

THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 23—NO. 49

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1912

8 PAGES

MENINGITIS NEWS

Three Deaths From the Disease at Midland Out of Five Cases.

MERKEL HAS ESCAPED SO FAR

All Towns Along T. & P. West of Sweetwater But Midland and Big Springs as Far as Toyah Under Quarantine.

Thus far Merkel has been spared any immediate danger from meningitis and it is to be hoped this condition will continue. We have no scarlet fever or any other contagious diseases.

Abilene, Jan. 22.—John Spaulding is in receipt of a letter from his brother, Will, at Midland, stating that two deaths had occurred there Saturday night from meningitis, or rather Dr. Ellis had died Saturday night and a young lady, aged sixteen, had died early Sunday morning, both having undoubted cases of meningitis.

Total number of cases in Midland so far reported are five, with two deaths as above mentioned.

Dr. N. H. Ellis is supposed to have contracted the disease in Fort Worth where he visited recently, and his wife is now seriously afflicted but the serum has been administered to her, and she may recover.

The other cases are reported getting along well. The schools are still closed and all public gatherings are abandoned, no services at any of the churches yesterday, and won't be for some time. The city is undergoing a thorough cleaning up, also, and Dr. J. B. Thomas, City Health Officer, thinks there is no grounds for alarm.

A later report states that Mrs. Ellis, relict of the late Dr. N. H. Ellis and whose death occurred Saturday night has died, this making three deaths in Midland from the disease. It is reported there are no new cases in Midland, the clean-up campaign in full swing and quarantine restrictions close and careful and no further trouble is anticipated.

Parties exposed are in quarantine and being watched closely by Health Officer, Dr. J. B. Thomas.

Abilene, Tex., Jan. 23.—On account of quarantine restrictions, Texas and Pacific Railway agent at this point, H. A. Redding, has received instructions from headquarters not to sell tickets to Midland, Stanton or Colorado City, these towns having quarantined against the world. There has not been any case of meningitis in Abilene, nor is there any at the present time.

Dallas, Jan. 24.—Twenty patients were discharged from the City Hospital yesterday as cured of cerebro-spinal meningitis and seven new cases were reported in the city, one of which died before it could be taken to the hospital. Four were taken to the hospital and one death was reported from among the patients already at the hospital.

So improved has the situation appeared to City Health Officer Nash, Mayor Holland and Dr. Abraham Sophian that it has

been decided by them that all diagnosis work on new cases may be done hereafter by the physicians from the City Hospital and the headquarters at the Oriental for the committee on diagnosis will be discontinued.

Official figures given out here today by Dr. M. M. Carrick of the State Board of Health, show a marked decrease in meningitis mortality here since the serum treatment was begun several weeks ago, and since the first case was reported in October there have been 239 cases with but 105 deaths. This shows the mortality rate a little more than one-third, and also shows that the Flexner serum is destined to become the great preventive against this most deadly disease, which has been in great prevalence in several cities of the state.

Abilene, Jan. 24.—United States Deputy Marshal L. L. Peevey is back from an official trip to Big Springs and reports a death there on Saturday night from meningitis.

The victim was the son of a T. & P. fireman and who had recently visited in Fort Worth and Dallas.

Mr. Peevey says every town but Midland and Big Springs on the T. & P. west of Sweetwater and as far as Toyah are under quarantine.

Fort Worth, Jan. 25.—Four new cases and one death, is the meningitis record in Fort Worth for the twenty-four hours ending at noon Wednesday. Two of these cases and the death were reported Wednesday morning.

Traveling men are reporting unpleasant experiences as a result of the quarantine which has been established by more than 100 towns. W. A. Andrews, a solicitor for the Star-Telegram, when he disembarked from the train at Winters Monday, was stopped by a man claiming to be an officer and taken to a hotel. Another traveler had been taken in custody, placed in a small room and fumigated. It was a small room with tin walls and the traveler was taken out exhausted by the fumes. When the officer told Andrews he would have to be fumigated he refused. Both men then left town.

Waxahachie, Jan. 24.—The first case of meningitis reported here developed last night.

Austin, Jan. 24.—After having remained closed for one week on account of the meningitis scare, the public schools re-opened today. The meningitis situation is much improved, no new cases having been reported during the past week. One death occurred yesterday afternoon. Only one case exists here now.

Houston, Jan. 24.—The development of another case of meningitis here has swelled the total to date to fifteen cases, with slightly above 50 per cent fatal.

Dublin, Jan. 23.—In compliance with a proclamation issued by Mayor George W. Wray last week all places of business were closed here today and the business men joined with others in

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Rates.

For District Offices.....	\$7.50
For County Offices.....	7.50
For Precinct Offices.....	5.00
For City Offices.....	2.50
Subscription price, per year.....	1.00

ALWAYS CASH IN ADVANCE

TAYLOR COUNTY CANDIDATES

For Sheriff:	S. E. Taylor (of Hamby) T. C. Weir (for re-election)
For County Clerk:	W. J. (Bub) Young
For Tax Collector:	D. T. Harkrider (of Ovalo)
For Tax Assessor:	W. T. (Tom) St. John (of Abilene) C. B. Manly
For Commissioner Prec. No. 2:	J. L. Banner
For Treasurer:	J. H. Thornton

JONES COUNTY CANDIDATES

For Tax Collector	W. R. Cranston
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giving Dublin a thorough clean-up. The results are such that it is contemplated making it an every three months affair.

THE RESIGNATION OF SUPT. E. V. WHITE

Abilene, Jan. 23.—The Commissioners Court met in called session this afternoon to elect a successor to E. V. White, who tendered his resignation as Superintendent of Taylor county's public schools and which resignation was at once accepted and Prof. J. S. Smith appointed to fill the vacancy, and will take charge of the schools of the county February 1.

All four of the County Commissioners were present when this action was taken, and the court adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Commissioner's Court of Taylor County, with reluctance, accepts the resignation of Superintendent E. V. White, recognizing that in him Taylor County has had a good and efficient officer, competent and trustworthy in every respect in the details and work of his office.

Prof. White has accepted a more lucrative position in the department of Education at Austin, to which place he will remove at once.

Statement from E. V. White.

My resignation as County Superintendent of this county has been tendered to the Commissioners' Court to take effect on February first, and the same has been accepted. I have taken this step after a careful consideration of my personal and professional welfare, believing at the same time that it will not interfere materially with the administration of the schools under my jurisdiction. I shall begin work immediately as an assistant in the office of the State Superintendent at Austin, having charge of one department of the office.

It is needless for me to say that I appreciate deeply the courtesies which I have received at the hands of the citizens and teachers of the county since I

became County Superintendent nearly five years ago. I am doubly appreciative of this fact since it is generally conceded that I would have had no opposition had I offered for re-election. Having lived in the county since a small boy and having been identified with its educational interests for the past ten years, it is with much reluctance that I leave a people from whom I have received such uniform courtesy and consideration. Only a promotion in the profession, and incidentally an increase in salary, have influenced me in this decision. At the same time I hope to be of some assistance in the improvement of the public school system of the state.

The Commissioners Court has made an excellent choice in the selection of my successor, and I trust that all citizens, especially teachers, will give to him their cordial and undivided support. The office should not be a political office, and I trust that it will not be made a prey to petty jealousies and political entanglements.

Woodroof Bros. to Leave.

E. L. Woodroof, senior partner of the firm of Woodroof Bros., with stores at Merkel and Waxahachie was here this week from the latter point and made announcement that the stock here would be moved to Waxahachie and consolidated with the store there some time in the near future. We are told by both members of this firm and know the sincerity of their statement that they regret to leave our town and we hate to see them go. They have been wide-awake, progressive and liberal advertisers and they have made money. We reflect the growth of this business from a very modest beginning to one of our most successful enterprises.

May good luck continue to be the biggest part of their experience.

Notice of Co-Partnership.

J. F. Shaffer has associated himself with Mr. Bradshaw of the R. L. Bradshaw Grocery Co. We will do a cash grocery business. Will endeavor to handle nothing but the best that money can buy at moderate prices. We have placed an order for a car of Albertross flour which is the best and best known flour in the world. Every sack guaranteed. Fair treatment and satisfaction guaranteed. Respectfully, R. L. Bradshaw Grocery Co.

Title for Public Weigher.

The Mail this week announces H. H. Tittle for re-election to the office of public weigher for this precinct. Mr. Tittle was put in this position by the voters of this precinct the last election and his record as an officer entitles him to the customary second term if so voted by our people and we ask that you give him fair consideration.

Manly for Tax Assessor.

The Mail is authorized to add to our column the announcement of C. B. Manly for tax assessor of Taylor county. He has made a good officer and is entitled to fair consideration at your hands. He will appreciate your vote and influence.

THE DEMONSTRATION

Special Agent of the U. S. Agricultural Department Gets Busy.

AT MERKEL JAN. 30, 1:30

District Deputy Wm. Ganzer of Denton Also Here to Start Peel off in the Work of Organizing the County.

F. A. Peel special agent of the United States Agricultural Department for this county, arrived in the city Tuesday morning from Hamlin, and was met here by Col. Wm. Ganzer, a well to do farmer of Denton, and went at once to work to get in touch with the situation here in the matter of organizing for farm demonstration work.

Mr. Peel is also a farmer, and will move his family down from Hamlin, and says he wants to rent a farm near town and practice what he preaches—diversification and improved methods of farming, seed selection and the conservation of moisture.

Mr. Peel says he will embark in no experiments, but will actually demonstrate to the farmers what can be done, already proven, in farming in this section of the country.

He wants to get in touch with as many farmers as want to engage in the demonstration work so as to start having the department at Washington send out literature about the work at once.

Mr. Peel is on the ground a little late, he says, but will push things and will leave no stone unturned to make the county work a success in every particular.

Both Col. Ganzer and Mr. Peel were yesterday in consultation with Judge Bledsoe and Mr. Looney, of the Chamber of Commerce, and the following dates have been made to meet the farmers of the county:

Abilene, two o'clock Saturday afternoon, January 27th. at Chamber of Commerce rooms; Ovalo Monday afternoon, January 29th. at 1:30; Merkel, Tuesday afternoon, January 30, at 1:30.

Judge Bledsoe and Mr. Looney will accompany Mr. Peel to these places to explain the work and introduce Mr. Peel. All farmers are urged to go out and hear the talk of Mr. Peel and become interested in better methods of farming. It is free, will cost you nothing. Both Mr. Ganzer and Mr. Peel predict great success in this county.—Abilene Reporter.

New Bank is Opened.

The farmers State Bank of Merkel opened its doors for business in our little town Wednesday morning although the improvements for their building have not been completed. The building is being repapered and finished on the inside and a new modern awning will be erected, making a very attractive place and Cashier Anderson and the officers invite the visits of their friends and others.

The Mail wishes for the new enterprise a liberal patronage and success.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

J. T. WARREN, President

T. A. JOHNSON, Cashier



Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

"Good Service to Our Patrons"

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. T. WARREN G. F. WEST C. P. WARREN HENRY JAMES
ED. S. HUGHES J. T. HOWARD T. A. JOHNSON

COUNTRY CORRESPONDENCE

White Church Community.

Jan. 22—We are having some pretty weather this week.

The farmers of our community are preparing their land for another crop. There is still some cotton to pick.

Miss Mary Lee Hicks of Merkel was visiting friends in our community Saturday and Sunday.

The party at P. R. McLean's was well attended.

Ernest Boyd and Walter Hunter called at Mr. Wood's Sunday.

Hurlie Boden and Will Toombs were visiting H. E. Farmer Saturday.

Fat Hutchins and Ray Brown were ant callers at Mr. Pannell's Saturday night.

Miss Mary Lee Hicks of Merkel attended the party given at H. E. Farmer's Saturday night. All present reported a nice time.

Mr. Riggins visited T. J. Toombs Sunday afternoon.

Bro. Bailey of Trent preached at White Church Sunday afternoon.

Singing at Mr. Snow's Sunday night was attended by a large crowd.

D. L. Boyd and son Ernest were in our community Sunday.

Lee White and sister Miss Lillie attended preaching at White Church Sunday evening.

Mack Grider and Howard Brown took dinner with Rufus Pannell Sunday. Prodigal Son.

Salt Branch News.

Jan. 23.—Bro. Saffle of Merkel filled his regular appointment here Saturday and Sunday.

Singing was well attended Sunday afternoon.

Misses Tennie Pope and Edna Lyles of Stith spent Saturday night with the Misses Teaff.

Jim Ingram and wife of Mt. Pleasant were visiting W. B. Robertson and wife Sunday.

J. W. Teaff was an Abilene visitor Monday.

W. M. Hays and family were visiting at the home of Joe McMurray's Sunday.

Miss Lois Smith was visiting Miss Essie Floyd Sunday.

Houston Robertson and Misses Cora and Alina Hays and Ruth Allen were visiting Holland Teaff and sisters Sunday.

Bro. Saffle took dinner with Ellis Petty Sunday.

Misses Tennie Pope and Edna Lyles of Stith were charming guests of Miss Oma Taylor Sunday.

Rolph Golightly and family were visiting W. L. Harris and wife Sunday.

S. W. Taylor and wife were visiting at the home of Ellis Petty one day last week.

Mrs. Hays and children were visiting Mrs. Mobley Saturday afternoon.

Miss Annie Petty was the guest of Miss Dornie Floyd Sunday.

Messames Barker and Higgins and

Miss Oma Taylor were visiting Mrs. Belvia Lyles of the Warren community Monday.

Miss Annie Higgins was visiting Miss Lillie Wheat Sunday.

Misses Lillie and Lois Smith, Essie Floyd and Lyda Beavers were visiting the school Friday evening.

Wesley Hardy and family were visiting J. W. Hardy and daughters Sunday.

Misses Lillie and Lois Smith and Oma Taylor were Merkel visitors Saturday.

Miss Lyda Beavers was visiting Miss Essie Floyd Monday afternoon.

Mr. Peoples was visiting at Charles Higgins Sunday.

Mrs. Ada Higgins was visiting Mrs. Maggie Higgins Monday.

Lester Wheat is greatly improved, we are glad to state.

There was a nice little crowd out at prayer meeting Sunday night.

Mrs. Etta Petty was visiting Mrs. Robertson Monday.

Misses Willie and Mollie Hardy and Nina Beavers were visiting Miss Dewie Floyd Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Harrell was visiting Mrs. Floyd Saturday afternoon.

Best wishes to the Mail and its many readers.

Blue-Eyed Girl.

Noodle Dots.

Jan. 23—Our school is progressing nicely. After so long a time parties have began work on the school house.

Miss Johnnie Odem went to Sand Burr Sunday.

Misses Birdie and Grace Diltz were in our community Saturday and Sunday.

There was quite a large crowd at the fruit supper at Robert Saddler's Saturday night.

There was a good singing at Noodle Sunday afternoon.

Rev. W. K. Hamm of Abilene was visiting relatives at Noodle Sunday.

As there is not much doing this week I will ring off. White Dove.

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.

Window and door glass and paints at Burroughs Drug Store.

Free air for tires. Merkel Garage.

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEED OATS—Clear of Johnson grass for sale. J. R. Hester, Rt. 4. t2pd

TO RENT—160 acre farm 2½ miles from Abilene, 145 acres in cultivation. C. E. Whitaker. 26t4

FOR RENT—80 acres of land in Jones county. 65 acres in cultivation, good house, small barn, well of water, close to school. See L. H. King. tf

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

WHOSE HORSE?—About Dec. 9th I took up a bay horse, 15½ hands high, branded "32" on left shoulder, cut on right fore foot, fistulo on neck. J. A. Horton, Rt. 4. 19t2pd

FOR RENT—Farm, 160 acres 3 miles west of Merkel, 90 in cultivation. Apply to T. A. Johnson at F. & M. Bank or see me. J. N. Laboon. 19t2pd

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

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

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

WANTED—Jersey cow not more than 4 or 5 years old with young calf. Phone No. 6. Rev. Joseph Jacob, Merkel, Texas. 12t3pd

FOR RENT—110 acres of good land in Mulberry Canyon, 3-room house and good water. Apply to F. Z. Turner, Nubia, Texas. 12t7pd

FOR RENT—A farm, about 70 acres in cultivation and 75 acres in grass. Plenty water and wood. S. F. Haynes, Merkel, Texas. 12t3pd

GASOLINE—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

T. & P. TIME TABLE.

EAST BOUND

Train No. 8, leaves Merkel.. 9:02 a.m.
Train No. 4 " " ..11:42 a.m.
Train No. 6 " " ..12:19 a.m.

WEST BOUND

Train No. 5, leaves Merkel.. 4:28 a.m.
Train No. 7 " " .. 4:10 p.m.
Train No. 3 " " .. 4:48 p.m.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

AWAY GOES PIMPLES

BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA,
DANDRUFF AND OTHER
SKIN AFFECTIONS

When Zemo and Zemo Soap
Are Used.

The Rust & McCauley Drug Store says, "We are so confident that ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP used together will rid the skin or scalp of infant or grown person of PIMPLES, BLACKHEADS, ECZEMA, DANDRUFF, INSECT BITES or any form of itching, irritated, disfiguring skin or scalp trouble, that we do not hesitate to recommend these clean refined remedies to every person who desires quick relief and a cure from any form of aggravated skin or scalp affection. Often-times one bottle and one cake of soap will cure a minor case of skin trouble.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP produce sure and swift results. You will not suffer another day after you commence to use them. You will feel like a new person.

ZEMO and ZEMO SOAP can be obtained from one leading druggist in every city or town in America and in Merkel by Rust & McCauley Drug Store.

Notice Contractors.

We are now ready to accept bids on building new I. O. O. F. Hall at Nubia according to specification that can be seen at Gaither & Sons store.

2tpd W. I. Cogburn.
Sec. I. O. O. F.

H. C. Floyd, Optician.

Glasses correctly fitted. All work guaranteed. Eyes tested free. With S. S. Scheidler, opposite post office Merkel, Tex. tf

To the Merkel COUNTRY FARMERS

I want to talk to you about selling your properties for this year. I have a practical proposition to offer you who have properties and are anxious to resort to the surest and most conservative plans to secure buyers for your properties.

I will agree to advertise all properties that are listed with me under an exclusive contract to sell in the following advertising mediums; viz:

The Merkel Mail, to catch the local buyers.

The Dallas Morning News to catch the business men, such as the merchant, lawyer, doctor, retired capitalist, etc.

The Dallas Farm News which reaches thousands on top of thousands of farmers in this and other states.

The Farm & Ranch which reaches the farmers and which is the leading farm journal of Texas.

My contract is simple, not complicated, and I know by experience this is the most practical plan for you and for me. I could not afford to advertise properties in this manner without having the right to collect my commission no matter who sold the property.

Now, I will take your property without the exclusive contract and do my best to sell it.

My 1911 sales totaled \$89,872.50 and I will beat this figure this year.

LEWIS H. KING

Notice Ladies

My arrangements have been made to carry and display at the store of J. T. Dennis a new stock of the very newest things in ladies, misses and children's spring and summer hats. I will appreciate your visit, your influence and your patronage.

Lizzie Mae Freeman

AT DENNIS STORE

J. A. WOODARD

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

YOU WANT A BETTER JOB?

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your services. If you qualify—take the Draughon Training—and show ambition to rise. More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation. Banking, Typewriting, Penmanship, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Letter Writing, Business Law—FREE auxiliary branches. Good POSITIONS GUARANTEED under reasonable conditions. Bookkeeping. Bookkeepers all over the United States say that Draughon's New System of Bookkeeping saves them from 25 to 50 per cent in work and worry. Shorthand. Practically all U. S. official 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.

WE TURN OUT JOB WORK THAT LOOKS GOOD

ALL THESE MEN HAVE WORKED FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR MONEY WHEN IT IS IN A NATIONAL BANK



Copyright 1909, by C. E. Zimmerman Co., No. 329

The Southern National Bank

Solicits your business for the New Year
and promises the most liberal service
consistent with our conservative policies

John Sears, President

C. L. Barker, Vice-Pres.

J. E. Faucett, Cashier

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

For sale to the right man, a good, heavy young horse.
W. W. Wheeler.

T. J. Coggin left the latter part of last week on a business trip to El Paso.

All kinds of clocks at Burroughs Drug Store.

J. E. Pitzer of Sweetwater was among the business visitors in our little city Tuesday.

All kinds of hot and cold drinks at Burroughs Drug Store.

W. B. Farmer was attending to business in Abilene the latter part of last week.

All school books and school supplies on sale at Burroughs Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Mc D. Angus were visiting Abilene friends the latter part of last week.

Miss Annie Lou O'Briant has returned from a visit to Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Clark at Coleman.

Mrs. G. F. West spent Saturday in Abilene the guest of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Cox.

The liver loses its activity at times and needs help. HERBINE is an effective liver stimulant. It also purifies the blood, strengthens digestion and gives strength, vigor and cheerful spirit. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

J. S. Burkhead and family who have been at Sweetwater for several months are back at home for the former stated to our reporter that Merkel was always home.

Call for Seneca Stock Powder at Hamblet & Rogers and get a 75c buggy whip free with every 75c worth you buy. The best on the market.

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.

Mrs. Rosie Newberry and children are in Sweetwater this week visiting the former's sister Mrs. C. S. Milliken who is quite sick.

Mrs. R. L. Sossamon has returned to her home at Pyron after a pleasant visit in our city with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sibley.

FOR RENT—Farm, 1 mile east of Shiloh, 175 to 200 in cultivation; good improvements with plenty of wood, grass and water. A. C. Boney, Merkel.

Chief B. C. Gaither, G. M. Cauthen, W. R. Russell, J. G. Hale, Homer Easterwood, Montgomery Britain and a dozen more were visitors in Abilene Wednesday afternoon.

PIGEONS ON A JAMBOREE

Drink Liquor Spilled in the Street and Gave Real Exhibition of Drunkenness.

A heavy truck loaded high with kegs of liquor was jolting across a line of downtown car tracks when one of the kegs toppled and fell from the top of the pile into the street. It was thoroughly smashed, so the truckman whipped up his team and went his way without stopping. The rum flowed out over the street—one little dent in the paving collecting a visible puddle of it.

In a few minutes a pigeon came fluttering down to drink at the pool thus fortunately provided for thirsty birds. The initial taste was a surprise, but a second and a third soon followed, and soon the pigeon tottered fluttering away, too overcome to fly. Other birds, seeing him there and anxious to wet their parching throats on so sultry a day, followed their brother in his path of wicked intemperance.

Five minutes later a passerby was astonished to see a dozen pigeons in the gutter of the otherwise deserted street, some dancing drunkenly, others already sound asleep. A few feet away a hound of disreputable appearance was creeping up, slowly and a trifle unsteadily, on his unsuspecting and bibulous quarry. As he was almost among the birds his feet went suddenly in several directions and he lay in the gutter among the pigeons, growling sleepily to himself, for he, too, was drunk.

What Makes a Woman?

One hundred and twenty pounds, more or less, of bone and muscle don't make a woman. It's a good foundation. Put into it health and strength and she may rule a kingdom. But that's just what Electric Bitters give her. Thousands bless them for overcoming fainting and dizzy spells and for dispelling weakness, nervousness, backache and tired, listless, worn out feeling. "Electric Bitters have done me a world of good," writes Eliza Pool, Depew, Okla., "and I thank you, with all my heart, for making such a good medicine." Only 50c. Guaranteed by H. C. Burroughs.

Fine Horses of Mixed Blood.

Since the beginning of the seventeenth century Jerez de la Forontera has been the most noted horse-breeding center of Andalusia, for many hundreds of years famous for its fine horses. Jerez de la Forontera was one of the first and last Moorish strongholds in Spain, and the best horses there were all bred from famous Arab stallions, so that what is known as an Andalusian, or Spanish, horse has always a good deal of Arab blood; it has, however, been crossed with so many other breeds, especially Flemish, that today the Spanish horse is not registered in the books of record of pure-blood animals.

Insect Bite Costs Leg.

A Boston man lost his leg from the bite of an insect two years before. To avert such calamities from stings and bites of insects use Bucklen's Arnica Salve promptly to kill the poison and prevent inflammation, swelling and pain. Heals burns, boils, ulcers, piles, eczema, cuts, bruises. Only 25c at H. C. Burroughs.

It's Nature.

"What kind of a boat is the one yonder? It's made a bit with me."
"That is exactly the kind of a boat to make a bit."
"Why so?"
"Because it's a floating crack."

PROFESSIONAL

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

TELEPHONES

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 upstairs 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

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

Don't Take It For Granted

that just because you are in business, everybody is aware of the fact. Your goods may be the finest in the market but they will remain on your shelves unless the people are told about them.

ADVERTISE

if you want to move your merchandise. Reach the buyers in their homes through the columns of THIS PAPER and on every dollar expended you'll reap a handsome dividend.

SMALL COURTESIES ARE LOST

These Things That Make Life Really Worth While Seem to Be Forgotten.

Small courtesies of life seem to be entirely lost in the rush for big things. This leaving off of the little things that go to make living worth the while is a well-known and recognized fact to women who crave those gracious attentions so easy in the giving when the thought is right.

Many men no longer consider it necessary to rise when a lady enters the room. If they proffer a chair, it is seldom done with the old-time alacrity, and a few trips on a city car will be sufficient to convince the veriest skeptic of the truth of courtesy's decadence.

Be it said in favor of man, continually on the rack regarding these omissions, that he is by no means the greatest offender. Women who entertain will tell you of scores of invitations to which they have never even received the courtesy of an acknowledgment. "R. S. V. P." at the end of a card or note means nothing to women too thoughtless or too ill-bred to take five minutes for a reply. Such treatment of a social courtesy is an offense garish enough to cause the offender's name to be struck from the social list of the hostess.

The small courtesies of woman to woman are fully as important as those from man to woman, or woman to man.

The Choice of a Husband

is too important a matter for a woman to be handicapped by weakness, bad blood or foul breath. Avoid these kill-hopes by taking Dr. King's New Life Pills. New strength, fine complexion, pure breath, cheerful spirits—things that win men—follow their use. Easy, safe, sure. 25c at H. C. Burroughs.

NURSES SHOULD NOT SNOORE

One of Them Tells How the Habit Keeps Them From Holding Good Places.

"In all those months I was in the hospital somebody ought to have warned me, I think," said the trained nurse. "Of course I had it from the folks at home that I snored a little, but I never took it seriously until I went on my first case. I found then that it is a serious matter for a nurse to snore."

"I took the case from a nurse whose own health had broken down. The patient was nervous and excited over the contemplated change, and that made my ordeal more severe; a brand new case of my own would have been much easier. Still, we got along fairly well together the first half of the night. He was a kindly man, and soon after midnight he insisted that I should try to get some sleep. I didn't think I'd catch a wink, but by and by I dozed off. It was a fatal sleep for me. The next morning the patient's sister told me about the snoring."

"James could not rest at all," she said. "I heard you in the next room."

"Before night I was looking for another job. Of course I did not have to give up nursing entirely, but the hard cases, where I am required to keep awake every second, are open to me. All those soft snaps that give you a chance to sleep half the night are beyond the reach of the snoring nurse."

When given as soon as the croupy cough appears Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will ward off an attack of croup and prevent all danger and cause of anxiety. Thousands of mothers use it successfully. Sold by all dealers.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

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

25 yards best grade calico for \$1.00. Woodroof Bros.

B. C. Gaither made a business trip to Tuscola one day last week

Nothing reserved during this close out sale. Woodroof Bros.

J. T. Dennis was among the taxpayers in Abilene the first of the week.

Burroughs Drug Store handles a large line of window and door glass and paints.

W. W. Wheeler and Jno. Elliott made a business trip to Trent Wednesday evening.

Closing out to quit business. Everything in store to be sold at cost and less. Woodroof Bros.

Clarence Demere of Sweetwater, was among the business visitors in our little city last week.

Men and boys' clothing at low price. Woodroof Bros.

President C. L. Barker of the Southern National Bank is in St. Louis on business this week.

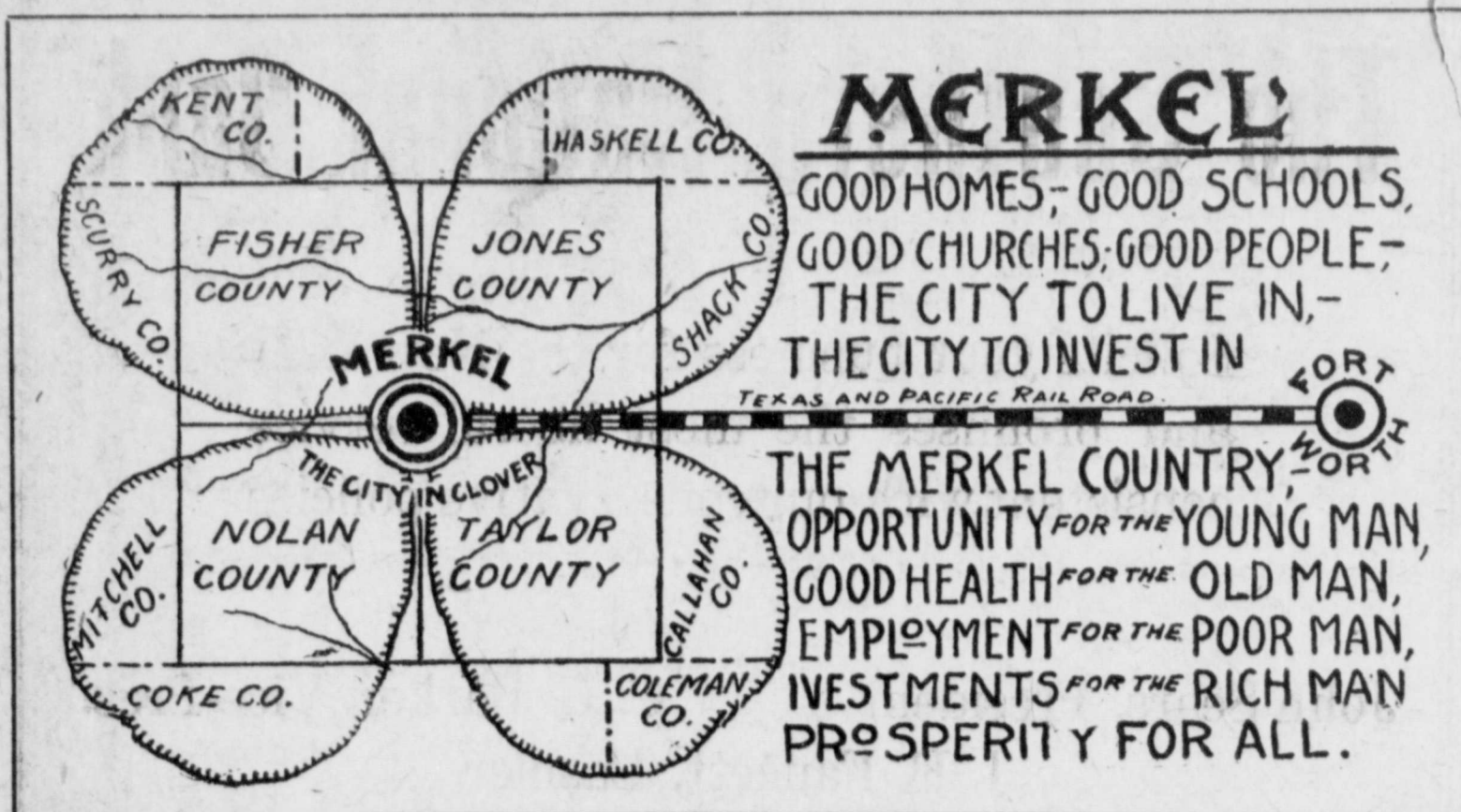
Mrs. Victor Harris and little daughter Ruby have returned from Dallas where they visited relatives.

Mrs. J. B. Burleson returned to Oakley Thursday after visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Bessier.

It was rumored in Merkel Thursday before going to press that Midland had two new cases of meningitis and two more deaths making a total of 7 cases and 5 deaths.

W. Scott Smelser has bought ten acres of land just west of the Taylor addition and on six acres to be planted in cotton. Mr. Smelser says he is going to raise at least six bales of the fleecy staple. He is to make a demonstration farm for the benefit of government and other experts, as well as our farmers, so he says.

There have been a number of deals made involving Merkel and Merkel country real estate since the first of the year and a reading of the transfers caused a good Abilene man to make the statement that more of our property was selling than in their community. This may be attributed to one or both of two reasons, the superiority of our properties as an investment and the hustling ability of our local real estate men. Come to Merkel if you want a home in town or farm in the country.



The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
J. G. JACKSON, President BEN T. MERRITT, Manager
H. T. MERRITT, Foreman

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second Class Mail Matter

Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the management.

TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of The Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires, a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

FARM LIFE FOR BOYS.

The child's welfare committee of New York city is holding an important meeting. It will be attended by the most eminent authorities on charity work from all sections of the country.

Of late years it has been noticed that all institutions devoted to the protection or punishment of children have been gradually working toward a given end.

Most of the asylums have added summer homes for children where they can be afforded. Juvenile courts have been prompted by the same idea. In New York delinquents are to be hereafter sent to the farm and will not be confined in the city. It is good for the boy and girl. It is well for the city.

A child not naturally depraved frequently has to be strictly disciplined. Parents sometimes lose control of their children and are forced to call upon the courts for assistance. These juvenile offenders can not be classed as criminals, yet for their own future good it is necessary to confine them in reformatories.

The old idea of having such reformatories in the city is now being abandoned. They are being built in the country far removed from the immoral environments of the city. The honor system is also coming into vogue. The boys are trusted and permitted the freedom of the farm. They are required to do certain work, but it's a healthy exercise really. They have their gardens and under the influence of fresh air, sound food and careful training, the desire for the immoral gradually loses its hold and when the boy is returned he is healthier in mind and body. He becomes practically a new youth. This has been the result with over eighty per cent of Boston's bad boys and now New York proposes the experiment.

Orphan asylums should be located, not in the cities, but in the country. Juvenile hospitals should also have the surroundings of the farm. It is conducive to health, especially the health of children to be raised on the farm or in the country. The new movement has been received with great favor wherever it has been tried.

More than this, it is creating in the minds of many of the coming generation, a greater appreciation of the farm and farm life, and many, when they grow older, will return to the rural life; not compelled to do so, but through a natural desire for it.

H. E. Graham of Gause, who has been interested in bee culture for several years, has found the study of the busy little bugs so fascinating and bee farming such a paying industry that he will increase his holdings until he becomes the largest individual bee owner in Central Texas. He has already established three large apiaries on the Brazos river in Burleson county, and still another in the city. Last year, Mr. Graham sold a great deal of honey from these farms, at very profitable prices.

MERKEL

GOOD HOMES; GOOD SCHOOLS,
GOOD CHURCHES; GOOD PEOPLE;
THE CITY TO LIVE IN,
THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY,
OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,
GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,
EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,
INVESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN
PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

TO DEVELOP TEXAS SULPHUR BEDS.

It is reported that S. M. Swenson & Son, New York bankers, have completed arrangements for the purchase of what is said to be the most extensive sulphur fields in the United States. These sulphur beds are located on a 10,000-acre tract of land lying on the west banks and near the mouth of the Brazos river.

It is stated that the contract of purchase contained a clause obligating the buyers to construct a complete plant for the development of the sulphur properties and that the necessary machinery for so doing has already been shipped to the fields. The report further indicates that plans have been formulated for a townsite, construction of docks, warehouses, hotel, bank, and, in fact, everything that will facilitate the work of carrying on the proposed mining operations.

EXPERIMENT WITH FLAX.

H. M. Bainer, Agricultural Demonstrator for the Santa Fe Railway, is recommending that flax be given a trial in the Panhandle. In Randall county last year flax was successfully raised on a two-hundred acre tract of land and it is the opinion of Mr. Bainer that it could be a money-making crop throughout the Panhandle.

In a recent interview Mr. Bainer said:

"Although flax is not what is known as a 'hot weather crop' and its growth at present is confined largely to Canada and the Northern part of the United States, it does well in those sections where the nights are cool, even though the days are hot. Under these conditions this crop should thrive in the Panhandle."

In accordance with the laws of Massachusetts, death warrants have been served upon Governor Foss, Warden Bridges of the state prison and Sheriff Quinn for the execution during the week of May 19, of Rev Clarence V. T. Richeson. The prisoner's petition for commutation is expected to be ready next month. If it is right for the law to kill a man then Richeson should pay the penalty of his awful deed with his life. If it were our daughter or sister who had been wronged, we are sure that we should feel that it was right for the law to rid society of such a man.

With its great variety of soils, its large range of temperature, its fertile plains and valleys, its coast line, its harbors, its immense railway facilities and its enterprising people, Texas is undoubtedly in the lead in the race of the Southern States to the front and since there are million of acres have not felt the touch of the plow point, there are unlimited opportunities awaiting all classes of agriculturists, no matter what specialty they prefer.

The murder record of the United States for the past year is something appalling. It is enough to put to shame any man who upholds the right, and believes that the laws should be enforced. When people quit sympathizing with slayers, and think something of the man who lost his life, and the family who suffers from his loss, juries will bring in different verdicts.

The Commercial Club of Terrell, Texas, has just completed a very successful campaign for new members, one hundred and eighty-nine being secured. This gives that organization the united support of the citizenship of Terrell.

Good roads are the great arteries that put the producers in touch with the outer world and the great markets of the earth.

The progressive spirit of a state is measured by the energy and enthusiasm of its citizenship.

NEW PLAIN PRICE STORE NOW OPEN

I have opened what is usually called a Nickel or Racket Store in the Crenshaw block, first door west of McClain's drug store, and will endeavor to keep at all times a full stock of goods usually handled in this line, and wish you to call and can assure you that I can save you money on many articles. I will appreciate your trade. Respectfully

THE PLAIN PRICE STORE

DR. J. M. C. KING, PROPRIETOR



WANTED--A RIDER AGENT

IN EACH TOWN and district to ride and exhibit a sample Latest Model "Ranger" bicycle furnished by us. Our agents everywhere are making money fast. Write for full particulars and special offer at once. NO MONEY REQUIRED until you receive and approve of our bicycle. We ship to anyone anywhere in the U. S. without a cent deposit in advance, prepaid freight, and allow TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL during which time you may ride the bicycle and put it to any test you wish. If you are then not perfectly satisfied or do not wish to keep the bicycle, ship it back to us at our expense and you will not be out one cent. We furnish the highest grade bicycles it is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save \$10 to \$25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your bicycle. DO NOT BUY a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone at any price until you receive our catalogue and learn our unheard of factory prices and remarkable special offers to rider agents.

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue and study our superb models at the wonderful prices we can make you. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are satisfied with \$1.00 profit above factory cost. BICYCLE DEALERS, you can sell our bicycles under your own name plate at double our prices. Orders filled the day received.

SECOND HAND BICYCLES. We do not regularly handle second hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from \$3 to \$8 or 10. Descriptive bargain lists mailed free. COASTER-BRAKES, single wheels, imported roller chains and pedals, parts, repairs and equipment of all kinds at half the regular retail prices.

\$10.00 Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof **\$4.80**
Self-healing Tires A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE, ONLY

The regular retail price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but we introduce you will sell you a sample pair for \$4.80 (cash with order \$4.55).

NO MORE TROUBLE FROM PUNCTURES. NAILS, Tacks, or Glass will not let the air out. A hundred thousand pairs sold last year.

DESCRIPTION: Made in all sizes. It is lively and easy riding, very durable and lined inside with a special quality of rubber, which never becomes porous and which closes up small punctures without allowing the air to escape.

We have hundreds of letters from satisfied customers stating that their tires have only been pumped up once or twice in a whole season. They weigh no more than an ordinary tire, the puncture-resisting qualities being given by several layers of thin, specially prepared fabric on the tread. The regular price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but for advertising purposes we are making a special factory price to the rider of only \$4.80 per pair. All orders: day letter is received. We ship C. O. D. on approval. You do not pay a cent until you have examined and found them strictly as represented.

We will allow a cash discount of 5 per cent (thereby making the price \$4.55 per pair) if you send FULL CASH with order and enclose this advertisement. You run no risk in sending us an order as the tires may be returned at OUR expense if for any reason they are not satisfactory. We are perfectly reliable and money sent to us is as safe as in a bank. If you order a pair of these tires, you will find that they will ride easier, run faster, wear better, last longer and look newer than any tire you have ever used or seen at any price. We know that you will be so well pleased that when you want a bicycle you will give us your order. We want you to send us a trial order at once, hence this remarkable tire offer.

IF YOU NEED TIRES don't buy any kind at any price until you send for a pair of Hedgethorn tires quoted above; or write for our big Tire and Sundry Catalogue which describes and quotes all makes and kinds of tires at about half the usual prices.

DO NOT WAIT! Write us a postal today. DO NOT THINK OF BUYING a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone until you know the new and wonderful offers we are making. It only costs a postal to learn everything. Write it NOW.

J. L. MEAD CYCLE COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILL.

Notice the thick rubber tread "A" and puncture strips "B" and "C" also rim strip "D" to prevent rim cutting. This tire will outlast any other make--SOFT, EASY RIDING.

Home Study. Thousands of bank cashiers, bookkeepers, and stenographers are holding good positions as the result of taking Draughon's Home Study.

CATALOGUE. For prices on lessons BY MAIL, write JNO. F. DRAUGHON, President, Nashville, Tenn. For free catalogue on course AT COLLEGE, write DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE, Dallas, Houston, Austin, Galveston, San Antonio, Abilene, Denison, Amarillo, Texarkana, or El Paso, Texas.

Banking, Typewriting, Penmanship, English, Spelling, Arithmetic, Letter Writing, Business Law--FREE auxiliary branches. Good POSITIONS GUARANTEED under reasonable conditions.

Bookkeeping. Bookkeepers all over the United States say that Draughon's New System of Bookkeeping saves them from 25 to 50 per cent in work and worry.

Shorthand. Practically all U. S. official court reporters write the System of Shorthand Draughon Colleges teach. Why? Because they know it is the best.

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking your services, if you qualify--take the Draughon Training--and show ambition to rise. More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation.

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Physicians Advise

the use of a good laxative, to keep the bowels open and prevent the poisons of undigested food from getting into your system.

The latest product of science is VELVO Laxative Liver Syrup, purely vegetable, gentle, reliable and of a pleasant, aromatic taste. Velvo acts on the liver, as well as on the stomach and bowels, and is of the greatest possible efficacy in constipation, indigestion, biliousness, sick headache, feverishness, colic, flatulence, etc. Try

VF 1

VELVO LAXATIVE LIVER SYRUP

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS WOODROOF BROTHERS CLOSING OUT SALE

Our large stock of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Furnishing Goods, Ladies' Ready-to-Wear, thrown on the market for **LESS THAN MANUFACTURERS COST** Our entire stock must be sold in **TWENTY DAYS**. Nothing reserved. Our Real Estate, Furniture and Fixtures are all for sale. Our reputation for selling high-class merchandise is too well known to mention the quality of goods we handle. Perhaps this is the first opportunity you ever had to buy new, seasonable goods at such prices. **A COLOSSAL SALE OF NEW SEASONABLE GOODS AT LESS THAN MANUFACTURERS COST**

20 Days--Just Twenty Days--20 Days

In this Great Closing-Out Sale we will not exchange any goods bought. Everything at Closing-Out prices. **Be on Hand, This is the Greatest Money Saving Event Ever Offered in Merkel** All New Goods, No Old Junk to Work Off on You. A Genuine Close-Out Sale

All 10 and 15 Cent Home Journal Patterns 5 Cents

Free \$5.00 Free

Saturday, Jan. 27, the customer purchasing the largest bill of goods **WILL BE GIVEN FIVE DOLLARS IN GOLD.**

WOODROOF BROS.
ONE PRICE--THE LOWEST

Free \$5.00 Free

Saturday, Jan. 27, the customer purchasing the largest bill of goods **WILL BE GIVEN FIVE DOLLARS IN GOLD.**

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Post cards 5c per dozen at the Greene Art Store.

C. P. Stevens made a business trip to Clyde Monday.

The Nickel store is the place to buy goods cheap.

Drs. M. Armstrong and J. A. Adkisson were Abilene visitors Monday.

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

G. P. Frederickson was looking after business in Trent the first of the week.

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

Ed Teaff, G. B. Tittle and J. L. Banner were transacting business in Abilene Tuesday.

The Nickel store is a new enterprise and be sure to visit them the first opportunity.

Earl Lassiter has returned from Fulbright where he has been employed for the past year and a half.

Misses Aline Geldert and Leslie Hodges returned to their homes in Sweetwater Tuesday afternoon after a delightful visit to Misses Dollie and Ova Teaff.

Mrs. S. H. Kyle of Durant, Okla., left for her home Monday after visiting her sister and mother Mesdames W. A. Scott and W. H. SoRelle respectfully.

Heartburn, indigestion or distress of the stomach is instantly relieved by **HERBINE**. It forces the badly digested food out of the body and restores tone in the stomach and bowels. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, Deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O.
Sold by druggists, 75c.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Deals closed this week changed the ownership of 180 acres of good land from the hands of J. A. Collins to G. M. Cauthen, the sale and exchange being made by Jno. G. G. Jackson and another deal negotiated by R. C. Young and Jackson was the sale of the same land to R. E. Edmison and Mr. Cauthen accepted as part payment the handsome residence property of the latter located at Merkel.

Medicines that aid nature are always most effectual. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy acts on this plan. It allays the cough, relieves the lungs, opens the secretions and aids nature in restoring the system to a healthy condition. Thousands have testified to its superior excellence. Sold by all dealers.

H. C. Floyd, D. O. Huddleston, J. H. McDonald, H. C. Burroughs and G. M. Cauthen were among the tax payers in Abilene Wednesday.

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

YOU SAVE

15 To 25

CENTS

On every dollar's worth of goods you buy from us

RUST & McCAULEY
Drug Company

The Cash Druggists. No Goods Charged

Mrs. McGee of Odessa is visiting her sister Mrs. Beene of the Cross Roads community. It was her intention to go home Tuesday but the depot agent refused to sell her a ticket as Odessa has been quarantined on account of meningitis.

A good remedy for a bad cough is **BALLARD'S HOREHOUND SYRUP**. It heals the lungs and quiets irritation. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

Mail Carriers Will Fly.

This is an age of great discoveries. Progress rides on the air. Soon we may see Uncle Sam's mail carriers flying in all directions, transporting mail. People take a wonderful interest in a discovery that benefits them. That's why Dr. King's New Discovery for coughs, colds and other lung diseases is the most popular medicine in America. "It cured me of a dreadful cough," writes Mrs. J. F. Davis, Stickney Corner, Me., "after doctor's treatment and all other remedies had failed." For coughs, colds or any bronchial affection its unequalled. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at H. C. Burroughs.

J. S. Burkhead and wife are here from Colorado visiting friends and relatives. Mr. Burkhead has some important work underway in Colorado but can not reach it, the town being quarantined on account of meningitis.

Do you know that fully nine out of every ten cases of rheumatism are simply rheumatism of the muscles due to cold or damp, or chronic rheumatism and require no internal treatment whatever? Apply Chamberlain's Liniment freely and see how quickly it gives relief. For sale by all dealers.

W. A. Scott, Mrs. W. H. SoRelle and families wish to thank their many friends for their messages of love and sympathy in their present overwhelming grief and misfortune.

When buying a cough medicine for children bear in mind that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is most effectual for colds, croup and whooping cough and that it contains no harmful drug. For sale by all dealers.

Elder W. G. Cypert will preach at Nubia Sunday. All are cordially invited to come out and take part.

Constipation is the cause of many ailments and disorders that make life miserable. Take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, keep your bowels regular and you will avoid these diseases. For sale by all dealers.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Telephone 202 for oil and gas. If you want to buy goods cheap visit the Nickel store.

J. H. Rogers was in Merkel this week.

E. B. Morgan of Colorado was visiting friends here Sunday.

Complete line of toilet articles and stationery at Armstrong Drug Co.

J. M. Barbee of near View made a business trip to our little city Tuesday.

Mrs. Frank Johnson visited the family of Mrs. George Johnson the first of the week.

We give personal guarantee on Dr. Hess' line of stock and poultry food. Armstrong Drug Co.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Gilliam and little son are at home from their visit in Italy, Texas.

Three good sulky plows and one planter for sale cheap. See C. L. Barker at Southern National Bank. 2t.

R. H. Collins left for Sulphur Springs Monday night on a cattle buying trip.

Texas Almanac and State Industrial Guides for 1912 are now on sale at Armstrong Drug Co. Price 30 cents.

Miss Evelyn Williams is at home from an extended visit to her sister Mrs. Tully Pence in Marshall, Mo. Miss Williams came in response to a message telling of her mother Mrs. H. C. Williams' serious illness. We are glad to know Mrs. Williams is much better.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

Sixty Years
*the Standard for purity,
strength and healthfulness.*

Made from pure,
grape cream of tartar,
free from alum and
phosphatic
acids.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz Friday evening, Jan. 19, Rev. Geo. L. Hamilton's class entertained Miss Bertie Diltz class, with Miss Diltz hostess assisted by Miss Beulah Haynes. Music and games were the diversions for the long to be remembered evening. The class members present were Misses Roxie Moon, Elma Daniels, Mamie Ellis, Faye Douglass, Vesta Barnett, Neva Warnick, Grace Diltz and Gladys Haynes; Messrs. Roger Haynes, Con Warnick, Owen Ellis, John Berry, Robert Tally, Horace Leeper, W. L. Diltz, Jr.; Misses Diltz, Haynes and Barnett; Rev. and Mrs. Geo. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz.

A two course luncheon was served, fried oysters, cake and gelatine.

Friday evening Misses Isla McDonald and Tommie Louise Coggin entertained a few of their friends at the home of Mrs. W. H. Dickson's. Those present who were engaged in the games of Stock exchange, flinch, fortune telling and etc., were Misses Bessie Touchstone, Faye Allen, Zora West, Hattie Bell, Tommie Louise Coggin and Isla McDonald; Messrs. Ennis and Emmett Grimes, H. C. Burroughs, Jr., Conna Adams, Dillard Coggin and Raymond Touchstone.

Friday night Miss Elma Sheppard entertained a few girl friends. Her house guests were Misses Eunice Nisbett, Virginia and Venona Hamblett and Fannie Burroughs. In the evening Messrs. Carl Evans, Jack Provine, C. C. Franklin, Rufford Evans and Bill Sheppard called. The crowd made candy and played 42.

The Rose Philathea Class held a social meeting Thursday evening at the home of Miss Mattie Paylor's.

In the "heart" contest Dr. McMassters and Rufford Evans cut for the prize, in which Mr. Evans was the winner of a beautiful heart-shaped basket.

In the "Rose" contest Miss Fannie Burroughs, Rufford Evans and Lowe Barnett cut for the box of candy, Lowe Barnett winning. At the conclusion of a pleasant evening the guests were served sandwiches, pickles and hot chocolate. Those present were Dr. McMassters teacher of the Rose Philathea Class, Messrs. Robert Hicks, Rufford Evans, Carl Evans, C. C. Franklin, Jess Ferguson, Otis Barnett, Ben Merritt, Luther Grimes, Clayton Brown, Forest Gaither, Choc Jones and Lowe Barnett. The class members present were Misses Eva Walters, Tennie Brown, Fannie Burroughs, Eunice Nisbett, Ona Hamblett, Elma Sheppard, Inice Moon, Pauline Johnson.

Monday evening Jan. 22, Misses Dollie and Ova Teaff were hostesses at a luncheon given to a few girl friends complimentary to their house guests Misses Aline Geldert and Leslie Hodges of Sweetwater, the young men joining the party later, after which the Misses Teaff tendered the crowd a picture show treat, chaperoned by Mrs. W. O. Boney. After the show the crowd

were royally entertained at their home west of town. In the first contest the boys were given torn hearts to darn. While each girl was to fashion a man out of a clothes pin and some crepe paper. The most successful artist, Miss Hodges, received a proposal from the most successful darter, Olly Sharp. This contest was followed by the fork and ring contest. Those present were Misses Geldert, Hodges, Mattie Murphy, Margie Saffle, Dollie and Ova Teaff, Mrs. W. O. Boney Messrs. Virgil Touchstone, Lester Ellis, Olly Sharp and W. O. Boney. Hot chocolate and cake were served.

Tuesday afternoon Mrs. J. P. Sutphen's home was opened informally to a number of Mrs. W. A. Scott's friends and neighbors who had come to give her a miscellaneous shower, an expression of love and sympathy. It would be impossible to give a list of the friends or the articles given. They came from all directions. The affair was a complete surprise to Mrs. Scott. When she came in from town the dining room doors were opened and she was told to look. Lines had been stretched for the linens, chairs were filled with nice warm quilts and blankets, the table was laden with useful household linen, each told of loving friends.

The XX Century Club will meet with Miss Ruth Mims Saturday afternoon, Jan. 27 at 3:30. The lesson, Much Ado About Nothing, Act III, will be conducted by Miss Lucy Bean. Talk—Shakespeare's England—Miss Duncan Browning. Dramatic News—Mrs. Geo. L. Hamilton.

League Program.

Leader—Judge Potter.
Subject—Elisha the Hebrew Commander—A Life of Saving Service.
Song.
Prayer.
Scripture reading, 2 Kings 19-22, Mark 4.
Song.
Discussion of Topic—Leader.
The Call of a Plow-Boy—Noel Moore.
A Minister of the Common-Place—Mrs. B. D. Black.
Duet—Mattie Christopher, Almeda Harris.
Instrumental Solo—Miss Laura Jennings.
Offering.
Miscellaneous.
Benediction.

Horse Pedometers.

The whorls of hair on the coats of horses and other animals are natural pedometers, inasmuch as they register the locomotive activities of the animals on whose bodies they are found.

The best examples and the greatest number of these hairy whorls and crests are found on the domestic horse. A notable instance is the graceful feathering that extends along the hollow of the flank, dividing the trunk of the animal from the hind-quarters. There are also crests and whorls on the horse's chest and other parts of its body.

A study of the action of the underlying muscles explains the origin of these peculiarities in the lay of the hair and furnishes the justification for calling them pedometers, although the analogy is, of course, merely superficial.

Among the Many Mansions

By Rev. James Mudge, D. D.
Montreal, Can.

"In my Father's house are many mansions."—John 14:2.

Too much can hardly be made of the fact that heaven, in a very important sense, is here and now. Nevertheless, there is, of course, a life hereafter beyond this world, a life eternal in Immanuel's land. There is a place "where Christ is," a place which He told His disciples He would prepare for their final abode. What should be our attitude toward it, our feeling about it? What use can we profitably make of it in the deepening of our spirituality, the perfecting of our character?

It is a test both of our faith and our faithfulness. In proportion to the vigor of our faith will be the clearness of our sight of the things unseen by mortal eye, our realization of the intangible. We may have a faith so strong that there will be no more doubt as to the reality of that world than of this, no hesitation whatever in accepting the intimations concerning it which are found in the written Word, no question as to the satisfying solidity of its joys, the permanency of the rich possessions to which it introduces the redeemed. What will give us this faith? Our faithfulness to God and duty, our living constantly in His presence, our cultivating those faculties which apprehend the things of the spirit. "The doctrine of immortality," it has been well said, "is an achievement and can be present in power only as the issue of that spiritual growth whose flower and fruit it is to be." If we would achieve certainty about it we must so live that it alone stands as the interpretation and consummation of our days. We must habitually cherish such convictions in our soul, must breathe such a high spiritual atmosphere, must walk so closely with the infinite one, with the Heavenly Father, in our daily experience that no other outcome of our being than its blissful continuance beyond death will seem in any way reasonable or possible. Such is the only path to perfect peace in this matter. How can a man of evil life really believe in the hereafter? How can he who is living wholly, or mainly, or even largely for this passing world obtain or retain a firm hold on the fact that there is another world far more important a palace to which this is but a portico? He could not live as he does if he did so believe. His choosing that kind of life inevitably deadens or destroys his power of belief in anything better by and by. We know as to the future what we are capable of knowing. If we would know more we must be more. If we would see further into the future we must live at a higher elevation. This, and not seances or table movings or supposed materializations of the spirits of the departed, is the way to get solid ground under one's feet as to the other world.

Should longings for Heaven fill much of our thought and time? Not to such an extent as to prevent the devotion of all our energies to the work assigned us by the Master. Surely not to the breeding of the slightest discontent with the duration of our tarrying here. St. Paul's position about it (Phil. 1:23) would seem to be ideal. He keenly appreciated the glorious gain involved in the transition to the splendor as yet so imperfectly revealed, but he also appreciated fully the joy of laboring for Jesus on this earth and increasing the triumphs of the gospel. He was sufficiently unselfish to put aside his own joy in favor of the advantage of his converts and others to whom he could do still further good. It is certainly safe to leave the decision as to the best time and manner of our death with God, assured that it shall be exactly aright and need not concern us in the least. It is not natural or possible for those in perfect health, in the springtime of youth, with the inviting, untried experience of life in this world all before them, to feel about another world as they reasonably may who are manifestly near it and whose friends are mostly there. Yet at all ages it is wholesome to keep in the background of our thought the solemn fact that we are pilgrims and strangers on these shores of time, and soon to launch forth for a voyage to fairer climes.

The gospel view of death, that it is gain, not loss, to the believer; sunrise, not sunset; transition, not destruction; birth into a higher state of being; something to be hailed with joy, not shrunk from with horror, is far too rare. Most people, as the apostle says, are "all their lifetime subject to bondage through fear of death" (Heb. 11:15), not knowing that Christ hath abolished death and brought life and

My Doctor Said

"Try Cardui," writes Mrs. Z. V. Spell, of Hayne, N. C. "I was in a very low state of health, and was not able to be up and tend to my duties. I did try Cardui, and soon began to feel better. I got able to be up and help do my housework. I continued to take the medicine, and now I am able to do my housework and to care for my children, and I feel as though I could never praise Cardui enough for the benefits I have received."

TAKE CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

Cardui is successful, because it is made especially for women, and acts specifically on the womanly constitution. Cardui does one thing, and does it well. That explains the great success which it has had, during the past 50 years, in helping thousands of weak and ailing women back to health and happiness.

If you are a woman, feel tired, dull, and are nervous, cross and irritable, it's because you need a tonic. Why not try Cardui? Cardui builds, strengthens, restores, and acts in every way as a special, tonic remedy for women. Test it for yourself. Your druggist sells Cardui. Ask him.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent free. J 55



Texas Needs Great Men

XXIV. WEAKNESS

KING HEROD was so well pleased with the dancing of his daughter, Salome, that he offered her half his Kingdom and one of the saddest tragedies in Christendom followed, and his throne toppled and fell. The people of today are oftentimes so well pleased with the vaudeville performance of politicians and the Salome dances of party leaders that they give them the whole of their kingdom, and as a result industries crash, commerce crumbles and pandemonium reigns supreme and the land becomes flooded with "isms" and legislative cure-alls, when the trouble lies in weak leadership. No country can become stronger than its leaders and weak leaders are the pall bearers of its prosperity.



SALOME DANCING BEFORE KING HEROD.

Let that people take heed whose leaders are under the grip of impulses and whose characters flicker like a wild flame, lest they become overpowered by the knockout drops of human weakness; their influence belt the State like a temptation, and their precedent stalk over the land like a pestilence. Texas Needs Great Men.

immortality" (II Tim. 1:10). What a pity that they should thus miss, through lack of faith, one of their chief joys, the deliverance assured to them on Jesus. It is our privilege, as Browning says, to "greet the unseen with a cheer," to feel that it well accords with "the rosy day, the bustle of man's work time," to think of and prepare for and pass to the higher world which waits us there. What, indeed, is there to fear in death, the foe that the mighty Prince of Life so effectually conquered, binding him to His triumphant chariot wheels?

Electric Bitters

Succeed when everything else fails. In nervous prostration and female weaknesses they are the supreme remedy, as thousands have testified. **FOR KIDNEY, LIVER AND STOMACH TROUBLE** it is the best medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter.



WANTED-A RIDER AGENT

IN EACH TOWN and district to ride and exhibit a sample Latest Model "Ranger" bicycle furnished by us. Our agents everywhere are making money fast. **NO MONEY REQUIRED** until you receive and approve of your bicycle. We ship to anyone anywhere in the U. S. **without a cent deposit** in advance, **prepay freight**, and allow **TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL** during which time you may ride the bicycle and put it to any test you wish. If you are then not perfectly satisfied or do not wish to keep the bicycle, ship it back to us at our expense and you will not be out one cent.

FACTORY PRICES—It is possible to make at one small profit above actual factory cost. You save \$10 to \$25 middlemen's profits by buying direct of us and have the manufacturer's guarantee behind your bicycle. **DO NOT BUY** a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone at any price until you receive our catalogues and learn our unheard of factory prices and our strictly as represented to rider agents.

YOU WILL BE ASTONISHED when you receive our beautiful catalogue and study our superb models at the wonderful low prices we can make you this year. We sell the highest grade bicycles for less money than any other factory. We are satisfied with \$1.00 profit above factory cost.

BICYCLE DEALERS, you can sell our bicycles under your own name plate at double our price. Orders filled the day received. We do not regularly handle second hand bicycles, but usually have a number on hand taken in trade by our Chicago retail stores. These we clear out promptly at prices ranging from \$3 to \$6 or \$10. Descriptive bargain lists mailed free.

COASTER-BRAKES, \$10.00 Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof \$ **4.80** Self-healing Tires **A SAMPLE PAIR TO INTRODUCE, ONLY**

The regular retail price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but to introduce us we will sell you a sample pair for \$4.80 cash with order \$4.55.

NO MORE TROUBLE FROM PUNCTURES—Nails, Tacks, or Glass will not let the air out. A hundred thousand pairs sold last year.

DESCRIPTION: Made in all sizes. It is lively and easy riding, very durable and lined inside with a special quality of rubber, which never becomes porous and which closes up small punctures without allowing the air to escape. We have hundreds of letters from satisfied customers stating that their tires have only been pumped up once or twice in a whole season. They weigh no more than an ordinary tire, the puncture resisting qualities being given by several layers of thin, specially prepared fabric on the tread. The regular price of these tires is \$10.00 per pair, but for advertising purposes we are making a special factory price to the rider of only \$4.80 per pair. All orders shipped same day letter is received. We ship C. O. D. on approval. You do not pay a cent until you have examined and found them exactly as represented.

We will allow a cash discount of 5 per cent (thereby making the price \$4.55 per pair) if you send **FULL CASH WITH ORDER** and enclose this advertisement. You run no risk in sending us an order as the tires may be returned at **OUR** expense if for any reason they are not satisfactory on examination. We are perfectly reliable and money sent to us is safe as in a bank. If you order a pair of these tires, you will find that they will ride easier, run faster, wear better, last longer and look finer than any tire you have ever used or seen at any price. We know that you will be so well pleased that when you want a bicycle you will give us your order. We want you to send us a trial order at once, hence this remarkable time offer.

IF YOU NEED TIRES, don't buy any kind at any price until you send for a pair of Hedgethorn Puncture-Proof tires on approval and trial at the special introductory price quoted above; or write for our Big Tire and Sundry Catalogue which describes and quotes all makes and kinds of tires at about half the usual prices.

DO NOT WAIT but write us a postal today. **DO NOT THINK OF BUYING** a bicycle or a pair of tires from anyone until you know from the new and wonderful offers we are making. It only costs a postal to learn everything. Write it NOW.

J. L. MEAD CYCLE COMPANY, CHICAGO, ILL.

The Soldier Boys

Two special trains passed through Merkel Tuesday, carrying 314 enlisted men belonging to the 23rd infantry of Uncle Sam's army and officers, horses and equipment. They were enroute from Fort Bliss to Fort Benjamin Harrison at Indianopolis, Ind. The soldiers were ordered to the border during the troublesome times in Mexico and say they had a good time and hate to go back north at this time of the year.

City Clean Up.

City Marshal Hall and the other officers deserve the commendation of all good citizens for the clean-up campaign which they are conducting at this time. Our officers make a continuous effort to keep our little city in a healthy and sanitary condition and as a result we enjoy the reputation of having one of the cleanest and healthiest little towns in West Texas.

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending Jan. 27, 1912

Harris, R. G.

Martin, W. M.

If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Feb. 10, 1912.

H. W. Derstine, p. m.

Ragged wounds are painful and cause much annoyance. If not kept clean they fester and become running sores. **BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT** is an antiseptic healing remedy for such cases. Apply it at night before going to bed and cover with a cotton cloth bandage. It heals in a few days. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

The Methodist meeting which is being conducted by the pastor Rev. R. A. Clements is progressing nicely and the attendance is very good. The pastor is preaching some splendid sermons. All are invited to come and take part.

SOME BARGAINS FOR YOU

—A good double disc plow, cultivator, stalk cutter, hand plows, sulky plows, wagons and a fine jack for sale cheap for cash or secured note. Dr. M. Armstrong, Merkel. 2613

For Sale.

One Mr. Bill and one Casady, Jr., planters, each \$15 00. Both planters bran new. Two single disc and one double disc plows, each \$12.50. See me quick. W. O. Boney.

Buy your oil and gas from the Merkel Garage.

Telephone 202 for oil and gas.

Quackery Paid Better.

A quack at a fair near Paris was driving a roaring trade selling nostrums, drawing teeth and beguiling the crowd in the usual ways. The letter of the French law against unqualified practice is very strong, though, owing to the indifference of the magistrates, it is not strictly carried out. This, however, was a particularly flagrant case, and the police felt compelled to intervene. The quack was therefore accosted by the guardians of the law, taken to a tent at the back of his stand and requested to show his diploma. To the stupefaction of the gendarmes he exhibited a perfectly authentic degree of doctor of medicine of the University of Paris. They were profuse in their apologies which the doctor cut short with an urgent entreaty that they should say nothing about what they had seen. "For," he said, "if the people know that I am a qualified doctor I shall have no more customers."—British Medical Journal.

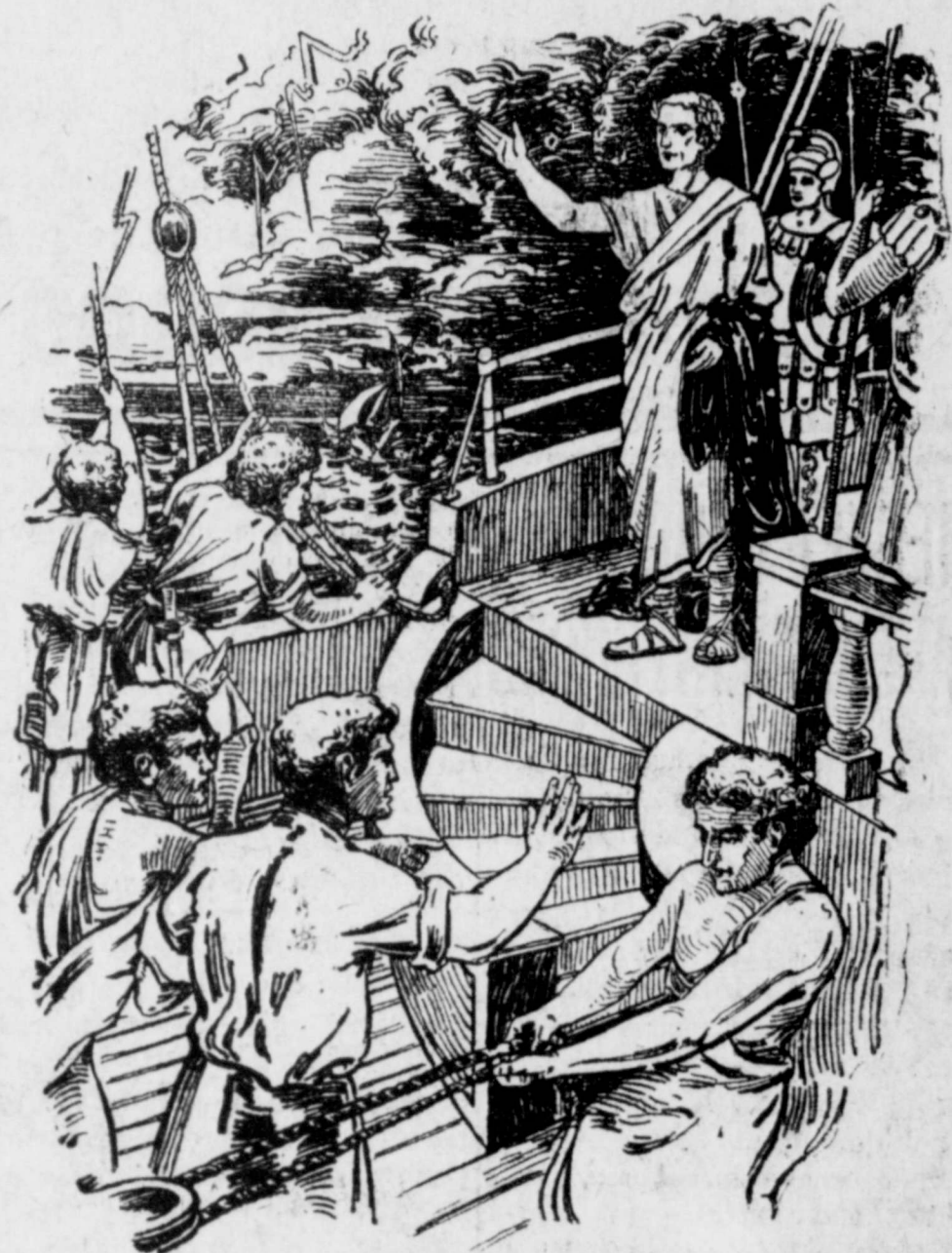
Are You in Arrears?

on your subscription? You know WE NEED THE MONEY

Texas Needs Great Men

XXV. COURAGE

WHEN Julius Caesar was crossing the sea with his army, a storm arose, threatening to destroy the ships and badly frightened, the despairing sailors were in the act of returning to the harbor when Caesar stepped upon the deck and said, "Fear not, Caesar is with you." The ship of progress meets many a stormy sea in Texas and sometimes those who man the boats are tempted to return to still waters, but "Fear not, the Commercial Secretaries are with you." Courage is the nurse of genius and Caesar was the greatest genius of any race or age. We need a genius to fire us with courage and inspire us with faith in the Lone Star State.



"FEAR NOT, CAESAR IS WITH YOU."

Let him who would weave his name in the fibre of his country step upon the forum of the nation and speak words that call forth courage in the hearts of men as the chisel of a sculptor brings forth a spirit from the rock; rise like a genius born to command and light the signal fires of progress on the hearthstone of the nation, and awaken the spirit of industrial enterprise and commercial adventure throughout the length and breadth of the land. Texas Needs Great Men.

Physicians Advise

the use of a good laxative, to keep the bowels open and prevent the poisons of undigested food from getting into your system.

The latest product of science is **VELVO Laxative Liver Syrup**, purely vegetable, gentle, reliable and of a pleasant, aromatic taste. Velvo acts on the liver, as well as on the stomach and bowels, and is of the greatest possible efficacy in constipation, indigestion, biliousness, sick headache, feverishness, colic, flatulence, etc. Try it. VF 1

VELVO LAXATIVE LIVER SYRUP

KISSING ALMOST LOST ART

Most Women, Says London Paper, Forget Neatness and Are Vigorous and Wild.

It is surprising that with all the kissing that goes on in our so-called civilized England, so little advance should have been made in the science of bestowing a kiss. Very few persons understand the art. Neatness is forgotten, and the first impulse of the kisser is to wipe away all traces of the offending salute as speedily as may be consistent with politeness. Others deliver a peck upon the cheeks, and, in some cases, by no means a small peck. There are vigorous women whose buffetings are quite enough to produce a toothache in a sensitive jaw. Their kisses jar the kissee's whole head. One never knows where the wild kisses of others may alight. With inward shrinking one offers a cheek, wondering what may be going to happen to it, and the result often justifies one's worst fears. The poor cheek is discomfited by the assault of lips that have had no training in the art of osculation.—London Express.

Heartburn, indigestion or distress of the stomach is instantly relieved by **HERBINE**. It forces the badly digested food out of the body and restores tone in the stomach and bowels. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

INSTRUCTIONS OF A PIPER

Ingenious Method of Teaching His Pupils Adopted by the Highland Musician.

A Highland piper who had a pupil to teach originated a method by which he succeeded in reducing the difficulties of the task to a minimum, and at the same time fixed his lesson in the pupil's mind.

"Here, Donald," said he, "tak yer pipes, lad, an' gie us a blast."

"So! Verra weel blaw I, indeed, but what's a sound, Donald, wi'out making You may blaw forever wi'out making a tune o't, if I dinna tell ye how the queer things on the paper maun help ye."

"Ye see that big fellow wi' a round open face"—pointing to a semi-brev—"between two lines of a bar? He moves slowly from that line to this, while ye beat an' w' yer fist an' gie a long blast."

"If ye put a leg to him, ye mak twa o' him, an' he'll move twice as fast."

"If, now, ye black his face, he'll run four times faster than the fellow wi' the white face; and if, ter blacking his face, ye'll bend his knees or tie his leg, he'll hop eight times faster than the white faced chap I showed ye first."

"Now," concluded the piper, sententiously, "whene'er ye blaw your pipes, Donald, remember this: that the tighter those fellows' legs are tied, the faster they'll rin, and the quicker they'll blaw."

SAVED HIS RASCALLY SON

How Mansard Came to Construct the Great Hall at Arles Without Central Pillar.

The great hall of the Hotel de Ville of Arles, France, designed by Mansard, is the wonder and admiration of every one who has seen it on account of the groined roof.

In regard to this a neighboring cafetier tells a somewhat grim story. King Louis XIV. happened to be passing through the city just at the time Mansard was superintending the completion of his creation. The roof was supported by a powerful pillar. The monarch admired the work and congratulated the architect on his design. At that moment the architect was passing through great domestic tribulation. He had a son under sentence of death, so he thought it would be a good opportunity to intercede on behalf of the lad.

Mansard threw himself at the feet of the king and said: "Your majesty sees in the center that massive column? If you will spare the life of my son I will remove the unsightly pillar and the roof shall stand without support." "Mansard," replied the king, "if you accomplish that miracle I will pardon your son, but if you fail I will hang you with him."

The architect removed the pillar without great difficulty and with the result desired. The cafetier is a philosopher and he concludes his story with the reflection that had not Mansard's son been a scamp the hall at Arles would be just like any other hall.

ARE YOU ON OPPOSITE SIDE?

Frank Crane Thinks the "Standing Minority Report" Necessary to Keep Mankind Honest.

Doubtless each of us knows someone in his circle of acquaintances who is intellectually contrary. Such a one delights to take on every occasion the opposite side.

If he is in a religious community he will take his stand firmly for atheism; if he is among scoffers he will argue just as valiantly for the church. He is a standing minority report. He is a crooked stick that will not lie in the woodpile. Like Goethe's devil he is the spirit who constantly denies.

This class of persons is a steady, normal crop in the field of humanity. We would not get along without them. They keep the kettle of things stirred, which otherwise would settle and boil. These are they that keep the use of social life pure as a running stream and prevent it from becoming like a green, stagnant pool.

They supply glacer for political campaigns. They are the party out of power. They are the watchdogs of progress. Without them religion would harden into a cruel tyranny of superstition, falsehoods would be crystallized in power and ancient fraud live forever. They harass mankind into being honest.—Frank Crane.

PILES get immediate relief from Dr. Shoop's Magic Ointment.



Advantage Easily Gained

The farmer who has a telephone does not understand how he managed before he enjoyed the service. Those without telephones may not understand the advantage they are missing. Telephone benefits are easily obtainable. Write our nearest managers.

The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company



HE WAS WILLING TO OBLIGE

Young Man Gave Advice on Clothing Though He Came From Gas Company.

"I've come to see about the mantles, miss."

"Oh, yes, I'm so glad you have come so soon; will you step into the drawing room?"

The young man stepped; he was pleased with his pleasant reception.

After awhile ma came in and said: "How do?" So sorry to trouble him, but would he mind if they tried the mantles on? Her daughter's was a trifle too full, and her own was a trifle too long, she thought. Perhaps he would be good enough to see.

The young man said he would be only too delighted.

The two elegant mantles in the latest style which were lying across the back of the sofa were donned, and the young man said he thought they looked charming. Yes, perhaps a little alteration was required, but—if they would excuse him he would be glad if they would let him get on with his work and show him the gas burners that were requiring fresh mantles.

Why! Wasn't he from Jiggins & Jugginses?

"Oh, no, he was the young man that attended to the mantles from the gas company."

PARTEN DRY GOODS CO., Merkels Exclusive Cash Store

Joints that ache, muscles that are drawn or contracted should be treated with **BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT**. It penetrates to the spot where it is needed and relieves suffering. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.