

## MERKEL PLEASURE TO LOSE PRESTIGE

Since three good rains have visited the Merkel country we think a serious damper has been cast over the fascinating recreations enjoyed by some of our principal business men and farmers.

No doubt it is with regret that some of the fans of marbledom will soon have to give up their exhilarating sport and devote a portion of the day to the increasing business and labor that these three rains promise to inculcate into the Merkel business matters. Farming or any other line of business cannot keep from issuing a call to its keeper and we do not see how the keeper is going to do justice to both with indications improving as they now are.

Familiar faces will soon be missed in the most prominent alleys of the town and the common expression of "got your taw Bill" will, and ought to soon be a foreign expression. Even the newspaper man who has more time to waste than anyone, will not have time to stop and watch the sport if some one persists in slighting their business and trying to start a game in spite of the business ahead of him. It is a school boys game and they are not allowed to spend but 15 minutes at the time in the pleasure, so tell us where the business man is going to find time enough to give this foolish fancy even 15 seconds. Gentlemen prepare to shed tears now, your game is doomed.

## BUTMAN BOY GROWS A MAMMOTH STEER

It was just a common steer that attracted a large number of our local people to the stock pens last Thursday, but he was in the words of one of the crowd a whopper.

The steer carried the brand of the B-T ranch in the Canyon but was the property of young Will Butman and was raised by him from a very ordinary cow-pen calf. The steer was raised on grass and all of the feed he enjoyed was what he could pick up around the lot with the horses and mules. He was a two-year-old past, to be three in June of this year and weighed just before shipping 1710 pounds.

This weight is almost a ton and the consideration of the breed, only a quarter Hereford and the conditions establishes the fact already known to most people that we have the best stock country on the map. Our country grows the biggest steers and the best mules in the southwest.

### Notice.

Being in the West Texas Hardware Company's piano contest I will appreciate the support of my friends. Erah Brady. 14t5pd

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

## OUR COUNTRY IS WET

The Rain Saturday Covered This Part of the Section Like a Blanket.

### AMOUNT RAINFALL 1.34 INCHES

Falling so Slowly and Followed by Two Cloudy Days the Precipitation Does Maximum Amount of Good.

It was not a big rain but it was good and timely one and was worth twice the amount of precipitation falling in a hard shower for every drop went into the ground and was stored for the benefit of our crops which will soon be coming up.

The rain started Saturday with a slow mist and drizzle which developed into a gentle rain about seven o'clock at night and continued with intermittent showers until a few moments before eleven o'clock, and the Mail rain gauge registered a total amount of .68 inches, not quite 7-10.

It was our first test of our new instrument with the natural rainfall and as was expected we suffered the practical joke of a couple of our friends who added very materially to the gauge, compelling our register to go as high as 1.3-10 inches, but when confronted with our circumstantial evidence they admitted their prank and let us know the amount they contributed, verifying our own calculation.

The Mail desires to keep accurate records for the benefit of our readers and the public and promise to protect them from any such pranks in the future. We appreciate and yet regret the joke and while this is all right we wish to serve notice on the balance of our few friends that any future interference with our gauge and register will be prosecuted.

The gauge is absolutely accurate in its register to the smallest precipitation and we cannot afford to have our records made inaccurate or lose the confidence of our readers and the public.

### More Rain; More Season.

Since writing the above our country has been blessed with two more good rains or showers. On Tuesday night of this week another good general rain fell and our gauge showed a total of 46-100 inches. On Thursday morning another shower fell, measuring 2-10, making a total of the three rains of 1.34 inches.

It is interesting to note that this amount thus far is 84-100 more than the total for the entire month of March last year.

### Attending W. O. W. State Meet.

O. W. Williams, T. F. Compton, Reece Hail and Jim Toombs are in Dallas this week attending the head camp convention of W. O. W. Messrs Williams and Compton as representatives of the local W. O. W. while Messrs. Hail and Toombs represented the Shiloh and Nubia lodges respectively.

This meeting is perhaps one of the greatest gatherings of a fraternity as is ever had in this state, representatives from Arizona and New Mexico also being included in the assembly.

## MORE FIRE HOSE FOR MERKEL DEPT

The Merkel Volunteer Fire Department is this week in receipt of 500 feet of new hose, two hose clamps and a dozen new spanners and one new Hart out off hose nozzle. This equipment added to the already good material in use makes the local department 100 per cent more efficient in their ability to handle fire that lay in the resident districts of Merkel.

For some time the talk was agitated for an automatic electric alarm for the fire bell, on deep investigation it has been found that the cost of such an apparatus would cost the department more than the 500 feet of new hose that has just been purchased and that the expense of erection would be very heavy, even heavier than the department feels it can stand for at the present.

### Notice Patrons.

On the 20th of this month I will leave on my trip to Berlin, Germany where I will take a special course and this is to give notice to my friends and patrons that I will be absent about three months.

Those who know themselves indebted to me will please make settlement before the date mentioned and do me a special favor as I will need the funds.

In my absence my practice will be attended by my associate partner Dr. Geo. L. Miller.

Respectfully,  
Dr. J. A. Adkisson.

### Public Dinner.

The ladies of the Methodist church will serve dinner Saturday, March 15th in the corner building of the Crenshaw block. A first-class dinner with hot coffee for 25 cents.



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. tf.

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

FOR SALE—Eggs from my ringlet bard rocks, \$1.50 per setting. My birds are double match. H. P. Wilkins, Route 1. 14t4pd

FOR SALE—500 head of stock cattle. L. A. Miller, Abilene 14t2pd

LOST—A black leather ladies hand purse containing letters addressed to Miss Ella M. Caldwell, also some other articles. Purse was lost between Abilene and View on road. Finder please return to Miss Ella M. Caldwell, Tye, Texas, Route 1. 14t3pd

FOR SALE—White Wyandottes. My birds have proven their quality by winning where ever shown, at Abilene they made a clean sweep; winning \$35 worth of prizes with 6 birds. Will sell you eggs from these birds at \$2.00 per setting of 15. H. M. Rose. tf

FOR SALE—White and fawn Indian Runner ducks. See the Kent Street Grain and Grocery Company. 14t3

## TO SAIL FOR EUROPE

Prominent Merkel Physician Will go to New York in a few days.

### TO BE GONE THREE MONTHS

Dr. J. A. Adkisson and Wife Will Spend Three Months in Making Tour of England France and Germany.

Dr. J. A. Adkisson, a prominent Merkel physician will leave Merkel next Thursday for Europe. Dr. Adkisson will be accompanied by his wife and from here they will go to Washington where the necessary passport papers will be issued, they will then go to New York for a days stay and will sail Tuesday, March 25th for Berlin, Germany via Liverpool and London, England and Paris, France.

The noteworthy part of this trip is the cause for which it is being made. Dr. Adkisson will after reaching Berlin, Germany enter the Berlin hospital, a government endowed institution for medical researches and there he will enter a special course of study under direction of Dr. Friedmann, the noted German physician who is now in New York making demonstrations with a tuberculosis serum.

This serum according to Dr. Austin B. Heid of Pittsburg, Pa. who studied in Berlin under Dr. Friedmann is without a doubt worthy of all consideration from the medical fraternity, he having used the serum on his wife who was a tubercular patient and he now says that all symptoms of the disease have disappeared and that his wife is rapidly regaining her natural health. It is for this reason especially that Dr. Adkisson is making the trip and while he will devote a part of his time while in Berlin to a general study of medicine he will acquaint himself with the modes of treating this dreaded disease according to the Friedmann serum which is supposed to be the only medical cure possible for consumption.

The trip has been planned so as to reach New York and sail for Liverpool on the same steamship that takes Dr. Friedmann back to his country, the ship being the Majestic a twin sister to the ill fated Titanic of the White Star line of steamships.

It is with great interest we watch this trip for if the Friedmann cure for tuberculosis is proven a success our town will win the distinction of having within its own limits a specialist in the use of the new and noted serum treatment and to the local fraternity the benefit of a brother physician who understands the actual handling of tubercular cases under a proven cure. We wish Dr. and Mrs. Adkisson a joyous trip.

### Notice to Ice Customers.

Beginning March 20th I will start my ice business, although deliveries to resident districts will not start for some time after that date. On beginning the business this year I will be better prepared to handle your trade and promise complete satisfaction. H. M. Warren, the Ice Man.

## DECEMBER 4, 5, 6 FOR POULTRY SHOW

The dates of the Merkel Poultry and Pet Stock show have been announced for December 4, 5 and 6th, with preparations being made for the largest show ever pulled off in west Texas.

The local members of the Association are already making plans for this occasion and are getting all the outside assistance possible, with the interest steadily growing the prospects for a grand success very bright. Secretary McClain is working overtime on his correspondence and states that every member here is aiding him in making his advertising a success. Outside of this occasion being for poultry all sorts of pet stock and fancy birds will be in evidence and the list of prizes promise to be the largest ever offered in this section of the country.

Catalogues for the show will be out in the near future and will be sent broad cast to every person interested in the growing industry, and with eggs being marketed here at the rate of over 100 cases per week, it is a medium worth while for any farmer to take a hand in. The farm being in better position to champion the cause than the city poultryman. Remember the dates. December 4, 5 and 6th.

The slogan of the association is "We are crowing for you to show with us in December."

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

## TUESDAY WORK DAY AT THE CEMETERY

The Merkel Cemetery Association has again announced a work day Tuesday, March 18th at Rose Hill Cemetery for the purpose of laying water pipe in the ditches along the streets.

The pipe has already been delivered and two plumbers have been employed to do the work of laying the pipe and it is the earnest request of the ladies who are members of the association that every available man of the town lend his assistance in clearing the ditches out in front of the plumbers so that they will not be hindered in their work. Every man that goes is requested to take a shovel, spade or grubbing hoe and other tools.

The merchants are asked to let such men clerks go as are willing to assist in the work. With the preparations that have been made it is possible to get all the pipe laid in one day if plenty of outside assistance is obtained.

### Seed Peanuts.

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

Hamblet & Rogers.

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



# The Farmers State Bank

MERKEL, TEXAS

## FARM LOANS OR VENDORS LIEN NOTES

We are in position to handle some good loans secured by first lien on land or some good land notes first lien. Call and let us take your application for a loan on your land.

CAN MAKE PROMPT INSPECTION

ONLY GUARANTY FUND BANK IN MERKEL

WE INVITE YOUR ACCOUNT

### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

C. E. Whitaker was in Abilene Monday on business.

W. A. Scott was in Abilene Monday attending court.

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

Dem Rust and John Gist went to Putnam Monday to look after some business matters.

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

Sam Roberts departed Monday noon for Fort Worth to attend the fat stock show.

Ladies, do not fail to see these beautiful voile flouncings at Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Mrs. M. D. Angus and W. F. Stanford left Thursday for Putnam for a short stay.

Spring is here and we have a new and full stock of oxfords and pumps for all. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Jno. Sears returned from Fort Worth Wednesday highly pleased with his trip to the fat stock show.

Lon Martin of Shiloh was in Abilene Wednesday attending court.

Mrs. J. W. Salsbury of Clyde, formerly of Merkel is spending this week with Mrs. E. W. Strickland.

New line of embroiders, anything at all prices, some surprising values in this line. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Arthur Sears came in Wednesday from Fort Worth where he has been attending the fat stock show during its opening days.

Mrs. W. C. Reid returned home Tuesday evening from Abilene where she had been visiting Mrs. Claud Reid who is in the sanitarium there following an operation.

Uncle Bill Barbee of Noodle departed Wednesday night for Fort Worth to see the fat stock show and to look after other business matters.

We are making special low prices on new and seasonable goods all through our house. Hogue-Hamilton Company.

Jno. Briggs, Sigh Dennis of the Divide, W. P. Moore, Russell Johnson and Claud Demere of the Canyon left Wednesday for Fort Worth to attend the fat stock show. Before leaving Mr. Moore gave us to understand that he was making the trip to see after the other Merkel visitors in the panther city and escort them back home safely.

### 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

For Treasurer  
H. C. BURROUGHS  
For re-election

### 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.

### Makings of a Pugilist.

"I understand your boy has the makings of a champion pugilist." "I really believe he has. He positively won't fight with anybody he isn't sure he can whip."

### 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; 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.

## GROUP

stopped in 20 minutes sure with Dr. Shoop's Group Remedy. One test will surely prove. No vomiting, no distress. A safe and pleasing group-36c. Druggists.

### LOCAL AND PERSONAL

John Collins and Dan Coomer returned Wednesday from Fort Worth.

Miss Mable Collins is in Fort Worth this week visiting the fat stock show while there she will be the guest of Mrs. Belle Kuntze.

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.

C. M. and Thos. Largest are in Fort Worth this week looking after the exhibition of their bunch of Blue Ribbon Hereford cattle that are entered there.

U. G. Reagan of the Canyon country who suffered the misfortune of having his back broken some months ago was able to be carried to Abilene Thursday for further treatment.

Hunt's Cure rapidly destroys Itch, Ringworms, Itching Piles, Eczema, Tetter and like troubles. Under its influence the diseased cuticle scales off leaving a smooth white, healthy skin in its place. A wonderful remedy and only 50c a box.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Blassingame of the Nubia country paid the Mail office a pleasant call Thursday. Mr. Blassingame had just returned from a visit with relatives in Waco, and reports the country there in good condition and everything lively, but so much rain is falling that the people can hardly get to town.

### Burroughs for Treasurer.

We are authorized to announce to our city readers this week the candidacy of H. C. Burroughs for re-election as city treasurer. Mr. Burroughs efficiency has been proven in this branch of official work and his claims deserve the closest consideration from all voters.

Merkel Mail \$1.00 per Year

**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

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	\$127,996.18
United States Bonds at Par	12,500.00
Banking House and Fixtures	14,000.00
Cash and Exchange	40,628.07
	\$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
	\$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

Will Butman of Nubia returned Sunday from Fort Worth where he attended the opening of the fat stock show and also went to sell some cattle, some of which brought him eight cents per pound on foot. Mr. Butman reported the Kirmess or Dance of Nations the event that properly opened the show, as being one of the most gorgeous attractions he has ever witnessed.

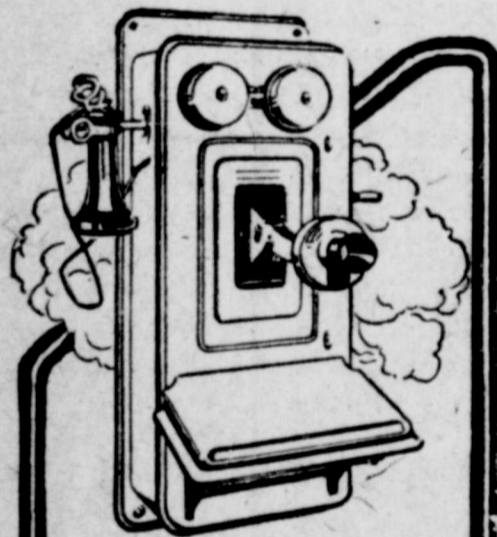
All sizes of elevated galvanized sheet iron tanks, best grade heavy material at reasonable prices. Martins Tin Shop.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker left last week for Fort Worth where they will meet Mrs. Greer of Hillsboro (nee Miss Lucy Beene of this place) and together they were to attend the fat stock show.

For all kinds of garden seed and jumbo peanuts go to the Cash Grocery.

Mrs. L. L. Huddleson left Friday for Rotan to visit her mother Mrs. Mason. While Mrs. Huddleson is visiting in Rotan Mr. Huddleson is seeing the sights of the fat stock show.

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



### 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



## Mr. Farmer, Look Here!

Have you any Chickens, Ducks or Turkeys to sell? If you have and want to bring them to Merkel I will meet any price whether made by local people or outsiders. I am here and here to stay, and remember I will not let any man pay higher prices than I do for your produce. Bring your chickens and eggs to

**W. P. DUCKETT** At Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company

## OPERA HOUSE FRIDAY, MARCH 21ST

### "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: 25c, 35c and 50

Seats on sale at Elite.

L. H. Bowles of Houston was here the first of the week visiting his brother R. E. Bowles. Mr. Bowles of Houston has been connected with the Wells Fargo Express Company but of the late his work has been transferred to the Texas & Pacific road.

Mens white buck low quarter shoes, the latest thing out. See them at the Star Store.

Lon Martin, merchant of Shiloh was in town Tuesday, all smiles over the rain and was looking for more.

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

J. S. Blair of Nubia was in Merkel Monday looking after business matters.

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

J. D. Jones left Saturday night for Putnam to visit his daughter after which he will go on to Fort Worth to see the fat stock show before returning home.

J. C. Provine was in the Mail office this week and exhibited a home grown Pondurosa lemon. The fruit was well developed and measured about three inches in diameter. According to Mr. Provine the lemon is of the best quality only one being required to make several lemon pies.

Groene's Studio opens at 8 o'clock a. m., and closes at 5.30 p. m.

Mrs. Forrester of Roscoe came in Tuesday to visit the family of T. M. Pribble.

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

H. F. Groene the picture man was in Abilene Tuesday in the interest of his local business.

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

Mrs. Lake Renfro left for Putnam Monday to visit relatives.

Stove repair work done at Martins Tin Shop.

### To My Friends.

I will appreciate your assistance in the West Texas Hardware Company's piano contest. Respect. Beulah Garrett. 7t8pd

Mrs. Ed Collings and daughter Miss Nannie Mae of Pecos were here last week visiting Mrs. Collings parents Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Tucker.

For garden seed, seed sweet potatoes and whippoorwill peas go to the Cash Grocery.

H. C. Williams was in Abilene Monday looking after business matters.

Wood fiber mens half hose the most durable socks made. The Star Store.

Mrs. W. P. Browning and daughter Miss Duncan and Dan Browning of Louisburg, Ky. were visiting friends in Abilene Monday.

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

Dan Browning of Louisburg, Ky., was here last week visiting the family of W. P. Browning.

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

Mesdames E. M. Rust and W. V. Cranford were in Abilene Tuesday visiting friends.

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

B. L. James of Route 2 paid the Mail a pleasant visit Tuesday.

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

H. C. Burroughs was in Abilene Friday with his sons Emzi and Charm, having both children treated for throat and nose troubles.

Easter eggs and dyes at the Elite.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. J. W. Forgay of Sweetwater was here last week visiting the families of W. P. Duckett and W. J. Young.

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

J. P. C. Hunt of Haskell came in Friday evening to get his household goods that have been stored here for some time.

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

Mr. and Mrs. Maryman of Baird came in last week to visit the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rhodes of the Dora community.

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

Miss Tommie Louise Coggins visited friends in Abilene Saturday and Sunday.

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

Misses Louise Schmid and Mattie Murphy visited relatives in Abilene Sunday.

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

Mrs. Iva McCoy visited friends in Abilene Sunday.

The Phileathea class of the Baptist church will entertain the ladies and children of Merkel with a tea and egg hunt at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Sears on the afternoon of March 22, at 3 o'clock. Everyone is invited to come, hear the excellent program and have a jolly good time—bring 10 cents. 2t

Mrs. Dwain E. Hughes of Mertzon is here this week visiting her brother Jno. G. Jackson and family, while Mr. Hughes, banker and cattleman of the above place is visiting the fat stock show at Fort Worth.

Mrs. Harry Harris of Abilene was here the first of the week visiting the family of Jno. D. Gaither.

J. H. Neighbors of the Canyon country was in town Wednesday and reported his section of the country in fine conditions after the two rains of Saturday and Tuesday. The general aspect of things he said reminded him of old times, he also reported a heavier rain there Tuesday night than we had here, it having rained some after midnight.

Mrs. E. M. Brown came in Monday from San Angelo where she has been visiting her son.



# BIG ANNIVERSARY SALE



## Our Spring Opening



### White Goods

50c grade Linweave . . . 35c  
 35c grade Linweave . . . 27 1/2c  
 25c grade Linweave . . . 19 1/2c  
 20c grade Linweave . . . 15c  
 10c grade Lawn . . . . . 8 1/2c  
 15c grade Lawn . . . . . 12 1/2c  
 25c grade Lawn . . . . . 20c

### Silks

\$1.50 Bulgarian Silk . . \$1.25  
 1.50 grade Messeline . 1.25  
 1.00 grade Messeline . 85c  
 1.00 Broche Silk . . . . 85c  
 1.00 Crepe de Chene . . 75c  
 85c Crepe de Chene . . 65c  
 50c Wash Silks . . . . . 40c

### Staples

12 1/2c Ginghams . . . . . 10c  
 10c Ginghams . . . . . 8 1/2c  
 8 1/2c Apron Checks . . . . 7c  
 15c Percale . . . . . 12 1/2c  
 25c Madras . . . . . 20c  
 20c Madras . . . . . 15c  
 10c Shirting . . . . . 8 1/2c  
 6c grade Calico . . . . . 5c  
 6c grade Cotton Checks . . 5c

### Linen

50c grade Linen . . . . . 40c  
 40c grade Linen . . . . . 30c  
 35c grade Linen . . . . . 25c  
 25c grade Linen . . . . . 20c

We Have Put Our Entire Stock Down to The Very Lowest Figures in Order to Make This Sale a Success From the Start to the Finish

### OUR OPENING AND ANNIVERSARY WILL BE HELD FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

But during that time we are going to excell all other records for the same length of time. Bear in mind that nothing will be reserved—every article of our new goods will be placed on sale at NON-PROFIT PRICES.

We have just received a large shipment of new Spring Goods and we are receiving daily by express and freight new additions of Style's Latest Creations to our already complete and up-to-date stock of Dry Goods, Millinery, Shoes, Gents' Furnishings, etc. We are offering bargains that really mean a saving to you and if you will take advantage of this week of price-cutting you can, without a doubt, get more good seasonable merchandise for the same money than will be offered elsewhere.

## Sale Opens Saturday March 15--Closes Saturday March 22

Positively this sale will close as stated and our prices will go back to the margin of GOOD, HONEST MERCHANDISE AT FAIR FIGURES. SPECIALS attractively displayed will surely bring you in but only clean-cut and true-value merchandise will bring you back. You know this as well as we do and we are putting on this sale in order to build up our trade, and we also know that to build up our trade we must give you our merchandise at a bargain and at a price so close that you will realize that it is a bargain. This sale is being put on with that fact in view. Come to our store and see for yourself.

### OUR FOOTWEAR BARGAINS

Our Shoe Department is complete in every respect and we are offering you high-class shoes that are the very latest in style and shoes that are made of clean stock leather. Every pair of men and boys' shoes in the house has been bought since Jan. 15, 1913. That insures your purchase to be only of the latest styles and of a clean new stock. We received our stock of spring shoes and are offering them to you at profit prices before we have hardly had time to get them in the store. Wise shoppers will take advantage of this reduction and save dollars.

### Men's Shoes

\$5.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . \$4.75  
 5.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . 4.25  
 4.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 3.75  
 4.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . 3.25  
 3.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 2.95  
 3.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . 2.45  
 2.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.95

### Buster Brown

\$3.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . \$2.45  
 2.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.95

### Buster Brown Blue Ribbon Shoes for Misses

\$3.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . \$2.45  
 2.25 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.85  
 2.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.60

### Ladies Shoes

\$4.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . \$3.45  
 2.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 2.95  
 3.00 Shoes and Oxfords . . 2.45  
 2.50 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.45  
 2.25 Shoes and Oxfords . . 1.65  
 100 pairs of shoes and oxfords at One-Half Price

### NOTIONS

3 papers pins . . . . . 10c  
 5 papers hair pins . . . . 5c  
 25c grade Mennens talcum powders  
 3 for . . . . . 50c  
 25c grade Williams talcum powders  
 3 for . . . . . 50c  
 3 for . . . . . 50c  
 15c grade Williams dental cream  
 3 for . . . . . 25c  
 15c grade Violet talcum powders  
 3 for . . . . . 25c  
 25c grade Woodburys face powder  
 3 for . . . . . 50c  
 3 papers safety pins . . . . 10c

### NOVELTIES

We have just received from Stone & Co. of New York the best line of novelties that we have ever before shown. Bar pins, shirtwaist sets, hair ornaments, lace collars and many other neat and attractive articles.

### MEN'S FURNISHINGS

You will find at this store a good stock of men's clothing and we are going to place the entire stock on sale and are going to put a price on this line of merchandise that will move them.

\$25.00 Suits, this sale . . . \$18.50  
 22.50 Suits, this sale . . . 16.50  
 20.00 Suits, this sale . . . 15.25  
 17.50 Suits, this sale . . . 13.50  
 15.00 Suits, this sale . . . 11.50  
 12.50 Suits, this sale . . . 9.00  
 10.00 Suits, this sale . . . 8.25

### Youths' Clothing

\$12.00 Suits, this sale . . . \$10.00  
 10.00 Suits, this sale . . . 8.25

### Men's Dress Shirts

\$2.50 Dress Shirts, this sale . . \$1.95  
 1.75 Dress Shirts, this sale . . 1.45  
 1.50 Dress Shirts, this sale . . 1.20  
 1.25 Dress Shirts, this sale . . .95  
 1.00 Dress Shirts, this sale . . .85  
 .50 Dress Shirts, this sale . . .40

Mens 50c ties 40c Mens 50c socks 35c  
 Mens 35c ties 25c Mens 25c socks 18c  
 Mens 25c ties 18c Mens 10c socks 7 1/2c

### BEAVER HATS

#### Men's Quality Hats

Our hat stock is new, young but the very newest styles and the best quality of hats can be found here.

\$6.00 John B. Stetson, this sale \$4.50  
 5.00 John B. Stetson . . . . 3.85  
 4.00 John B. Stetson . . . . 2.90  
 3.50 No name, this sale . . . 2.75  
 3.00 Beavers, this sale . . . 2.45  
 2.60 Our Special, this sale . . 1.45  
 1.50 Boys' hats, this sale . . 1.15

MORE BEAVER BRAND HATS SOLD THAN ANY OTHER BRAND AT THE SAME PRICE IN AMERICA



LESLAMANT NAME IS BUSTER BROWN  
 GREATEST LITTLE BOY IN TOWN  
 QUALITY SHOE COMES IN TO BUY  
 THE VERY KIND SHELLS TRY  
 BUSTER BROWN BLUE RIBBON SHOES  
 ARE THE KIND THAT ARE JUSTICE USE  
 THEY'RE THE KIND THAT ALWAYS FIT THE FEET  
 AND MAKE THEM LOOK SO TIGHT & NEAT

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

### LACES AND EMBROIDERIES

We have a nice assortment of Lace and Embroideries and we are going to make a great sacrifice on this line of Merchandise

One lot of Laces ranging in price from 10c to 20c, for per yd. . . 5c  
 One lot Embroideries, 15c to 25c values, for per yard . . . 10c

\$1.00 quality Baby Irish, this sale . . . 70c	\$2.00 quality Baby Irish, this sale . . \$1.35	\$1.50 quality 42-inch Flouncing . . . \$1.15
1.25 quality Baby Irish, this sale . . . 85c	1.00 quality 42-inch Flouncing . . . 70c	2.00 quality 42-inch Flouncing . . . 1.35
1.50 quality Baby Irish, this sale . . \$1.15	1.25 quality 42-inch Flouncing . . . 85c	And many other just such bargains.

**LADIES' READY-TO-WEAR**—Beautiful styles in ladies white dresses ranging from \$5 to **\$8.50**  
 Ladies' white waists from 85c to **\$2.00** Ladies tailored skirts from \$5 to **\$8.50**  
 New styles in house dresses from \$2.00 to **\$3.50**

Don't fail to visit this store during this sale. We are offering good clean seasonable merchandise and it means a great saving to you if you make your purchase of spring goods from us during this sale Remember this Sale will last one week only---From March 15 to Saturday March 22

# MERKEL DRY GOODS AND GROCERY CO.





MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

**Rollo-Rollins Nuptials.**

Sunday evening shortly after the arrival of the T. & P. passenger train No. 3 the home of J A Hamner in east Merkel was the scene of a quite home wedding. The contracting parties Mr. John T. Rollo of south Texas was married to Mrs. Effie Hamner Rollins of this place, Rev. W G Cypert performing the ceremony. The groom had arrived from New Caney on the late evening train and only a few moments transpired thereafter until the ceremony was performed. Only a few relatives and friends were present and even these were not apprized of the fact of the on coming marriage until after the passenger arrived bringing the groom.

Mr. and Mrs. Rollo will leave for their home as soon as Mrs. Rollo's father, Mr. Hamner is able to travel, he being sick at the time of the marriage.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Rollo at this place and in south Texas join hands in congratulations, and wish them a most happy married life.

**Beware of Ointments for Catarrh**

that contain mercury as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free. Sold by all druggists. Price 75c per bottle.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. adv.

**Evangelistic Services.**

Rev. N. F. Crafton and his singer Louis Mallard will begin evangelistic services at the Presbyterian church May 25th., Rev. Crafton is a man who has spent about ten years as a pastor but the last three years have been given up exclusively to evangelistic work. He is not one of the sensational styles, but presents christianity as it appears to him in the bible and trusts its truths to win their own way into the lives of his hearers. Rev. Crafton has had remarkable good success in evangelistic work, last year he averaged fifty converts for every week.

The singer Mr. Mallard is a good choir organizer and soloist, and extends an invitation to the congregation to sing with him. These men are well yoked followers of the work and those who have heard them in other places are very glad they are coming to Merkel.

**Notice to Breeders.**

I have at my stable and am making a stand with what is known as the Peak horse, a steel dust, and Hal, a dark bay, he measures 16 1/2 hands and weighs anywhere from 1225 to 1325 pounds, also the Richie Jack, the one that made the stand at my stable last season. Terms of service on each \$10 00 to insure, will do all in my power to avoid accidents, but will not be responsible should any occur in breeding. Respectfully  
1417 A. C. Boney.

**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.

# Dr. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

A pure, wholesome, reliable Grape Cream of Tartar Baking Powder. Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food.

## JOHN R. DANIEL

Livery, Feed and Sale Stable  
SOUTH SIDE

Automobile Service in Connection

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

MERKEL : : : : TEXAS

## Who Said Rain? Everybody! The Cash Grocery

Has Garden Seed, Seed Sweet Potatoes, Jumbo Peanut Seed and Whippoorwill Peas. Get busy and plant some.

## 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

## Instant Relief from Eczema

You can stop that awful itch from eczema and other skin troubles in two seconds. Seems too good to be true—but it is true, and we vouch for it. Just a few drops of the simple, cooling wash, the D.D.D. Prescription for eczema, and the itch stops instantly. We give you enough to prove it for 50 cents. Now, if you have tried a great many cures for eczema and have been disappointed, do not make the mistake of refusing to try this soothing wash. All other druggists keep this D.D.D. Prescription—go to them if you can't come to us—but if you come to our store we will give you the first dollar bottle on our positive no pay guarantee, that D.D.D. will stop the itch at once. D.D.D. Soap keeps the pores healthy; ask us about it.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

**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.  
2814 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.

**Notice.**

Having sold my tailoring business I wish to announce to my friends and customers that I will soon be re-engaged in that line of business and will ask a continuance of your patronage. Respectfully,  
it C. L. Cash.

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

**Newt Harrison Dead.**

The passing away of one of the most respected and reliable citizens of the Merkel country came last Thursday morning when it was announced that A. B. Newt Harrison had died that morning at his home five miles south of Merkel.

The death of Mr. Harrison was a complete surprise and a shock to his many Merkel friends, many of whom had talked with him only a few days before when he was on the street here transacting business matters. At that time he was seemingly in the best of health and returned home with little thought of his untimely end, but he was a victim of a trouble that did its work secretly and gave little warning of the approaching danger. He went to sleep on Wednesday night with some complaint of his trouble, and from that sleep he did not awake. Mr. Harrison was 57 years of age and was one of Merkel's oldest settlers, coming here about the year of 1890 from east Texas and since his coming here has been connected with modern farm life, making a success of all his endeavors.

Burial services were held here Thursday of last week at 11 o'clock, the services being conducted under auspices of the local lodge of I. O. O. F. of which Mr. Harrison was a member. He leaves a wife, one daughter Mrs. J. C. Bickley of the Blair community and two sisters, Mesdames E. G. Ford and Mary Bolton of Navasota, to mourn his loss, the latter two coming here from their home on receipt of a message telling them of their brother's death and reached here in time to attend the funeral services.

The Mail feels the loss of so cherished a citizen very deeply and joins their many friends in extending sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

SMITH—It was with sad regret that the death of Mrs. Judith Vinson Smith wife of S. S. Smith of this place was accepted by their many Merkel and Merkel country friends. For something like twelve months she had been a great sufferer, but bearing her afflictions with great patience and beautiful christian fortitude. She was a faithful friend, a good neighbor, a devoted wife and christian, having joined the Methodist Church South at the age of 13 years and lived a faithful and consistent member during life and died in the triumph of a living faith in Christ.

Mrs. Smith was born in Franklin, St. Maries parish, La., August 27, 1862 and departed this life March 9, 1913 at her home in North Merkel, being 50 years, 7 months and 18 days old. The funeral was held at the Methodist church Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock with burial services immediately afterward in Rose Hill cemetery, Rev. R. A. Clements conducted the services. The Mail extends the deepest condolence to the husband and the sister who survive her.

**Death of Infant.**

The death of the two months old child of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Teasley of the Canyon was reported Wednesday afternoon. Burial services were held the following evening in White Church cemetery.

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

### 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 O. 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 third of a pound of tea are imported from Japan every year.

receive profit price W. dollars





Every Boy and Girl  
Wants a Watch!

Liggatt & Myers  
**Duke's Mixture**

We want every pipe and cigarette smoker in this country to know how good Duke's Mixture is.

We want you to know that every grain in that big one and a half ounce 5c sack is pure, clean tobacco—a delightful smoke.

And you should know, too, that with each sack you now get a book of cigarette papers and

**A Free Present Coupon**

These coupons are good for hundreds of valuable presents, such as watches, toilet articles, silverware, furniture, and dozens of other articles suitable for every member of the family.

You will surely like Duke's Mixture, made by Liggatt & Myers at Durham, N. C., and the presents cannot fail to please you and yours.



As a special offer, during January and February only we will send you our new illustrated catalog of presents FREE. Just send us your name and address on a postal.

Coupons from Duke's Mixture may be assorted with tags from HORSE SHOE, J. T. TINSLEY'S NATURAL LEAF, GRANGER TWIST, coupons from FOUR ROSES (10-cin double coupon), PICK PLUG CUT, PIEDMONT CIGARETTES, CLIX CIGARETTES, and other tags or coupons issued by us.  
Premium Dept.  
Liggatt & Myers Tobacco Co.  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

**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:** \$10.00 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

**Very Well Said.** The billboard man's point of view is that the billboard helps business. He can't see that there are times and places when and where business is not the point.—Christian Science Monitor.

**Their Endless Wrangle.** The Doctor—"Natural endowment goes a great way, I grant you, but it takes education to make a man of parts." The Professor—"Yes, but monkeying with a buzzsaw will do it quicker."

**The Latest  
Greatest and  
Up-to-Datest**

system of advertising adopted by the enterprising business management of the well known establishment of West Texas Hardware Co. has certainly caused wide comment and considerable furore among the buying public of this section.

When West Texas Hardware Co. first announced that they would give away Absolutely Free the beautiful \$400 Parlor Piano which is upon exhibition in their store, much curiosity was aroused as to HOW they could afford, from a business standpoint, to do such a thing, but when it was learned that they would give ONE PIANO VOTE with every cent paid for any article in their store; also that the Piano was to be given absolutely Free to the person presenting the greatest number of these piano votes to them on August 2 it looked like an extremely novel and most liberal advertising method. The earnestness with which our buying public have been "going after" these piano votes more than makes good our prophecy that it would be a "merry strife." This novel advertising campaign, the ever increasing crowds, the many splendid values which they are offering daily has made their name a household name and a mecca for the bargain lovers of this community. The West Texas Hardware Co. are to be congratulated upon the thoroughness of their business foresight and the citizens of Merkel should feel that they have all reason to be proud of the fact of having an establishment conducted upon such liberal and true business principles within our gates.—adv

**Dead Letter List.**

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas for the week ending Mar. 15, 1913  
Spurrer, G. A.  
Thornton, Miss Mattie U.  
If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Mar. 29, 1913.  
H. W. Derstine, P. M.

**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.

**LOW RATE**

Colonist Oneway Fares  
to  
California and the Northwest  
via



And Connections.

Tickets on sale  
March 15 to April 15 inclusive.

Liberal Stopover Privileges.

Ask T. & P. ticket agent or write

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

**Home From El Paso.**

W. R. Bigham, of Merkel and other places mostly from other places, came in Monday from El Paso bringing about the latest news from the border country that we have received in some time.

Mr. Bigham thinks the state of affairs in Mexico are much better now than they have been for years and he thinks the present government is the strongest Mexico has had since the old Diaz regime was in power. It is the opinion of Mr. Bigham that with things progressing as they now are that it is almost impossible for another revolution to gain much headway against the federals from the fact that the Mexican National Congress has voted millions to restoring peace under the new government for these millions will be used in the most stronghanded way if necessary. Newspaper talk Mr. Bigham says is one reason of so much unrest in the sister republic.

**Make Use of Scorched Timber.**

The great forest fires which unfortunately occur almost every autumn leave vast quantities of "fire killed timber." This is now being used extensively for many purposes, being preferred in some cases to green timber. Fruit growers, for instance, are said to prefer it for packing boxes because it is almost odorless and does not impart an unnatural flavor to the fruit. Telephone poles and railway ties are also made to advantage from fire killed timber.

**Water Always Best Drink.**

Water continues to be the best drink, despite the years man has devoted to trying to improve it.—Acheson Globe.

**TRIO OF RAILROAD BUILDERS DISCUSS STOCK AND BOND LAW.**

Law Prevents Independent Construction—Texas Only State Requiring Roads to be Built Before Bonds are Issued.

Houston, Texas.—The practical effect of the Texas Stock and Bond law upon railroad construction in Texas is of course best understood by those engaged in railroad construction than perhaps any other class of people. The Texas Welfare Commission invited the opinion of the leading railroad men of the country and three of the most prominent men are quoted below.

Mr. R. S. Lovett, executive head of the Harrimon lines, said in part: "I do not know of any independent line of considerable importance that has been constructed in Texas since this stock and bond law went into effect. The stock of the Trinity & Brazos Valley, as I understand it, is owned jointly by the Rock Island Company and by the Colorado & Southern and they have backed that enterprise. The Brownsville line and the Yoakum line, from Houston towards New Orleans, as I understand, have been backed and financed by the Frisco system. I do not recall any other line. There may have been many lines started but if you can show me a single line one hundred miles in length that has been constructed in Texas in the last twenty years—without the backing of a large system from outside the state—I should be very much obliged, because I do not remember any. Of course, one effect of this has been to retard the construction of other lines. Some may consider that that has been beneficial to the existing lines."

Mr. Frank Trumbull, executive head of the Katy system, said in part: "Under the present law you have got to furnish your railroad first and get your securities afterwards, that is, if you are selling bonds. That is not done anywhere else in the world, so far as I know, and it is not good financing, and if it is not good financing, it is not good for the State of Texas."

Mr. E. P. Ripley, president of the Santa Fe, said in part: "We have been able by means of our credit acquired outside the state to borrow money on that credit and spend it in Texas in spite of the stock and bond law. To say, as your Texas law practically does, that no bonds will be authorized until the money is spent, is equivalent, as to any new promotion of small lines, to forbidding their construction."

**He and Another Man.**

A woman who owns a little brown rowboat, which when not in use is tied in a sheltered Cape Ann cove, responded to a knock at her cottage door the other day to find a very diminutive boy standing on the threshold. "Please, ma'am," lisped he, "can me an' another man have the loan of the brown skiff to go a-cod fishin'?"

**Nature True Comforter.**

Nature knows best how to comfort the heart of the mourner. Her soothing is the best because she deals in hints and suggestions, not in conventional phrases, and her ministrations make for sanity and renewed vigor.—The Christian Register.

**Truth Eternal.**

All errors have only a time; after a hundred millions of objections, subtleties, sophisms, the smallest truth remains precisely what it was before.—Ancient Maxim.

**True Mollycoddle.**

There is nothing more contemptible than a bald man who pretends to have hair.—M. Valerius Martialis.

**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



# Watch This Space Every Week

## PARTEN'S WEEKLY SPECIALS

Besides the exceptional values we are offering and shall offer to the trading public at all times in all lines we shall offer extraordinary bargains in different lines each week hereafter. Each week during which these **EXTRA SPECIALS** will be offered beginning on Saturday morning and lasting until Friday night. It Will Surely Pay You Handsomely to Keep an Eye on This Space Each Week

**WEEKLY SPECIAL BEGINNING SAT. MARCH 15-ENDING FRIDAY MARCH 21**

### Dress Goods, Embroideries and Slippers

Easter will soon be here and every woman and girl in the country will want an Easter Dress and a new pair of Slippers---the importance of this offer to you at this particular time

All 85c 45-inch full length embroidered Voil Flouncing for week ending Friday March 21 . . . . . 50c  
 All 35c to 40c dress voils, ratine, tub silks, marquissettes and many others of same values this week. 25c  
 All 27-inch silk messaline, for week ending March 21 . . . . . 75c  
 One lot 25c embroideries and bands, for week ending March 21 . . . . . 12½c  
 All 85c 45-inch embroidery flouncings, for week ending March 21 . . . . . 50c

**SLIPPERS**---10 percent reduction will be given on all ladies', misses and children's slippers for week week ending Friday March 21. These offer you an extra big saving at the time most needed. Take advantage of it. Follow the economical cash buyer to

## Parten Dry Goods Company

Merkel's Exclusive Cash Store See Our Show Windows

#### OUR CORRESPONDENCE

##### Mulberry Items.

March 10--The farmers are about up with their work at present.  
 Our school is progressing nicely with about thirty students attending regularly.  
 The rain that fell in this section of the country Saturday and Saturday night was a great benefit to the farmers.  
 There has been considerable improvement in this section of the country lately. Most every farmer has had a phone placed in his home.  
 Jim Burns, John and Van Childers, Frank Rogers and Callie Britton were in Merkel on business Saturday.  
 Mrs. Ed Kelso of the Stith community visited her mother Mrs. McCormick last Thursday.  
 Mrs. Addie Britton is on the sick list this week.  
 Mrs. Annie Rogers visited her grandmother Mrs. M J Golightly and aunt Alma Golightly on Salt Branch last Thursday.  
 Callie Britton, Robert Britton, Chas. and Frank Rogers made a business trip to Abilene Monday.  
 The Sunday school attendance on Sunday evening was very small.

##### Route Three Items.

March 10--The farmers of this community enjoyed the rain Saturday night very much.  
 The Sunday school at Castle Peak had a small attendance Sunday on account of the rain.  
 Rev. Kind will preach at the Castle Peak church Saturday night.

##### Salt Branch Items.

March 10--Rev. Y F Walker of Stith filled his regular appointment here Sunday.  
 Austin and Houston Robertson returned home Friday from Floydada where they have been for some time.  
 J G Rains is here visiting his daughter Mrs. Etta Petty.  
 A large crowd of our young people attended the singing at Merkel Sunday evening and all report an enjoyable time.

H. L. Propst

G. M. Cauthen

W. D. Hutcheson



## GARDEN AND LAWN TOOLS

Call and see us or phone No. 178 when in need of anything in the way of garden and lawn tools such as Spading Forks, Shovels, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rakes, Garden Hoes, Water Hose and and Hose Fixtures. Poultry Netting of different widths and meshes.

We also have in stock black screen wire in the different widths.

Also the Opal screen wire in different widths.

## Crown Hardware Co.

#### OUR CORRESPONDENCE

##### Inkum Items.

March 10--R R Steen and wife were trading in Merkel Wednesday.  
 Leo Sheppard of Merkel stopped here Wednesday while enroute home from Shep.  
 J A Wills and wife made a trip to Merkel Wednesday.  
 T E Reynolds made a business trip to View Tuesday.  
 Jeff Self of Shep was in Inkum Saturday.  
 Dr. Miller of Merkel was called out to see little Garvin Fuqua Saturday.  
 Some new cases of measles have developed during the last few days in our community.  
 The rain which fell in this section of the country Saturday made great rejoicing among the farmers. Many of them had planted small grain and some were planting corn even before the rain and its coming greatly helped our conditions.  
 Madison Denton and wife of Nubia were visiting relatives in this section last week.  
 Mrs. Randolph of McCauley was visiting her mother Mrs. E Puckett last week.  
 Mrs. A B Crews of Big Springs is here visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J J Denton.

##### Shiloh Items.

March 10--Mr. and Mrs. R B Bryant are visiting relatives in Fort Worth and seeing the fat stock show this week.  
 Wes Derstine and Troy Eiland of near Merkel were visiting in Shiloh Sunday.  
 Miss Pearl Faubian is at home this week while her mother Mrs. R B Bryant is in Fort Worth.  
 Mrs. S L Phillips is improving her home by building new fence and putting a water reservoir for stock and irrigation purposes. The water is to be pumped with a gasoline engine.  
 Since the rain most all the farmers are preparing to plant early feed.