

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 25—NO. 1

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1913

8 PAGES

## AGT. NEILL TALKS AT SCHOOLS HERE

Thursday afternoon of last week the students of the high school were given an opportunity to listen to some practical hints on improved agricultural methods.

County Superintendent Smith, F. A. Peel, county demonstration agent and J. W. Neill of the state department of agriculture addressed the above mentioned body for a period of over an hour. Superintendent Smith made a short talk; introducing Mr. Peel who made a very interesting talk but took up 15 minutes more time than he was allowed. Mr. Peel in turn introduced Mr. Neill of the state department who promptly launched out in an explanation of what the improved method of farm work ment and how it was connected with the schools. In a very plain and simple way he illustrated many practical thoughts on improved farming. He also explained the system under which the \$1000 in gold is going to be given away to people of Texas who can show during this year the best results from the improved methods of agriculture and for an explanation told of the Roby country farmer who last year won \$300 in gold for getting the best yield of milo maize off of two acres. Under the methods of improved agriculture the man averaged over 150 bushels to the acre on the land in question while the average for the state was that amount of production on fifteen acres of land.

In the talk made by Mr. Peel he explained his position in full and for an illustration of the results of the work in Taylor county referred to the young lady at Buffalo Gap who during last year cultivated two acres under instructions of Mr. Peel and captured the Taylor county prize for the best yield of cotton her average being over  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a bale of cotton to the acre, while her father who has farmed in this country for years and did not believe in the improved methods, averages less than a quarter of a bale to the acre, while the land in cultivation was in the same field. Mr. Neill also gave some very beneficial hints on poultry raising and explained the practical and financial side of it as when compared with either cotton or corn for this country.

In conclusion of the talks Mr. Neill in making a comparison of the late advances in all kinds of experimental work, declared that so perfect had the power of invention taken sway over our country until he would not be surprised if there should be announced that some one had found a way of budding the milk weed into the egg plant, by which means a person could grow egg custards in the garden.

After leaving here the party went to White Church where they talked to the students of that school in the latter part of the evening, going on to Butman by nightfall where a large crowd had gathered to hear Mr. Neill's

## OUR NEW COURT HOUSE

The proposal of a bond issue for the purpose of building a new court house is receiving the approval of the most of our people and should have the support of every patriotic citizen of our country.

The present building, even if safe (and it is not), is insufficient and inappropriate for our county. It is our pleasure to live in one of the best counties in the state and our temple of justice should at least be in harmony with our progressive, patriotic and proud people. We should not be surpassed by but surpass our neighboring counties and set an example for others.

It is our idea that the progressive and patriotic spirit of our people should make this proposition unanimous but there is another and graver consideration and which shows our plain duty in the premises. The present building is unsafe as well as inadequate and its use endangers the lives of all of our people.

The court house is a place of business and frequented by almost every citizen and no one who enters now but whose mind reflects the recent and awful catastrophe at McKinney which cost so many lives. It is our plain duty to eliminate this needless risk.

The proposition deserves the vote of every good citizen and no doubt but that it will carry by a big majority on the 29th of next month, the date set for the election.

## BOND ELECTION FOR COURT HOUSE

An election has been called by the Commissioners' Court of Taylor County for Saturday, March 29, for the purpose of voting on the proposition of issuing bonds to the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the erection of a new court house. The election was called by a unanimous vote of the members of the court. Six petitions were presented, containing three hundred and eighty-eight signatures of property tax paying voters of Taylor county. There were circulated four or five other petitions to which were attached a number of signatures, but the parties presenting them failed to bring them before the court.

Below is given the number of names attached to each petition and the order in which the documents were filed with the court: Caps, 31; Tye, 9; Merkel, 82; Potosi, 16; Iberis, 17; Abilene, 233; Total 388.

The petitions calling for the election read:

"We, the undersigned qualified property tax paying voters of Taylor County, Texas, respectfully petition that at your February, 1913, term of court you order an election to be held for the purpose of submitting the proposition as to whether or not you shall be authorized to issue bonds of said county in the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the erection of a county court house."—Abilene Reporter.

The night was spent in the Butman community the party going from there to the school at Rock Crossing where they lectured Friday morning.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

HOUSE MOVING—and Hauling. Telephone 1-7-7. S. L. Owens. tf.

WANTED LAND—A friend and reader of the Mail with good force wants to make crop on halves in Merkel country. Address the Mail or see the editor. 102tdh

WANTED—A lady to do light house work and attend to children. Write or phone Jno. S. Hughes, Blair, Tex. 2tpd

## FORMER MERKEL MAN IS KILLED

A report was received here Tuesday morning by Mrs. Victor Harris from her sister Mrs. Edgar Maxwell of El Paso stating that she and her husband were on their way to Sherman in answer to a telegram telling of the accidental death of Walter Maxwell.

On passing through here Mr. Maxwell of El Paso stated that he knew nothing of the accident further than his brother was conductor in the train service, and supposed that the accident happened in a reported wreck. The deceased is well known to many Merkel people having made this place his home several years ago.

### Prize Cattle Sold.

During the past month C. M. Largent, owner of the Blue Ribbon herd of Herefords at this place, has sold six beauties out of the winning bunch. Two sales were made last week to Walter Boothe of Sweetwater, two to P. Jamison of Hamlin and one to M. W. Gorsuch on Monday of this week. On Wednesday a sale was completed in which R. V. Colbert, president of a Hamlin bank paid \$500 for a selection out of the Merkel herd of cattle.

## A PRACTICAL NEED FOR OUR SCHOOLS

Some years ago when the first brick school building was built in Merkel the students were then afforded the pleasure of having at their disposal an auditorium sufficiently large to seat every student in the school.

Soon after the south side school was built, it was discovered that it was not large enough to accommodate the growing enrollment, so a plan was adopted to cut the large auditorium into two rooms and to use the rooms as a means of seating more students. Doors that rolled up were made in the partition and the use of the auditorium was not destroyed, by converting it into rooms of study. Later on it was discovered that arrangement was not sufficient and there was another change needed, a plan was then formed to divide the once large auditorium into three rooms, the rooms to be used by pupils of the lower grades of study. This was done and the rooms were made permanent, and the place for giving lecture work to the school as a whole was then eliminated from the building. It was necessary to make this change in order to furnish student with study and class room.

For a person on the outside, and for the ones connected with the school it is easily to be seen the practical need of a meeting place where the whole school can be brought together for lecture work. While as the condition now exists it is impossible to seat more than the students from two rooms comfortable, and when an occasion presents itself for the high school to meet in a body there is not enough seating room in the building to seat the girls

## DEAD MAN FOUND IDENTITY UNKNOWN

Monday morning parties coming from Trent to Merkel found an unknown man lying in the road near the Derstine tank west of town.

The matter was reported to Justice of the Peace N. D. Cobb, who went out and held an inquest. It was his opinion that the man came to his death from natural causes as no bruises or marks were found about the body that would indicate foul play or accidental death. After the inquest the body was turned over to Undertaker McMillen, who embalmed it and placed it in his undertaking parlors here.

No papers were found about the body that would lead to the identification of the man, the only things found was a shaving outfit, five pocket knives and \$3.25 in money, two extra pair of trousers and an extra coat. Some faith is placed in identification by means of one of the coats worn by the man at the time of his death, it was labeled as coming from the merchandise store of Chas. Pisk of Corsicana, Texas and on the label was the name J. A. Holbert, May, 21, 1910, this being written with a purple copying pencil. The initials of the name Holbert not being very plain they could either be read H. H. or H. A. Holbert but the former is the most likely.

Undertaker McMillen will hold the body for a short time in an endeavor to have it identified, he has communicated with authorities at Corsicana but so far has received no reply. The man is apparently 60 years of age, has light brown hair heavily streaked with gray, his height being five feet, each wrist is marked on the back with light scars just above the wrist joint, his nose is crooked to the right side of his face. In a state of health the man would have walked with a limp when stepping on his right foot, having a curvature of the spine which bends the body forward and to the right, the curvature being to the left.

On Sunday afternoon a stranger called at two different places in Trent and was furnished with a meal in each instance, and it is supposed left there coming toward Merkel about nightfall, at least nothing more was seen of him until the dead man here was identified as the one who had received the two lunches in Trent Sunday evening.

Austin Fitts returned from El Paso last week where he has been for some time looking after Rebel conditions on the border. He is highly pleased with the state of affairs over there but is going to remain in Merkel for the present.

of the high school, some of the girls and all of the boys being compelled to stand in lines all around the room. The need of an auditorium is outspoken and if possible is an addition to our present school facilities that should be looked after.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF

# The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas

February 4th, 1913

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Loans.....\$ 65,317.54	Capital Stock.....\$ 15,000.00
Furniture and Fixtures... 2,200.00	Surplus & Profits, Earned 3,273.48
Real Estate..... 4,278.34	Borrowed Money..... None
Interest Guaranty Fund... 468.91	Deposits..... 84,398.39
Assmt. Guaranty Fund... 34.29	
Cash & Ex. \$26,794.01	
Bills Ex. Cot. 3,578.78— 30,372.79	
<b>\$102,671.87</b>	<b>\$102,671.87</b>

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

Commenced present business Jan. 27, 1912, and have increased our business over 100 percent in a year, we attribute our rapid growth to the following causes: The popularity of our State Bank system which is conceded to be one of the best in the United States, and to uniform courtesy and consideration for each customer, whether large or small, by our officers.

With resources over \$100,000.00 and every facility for handling your business we offer you the services of the only Guaranty Fund Bank in Merkel.

J. S. SWANN, President      J. C. MOORE, Vice-President      R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier      B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cashier

### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Durbar silk 50c per yard at Woodroof's.

Mrs. J. G. Broughton left Tuesday for Jayton to visit relatives.

J. Z. Martin's tin shop for all kinds of plumbing.

Misses Lizzie Calvert and Ona Johnson were in Abilene Sunday visiting friends.

Picture moulding just in at "Macks"

Miss Fannie Swann was in Tye Tuesday and Wednesday looking after her music class.

Get your plumbing and tin work done at J. Z. Martin's tin and plumbing shop.

Dr. Adkisson has been very sick at his home for several days but is reported better now.

Men, Boys, when you need a belt, come to see us. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Miss Dottie Teaff visited friends in Abilene Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. C. Hunt came in from Haskell Saturday morning to visit friends and relatives.

Ladies ready to wear dresses arriving daily at Woodroof's.

L. H. Cole of Medina, Tenn., who has been here for the last three months returned to his home Wednesday evening.

Ladies, do not fail to see our new line of Low Cuts in black white, tans and champagne. Hogue Hamilton Company.

Ladies ready to wear dresses arriving daily at Woodroof's.

J. A. Boney cattle and ranchman of the Plains country came in this week to visit his brother A. C. Boney of this place.

Go to Martins' Tin and Plumbing Shop for first class work.

Mrs. A. D. Williams of Goree returned to her home Wednesday night after a visit with her daughter Mrs. Dial of Nubia.

Special showing of new "Ginghams, only 10 cents per yard for extra quality. Hogue Hamilton Company.

Dr. W. H. Eargle of Buffalo Gap is here this week visiting his old friend Dr. Cranford and looking after the insurance business in which he is now engaged.

Ladies silk and linen shirt waists at Woodroof's.

Mrs. M. E. Tippet of Abilene who was here visiting her daughter Mrs. W. L. Harkrider last week during Mr. Harkrider's absence returned to her home Saturday.

J. D. Gaither, manager of the Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company returned from St. Louis Wednesday morning after ten days purchasing visit in that city. Mr. Gaither has purchased an almost complete new line of goods for the store here and the advanced shipments are already beginning to arrive. Miss Jessie O'Briant milliner for the above mentioned firm, also returned from St. Louis Wednesday morning and reports a beautiful line of ladies hats on the road here, some of which have already arrived.

H. G. French of Beaumont came in this week to visit the family of G. W. Boyce and to look after business matters. Mr. French lived here some fifteen years ago but up to this visit had not been back to his old home, he sees great changes in all parts of the town as compared with what were here when he went away.

Ladies silk and linen shirt waists at Woodroof's.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Mayor.  
W. T. POTTER.  
For City Marshal  
W. N. HALL (re-election)  
S. L. OWENS

State of Ohio, city of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of catarrah that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrah Cure. Frank J. Cheney.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886. A. W. Gleason, (Seal) Notary Public. Hall's Catarrah Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. Frank J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

It will be to your interest to call at the Nickel store when you want nice goods cheap.

Roscoe Sharp left for Corpus Christi Tuesday with a round trip ticket, dated to expire in 90 days and on leaving stated that if he did not spend his money before he did his vacation that he would use the allotted time shown on the ticket.

W. H. Cordell of the Canyon was taken to Putnam Wednesday for treatment in the sanitarium there. He was accompanied by his brother E. H. Cordell.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Miller of Paducah, Ky., came in Monday from Bronte to visit Mrs. T. R. Lassiter, Mr. Miller's sister. They returned to their home Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Fisher of the Bush community left Wednesday night for De Leon to attend the funeral of Mr. Fisher's brother at that place.

W. J. Burton returned home to visit relatives in the Stith community after being away for several months in different parts of the state.

Merkel Mail \$1.00 per Year

### The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC. Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second-class Mail Matter.

#### Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas for the week ending Feb. 22, 1913

Barnes, Henrita  
Bryson, Ola  
Bradley, Kate  
Foster, Ollie  
Farris, Ruby  
Hale, Burnice  
Henderson, Effie  
Martin, Annie  
Moore, W. W.  
Valentine, Ada  
Winters, Juanita

If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 8, 1913.

H. W. Derstine, P.M.

#### Money Saved.

Buying maize and kaffir heads from G. R. Gazzaway. Get it while its cheap. 1tpd.

#### Merkel Chickens are Winners.

Merkel chickens seem to be taking the day at the Abilene show. Two or three entries from here were getting prizes by the bunches according to reports brought in by some local visitors at the show. H. M. Rose entered a pen of chickens at the show and in all captured about \$35.00 worth of prizes. The chickens really belonged to Mrs. Rose we are informed, but Henry wanted them to go on show in his name and in doing so missed a prize of a gold watch which was to be given for the best pen of chickens entered by any lady.

Those going down from here were R. A. Ellis, Joe Higgins, H. M. Rose, W. D. Woodroof, W. R. Walker and C. L. Barker. All report the show a grand success.

#### A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularity of the kidneys 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.

#### Easter Coming Early.

And we want you to come in and see our three complete lines of mens made-to-order clothes. Prices ranging from \$14.50 up. See our line before you send your orders out. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company

### STATEMENT

## Farmers & Merchants National Bank

OF MERKEL

At Call of Comptroller February 4, 1913

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Loans.....\$109,396.31	Capital Paid in.....\$ 25,000.00
U. S. Bonds & Prems.... 7,450.00	Surplus & Profits, earned 30,516.83
Furniture & Fixtures... 3,000.00	Circulation..... 6,250.00
Real Estate..... 6,657.25	Borrowed Money..... None
5 percent Redpt. Fund... 312.50	Deposits..... 173,521.34
Cash and Exchange... 108,472.11	
<b>Total \$235,288.17</b>	<b>Total \$235,288.17</b>

Deposits subject to check of over \$173,500.00 shows that most of the people of this community have faith in our way of doing business.

Available cash of over \$108,000.00 shows that we are in position to handle all good business offered us.

A growing surplus fund of over \$30,000.00 shows that we are going forward instead of backward and that we are a growing institution. Sure of our position and confident of the future,

**WE INVITE YOUR BUSINESS**

#### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, President      G. F. West, Vice-Pres.      Henry James, Vice-Pres.  
Thos. Johnson, Cashier      Ben T. Merritt, Asst. Cashier  
C. P. Warren, Director      Ed. S. Hughes, Director

# The Southern National Bank

CONDENSED OFFICIAL STATEMENT  
OF  
**THE SOUTHERN NATIONAL BANK**  
MERKEL, TEXAS  
AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS FEBRUARY 4, 1913

RESOURCES	
Loans .....	\$127,995.18
United States Bonds at Par .....	12,500.00
Banking House and Fixtures .....	14,000.00
Cash and Exchange .....	40,628.07
	<u>\$195,123.25</u>
LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock .....	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus and Profits, Earned .....	11,751.62
Circulation .....	12,500.00
Bills Payable .....	20,000.00
Deposits .....	100,871.63
	<u>\$195,123.25</u>

Cash Reserve 40 per cent, Required by Law 15 per cent  
BEGAN BUSINESS JULY 10, 1911

Upon the merits of the above statement we solicit your business, and in return we pledge you every legitimate assistance

JOHN SEARS, President C.L.BARKER, V-Pres J.E.FAUCETT, Cashier

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Frank Ferrier was a social caller in Sweetwater Sunday.

We treat everybody nice and sell to all alike at the Nickel Store.

S. P. Kenney of the Plains country was here last week visiting relatives.

We are showing a new and snappy line of novelties, including ladies collars, bags, pins, combs and etc,

Hogue Hamilton Company.

## Harness Worth Buying

are the kind you want for both your work stock and your buggy horse. WE KNOW WHAT WE put into our harness and know they are good.



## Figure With Us

on what you are going to need and see if we are not right.

## J. L. BANNER & SON

## GEO. C. CHATWIN Practical and Expert TAILOR

Ladies garments a specialty

Suits to Order from \$15.00 up.  
Trousers to Order from \$5.00 up.

**SATISFACTION GUARANTEED**

## READ THIS AD

Every country needs a market where they can carry their chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, butter, eggs, hides, beeswax, tinfoil and other market products and get cash for these things. The way to have a market of this kind is to carry your produce to the market man who always pays the top market prices in cash for all the above mentioned things. Come to us and stay with us and we will stay with you. With a cash proposition at all times.

## Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Co.

W. P. DUCKETT, Manager Produce Dept.

Drug Sundries

Prescription Drugs

## Burrough's Drug Store

Notions

Paints and Glass

### \$14.50—Suits—\$14.50.

Three new tailoring lines to select from, with prices ranging from \$14.50 up. These suits are made to measure with fit and satisfaction guaranteed, coming as they do from three of the best known tailoring houses in the country. Don't fail to see the display we have even if you are not ready to purchase your spring suit yet. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

Mrs. J. C. Darnell of Dallas returned to her home Monday after a two weeks visit with her mother Mrs. Journegan and sister Mrs. J. A. Hayhurst. Mrs. Darnell reported her mother to have almost recovered from a very severe spell of sickness.

The goods at the Nickel Store are all new and are cheap. Call and see.

J. H. Behrens and M. W. Gorsuch of Abilene were here Monday looking after business matters.

Special showing of dress goods for spring in great varieties of patterns and all prices. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Scott returned from Dallas Friday morning where they have been attending the Texas Association of Hardware Dealers.

The Nickel Store has many useful things that you need, call and see them.



### THE FARMER'S FIRST AID IN SICKNESS.

WHEN there is sickness or an accident on the farm, haste in calling the doctor is vital. Life may rest on minutes—Don't wait until sickness occurs, and THEN wish you had a telephone. Order it NOW from our nearest manager, or write.

THE SOUTHWESTERN TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CO.  
DALLAS, TEXAS



### Mebane Cotton Seed.

Give us your order for Mebane cotton seed at once. They are the best and more productive. Price \$1.25 per bushel. Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

For garden seed—Whitley, Son & Co.

When in Merkel don't forget to call at the Nickel Store where everything is cheap.

Mrs. L. H. King left Saturday for Meridian visit her husband who is there on business.

Mebane Cotton seed give the best results. Order them now.

Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

Miss Mattie Murphy was in Abilene Sunday visiting friends and relatives.

Come in and let us show you the safety hatch incubators. Anchor Hardware Co.

Rev. W. G. Cypert went to Nugent Saturday where he preached the following day.

We have the pure Ribbon Cane Syrup in barrels. We want your business. Hamblet & Rogers.

Miss Eather Williams of Ovalo was a week end visitor here last week to see her parents.

5000 fat hens wanted at the Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

Miss Stella Schmid of Abilene was here Saturday and Sunday visiting her sister Miss Louise Schmid.

For good cotton get the genuine Mebane cotton seed, for sale by us. The Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

Mrs. O. M. Pike of Abilene returned to her home Saturday after a two weeks visit with her son Jno. Pike.

\$1,000 worth of ladies, misses and childrens slippers just arrived. Hogue-Hamilton Co.

Miss Gladys Christopher of the Union Ridge school spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents here.

Ranger coffee at 25c is better than all other 25c grades, try it. Whitley, Son & Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. G. Jackson and Jno. T. Morgan visited Mrs. Jackson's mother, Mrs. Roberts of the Nugent country Sunday.

Mebane Cotton seed, \$1.25 per bushel, give us your order now to insure delivery.

Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

Sunday being their regular day in the capital city Messrs Lester Ellis and Ernest Faucett made their appearance there on time.

The Nickel Store has moved to the Dr. J. H. Warnick building just north of McClain's drug store on Kent street. Be sure and call when in Merkel.

Mrs. Jno. Hamm came in from Anson Sunday morning to join her husband. The trip was made through the country in their car. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Hamm joyously welcome them back to our little city after an absence of several months during which time they have made their home in California.

See us for poultry netting, all widths and meshes. Anchor Hardware Company.

Mrs. J. D. Boring left Saturday for Fort Worth to visit her son W. F. Buchanan. While away Mrs. Boring will visit in Arlington and Dallas.

You will find the Nickel Store in the Dr. J. H. Warnick building on Kent street.

R. R. Conn of Ballinger was here the first of the week prospecting, contemplating investing in some city merchandise.

Fresh mackerel, celery and other vegetables at Hamblet & Rogers.

Two births reported of the late are to Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Redding of Mount Pleasant, a girl on last Sunday and to Mrs. J. W. T. Sanders of Merkel, a boy on Monday.

For your hardware and shelf goods, hides and feed go to Jno. B. Bell & Sons.

Mrs. W. M. Rice of Abilene returned to her home Monday after a short visit here with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Williams.

School supplies at the Nickel Store for the children and all others.

L. E. Adrian, banker of Trent was in the city Saturday of last week and Tuesday of this week looking after business matters.

Genuine Mebane cotton seed Give us your order now. Merkel D. G. & Gro. Co.

# NOTICE, LAND OWNERS

If you have a good place to sell or exchange this year it will be to your interest to see me right now. I am making up my list of exclusive bargains for an extensive advertising campaign in the east and north and if you have a good proposition I want it. I want a full and fair description with your very lowest cash price. If you can not come to see me write me about what you have, and do it now.

## FARM AND RANCH LOANS

Please remember that I have the best and most liberal loan contract in this section of the state and can give prompt service---no long-winded delays and red tape. If you desire a loan it will be best for you to see me.

# JNO. G. JACKSON, Real Estate

### JUST THINK OF IT

**A Four Hundred Dollar Parlor Piano Absolutely Given Away.**

That advertising is now a science is again demonstrated practically to the buying public of this section by the wonderful advertising system now employed by the most enterprising business house of the West Texas Hardware Co. who are going to give away ABSOLUTELY FREE to some one of their customers on Aug. 2nd the beautiful PARLOR PIANO which is now on exhibition at their store. The piano sells for FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS and is a HIGH-CLASS instrument in every respect, GUARANTEED by the makers for TEN YEARS. JUST THINK OF IT! A Four Hundred Dollar Piano to be GIVEN AWAY! A few years ago, if a merchant was to do such a thing he would be considered a fit subject for an asylum, but conditions have changed, yet in the face of the enormous sum spent in advertising the fact of the West Texas Hardware Co. giving away a \$400 piano is a stupendous undertaking and it clearly demonstrates their desire to be "always up to and a little ahead" of the spirit of the times.

Every purchaser of \$1.00 worth of goods from any department of their store will receive a coupon good for 100 votes on the piano. The person presenting the largest number of votes to them on Aug. 2nd will receive the piano absolutely free. No favors will be shown, and every person will receive an equal chance. The reputation enjoyed by the West Texas Hardware Co. for "square dealing" insures this fact. We

think the buying people will appreciate this extremely liberal offer on the part of the West Texas Hardware Co. and we predict a lively scramble for votes.—Advertisement.

#### Disadvantages of Illiteracy.

When a soldier is confined in the guardroom for an offense, a written copy of the crime is invariably handed to the commander of the guard. A corporal having given an order, one of the men seemed disinclined to obey, when, after having rebuked him sharply, he shouted in angry tones: "It's a good job for you, me lad, that I can't spell 'insubordination,' or I'd shove you in the 'clink' (guard-room) sharp."—London Weekly Telegraph.

#### Itching Piles

I want you to know how much good your Hunt's Cure has done me. I had suffered with Itching Piles fifteen years and when I was traveling through Texas a man told me of your Hunt's Cure. I got a 50c box and it cured me John Bradley, Caney, Kansas.

#### George Meredith's Belief.

"Let nothing flout your sense of a Supreme Being, and be certain that your understanding wavers whenever you chance to doubt that he leads to good. We grow to good as surely as the plant grows to the light. The school has only to look through history for a scientific assurance of it."—George Meredith, writing to his son.

This is the season of the year when mothers feel very much concerned over the frequent colds contracted by their children, and have abundant reason for it as every cold weakens the lungs, lowers the vitality and paves the way for the more serious diseases that so often follow. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is famous for its cures, and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.

#### "Second Sight" for Blind.

A London scientist has devised an instrument which gives the blind a "second sight" through the sense of hearing. This novel invention is called the optophone. By its use blind persons can locate lamps, windows or high lights and "perceive" shadows.

### CANTANKEROUS TO THE LAST

Not Even Praise of His Own Handwork Availed to Soften Old "Uncle Jake."

"Uncle Jake" was one of the characters of Bunbury. He was as deaf as a post—when he wanted to be—and as contrary as a bundle of sticks.

One of his neighbors came into his yard one day and said, "Uncle Jake, I'd like to borrow your wagon this morning; mine is having a spring mended."

"You'll have to speak louder," rejoined Uncle Jake. "I don't hear very well, and I don't like to lend my wagon, anyhow!"

The old man was an expert maker of axe helms—an occupation in which there is more art than the unskilled would suppose—and these handles he left at the village store to be sold on commission.

One snowy day as Uncle Jake came stamping up the steps of the store, another old fellow who was known as Uncle Horace remarked to the men lounging about the stove:

"I'll treat the crowd if I don't make Uncle Jake agree to the first thing I say to him when he comes in."

"Don't be rash, Uncle Horace!" called out the storekeeper. "That never happened yet, and it isn't likely to."

But Uncle Horace merely grinned and picked up one of Uncle Jake's axe-helves. The door opened and in came Uncle Jake.

"Jake," said Uncle Horace, running his fingers up and down the smooth wood, "this is a mighty good ax handle."

"No, it ain't," replied Uncle Jake at once. "I can't make good handles, but that one you've got is the kind people want. They don't know no better!" And Uncle Horace treated the company to sardines, crackers and cheese.—Youth's Companion

Do you know that more real danger lurks in a common cold than in any other of the minor ailments? The safe way is to take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, a thoroughly reliable preparation, and rid yourself of the cold as quickly as possible. This remedy is for sale by all dealers.

#### Delusions.

Some men think they are getting close to nature by making love to a grass widow.—Life.

## JOHN R. DANIEL

**Livery, Feed and Sale Stable  
SOUTH SIDE**

**Automobile Service in Connection**

Phone No. 44. Opposite T. & P. Depot.

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

## THE MERKEL GARAGE

Repair work promptly done  
and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

**TEXAS COMPANY'S OILS AND GAS.**

If you need anything in our  
business give us a call.

**S. P. FOSTER : PROPRIETOR**

## BETTER GROCERIES

AT

# The Cash Grocery

AT

**A BETTER PRICE**

#### Evidently Not a Success.

"How did you like the actor who played the king?" "Ever since I saw him I've been in favor of a republic."—Prehistoric Monster. Eighty feet long and thirty feet high, the atlantosaurus was one of our prehistoric animals.

## OUR CORRESPONDENCE

### Blair Echoes.

Feb. 17—J W Goens and S E Adcock were in Merkel Monday on business.

Mrs. Lela Turknett of Abilene is here visiting the family of J M Reeves. Mrs. H H Tittle and Miss Kelso of Merkel visited the family of Mrs. Eliza Campbell last week.

Rev. Young of Trent filled his regular appointment here Sunday.

Welborn Hannah has gone to Tolon to spend several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Bickly of White Church spent Saturday night with the family of I J Hannah.

Arthur Clark has accepted a position in Merkel with Walter Clark as book-keeper.

Roy Cogburn is out again after being confined to his room for several weeks with measles.

Leonard and Homer Tye of White Church were out at the Literary Society Saturday night. We learned since that they brought their violins to make music, so we are all very much disappointed that we did not get to hear them.

The Sunday school is progressing nicely with W A Campbell as superintendent.

Jacob Reeves is spending several days at the rock crusher in Coleman county.

Miss Sallie Hall is back at the store again after nursing her mother through a long spell of sickness.

J. W. King was in Merkel Saturday.

Miss Halie Moore is in school again after an absence of several days.

### Reason Enthroned.

Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale by all dealers.

### Inkum Items.

Feb. 17—T J Bursleson and family visited their daughter near Merkel and son in the Nubia community last week.

J A Wills made a business trip to the View community Monday.

Eugene Bursleson and wife of the Nubia community visited relatives in this section the first of the week.

J A Tubb returned home from Abilene the first of the week.

Mrs. O H Wilson visited relatives in the Buffalo Gap country Monday.

Fain Wilson was in Merkel Thursday.

The last few days look as if spring had come and the housewives are preparing for garden planting again.

The sick in our community are getting along nicely.

Sam Brandon and Frazier Demere were buying cattle in this section Saturday.

Mrs. E Puckett came in from View, Monday to visit a while with her daughter Mrs. J A Wills.

Alex Williams and wife of Blair visited the former's parent the first of the week.

### Stands Ahead

There is something about Hunt Lightning Oil that no other liniment possesses. Others may be good, but it is surely the best. It does all you recommend it for, and more. For sprains, cuts, bruises, burns, aches and pains it has no equal on earth. It stands head on my medicine shelf. Very truly yours, T. J. Brownlow, Livingston, Tenn. 25c and 50c bottles.

### Compere Items.

Feb. 17—We are having plenty of cold weather.

The young baby of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter died last week with pneumonia. The bereaved parents have our most heart felt sympathy.

W N Moore made a flying trip to Anson Wednesday in the interest of our new road to Comper.

They are going to meet on the night of the 14th to organize a Literary Society at Comper.

Rev. Tucker filled his regular appointment Sunday and Sunday night.

Miss Emma May Mashburn of Merkel is visiting at Comper.

# DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder

The finest in the world

When ordering ask for Dr. Price's by name, else the grocer may forget the kind you are accustomed to.

### Debate.

Saturday night February 22, there will be a debate at the Butman school house.

The question for discussion will be "Resolved, that women should have the same suffrage rights in the United States as men." Butman community will be represented by Messrs Sam Butman, Jr., and Irvin Jennings who will have the affirmative side of the question while the negative side will be represented by Messrs Frank Smith and Leslie McNeese of Merkel. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

### Return from Market.

W. D. Woodroof, W. L. Harkrider, W. Parten and J. P. Sharp have returned from St. Louis where they have been purchasing new goods for their respective establishments here. Each of the above buyers have purchased a full line of spring and summer goods and are already receiving the advanced shipments of same. Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dennis returned from Dallas Friday evening where Mr. Dennis was engaged last week in buying new spring and summer goods.

### Mass Meeting Tonight.

A mass meeting is to be held at the Methodist church tonight and every one is invited to attend. The cause of the meeting is to look after the matter of perfecting the organization of the Merkel Cemetery Association and to add to the interest already displayed. This move is one of the best ones that has been started in Merkel for some time and deserves the support of every citizen. It will be well to lend your self as an honorary member in case you do not want to be an active member. Tonight (Friday) at 7:30.

### Notice Veterans.

Attend without fail a special meeting of Merkel Camp No. 79 U. C. V. in the public hall at 2 o'clock Saturday, Feb. 22. Important business to arrange for the grand re-union in May. Arrangements are being made at the conventional city, Chattanooga, Tenn., for the grandest meeting of the gray and the blue that has yet been enjoyed.

A. A. Baker, Com.  
W. H. Hawkins, Adj.

## OUR CORRESPONDENCE

### Castle Peak Items.

Feb. 17—Prof. Smith, county superintendent of public instruction, accompanied by Mr. Peel and Mr. Neill were visiting our schools Friday morning.

Rev. Greene preached at Castle Peak Sunday afternoon.

Miss Ada Brown accompanied by Miss Ludie Dulin spent Saturday with home folks near White Church.

Miss May Rister of Mount Pleasant attended preaching here Sunday.

Raymond Miller is reported on the sick list this week.

Arthur Cox has recovered from his spell of sickness.

Mr. and Mrs. George Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Buck Moore visited the schools here Friday.

### No Calomel Necessary

The injurious effect and unpleasantness of taking calomel is done away with by Simmon's Liver Purifier, the mildest known liver medicine, yet the most thorough in action. Put up in yellow tin boxes only. Price 25c. Tried once, used always.

### Route Three Items.

Feb. 17—Miss Lola Tittle is visiting her brother in Abilene.

Quite a number of our young people visited the mountains Sunday.

Miss Campbell of Mount Pleasant took dinner with Miss Pearl Baccus Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rister are the proud parents of a fine boy.

Mrs. A H Barnes and daughter attended preaching at Mount Pleasant Sunday.

Jim Rister and daughter were shopping in Merkel Saturday.

Miss Pearl Baccus was in Merkel Saturday.

### Sprained Back

Sprained back and sore muscles throw off their soreness when Hunt's Lightning Oil is applied. For relieving pain of any kind there is nothing better, and those people who have tried it for neuralgia and rheumatism are loud in its praise. For wire cuts Hunt's Lightning Oil is especially fine as it takes away the inflammation and causes rapid healing. 25c and 50c bottles.

### Shiloh News.

Feb. 17—R B Bryant is in Oklahoma on business.

Mrs. Mary Boone left Thursday for Ardmore, Oklahoma where she will join her husband.

Lon Martin went to Blair Sunday to meet his wife's sister who is visiting them this week.

Miss Bessie McClatchie who is teaching at the Horn school visited the Misses Hails Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Winnie McGregor of Big Springs is visiting relatives here this week.

The Misses Hails entertained quite a number of friends at their home Saturday evening and all report an enjoyable affair. The out-of-community guests were Miss McClatchie of Horn school, Miss McDuff of Hebron, Messrs Derstine and Eiland of Merkel.

Chas. Williams and Roger Grayson left for Anson Monday to attend court. The health of our community is unexcelled.

### Butman News.

Feb. 17—F A Peel, demonstration agent for Taylor county and W J Neill of the state department of agriculture made some very interesting talks Thursday night at the school house.

Mrs. Butman gave a birthday party Saturday evening in honor of her son Will. A large crowd attended and all report an enjoyable evening.

Rev. Davis preached at the school house Sunday afternoon.

Miss Lillie Randolph of McCauley who has been visiting friends here for the past week returned to her home Saturday.

Clark Perkins who has been attending the Christian College in returned home Saturday.

### For That Terrible Itching.

Eczema, tetter and salt rheum keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all dealers.

# YOUR NEW EASTER SUIT AND HAT

Every Man Wants a New Suit and Hat for Easter

Easter comes March 23 this year---the earliest it has come in over fifty years. So the STAR STORE asks you to please make your selections

EARLY

### Card of Thanks.

This method is used to make known to Sheriff T. C. Weir, and the many good people of Abilene, Merkel and the country who rendered such timely and sympathetic service in the recent sad automobile accident, which cost us the life of our husband, father and cousin, Editor Bond. The loss of a loved one is at any time a sad shock, but an accident which so suddenly robs us of the life of one near and dear, is the greater, and we thank all for their tender assistance and universal sympathy. Mrs. J. T. Bond and sons and John S. Bond.

### New Metz Auto Arrives.

The West Texas Hardware Co. received a Metz two passenger demonstration car last week and promptly pressed the car into service. Already there has been an interest aroused in the new machine and the agents are figuring with some prospective purchasers here this week.

## Chicago-Philadelphia

Grand Opera Co.

AT

DALLAS

FEB. 28th & MAR. 1st

The World's Most Noted Singers, including Tetrassini, Mary Garden Dalmores and others.

EXCURSION RATES VIA



From all Points on its Line in Texas.

The Greatest Musical Treat Ever Given in the Southwest.

See T. and P. Railroad Agents for Full Particulars.

### Blair School Progressing.

The public schools at Blair are progressing very nicely according to a statement of Jno. S. Hughes who was in town from the Blair country Saturday. The Misses Clacks of Hylton who are in charge of the school have met with the best of success throughout the year much to the pleasure of the patrons of that district.

The citizens of the Blair community are making preparations for the coming county institute which meets at Blair on the 1st of March, and the Mail force has been extended a special invitation to be present at the meeting and help eat chicken and other good things that will be in evidence that day.

About the earliest and loudest spring suit of the season came out this week. W. R. Walker, proprietor of the Walker Cottage being on parade with a good advertisement for the house that tailored the suit.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

**Saint Valentine Party.**

Miss E. Love Hawkins gave a Valentine reception to the members of the Methodist Baraca Class and their girl friends at the home of Mrs. J W Jennings on Oak street, on the evening of Friday, February 14th. A large and happy crowd was present.

This home is always beautiful, was rendered more so on this occasion by decorations suitable to the day. The cloak room was lovely with festoons of pink hearts from the chandelier to the corners of the room. In the dining room and parlor the red heart motif prevailed. The dining table with white damask cover with red hearts draped on the four sides and from the chandelier to each corner presented an inviting sight. The center piece of Irish Crochet bore a red heart pierced with an arrow surrounded by an artistic arrangement of hearts of the same color. One progression was to this table where the guests were served coco and white block cakes, each cake bearing a red heart on its white surface. Here a large heart and arrow with a love-knot



**The Baking Powder Question Solved**

Solved once for all by Calumet. For daily use in millions of kitchens has proved that Calumet is highest not only in quality but in leavening power as well—unfailing in results—pure to the extreme—and wonderfully economical in use. Ask your grocer. And try Calumet next bake day.

RECEIVED HIGHEST AWARDS

World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago, Ill. Paris Exposition, Mon. France, March, 1912.



You don't save money when you buy cheap or big-can baking powder. Don't be misled. Buy Calumet. It's more economical—more wholesome—gives best results. Calumet is far superior to sour milk and soda.

# NOTICE LADIES

We take pleasure in announcing that Miss Jessie O'Briant will have charge of our Millinery Department again this season, she just returned from the Eastern Markets which we are opening up and putting on display, the most advanced styles.

With Miss O'Briant in charge of this department we feel like our customers will receive the most courteous treatment and will be shown only the very newest and up to date styles. Be sure to call and see the newest that can be in the advanced styles for early spring.

## MERKEL DRY GOODS & GROCERY CO.

above were suspended above the center of the table and the walls also presented clusters of hearts and arrows.

The parlor where many games were enjoyed; exhibited a scene of great loveliness. There were rows of small hearts arranged in conventional festoons from the ceiling; caught up by hearts of a larger size, below a large love-knot attached to the chandelier were two large hearts fastened together by one of cupid's darts.

The score cards were red hearts tied with ribbons. One feature of the evening was a "babel" singing contest. Another sport was trying fortunes by shooting an arrow at a mammoth heart of different colors, the color hit determining the fortune of the marksman. The reward—a bleeding heart—was presented to Adam Sibley.

Miss Orra Long will entertain the XXth Century Club at the home of Mrs. W H Dickson Saturday afternoon at 3:30. Important business.

Mrs. Deavenport Gaither entertained Friday evening for a few friends who enjoy the pleasures of bridge. After several games the hostess served salad, deviled crabs, olives and crackers to Misses Genevieve Rust, Maude Martin, Mesdames E M Rust, W M Cranford, J W Daniel, W H Dickson Mr. and Mrs. J W Wheatly, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. L Miller, Ottis Barnett and the host.

Mr. and Mrs. G E Comegys gave a dinner Sunday in honor of their children. The guests Mr. and Mrs. J F C Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. R O Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Comegys, Miss Olga Sheppard, Masters Jack Anderson and Deyo Hunt, little Misses Matalyn Hunt, Mary Comegys and Flora Frances Anderson.

The Womans Missionary Society of the Methodist church met Monday afternoon with Mrs. J W Jennings on Oak street. A short business session was held with the president Mrs. J W Jennings, in the chair. This being the devotional meeting several splendid papers were read. A number of new names were added to the membership roll. Dainty refreshments were served to about thirty guests. The next meeting will be with Mrs. T A Johnson.

**Cemetery Association Organized.**

Pursuant to call, a number of ladies met with Mrs. Fred Groene, Tuesday afternoon at four o'clock at her home in north Merkel for the purpose of organizing a Cemetery Association.

The following officers were elected, Mesdames Tolbert Robertson, president; W M O'Briant, v-president; O W Williams, secretary; Fred Groene,

treasurer.

Committees on by-laws Mesdames J T Warren, Claud Whitley and C P Stevens. Committees on printing Mesdames O W Williams, Tolbert Robertson, Miss Eula Sears.

Members enrolled were Mr. and Mrs. Tolbert Robertson, Mesdames Armstrong, O E Baker, R O Anderson, Claud Comegys, G E Comegys, T J Coggin, W P Browning, H W Derstine, W H Dickson, R A Ellis, Fred Groene, J L Harris, W L Harkrider, J W Jennings, W M O'Briant, E M Rust, W Parten, C P Stevens, Frank Sears, G M Sharp, Arthur Thornton, O W Williams, J T Warren, Claud Whitley, W R Walker and Miss Eula Sears. Everyone is eligible to membership. The yearly dues being one dollar. A mass meeting will be held at the Methodist church Friday evening. Everyone is invited.

Here is a message of hope and good cheer from Mrs. C. J. Martin, Boone Mill, Va., who is the mother of eighteen children. Mrs. Martin was cured of stomach trouble and constipation by Chamberlain's Tablets after five years of suffering, and now recommends these tablets to the public. Sold by all dealers.

**Cure for Seasickness.**

A passenger on a German steamer after trying various remedies for seasickness, at a pancake with (German) cranberries, and found himself promptly cured. All the steamers of that line now have "Pfannkuchen mit Preiselbeeren" on their menu.

**Such Are Great Men.**

Great men are the fire-pillars in this great pilgrimage of mankind; they stand as heavenly signs, ever-living witnesses of what has been, prophetic tokens of what may still be, the revealed, embodied possibilities of human nature.—Thomas Carlyle.

**The Remaining Good.**

If you lose heart about your work remember that none of it is lost, that the good of every good deed remains and breeds and works on forever, and that all that fails and is lost is the outside shell of the thing, which, perhaps, might have been better done; but better or worse has nothing to do with the real spiritual good which you have done to men's hearts.—C. Kingsley.

**Japanned Ware.**

Japanned ware should be washed with a sponge, dampened in warm water and dried immediately with a soft cloth, says an exchange. Obstinate spots can be quickly removed by rubbing with a woolen cloth dipped in sweet oil.

**T. & P. TIME TABLE.**

EAST BOUND	
Train No. 2, leaves Merkel...	9:00 p. m.
Train No. 4 " " "	10:26 a. m.
Train No. 6 " " "	11:52 p. m.
WEST BOUND	
Train No. 1, leaves Merkel...	4:38 a. m.
Train No. 3 " " "	6:42 p. m.
Train No. 5 " " "	5:26 a. m.

The Mail is the Paper the People Read

**Church Directory**

**METHODIST CHURCH**—Preaching each Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.; Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.; Junior League at 3 p. m.; Senior League at 6:45 p. m.; Prayer meeting each Wednesday evening at 7:45; Womens Missionary Society each Monday at 4 p. m. R. A. Clements, Pastor.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**—Sunday school at 9:45, E. P. McMillen, superintendent. Excepting the first Sunday in each month there will be preaching morning and evening at the usual hours. On the first Sunday evening in each month there will be song service. Prayermeeting each Wednesday evening with International Sunday school lesson as a subject. The public cordially invited. Geo. Hamilton, Pastor.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**—Preaching each 4th Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Sunday school each Sunday at 10 o'clock. Regular church services at 3 p. m. each Sunday. W. G. Cypert.

### Itch! Itch! Itch!

Constant itch. Intolerable agony. ECZEMA! A few drops of a mild, simple, wash—instant relief—all skin distress GONE.

**D. D. D. Prescription for Eczema** Sounds too good to be true? We guarantee it. The first full size bottle free if D.D.D. cannot reach your case. For your comfort's sake, it is worth a trial. Come in and let us tell you about it. Also about D.D.D. Soap—it helps.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

**Writing Pad.**

A compact traveling case is a book-shaped writing pad which folds over flatly, and when opened reveals compartments for all the correspondence necessities, as well as a calendar and narrow slides holding memorandum slips. One of these fits nicely into a handbag.

**Feathered Citizens of London.** Besides the sparrows and the pigeons which inhabit the atmosphere of London, there is a great nest of crows in Grays inn, the last survivor of numerous rookeries which used to exist in the old buildings of the city. A single pair of carrion crows also have their nest near St. Pancras church, around which they are often seen flying and teaching their young ones how to stretch their wings.

### PROFESSIONAL

**DR. S. L. DAVIS**  
DENTIST

Office over Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.  
Phones—Office 154, residence 34

**O. F. McMASTER**  
DENTIST

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Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank

**M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.**

Practicing Physician  
Office at Grimes Drug Store  
Merkel, Texas  
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EYES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.  
**DRS. ADKISSON & MILLER**



Eyes Tested and Fitted by the science of drugless refraction. Examination Free.

All Work Guaranteed.  
**Mrs. E. M. RUST, Optometrist**  
At Rust & McCauley's Drug Store

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**W. T. POTTER, LAWYER**

Land Title and Notary Work  
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Telephones: Office 1-8-9; Home 2-2-7  
Merkel, Texas

### Taylor County Abstract Co.

Complete Abstract of all Titles in Taylor county, including all City property.  
Office in First State Bank and Trust Company  
Abilene, Texas  
Your work appreciated.  
Prompt Service at Reasonable Rates

**GEO. C. BISHOP :: Manager**

**W. C. WILLIAMS** **G. W. JOHNSON**  
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Real Estate, Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agents  
Respectfully Solicit Your Business  
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### DANIEL PRINTING COMPANY

Exclusive Job Printers  
Magee Building.  
Prompt attention to Mail Orders.  
ABILENE :: TEXAS

### SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most up-to-date SHOP IN MERKEL  
**CITY BARBER SHOP**  
WEST & PATE, Proprietors

### THE CITY TAILOR SHOP

Renovating and Alteration work done to your SATISFACTION.  
Ladies work a specialty  
**L. J. RENFRO, Proprietor.**

**Earliest Record of Coal in America.**  
The earliest record of coal in America is by Father Hennepin, in his "New Discovery of a Vast Country in America," published in London, 1699. A "cole-mine" had been discovered on the Illinois river near the present city of Ottawa. The first coal working was in the Richmond (Va.) coal fields about 1750.

# Real Estate AND LOANS

This is my business and if you have a farm to sell or will need any money during the year on your land or to take up vendor's lien notes then it may be that I can be of service to you.

## MY LAND BUSINESS

This year I am going to make an extensive advertising campaign in some of the eastern and northern states and believe that I am going to get some prospectors to buy all of the real genuine bargains I can list in the Merkel country and this section. Am lining up with some big eastern and northern firms who say they will send me some buyers. I am going after the business and want your help.

## EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT

If you have land to sell I want some of it on my exclusive contract. This is not to deprive any other real estate agent of business for there is more land here than we can all sell. This contract justifies me in spending my money in an effort to sell your land and protects me as well as you. It does not cost you anything unless your land sells and if it is sold then you are willing to pay the commission. If not I do not want your land. My time is not much but too valuable to put in working for some hide-bound, close-fist who does not want to pay me after I earn my commission. The best way to do business is to have an understanding and you come in and let's talk it over.

## DO IT NOW

I am preparing my list now and right now is the time to list your land with me.

## MY LOAN BUSINESS

I have the most liberal contract in this section and plenty of money at 8 and 10 per cent. In the last week I have loaned several thousand dollars for local parties to local citizens at 8 and 10 per cent and taken applications for \$20,000 at 8 per cent. If you need money on land or good paper come to see me. If I can do you no good I will do you no harm. All business strictly confidential.

Yours for Lands and Loans.

# JNO. G. JACKSON

## TEXAS A DOUBLE TRACK STATE.

Commission Pleads for Better Railroad Service Some Radical Improvements in Texas Roads are Needed.

Houston, Texas.—The Texas Welfare Commission in its report on Railroads and Railroad Securities makes the following plea for higher standards of service. Those who have suffered inconveniences in travel or have endured delays in movement of freight will readily appreciate the statement of the Commission:

"We are pleased to declare that the time has come in Texas when some of our most important railroads should construct second tracks.

"The passing of Texas out of the list of states characterized as capable of sustaining only single track lines will mark an epoch in her history. That time has come.

"And further the time has come when our public is entitled to and should demand higher standards in railroad service. The day for passenger trains that jugged and bumped along over high and low joint at a leisurely gait of fifteen miles an hour has passed; the day for interminable and unexplained delays while weary people sit in dusty stations hour after hour waiting, wondering and swearing, has passed. The day of lethargic freight handling has passed—Texas dare not content herself with a transportation system characterized by such defects while beyond her boundaries in every direction modern methods of transportation conducted on standards of efficiency, safety and speed such as the untraveled Texan never dreamed of on rates equally favorable to our own are affording to our sister states advantages in life and business that nothing in our situation otherwise will enable us to compete with.

"It is the opinion of your commission that the hour has come when in the name and behalf of Texas and for her prosperity and further progress radical changes for the better must be brought about in our Texas railroad situation. New lines must be constructed; old lines must be improved; additional yards, terminals, sidings and depots must be constructed. Safety signal devices should be installed particularly on side track lines; second track should be built; grades should be revised; wooden bridges should be superseded by steel and masonry; heavier rails should be laid.

### Falling Appetite.

At breakfast in a country boarding house a girl of 12 got away with a dish of prunes, a bowl of cereal three eggs, two muffins, three slices of bread, two glasses of milk and two cups of coffee. "Well, Mary," some one remarked, "you seem to have a good appetite." Regretfully the child answered, "Not very; 'tisn't nearly as good as it used to be."

### Truth About Domestic Duties.

There is absolutely nothing in domestic duties themselves, or in any form of manual labor that develops the mind or elevates and broadens the character. The idea that every woman needs practical instruction in housekeeping as a part of her education is as absurd as would be the claim that every man needs to be taught in school to plant corn or milk a cow.—Mary Leal Harkness.

### Prices in Seville.

Roses are 18 cents a dozen in mid-winter in Seville. The cost of theater tickets is not usually more than 42 cents. But railway travel for short distances costs nearly four cents a mile.

## 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 15 cents. Buy from your dealer, or by mail from

McCALL'S MAGAZINE

236-246 W. 37th St., New York City

News-people carry, Premium Catalogs and Pattern Catalogs free.

## TEXAS DRAWS HEAVY GREEK IMMIGRATION.

Sons of Greece Prosper in Lone Star State—Race May Again Climb Pinnacle of Power.

The report of our Federal Immigration department shows that 37,000 Greeks came to the United States last year to find homes and Texas is the state most favored by Greek immigration. The per cent of Greeks departing from the United States is less than that of any other nationality. Their occupations show that they do the chores of industry rather than manage its affairs or rule in the professions, yet notable exceptions encourage the hope that this fallen race may again climb to the pinnacles of power.

They are the descendants of men who spoke with the tongues of angels; whose nation lifted civilization to its most towering heights and whose citizenship gave the world the most polished and powerful products of the human race. Cut loose from the source of their inspiration, they have lost their way in civilization and while we study with profound reverence the masterful works of their forefathers, the present generation blacks our shoes, sells us popcorn and runs our errands.

There is no better location on the globe for these people to regain their lost prestige than in Texas; we are fast being recognized as the nursery of art, science, literature and industry, and society is laden with healing balms that will revive stunned races and invigorate subdued mankind.

The history of the Greek race affords a most fertile field for the study of government, society and man. As a nation their statesmen struck the solid rock of wisdom and a stream of inspiration gushed forth filling the world with power, ambition and beauty. Watered by the fountains of government, society yielded its golden fruit and fired by an ambition to serve mankind its people made civilization quiver with poems, tremble with eloquence, shamed with art and mastered with philosophy.

This gem of nations when touched by the blight of dissension in government and folly in leadership withered and faded away. There is no greater force in human life than government and to wield its powers intelligently is the highest function of man.

### His Labor Doubled.

Kostrov, a Russian poet, labored for years translating Homer's "Iliad" into his language and the highest offer he received for it was \$35, which discouraged him so much that he threw the manuscript into the fire. Afterwards when he was famous in his own country he did the job all over again.

### On the Same Plane.

"I went into politics," said the serious woman, "so that when national topics come up I can understand what my husband is talking about." "And has your plan succeeded?" "To a certain extent. It has brought us into closer mental accord, for I find that he doesn't understand, either."

### Royalty of Virtue.

If there be no nobility of descent all the more indispensable is it that there should be nobility of ascent—character in them that bear rule so fine and high and pure that as men come within the circle of its influence they involuntarily pay homage to that which is the one pre-eminent distinction, the royalty of virtue.—Bishop Henry C. Potter.

### Twins in Common Suffering.

Darwin has recorded a French case of two twin brothers, one living in Paris and the other in Vienna, who were attacked by rheumatic ophthalmia at the same moment. Each was certain, when consulting a specialist, that the other was suffering from a like complaint, and mentioned the fact. Subsequent letters confirmed this.

### William Penn's Sepulcher.

It is in the Church of St. Mary Redcliff, in Bristol, that the remains of Sir William Penn, father of the proprietor of Pennsylvania, rest. A tablet to his memory has been on the walls of the edifice ever since Sir William's death. Above it are hung his armor, his sword and his flags.

### Many Species of Canadian Wood.

Twenty-six native species of wood are cut in Canada, spruce yielding one-fourth of the total.

## Social Center Meeting.

Thursday evening of next week, the patrons of the Merkel schools will be afforded the pleasure of an entertainment worth while that takes the interest of the schools into consideration.

A program for the evening has been arranged as follows:

Scheidler Orchestra.

Arbutus, M. A. E. Davis—Ethel Jenkins.

Elegy, E. Waller—Carroll Rister.

Scheidler Orchestra.

Talk, Application of self government to the maintenance of public schools.

Little Gypsy Girl, Edward Holst—Zora West, piano; Dorothy Lee Potter, castanets; Mertice Saffle, tambourine; Oily Shaffer, triangle.

Firelight Faces, Gerald Lane—Ina Mae Adams.

Talk, On progress of high schools—H. C. Burroughs, Jr.

Scheidler Orchestra.

Sleep Kentucky Bore, Adam Girbel—Isla McDonald, Zora West, Jackie Jennings, Genevieve Rust, Mertice Saffle, Dorothy Lee Potter.

The place of the meeting has not yet been announced, but will be done through the schools during next week. No charges and the request is made impressive that all attend who possible can.

## New T. & P. Schedule.

Another new and important change in passenger service has been announced by the Texas & Pacific railroad to take effect on next Sunday. Beginning with that date two trains will be discontinued and two new trains added to the present time card. Trains Nos. 1 and 2 will be discontinued and the new service supplied will give more day local service over this division. Train No. 7 west bound will be supplied and will reach here about 4:30 in the afternoon bringing the morning daily papers from Fort Worth and Dallas while train No. 8 east bound will reach here about 7:15 or 7:30. Some other changes are to take effect in the schedule of the through trains but the agent at this place has not been notified officially of them.

This change will greatly benefit the local business people in that all people from here having business at court in Abilene can reach that place at a more convenient time in the morning and will have the option of two trains in returning home in the evening. These changes according to the Dallas News are brought about through a popular demand from patrons of the entire Rio Grande division.

## More Modern Awnings.

The spirit of improvement has been outspoken during the last month in Merkel. Almost every business house in the town has been given a new coat of paint while others that have been facing the public with old style awnings have been remodeled and now present a new and up-to-date appearance with modern awnings. The latest buildings to be so improved are on Front street facing the Wells Fargo Express office. This work leaves only a few business houses in our city without the modern improvement.

## Origin of "Spinster."

"Spinster," as a term, owes its origin to the fact that in olden days the law did not permit a woman to marry until she had spun a complete set of linen. There was a particularly wholesome restraint about some of the old laws.

# We Can Not Tell a Lie!

OUR TAILORING IS SUPREME IN ITS CLASS EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR  
WE "KNOW HOW" THAT IS THE WHY

If You Want  
Clothes that give you

"POISE"  
not pose

and

"DASH"  
not flash

let us tailor your new  
Spring Suit

We have just received a large number  
of Big Ends and have an excellent showing,  
of which we think will enable you to  
a most satisfactory selection. : : :

We have also received a very Classy  
Assortment of Men's Neckwear.

Don't forget that Easter is not very far  
away---March 23---let us order you a  
STORRS-SCHAEFER SUIT NOW

## Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

THE STORE WHERE HIGH-CLASS SUITS HANG OUT

### DISSOLVE BONE IN THROAT

Use of Lemon Juice at Critical Time  
is a Thing Worth Keeping  
in Mind.

Sitting at a planked shad dinner in  
Yonkers, a laughing guest drew a bone  
into his throat and he began to  
strangle. Some one suggested that the  
sufferer swallow a fragment of dry  
bread.

"Oh, no," exclaimed an Ossining  
man. "Don't give him bread. It might  
catch the bone and it might not. Give  
him something that is sure to give re-  
lief." Beckoning to a waiter, he said:  
"Bring me a lemon, cut in two." And  
it was brought without delay. Taking  
one section, he offered it to the chok-  
ing guest and told him to suck the  
juice and to swallow it slowly. Direc-  
tions were faithfully followed, and in  
about a quarter of a minute the af-  
flicted one placed the half lemon on  
his plate, looked into the anxious faces  
around the table and smiled.

"Well, Joe," said one, "how about  
it?"

"It's gone," was the reply, "the bone  
has slipped down."

"Not exactly that," said the Ossin-  
ing man. "The bone slipped down, all  
right, but it was melted first by the  
citric acid. I never knew it to fall  
to dissolve a fishbone. You can test  
the power of lemon juice by dropping  
some on the fishbones you may have  
lying on your plate."

Several diners tried the experiment.  
In each case the acid reduced the bone  
to liquid gelatine.

There is no better medicine made for  
colds than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.  
It acts on nature's plan, relieves  
the lungs, opens the secretions, aids  
expectations; and restores the system to  
a healthy condition. For sale by all  
dealers.

### Gold Trodden Into Floor.

The wooden floor of a jewelry work  
shop becomes valuable after a few  
years because of the gold dust that is  
tramped into the pores of the wood  
and into the cracks. A manufactur-  
ing jeweler who moved not long ago  
got permission from the landlord to  
tear up the old floor and replace it  
with a new one after he moved. The  
boards and dirt were burned to ashes  
and yielded a profit of \$125 in gold  
after all expenses of the new floor and  
the smelting were paid.

## YOU SURE CAN BUY THAT NEW RUG OF MACK

For he has just received a fine as-  
sortment of new bright patterns.

### Feel That Spring Breeze?

Soon you'll be ready to clean house and then you  
will want a new Rocker, Davenport, Library  
Table and Window Shades. Get ready now.

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company

### PASSED AN UNQUIET NIGHT

Traveler, Lost in the Bush, Was Glad  
to Do Without the Blessings of  
Slumber.

But I had never given a thought to  
the course I had taken in my gallop  
across the veldt. I kept on and on, and  
before long it grew dark and some-  
what cold. So I dismounted, and after  
thinking it over, I knee-haltered the  
horse and let him go, crept head first  
into a large ant-bear hole for a night's  
lodging, and made myself as comfort-  
able as possible under the circum-  
stances, using the blesbook hide for a  
blanket. The night was dark as  
pitch.

Sleep was out of question. I sup-  
pose it was the haunches and the raw  
hide that attracted the creatures, but  
before long it really seemed as if I  
had settled down in a village of wild  
pigs and insulted the whole commu-  
nity. To begin with, squealing inces-  
santly, they seemed to be racing round  
and round in a circle, taking me for its  
center. Then a number of jackals  
drawing nearer and nearer, joined in  
the chorus. But I soon discovered  
that if I disliked the noise I fairly  
dreaded the silence. During the quiet  
spells I knew that something was  
chewing industriously at the project-  
ing ends of the raw hide in which I  
was enveloped. It was hard work for  
me to keep from kicking incessantly,  
but whenever I rested for a minute  
the chewing developed into vigorous  
tugs, the significance of which it was  
easy for one in my position to appre-  
ciate.

However, I kicked the night through  
in safety, and early in the morning, to  
my delight, I found my horse a short  
distance away, nibbling contentedly at  
his breakfast.—Atlantic Monthly.

For a sprain you will find Chamber-  
lain's Liniment excellent. It allays the  
pain, removes the soreness and soon  
restores the parts to a healthy condi-  
tion. 25 and 50 cent bottles for sale by  
all dealers.

### For a Low Stool.

A low stool with a cushioned seat, most  
convenient for drying shoes, for  
putting on shoes, etc., is given  
a touch by one housekeeper that  
makes it effective and sanitary. The  
cushion is covered with a neatly fitted  
slip, with square top and sides, made  
of thick white Turkish toweling.