

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 25—NO. 3

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1913

8 PAGES

## SPRING TRADE EARLY

Merkel Merchants Make Bids for Business and Get It.

## SATURDAY WAS A BUSY DAY

The Display of New Spring Stocks and Advertising of Merkel Merchants Promote Very Early Shopping.

The early Easter of the present year inspired the Merkel merchants to buy their spring stocks early and the confidence in the present season was the cause of the heaviest purchases for the spring season in several years.

The result is that our merchants have the newest, largest and most complete stocks with which to bid for the patronage of their customers in the Merkel country and the spring business is already under full sway.

Our little town presented a very prosperous and busy looking scene last Saturday and it was not all in looks for a good and satisfactory business for the day was reported by all of our merchants. Of course at this season the purchases are not so heavy as in the fall season and the total amount of business for a day is not so large measured by dollars and cents but in most all of the stores the clerks were kept busy from opening until closing hour and in some stores extra help was provided.

It is our modest claim that our local merchants are not to be surpassed by business men of any town of this size in the state and it is certain that we have the right size town for merchandising. It will pay our readers to read the advertising of local merchants and take advantage of their best offers.

### Abilene Boy Drowned.

Abilene, March 3.—The body of Rhone Russell, an eighteen year old boy of DeLeon, Texas, was found floating on the surface of the antiseptic tank at the Epileptic Colony this morning about nine-thirty o'clock.

The young man was an inmate of the Colony and had been there about four years, his parents residing at DeLeon. With a party of other patients young Russell was engaged in cutting wood near the antiseptic tank, and in attempting to play a prank, as he often did by hiding, opened the door of the tank, went in, and he was supposed to be enjoying the search that was being made for him on the outside.

Dr. Bass and others who testified at the inquest held by Justice Crayton this morning, were of the opinion that while sitting on the ladder on the inside of the tank with the door shut behind him, an epileptic convulsion overtook him and he fell off and drowned.

A large posse of searchers were put out Sunday on Cedar Creek and other places, and a part of them were still out this morning when the inquest was being held. The boy disappeared at 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

For first-class Missouri cream meal call at Hamblet & Rogers.

## CHICKENS VS. HOME GARDEN

Numerous persons interested in home gardening have asked the question: "How can I have a garden when my neighbor's chickens get in it and scratch it up."

If all "neighbors" had a proper conception of the rights of others, and were followers of the Golden Rule, they would keep their fowls upon their own premises and not permit them to run upon the streets and get into the yards and gardens of others. Unfortunately all "neighbors" do not live up to Golden Rule religion, and this fact makes it necessary for the home gardener to protect his garden as best he can.

In my own case I have always inclosed my garden with 4-foot poultry netting, which will keep out most breeds of chickens. If, however, your neighbor keeps a light, active breed like the Leghorns or Langshang, scarcely any kind of a fence will not keep them out unless the feathers of one wing are clipped.

Any reasonable person would, on request, willingly clip the wings of his marauding fowls rather than permit them to be a nuisance to his neighbors. In the absence of any ordinance regarding the keeping of fowls in the city, the only thing one can do is to endeavor to come to a fair and amicable understanding with his neighbors upon the subject, and if both sides are reasonable and just the matter can usually be settled satisfactorily. —T. B. Balwin in Dallas News.

The failure and neglect of neighbors to observe this Golden Rule policy not only works as a detriment to the neighborly and brotherly love which should exist between fellow citizens but in a small degree serves to ruffle an otherwise even-tempered disposition and dampen the spiritual ardor of the "scratcher" of this subject.

It is a fact that a flock of fowls can eat more of a neighbor's feed than a horse and their scratching and destructive proclivities are limited only by here below. The idea of a good and pretty yard, much less a good garden, must be abandoned by the citizens who suffer from this evil.

It is our idea of the natural order of things that our friends in the country should be allowed the profit of the poultry business although we would not deny this profitable privilege to any citizen of our little town. If, however, a citizen desires to engage in the chicken business within the city limits he should think enough of the business and his fowls to spend a few dollars for poultry wire and fence and not desire to make a profit for himself at the monetary, neighborly and spiritual loss of a good neighbor.

The Mail commends this subject to the thoughtful, careful and prayerful consideration of its city readers. "Shew." Amen.

## MERKEL CATTLE TO FORT WORTH SHOW

Monday afternoon the Merkel herd of Blue Ribbon winning Herefords belonging to C. M. Largent were loaded for shipment to Fort Worth where they will be placed on exhibition at the Fat Stock show held in that city during the dates of March 8th to 15th inclusive.

This time Mr. Largent has left Gay Lad and Victoria at home and expects their place to be equally filled with young and perhaps better stock. Gay Lad and Victoria have been the grand champions of many shows at Fort Worth and their non appearance there this time will cause the honors to be awarded to other stock. These awards Mr. Largent hopes to bring home with him and in doing so add two more grand champions to his already long list of winnings. While on exhibition there the cattle will be under the care and direction of Willie Joe Largent and Sam Swann.

One member of the herd was sold last week to Mr. Settle of Big Springs at a very handsome price. The calf in question is of the Gay Lad stock and his new owner is very proud of the purchase.

Mrs. J. P. Sutphen went to Putnam Sunday where she entered the sanitarium to be treated for a throat trouble. Her many friends here hope for her speedy return and complete recovery.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE—White and Fawn Indian Runner Duck Eggs. Price per setting \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50. First prize winners at the Merkel and Abilene poultry shows. Write or phone Robert Hicks, Merkel, Texas. tf

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

FOR SALE—Good second-hand phaeton and harness. See Austin Boyd at Burton-Lingo Lumber Co.

## SCHOOL SOCIAL AN ENJOYABLE AFFAIR

The social center meeting at the opera house on last Thursday evening was well attended by both patrons of the schools and outsiders. The house was packed and standing room was an item during the evening.

The program was very complete and the musical numbers intermingled with the talks made the occasion all the more interesting. The speakers for the evening were W. T. Potter and R. L. Krigbaum both of whom made interesting talks on educational matters.

### Buys New Studebaker Auto.

The Anchor Hardware Company sold their demonstration car last week to C. M. Largent. Mr. Largent is very proud of his purchase and thinks of his auto in his second thoughts, his Blue Ribbon Herefords still remaining first in his estimation.

## POULTRY RAISERS TO HAVE MEETING

The Merkel Poultry and Pet Stock Association will meet in regular session at the city hall Saturday evening, March 8th, at 2:30 o'clock.

Since the results of the winnings that Merkel chickens made at the Abilene show has been announced there has been considerable interest manifested in the improvement of the local organization. Any person of the Merkel country who is interested in the raising of better chickens and more chickens will do well to join the already industrious organization and be benefited by their experience in poultry raising.

The secretary and president of the association take this means of enlisting new members and hope that on next Saturday afternoon there will be a good attendance of outsiders at the city hall. All members are urged to be present as considerable business of importance is to be transacted on this date.

### Airdome Moves.

H. F. Groene, manager of the Airdome is establishing his play house in a different section of the city. The open-air motion picture house is being moved from across the street south of the post office to the rear of the Groene Studio and when finished will be quite an improvement over last years resort. The work will be finished in about three weeks.

## WORK AT CEMETERY

Tuesday Devoted to Improvement of Rose Hill Acreage.

## CITIZENS UNITE LABOR OF LOVE

More Than One Hundred Citizens of Our Little Town and Country Spend the Day and do Much Work.

There was a special interest in the arrangement of the Cemetery Association for a day of work and improvement of the Rose Hill Cemetery Tuesday and the attendance and work accomplished was beyond the expectations of all. The success of the day and movement shows the interest of our citizens and is a great encouragement for the good ladies who have undertaken the improvement and care of the last resting place of the loved ones of our town and country.

This is as it should be and if you have not already joined this association you should do so at once. It is a pleasure and privilege as well as a duty of every good citizen. The cemetery has been defined by one writer as God's own acre and its care and condition certainly in a degree reflects the moral as well as civic interest of a community. The present movement is promised the greatest co-operation yet in this commendable work and may continued and permanent success crown the efforts of the association.

The membership fee is \$1.00, the payment of which entitles you to a membership card for the first year but your contribution for this good cause is by no means limited to that amount.

### Abilene Man Injured.

James E. (Bud) Beasley, electrician for the Fulwiler Electric Co., collided with an automobile today (Tuesday) and received a painful injury of the left ankle which will probably put him out of commission, so far as work is concerned, for at least six weeks. While riding his motorcycle and endeavoring to miss a lady who was crossing the street at the corner of North Second and Cypress street, Beasley steered his "two-wheeler" into an automobile driven by Ira Dorton. Beasley's foot struck the rear hub of the automobile and he was thrown to the pavement.

Dr. Audevee W. Cash was called in and dressed the injured member. He was unable to detect any broken bones, but stated that a very severe sprain had been received. The ligaments and muscles of the foot were badly injured. To put it in the language of Dr. Cash: "It is the worst injury of its kind I have ever seen."

No blame is attached to either Dorton or Beasley for the unfortunate accident. Both are reported to have been going at a very low rate of speed when the mishap occurred.—Abilene Reporter.

H. W. Grogan of Murray, Ky., left Tuesday for his home after spending a week in Taylor county visiting his daughter Mrs. V. N. Ellis of this place and his sons J. W. Grogan of Truby and R. Grogan of Abilene.

# The Farmers State Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

We invite your attention to the growth of this Bank, which has been constant and rapid, thus reflecting the good opinion of the people of Merkel and the Merkel country

ONLY GUARANTY FUND BANK IN MERKEL

## DISTRICT COURT OPENS IN ABILENE

The spring term of district court for Taylor county convened in the federal court house at Abilene Monday morning. After an application to the federal department by the county commissioners for the use of the federal building, the people who were summoned there for jury service felt much safer than if they had been called to attend court in the old building. The following were summoned to appear in Abilene Monday morning for both grand and petit jury service.

Grand jury—H. O. Wooten, Abilene; C. C. Compere, Abilene; E. W. Morris, Abilene; John D. Gaither, Merkel; J. P. Sharp, Merkel; J. D. Southworth, Trent; Luther Webb, Trent; W. B. Wade, Iberis; F. E. Sadler, Caps; J. W. Chapman, Ovalo; Tom Foster, Shep; Andrew Hancock, Ovalo; J. H. Moody, Guion; F. M. Johnson, Abilene; Andy Hunter, Nubia; Alex Young, Buffalo Gap.

Petit jury—W. Ponder, O. B. Boden, Tom Sayles, J. L. Buford, T. C. Cunningham, J. L. Morehead, W. A. Scott, W. T. Wilson, J. H. McDonald, Baylor Crawford, C. B. Manley, J. C. Williams, D. T. Petree, R. E. Starke, B. E. Travis, J. L. Tucker, W. T. Barnett, J. B. Thomas, H. Y. Carter, W. J. Tims, Eugene Wood, J. M. Mollroy, J. W. Taylor, B. M. Davis, H. U. Drummond, J. P. Daniel, J. M. Chandler, R. E. Brookshire, W. McCullough, W. D. McNatt, D. M. Miller, J. W. Wheeler, J. T. McBride and W. J. Floyd.

### 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.

### New Millinery.

My spring and summer millinery is arriving daily. I have one of the prettiest lines of tailored and ready-to-wear hats ever shown in Merkel, now on display at my parlor at J. T. Dennis' store. Call and see them. Miss Lizzie Mae Freeman. It.

### DOWNWARD COURSE

Fast Being Realized by Merkel People.

A little backache at first. Daily increasing 'till the back is lame and weak. Urinary disorders may quickly follow. Dropsy and often bright's disease. This frequently is the downward course of kidney ills. Don't take this course. Follow the advice of a Merkel citizen.

D. T. Dodd, Merkel, Texas, says: "For a long time I suffered night and day from kidney trouble and my rest was broken. The first symptom of kidney complaint was being unable to control the kidney secretions and it steadily grew worse. Doan's Kidney Pills were finally recommended to me and they did me so much good that I cannot endorse them too highly. My kidneys now act in a normal manner."

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

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

### Models of Teeth in Wood.

An Indian carpenter in Uganda has sent to a dentist in Nairobi cedar wood patterns of a couple of teeth which he wants made to order. It is stated that when the work is completed the cedar models are to be sent to the British museum.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

For Mayor.  
W. T. POTTER.

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

### Job Printing

See Us Before Going Elsewhere

We are here to serve you with anything in the line of printed stationery for your business and personal use. □ □ □ □

Letter Heads Bill Heads  
Envelopes Cards  
Wedding Invitations  
Posters or Announcements  
Of All Kinds

The best quality of work at prices that are RIGHT

### T. & P. TIME TABLE.

EAST BOUND	
Train No. 8, leaves Merkel	7:27 a.m.
Train No. 4	10:50 a.m.
Train No. 6	11:28 p.m.
WEST BOUND	
Train No. 7, leaves Merkel	4:32 p.m.
Train No. 3	5:32 p.m.
Train No. 5	6:12 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 8 p. m.; Senior League at 6:45 p. m.; Prayer meeting each Wednesday evening at 7:45; Women's 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.

### CROUP

stopped in 20 minutes sure with Dr. Shoop's Croup Remedy. One test will surely prove. No vomiting, no distress. A safe and pleasing syrup—50c. Druggists.

### WATER MOST VALUABLE AGRICULTURAL ASSET.

Enough Wasted Annually to Supply 6,000,000 Acres. Conservation Urged.

The cry of water arising from the arid regions of Texas has caused the Texas Welfare Commission to investigate the subject of irrigation. The report of the commission shows that we now have 425,000 acres of land under irrigation in Texas today, and of this area 275,000 acres are in rice and 150,000 in general crops and the land is the most valuable in the state.

The report further states that water is our most valuable agricultural asset. According to the report of the division of irrigation investigations of the United States Department of Agriculture, there is wasted into the Gulf of Mexico through the ordinary flow of the Trinity river each year upwards of four million acre feet of water, through the Brazos two million acre feet; through the Colorado one and one-half million acre feet through the Rio Grande five million acre feet, one-half of which we claim. Through these four streams at least ten million acre feet of water is each year lost to Texas which, if conserved, would serve as a supplemental supply of water to at least six million acres of land.

The commission finds millions of acres of fertile soil in southwest and west Texas land without an artificial supply of water that has very little value, and there is no section of the state in which the productive power of the soil will not be immensely increased if, when periods of scant rainfall occur, a supplementary water supply is available and applied. The area to be irrigated is only limited by the extent of the water supply. This supply may be drawn from the natural flow of streams, from their flood discharges by impounding in reservoirs, from artesian and from shallow wells.

The commission suggests a unity of effort between the federal and state governments in the solution of our irrigation problems. The federal government stands ready to spend dollar for dollar in this cooperative work with the state. It is hoped that a co-operative bill along this line may be enacted at the coming session of the legislature.

### Sensitiveness of Blow-Fly.

It is well known, says Knowledge, that the blow-fly (*Calliphora vomitoria*) has an extraordinarily keen sensitiveness to the odor of flesh, detecting it from a distance. Xaxier Raspall has made some observations on the rapidity with which the flies find a bird has just died and he maintains that they do not alight a second before that. An apoplectic pigeon that looked dead, but was not, was left unvisited. A moribund magpie, lying beside two others which had just been killed, was left unvisited, though the flies were on the dead birds just beside it. The instinct not to lay eggs in anything not quite dead seems to be strongly developed. But Raspall goes on to draw the hazardous conclusion that in the article of death an animal gives off a volatile something of infinite subtlety, which serves as a clue to the fly.

J. T. Warren, Pres.

Thos. Johnson, Cashier

No. 7481



CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$50,000.00

General Banking Business Transacted

Self-Identifying Travelers Checks for Sale Redeemable at par in all parts of the World

Designated by the Government as Depository for POSTAL SAVINGS

# 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
	<hr/> \$195,123.25
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
	<hr/> \$195,123.25

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

Picture moulding just in at "Macks"

You can get a full set of china-ware as a premium at J. P. Sharp's.

E. D. Massey and Postmaster Terry of Trent were in town last Thursday morning on business.

Nuts, cigars, candies and cold drinks. All fresh at the Elite Confectionery.

Fresh vegetables on Wednesdays and Saturdays at The Cash Grocery Company.

E. D. Coats left Wednesday for points east in interest of the R. L. Moore patent garden plow.

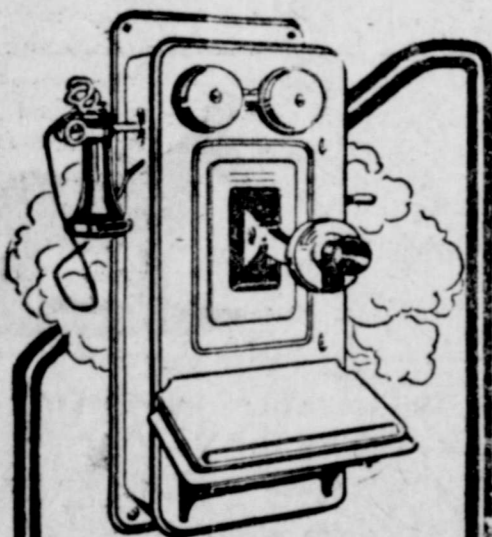
Go to the Crenshaw building on Kent street for nice apples and bananas. I will make the price right. J. A. Collins.

J. H. Lattimore and J. D. Hensley of the Canyon community were on our streets Thursday looking after business matters.

Those beautiful easter dresses at Parten Dry Goods Company.

Stove repair work done at Martins Tin Shop.

Special prices on New Perfection Oil Stoves for the next 60 days. Four Burner with oven \$15.00, three burner with oven \$12.50. Anchor Hdw. Co.

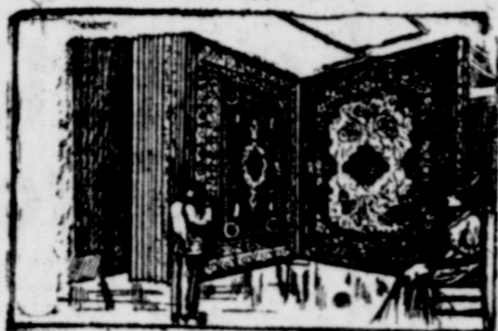


### THE MODERN WEATHER PROPHECY

Recollect last spring when that late frost struck your orchards and produce? You'd have given a mint to have had fair warning.

A Rural Bell Telephone will summon help when frosts threaten, besides being profitable in countless other ways. Our nearest Manager will cheerfully furnish information or write to.

THE Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Co. DALLAS - TEXAS



**Mack, why do you carry so many Rugs in stock? Why, you have as many to select from as in a town twice or three times as large as Merkel.**

This question is asked almost every day after one has looked over the pretty patterns of Rugs. We do not know the answer unless

## "MACK'S PRICE IS RIGHT"

You had better come in and see for yourself if this answer is correct whether you wish to buy a rug or not. We will gladly show you through.

Mack has a fine selection of 9x12 Matting Rugs—pattern stamped on both sides, others with the pattern on one side only. All heavy Matting Rugs price \$4.00 but all styles priced

**Next Week at \$3.75**

**Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.**

Special prices on New Perfection Oil Stoves for the next 60 days. Four Burner with oven \$15.00, three burner with oven \$12.50 Anchor Hdw. Co.

J. S. Swann, banker, cattleman and farmer and an old-time citizen of hereabouts was seen on the eastbound passenger train No. 4 Wednesday. He had his hat in one hand and his ticket in the other and left town with the usual amount of hilarity. He was accompanied by W. L. Harkrider of the same place.

We want your chickens and will pay the highest market price for same. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Company.

#### Seed Peanuts.

We have seed peanuts by the bushel. Come and get them before they are sold out.

Hamblet & Rogers.

Cracked wheat for chicken feed at G. M. Sharp.

Merkel Mail \$1.00 per Year

## MERKEL EGG TRADE INCREASING FAST

During the last few weeks the local sale of egg for Merkel has increased with astonishing rapidity.

Outside of the local consumption of eggs there were 2610 dozen eggs shipped from here up to and including Thursday of this week, most of the eggs were sent to Abilene, over 2000 dozen going to that place in one day.

An accurate record of the sale of eggs here shows that at the present, there are being marketed close on to 4000 dozen per week and from the present rate of increase the prospects for Merkel as an egg market look good for an average of 10,000 dozen per week as soon as spring weather opens in full.

Don't fail to see the new line of spring goods at J. P. Sharp's.

Special prices on New Perfection Oil Stoves for the next 60 days. Four Burner with oven \$15.00, three burner with oven \$12.50. Anchor Hdw. Co.

C. L. Tucker returned home Wednesday from points east. Mr. Tucker has not yet fully recovered from the injuries received while assisting in the charitable work of helping move a lady's house from here to the Blair community but is getting along well enough to be up all the 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.

J. S. Blassingame of Nubia left Thursday for Waco to visit relatives. Mr. Blassingame had lost trace of his close family relations until last month when he received a communication from Waco telling him of his only aunt being there, he prepared to visit her at once.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Remember us on paint and wall paper. Rexall Store.

Be sure and call for coupons at J. P. Sharp's. They are valuable.

Spring opening and easter sale the greatest ever at Parten Dry Goods Company.

W. C. Calvert and wife of Sweetwater were here Sunday visiting the former's mother.

New lot of china and silverware to be given away as premiums at J. P. Sharp's.

Bring your butter and eggs to us when you come to town. The Cash Grocery.

Marvin Elliott of Hamlin, came in Wednesday to visit his brother W. M. Elliott.

For a good work horse see the Kent Street Grain and Grocery Company.

New line of ladies ready-to-wear skirts at J. P. Sharp's.

Lige Gambol, former druggist of this place, but now a farmer of the Waco country was here last week visiting friends.

All the hens you can bring us at the highest price. Kent Street Grain and Grocery Company.

WANTED—Man to contract to grub and clear up land. See Mrs. E. M. Rust, Merkel, Texas.

J. W. Wheeler was in Abilene the first part of the week attending court.

Easter dress goods and easter shoes. Parten Dry Goods Co.

Mrs. T. C. Collins and Miss Ezma Allday were in Trent, the latter part of last week visiting Mrs. Collins' parents Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Leamon.

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

Mrs. Joe Peavy of Woodsboro came in Wednesday afternoon to visit her brother W. A. Scott. Mrs. Peavy went to Abilene the following day to visit other relatives but will make a return visit here before going to her home.

T. B. Garroute perhaps the pioneer farmer of Merkel country if not Taylor county was in town Wednesday seeing after business matters. Mr. Garroute is the type of health for a farmer even though he has passed his 70th year.

Special prices on New Perfection Oil Stoves for the next 60 days. Four Burner with oven \$15.00, three burner with oven \$12.50. Anchor Hdw. Co.

**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.

## IMPORTANT STATEMENT

TO THE PUBLIC

In order that there may be no questions raised later on, we wish to announce that no person connected with our store or any member of their families will be allowed one piano vote. We positively will not sell these votes. One single vote cannot be purchased from us at any price. We are going to give the beautiful \$400 Parlor Piano now on exhibition at our store to the person presenting to us the greatest number of Piano Votes on Aug. 2 ABSOLUTELY FREE.

For every cent of your purchase of anything in our store you are entitled to one Piano Vote. Yours faithfully,

**West Texas Hardware Company**

## The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED

J. G. JACKSON, President    HOMER EASTERWOOD, Manager  
N. 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

### STATE PRESS ON IMPROVED FARMING.

Is improved farming worth while? Does it pay, is it practicable, shall it be indorsed or scoffed? State Press admits that farming is one of several things he knows little of, but he sees progress in all other human activities and wonders if there is any considerable number of farmers who doubt the wisdom of changing their processes, granting that said processes have given them fair livings and ministered satisfactorily to their contentment. In an Eastern paper S. P. recently came across the following, and does not doubt that it is true as written:

An average yield of 46.6 bushels of corn per acre was secured by 488 farmers in Alabama and Mississippi, who cultivated 5,352.5 acres in 1912, following the methods advocated by the field agents of the Department of Farm Improvement Work, maintained by the companies that make up the Southern Railway system. On neighboring farms, where the ordinary methods were followed, the average yield was 17.5 bushels per acre. In the same states 674 farmers who grew cotton under the methods advocated by this department, had an average production of 1,205.5 pounds of seed cotton per acre on 14,389 acres, while on neighboring farms, where ordinary methods were followed, the acreage yield was 531.5 pounds of seed cotton per acre. C. A. Lawrence of Plantersville, Ala., averaged 108.25 bushels of corn per acre on thirty-five acres; A. Henderson of Greenwood, Miss., averaged 100 bushels per acre on twenty-five acres; B. Killian of Collinsville, Ala., averaged 2,732 pounds of seed cotton per acre on six acres; Dr. C. N. Parnell of Maplesville, Ala., averaged 2,313 pounds on twenty acres. These figures are from the annual report of T. O. Plunkett, manager of the department. The farmers in all cases cultivated their own land with the resources at their command. The work of this department has been extended to all states served by the Southern Railway and affiliated lines.

There are some who say that the twentieth century is to be the farmers' century, that the prosperity of the farmers will burgeon more brilliantly than ever before. Let us all so hope. The farmer is entitled to his turn at the wheel of fortune. But we imagine that if he gets it he will have to put into practice some of the more or less despised theories taught in book agriculture, and, as in the cases cited above, demonstrated by men who know what they are demonstrating about.—Dallas News.

The Merkel country is now in a most receptive mood—ready for a good, general and soaking rain. Our entire country with little exception is in a first-class state of cultivation and we have the best prospect for a crop in the history of our country—provided we get sufficient moisture and no uneasiness about that.

### OUR NEW PRESIDENT.

If the inaugural address of President Woodrow Wilson is suggestive of his administration and the latter is no more radical our country will continue in increasing progress and prosperity. His address was the simple and sincere declaration of a seemingly far-seeing statesman—a criticism of our past and honest hope for our future. It was good.

Senator Collins has presented a bill which defines and prohibits a newspaper from making subscription contests. Now Mr. Collins may know what he is doing and no doubt his friends thought he would know what to do when they sent him to Austin to look after the interest and affairs of the country, but we think this measure the height of "Tomfoolery" and should not have the support of any broad minded conservative thinking man. It is true that the subscription contests for newspapers are some times very fraudulent and the contestants never have an even chance at the offers being made, but that condition may be found to exist in any business and often times there is no contest at all, the suffering individual never has any chance of being benefited from the beginning and the house he deals with does not so intend that he should have a fair chance at a possible premium. Now when it comes to a newspaper or any other co-operation getting up a fair and legitimate contest of any sort whether it is a subscription contest or a guessing contest, the time has not then arrived for some man who is always howling that he is for the "plain people only" to get up and holler before he is hit.

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram comes out with the statement that a man at Temple is doing all in his power to emphasize and encourage the investment of the Texas dollar in Texas. The man spoken of is division freight agent for the Santa Fe Railway at Temple has a new spring suit made and finished completely of Texas wool. The wool being raised near San Angelo, and the suit is out of a shipment from that place to one of the large eastern mills. The story sounded all right up to the time the Telegram tried to stop and then they ruined the beauty of it by having to say that it really came from one of the eastern mills. What's the use, why can't we make the shipment a local manufactured product in full and enjoy the individuality of Texas enterprises. But as the Telegram puts it "Never" for the Lone Star State.

The District Court of Taylor county is being held for the first time since the old court house was erected, out of the building. Every man who comes to court this session should examine the old court house and decide for himself whether he would enjoy having an office in the building. The Reporter is convinced that every county officer should be furnished office room some where else. We do not believe it is treating the officers nor their families right to keep them in the present quarters.—Abilene Reporter.

This is the season when a spirit of home and civic improvement should inspire our citizens to much good work. Our town should be made more attractive to the eyes of visitors and prospectors as well as more healthful and beautiful for ourselves. Every citizen should do his individual part and then inspire and help his neighbor—the germ is contagious.

Agricultural Agent F. A. Peel is at work in the Merkel country this week and he should be consulted and counseled by our farmers and business men.

## OPERA HOUSE WATCH FOR DATE

**"Because I Love You"**

A COMEDY-DRAMA IN 4 ACTS

By an All-Home Talent Company

See "Bill" Pick Up Things

Good Musical Numbers

PRICES: 25 cents; Roost 15 cents

Let the Children Come

## NOTICE BREEDERS



**"JIM"**

My roan stallion known as  
the Swann horse will make  
the season at my barn

**"LEE"**

My blue jack known as the Cook jack  
will stand this season at my barn



**FEES:** \$100.00 each, due and payable upon arrival of living colt or if bred mare is sold, traded or moved out of county. Insure living colts but not responsible for accidents in breeding.

## H. H. PRATER

BARN 1-2 MILES NORTHEAST OF TRENT

## The Egg Market

At all times in the year when you have Eggs, Chickens, Butter and other farm products to sell I will be glad that you remember I am in the market for your produce and will pay the best possible price for same

**W. P. DUCKETT** With The Merkel Dry Goods & Grocery Company

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

The Rexall Store for anything.  
Heavy white oats. G. M. Sharp.

Free cigars at Grimes Drug Store. Ask Jim about it.

J. W. Daniel and John R. Daniel are in Dallas this week on business.

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

You will find the best kept line of cigars in town at Grimes Drug Store.

A. C. Browning was here last week visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Browning.

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

All sizes of elevated galvanized sheet iron tanks, best grade heavy material at reasonable prices. Martins Tin Shop.

W. A. Scott, Will Evans and George Ferrier were in Abilene Wednesday, the former to court and the latter two on business.

Remember we have those Rexall and Nyle Remedies with a guarantee on all. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

We are showing a new and snappy line of novelties, including ladies' collars, bags, pins, combs and etc.  
Hogue Hamilton Company.

S. E. Adcock merchant of Blair was in town Wednesday in the interest of the poultry business, bringing quite a shipment of eggs to the local dealers for foreign shipment.

For your paint and wall paper see us we have just gotten in a complete stock of both. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

The last cigar in the box goes free at Grimes Drug Store.

Rev. J. W. Saffle left Tuesday evening for Plainview, he now connected with the Baptist college of that place. We regret very much to learn that we are soon to lose this esteemed family from our midst.

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

Dr. J. M. Britton, eye, nose and throat specialist of Cisco was here Wednesday evening and Thursday morning attending to some professional duties.

### Attends Funeral of Sister.

H. R. Hicks returned home Tuesday from Marble Falls where he went to attend the funeral of his sister Mrs. Hamp Lacy of Fairfax, Oklahoma. Mrs. Lacy had only been sick a short time, going from her home in Oklahoma to Arkansas City, Kansas for treatment, death following soon after her arrival there. The news came to her brother here who left promptly for the old home at Marble Falls.

The only members of the family present at the funeral were our local townsman and his aged father from north Texas all other members of the family having gone before their sister Mrs. Lacy. The Mail extends the deepest sympathy to the bereaved brother and his family here.

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

# 300 Pairs of Ladies

## Patent Leather, Gunmetal, Vici Kid Oxfords and Pumps at Almost HALF REGULAR PRICE

These shoes were bought at a bargain price, and now right at the beginning of the season we are going to give you opportunity to buy Oxfords and Pumps at almost Half Regular Price

200 Pair of Ladies' Oxfords and Pumps, \$3.50 values going for	<b>\$1.85</b>
75 Pair of Ladies' Oxfords and Pumps, 4.00 values	<b>1.95</b>
25 Pair of Ladies' Oxfords and Pumps, 2.50 and \$3.00 values	<b>1.45</b>

### About 125 Pairs of Misses' and Children's Pumps and Oxfords Reduced

\$2.25 Patent, Gunmetal, Oxfords and Pumps	<b>\$1.85</b>
1.75 Patent, Gunmetal, Oxfords and Pumps	<b>1.45</b>
Best grade Calico, this sale only	<b>5c</b>
One lot of 10c Gingham, this sale only	<b>7c</b>
One lot of Ladies' and Children's 25c Hose	<b>5c</b>
Best grade round thread Cotton Checks, this sale	<b>5c</b>
One cracker jack 36-inch Bleach Domoetic, this sale	<b>5c</b>

Remember that we give you Trade Certificates for Silverware with each 5 cent purchase

# W. D. Woodroof & Co.

ONE PRICE—THE LOWEST

C. T. Beckam and Edgar Massey of Trent passed through here Tuesday enroute to Abilene where they expected to sell a pair of fine horses. They were offered some very attractive bids both here and in Abilene but later announced their intentions of shipping the stock to Fort Worth in time to take advantage of the sale chances at the stock show.

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

For your stock remedies see us. Rust & McCauley Drug Company.

### Local Sporting News.

Baseball pep is growing among the recruits who are trying out for the city team under the management of Rev. Hamilton. Two days a week are spent in workouts and the workouts are bringing the boys down to business and the management hopes to have one of the best teams in the west with the material he has for making his selections.

Rust and McCauley Drug Co., for your drugs, school supplies, sundries, paints, etc.

A good supply of well casings and gutters at Martins Tin Shop.

The Baptist Womens Missionary Union will observe March 10 to 14th., as week of prayer for home missions. Every lady in Merkel is cordially invited to attend these services. The society meets Monday at 230 p. m., with Mrs. Meek on the north side.

G. M. Sharp wants your oat and corn sacks.

Three cars of cattle were shipped to Fort Worth Monday, two of them belonging to R. H. Collins and the other to W. L. Barbee.

Magazines and periodicals of all kinds at the Elite.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Plenty of shorts. G.M. Sharp.  
Easter eggs and dyes at the Elite.

Picture shows on Friday and Saturday nights at the opera house.

W. T. Potter left for Odessa Sunday night on a matter of legal importance.

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

Watch our cigar case for free cigars. Grimes Drug Store.

T. J. Coggin left Sunday for Douglas, Ariz., to look after his cattle business.

We give you the best that we can get in any line. The Nyal Store.

Picture shows on Friday and Saturday nights at the opera house.

J. L. Harris came in Wednesday from points west where he had been for several days.

Watch our show window for a display of easter eggs and easter candies. The Elite.

Mrs. A. H. Harris came in Monday night from Dallas to visit her mother Mrs. Touchstone and other relatives.

Let us figure with you for paint and wall paper. The Rexall Store.

Sam Dunning and mother of Eskota came in Tuesday. Mr. Dunning on business and his mother to visit relatives.

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

Plumbing work guaranteed. See us for your needs. Martins Tin Shop.

C. E. Whitaker, O. B. Boden, J. H. McDonald and Mayor Mims have been in Abilene most of this week attending court.

If they don't treat you right; trade at the Cash Grocery. We will.

Watch our cigar case for free cigars. Grimes Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix R. Jones of Abilene were here Tuesday visiting the families of Dr. J. A. Adkisson and Mrs. R. A. Rollins.

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

### A. H. S. vs. Merkel

The girls basket ball team of the Abilene high school played the Merkel girls the first match game of the season on the home grounds. The teams were well matched and both showed good training.

Abilene seemed to have a walk over in the first half for the Merkel girls seemed to be afraid of the tackle but between halves Miss Garrett gave them some final instructions on the play and they went into the game with new life. Time was called with the score tied 12 to 12 but Merkel succeeded in scoring a field goal thus making the score 14 to 12 in favor of the locals.

The line up was as follows.

Abilene—		Merkel—
Warnick	FF	Touchstone
Goss	FB	Gunn
Greer	JC	Turner
Edings	GG	Duckett
Smith	RG	Coggin
Oder	LG	Sutphen

A return game will be played in Abilene, March 8.

# Ford Automobiles!

## AND ACCESSORIES

I have been fortunate in securing the local agency of the popular Ford Automobiles and am prepared to furnish any Ford owner with repairs of all sorts on short notice. Let me demonstrate the desirable and practical parts of this car.

# HARVEY M. WARREN

# SOCIETY

H. DICKSON, EDITOR

**Club Program, March 8.**  
 Current Events.  
 Drill—Mrs. W. Parten.  
 The Club.  
 Staff—Mrs. Otho W.

2. Scene 3, Act 4, Scenes  
 Miss Orra Long, leader.  
 Martin, hostess.

Just and daughter Gene-  
 stesses Friday evening to  
 of the bridge club. After  
 eightful games hot cho-  
 n salad, olives, cheese  
 and crackers were served  
 Mrs. J W Wheatley, Mr.  
 Coggin, Mr. and Mrs. L  
 esdames G L Miller, J W  
 Dranford, W H Dickson,  
 fesses Zora Coggin and  
 t, Messrs R O Anderson  
 nett. The next meeting  
 r. and Mrs. J W Wheat-

business meeting of the  
 onary Society of the M  
 held at the parsonage  
 oon with Mesdames R A  
 C D Mims as hostesses.  
 and gold contest, the  
 ctorious, while the golds  
 give an entertainment in  
 re. This contest will be  
 nother month under the  
 two new leaders. The  
 ed dainty refreshments  
 -five guests.

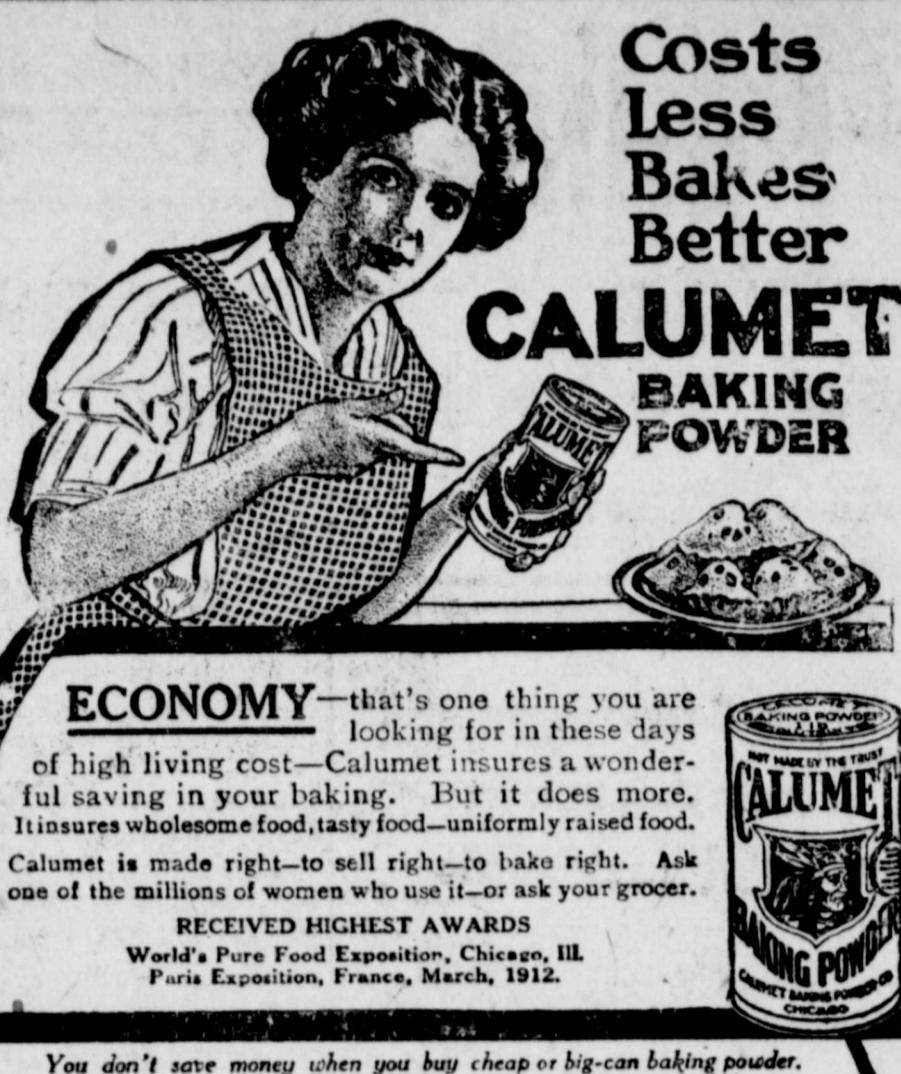
**Smith Entertains.**  
 ith entertained his Sun-  
 ss at his home in North  
 evening of Friday Feb-  
 st of the members of the  
 ae of their girl friends

le lesson and prayer the  
 presented with pennants  
 gold and black. An in-  
 is then enjoyed introduc-  
 tion of each member of  
 is was followed by a  
 theletic exercise. A hit  
 as afforded great merri-  
 enjoyable games were  
 til slips of paper were  
 ach bearing a picture  
 he calling of each pupil  
 guests then repaired to  
 m where amidst oleand-  
 they partook of delicious  
 e block cakes. Another  
 the parlor brought the  
 amusing series of bio-

feature of the program  
 formance of numerous  
 members, illustrative of  
 mannerism of their class  
 performers receiving high-  
 were Miss Isla McDonald  
 esentation of H C Bur-  
 reciting Cicero, Conna  
 s perfect imitation of  
 in one of his quiet moods  
 s Josie Smith for acting  
 Shirley King when late.  
 voted the reward—a rub-  
 iss Isla McDonald. The  
 ed at a late hour, expres-  
 elight at their evening's

**Ointments for Catarrh**  
 mercury as mercury will  
 y the sense of smell and  
 arrange the whole system  
 g it through the mucous  
 ch articles should never  
 t on prescriptions from  
 ysicians, as the damage  
 ten fold to the good you  
 lerve from them. Hall's  
 , manufactured by F. J.  
 Toledo, O., contains no  
 is taken internally, acting  
 the blood and mucous  
 the system. In buying  
 h Cure be sure you get  
 It is taken internally and  
 do, Ohio by F. J. Cheney  
 onials free. Sold by all  
 rice 75c per bottle.  
 s Family Pills for consti-  
 adv.

**My Friends.**  
 appreciate your assist-  
 e West Texas Hard-  
 any's piano contest.  
 Beulah Garrett. 788pd  
 One Dollar Per Year



**Costs Less Bakes Better**

## CALUMET BAKING POWDER

**ECONOMY**—that's one thing you are looking for in these days of high living cost—Calumet insures a wonderful saving in your baking. But it does more. It insures wholesome food, tasty food—uniformly raised food. Calumet is made right—to sell right—to bake right. Ask one of the millions of women who use it—or ask your grocer.

RECEIVED HIGHEST AWARDS  
 World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago, Ill.  
 Paris Exposition, 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.*

**BETTER FARMING METHODS**

INCREASED CORN YIELD RESULTS FROM PRIZE CONTEST OF TEXAS INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS.



**ALFORD BRANCH**  
 "Champion Corn Grower of Texas."  
 167 1/2 Bushels on One Acre.

Alford Branch is a wide-awake farmer boy living at Overton, Rusk County, Texas, who, by careful preparation of his land in the fall of 1911, so that it was in condition for the winter rains to sink in and to be stored for the use of the plant during the following season; who carefully selected the best seed-corn that was grown in his section and by shallow and constant cultivation from the time the corn was a few inches high until it was actually mature, not only kept it free from weeds, but kept the surface for an inch and a half or two inches so finely pulverized that it acted as a mulch and prevented the loss of moisture by capillary attraction, has raised on one acre of second bottom land 167 1/2 bushels of corn at a cost of 13 cents per bushel. Rating the corn at the low price of 70 cents per bushel, there was a net profit of \$95.35 from this acre. Adding to this the \$250 prize money awarded him by the Texas Industrial Congress, makes a total of \$345.35, which is the interest at 6 per cent upon \$5,755.83, and represents the value of an intelligent combination of brains and work.

This young man broke his land in the early winter with a two-horse plow, cutting about six inches deep; followed in the same furrow with a team pulling what is known as a "bull-tongue" that cut ten inches further into the earth, but turned up no new soil, and formed a reservoir to hold the moisture as well as to aerate the land and make more plant-food available. He used five hundred pounds of commercial fertilizer that had been recommended by a reliable house as best adapted to the successful growth of corn upon his black, sandy land, which had been in grass for a number of years and had an ample supply of humus. He used seed-corn that was popular in his neighborhood, known as the "Bloody Butcher." He states that he made as much corn on the one acre by the better methods above-mentioned as his father made on ten acres prepared and cultivated in the old-fashioned way.


The picture below is a graphic illustration of the value of using improved methods.

**PROFESSIONAL**

**DR. S. L. DAVIS**  
 DENTIST  
 Office over Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.  
 Phones—Office 154, residence 34


**O. F. McMASTER**  
 DENTIST  
 Terms Cash  
 Office over F. and M. Natl. Bank

**M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.**  
 Practicing Physician  
 Office at Grimes Drug Store  
 Merkel, Texas  
 Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-5



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

**W. W. WHEELER**  
 Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent  
 Notary Public.  
 Office up stairs in First National bank building

**W. T. POTTER, LAWYER**  
 Land Title and Notary Work  
 Office J H Thornton Building  
 Telephones: Office 1-8-9; Home 2-2-7  
 Merkel, Texas

**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

**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**

**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

**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**

Necessities from Japan.  
 For each person in the United States a dozen paper napkins and a third of a pound of tea are imported from Japan every year.

**JOHN R. DANIEL**

Livery, Feed and Sale Stable  
 SOUTH SIDE

Automobile Service in Connection

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

MERKEL :: TEXAS

**BETTER GROCERIES**

AT

## The Cash Grocery

AT

A BETTER PRICE

**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**

**Election Notice.**

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Merkel, and in pursuance of the law in such matters provided, I hereby order that an election be held in the City of Merkel, on the first Tuesday in April, 1913, the same being the first day of said month, at the City Hall in said City, for the purpose of electing the following officers of said City, to-wit: A Mayor, City Secretary, City Treasurer, City Marshal and two Aldermen. J. J. Stallings is hereby appointed presiding officer at said election and the polls shall be opened at 8 o'clock a. m. and remain open (with the privilege of a recess of one hour, from 12 to 1 o'clock) until 6 o'clock p. m.

Witness my hand this 15th day of February, 1913.  
 284 C. D. Mims  
 Mayor of the City of Merkel

**THE CITY TAILOR SHOP**

Renovating and Alteration work done to your SATISFACTION.

Ladies work a specialty

L. J. RENFRO, Proprietor.

**Ailing Skin**

Eczema, Psoriasis, Dandruff, Pimples, skin troubles of any kind—WASH THEM AWAY WITH

**D. D. D. Prescription for Eczema.**

This mild wash will bring you instant relief from that awful itch. Prove it with a 50c bottle. We guarantee the regular \$1.00 size bottle to end your distress and begin your cure or your money back. D. D. D. Soap helps, too; ask us.

**H. C. BURROUGHS.**

**BEST PRIZE-WINNING YIELD**

116 1/2 BUSHELS PER ACRE

**LARGEST PRIZE-WINNING YIELD**

The general average of all contestants was fifty-one bushels to the acre, while the general average for the State in 1912 was but twenty-one bushels. If all of the corn growers in Texas had averaged just what these contestants averaged, at the prevailing price, the crop would have brought one hundred and sixty-odd million dollars more than it did.

In 1911 the average corn crop of Texas was 9.6 bushels to the acre. Seventeen hundred and forty-six contestants for the prizes offered by the Texas Industrial Congress, coming from one hundred and sixty-one counties, averaged 31 1/2 bushels of corn per acre. All of the prizes were won in seventeen counties. In 1912 there were 4,030 contestants from 205 counties. Fifty-five counties won prizes, and 16 of the 17 that won in 1911 won again in 1912. This clearly demonstrates that the work of the Congress is constructive, permanent and cumulative.

The Congress keeps in touch with all contestants, makes suggestions as to preparation of soil, conserving moisture and fertility to make plant food available, as to seed selection and the best methods of cultivation, but all of these are subject to any changes that the contestant thinks best to make; the only object being to offer suggestions that cause the farmer to investigate and with all the information at hand to determine the best methods to adopt.

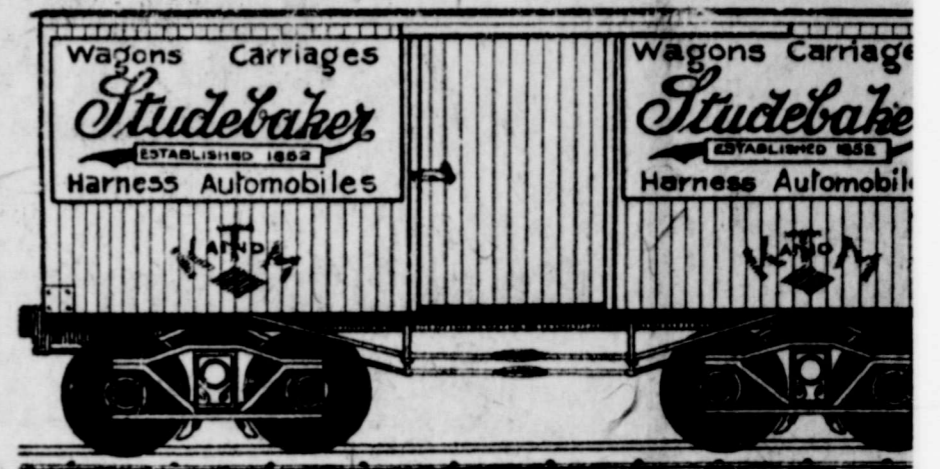
# Buy The Celebrated Studebaker Wagons and Buggies

**WITH A REPUTATION OF ONE HALF  
A CENTURY BEHIND THEM**

We have just unloaded a car load of the latest 1913 styles buggies---something new and nifty.

When it comes to styles, service and durability buy the Studebaker every time.

Remember the guarantee of the Factory and ourselves behind every job



**A Carload of "STUDEBAKER"**  
We have just received a carload of Studebaker WAGONS AND BUGGIES. The latest and best from the great Studebaker factories. Come in and look the

# Anchor Hardware Company

## The Love Letters of a Confederate General

WE begin in the November issue a series of real love-letters written over fifty years ago by one of our national heroes to his sweetheart during the period of '61 to '65. This great general will go down to posterity as having accomplished one of the most brilliant feats of arms in the history of the world. He was as great a lover as he was a general, therefore these letters combine authentic history and exquisite romance. They sound a human note that no other work of literature has done in a decade; it is war, it is romance, it is history, it is literature. You simply can't afford to miss this wonderful series—an inside story of the Civil War now published for the first time and containing all the freshness of a contemporary happening. These letters will grip you hard, and hold your interest from first to last. Fill out the coupon and send it now before you forget it.



## Pictorial Review

The Pictorial Review Co.  
222 West 39th St.  
New York City

15 Cents a Copy

One Dollar a Year

Enclosed please find 25c. for which please send me P.R. for Nov., Dec. and Jan.

**\$10,000 in Cash Prizes**  
and Liberal Commissions to our Agents.  
Ask for Particulars

Name..... THE PICTORIAL REVIEW CO.  
Address..... 222 West 39th St., New York City

## We Want You to Know

### Sacramento Valley

This famous valley in Northern California holds in its fertile lands opportunity for you and thousands of others who have turned their eyes westward.

We have just issued beautiful illustrated booklets on different parts of this famous Treasurer Valley—Sacramento, Shasta, Trinity and Siskiyou Counties, and Dixon.

For a 2-cent stamp and the name of this paper we will send you one of these booklets and a sample copy of SUNSET, The Pacific Monthly, the great big Western magazine that tells all about this "Wonderland Beyond the Rockies." Tell us your present occupation and just what you are interested in.

**SUNSET MAGAZINE INFORMATION BUREAU**  
San Francisco :: :: California

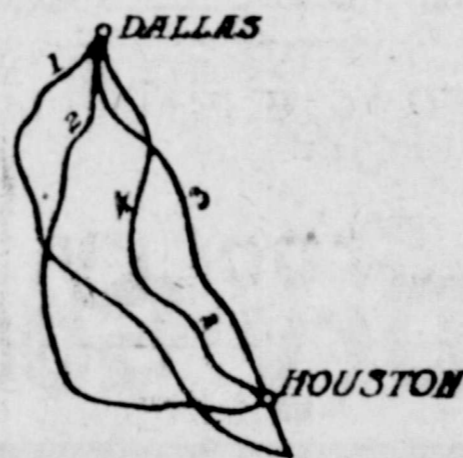
## YOU WANT a Better JOB?

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, Tezarkans, or El Paso, Texas.

## COMPETITION RULES IN RATES.

**Density of Traffic a Powerful Factor—Stock and Bond Issue not Considered.**

Competition is the most powerful factor known in rate making. It recognizes the mandates of no court; it quickly tears to pieces the well balanced tariff sheets of every common carrier that comes under its influence and all other elements that enter into rate making yield to its power. The following map gives a practical illustration of the effect of competition in rate making in Texas:



D. C. CASE, F. M. KATZ, T. & B. V. CHATCO.

There are four direct lines of railroad running between Dallas and Houston. The stock and bond issues on these lines vary from \$29,103 to \$45,022 per mile. The value of these properties according to the Railroad Commission's estimate vary from \$15,686 to \$29,932 per mile. The assessed values vary from \$17,863 to \$32,399 per mile. The amount expended upon them by the owners varies from \$30,000 to \$60,000 per mile; the density of population and traffic is more widely at variance; the railroad mileage varies from 249 to 367 miles, yet the rate from Dallas to Houston via all lines is the same.

The most potential element next in importance to competition in rate making is density of traffic. It is a far more agreeable personality than any of its associates among the rate making powers. It enjoys the distinction of being the only influence that is able to reduce rates without decreasing the earnings and is a welcomed guest to both shipper and carrier.

Efforts have been made by the legislatures to use the stock and bond issues as a basis for rate making, but these factors have been ignored by custom and denied recognition by the courts.

### Bones as a Barometer.

The merits of bones as indicators of fair or foul weather have been vouchered for by the captain of an Italian steamer carrying a cargo of bones from the South American port of Buenos Ayres to New York. When the ship was sailing toward a storm recently the skipper stated the bones creaked and moaned, and when fair weather was ahead they were silent again.

## Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas for the week ending Mar. 8, 1913:  
Bost, Miss Daisey  
Forrester, J. J.  
Martin, J. C.  
Smelker, Mrs. W. H.  
Rasalez, Profilo  
Gornes, Gillerms  
If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 22, 1913.  
H. W. Derstine, P.M.

## Personal Investigation.

An old woman walked into a bank in Inverness, threw down her deposit-book, and said she wished to draw all her money. Having got it, she retired to a corner of the room and counted it. She then marched up to the teller, and exclaimed: "Ay, that'll doe, ma man; jist pit it back again. I only wanted to see if it was a'richt."—Dundee News.

## Calomel is Bad

But Simmons Liver Purifier is delightfully pleasant and its action is thorough. Constipation yields; biliousness goes. A trial convinces. (In Yellow Tin Boxes Only.) Tried once, used always.

## First United States Stocking Factory.

The first United States stocking factory was set up at Cohoes, New York, in 1832. The machine for knitting was the invention of Lee, an Englishman, who took out a patent in 1589. The Lee machine was introduced in the Colonies during the Revolution, but a sharp Yankee improved on it, and set up the first factory at Cohoes.

## Annual Fat Stock And Horse Show

Fort Worth

March 8th to 15th

## Cattle Raisers Convention

El Paso

March 18, 19 and 20

For these Two Events



Will sell Excursion Tickets at Very Low Rates

See Local Agent for Particulars.

A. D. Bell, Asst. Passenger Agent  
Geo. D. Hunter, Gen. Pass. Agent  
DALLAS, TEXAS

## TAX INVESTIGATION DEVELOPS STATE INEQUALITY

Welfare Commission mends Remedial Legislation

Tyler, Texas.—The A. Lindsey, of the Tax Commission, is now and ready for distribution investigation develops inequalities in assessment. Real estate was found assessed from 10 to 80 not more than 2 1-2 per cent of the value of the intangible personal property. The intensity of railroads amount 645,044 is of course a state tax board at full. In discussing the effect of the system upon railroad R. S. Lovett, executive of the Harriman lines, said: "It is almost universal property is assessed at its full value and railroad owners know the road investors know of unreasonable assessments railroads wherever their business to keep such things. The fix knows that the railroads are assessed for the payment at about twice valued by the Railroad of Texas. It does not whether they are under the purpose of tax idea that the state assesses for the purposes of road property for two uses it at for rate-making and bond purposes is reasonable that nothing needed to foreclose a discussion of Texas railroads in an eastern financial Mr. Frank Trumbull Katy system, said:

"My general attitude of taxation has always been we are not only willing to pay our just share of the government. We are very reluctant to pay taxes, and if the burden is higher than it who owns real estate, a part of his taxes at we are concerned we to ask anybody to pay taxes."

The commission remedial legislation. Thirty-third Legislature a capable and non-partisan Tax Commission.

The Post in the "How glorious this far as the eye can reach critic!"—Jugend.

Hunt's Cure rapidly Ringworms, Itching Pimples and like troubles. Once the diseased cuticle is a smooth white, he place. A wonderful relief 50c a box.

# Budding Spring BARGAINS

**Beautiful Spring Time in All Her Glory  
Calls for Beautiful Spring Goods**

Our buyers have recently returned from eastern markets and we have many bargains. We bought the new things---styles according to fashion's dictations---and are now in position to show you the newest styles for spring. We have just received to-day a nice assortment of Ladies' Shirtwaists, Dresses, etc. Be sure to see this line before buying. It is made up in the very latest styles and we have placed a price upon these goods that will appeal to anyone as a great bargain.

## SPRING MILLINERY

Our Millinery Department is now in full bloom and our stock is well displayed. Visit this department and select a hat to your fancy. We are in position to satisfy your every want in this line.



# Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Co.

### OUR CORRESPONDENCE

#### Compere Items.

Feb. 24—Compere is getting to be a very lively place of the late, most every family in the community having installed a telephone.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis are the proud parents of a girl.

Miss Ethel Ashby spent Saturday in Merkel.

Ed Breeze of Venus is here visiting his sister Mrs. Jake Foster.

Miss Ruth Moore who is attending school at Blair spent Saturday and Sunday here.

There will be a literary society meeting here March 7th and every one is invited to attend.

#### How Foolish

To suffer from Skin Diseases (Itch, Eczema, Ringworm, etc.) when one 50c box of "Hunt's Cure" is positively guaranteed to cure or your money promptly refunded. Every retail druggist in the state stands behind this guarantee. Ask your druggist and see the guarantee with each box. You don't risk anything in giving it a trial.

#### Blair Echoes.

March 2—W M Clark returned Saturday from El Paso.

Oscar Walker left Monday for Putnam to spend several days.

Mesdames R J Meeks and Nanie Provine were passengers to Sweetwater Sunday.

The entertainment was largely attended Friday night. The program

was enjoyed but very little on account of some bad behavior. The debate that was to have been between the boys of the seventh and eighth grade of the Blair school and the boys of the seventh and eighth grade of the Trent school, instead of the Trent boys coming from the seventh and eighth grade as was the understanding, Messrs Terry, Roberts and Smith came to debate against our boys of the seventh and eighth grade. Of course they carried away the beautiful banner which was given by the teachers of the Blair school, but nevertheless our boys don't feel beat in the least by the seventh and eighth grade boys of Trent school. The debaters of the Blair school was Rolland Goens, Clifford Goens and Jasper Tucker.

Ford Palmer and Horace Smith of Compere attended the teachers institute here Saturday.

Jacob Reeves is visiting relatives in Fisher county this week.

Mrs. Doan has been attending the bed side of Mrs. Mae Horton near Trent.

Prof. Krigbaum and a number of his pupils from Merkel attended the entertainment here Friday night.

Uriah Jones, Hezekiah Brown and John Peter Smith all say that Hunt's Lightning Oil stops Neuralgia, Rheumatism and other pains. Just try a 50c or 25c bottle from your druggist.

#### Butman News.

March 3—Rev. Preachard filled his regular appointment at Love Oak Sunday.

Z T Turner has had a well drilled at his home and reports an abundance of water.

The boys who attended the Wood-

## DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder

Made from cream of tartar derived solely from grapes, the most delicious and healthful of all fruit acids.

man lodge at Nubia from the Canyon community report a fine time and plenty of good things to eat.

Everybody had a royal good time at the party at J D Jones' Friday night. The party was given in honor of Earl Perkins. There were about fifteen guests present.

Misses Madge Butman and Bamma Richburg attended the teachers institute at Blair Saturday.

Miss Belle Jones has been teaching the primary grades of the Butman school for the past week in the absence of Miss Mattie Randolph who has been suffering with the mumps. Miss Randolph will be able to resume her work this week.

Mrs. J A Neighbors was shopping in Merkel Saturday.

Gus Randolph and family were down from McCauley last week.

#### Salt Branch Items.

Feb. 24—Willis Taylor was the guest of Chas Higgins at a well appointed dinner Sunday.

J L Barker and wife and Miss Oma

Taylor visited the family of Ezra Barker Thursday.

The Misses Teaff were the charming guests of the Misses Smith Sunday.

Misses Cona Hays and Ida Taylor were the guests of Miss Annie Higgins Sunday.

Miss Lulu Higgins is on the sick list this week.

Mrs. Taylor and daughter were in Merkel Saturday.

Grandma Hays has been very sick for several days.

Mrs. Will Henderson received the sad news this morning of the death of her brother's wife at Big Springs.

#### Salt Branch News.

March 3—Sunday school and singing were well attended Sunday.

Will Hays and wife are the proud parents of a fine boy.

Ira Thornton, Miss Gardie Higgins, Burley Taylor, Miss Lulu Higgins, Ed Shipley and Miss Oma Taylor attended singing at Merkel Sunday night.

### OUR CORRESPONDENCE

#### Inkum Items.

March 3—We had quite a hail storm here Wednesday and cooler weather following as a consequence with a decided drop in the temperature Saturday.

Miss Mattie Randolph one of the teachers of the Butman schools has been spending the week with her aunt Mrs. J A Wills while recuperating from a recent illness.

There are several new cases of measles in this community and as a result the attendance at the schools has been much reduced.

Mr. Whitaker of Merkel and another gentleman from Wills Point were in this section of the country Saturday prospecting.

Oscar Perry, Boon Bush, Cleveland Bush, G W Wilson and T E Reynolds were visitors in Merkel Monday.

Key Wilson was in View Friday on business.

During the cool weather of this week some of our people were killing hogs.

Garden planting is going on among the farmer's better halves and we are looking forward to early garden "sass" as well as an early easter.

Arthur and Fain Wilson were in Abilene Friday on business.

Owing to me community Ima Fuc have returned that place.

Mr. and M Buffalo Gap v

O H Wilson

P R Ste Owens and I kel Saturday