be mailed in a beautiful and appropriate cover and will contain at least sixteen pages of reading and advertising matter besides. There will be several hundred extra copies of each printed and mailed and delivered to people in this and other sections of our country. They will cover the Merkel country like a blanket and offer a special opportunity for the live and wide-awake merchant or business man to talk to his friends and past and prospective customers.

It is an established custom and a good one for the banks and business people to put in print their appreciation of the business and favors of the past year as well as to solicit business for the future and we hope that our paper will be full of sincere sentiment. These cards are read and appreciated by the families of our subscribers and bring results always if worthy. Our pages of Christmas and New Year's greetings will be full of human interest, the holiday spirit, and there our advertisers will have a heart-to-heart chat with their friends, our readers.

The plans for these two special editions will make extra work for our faithful little force and we ask that all advertisers write and give us their letters and advertisements at the earliest moment possible. Now is the best time to do anything and we suggest that you prepare your copy and give it to our printers today. Do not delay for you may be too late and every firm, business and professional man should be represented in these two issues.

There will be no issue of the Mail Friday, December 29 and the Christmas Edition will be printed and mailed a few days before December 22, in order that our advertisers and readers may get the full benefit of any and all special bargains advertised.

In the spirit of the season write your gratitude and appreciation of the favors of your friends the past year and give it to us now.

NO. 10052 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

The Southern National Bank

at Merkel, in the State of Texas, at the close of business, Dec., 5, 1911:

RESOURCES	
Loans and discounts	\$ 90,842.47
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	9,628.06
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	12,500.00
Banking house, furniture and fixtures	14,000.00
Due from Nat. Banks (not reserve agt)	3,968.08
Due from state and private banks and bankers, trust companies and savings banks	7.09
Due from approved reserve agents	6,774.10
Checks and other cash items	2,770.90
Bills of Exchange on cotton	36,445.47
Notes of other National banks	2,355.00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents	177.00
Lawful Money Reserve in bank, viz:	
Specie	\$5,423.00
Legal-tender notes	4,530.00—9,943.00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent of circulation)	625.00
Total	\$190,054.17
LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 50,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	2,719.42
National Bank notes outstanding	12,500.00
Due to other National banks	13,047.25
Due to State and Private Banks and Bankers	572.09
Individual Deposits sub. to check	108,235.69
Demand certificates of deposit	1,700.00
Cashiers checks outstanding	1,279.72
Total	\$190,054.17

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, J. E. Faucett, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
J. E. Faucett, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of December, 1911.
[SEAL] W. W. Wheeler, Notary Public.
CORRECT—ATTEST:
John Sears, }
C. L. Barker, } Directors
M. Armstrong, }

We have just received a nice line of choice plush laprobes ranging in price from \$2.00 to \$9.00. We will be open at night West Texas Hardware Co.

Buy your groceries from the new grocery on Front Street.
R. L. Bradshaw Grocery Co.

NO. 366 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

The Farmers State Bank

at Trent, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 5th day of Dec., 1911, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 15th day of Dec., 1911:

RESOURCES	
Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$94,769.87
Loans, real estate	792.00
Overdrafts	2,048.10
Bonds and Stock	105.00
Real Estate (banking house)	3,500.00
Other real estate	1,600.00
Furniture and Fixtures	2,100.00
Due from approved Reserve Agents, net	\$6,117.17—6,117.17
Cash Items	3,357.19
Currency	2,880.00
Specie	993.66—7,290.85
Interest Depositors Guaranty Fund	265.97
Other Resources as follows:	2,459.73
Total	\$90,988.69
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock paid in	\$15,000.00
Surplus Fund	2,150.00
Undivided Profits, net	175.29
Individual Deposits subject to check	36,578.96
Cashier's checks	534.44
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	6,500.00
Other Liabilities as follows: Dividend unpaid	50.00
Total	\$90,988.69

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR:
We, J. S. Swann as president, and R. O. Anderson as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.
J. S. Swann, president.
R. O. Anderson, cashier.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 12th day of Dec., A. D. 1911. WITNESS my hand and notarial seal on the date last aforesaid.
[SEAL] W. W. Wheeler, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest:
R. O. Anderson, }
H. C. Moore, } Directors
J. C. Moore, }

Come in and look at our Xmas stock and remember we will give you votes for the ring contest with every 25 cent purchase.
West Texas Hardware Co.

Reduction on all cut glass during the holidays. Rust & McCauley.

NO. 7481 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

Farmers & Merchants Nat'l Bank

AT MERKEL
in the state of Texas, at the close of business Dec., 5, 1911:

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$ 87,743.30
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	2,174.67
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	6,250.00
Premium on U. S. Bonds	200.00
Furniture, and fixtures	2,800.00
Other real estate owned	1,397.25
Due from Nat. Banks (not reserve agt)	17,738.34
Due from state and private banks and bankers, trust companies, and savings banks	92.00
Due from approved reserve agents	54,488.46
Checks and other cash items	1,452.64
Bills of exchange on cotton	16,540.55
Notes of other National Banks	10,485.90
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents	188.00
LAWFUL MONEY RESERVE IN BANK, VIZ:	
Specie	12,857.75—12,857.75
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent of circulation)	312.50
Total	\$214,718.46
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus fund	20,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	5,794.06
National Bank Notes outstanding	6,250.00
Due to state and private banks and bankers	1,875.02
Individual Deposits subject check	155,472.43
Cashiers Checks outstanding	328.95
Total	\$214,718.46

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, T. A. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
T. A. Johnson, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of December, 1911.
[SEAL] G. W. Johnson, Notary Public.
Correct—Attest:
J. T. Warren, }
G. F. West, } Directors
J. T. Howard, }

Miss Ina Wheeler returned from Abilene Monday where she visited Mr. and Mrs. Burrl Wheeler for several days.

R. L. Bradshaw will be glad to meet all of his old friends in his new store on Front street.

FIVE

Merkel Count to Bottom

SEASON IS THE

Merkel Country Farmers Feeling Good and Will Fer Another Large

If made to order the rains could not have been and everything is getting out Merkel way.

The cotton is practically all out and the farmers are ready to begin turning their soil for another crop. The season makes the prospects for a wheat and oat crop good. Stockmen say there will be lots of grass in the spring and it is certain the farmers will have a good and early start for all crops.

A total of more than five inches fell since our last issue and came in a way to make a good underground season. A good winter season means a good crop in West Texas for with such a very little rainfall in the growing months will mature a bumper yield of the native and staple crops. It was a good rain and worth much to our country.

Notice, Farmers.

In my work and advertising, articles written for our local and foreign papers and magazines, I have the opportunity to use any and all of the time the personal experiences of the farmers of our country.

If you have anything good to say about our country write out your experience and send it to me. Tell when you came here, what you had then, what you have done and how you did it, what you have made and saved. Tell how many good crops, short crops and failures, if any. Tell what you made this year, on how much land and at how much expense. Tell nothing but the truth and what you think about our country and our opportunities in comparison with those in the east where lands are valued at \$100 to \$200 per acre. I want this from every man who will write and mail it to me and every progressive citizen should be glad to do that much for his town and country.

Please do this for me right now and I will use many of them in our Christmas edition and many papers in the east before the beginning of a New Year. If we could but get proper credit for what we have and do there would be a notable improvement in the general conditions which would be a benefit for every citizen who has any interest in the Merkel country. Do it today.

Yours Sincerely,
Jno. G. Jackson.

Money to Loan on Land.

If you contemplate borrowing money on your land this year, remember that our rate is only eight per cent. You could not expect a cheaper rate than that. Our terms are as reasonable as you would wish. See us at once.
E. B. Bynum & Co.

Free air for tires. Merkel Garage.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS



wireless message from Santa Claus states that he will make headquarters at the Rust & McCauley Drug Co's store from Dec. 15 to Xmas and he cordially invites every man, woman and child to visit this store where they will see one of



the biggest stocks of holiday goods that will be seen in Merkel this year, and you will find the prices right, and a complete line in every way. Bring the children and make our store your headquarters. Come to see Santa Claus

Rust & McCauley Drug Co.

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

Noodle Dots.

Dec. 12.—Well we were sure glad to receive a good rain. Every farmer you see has a smile from ear to ear. Some will go to breaking their soil for next year.

School is going along nicely. The literary meets every Friday night. Everybody invited to come. We have arranged a good program.

Singing at the church Sunday evening was enjoyed by a large crowd. The singing at Mr. Herring's Friday night was rained out.

Arthur Chilton and two sisters have returned home after visiting friends in this neighborhood.

Frank Sosebee and Alfred Ely were callers at the home of Dr. Williams Sunday.

Mrs. F. A. Polly, Miss Myrtle Barbee, Mrs. C. L. Deutschman, Miss Birdie Carpenter were in Merkel Monday shopping.

Quite a number of the Noodle boys were in Merkel Monday to trade some.

We are thinking of having a Christmas tree at Noodle. Everybody come and bring presents for your friends and sweethearts. Happy Jack.

Canyon Items.

Dec. 11.—We are having some cold rainy weather.

Farmers are most all through gathering their cotton and are all rejoicing over the fine rain which has just fallen.

Death has visited our community since the last issue and claimed the life of Grandpa Myers. He was sick only a few days with pneumonia.

W. M. Alldridge is visiting relatives in the Canyon this week.

Lee Burrus, Tom Purdom, Mann Dulin and Lillard Mathis made a business trip to Sweet water last week.

Oscar Walker has moved back to his home place in the Canyon.

Verna Trout is visiting in the Canyon this week.

Rig Clark has moved over in Jones county near Truby.

We are glad to say that the school at Blair is progressing nicely with a large enrollment.

Z. T. Lamar was a pleasant caller at the home of Mrs. Josie Clark Sunday. Arthur Clark made a business trip to Merkel Saturday.

Farmers made use of the damp weather last week hauling their feed.

W. E. Spears and Miller Alldridge attended prayer meeting at White Church Sunday night.

Well as this is my first attempt to write to the Mail I will close.

Simon Simple.

Nubia News.

Dec. 11.—We are having some cold weather.

K. Blackburn and wife visited Jim Toombs and family Sunday.

Mrs. Walton and children visited her mother Mrs. Toombs Sunday.

Misses Cora Campbell and Blanche Randolph attended Sunday school here Sunday.

Roy Riney happened to an accident Monday. He was herding cattle for Jasper McCoy and his horse fell on him breaking his ankle.

Mr. McClain and family of Center Point visited T. J. Walker and family D. L. Boyd was in Merkel Friday on business.

Bro. Bailey will fill his regular appointment here Sunday. Janet.

Singleton Noel.

Sunday afternoon at Rev. Foster's occurred the marriage of Will Singleton and Miss Ethel Noel of the White Church community. They left Monday for Comanche county where they will make their future home. We wish for them a long and happy life.

Heartburn is a symptom of indigestion. Take a dose of **HERBINE** in such cases. The pain disappears instantly. The bowels operate speedily and you feel fine, vigorous and cheerful. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Contestants shown on the curtain Wednesday and Saturday nights.

WHAT THE KIDNEYS DO

Their Uneasing Work Keeps Us Strong and Healthy.

All the blood in the body passes through the kidneys once every three minutes. The kidneys filter the blood. They work day and night. When healthy they remove about 500 grains of impure matter daily, when unhealthy some part of this impure matter is left in the blood. This brings on many diseases and symptoms—pain in the back, headache, nervousness, hot, dry skin, rheumatism, gout, gravel, disorders of the eyesight and hearing, dizziness, irregular heart, debility, drowsiness, dropsy, deposits in the urine, etc. But if you keep the filters right you will have no trouble with your kidneys.

C. R. Ward, photographer, Opera House building, Abilene, Texas, says: "Doan's Kidney Pills rid me of a pain in the small of my back which had caused me considerable suffering. As I used no other remedy at the time, I give Doan's kidney pills the entire credit for bringing this relief."

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.

Mrs. F. A. Whitley of Navosota formerly of this place was the guest of Mrs. Victor Harris last week. She has been visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Erwin of Trent.

For Christmas calendars, hand painted china and pictures call at Armstrong's drug store. Orders taken. Miss Tate.

Special prices on all dry goods, millinery, suits coats and groceries from now until Christmas. We will begin to invoice next day after Christmas and want to reduce our stock. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Saturday night is always big at the Opera House.

ORGANIZED 1904

STATEMENT

Farmers & Merchants National Bank

OF MERKEL, TEXAS

At Call of Comptroller, December 5, 1911

RESOURCES

Loans	\$ 89,917.97
U. S. Bonds	6,250.00
Premium on Bonds	200.00
Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures ..	4,197.25
Five per cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Cash Sight Exchange	113,840.74
Total	\$214,718.46

LIABILITIES

Capital paid in	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	25,794.06
Circulation	6,250.00
Borrowed Money	None
Deposits	157,674.40
Total	\$214,718.46

The above statement is correct.

T. A. JOHNSON, Cashier.

Under One Management Since Organization.
OLDEST BANK IN MERKEL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

T. J. Warren C. P. Warren G. F. West
Ed. S. Hughes Henry James
J. T. Howard T. A. Johnson



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THE MERKEL

VOL. 23—NO. 43

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1911

Special Engagement Opera House

An Absolutely Guaranteed Attraction
Jas. T. McAlpin's Great Swedish
Comedy Drama



"Hans Hanson"
ONE NIGHT ONLY
Tuesday, Dec. 19th

A superb band and Orchestra. Best of specialties. Fine special scenery. Once seen, never forgotten.

SEATS AT SINCLAIR'S
Prices 25, 35, 50 and 75 cents

SUMMER ON A HOUSEBOAT

Vessels in a Colony Out in Oregon Have the Conveniences of a City Flat.

Houseboating on the Willamette river is the proper way for the people of Portland, Ore., to spend their summers, according to a writer in *Suburban Life*. He says that there is an entire colony of houseboats just above the city. Probably there is no similar houseboat village anywhere.

"They possess almost all the conveniences of a city flat, the houses are lighted with electricity, city water is piped to the door, and in some cases the houses are supplied with it," he says. "Telephones are installed in most of the houses, and an electric street car runs within easy reach, but just far enough away to give the colony the desired seclusion."

"To make it still more civilized it is proposed to install gas from the city system during the present year. The finest boat in the colony cost \$1,500, and is 35 by 60 feet. The average houseboat, however, is worth about one-half this sum."

The quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger from pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. B. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by all dealers.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm. Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

With Tact.

"How did they break the news of her sudden bereavement to his wife?" "It was done with considerable tact and with every precaution to lighten the blow. Her lady friend selected for the task, said to her, 'I have some bad news for you, Hilda, about James, but it might have been a great deal worse. It certainly is a blessing you put off getting your summer outfit, for you will look simply stunning in widow's weeds.'"

"I had been troubled with constipation for two years and tried all of the best physicians in Bristol, Tenn., and they could do nothing for me," writes Thos. E. Williams, Middleboro, Ky. "Two packages of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets cured me." For sale by all dealers.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

COMING TO ABILENE

UNITED DOCTOR SPECIALISTS

An Association of Prominent
Physicians Giving Free
Services to the Sick
and Medicines
at Cost

At Hotel Grace Dec. 18, 19,
20. Three Days Only

The United Doctors, largest doctor specialists in the United States, practicing in Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, organized and licensed by the states for the purpose of treating diseases, deformities and all curable ailments without surgical operation. All that is asked in return for these valuable services is that every person treated will state the result to their friends, and thus prove to the sick and afflicted that at last treatments have been discovered that are absolutely sure and certain in their effects.

By their developed system no more operations for appendicitis, gall stones, kidney stones, tumors, goiter, piles or cancer. They were among the first in America to do away with the knife, blood and pain in the successful treatment and cure of these dangerous diseases.

Diseases of the stomach, intestines, liver, skin, nerves, heart, spleen, kidneys and bladder, rheumatism, sciatica, diabetes, bedwetting, leg ulcers, epilepsy, or fits, etc., all treated with gratifying success.

Selected cases of consumption, asthma, bronchitis and catarrhal diseases absolutely cured with combination of medicine, hygiene, diet, exercise and the important uses and advantages of clothes, occupation, etc.

Many cases of deafness are frequently cured in sixty days. Loss of sight, cataract, granulated lids and old weak, watery, sore eyes treated successfully. In long standing, deep-seated, chronic diseases of men and women, and slow growths and undeveloped children's diseases, a treatment that is absolutely certain in its effects and can be had and depended on.

Eczema, salt rheum, eruptions, liver spots and chronic diseases of the skin quickly cured. An absolute guarantee in every case accepted for treatment.

Patients with cancer, tumor and tubercular glands not larger than one to two inches usually cured with their hypodermic injection method, with one treatment and this without pain.

Patients with growths larger than two inches are not invited to call.

No matter what your ailment may be, no matter what others have told you, no matter what experience you have had with other physicians, it will be to your advantage to treat with the United Doctors Specialists. Even if your case is incurable they will give you such advice that will relieve you and stay the disease.

Do not put off this duty you owe yourself, your friends, and your relatives, it may save your life.

If you have kidney or bladder trouble, bring a two ounce bottle of your urine for analysis.

This free offer is for this trip only. Hours 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

Married ladies must come with their husbands and minors with their parents. (adv) 2t

That's the Question.

Mrs Bacon—Look here! As true as I'm alive, there's a hair on your coat!
Mr Bacon—It's only a cat hair, my dear.
"I have no cough. Who was the cat, please?"—Yonkers Statesman.

When your feet are wet and cold, and your body chilled through and through from exposure, take a big dose of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, bathe your feet in hot water before going to bed, and you are almost certain to ward off a severe cold. For sale by all dealers.

Texas Needs

XVI. ADVERTIS.

OMER sang the praises of the Greek, became the flower of civilization. The ancients proclaimed the fertility of the valley of the Nile, and the granary of the world.

Prosperity always comes to countries that are getting out literature and charging the atmosphere with the presence of the Commercial Secretaries are throwing the resources like a sunbeam across the pathway of civilization.



UNCLE SAM TALKING TEXAS

When Uncle Sam wants to boast to other nations of his power and resources, he tells them about Texas. To give them a bird's-eye view of our valleys—we can feed and clothe the world; to show them through our barnyard—16,000,000 head of live stock; and to look at our mineral vaults—nature's crucible—makes all nations tremble with astonishment. Texas needs great men.

Wins Fight for Life.

It was a long and bloody battle for life that was waged by James B. Mershon, of Newark, N. J., of which he writes, "I had lost much blood from lung hemorrhages, and was very weak and run down. For eight months I was unable to work. Death seemed close on my heels, when I began three weeks ago to use Dr. King's New Discovery. But it has helped me greatly. It is doing all that you claim." For weak, sore lungs, obstinate coughs, stubborn cold, hoarseness, la grippe, asthma, hay fever or any throat or lung trouble, its supreme, 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

During 1910 321,000 bales of cotton went through Texas City to foreign ports. The increase of traffic has been from \$998,428 in 1904 to \$47,213,753 in 1910.

wheezing in the lungs indicates that phlegm is obstructing the air passages BALLARD'S HORSEHOUD SYRUP loosens the phlegm so that it can be coughed up and ejected Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle Sold by H. C. Burroughs

Your car needs washing and polishing and we are prepared to do the work. Merkel Garage

NEW THE SENATORIAL LIFE

Woman Had Her Own Idea as to Why Statesmen Opposed Early Hours.

United States senators may talk solemnly to the effect that there are good business reasons for meeting at two o'clock every day instead of noon, but they cannot fool a certain Washington woman, who has her own ideas on the subject. This woman occupies a prominent place in society at the capital, in which senators are so common that they do not cut any more figure than debutantes. She was visiting the senate wing of the capitol, in company with some friends. It was about one o'clock in the afternoon and, as she happened to glance into the chamber, she noticed that it was vacant.

"Has the senate adjourned already?" she asked, in surprise.

"Oh, no," a man in the party said. "You know it meets at two o'clock now, in order to give the senators more time for committee work."

"Ah, yes," she said. "I remember now; and it really is a very good idea. I have no doubt that it expedites public business wonderfully. It gives the senators plenty of time to shave, take a bath, dress, read the paper and eat breakfast—after having been up all night."

When you have a cold get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It will soon fix you up all right and will ward off any tendency toward pneumonia. This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a baby as to an adult. Sold by all dealers.

WARD
Sale Stable
SIDE

of your patronage
New Year and prom-
as treatment. Phone
opposite T. & P. Depot.

TEXAS

DO YOU WANT A Better JOB?

you will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your
you qualify—take the Draughon Training—and show ambition to rise.
BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other busi-
nesses COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation.
eg. Typewriting, Penmanship, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Letter Writing, Business
BOOK auxiliary branches. Good POSITIONS GUARANTEED under reasonable conditions.
Bookkeeping. Bookkeepers all over
the United States say that Draughon's
System of Bookkeeping saves them
25 to 50 per cent in work and worry.
orthand. Practically all U. S. offi-
cial court reporters write the System of
 shorthand Draughon Colleges teach.
Why? Because they know it is the best.
DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE
Dallas, Houston, Austin, Galveston, San Antonio, Abilene, Denison,
Amarillo, Texarkana, or El Paso, Texas.

DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL Business College
CATALOGUE FREE
More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED.
Positions Guaranteed. National reputation. Address either Abilene, Texas
or Sweetwater, Texas.

ACTUAL STARVATION

**Facts About Indigestion and
its Relief that Should
Interest You.**

Although Indigestion and Dys-
pepsia are so prevalent, most
people do not thoroughly under-
stand their cause and cure.
There is no reason why most
people should not eat anything
they desire—if they will only
chew it carefully and thoroughly
Many actually starve themselves
into sickness through fear of eat-
ing every good-looking, good-
smelling, and good-tasting food,
because it does not agree with
them.

The best thing to do is to fit
yourself to digest any good food.
We believe we can relieve dys-
pepsia. We are so confident of
this fact that we guarantee and
promise to supply the medicine
free of cost to every one who
will use it, who is not perfectly
satisfied with the results which it
produces. We exact no promises
and put no one under any obliga-
tions. Surely, nothing could be
fairer. We are located right
here and our reputation should
be sufficient assurance of the
genuineness of our offer.

We want everyone troubled
with indigestion or dyspepsia in
any form to come to our store
and buy a box of Rexall Dyspep-
sia Tablets. Take them home
and give them a reasonable trial,
according to directions. Then if
not satisfied, come to us and get
your money back. They are
very pleasant to take; they aid
to soothe the irritable stomach,
to strengthen and invigorate the
digestive organs, and to promote
a healthy and natural bowel ac-
tion, thus leading to perfect and
healthy digestion and assimila-
tion.

A 25c. package of Rexall Dyspep-
sia Tablets furnishes 15 days'
treatment. In ordinary cases,
this is sufficient to produce a
cure. In more chronic cases a
longer treatment, of course, is
necessary, and depends upon the

severity of the trouble. For such
cases, we have two larger sizes
which sell for 50c. and \$1.00.
Remember, you can obtain Rex-
all Remedies in this community
only at our store.—The Rexall
Store, Rust & McCauley Drug
County.

He Found Out.

The stars twinkled as only stars
can twinkle. The moonbeams beamed
as only the moonbeams can beam. The
lovers sat and throbbed thrillingly as
only lovers can sit and throb thrill-
ingly.

Suddenly, as the night owl snored
above them, his overflowing soul
flowed over.
"Muriel," he exclaimed, waking the
night owl from its slumbers, "I cannot
understand what you see in me to
love!"

The night owl hooted in disgust, and
went to sleep again. Even Muriel, as
her soft eyes dwelt upon the planet
Venus, looked a little disappointed.
But she knew he was too earnest to
be fishing for a compliment, and she
pressed his hand as she dreamily re-
plied:

"Dear Artie! That's what they all
say."

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney
and bladder troubles, weak
and lame backs, rheumatism and
all irregularity of the kinneys
and bladder in both men
and women, regulates bladder
troubles in children. If not sold
by your druggist, will be sent by
mail on receipt of \$1. One small
bottle is two months treatment
and seldom fails to perfect a cure.
Send for Texas testimonials. Dr.
E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St.
Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

Writing to Overlook It.

Victim—Say, darn ye, you've pulled
the wrong tooth!
Dentist—From the way you hollered
I thought I had hold of the right one,
but we'll call it my mistake.

A Dreadful Wound

from a knife, gun, tin can, rusty
nail, fireworks, or of any other
nature, demands prompt treat-
ment with Bucklen's Arnica
Salve to prevent blood poison or
gangrene. Its the quickest, sure-
est healer for all such wounds as
also for burns, boils, sores, skin
eruptions, eczema, chapped hands,
corns or piles. 25c at H C Bur-
roughs

Buy your oil and gas from the
Merkel Garage.

NO CAUSE TO DOUBT

**A Statement of Facts Backed
by a Strong Guarantee.**

We guarantee immediate and
positive relief to all suffers from
constipation. In every case
where our remedy fails to do this
we will return the money paid us
for it. That's a frank statement
of facts, and we want you to
substantiate them at our risk.

Rexall Orderlies are eaten just
like candy, are particularly
prompt and agreeable in action,
may be taken at any time, day or
night, do not cause diarrhoea,
nausea, griping, excessive loose-
ness, or other undesirable effects.
They have a very mild but posi-
tive action upon the organs with
which they come in contact, ap-
parently acting as a regulative
tonic upon the relaxed muscular
coat of the bowel, thus overcom-
ing weakness, and aiding to re-
store the bowels to more vigorous
and healthful activity.

Rexall Orderlies are unsur-
passable and ideal for the use of
children, old folks and delicate
persons. We cannot too highly
recommend them to all sufferers
from any form of constipation
and its attendant evils. That's
why we back our faith in them
with our promise of money back
if they do not give entire satis-
faction. Three sizes: 12 tablets
10 cents, 36 tablets 25 cents, and
80 tablets 50 cents. Remember,
you can obtain Rexall Remedies
in Merkel only at our store.—
The Rexall Store. The Rust &
McCauley Drug Co.

Sherbet at Its Best.

A sherbet made of extract of violets
was much esteemed in the east, and
Mohammed is reported to have said
of it that it surpassed all other ex-
tracts. In some part of Europe it
is customary to mingle violets, roses,
and lime blossoms with preserves to
add a flower element to the fruity
flavor. In Egypt and Turkey violets
are used in making sherbets as mint
is employed in juleps in Kentucky.

**Always
Makes
Good**

You'll be de-
lighted with the re-
sults of Calumet Baking
Powder. No disappoint-
ments—
no flat, heavy, soggy biscuits,
cake, or pastry.
Just the lightest, daintiest, most
uniformly raised and most deli-
cious food you ever ate.

Received highest award World's
Pure Food Exposition,
Chicago, 1907.

**REAL ESTATE
FOR SALE OR TRADE**

A NEW YEAR'S SUGGESTION

It is but a few weeks until another year will have gone into
history and the past—golden and gloomy moments, hours of sun-
shine and shadows gone and a whole year of opportunities which
can not be recalled.

But it marks also the beginning of a New Year, with new
seasons, new crops and new opportunities. It is folly to brood
over the past and let me help to direct your eyes and mind to the
bright spots of the future. The optimist, the man who looks upon
the bright side of life, who lives, works and prays with hope is
my ideal of a good citizen. The man who always thinks, talks
and looks for the worst of it usually gets just what he is looking for.

The New Year is going to be full of good things for the man
of ambition, energy, ability, economy, with the courage of his
convictions to back his judgment and then the "stickability" to
stay through thick and thin. There will be nothing doing for
the man with no particular purpose or ambition in life, faint-
hearted and afraid to try. He's a ne'er-do-well from year-to-
year, a man of a don't-give-a-dern disposition and a hopeless
quitter even if he could screw up enough nerve to try.

It is the former I want to meet and help and I do not care
but little for his standing in the financial world. The first ambi-
tion of every man should be to own a home. No other investment
is half so good—no matter about the enhancement in value. If
you buy right the pride and pleasure in ownership, the satisfaction
and enjoyment of your family and loved ones is greater than the
profit. All things can not be estimated in dollars and cents and
the home owner is worth more to himself, family, friends, town
and country—"be it ever so humble."

In my newspaper and real estate work I am trying to make
some money but at the same time I am doing some good for my
country and making new friends. This work, like any other busi-
ness can be done right or wrong and I am doing my little part of
it right. I believe in a fair and square deal and have made up my
mind to live in this same community for the next fifty years.

On my list I have many good town and country homes, large
and small houses and farms for men of large and small means
which I can sell at a bargain and on long and easy terms. If you
will resolve to own a home during the New Year I will help you
and save you money. I can save anybody money in buying a farm
or home and I have never yet cost a buyer one penny. I can give
you a better deal than the owner, for I can sell it to you for the
same price or cheaper and then he never tells you about the other
fellow's place which might suit you better. I have no pets nor
private snaps which I have bought to sell at a higher price and my
idea is simply to help you find what you want and then see that
you get it right.

Start the New Year right, stop paying rent, improve and care
for your own home or farm, buy a home in Merkel or the Merkel
country. We have a good and clean little town, good homes, good
schools, good churches, good land, good water and plenty of it,
good rich and deep soil and last but not least the best people in the
world. Come to Merkel and see me before you buy. §

SPECIALS

SMALL FARMS: In improved places of 80 to 200 acres I be-
lieve that I have what you want, in other words, a place to suit
your taste and at a price to comply with your conditions. If you
are in the market for a small farm I want to show you what I
have on my list, give you the price and then let you try to beat it
here or anywhere else. One bank listed this week with me eight
improved places and at bargain prices to "sell to any good man on
any reasonable terms." Another bank has a small place it is will-
ing to sacrifice for a quick sale. I have several small places owned
by farmers who are willing to make equally as good prices and
terms. If you will tell me what you want I will show you better
than I can tell you what I have on my list.

STOCK FARM: Over 1,000 acres, about 400 in cultivation
and 75 to 80 per cent richest valley land to sell in the next thirty
days at \$25.00 per acre and on liberal terms.

400 ACRES: No better tract of land here nor anywhere else;
225 in cultivation, every foot tillable and richest soil; best bargain
in the west at \$25.00 per acre on liberal terms, 6 per cent interest.
You will have to get busy if this suits you.

LAND FOR EXCHANGE

400 ACRES: In the Leuders country in northeast part of Jones
county, 7 miles from Leuders; all raw and 150 acres good agricul-
tural land, balance first class grass land; good tank, fencing and
on public road. This land is clear and owner will take small im-
proved place near Merkel and give long and easy terms on the
balance.

FARMS FOR MERCHANDISE: One client owns a half
dozen improved places which he will price at \$20.00 to \$25.00 per
acre and trade for good merchandise, dry goods, clothing or gro-
ceries. I can match any deal, \$2,500 to \$25,000.00

In answer to my advertising I have received descriptions of a
number of black land farms in central Texas to exchange for
Merkel country land and if you are looking for this kind of a deal
come to see me.

In conclusion let me ask that you come in and talk with me
and let me know your wants. I will promise you that I will do my
best to serve you and in the event I can not do you any good I
will certainly do you no harm. If you have anything to sell let
me know. Yours for business.

J.G.JACKSON

Office Next to Postoffice at Merkel

THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK

MERKEL, TEXAS

FOR SEPTEMBER FIRST NINETEEN HUNDRED AND ELEVEN

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans and Discounts.....	\$ 93,868.13	Capital Stock.....	\$ 50,000.00
U. S. Bonds at Par.....	12,500.00	Profits.....	2,602.82
Banking House and fixtures	14,000.00	Circulation.....	12,500.00
Cash and Exchange.....	75,291.19	Deposits.....	130,556.50
Total.....	\$195,659.32	Total.....	\$195,659.32

To the Farmers of The

Your attention is called to the Southern National Bank.

The farmer who deposits bank is the one who is entitled to money is gone.

We invite you to start an account establish relations that will entitle you to the best of our services. We expect to take care of the bank every farmer customer on our books.

Bring us your checks on other banks to be cashed. Bring us your valuable papers to be stored in a fire-proof vault, free of charge.

Ask favors of us whether you keep an account here.

JOHN SEARS, President. C. L. BARKER, Active Vice
T. J. COGGIN, Vice-Pres. J. E. FAUCETT, Cashier

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Change every night at Opera House.

Will appreciate a share of your trade. Kent St. Barbers. tf

Best pictures obtainable at the Opera House.

We pay top prices for eggs, butter and chickens. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Mrs. Robert Brown is visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Brown.

If you want to see the largest and best line of holiday goods in town go to the Elite.

Clarence Demere was among the business visitors here from Sweetwater the first of the week.

Bring your clothes to Kent St. Tailor Shop, first class work and reasonable prices. J. E. Martin.

Santa Claus has given us advance notice that he will make his headquarters at our Store. Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

Mrs. M. L. Ritchie and children left Tuesday for Wharton where they will make their future home.

Beautiful designs in cut glass. Nothing better for Xmas present. Rust & McCauley.

Walter Pickelsimer returned to Abilene Tuesday after a visit to his parents Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Pickelsimer.

Every family has need of a good reliable liniment. For sprains, bruises, soreness of the muscles and rheumatic pains there is none better than Chamberlain's. Sold by all dealers.

Mrs. George L. Hamilton was called to Decatur, Texas, Friday by the serious sickness of her mother.

Buy your groceries and dry goods from the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co. this month and get voting coupons for the diamond ring contest.

Mrs. Claud Bigham and little daughter returned from Eskota Monday where they visited Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Allyn.

Buy from the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co. and save money. Also get voting coupons for diamond ring contest.

L. H. Logan and Oscar Caver of Waxahachie were in our city Tuesday prospecting. They were on their way to Sweetwater where they will make their future home.

Lame back may come from over-work, cold settled in the muscles of the back, or from disease in the two former cases the right remedy is BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT. It should be rubbed in thoroughly over the affected part, the relief will be prompt and satisfactory. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle sold by H. C. Burroughs.

The Burrus Mill and Elevator Co.

Makers and Exporters of High Grade Flour

Fort Worth, Dec. 2, 1911

Mr. J. S. Blasingame,
Rt. 3, Box 84, Merkel, Texas.

Dear Sir:--Answering your letter of Nov. 30 beg to advise that we never ship less than a carload of flour under any circumstances. We are pleased to advise you, however, that the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co. at Merkel, Texas, have our LIGHT CRUST flour in stock at all times and they can sell it to you cheaper than you could buy it in Ft. Worth and pay local freight on it to save your life. Do not expect them, however, to sell you LIGHT CRUST as other so called good flours are sold in that market. These people are paying us from 20c to 30c more for our flour than they can buy our competitors flour for. They are doing this because they want to give their customers the very best flour to be had. If you have used it, you know that it is better than the other grades. If you do not know it, a trial will convince you.

We pay premiums in order to get fancy wheat, employ experts who have devoted their lives to the business and when we take these precautions, we have to have more money for it than people who buy anything that is offered and make price their chief salesman. The difference you will pay on the flour you use will amount to very little in the course of a year and you will find that there are more loaves of bread in a sack of LIGHT CRUST than in any other flour offered, besides being of a much better quality.

Trusting that you will get your wants supplied by the Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company and thanking you, we are,

Yours very truly,

ETF-HS

BURRUS MILL & ELEVATOR CO.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Groene's Art Store. Open to 6; and 8 to 10 on Saturday.

Get votes at the Lyric theatre each night.

Pure Hog Lard at City Meat Market. 10 lbs. for \$1.25. 2t

Mrs. Mary Harris of Anson is the guest of Mrs. J. J. Stallings.

Icy hot bottles. Rust & McCauley.

Meet me to-night at Opera House.

Brack Mitchell of Eskota was among the business visitors here Tuesday.

Eyes tested and glasses correctly fitted. Prices right. Mrs. Rust.

Light Crust Flour is better. For sale only by Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Mrs. W. J. Sheppard is at home from a visit in Abilene with Mrs. Comer Clay.

Buy your coal from a home dealer who sells it the year round. J. B. Bell & Son.

We give voting coupons with all cash purchases of 25c or more at Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

Samuel G. Rainbolt is here this week visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

Watches, fobs, chains, cuff and collar buttons. Solid gold and filled. Rust & McCauley.

Read my ad; think some and then act. Jno. G. Jackson, Real Estate.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Smith are in Tye this week visiting the former's mother Mrs. C. B. Smith.

Wear a Benjamin and you wear the best clothing made. For sale only by Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

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

E. L. Woodroof of Waxahachie was in the city this week visiting his brother W. D. Woodroof and attending to business.

We give a dollar's worth for every dollar or every dollar back. Also voting coupons for diamond ring contest. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

Old hats made new at Kent St. Tailor Shop. The only Hatter in town. J. E. Martin. tf

Gas in the stomach comes from food which has fermented. Get rid of this badly digested food as quickly as possible if you would avoid a bilious attack; HERBINE is the remedy you need. It cleanses and strengthens the stomach, liver and bowels, and restores energy and cheerfulness. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

A Charming Woman

is one who is lovely in face, form, mind and temper. But it's hard for a woman to be charming without health. A weak, sickly woman will be nervous and irritable. Constipation and kidney poisons show in pimples, blotches, skin eruptions and a wretched complexion. But Electric Bitters always prove a godsend to women who want health, beauty and friends. They regulate stomach, liver and kidneys, purify the blood; give strong nerves, bright eyes, pure breath, smooth, velvety skin, lovely complexion and perfect health. Try them 50c at H. C. Burroughs.

Think this over. Is the merchant who will not buy your farm products at any price entitled to any of your business? Buy your goods from the merchant who helps make a market for your products. Hereby helping you, your town and country. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

The following young people attended church and singing at Trent Sunday night: Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Ussery, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Black, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Bankhead, Mrs. Rosie Newberry; Misses Eufie and Hollice Cypert, Annie Black, Ethel Jenkins, Eather Williams, Ruby Dowdy, Bertha Nelson, Madge Newberry, Myrtle Conner; Messrs. Olly Cordell, Jesse Ferguson and John Adecock.

Lay in your winter supply of groceries and dry goods now and get voting coupons. We are the only Dry Goods and Grocery Store in Merkel giving voting coupons. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Donaldson of Stith left Monday night for Collin county to visit their daughter Mrs. Katie Gentry.

Big night every night at the Opera House.

Work Will Soon Start

after you take Dr. King's New Life Pills, and you'll quickly enjoy their fine results. Constipation and indigestion vanish and fine appetite returns. They regulate stomach, liver and bowels and impart new strength and energy to the whole system. Try them Only 25c at H. C. Burroughs.

The long looked for six inch rain. Five and ten gallon and barrel syrup just received. We have a large stock of groceries and want to reduce the stock by the 1st of January to save trouble of invoicing. Can save you money and will appreciate your patronage. Hamblet & Rogers 2

B. O. Stevens of Hill county after a pleasant visit with his son W. C. Stevens returned to his home Friday.

Every night best. Opera House.

for Men

SERVE YOU NOW

Hat, Cap, Shirt, Union
robe, Bath robe, Dress
suits, Silk Hosiery, Silk Sus-
tainers, Full Dress Stud Sets,
Scarf Retainers, Neckwear,
Linen Handkerchiefs, Plain Lin-
en Handkerchiefs, Knit
Waistcoats, Parasols, etc.

Handle exclusive MEN'S DUDS,
if it's anything "late" we have it.

Mingus Bro's. & Co.

Abilene, Texas (Men's Quality Outfitters)

Christmas Cheer and Charity

Santa Claus' Proclamation

During the month of December, 1911, every piece of mail must carry a

Red Cross Christmas Seal

on the back of the envelope. Every bill, statement, receipt and check must carry a seal on its face. Red Cross Christmas Seals can be purchased for one cent each from every live, progressive, charitably inclined retail merchant in Texas. The money received from the sale of Seals will be used to establish a hospital-home for children crippled by tuberculosis of the bones, and for other Anti-Tuberculosis work. Help us in the fight against the Great White Plague.

CHRISTMAS SEAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

State Capitol Bldg., Austin, Texas

TEXAS ANTI TUBERCULOSIS ASS'N,
State Agents

Mail Orders Accompanied by Check or Money Order Promptly Filled

MRS. W. H. DICKSON, Local Manager MISS LUCY BEEN, Secretary and Treasurer

'11 OUR GOOD READERS '12 The Old and The New

The "Trade Day and Bargain Week" has been the best yet for the Mail. Since our last issue we have had more than half a hundred cash and paid-in-advance new and renewal subscribers.

The people are treating us mighty good and we are grateful. They prefer the cash system and show their appreciation of our efforts to run a good paper. We will publish the list in our Christmas edition next week when we hope to have more than one hundred. We hope your name will be on that list if you are not already paid in advance for we want every good man in our town and country to receive our paper during the new year.

We will save you and be worth more than the price of our paper in more ways than one.

Do it today, subscribe now.

CLASSIFIED ADS

LOST.—Red leather hitch rein in Merkel Dec. 2. E. M. McDonald. 1pd

FOR RENT.—Two farms, 60 acres in cultivation on each. Apply to T. J. Toombs, Nubia, Texas. 15t3pd

FOR RENT.—Half section near Leuders; two good houses; one field of 150 acres other 70 acres. Apply to J. G. Jackson, Merkel.

LOST.—Ladies old gold breast pin. Finder please leave at Scheidler's and get liberal reward.

REPAIR WORK—Automobiles, gasolene engines, motor cycles, bicycles or any machinery. All work at reasonable prices and guaranteed. Merkel Garage. tf

ZERO TEX—Made by Texas Co., best lubricating oil on market. Merkel Garage. tf

KEROSENE—Order Familylite or Chrystallite oil of your grocer and you get the best. Merkel Garage. tf

GASOLENE—One auto owner who uses Texas Company oil and gas has traveled 4500 miles and never had a dirty spark plug. It's best and we meet any competition as to prices. Merkel Garage. tf

LOST—Plain gold initial stick pin. Finder please return to Robert Hicks at F. & M. Bank and get reward.



Christmas Coming

Order you a new
suit from

LAMB & CO.
The Reliable Tailors

And bring your old greasy,
dirty suits to the

CITY TAILOR SHOP

And have them made as new

All Work Guaranteed

C. C. Franklin, Prop.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

Wait! Look! LISTEN!

Saturday, Dec. 16

The Passion Play

AT LYRIC THEATRE

The greatest of all great productions showing in every detail the most famous play ever produced. These pictures have been booked for the special benefit of those interested in Biblical times, and in the life of Christ. 3,500 feet of hand-colored film in excellent condition. This is best of all, no exceptions.

Admission, Adults 15c Children 10c
YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS IT

THE DIAMOND RING CONTEST

Standing of contestants according to the vote count at 6 p. m. Wednesday for the week ending Dec. 13.

- Miss Winnie Sandlin, first.
- Miss Ruth Merritt, second.
- Miss Emma Clark, Blair, third.
- Miss Salina Teaff, Salt Branch, fourth.
- Miss Annie Lou O'Briant, fifth.
- Miss Sadie Collins, sixth.
- Miss Emma Mae Mashburn, Compere, seventh.
- Miss Emma Horton, Mulberry Flat, eighth.
- Miss Flay Gunn, ninth.
- Miss Lucy Bridges, Stith, tenth.
- Miss Lillian Highemith, Noodle, eleventh.
- Miss Eula Elliott, Dora, twelfth.

Votes will be counted again Saturday (16th) after 6 p. m. to award extra prizes as advertised.

We now have a large line of holiday goods on hand and in order to keep our stock complete are receiving shipments by express every day. The Elite.

Mrs. T. J. Coggin has returned from Oklahoma City accompanied by her daughter Mrs. A. G. Crouch who will spend the holidays here.

We are receiving toys and holiday goods every day and they will continue to come every day until Christmas. The Elite.

W. A. Scott and J. S. French were transacting business in Abilene Tuesday.

Not only toys but lots of fine presents for every member of the family at the Elite.

Damage of Rains.

The recent rains, totaling more than five inches did considerable damage but this is small in comparison to the good. The Texas & Pacific bridge over Mulberry was washed away, as well as the wagon bridge and the trains were delayed about 12 hours. Several of the passenger trains stopped at Merkel and our local hotel served more than one hundred meals. The damage to the dirt roads and bridges was considerable and kept many out of our city the first of the week.

Notice, Farmers.

Farmers, you who have cotton stored in my yard: If you will bring me timbers I will put your cotton on it free. G. R. Gazzaway. 1tpd

Holiday goods arriving daily by express. The Elite.

Among the coming attractions at the Opera House Tuesday Dec. 19 none are so well known or so well liked as the Hans Hanson Company, which has had the longest and most successful run of any comedy of recent years. Full of dash, excitement and interest, it never fails to please the most exacting audience. Prices 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c.

483 acres of land 14 miles northeast Merkel. The Clear Fork is the north line. Two sets improvements. Will exchange for Merkel business property or sell on long time. Write D. E. Jordan, Paducah, Texas. 10t6

New holiday goods arriving every day at the Elite.

Wear a Benjamin and you wear the best clothing made. For sale only by Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION TO BE ON CASH BASIS

On and after the first of the year our paper will be on a cash basis, all subscribers paid in advance and the paper stopped when the time is out if not renewed. We know this will result in our mutual benefit and we want to ask your prompt attention and assistance in making the change. In the dry and hard years we have been liberal and lenient and now ask you to help us.

It will enable us to print a better paper and do more good for our town and country. This is your paper and at work every week for your interests. We have the best town and country and we are trying to make this the best country weekly in this part of the state, one worthy of your moral and financial support.

This week we are mailing to all subscribers a statement of their account so they may know how much to pay us to get their figures in advance. Please mail or bring us your check for the amount. We will send you a receipt, credit your individual card on which we keep a record of your payments and beginning with the first of the year we will print with your name on the label of your paper the date your subscription expires, thus:

"John Doe, 7dec12."

This will show that you have paid to the 7th day of December 1912, etc., and remind you in time to renew. It enables you to keep tab on us as well as we keep tab on you for when you make a payment you will see that your paper is marked up and the paper continues.

The majority of our readers are now paid in advance and we urge the prompt attention of all our other subscribers. It is a small amount but we have many of them. If for any reason you can not pay us in full please call before the new year and make some arrangement.

Let's get straightened up, begin the new year right, and then keep the good work going. If so we promise to do our part to make it a year full of good things for you, ourselves, our town and our country.

The Merkel Mail Printing Co.

BEN T. MERRITT, Manager.

A. H. Barnes says the last trip he made over the country riding over the gravel roads of precinct one and mud holes of our precinct would have made a good roads man of anybody. Good bridges and good roads do not wash away and are cheaper in the long run.

A good play with a strong plot and an unusual amount of rich comedy, interpreted by a clever lot of people is what will be seen when the Hans Hanson Company appears at the Opera House Tuesday Dec. 19. Prices 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

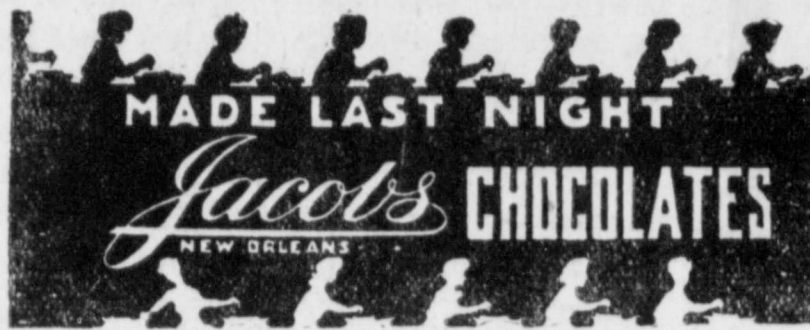
An opportunity offered you to buy appropriate and useful presents for a nominal price--Gifts that will be a

HOLY BIBLES

The best revised and latest editions, Old and New Testaments, full references, etc., in cloth and leather binding, small to large print. We bought direct from publishers and sell 25 to 30 per cent below regular price. **\$5.00**
Our price 15c to

FANCY STATIONERY

We have just received the swellest lines of Stationery in Christmas boxes ever shown in Merkel and nothing will be appreciated more by your relatives, lady or girl friends. Special prices from 25c to **\$1.50**



Our line of sweets are fine and fresh, the highest grade of candies in Merkel. Our Holiday Boxes make them specially attractive for the season. Price 5c to **\$1.50**

JEWELRY

We are closing out our line of every article sold and cent on every purchase. We will have to hurry. Our store has rings, bracelets, necklaces and a few more articles suitable for gifts. Price 25c to

X-Mas Cards and

The swellest line in town, the very latest. They make cheap but useful presents. Price 5c to

ARMSTRONG DRUG COMPANY

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Holiday goods at Burroughs Drug Store.

Banker John Sears was an Abilene visitor Wednesday.

Come and see our Christmas tree. McClain's Drug Store.

E. L. Collins and Mrs. Sam Means of Pecos came in Wednesday to visit the families of Capt. J. T. Tucker and J. W. Daniel.

Everything in stock fresh and new at the R. L. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Rev. I. S. Adkisson and wife of Decaturville, Tenn., are here to spend the holidays with their son Dr. J. A. Adkisson.

Silverware sets, odd pieces, manicure sets and jewel boxes, toilet sets. Everything the very best. Prices right. Rust & Sauley.

Xmas goods.

Burroughs Drug Store.

Elder A. L. Jobe returned Monday night from Brownwood and Elgin where he has been holding meetings.

Stock taking time is almost here. We want to reduce our stock to the lowest possible by this time, and will make special prices throughout our entire store in order to reduce our stock. Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

The reading of all advertising in our paper will make your Christmas shopping easy. Buy at home and you will get more for your money as well as be a better citizen.

The best assortment of China Xmas presents in town. Come in and see them. West Texas Hardware Co.

Elders Jno. M. Rice and W. G. Cypert went to the Sand Burr school house Tuesday night to conduct the singing school for Prof. Thomas S. Cobb of Fort Worth who came in Wednesday morning.

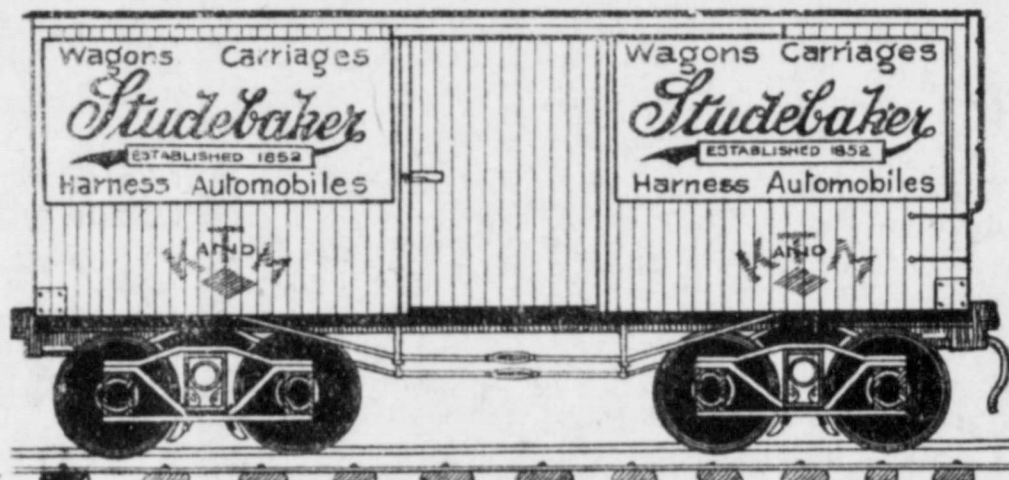
Christmas is about here and it is necessary to make some presents. Why not give something that will be of service, such as nice China ware, stoves, sewing machine, scissors, pocket knives, razors, cut glass and many other useful things that we can not call your attention to that we have in stock. West Texas Hdw. Co.

W. A. Terry was in Merkel Wednesday from Trent and reports a good rain in our sister city to the west. He said it was a slow soaking rain and the water did not get as high as in September.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

BUGGIES

Buggies!



Buggies!

A Carload of "STUDEBAKERS"
We have just received a carload of Studebaker WAGONS AND BUGGIES. The latest and best, direct from the great Studebaker factories. Come in and look them over.

As has been our policy in the past, we are determined in the future to give our customers more value for their money than we have ever given.

Our buyer spent a full week at the Dallas fair this fall and inspected all makes of buggies, from the cheapest to the highest in price, and decided there were none like the old reliable

Studebaker for Style, Finish and Durability, and a Price in REACH OF ALL

Backed by fifty-two years experience in the buggy and wagon business makes them best without a doubt. Buy one Studebaker and you will always be a friend to the Studebaker. Come in and let us show you.

Anchor Hardware Co

SOLE AGENTS

Also Just Received a Car of Standard Implements

Silverware, jewelry and cut glass at Burroughs Drug Store.

After much difficulty the manager of the Opera House has succeeded in booking the Hans Hanson Company, which is just completing a tour of all the large cities of the South. The people of this city should appreciate the efforts of Managers Whitaker & Leer in securing this high class attraction and reward their efforts with a crowded house. Tuesday Dec. 19. Prices 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c.

A Card of Thanks.

We take this method to express our appreciation of the tender care and attention, the many acts of kindness and consideration shown to our daughter Effie in her serious illness and to say that we give much of the credit for her recovery to our good friends as well as physicians.

J. S. Hutson and family.

Christmas goods.

Burroughs Drug Store.

Silverware, jewelry and cut glass at Burroughs Drug Store.

G. W. Brady called at our office Monday and renewed his subscription to the Mail with a smiling face which indicated he was feeling good over the big rain. He said he had fully 8 inches of rain on his place and proved it by measuring, and said he pushed a stick in the ground two feet deep with his own weight which showed the ground to be in fine condition.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Holiday goods at Burroughs Drug Store.

R. L. Bradshaw will appreciate a share of your grocery trade.

Holiday goods at Burroughs Drug Store.

Miss Cogee Murphy returned to her home in Abilene Tuesday after several days visit here with her sister Miss Mattie Murphy.

If you want fresh groceries out of an absolutely new stock visit our store. R. L. Bradshaw Grocery Company.

Christmas postals one cent each. McClain's Drug Store.

If you want to be pleased get the service of skillful tailors. Work courteously accepted. C. L. Cash.

Mrs. H. E. Walker left for her home at Baird Tuesday after visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Minor.

Xmas goods.

Burroughs Drug Store.

Our old friend C. E. Whitley has returned from Liberty Hill, La., where he has been visiting friends and relatives for several months.

Help your friend in the diamond ring contest. The Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co. gives voting coupons with all cash purchases for 25c or more.

Silverware, jewelry and cut glass at Burroughs Drug Store.

P. W. Lewis and family moved in last week from Mesquite and have purchased a farm near Commerce on which they are locating. Mr. Lewis said he brought the fine rain with him. We believe he made a good investment and wish him much success.

We now have our Christmas goods on display. We want part of your business. We think we can sell you as cheap or cheaper than others and in the toy line have most every thing you desire. McClain's Drug Store.

The Hans Hanson Company has broken records for large business in more than two-thirds of the theaters played in the past twelve years and this mostly on return dates. This should be a guarantee that the show is alright. At the Opera House next Tuesday night Dec. 19. Prices 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

We have just received a shipment of automobile accessories and will appreciate your patronage. Merkel Garage

MOND JEWELRY

Schorsch-Christian Company **Both Phones, 118 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas**

Schorsch-Christian Company OF ABILENE, TEXAS

Announce ready for your inspection the largest stock of Diamonds, Watches, Silverware and Jewelry that has ever been shown west of Fort Worth. Their diamonds are bought direct from the cutters, and as diamonds are constantly advancing are a good investment for any one to make. Their stock of watches comprises all high grade American and Swiss makes. Their prices are in line with the largest houses in the country and in many cases lower, as they buy at the lowest prices and their expense of doing business is not as high as in the larger cities. When in Abilene you will miss a treat if you fail to call and inspect their magnificent assortment of diamonds and jewelry. Holiday gifts to fit every purse from 25c to \$1000 can be found in that store. Remember the place



Smart tailored gowns for the Winter Season.
Simple frocks for all occasions—for little ones as well as grown-ups. Novel transfer designs that may be used in making dainty Xmas gifts.
ALL IN THE BUTTERICK FASHION SHEET FOR DECEMBER
Get a FREE copy when you visit our Pattern Department.

Special Offer

In order to create a bigger demand for Butterick Patterns we will give FREE one year's subscription to the Delineator to any customer whose purchase amounts to \$25.00 from now until Dec. 23. Your purchase don't have to be made at one time. Save your bills and when they amount to \$25.00 we will take your subscription FREE.

This will make a nice Xmas present for some friend. Subscribe now and let the subscription begin with the Christmas number.

The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company

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

Standing of contestants shown on the screen each Wednesday night.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

The Merkel school board, according to custom, gave the teachers a holiday in order that they might attend the Texas and Pacific Teachers' Association which convened at Midland Dec. 1 and 2.

The meeting was a great success. The program was varied and interesting. There was music and readings by the talent of Midland, addresses and papers by the teachers and some fine classical literary appreciations by Dr. Griffith of the University of Texas.

The social entertainment was of the best. Automobiles met all trains and carried the teachers immediately to homes where a hospitality was shown that was equalled only by that of the early Texas pioneers. There was not a flaw in the plans for entertainment from the banquet at the Llano hotel to the polo game at Half's ranch.

The Merkel teachers on program were Supt. Krigbaum and Misses Hawkins and Valentine. Supt. Krigbaum was elected chairman of the High School Section and Miss Hawkins secretary. Miss Hawkins was also elected recording secretary for next year.

Those of our teachers present were Misses E. Love Hawkins, Bessie Medlen, Jewell Garrett, Myrtle Conner, Josephine Saunders, Willie Valentine and May Valentine and Messrs. Krigbaum and Black.

Mrs. W. H. Dickson has been appointed local chairman of the Red Cross Christmas seals committee, Mrs. L. Sparkman, vice-president, Miss Lucy Been, secretary and treasurer. A number of the girls have promised to sell seals. The stamps are on sale at the Walker Cottage and in all the drug stores. This is a worthy cause, the sale of the stamps will help build the hospital-home where children crippled by tuberculosis of the bone may receive treatment, this home to be located on the gulf coast. Be sure and put a Red Cross Christmas seal on the back of your Christmas letters and parcels.

The XX Century Club will meet with Mrs. Otho Williams Saturday afternoon at 3:30. The following program will be given.

Roll call.
Business.
Lesson Act V. "As You Like It"
Leader.
Brief review of the play—Miss Browning.
Current Events—Miss Mims.

The W. M. Society met Monday evening, Dec. 4 and elected officers for the new year. The society will meet with Mrs. H. C. Williams Dec. 18, in a social meeting. The following program will be given:

Hymn—"Onward Christian Soldiers."

Prayer—Mrs. J. C. Provine.

Motto—Give and tell under what circumstances these words were spoken—Mrs. Sparkman.

Bible study—Fidelity of a Woman who had been a Heathen—Mrs. Jennings.

Hymn—"Where He Leads Me I will Follow."

Oriental Greetings—Mrs. Shaffer.

China—"The old, the new"—Mrs. Armstrong.

Curious customs in Korea—Mrs. Clements.

Reading—Mrs. Routh.

Round table, conducted by Mrs. H. C. Williams.

Committee.

B.O.O.M. Program Dec. 15.

Subject—Liberty.

Song—America.

Address on Liberty—Lytton Howard.

Quartet—George Musick, Miller Elliott, Charlie Lofton, Noel Moore.

Debate—Resolve that Merkel has the most beautiful girls in the west—Affirmative, Tyre Sublett, Brittain Jobe, Charlie Lofton; Negative, O. R. Cordell, Ben T. Merritt, Simpson Christopher.

League Program.

Topic—A Well Spent Life and its Close.

Leader—Miss Bertha Harris.

Song.

Prayer of Thanksgiving.

Responsive reading, Psalm 26.

Hymn.

Scripture reading, Rom. 14:7-8; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Num. 23:10; Acts 9:36-42.

Life and death of Paul—H. C. Burroughs, Jr.

Life and death of Moses—Conna Adams.

Death of Enoch—Jewell Pate.

Death of Stephen—Burnadine Freeman.

Last words of Famous Men—Isa McDonald.

What constitutes a hero—Leader.

Prayer for True Courage.

Hymn.

Reading—Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar"—Mrs. McMaster.

Reading—Mrs. E. B. Browning's "He Giveth His Beloved Sleep."

Instrumental Solo—Fannie Burroughs.

Benediction.

Pains All Over!

"You are welcome," says Mrs. Nora Guffey, of Broken Arrow, Okla., "to use my letter in any way you want to, if it will induce some suffering woman to try Cardui. I had pains all over, and suffered with an abscess. Three physicians failed to relieve me. Since taking Cardui, I am in better health than ever before, and that means much to me, because I suffered many years with womanly troubles, of different kinds. What other treatments I tried, helped me for a few days only."

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

Don't wait, until you are taken down sick, before taking care of yourself. The small aches and pains, and other symptoms of womanly weakness and disease, always mean worse to follow, unless given quick treatment.

You would always keep Cardui handy, if you knew what quick and permanent relief it gives, where weakness and disease of the womanly system makes life seem hard to bear. Cardui has helped over a million women. Try it.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free. 151

B. Y. P. U. Program.

Subject—The work of the Ministry.

Leader—Elbert Dean.

Song.

Prayer.

Scripture reading, Rom. 10-1: 15.

Song.

Some difficulties of the Ministry—Miss Garrett.

Some Glories of the Ministry—Rev. Jacobs.

Needs of the work—John King

Who shall do the work?—Flay Gunn.

Instrumental Solo—Fannie Swann.

Offertory.

Song.

Dismissal.

200 votes Saturday night with each ticket, 10c.

McCall's Magazine and McCall Patterns

For Women

Have More Friends than any other magazine or patterns. McCall's is the reliable Fashion Guide monthly in one million one hundred thousand homes. Besides showing all the latest designs of McCall Patterns, each issue is brimful of sparkling short stories and helpful information for women.

Save Money and Keep in Style by subscribing for McCall's Magazine at once. Costs only 50 cents a year, including any one of the celebrated McCall Patterns free.

McCall Patterns Lead all others in style, fit, simplicity, economy and number sold. More dealers sell McCall Patterns than any other two makes combined. None higher than 25 cents. Buy from your dealer, or by mail from

McCALL'S MAGAZINE
236-246 W. 37th St., New York City

Non-Solicit City, Prouten Catalogue and Pattern Catalogue free, on request.

O. F. McMASTER

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank



EYES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.

DRS. ADKISSON & MILLER

Dr. W. V. CRANFORD

Office at Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

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Office 4-3 Residence 2-7-6

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

W. C. WILLIAMS **G. W. JOHNSON**

WILLIAMS & JOHNSON
Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agents

Respectfully Solicit Your Business Notary Public in Office

Office over Farmers & Merchants National Bank
Merkel :: Texas

W. H. LANEY, THE BUTCHER

Fresh meats of all Kinds. Always pay top prices on fat cattle and hogs.

Phone 77—Front street, Merkel, Texas

December 14 to Decem

GROCERIES GREATLY RED IN PRICES BUT NOT IN QU

We are going to discount everything 10 per cent sold for cash during the Holidays. We are not giving it to one person but dividing it equally with every one who buys a bill from us. This is not a close-out stock-reducing sale and one to get cash that we need to pay our bills with before the new year.

10 PER CENT DISCOUNT

Baker Boy Flour \$3.00 per 100, less 10 per cent. **\$2.70**
 Sugar \$1.85 per 25 lb., less 10 per cent **\$1.66 1/2**
 Silver Crescent Coffee \$1.10 can, less 10 per cent **99c**
 Maxwell House \$1.00 can, less 10 per cent **90c**
 John Bremond \$1.25 bucket, less 10 per cent **\$1.12 1/2**
 Chase & Sanborn Circle Blend 30c, less 10 per cent **27c**
 Chase & Sanborn Corona 35c, less 10 per cent **31 1/2c**
 Chase & Sanborn Com. Mocha 40c, less 10 per cent **36c**
 10 lb. Cottolene \$1.25, less 10 per cent **\$1.12 1/2**
 10 lb. Jewell Com. \$1.00, less 10 per cent **90c**
 10 lb. Velva Syrup 75c, less 10 per cent **67 1/2c**
 10 lb. King Komus 75c, less 10 per cent **67 1/2c**
 10 lb. Auto Syrup 70c, less 10 per cent **63c**
 10 lb. Airio Syrup 60c, less 10 per cent **54c**
 10 lb. Blue Flag 65c, less 10 per cent **58 1/2c**
 10 lb. P. & F. 60c, less 10 per cent **54c**

These are staples that are used every day. You can't buy too much at these figures.

10 PER CENT DISCOUNT

10 lb. Red Top Sorghum 50c, less 10 per cent **45c**
 10 lb. White Ribbon 50c, less 10 per cent **45c**
 10 lb. Wild Rose 45c, less 10 per cent **41 1/2c**
 Van Camps st. sugar corn \$2.50 case, less 10 per cent **\$2.25**
 Van Camps standard \$2.00 case, less 10 per cent **1.80**
 Van Camps ves. No. 3 Tom. \$2.50 case, less 10 per cent **2.25**
 Van Camps ves. No. 2 Tom. \$2.00 case, less 10 per cent **1.80**
 Van Camps No. 1 P. and B. \$1 doz., less 10 per cent **90c**
 Van Camps No. 2 P. & B. \$1.65 doz., less 10 per cent **\$1.48 1/2**
 Palmetto No. 3 Peaches \$2.40 doz., less 10 per cent **\$2.16**
 Palmetto No. 3 Apricots \$2.40 doz., less 10 per cent **2.16**
 Consul No. 3 Apricots \$2.00 doz., less 10 per cent **1.80**
 Post Toastes 2 for 25c, less 10 per cent **22 1/2c**
 Shredded Wheat 2 for 25c, less 10 per cent **22 1/2c**
 5 lb. Oat Meal 20c, less 10 per cent **18c**
 All 25c Baking Powders 20c, less 10 per cent **18c**

These are only a few of many articles we can save you money on. Everything less 10 per cent for cash.

B. C. GAITHER & SONS

The Bug Under The Chip

In the beginning let us allay the suspicions of the superstitious for there are some who will say: "Umph, Huh! but something's rotten sommers about this here Trade week. Uno they can't afford it and that boosting sheet's got a graft fer they can't splash all this ink fer nuthing."

Here it is: The Mail is going to show our readers every week and all others once each month and all honest advertisers all of the time that, "It pays to advertise; it pays to read advertising and this is the medium." If we do this we are going to get more subscribers and more advertisers. That is our purpose and we are going to succeed. The rest of it is easy for any fair minded man or woman.

Anyone knows the better a town is for a market the better it is for the merchant and the farmer. It makes more business and smaller profits possible. The Merkel merchants have the advantage of almost any town by having the best country around it enjoying more business than the average of most twice its size and yet is a small town with cheap rents and expenses. They are giving the people the benefit of this advantage.

The farmer who comes to town and sells a bale of cotton, mule, horse, cow, pig, chicken, produce, wood or anything else and gets a good price will feel good, spend part or all of it before he leaves, and if he gets a bargain he will tell his friends about it and all of them come back again.

It is but the natural result of good and honest advertising.

No other kind pays and it is the only kind we want in our columns. Advertise something good and then make good.

If we do any good for our town and country we will be well paid for this or any other effort and that is the only bug under the chip.

Don't say it again for as "confidence begets confidence," "suspicion invites suspicion."

DANDRUFF AND ITCHING SCALP YIELD TO ZEMO TREATMENT

Why should you continue to experiment with salves, greasy lotions and fancy hair dressings trying to rid your scalp of germ life. They can't do it because they cannot penetrate to the seat of the trouble and draw the germ life to the surface of the scalp and destroy it.

Why not try a PROVEN REMEDY? One that will do this. We have a remedy that will rid the scalp of germ life and in this way will cure DANDRUFF and ITCHING SCALP.

This remedy is ZEMO, a clean, refined, penetrating scalp tonic that goes right to the seat of the trouble and drives the germ life to the surface and destroys it.

A shampoo with ZEMO (ANTISEPTIC) SOAP and one application of ZEMO will entirely rid the scalp of dandruff and scurf. Do not hesitate, but get a bottle of ZEMO today. It acts on a new principle and will do exactly what we claim.

Sold and endorsed by the Rust & McCauley Drug Store.

A hint to the wise is sufficient. We sell goods six days of each week and fifty-two weeks of each year. We do business twelve months of each year instead of three, therefore we can sell you goods for less. Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

A CHICKEN COUNTRY

Sweetwater Show and Local Exhibit Arouses Interest of Fanciers.

ORGANIZATION IS PERFECTED

More Than One Hundred Fowls Exhibited Made an Exhibit Which Would be a Credit to Any Town or Country.

(Delayed one week.)

The Sweetwater Poultry Show, the local exhibit and interest resulted in the organization of the chicken fanciers Wednesday afternoon at the Thornton building.

The exhibit of the poultry, although made up on very short notice, was one which made a very creditable showing for our town and country. There were twenty-five or thirty pens and a total of more than one hundred fowls. All of them were good and included most all the popular kinds and colors.

The following were the exhibitors:

Rhode Island Reds: R. A. Ellis, G. W. Long, E. H. Cordill, two pens, Fred A. Baker, G. L. Baker, S. B. Abercrombie.

The Reds predominated but there were the other following pens: W. T. Curb, White Leghorns; R. A. Ellis, White Orpingtons; O. W. Williams, White Orpingtons; Claud Comegys, White Indian Games; Chas. Orr, Houdans; Wesley Edwards, Homer Racing Pigeons; T. O. Mobley, Silver Lace Wyandottes; Mrs. T. M. Pribble, Rose Comb Rhode Island Whites; H. M. Rose, White Wyandottes; A. J. Hartley, Buff Orpingtons, two pens; Joe Higgins, Barred

Rocks; H. P. Wilkins, Barred Rocks.

The following officers were elected for the Merkel association: W. T. Potter, Pres., Eli Cordill, Vice-Pres., O. W. Williams, Sec., and H. M. Rose, Treas. They have a large membership and everybody is invited to become a member.

Notes of Interest.

Mr. M. B. Christian, editor of the Poultry Advertiser at Sweetwater was present and did much to make the local exhibit a success. He is enthusiastic about the poultry business in this section and paid some very nice compliments to our local exhibitors.

Chas. Orr, Claud Comegys, H. M. Rose and Wesley Edwards exhibited at the Sweetwater show and won some premiums and honors, but have not received advices at this writing.

A. J. Hartley is a good chickenite. He said: "There's no better country for raising chickens and no objection to this but the blue bugs, and no excuse but negligence for them. We have frying chickens and eggs the year round."

Mrs. J. R. Curb bought a good cockrel from R. A. Ellis' pen of R. I. Reds.

Joe Higgins made us feel like a great big red rooster and we wanted to crow when he gave us another dollar for advance subscription. Raising chickens and reading the Mail is a mighty good combination and makes a good citizen.

One item of interest was the fact that J. A. Duckett stated that he had paid out nearly \$2500 for chickens and produce since March. There are a number of other buyers and this gave us an

idea of the importance of this industry.

The local organization will arrange for a poultry show in the next month or so which will give many others interested time to have their fowls in proper shape.

Judge W. T. Potter made an impromptu but characteristic, interesting and entertaining speech.

All possible aid should be given by our people for it is an important and worthy enterprise. The American hen has paid off more mortgages than King Cotton or any other crop.

Merkel Chickens Win.

The following awards are taken from the Sweetwater Reporter in their account of the Sweetwater show:

White Wyandottes: First hen, also second, H. M. Rose, Merkel.

Houdans: Best cock and pullet, Chas. Orr, Merkel.

White Indian Games: Best hen, also second, Claud Comegys, Merkel.

Wesley Edwards exhibited his Homer Carrier Pigeons, and altogether Merkel was well represented in the exhibit and awards.

Sickly children need WHITE'S CREAM VERMIFUGE. It not only destroys worms, if there be any, but it acts as a strengthening tonic in the stomach and bowels. Price 25c per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Why carry gasoline at home, carry the risk and do the work when you can get what you want day or night at the Merkel Garage? Give us a trial.

We can use several loads of good headed maize or kaffir corn at \$1.00 per hundred pounds.

Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

2 es er 23

GIGANTIC Removal Sale

Going to move to a smaller building and our stock must be reduced before we move.

GREAT REMOVAL SALE OPENS DECEMBER 2 AND CLOSSES DEC. 23

During this short time we must reduce our stock to half its present size, and in order to do so we will offer everything under the roof at from 20 to 30 per cent less than regular prevailing prices. In January we will move into the building now occupied by J. T. Dennis and in order to get into that building, we find that our stock must be reduced to fit the house; therefore our loss will be a great saving to the purchasing public. Do not be misled, we mean just what we say. We will sell you goods during this big sale at prices rarely seen, and every item will be sold at a saving to the purchaser. Lots of goods will be closed out at less than wholesale cost. We quote a few prices and remember every item in the house goes 20 to 30 per cent less than the same class of goods can be purchased any other time.

CLOTHING

Regular \$30.00 suits.....	\$18.00
Regular \$25.00 suits.....	\$17.50
Regular \$20.00 suits.....	\$12.00
Regular \$10 to \$15 Suits.....	\$5 and \$6.00
Regular \$4.50 Pants.....	\$3.65
Regular \$3.50 to \$4.00 Pants.....	\$3.00
Regular \$1.50 Pants.....	\$1.20
Regular \$1.00 Overalls.....	85c
Regular 65c Overalls.....	45c

Dress Goods

Regular \$1.00 to \$1.25 values.....	90c
Regular 75c Woolens.....	60c
Regular 50 to 65c Woolens.....	45c
Regular 25 to 35c Dress Goods.....	20c
Regular 50 to 65c Dress Linens.....	45c
Regular 35 to 50c Dress Linens.....	30c

SHOES

Regular \$5.00 to \$6.00 Shoes.....	\$4.15
Regular \$4.50 to \$4.00 Shoes.....	\$3.15
Regular \$2.50 to 3.00 Shoes.....	\$2.15
Regular 2.00 Shoes.....	\$1.65
Regular \$1.50 Shoes.....	\$1.20

Furnishings

Regular 50 to 65c heavy fleece underwear for men.....	40c
Regular 50 to 65c heavy ribbed underwear for men.....	40c
Regular 25c hose.....	20c
Regular 15c hose.....	12½c
Regular 10 to 12 1-2c hose.....	7½c
Regular 50 to 65c Neckwear.....	45c
Regular 25 to 35c Neckwear.....	20c

STAPLES

All best Calicoes.....	4½c
Domestics 6c to.....	8½c
Regular 10 to 12 1-2c Gingham.....	
Regular 10 to 12 1-2c Outing.....	9c

Hats and Caps

Regular \$6.00 Hats.....	\$3.50
Regular 3.00 to 3.50 Hats.....	\$2.40
Regular 2.50 Hats.....	\$1.65
Regular 1.50 to 2.00 Hats.....	\$1.20
Regular 1.00 to 1.50 Hats.....	90c
Regular 1.00 Caps.....	85c
Regular 65c Caps.....	45c
Regular 35c Caps.....	25c
Regular 25c Caps.....	20c

If you need a trunk or suit case, it can now be bought for 35 per cent less. Everything at same low prices. Come let us serve you, it will positively mean a saving from 20 to 30 per cent on everything you buy. Big stock of groceries at low prices

**Come to this
Big Sale and
save at least
25 per cent**

Hogue-Hamilton Company

The goods must be sold, we will not have room in our new location for present stock.