

MERKEL MAIL

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 2, 1914

8 PAGES

OUR FUTURE POLICY

In assuming the management of the Merkel Mail, both in the business and editorial department, it is done with absolute respect and the highest regard for the standard that has heretofore been observed in this publication.

Our future policy is fairness to all, liberal views on matters that concern the public and interest to our community in general. At times when there comes issues wherein it is necessary for a stand to be taken by the Mail and voiced before the public, then such will be done with all due regard to any opposition that may face us. Our way of thinking will be expressed regardless of what any individual, firm or cooperation thinks of the matter, and any expression of our views on a matter will be made as to our way of seeing the proposition. In initiating our policies at any time, we will do so without any assistance whatever that will be foreign to our views, letting the "chips fall where they may."

In making this initiatory publication of the Mail under the new management, it is requested that the co-operation of our friends be given. Such is absolutely necessary from a public to the life of any publication and it is intended that the Mail be an equal to any weekly in the state, for this standard to be maintained the necessity of support from the public at large is unquestioned.

The out-going Editor Mr. Jno. G. Jackson is still financially connected with the Mail. He not having relinquished all his holdings is same and at times there may appear in the Mail articles contributed by him. To these we ask that the public give careful attention and assume that the substance and meaning of such articles is a direct expression of my policies. For nothing will be found in our columns that we may think detrimental to our policies or to the interest of the surrounding country, however the columns of our paper will be open at all times to the public for discussion.

The Mail will continue for Merkel and the Merkel country, using every effort to promote good to our town and betterment to our people. With the bright prospects that are before us for the New Year I sincerely hope that it will be one of prosperity and happiness to all our good readers.

Very Respectfully,
HOMER L. EASTERWOOD.

Street Theatre Show.

Friday evening a stock company of some place played "The Road" at the Front Theater to a small crowd. Going out the advertising force it was billed as a show with a reputation and it has a reputation for it. Some of the actors even had to be helped by other members of the company. Their vaudeville acts was not as good as show. The leading man every other Wednesday bringing with them a new play and new acts. They may visit town but we think one will see them hunting for "Sis Perkins" was now compared with this

to fit them in any way and presented a very appearance. Those who were ridiculed up was Mrs. Baxthe "yallerest" dress in public. Her husband part of taking the the Christmas tree for Claus was barely able and.

There were many characters to the parts of the play village home-coming as a whole it was both of enjoyment both to young alike.

tin who has made his biloh for the past few sold his merchantile and is moving to re he will make his future. Before leavrtin ordered the Mail in order that he may up with the doings at

NEW PASTOR TO MERKEL CHURCH

Rev. W. E. Green of the Abilene Presbytery was here last week in conference with local members of the Presbyterian church in regard to placing a new pastor here for the Presbyterian church.

It has been announced that Rev. J. H. Bone will visit our town within the next few days but it is not known yet whether he will be placed in charge of the work here or not.

Visiting in Alabama.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Dodd age 66 and 68 respectfully are spending Christmas and New Year with their mothers in Heflin Ala.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Dodd are getting quite old but are hole and hearty. Their return to their old home is their first in 22 years and it will be the first meeting either of them have had with their mothers in the same number of years. They will return to Merkel about the middle of this month.

Mistake in Print.

In our last weeks edition of the Mail there appeared an advertisement of W. P. Duckett in which it was stated that 18 cents per pound would be paid for all frying chickens brought to Merkel during the holidays. This was an error on the part of the Mail. The price as given to us read 10 cents per pound and the mistake was purely a typographical error never the less it caused Mr. Duckett a bit of worry in making explanations. We sincerely apologize to Mr. Duckett for the mistake and ask that all the blame be placed on us and not on Mr. Duckett.

Visits in Abilene, Etc.

Mr. John G. Jackson who used to be the editor of the Merkel Mail was seen in Abilene one day this week renewing his interests in the dirt dealing proclivities of this section. Mr. Jackson we are informed from reliable sources will continue to make his home in Merkel and will continue to enjoy the good fellowship and friendship he has been establishing in these parts during the past five or six years.

Anybody wishing to confer with the ex-newspaper man will kindly leave their name and address at the Merkel Mail office any day of the week in case said call is made before 10:30 o'clock in the morning, after that hour he can be found here in person at intervals during the day.

Change of Business.

Having sold my bakery and laundry business to J. S. Thomas & Son of this city I wish to announce that they now have control of that part of the business in full.

I will retain my Ice and Coal business and will appreciate a continuance of your patronage. I will also appreciate it if my former customers will give the new firm who succeed me in the laundry and bakery business, their continued patronage, for they are in position to look after your wants to the best advantage.

In placing your future orders for Coal phone No. 4 and the matter will be attended to at the earliest possible moment. Thanking all for the past favors and patronage and assuring my customers of prompt service in the future. I beg to remain,

Respectfully,
H. M. Warren,
The Ice and Coal Man.

PAY YOUR TAXES OR FINES AT ONCE

Mayor Stallings wishes to be understood in his position a little more clearly by some lenient tax payers and others who owe the city.

During the past there has been some property in Merkel on which the taxes have not been paid for some time and the owners of said property are hereby notified that if these back taxes are not paid before February 1st that they will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection and suit instituted at once.

There are some other offenders of our city laws who are also coming in with their dues to the city. These are people who have been fined for some reason or other and who have been allowed the fines to remain unpaid. Mayor Stallings gives these people the same length of time as are allowed to delinquent tax payers. If these past due fines are not paid by February 1st, and the city is holding one against you, you had better pay it and save them the trouble of collecting same. This is a matter of law and our Mayor is a man who is going to enforce it to the best of his ability. He asks us to say to the public that February 1st is absolutely the last day in which people indebted to the city can arrange the matter without further trouble.

MEXICO MAN IS HERE ON VISIT

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Anderson and son Arch Jr., and Mrs. Smith the mother of Mrs. Anderson all of Tampico, Mexico, came in last week to visit the brother, R. O. Anderson.

The visiting people are not leaving Mexico on account of unsettled conditions of war there but are only spending the holidays here with relatives. In fact the country where they are living has not been the scene of such turmoil as have other parts of the sister republic. Mr. Anderson has been connected with the Standard Oil Co., of Mexico during the past few years and will return to his home some time in January to resume his duties. He will be accompanied by his family.

Milk Stealers.

About the latest kind of thieves reported in Merkel are doing their work in a way and at a time that causes their victims to go without milk for breakfast.

Only a few thefts have been reported so far, some quart and pint bottles having been taken from the front porches of different homes under the cover of darkness.

Mrs. Jim Dennis who has been very sick at her home in south Merkel is reported no better. In fact her condition is such that her friends and relatives fear a more serious change.



SUPPOSE YOU GOT SICK, WOULD'N'T IT BE GRATIFYING TO HAVE MONEY IN THE BANK. YOUR MONEY IS YOUR BEST FRIEND—TAKE CARE OF IT. SOME DAY IT WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU. OUR BANK IS A SAFE PLACE

The FARMERS ST

Why do ships carry life boats? To be should anything happen. Things do ha for things. Think of it—death, sickness when you NEED a bank to go to and draw should be putting there now, where it is ADVERSITY. :: :: Make

MERKEL

THI

THE SON OF GOD THE PERFECT MAN

It is no business of mine to account for this perfect life. For more than nineteen hundred years the record has been before the general public, and has been subjected to the most searching analysis, keenest criticism and sharpest scrutiny. No life in literature has furnished so much discussion, and certainly no life has furnished such an exhaustless theme for admiration. Men of all schools—and no schools—vie with each other in the admiration and wonder with which they view it. From its lowly birth to its kingly death it exhibits itself to the world as the one stainless and perfect life. However you may view it, in whatever phase you may study it, under whatever light you may look at it, you shall turn from the view with the feeling, surely this is the record of a perfect man. Whether you consider this simplicity of His unostentatious life among the fisher folks of Galilee, or the miracles of His healing and his beneficence, or the unruffled and serenity which he exhibited amid the most trying circumstances, or the holy pity and infinite compassion with which he received the lost and sinful, or the courage with which He announced unwelcome truths, or the splendid indignation with which He braided the small cords and scourged from the holy place the buyers and sellers, or the majestic scorn with which he pronounced the eightfold woes on a sterile church and an apostate priesthood, or the filial faiths with which, in midnight vigils, He sought communication with God, or the patient resignation with which He received from the hand of the Father the cup of bitter woe, or the kingly dignity with which He climbed the steps of Golgotha to be nailed to the cross; in whatever light you study the story of Christ's life you are compelled to utter the verdict of His own contemporaries, "We find no fault in Him." You search the records in vain for one single incident in which, after eighteen centuries of ethical growth and spiritual perception, you are able to wish that Jesus had acted otherwise than he did.

His Inner Life.

If you look from the external manifestation of that life to his inner experience, you find yourself met by a no less wonderful fact. One of the most prominent facts in human life is the common fret and distraction which comes from the present unrealized ideals. Forever the ideal life looms before us on the horizon, beautiful and alluring, but alas unattainable. We struggle to achieve it and fall. We pray that we may accomplish it, and are defeated. This consciousness of the unrealized ideal is a universal fact. You find it everywhere. It is peculiar to no age, to no race, to no clime; wherever you find man, there you find him bowed with sorrow because the beautiful life which he would give he lives not; because the ideal which allures him so constantly eludes

him so ceaselessly. It is just this struggle between the real and the ideal, this consciousness of a lack of ethical self-realization which has darkened the heavens with the smoke of a million altars, robed every priest who has chanted his litanies since the world began, and whetted the sacrificial knife for the throat of every victim whose blood has flowed in an attempted propitiation for sin; but when you turn to Jesus you discover that He is a Man who knew in His own life absolutely nothing of this conflict between the real and the ideal; a Man who went through life conscious always of ethical self-realization; a Man who, from beginning to the end of His career, never felt the sting of conscience for a duty unperformed, never felt a moment's condemnation for a sin committed. On the contrary in the calm assurance of a perfect inner life, He faces the world and says, "Which one of you convinceth me of sin?" Nay even more than that; He faces the august tribunal of His own inner consciousness and is able to say: "I do ALWAYS the things that please Him". This is an unique phenomenon in human life.

This is the life of him who is God's universal Man.

Faith's Perfect Object.

The object of faith must be perfect. We speak of having faith in our fellows; we mean that we are willing to trust them to a limited degree. It is impossible to place unlimited confidence in an imperfect object. The changeableness of men destroys the possibility of faith in them.

Jesus was the only man who ever walked in this earth of whom it could be truthfully said: "He is the same yesterday, and today and forever and forever and changeth not. In this one particular. He satisfies a longing in the heart of man universal. His perfect life as a man is a basis for our justification. He was tempted in all points as we are in a part. His temptations came from without, while ours come both from without and within.

And just as His perfect life stands back of our justification so does His sacrificial death underlies our final redemption. Being a real man He fulfilled all the requirements of life, and being also the Son of God he worked matter at what angle we approach His splendid character, we find it flawless.

Some very wise and scholarly men balk at the divinity of Christ. Their

rule is the syllogism and will not accept. To me the manifestly unfair. These men do not think of applying this to common every-day things of which they do not know how that fire burns but still they draw nigh and they do not know how that electricity makes a man's blood red and him extra strength, but they use the homely art as if they understood it all. They have no idea that a man eaten by a goose will grow hair, and yet they accept Oh, science, what fool votaries are. Whether it or not Jesus is the same yesterday and ever." He is God's needs of man universal.

Changeless in a world of passing away. Motives where. Rules and things of yesterday. Accepted things of today. Accepted last year is proven erable with age are whose fathers died their faith. Political

J. T. WARREN, President

THOS. JOHNSON



CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$50,000.00

We appreciate all business entrusted to us promising prompt and careful consideration to banking matters

Liberal Accommodations to Our Customers

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. T. Warren, President

G. F. West, V. President

Henry James, V. President

Thos. Johnson, Cashier

Ben T. Merritt, Assistant Cashier

Ed S. Hughes

C. P. Warren

WEEK OF PRAYER PROGRAM B.W.M.U.

Monday, Jan. 6.—The faith and work of god—Mrs. Warren.
Hymn—My Faith Looks up to Thee.

Prayer of thanksgiving—Mrs. Causseaux.

Scripture reading—Mrs. H. T. Merritt.

Repeating in concert, John 3:16.

Song—I Gave my Life for Thee.

Prayer for a clearer understanding of gods' missionary plan—Mrs. Swann.

Five minutes talks on the faith and work of god—Mesdames Smelser, Jacobs, Boyd, Whitaker and McDonald.

Reading—Mrs. Roberts.

Doxology.

Tuesday, Jan. 7.—Southern Baptist Evidences of faith and work—Mrs. Wheeler.

Authority for home and foreign mission—Mrs. Teaff.

Song—I Love Thy Kingdom Lord.

Blackboard exposition of the missionary features in the Lords' Prayer—Mrs. Whitley.

Explanation of Southern Baptist faith and work—Mrs. Sharp.

Map Drill—Mrs. Saffle.

Prayer, for Gods' blessing on the missionary enterprises of the B. C.—Mrs. Hamm.

Wednesday, Jan. 8.—China—

on Business

17, 16-34—Mrs.

Thanksgiving for the opportunities in Moore,

Baptist work in China

con.

Five minute talks:

China that was—Mrs.

China that is—Mrs. Gar-

The China that may be—Mrs. Barlowe.

The sorrows of heathern motherhood—Mrs. Barnett.

Prayer for the mothers of China—Mrs. Valentine.

Prayer, that the offerings may be joyfully made—Mrs. Boren.

Song—All Hail the Power of Jesus Name.

Thursday, Jan. 9.—Judson the Apostle of faith and work.

Forerunners of Judson: Acts 17-35; 5:38-42—Mrs. Saffle.

Song—Jesus I my Cross Have on.

Map Drill—Mrs. H. T. Merritt.

Prayer, for missionaries now laboring in India and Burma—Mrs. Jacobs.

Two, ten minute talks:

Judson, the student, finding himself—Mrs. Warren.

Judson, the missionary, giving himself—Mrs. Whitaker.

The Judson centennial—Mrs. Stephens.

Judson, first missionary to Burma—Mrs. Smelser.

Reading, four facts from blackboard—Mrs. Boyd.

Friday, Jan. 10.—Faith in and work for our young people—Mrs. Swann.

Song—Precious Jewels.

Bible teachings: Prov. 22:6; 11:11; Mark 10:13-16. II Tim. 1-7—Mrs. Roberts.

Prayer for young people of S. Convention—Mrs. Saffle.

Points that should stir—

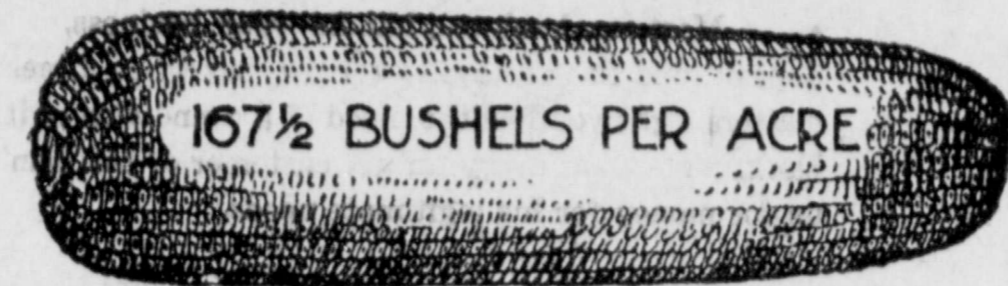
ee—Mrs. Causseaux.

Keep me Near the

TEXAS INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS

DALLAS, TEXAS

Prize Crop Contest, 1912.



LARGEST PRIZE-WINNING YIELD



LOWEST PRIZE-WINNING YIELD



GENERAL AVERAGE OF ALL CONTESTANTS



10-YEAR AVERAGE OF TEXAS



LARGEST PRIZE-WINNING YIELD

COMPARISON OF CORN AND COTTON YIELDS.
Showing what the leading contestants have done in the 1912 competition for \$10,000 in gold.
Write for particulars concerning the 1913 \$10,000 contest to Texas Industrial Congress, Dallas.

THE ONLY WAY

Many Merkel Citizens Have Discovered It.

Just what to do when the kidneys are affected, is a question that concerns both young and old. Weak kidneys neglected in childhood lead to life-long suffering. People of advanced years, with less vitality, suffer doubly. In youth or age, languor, backache, urinary irregularity, dizziness and nervousness make life a burden.

There is one remedy that acts directly on the kidneys. Doan's Kidney Pills owe their world-wide fame to the fact that they have cured thousands of cases of sick kidneys and cured them permanently. Follow the example of this Merkel citizen.

Mrs. H. D. Wilson, Merkel, Texas, says: "Different members of my family have used Doan's Kidney Pills with excellent results. One member of the family had been afflicted with kidney trouble for a long time and finally he used Doan's Kidney Pills. They entirely cured him. We give Doan's Kidney Pills great praise and recommend them to anyone suffering from kidney trouble."

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.

Needed at Home.

A southern lady was drinking tea with a New York friend, and the following talk ensued:

"The flo's are all hahd wood and—"

"You say the noo house is decorated in gold and w'ite?"

"Yes, but mo' like copper than real gold, and the do's—"

"W'en did you buy your machine, and w'at make is it?"

"Oh, the cyah is a little dahling! Have you seen it?"

"I saw it in the avenoo. The wheels were w'izzing like lightning. Shall we call Ugh on the wire, or would you prefer visiting that East side school and hearing how they teach the foreign children English? It's a splendid work."

Merkel Mail One Dollar Per Year

Winner's Notice.

Saturday, February 1st, will be gin day with us.
McDonald & Dunagin, Ginners.

Ginner's Notice.

Saturday, February 1st will be gin day at Brown's gin
Fred Guhr.

Notice Cotton Men.

Saturday, February 1st, will be the next gin day at this gin.
All farmers interested will take notice.
Bowles & Co.

Marriage Licenses.

Since last report marriage licenses have been issued to the following couples:

Ernest John to Miss Bessie Young.

J. J. Campbell to Miss Maud Woodward.

When We Meet Our Kind

"Attendants in European museums look to it that no American may escape meeting his compatriots," a traveler said. "At Mme. Tussard's wax works exhibition the custodian let me wander around alone for an hour, puzzling helplessly over British royalty, but when I got in the neighborhood of Harry Thaw he woke up. How he discovered then that I was an American I do not know; I hadn't said anything. But I coughed, and perhaps that betrayed me. Anyhow, 'That's Harry Thaw,' said he. 'I thanked him and passed on. At my heels came the guide. He followed me to the staircase. 'Crippen's down stairs,' he said. Three steps further along he halted me again. 'And Guiteau,' he announced. 'The trio of my fellow countrymen excited no thrill of patriotic pride, but the custodian had done his part.'"

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

Are You Nervous?

What makes you nervous? It is the weakness of your manly constitution, which cannot stand the strain of the hard work you do. As a result, you break down, and ruin your entire nervous system. Don't keep this up! Take Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is made from purely vegetable ingredients. It acts gently on the womanly organs, and helps them to do their proper work. It relieves pain and restores health, in a natural manner, by going to the source of the trouble and building up the bodily strength.

TAKE The CARDUI Woman's Tonic

Mrs. Grace Fortner, of Man, W. Va., took Cardui. This is what she says about it: "I was so weak and nervous, I could not bear to have anyone near me. I had fainting spells, and I lost flesh every day. The first dose of Cardui helped me. Now, I am entirely cured of the fainting spells, and I cannot say enough for Cardui, for I know it saved my life." It is the best tonic for women.

Do you suffer from any of the pains peculiar to women? Take Cardui. It will help you. Ask your druggist.

Write to: Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions, and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women" sent free. 150

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

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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.

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MERKEL

TEXAS

PERSONAL

Motion Pictures at the Opera House every Friday night and Saturday night.

Parker Sharp left for Dallas Sunday where he will be for some time.

W. D. Butler of Honey Grove was here during Xmas visiting relatives.

Miss Lula Thornton of Sweetwater was in the city Sunday the guest of Miss Mabel Collins.

Mr. Jesse Atkins of Lamasco was here last week visiting his sister Mrs. J. Ben Campbell.

Mrs. E. A. Hargrove of Dallas spent the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt.

Misses Mattie Murphy and Louise Schmid returned Sunday from Abilene where they spent the holidays.

Mrs. Alice Templeton returned home Sunday morning after spending Christmas with relatives in Honey Grove.

W. S. Smelser left Sunday for Wichita Falls by the way of Abilene on a visit to old friends and acquaintances.

Misses Minnie and Bertha Harris were the guests of their brother Arthur Harris and family of Dallas during the holidays.

H. Kendrick, a progressive farmer of the Shiloh community is spending the holidays with his mother in Houston.

Begin the New Year by buying a sack of Light Crust Flour. It is better and does not cost any more. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

Miss Winnie Warren who has been in Waco attending Baylor College spent the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Warren.

Rufford and Duke Evans both advocates of the printers trade in the city of Dallas were here during the holidays visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Evans.

This is the "Jinks" year—but we are going to do the largest business of any house in Merkel. Come to see us and we will convince you that this is the house to trade with. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

Mrs. Jack Barnes of Dallas stopped off here Sunday to visit the family of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Barnes. Mrs. Barnes had been in Midland during the holidays visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Morton of Plainview were here last week visiting their daughter Mrs. L. L. Estes of the Comper community. They returned to their home Sunday.

This is the "Jinks" year—but we are going to do the largest business of any house in Merkel. Come to see us and we will convince you that this is the house to trade with. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

Miss Eva Williams returned last week from Marshall, Missouri where she has been visiting her sister Mrs. Pence for some months.

Notice Tax Payers.

We have arranged at Abilene and Anson to handle your taxes without the necessity of your making the trip. We have poll tax blanks and will take pleasure in favoring you in this respect.

Farmers State Bank.

Behren-McMillen Furniture Co.

WISHES YOU

A Happy New Year

MACK

The Furniture Man

Notice of Removal AND CARD OF THANKS

Our many friends and patrons will now find our Gents Furnishing House on the east side of Edwards street in the building formerly owned and occupied by J. I. Banner & Son, the harness and saddle people. We are asking for a continuance of your liberal patronage giving absolute assurance of appreciation on our part. We extend a most cordial invitation to our friends to visit us in our new quarters.

THE STAR STORE

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas for week ending Dec. 28, 1912:

- Bauldin, J. R.
- Clinton, W. O.
- Jackson, Mattie
- Jones, Mrs. J. K.
- Jones, Vernon
- Witcher, J. D.

If not called for dead letter of H.

be sent to 1, 1912. P.M.

For Rent.

160 acres of good farming land in Mulberry canyon. One five-room house, windmill, good water and other improvements. 125 acres in cultivation. See Tom Toombs for particulars at Merkel. 13t3

I have a buyer for a good milch cow. So if you have milch cows or live stock of any kind to sell, list with A. L. Clemons, office at Clark's grocery store. 1t

Fine Baby Girl.

Charley Fryar, of the job department of the Abilene Printing Company, is receiving congratulations today over the birth of a fine baby girl. Mother and babe are both doing nicely.—Mondays' Abilene Reporter.

Mrs. Scribner of Collin county came in last week to visit the family of A. J. Hartley during the holidays.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Motion Pictures at the Opera House every Friday night and Saturday night.

Miss Pearl Rains is in Duro this week visiting relatives.

Mrs. A. Corder is in Nugent this week visiting her son A. J. Corder.

J. S. Blair and Mrs. Watt Blair of the Blair community are in Alabama visiting relatives and old friends.

Miss Eva Walters spent from Friday of last week until Monday of this week in Bronte visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jefferey who have been visiting relatives here during the holidays left Tuesday for their home in Abilene.

Miss Mellissa Smith returned Sunday afternoon from Denton where she spent the holidays with friends and relatives.

Misses Maud and Minnie Ferguson returned to school at Abilene Tuesday after spending the holidays here with their parents.

Arthur Wiman of Fort Worth a former Merkel boy was here during Christmas visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Wiman.

Mrs. R. A. Rollins and children returned home Sunday from an extended visit with her sister Mrs. E. A. Qualline of New Caney.

Begin the New Year by buying a sack of Light Crust Flour. It is better and does not cost any more. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

Miss Mae White spent the holidays in Clifton with relatives, returning to her position here in the public school Sunday.

Miss Mattie Moore who has been attending school in Abilene returned Tuesday morning spending the holidays here with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Laney of Wills Point who spent the holidays here visiting the family of W. H. Laney and Ben Walters, returned to their home Monday.

Our grocery department is complete and our dry goods will be soon. Tell us your wants, we can fill them. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

R. H. Collins returned last week with another shipment of cattle which he has placed on feed here. This is the second bunch of cattle Mr. Collins has placed on feed here this winter and the results on the first bunch were very pleasing to Mr. Collins.

Homer Rainbolt came in Monday of last week from Dallas where he has been working for some time, being connected with a tailoring establishment in Oak Cliff. On Saturday before returning home he happened to the misfortune of getting his hand severely burned in a gasoline explosion the burn being of a nature as to demand treatment by a physician.

We buy 90 per cent of the produce that comes to Merkel. Bring us your produce we pay the highest prices. The Merkel Dry Goods and Grocery Company.

At Christian Church.

Rev. Joe S. Warlick of Duro will preach at the North Christian Church at the regular morning and night services. We are cordially invited to attend.

\$9.95 OUR BIG JANUARY SALE \$9.95

Too Many Fine Choice Misfit Suits in Stock for This Time of the Season
We Must Sell This Fine Line of Clothing and we Have Made a Price That Will Move Them Quickly

January the First we offer you your choice of any Misfit suit in the house, Tailor Made Clothing, worth from \$20.00 to \$40.00, your choice for only \$9.95. This price will also buy your choice from our stock of Overcoats. Never before at this time of the year has our stock been so complete with hundreds of stylish Misfit Suits—all good patterns. Don't fail to take advantage of this saving of from \$10.00 to \$25.00 on any Misfit Suit or Overcoat in our Stock. Your choice for only \$9.95

MISFIT CLOTHING COMPANY

\$9.95

J. K. WARD, Manager

WE FIT THE HARD TO FIT

Pine Street

Abilene, Texas

\$9.95

PROFESSIONAL

DR. S. L. DAVIS
DENTIST

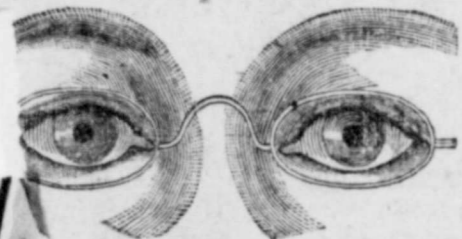
Office over Woodroof and Company.
Phones—Office 154, residence 34

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YES PROPERLY TESTED. Glasses Correctly Fitted. All Work Guaranteed.
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SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most up-to-date SHOP IN MERKEL

CITY BARBER SHOP
WEST & PATE, Proprietors

Taylor County Abstract Co.

Complete Abstract of all Titles in Taylor county, including all City property.

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Your work appreciated.
Prompt Service at Reasonable Rates
GEO. C. BISHOP :: Manager

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General Practice and Land Title Work a Specialty
Office over Farmers State Bank.

Notice

To all who are indebted to the Cash Grocery Co., they will find their office at the corner building by Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co. Thanking you for past favors, we remain. James Black and Mrs. Alice Rose.

Turnips! Turnips!

For sale at the patch for 60 cents per bushel. C. L. McNeese.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. T. W. Woodroof of Hillsboro is here visiting the family of her son W. D. Woodroof.

Jno. B. Boden who has been connected with the Star Store for the past few years has accepted a position with the Parten Dry Goods Co. and asks that his friends call on him in his new home.

Beautiful line new spring gingham at 10 cents. Parten Dry Goods Co.

Robert Hicks was in Abilene Sunday on a purely social mission.

Watch and clock repairing. See Sublett the jeweler at Rust & McCauley's

Miss Lora Sprague of Waxahachie who has been here visiting her friend Mrs. W. D. Woodroof returned to her home the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Scott and children were in Abilene Thursday.

Mrs. Paul of Weatherford visited Miss Lizzie Mae Freeman.

Mrs. J. A. Elliott and daughters Misses May and Lenna of Hamlin spent the holidays here with Mr. and Mrs. W. Elliott.

Miss Lois and Mildred Hogue of Sweetwater were holiday guest of Misses Nell and Lucy Tracy.

Mrs. W. H. Orr of Putnam was here during last week visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Lamar.

Dr. C. M. Lindley veterinarian of Abilene was here the first of the week looking into the matter of establishing dates for regular visits to our town in interest of his work.

Miss Eugene Rister left Sunday for Jayton to resume her duties as a school teacher in the schools.

Mrs. Sterling P. Miller visited her sister-in-law Mrs. Jno. Daniels at the home of her parents Judge and Mrs. A. J. Coe in Colorado City.

Mrs. J. W. Daniel was a visitor in Colorado City last week.

George Nicholson, son of State Secretary Nicholson of the Morris Orphans Home in Fort Worth visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Christopher last week.

Ollie Cordill was a social caller in Roscoe Sunday.

Miss Tomie Lou Coggin is visiting Miss Olga Hightower in Sweetwater.

Mrs. Rutledge of Vincent is visiting her sister Mrs. Lula Edwards.

Mrs. J. P. Henderson son and daughter, Thos. and Lottie of Crandall were here visiting Mrs. Lulu Edwards.

Mrs. G. J. Jones and little daughter Ruth are visiting in Farmersville.

Miss Zula Huffaker has returned from a visit with her parents in Greenville.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stevens and Misses Mary and Amy Gunn motored to Stith Sunday.

Miss Una Hall has returned from Waco where she visited homefolks.

Misses May and Ethel White of Abilene were the guest of Mesdames J. W. Wheatley and W. E. Brittan last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Ellis of Abilene visited Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ellis Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Harkrider and children, Mrs. G. C. McDonald of Stamford and Miss Fannie Tippett of Abilene motored to Abilene Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Coggin visited at Noodle Sunday going and coming in their car. Mr. Coggin acting as his own Chauffeur. Mrs. Coggin says never, never again. She doesn't believe in joy rides anyway.

James and John West were here last week visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. G. F. West. The former is attending the University at Austin, the latter being in school at T. C. U. of Fort Worth.

Messrs Ruford and Dukes Mixture Evans of Dallas were here during the holidays visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Evans.

Mrs. Homer Magness of Dallas was here last week visiting Mrs. H. F. Groene and other friends.

Mrs. S. D. Gamble of Weatherford, nee Miss Olga Sheppard of this city returned to Merkel last week for a visit with her father W. A. Sheppard.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Salder are in Gatesville for a months stay with relatives.

Miss Orra Long of Gatesville who for several years was connected with the city schools of this place was here during last week visiting Miss Duncan Browning and other friends.

T. J. Coggins of these parts and Douglas Ariz. returned home last week to spend the holidays with his family.

Holland Teaff who has been attending Baylor University for the past three years returned home during the holidays to be with his parents Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Teaff of route 1.

Jno. T. Morgan was in Dallas last week visiting former Merkel friends and acquaintances. While away he also visited relatives at Arlington.

Miss Olga Hightower of Sweetwater was a guest of Misses Tommie Louise and Gladys Coggin during last week.

Prof. Rogers and wife spent last week in Fort Worth, the guest of friends and relatives.

Miss Lucile Peek was in Sonora during the holidays visiting friends.

Miss Zula Huffaker visited relatives in Greenville during the holidays.

Miss Mattie Murphy who has lately accepted a position in the city schools visited her parents in Abilene during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Daniel spent last week in Colorado City the guest of the latter's parents Judge and Mrs. Coe.

E. Henderson returned home from Coleman last week to spend the holidays with his family. Mr. Henderson is traveling out of Coleman but prefers Merkel to that city as a town for a home.

Thos. Duldey formerly of this place but now of Dallas returned here last week for a short visit with old friends.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mrs. G. C. McDonald of Stamford was here during the holidays visiting her sister Mrs. W. L. Harkrider.

Mrs. Chas. Fryer of Abilene spent the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Rainbolt of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Watson of Waxahachie came in last week to visit the former's sister Mrs. Chas. Roland of route 3.

Thos Smith was in Big Springs last week visiting friends and on business.

Mrs. G. L. McCracken of Marvin was here last week visiting her sister Mrs. C. P. Stevens. During the time Miss Myrtle Cash of Hamlin was also the guest of Mrs. Stevens.

D. O. Huddleston informs us that he is making preparations to leave for New Caney, Texas very soon where he and Mrs. Huddleston will spend the remaining winter months. Mr. Huddleston is cleaning up all the guns he has around the place and from the looks of things is going down East for bear.

Clarence Demere of Panhandle country came in Christmas Eve to spend the holidays with relatives in the Nubia country.

Jim McNeese who has been making his home in Dallas during the past few years, returned to Merkel the first of last week for a short stay with his parents Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McNeese.

Miss Ada Vantrease left Wednesday for Mart to visit her sister Mrs. E. H. Scott.

Mrs. M Bowles spent Wednesday in Abilene.

Mrs. M. A. Day and daughter Nettie of Oran spent the holidays with Mrs. Day's son Mr. G. E. Day of our city.

Miss Mattie Moore is at home from O'Bryant where she has been for the past few months teaching school.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer E. Nesbit and baby Jack spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. Nesbit's sister, Mrs. Carl Evans.

Miss Fannie Anthony left Saturday for her home at Leasebery, Ala., after an extended visit to Mrs. J. S. Blair.

Miss Mattie Moore left Saturday for Abilene to visit Miss Beulah Collins of that city.

You will never know actually how good

LaFrance Flour

Biscuits are until you have tasted them for yourself. They are

- So Crisp
- So Appetizing
- So Good

It's so easy to please him when you use LaFrance Flour

Why not order a sack to-day?

G. F. WEST & SONS

① Company

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.

The MERKEL MAIL

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INCORPORATED
HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Editor and Manager

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

PASSING FADS AND PRESENT FANCIES.

Every person to some extent is in some way addicted to the habit of a foolish fad or fancy even though it may not seem so to them.

One of the latest fads has appeared in our country in a storm. Some people claim it originated many hundreds of years ago but it is seemingly only a fad or foolish fancy. The TANGO the latest of dances has caused wide spread enthusiasm and dissension all over the country but it seems to be increasing instead of losing in favor. It no doubt in time will take a back seat along with the post card craze which gripped the country only a few years ago.

When the post card craze came into existence every person was given the benefit of showing their friends in foreign parts how their town looked on a post card picture and as a result every child in the country is familiar with Brooklyn Bridge, Washington Monument and such other interesting places about the world. To some extent that craze has died out, it is in a way practical, the foolish part of its use is fast growing into oblivion.

Some years before the post card craze struck the country a vehicle in the form of a two wheeled machine was introduced into America from England. There was a large wheel in front and a very small one behind, the rider straddled the large wheel, seated on a small spring seat. When this vehicle came into existence it was a flourishing fad for a person to be able to own a bicycle. Later on the two cylinder self propelled machine was improved upon, the wheels were fitted with rubber tires inflated with air, this improvement popularized the fad in such a way that factories sprung up all over the country and every person who could own a bicycle was looked upon by some with profound interest while some doctors and others denounced the fad as improper, disgusting dangerous upon the average persons health but nevertheless the bicycle has come to stay. It is only used now as a practical mode of travel, mainly by messenger boys in the larger cities.

Now that the TANGO is here and has caused such a stir the question is will it stay like other fads have that have come before it. We can't believe it will for there is no practical side to it. Yet everywhere it is being taught and it is said that in order to dance the TANGO it is necessary to have an instructor who understands the step exactly.

The bicycle was a craze, the post card fad was a craze and this latest fad is undoubtedly the craziest one of them all. What will the next one be and will the TANGO stand the licks and knocks it is meeting up with? We answer. Quien Sabe.

DROUGHTS AND FLOODS COMPARED.

The editor spent a portion of last week in and

around the Dallas country, among the scenes of the recent flood areas. To our way of seeing that country and making a comparison between it and our good land there is very little comparison at all. In that eastern section of the state it is true they get more rain than does the western part of the state. Yes they get a great deal more in fact they have gotten so much rain that lives have been lost in great numbers, farms have been devastated, half gathered crops laid to waste and general destruction done to all the country.

In the beginning their crops were better but to end with they were no better than those of our country where one of the worst droughts we have ever known has visited us. In the beginning of this New Year we are in much better condition than those people in the east think. Our country has the best winter season it has ever known and to all appearances our New Year is going to be the best one this country has ever seen. The hoodo has gone, let's us receive the new year with all the optimism possible.

Eighteen inches of rainfall within the last three months has placed a face on the Merkel country that will not wear off for awhile. Old timers say that our wheat and oats are better than they have ever seen in this if not any other country. And to help the matter along so many of our people believe that way there is more men in the Merkel country growing his small grain now than there ever was before in the history of our town. Moral. Come to Merkel while the coming is good. It will all be taken up before long.

Things promise to keep warm during the next year the same as they have during 1913. The war in Mexico is still in force another battle is expected as soon as two armies of that country accidentally run together. This next year is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party or friend who is going to be in the race for something or other from governor to cotton weigher and as the things stands now there are going to be as many in the race for governor as the average county gets out for all their offices. Times are predicted by managers of finance to be loosening up and the Mail is hoping that their prediction is true.

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

The old year is about to complete its turn on the vast highway of time, and take its place in the tongueless silence of the past. It is an occasion for gratitude that unto all the affairs of men it has brought more of sunshine than of shadow, and to many toilers in the oft discordant realm of business some friendship that will survive and be carried into the untried and unknown future.

The New Year is crowding on with resistless stride and is about to be ushered into varile life amid the glad acclaim of a people who, under just accounting, have more to stimulate ambition more promise to hope and more to reward effort than in any precedent year of national life.

To those who have helped us on the way when it was weary, as well as when prosperity smiled upon the toilsome route, we beg to sincerely convey Compliments of the Season, and to say to all—whether friends or critic—that we shall continue to bear with each other's imperfections and recognize each other's merits; for, as reciprocity in judgments is the foundation of enduring friendships, so is reciprocity in goodly aim and purpose the essential foundation of all business worth while.—Forth Worth Star-Telegram.

Testimonial From High Authority

Mrs. Betty Lyler Wilson
(of Nashville, Tenn.)

Mrs. Wilson of Nashville, Tenn., is famed the world over for her wonderfully delicious cakes. They are shipped to all parts of the Globe for special affairs where the best of Cakes are demanded.

This year, as in former years, Mrs. Wilson enjoys the distinction of making the President's Christmas Cake, using Calumet Baking Powder.

Mrs. Wilson's Baking Motto is: "To have complete success with no failures, care should be used in selection of Baking Powder."

Famous For Her Cakes Recommends

CALUMET BAKING POWDER

Some little time ago I made a careful study and investigation of the baking powder subject and I feel fully repaid. I am firmly convinced from the results I have received that there is no baking powder to equal Calumet for wholesomeness and economy, and I also recommend Calumet Baking Powder for its never failing results.

December 9, 1913.

Mrs. Betty Lyler Wilson.

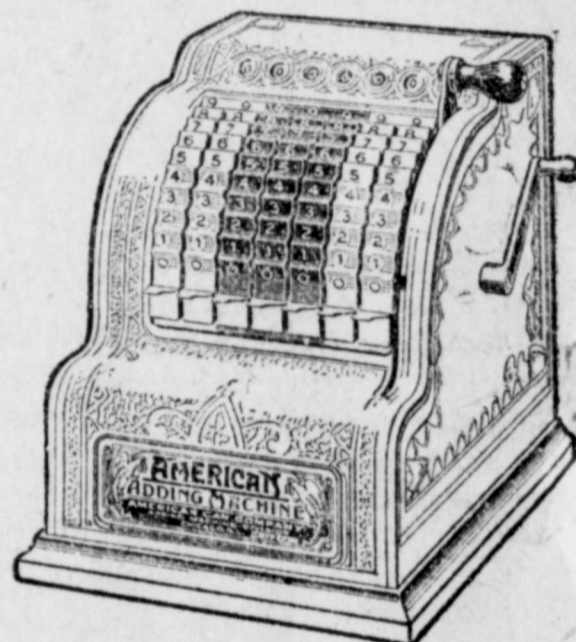
Calumet also received the Highest Awards at the World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago and Paris, France, 1912.

Buy a can of Calumet Baking Powder at once, and use it in your Holiday Bakings, making your Christmas Cakes as good as the President's.

The American Adding Machine

The Latest Adder
Costs But
\$35.00

See Our Exhibit.--
ask for 10 days trial



Here is a new price on a competent Adder—On a machine that is rapid, full-size and infallible.

The very latest machine, built by men who know, in one of the largest metal-working shops.

It is an individual Adder, to be placed on one's desk, close to one's books and papers. To take the place of the central machine requiring skilled operators.

It is also intended for offices and stores where costly machines are a luxury.

The price is due to utter simplicity, and to our enormous output. Seven keys do all the work.

Each copied number is shown up for checking before the addition is made.

The machine will add, subtract and multiply. With very slight practice anyone can compute a hundred figures a minute and the machine never makes mistakes.

Countless offices, large and small, are getting from these machines the highest class of service.

Now we make this offer so that offices everywhere may learn what this machine means to them.

Ten Days' Test

We will gladly place in any office one American adder for a ten days test.

There will be no obligation and charges will be prepaid.

Compare it with any non-lister—even the costliest. Let anyone use it. See if any machine can serve better than this.

Just send us this coupon and we'll send the machine.

Please send us an American Adding machine for ten days free trial.

Name

St. Address

City

State

Manufactured and Guaranteed by
AMERICAN CAN COMPANY, CHICAGO
ANCHOR HARDWARE COMPANY

YOU WANT JOB? a Better JOB?

That question will be asked you almost daily by business men seeking you services, if you qualify—take the Draughon Training—and show ambition to rise.

More BANKERS indorse DRAUGHON'S Colleges than indorse all other business colleges COMBINED. 48 Colleges in 18 States. International reputation.

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

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

Shorthand. Practically all U. S. official court reporters write the System of Shorthand Draughon Colleges teach.

Why? Because they know it is the best.

DRAUGHON'S PRACTICAL BUSINESS COLLEGE

Dallas, Houston, Austin, Galveston, San Antonio, Abilene, Denison, Amarillo, Texarkana, or El Paso, Texas.

WALKED HOME TO HER REWARD

Mrs. Henderson, wife of the late Hon. John B. Henderson, died at the home of her son, Pink Henderson, in Crandall, Texas, Dec. 23rd, 1913. She has gone to join her husband in the home of the good. They had lived happily together for more than fifty years, and only about three years ago he, on whose strong arm she had leaned so long, was released from his severe suffering and went on to wait the coming of his mother and children and their descendants, numbering more than one hundred. If all these follow in the pathway made by mother Henderson and her husband, there will be an unbroken tribe in the land of light.

Having known these good old people so well in earlier days, I do not hesitate to state what I now know to be true in regard to their Christian fortitude. It so occurred that I was called on to hold the funeral, which was held at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary E. Edwards at 2:30 p. m. Dec. 25th. Then we buried her by her husband in the Merkel cemetery.

In 1850 she came as a young bride with her husband to Anderson county from Miss., and bravely faced the Indian hostilities of that early day.

In 1860 they settled on Rush Creek at its head and in what was then the heart of wild Indian haunts. It was necessary to have a group of families close together for protection. From time to time some men were killed and others were wounded. It was here that Mrs. Henderson's brother, Dan Thornton had an arrow shot through his arm by an Indian who made a desperate attempt to kill him, by putting his horse out to full speed and managed to get in home with his life. Mr. Thornton preserved the arrow as a relic.

The settlement on Rush Creek was fifteen years before these savage tribes were driven across the river into the Indian Territory and held back by the Texas Rangers. From here the family moved to Palo Pinto county in 1878 then another move in 1871 landed them on the Bosque south of Stephenville, Erath county where they lived until the children were grown.

Mrs. Henderson leaves one son, seven daughters, forty-eight grandchildren and forty-four great grand children besides many who have married into the family.

The pall bearers were six grand sons, Wesley Edwards, Merkel; Chas. and John H. Edwards, Midland; Oran Edwards, Lonehans; Tom O. Henderson, Crandall, Texas and Chas. Henderson, Big Springs.

It was very impressive to see these fine young men carrying the remains of the one a hundred direct descendants centered on. May these and all other male descendants maintain the gallant statesmanship of John B. Henderson. And likewise may the women all present to the world the type of Christian womanhood that was recognized in the character of the one who upheld his hands for sixty years.

The daughters are Mrs. Mary L. Edwards, Merkel; Mrs. Alice E. Bell, NaraVisa, N. M.; Mrs. E. H. McAllister, Corpus Christi;

A NEW TAILOR SHOP

For the new year we have equipped and arranged a complete and new tailor shop in the rear of the Star Store building. This is done for the convenience of our friends and customers and we are going to serve you with different cleaning and pressing, superior to which you have been accustomed. ALTERATION WORK THAT IS GOARANTEED TO PLEASE

THE STAR STORE TAILOR SHOP

C. L. CASH, MANAGER

Mrs. Susie Rutledge, Howard county, Texas; Mrs. W. A. Yates Lynn county, Texas; Mrs. J. G. Lenox, Huckabay, Texas and Mrs. F. B. Winters, Stephenville, Texas.

The only son is Pink Henderson, Crandall, Texas, at whose home his mother died. And thus a long eventful life comes to a close but the tide of eternal influences will flow on forever. These good old people were Christians virtually all of their life. They have gone to their reward. Their works do follow them. Ed. R. Wallace, Pastor Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Coggin, Mrs. E. M. Rust and daughter, Miss Genevieve, Miss Agnes Hall and Messrs. Dee Grimes and Otti Coggin motored to Abilene in the Coggin car Wednesday evening to attend the Elk's New Year Ball.

Mrs. Sterling P. Miller went down to Abilene Wednesday to visit Mrs. R. W. Mitchell and to attend the Elk's Ball.

Miss Elma Sheppard attended the Elk's New Year Ball in Abilene Wednesday evening.

A number of new books by popular authors have been added to the Merkel Public Library. Be sure and start the new year by getting a membership ticket.

IS IT YOUR KIDNEYS?

Don't Mistake the Cause of Your Troubles. A Merkel Citizen Gives a Valuable Hint.

Many people never suspect their kidneys. If suffering from a lame, weak or aching back they think that it is only a muscular weakness; when urinary trouble sets in they think it will soon correct itself. And so it is with all the other symptoms of kidney disorders. That is where danger often lies. You should realize that these troubles often lead to dropsy or Bright's disease. An effective remedy for weak or diseased kidneys is Doan's Kidney Pills. Read the experience of a resident of Merkel who has tested Doan's.

Mrs. H. D. Wilson, Merkel, Texas, says: "Different ones of my family have used Doan's Kidney Pills with good results. One of us suffered from kidney trouble for a long time and finally he used Doan's Kidney Pills. They cured him. We give Doan's Kidney Pills great praise and recommend them to anyone suffering from kidney trouble."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50c. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States.

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

Seeds, price list free. Book 10 cents giving all the rain periods for 1914, killing of johnson grass and some insect pests, making ensilage without a silo, growing pecans, corn, watermelons, etc. H. A. Halbert, Coleman, Texas.

Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Gaddy are at home from Brenham where they visited their daughter, Mrs. Teague.

Mrs. H. B. Hancock and son Ben left Thursday night for Celena to make their future home.

W. R. Walker attended the Elk's Ball at Abilene Wednesday night.

Mrs. Lee Thurman of Celina has been visiting her mother, Mrs. H. B. Hancock.

Sheriff W. B. Leeman of Fannin county, brother of Mrs. Alice Templeton, passed through Monday en route home from Vernon, Wash., where he went to get an escaped convict.

S. Walker of Wood county is here visiting his daughter, Mrs. Jno. W. Wheatley.

S. A. Walden a former old timer to many of the Merkel people returned to our town yesterday to visit his sister, Mrs. W. F. Stanford of the Blair community.

W. O. W.

Merkel Camp No. 719 meets second and fourth Friday nights of each month.

W. L. Burns, C. C. S. Hamilton, Clerk

Beautiful line new spring gingham at 10 cents. Parten Dry Goods Co.

PARTEN'S STORE MAKING CHANGE

A new and modern front supplemented by an up-to-date and modern interior is the line of improvement being made by the Parten Dry Good Co.

In addition to this change the floor space of the store will be doubled, the well known house will occupy their present position and also the building recently held by the Cash Grocery. The partition of the two buildings will be torn out and the whole of the interior of the two buildings made into one modern and up-to-date dry goods house.

In speaking of the change Mr. Parten said that the work of enlarging the establishment would be pushed as rapidly as possible, but plenty of time would be given to the arrangement of both the interior and exterior in order that the place will not be lacking in any respect. The front will be of solid plate glass consisting of two large show windows of equal size with the entrance being directly in the center of the front and will be set in far enough to give the display windows the best advantages possible. The arrangement of the interior is to be followed with equal care both to the convenience of the customers and the clerks.

\$100 Reward \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer one hundred dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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

Dead Letter List.

The following letters remain in the post office at Merkel, Texas, for the week ending Jan. 3, 1914:

Deans, Mr. John.
Leer, Mrs. A. T.
Clack, Mrs. A. L.
Barnett, Mrs. E. B.
Owen, J. S.

If not called for will be sent to dead letter office Jan. 17, 1914.
H. W. Derstine, P. M.

Late Suits for District Court.

The following new suits have been filed with District Clerk J. Fuller during the past few days: H. N. Hickman et al against A. McDonald et al, foreclosure of lien.

J. M. Wagstaff against J. E. Wills, suit for debt.

W. L. Green against Julius Avant, suit for damages.

George W. P. Coates against J. P. Rye et al, foreclosure.

The Commercial National Bank of Abilene et al against C. A. Lanus, suit for debt.

Rust & McCauley Drug Co., a corporation, against L. Brown, suit on notes and foreclosure.

Ida Barrier vs. Webb Barrier, suit for divorce.

W. W. Graham against Z. T. Ball et al, suit for partition.

OUR NEW STORE

Opposite the post office is receiving new goods almost daily and we especially invite our customers and friends to visit us when in town and examine our goods and get our prices. Our prices are so low any one needing goods in our line can save almost half by buying from us. We quote you a few of our prices:

Mens \$7.50 Rain Coats.....\$4.00
Mens 50c Blue Shirts.....38c
Mens 25c leather tip Canvas Gloves....10c
Mens 35c linen Initial Handkerchiefs...17 1/2c
Mens 25c Assorted Ties.....10c
Mens 50c Silk Ties.....25c
Ladies \$7.25 Rain Coats.....\$3.75
Ladies \$6.00 Skirts.....\$3.75
Ladies \$5.00 Skirts.....\$2.95
Ladies \$3.50 Skirts.....\$1.95

Ladies \$2.75 Silk Waists.....\$1.48
Ladies \$1.75 Waists.....98c
Ladies \$3.50 All Wool Sweaters.....\$1.95
Ladies 35c Gingham Aprons.....20c
Ladies 25c Windsor Ties.....15c
50c Rings.....15c
25c Brooches.....10c
25c Cuff Buttons.....10c
An assortment of Pocket Knives less than wholesale cost. Come in and see us.

These are only a few of the many bargains to be found at our store. You can't afford to miss them. We will continue to pay cash for your produce. Bring us all your produce.

W. P. DUCKETT, PROPRIETOR



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

MISS LANEY ENTERTAINS

On last Saturday evening Miss Mabel Laney and her brother, Homer, entertained at their home in East Merkel. Music and games were enjoyed by Misses Eleanor and Gladys Dancy, Mae and Linnie of Hamlin, Rowena and Eura Allen, Janie Lee Weir, Meriel Christopher, Charley E. Thomas, Mammye and Vida McNeese; Messrs Charley Christopher, Robert Rumbolt, Gaines Weir, Kake Walters, Loring Hamblett, Jno. Hogg of Sweetwater, George Nicholas of Abilene, Misses McNeese and Frank Armstrong. Chocolate and cake were served at a late hour. Everyone reported a nice time.

MRS. BOYD ENTERTAINS

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Boyd charmingly entertained a week-end house party at their home on South Locust Street. Their guests were Misses May Burkett, Mabel Williams, and Gladys Williams. Messrs Seth Williams, Walker Thompson, and Gene Buckett, all of Abilene.

Miss Evelyn Williams entertained the Primary pupils of her music class and their guests Friday afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock with a doll party. Those present were Ruth Holloway, Ona Faye Bland, Mona T. Christopher, Maurine Covy, Mary Parten, Lola Armstrong, Jewell Burns, Lenora May Williams and Miss Ora Long of Greenville.

ENTERTAINS XX CENTURY CLUB

On Saturday afternoon Miss Evelyn Williams charmingly entertained in honor of the members of the XX Century Club. In the Shakespearian contest Miss Orra Long won the souvenir in a cut with Mesdames Adams and Rose. The hostess served a salad course to Mesdames Adams, R. A. Martin, W. Parten, A. C. Rose, Geo. F. West, Otho Williams and H. C. Williams; Misses Maude Jenkins, Agnes Hall, Duncan Browning, Ethel and May White of Abilene, and Orra Long of Greenville. Misses White and Long are honorary members and were guests of honor at this pleasant meeting.

Miss Fannie Burroughs visited Miss Bess Hall in Sweetwater. Captain and Mrs. E. Hall were in Abilene visiting relatives last week. Rev. and Mrs. Y. F. Walker and children of Stith, visited their sister, Mrs. E. Hall. Miss Alta Rowe and mother of Austin, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hamilton. Mrs. F. B. Lawrence of Arlington, is visiting her brother, H. C. Burroughs and family. Henry Jones of Plainview, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff, has returned home.

HONOR MISS HIGHTOWER

Miss Tommie Lou Coggin entertained on Friday evening in honor of her guest Miss Olga Hightower of Sweetwater. She met her guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Daniel on Locust Street. After a number of enjoyable games of Bunco the hostess assisted by Mrs. Jno. Daniel served a salad course to Misses Mattie T. Mana, Fannie Burroughs, Almeda Harris, Mary and Jackie Jennings, Hattie Howard, Oscar Pate, Tally Holloway, Ernest Rogers, Ennis and Emmett Grimes, H. C. Burroughs, Jr., and Bill Sheppard.

Saturday evening a crowd of young people went to the home of Mrs. J. W. Moore's where they enjoyed shooting off fire crackers and other noisy fire works until train time. The personnel of the party included Misses Eulie and Hollis Cypert, Eather Williams, Edna Jones of Sweetwater, Clara Fannye and Mamie Moore; Messrs Doc Jones and Fred Hoppe of Abilene, Ocie Burns, Roscoe Sharp, Tally Holloway and Rotan Cypert.

ADD SOCIETY

Mrs. H. F. Groene served a three-course luncheon Christmas evening in honor of Mrs. S. D. Gamble of Weatherford, and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Magness of Dallas. Covers were laid for the honorees, Miss Elma Sheppard, Ollie Cordill, George Groene and the host and hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Lassiter served a six o'clock dinner Friday evening at their home on South Oak street. Covers were laid for Mr. and Mrs. Gaylon Lassiter of Fulbright, Texas, Misses Fannie Swann, Dollie Teaff and May Lassiter; Messrs Henry Jones of Plainview, Forest Gaither, and the host and hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Russell served a perfectly appointed dinner Christmas Day, in honor of their children and their families. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Russell and children, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Russell and children, Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Russell and little daughter, Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Baker were also dinner guests.

Miss Duncan Browning served a six course dinner Tuesday evening at her home on Austin street, in honor of Miss Orra Long of Greenville. Covers were laid for Misses Orra Long, May White, of Abilene; and Evelyn Williams; Messrs J. W. Briggs, Forest Gaither, Arthur Browning and the hostess.

Mrs. J. C. Calvert and daughters, Misses Eve and Lizzie, and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Martin and daughter, Miss Julia, were in Sweetwater, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Calvert, Christ-

mas day. The family Christmas tree laden with the gifts for all, occupied the time between breakfast and dinner. Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Black and family of Sweetwater, joined the dinner party at the noon hour, when a tempting dinner was served.

CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Britain entertained with a Christmas dinner at their home on Orange street. Their guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Burroughs; Misses Orra Long, of Greenville; Fannie Burroughs, Cecil Halley, of Matador; Messrs John Ralph Adams, of Texarkana; Frank Ferrier, Billy Bob and Charm Burroughs and Evelyn and John Dick Jackson.

Miss Evalyn Williams entertained Tuesday afternoon of last week in honor of her B-Flat Music Club, and their guests. Progressive Hearts afforded the entertainment. A salad course was served at the conclusion of the games, to Misses Josie Smith, Madalyn Adkisson, Genevieve Rust, Carroll Rister, Mary Mayfield, Kate Henderson, Lillie Dean, Amy Gunn, Victoria Wallace, Lucy Tracy, Ava Harris, Eva Backsondale, Julia Martin, Ina May Adams, Vera Jenkins, Velma Dennis, Ruby Cauthon, Tommie Lou Coggin and Gladys Walker.

BIRTHDAY PARTY.

On last Monday evening Sam Swann celebrated his birthday with a party. An interesting contest with games and music were pleasant diversions. A salad course with hot chocolate, was served. In the candle blowing contest Sam Swann blew all but one candle, while Eugene Rister only lacked twenty of getting them all. Bud Sears cut the button. Miss Pet Sears captured the ring. The dime found its way to John West's pocket. Miss Frances Burroughs discovered the thimble (in time to cut it out). Those present were: Misses Pet Sears, Jennie Warren, Frances Burroughs, Jessie Sutphen, Maude Martin, Fannie and Irene Swann; Messrs Bud Sears, Floyd Dean, James and John West, Rufford Evans, Oscar Pate, Ben Merritt and the host.

Miss Fannie Burroughs visited Miss Bess Hall in Sweetwater.

Captain and Mrs. E. Hall were in Abilene visiting relatives last week.

Rev. and Mrs. Y. F. Walker and children of Stith, visited their sister, Mrs. E. Hall.

Miss Alta Rowe and mother of Austin, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Hamilton.

Mrs. F. B. Lawrence of Arlington, is visiting her brother, H. C. Burroughs and family.

Henry Jones of Plainview, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff, has returned home.

Miss Fannie Burroughs visited Miss Clara Will McNatt and Mrs. Lester Ellis in Abilene Friday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Perry have returned to their home at Inkom, after spending the holidays with Mrs. Perry's mother, Mrs. S. F. Annis.

Mrs. Stella Cotton and little daughter of Jacksboro, are visiting Mrs. Carl Evans. They are en route to Fluvana to visit Mrs. Cotton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Nesbit.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter entertained at dinner on Xmas day in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Galen Beal Lassiter of Fulbright, Texas. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Earl Lassiter, Messrs Joseph Holmes, Rudy Grogan, Henry Jones of Plainview, Misses Ruby Dollie, Mary and Dovie Teaff, Francis Swann, Florence Holmes, Masters Roy and Joe Holmes and Castle B. Ellis.

Mr. Joseph Holmes and daughter, Miss Florence, served a turkey dinner Sunday, 28th, to the following: Mr. and Mrs. V. N. Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter, Castle Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lassiter, Mr. and Mrs. Galen Lassiter, Misses Mae and Agnes Lassiter.

Mr. and Mrs. Galen Lassiter who have been visiting the formers parents Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Lassiter and brother Earl Lassiter will leave for their home at Fulbright Friday night.

BLAIR ITEMS

Dec. 30, 1913.—The box supper at Blair Dec. 22nd, for the purpose of obtaining funds to seat the upper story of the school house was a decided success, the proceeds amounted to \$46.89. One cake bid off to the highest bidder for the most popular young lady present was sold for \$20.25, Miss Aitha Chambliss being the winner.

Miss Jessie Williams spent the holidays with home folks in Abilene.

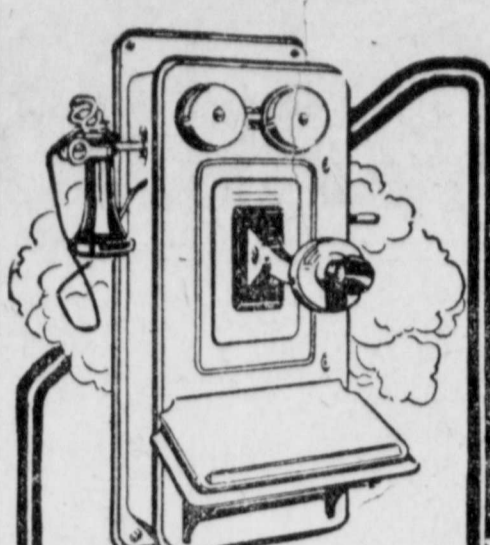
The Blair Sunday school is still growing, there being a very large crowd present Sunday.

George Meeks from May, Texas, visited relatives here last week.

W. L. Buchanan was out on his farm Monday near Blair arranging some needed improvements.

James Dickey from Hopkins county is here visiting relatives and looking for a location.

The young people enjoyed a candy breaking at James Doans, Friday night.



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



Mrs. Jamison of Grand Prairie visited her uncle, W. A. Hall and family, last week.

F. R. Erwin who has been in the west some time came home for the holidays.

Taylor Compton and wife of Abilene visited their sister, Mrs. Miller, last week.

James Mayfield gave a musical entertainment Monday night.

W. L. Buchanan and Roland Goens were guests of a Christmas dinner at the home of W. A. Campbell.

Leslie Powell of Buffalo Gap is visiting his uncle, S. E. Adcock.

H. H. Tittle and family of Merkel were visitors Sunday at the home of Mrs. Eliza Campbell and W. A. Campbell.

COMPÈRE'S ITEMS

This year is about a thing of the past, Christmas passed here very quietly. Compère's Sabbath school gave a Christmas tree for the children Christmas eve. Had a real nice tree and all had a nice time, everyone got a present and there was some called off that the owner was present. Now we say a Happy New Year to the editor and all of your subscribers.

We had a conference. Brother Walker preached a fine sermon. There was a good attendance. He also preached Sunday at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Jno. Henry's mother and sister Mrs. Bradford is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Henry. They are from Correl county.

It has rained too much for some of the grain.

A great many of our neighbors are changing places. Moving will be the order of the day now for a spell.

Mr. and Mrs. Childers have returned home from an extended visit to their daughters out near Colorado.

Our school is progressing nicely. Mr. Burr Shannon is our teacher.

There has been no wedding bells for Compère this Christmas.

As news is scarce I will ring off.

Butman

Dec. 29—Of the several thousand inhabitants of Mulberry Canyon we cannot name a person that has not enjoyed the merriest Christmas of his life during the past week.

A crowd of young people met at the ranch house of Sam Butman Christmas day and from there went to Mount Richburg. They report a good time.

A Christmas tree at the Butman school house was a grand success. Every one present had a jolly good time.

A singing given by Miss Lona Sewell Christmas night was well attended and greatly enjoyed by those present.

Brother Jeff Pritchard, filled his regular appointment at Dora Saturday and Sunday.

The preaching service at Dora Sunday morning was preceded by the wedding of Miss Pearl Perkins and Mr. Jim Cook. Their many friends are wishing them a long, happy and prosperous life.

Johnie Latimer left Sunday for Westbrook where he will visit friends.

L. S. Butman left Monday for Abilene where he will attend school.

WANTED!

Clean Cotton RAGS

AT THE MERKEL MAIL OFFICE

COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vincent Was Unable to Attend to Any of Her Housework.

Pleasant Hill, N. C.—"I suffered for three summers," writes Mrs. Walter Vincent, of this town, "and the third and last time, was my worst.

I had dreadful nervous headaches and prostration, and was scarcely able to walk about. Could not do any of my housework.

I also had dreadful pains in my back and sides and when one of those weak, sinking spells would come on me, I would have to give up and lie down, until it wore off.

I was certainly in a dreadful state of health, when I finally decided to try Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I firmly

believe I would have died if I had taken it.

After I began taking Cardui, I was greatly helped, and all three bottles relieved me entirely.

I fattened up, and grew so much stronger in three months, I felt like another person altogether."

Cardui is purely vegetable and gentle-acting. Its ingredients have a mild, tonic effect, on the womanly constitution.

Cardui makes for increased strength, improves the appetite, tones up the nervous system, and helps to make pale, sallow cheeks, fresh and rosy.

Cardui has helped more than a million weak women, during the past 50 years. It will surely do for you, what it has done for them. Try Cardui today.

Write to: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 64-page book, "Home Treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. J-65

SENATOR Vardaman

Of Mississippi will deliver his famous lecture

"THE IMPENDING CRISIS"

In the New Auditorium of Simmons College, Abilene

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND., AT 8 O'CLOCK

ADMISSION 75 CENTS

(Extra Street Car Service to and from the College.)

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

TRY MAIL "WANT ADS"

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. Burrhl Wheeler of Abilene were here Christmas day visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler.

T. Wiman of Roscoe was here the first of the week on business and visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Wiman.

Gladys Weir of Abilene visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Christopher Christmas week.

Carey Touchstone spent the holidays with his mother Mrs. Alice Touchstone. He returned to his schools at Batson, Texas via Dallas where he visited his sister Mrs. T. A. Harris.

Jno. Ralph Adams of Texarkana, Texas visited his parents Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Adams during the holidays.

Mrs. J. A. Woodard and little son John were week-end guests at the homes of her brothers Will and Cal Hamner at Trent.

Messrs. John, Charles and Brian Edwards of Midland were the guests of their mother, Mrs. Ella Edwards last week.

Chas. Henderson of Big Springs visited Mrs. Lula Edwards last week.

Mrs. Jno. Jackson of Abilene visited the family of Mrs. Lula Edwards last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Sublett were holiday guest of the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Christopher.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bigham are here from Rule visiting the families of W. R. Bigham and R. O. Anderson.

Mrs. Belle Hayes of Big Springs visited Mrs. T. H. Christopher last week.

Miss Elma Sheppard visited in Abilene last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bigham and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Young motored to Abilene Saturday.

Dr. and Mrs. C. M. McCauley and Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Payne of Abilene motored here Sunday.

Rev Saffle of Plainview who formerly made his home at Merkel for several years returned here this week to visit his daughter Mrs. W. J. Largent and to look after some business matters he has in this section of the country.

Dr. E. W. Brown a former ident of our town is here visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. E. Brown and his son Clayton own.

Misses Ida Smith and Maud Illens of Trent spent Saturday with Mrs. T. Collins.

Mrs. M. D. Angus visited Mrs. H. Reed of Abilene last week.

Miss Floy Leeman of Trent visited her sister Mrs. Twyman Illens last week.

Mrs. M. E. Orr has returned to home at Putnam after a few days stay with relatives in this town.

Mrs. C. D. Simson left Monday morning for Winters where she will visit Mrs. Tom Cutchins a few days.

Miss Erline Hester left Monday for Matchitoches, La., after spending the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hester.

Mr. and Mrs. Gayland Lassiter of Amar county came in last week to spend a portion of their Christmas here with the former's parents Mr. and Mrs. Lassiter.

In Memoriam.

Again the death Angel has visited our home and hushed the voice of our son and brother. He was twenty-seven years old the sixteenth of October and was drowned December 5th, 1913. He still made his home with his parents at Merkel, Texas and was loved and cherished by parents brothers and sisters who are left behind to mourn his loss. On this earth Leslie is no more. We gaze wistfully down the path from which he vanished ever blessing heaven for the halo of life that lingers in the life work of his splendid manhood. In whatever rule we measured him he was not found wanting in the light of divine truth, death cannot sever the ties of love formed around our early childhood for as long as memory lives the love we have borne our son and brother will live chastened by the hand of time, but embalmed by the spirit of love and cheer, by the sweetest hopes that beyond the light of and shadows the doubts and fears the pain and tears of this present world; beyond the silent mysteries of the tomb; there awaits him a resurrection and glorious immortality.

But years are moving quickly past,
And time will soon be o'er
Then again we'll join in
Song on that Celestial shore.

Yes when the evening shadows
Gather and our long days work is done,
We shall sing in the unknown country
Out beyond the sitting sun,

Brother Leslie was good as he was true;
None on earth above him;
Pure in thought as Angels are,
To know him was to love him.

The voice that once did cheer our home
Is silent now in death,
A form that once was reeked with pain
Is sweetly now at rest.

Dear parents through all our grief and pain,
We can think of our dear brother again

For disappointment and strife,
And all the griefs of earthy life.

Brother Leslie has changed for bliss untold
For mansions fair and harps of gold.

Let us thank the Angels fair and bright
Our brother lives in perfect joy to-night.

A Good Meat Preserver.

We absolutely guarantee our meat preserver to give absolute satisfaction. It is in bottled form and convenient to handle. Hamblet & Rogers.

Cauthen for Sheriff.

In this week's columns of the Mail appears the name of Geo. M. Cauthen as candidate for sheriff of Taylor county subject to the action of the Democratic primaries of July.

In making the announcement Mr. Cauthen asks that his friends give his claims the careful consideration that they feel they can and to assist him in this race, the first one he has ever made for a county office.

Personally Mr. Cauthen is well known to us. He has made his home in Merkel for 10 years and we can cheerfully recommend him as a true gentleman, worthy of your support and influence. He will make a good officer if elected. His record as Marshall of Merkel during the years of 1906 to 1911 inclusive was of satisfaction and reflects credit to his ability.

Mrs. H. V. Jamison and children of Grand Prairie are spending Christmas with Mrs. Jamison's uncle and family, W. A. Hall.

CLASSIFIED ADS

STENOGRAPHER—Letter writing and special work; charges reasonable. Fannie Moore, at Merkel Mail Office.

LOST—Pair gold rimmed spectacles in aluminum case. Return to Burroughs Drug Store.

LOST—Small baby's plain ring between my home and W. Parten's residence. Finder please return to Mrs. Jno. Hamm.

FOR SALE—Work mules and horses E. D. Coats, Merkel, Texas. - 2tf

FOR SALE—A few choice white wyandotte cockerals. H. M. Rose, Merkel, Texas.

FOR SALE—3 big farm horses, 6, 9 and 11 years old at \$50.00, \$60.00 and \$85.00 respectfully. One farm wagon \$10.00. Real bargains. Speak quick if you want them. Dr. Geo. L. Miller.

League Program

January 4th, 1914.
Subject—Reasons for daily prayer.
Leader—Mattie Christopher.
Song
Reading—Ps. 5: 1-1.
A Spiritual League—B. D. Black.
High Ideals for social and week day life—Miss McNeese.
Instrumental Solo—Bessie Touchstone
The Bible a personal friend—H. C. Williams.
Song
Miscellaneous.
Benediction.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Rates

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

ALWAYS CASH IN ADVANCE

TAYLOR COUNTY CANDIDATES

For Sheriff:
Geo. M. Cauthen
For Commissioner Precinct No. 2.
T. R. Lassiter

For Commissioner.

We are requested to announce the name of T. R. Lassiter to our readers as a candidate for Commissioner of this precinct subject to the coming election.

Mr. Lassiter has been making his home in the Merkel country for the past nine years, coming here from Red River county where his life as a good man and broad thinking practical farmer reflects only the success and reputation he enjoys in Taylor county. He was commissioner for four years in Red River county and has an experience in the work. If consistent we ask that you give the candidacy of Mr. Lassiter the most careful consideration when you go to the voting place.

A TEXAS WONDER.

The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities 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.

Sweetwater Steam Laundry.

I am prepared to call for and deliver your laundry. I am agent for the Sweetwater Steam Laundry. M. B. Bell.

Assist the New Editor.

There are lots of ways to make your home paper be appreciated but the best way is for the people to co-operate with the newspaper men and help them get the news of the community. If there is a friend or relative visiting you make a note of it and hand it or send it to the editor, also if you have a party, dinner social gathering of any kind at your house make a note of the important things and send it to the society editor. We will appreciate any assistance our subscribers will give us in this way for we want to make this a good live local paper and it will be a good advertisement for our town and country.

Senator Vardiman to Speak.

Senator James K. Vardiman of Mississippi will speak at Abilene tonight, Friday, at the new Simmons College auditorium. The following clipping taken from the San Angelo Daily Standard gives an account of his recent lecture there.

"Master of Oratory.—Gov. Vardiman has a remarkable vocabulary and bursts into poetry and pathos with a facile power that impresses memory's tablets. His spontaneous similes and his rapid flights from the humorous to the serious are absorbing and his words are trenchant and yet spoken with such grace that the hearer is carried aloft to the speaker's conclusions and this with a degree of intensity that is magnetic. The speaker does not deliver a cut-and-dried speech, but is so full of his subject that his oration is a consecutive argument with every conclusion logical. He is not bitter. His speech sounds much different than his written words would indicate. He is a master of oratory and he knows his subject from alpha to omega. The applause elicited last night was ample manifestation of the admiration of his hearers. Those who missed the lecture missed a treat."

Standing Reward for Cow Thief.

I will pay any person \$150 for arrest and conviction of any thief or thieves stealing any of my stock branded 3 bar T on left shoulder, marked crop off left ear; U T on left shoulder, marked crop off left ear and under-slope the right. Also will pay \$10.00 for recovery of any stolen stock of mine. This reward stands good all the time.

Ed Dickinson,
Golan, Texas.

Wanted

25 good loans around Merkel in next 90 days.—Come while I have plenty of money.

G. T. McCulloh,
Box 37, Abilene, Texas.

Mogue-Hamilton Improvement.

The Hogue-Hamilton Co., are making extensive arrangements this week in their store on Edwards St. The interior is being rearranged so as to permit a complete line of groceries in connection with their stock of dry goods and gents furnishings.

Jno. Eoff left Saturday for Winters to visit his daughters, Mesdames Reid and Copeland.

J. A. Duckett of Dallas spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Duckett.

Simpson Christopher who has been attending school at Simmons College spent Christmas with home-folks.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

C. E. French of Dallas was here last week visiting his sister Mrs. Geo. Boyce.

Dillard Coggin, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Coggin was unfortunate in enjoying Christmas owing to having received a broken arm while playing leap-frog during the early holidays.

Prof. B. D. Black of the city schools is the proud owner of a gold lapel watch chain, a Xmas gift from the teachers of the schools here.

We pay the highest cash market price for your chickens and fryers. Kent Street Grain & Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Conner of De Leon came in last week to visit the latter's sisters, Mesdames Nan Thompson, Reid and Marlow. Mr. Conner a former resident of this county has disposed of his property at De Leon and is in this section on a prospective tour.

Frank Johnson of Stamford was in Merkel Christmas day visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Johnson.

If you are in need of a prescription filled call on us. It is our specialty. Grimes Drug Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Graves and children of Crosby are visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. Graves of this city.

Miss Alvie Owens of Nugent is the guest of Miss Flossie Cypert.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. McMillen were in Abilene Sunday the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Behrens at a well appointed turkey dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sharp and Miss Elma Sheppard were in Abilene Sunday visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lester Ellis.

Prof. R. E. Burgess of the city schools was in Lubbock during last week visiting his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hendricks and children of Abilene were the guests of Dr. Hendricks and family last week.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Ferguson spent Christmas with their daughters, Mrs. J. T. Farmer and Mrs. Louie Farmer of Ft. Worth.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Cordill are visiting their son J. S. Cordill at Big Springs.

Mrs. R. A. McClain left Friday morning for Big Springs to visit Mrs. Lee Bacon. Before returning she will spend a few days with Mrs. M. Howard at Sweetwater.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Dorsey and children spent the week-end with Mrs. Dorsey's parents Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Jones of Abilene.

R. L. Hogg of Marshall spent Christmas with home-folks.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Bufford spent a few days with their son, Cal Bufford of Abilene last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Dennis of Abilene visited relatives in our city last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Burkhead formerly of this place but now of Gordon, were here the first of the week visiting Jno. B. Bell and family.

Miss Alice Williams of Abilene was the guest of Miss Susie Penn and Mrs. W. R. Walker during the latter part of Christmas week.

Miss Edna Jones of Sweetwater was the guest of Miss Clara Moore Saturday and Sunday.

A. C. ROSE

H. L. PROPST

R. L. BLAND

MERKEL'S NEW STORE

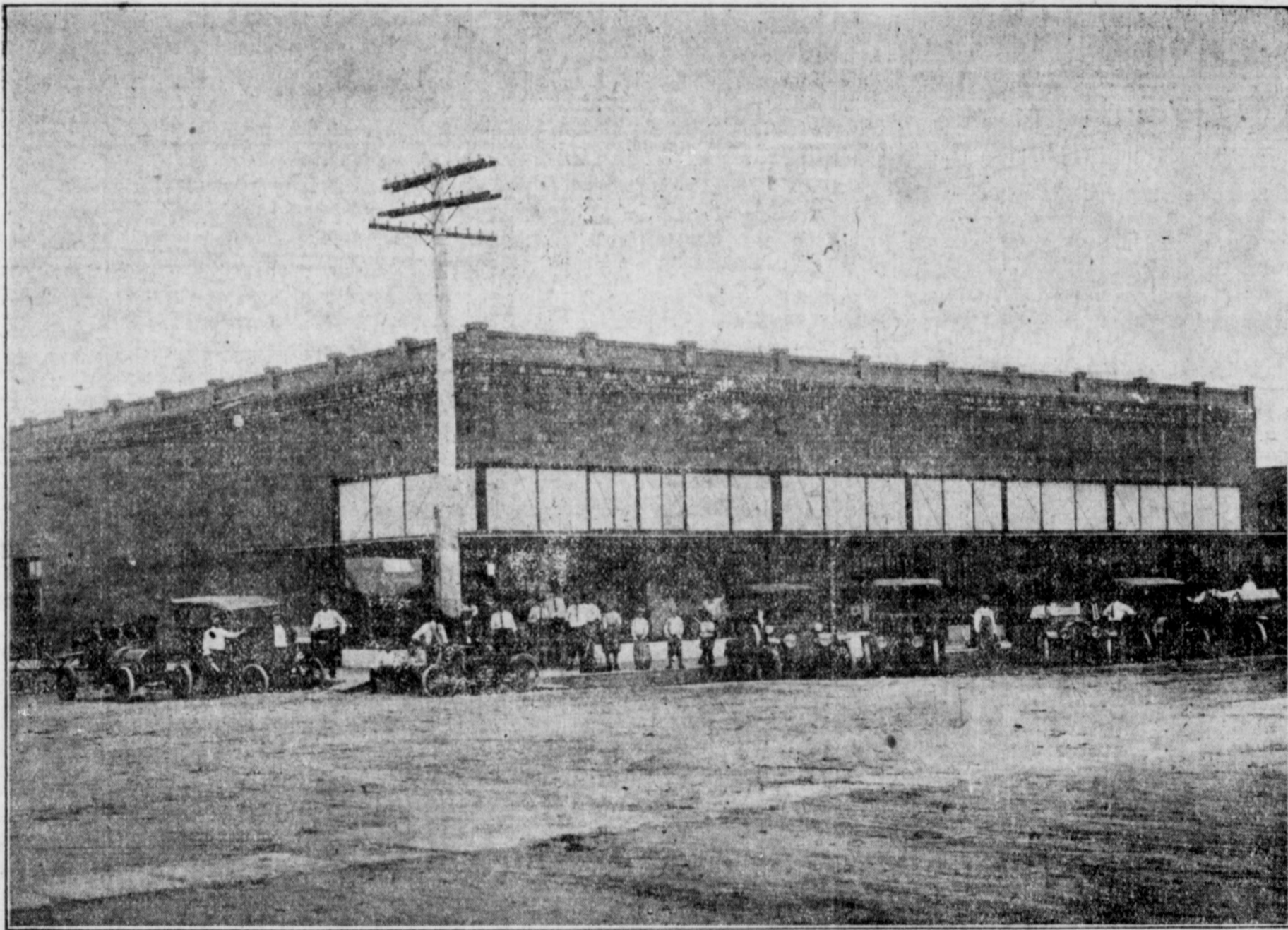
In addition to our hardware business we are now making arrangements to open up an absolutely new line of

DRY GOODS AND GROCERIES

ON OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 1ST., 1914

Our home will then afford one of the most complete lines of General Merchandise ever brought to West Texas. Our stock will consist of the best line of "Trade Marked Goods" the lines you are acquainted with and you know them to be good.

PAY US A VISIT IN OUR NEW QUARTERS



In our Dry Goods Department we have secured the services of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Fitts who are well known to the Merkel trade.

We are in the business to please and respectfully request the continued patronage of our many friends.

In the Grocery Department Messrs. Robert Hicks and Owen Ellis will be pleased to wait on you. They are at your pleasure at all times.

We also extend to the trade of Merkel and the Merkel Country an absolute guarantee of satisfaction in every respect. Arrange with us for your 1914 business we will appreciate same and can offer the highest grade service possible to our customers. Yours for business

Anchor Hardware Co.

Incorporated. \$30,000.00 Capital Stock.