

THE MERKEL MAIL

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8 PAGES



HAPPY NEW YEAR

1915

LEAVE MERKEL IN NEAR FUTURE

R. Walker and family will leave to all Merkel people and others of the well known Walker cottage, Merkel's foremost for the past ten years or more will leave our city soon for their future home at Abilene. Mr. Walker will take charge of the new hotel that is to be erected in that city, the contract for which has already been let. His disposition has yet been decided by Mr. Walker of his hotel but we trust that his success will meet with as great a success as has Mr. Walker during his management of the hotel, getting very much to lose the family, we commend the city of Abilene.

GRIMES CANDLE BY SIX MINUTES

The candle a Grimes Drug Store burned 55 hours, 16 minutes and 58 seconds according to the count and the nearest to the exact burning time was 55 hours 23 minutes and 20 seconds or in about six minutes the correct burning time and was made by Ollie Dye who received an award for his guess of \$20.00 diamond ring offered by the Grimes firm. The next nearest guess to the burning time was made by Evie Garrett who was within eight minutes of being correct. Many others guessed between 50 and 60 hours while others were far from being correct in their assumptions and made guesses varying from 3 seconds to 1335 hours.

S. B. Brandon was a pleasant surprise in our city Wednesday.

Sam Roberts For Marshal

In the announcement columns of the Mail this week appears the name of Sam Roberts as candidate for the office of City Marshal for the coming city election.

Mr. Roberts has lived in our city for a number of years and is a well known and respected resident of our town and if elected to the position to which he aspires would make a good officer. Give his claims due consideration.

Ben Walters For Marshal

We are authorized to announce to our readers this week the candidacy of B A (Ben) Walters who aspires to the position of City Marshal of Merkel subject to the coming city election.

Mr. Walters is well known in Merkel and needs no introduction. He has lived here for years being connected with the Lansy & Walters meat market during most of his residence here and enjoys the esteem of all who know him.

Back With The Mail

Tracy Barlow one of the old timers of the Mail has returned to make his home in Merkel and to start the New Year with us after an absence from Merkel of over two years.

Tracy is well known in Merkel and has a host of friends here who are glad to welcome his return. I remember beginning he played the part of the "devil" in our shop and was constantly devoted his talents to the business until he is now a valuable asset in our plant. During the last two years he has been following his trade in Louisiana and east Texas.

Leaves for New Home.

Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Jones, the former Miss Dollie Teaff of this place left Wednesday for their new ranch home near Lovington, New Mexico. From Merkel Mr. and Mrs. Jones went Carlsbad where they traveled across country to Lov-

PENNIES FOR POOR STOLEN LAST WEEK

Some thief, so low our vocabulary can not do him justice in describing the sin he committed, forced a window at the rear of the Sanders Restaurant Monday night of last week and robbed the place of all money to be found.

Mr. Sanders the proprietor of the place had taken all the cash for his register with the exception of \$1.00 in small change which amount was purloined together with about \$4.00 worth of nickles and dimes in one of the Goodfellow Jars which had rested unharmed in that place for some time. No trace could be found of the guilty party who departed with his loot by the way whence he came.

MEETING TO OPEN SUNDAY FOR WEEK

Rev. W. A. Shultz of Sterling City will begin a meeting at the north side Christian Church Sunday at 11 o'clock and will continue services each day for a week or ten days.

The plans for this meeting have been under management of local members of the Church and those in charge of the meetings welfare look forward to the meet with enthusiasm and extend a New Years invitation to the public to attend the services each day during the time. The first sermon will be delivered at 11 o'clock Sunday morning with another Sunday night.

Among the Merkel people in Abilene Tuesday were Sam Dunning, T. M. Payne, W. F. Fred Guitar, Thos. La Barnes, Claud,

Ring Out The Old, Ring in The New

This is a common expression of signifying the way of kicking father time off the face of our mudane sphere and making room for his newly born royalty. Last year it was out with the "Jinx" Year of 1913 and in with the prosperous new year of 1914. Today it was out with the "Jinx-ity Jinx" 1914 and in with one we hope has more in store for us and peace and prosperity to all the world.

In ringing out the old year of 1914, everything went well and progress of keeping the new year of '14 on her feet was good, until August 1st, when somebody across the pond grabbed the rope and gave the bell clapper a thunderous pull that caused the Monarchs to sit up and take notice and the war dogs to break their chains. The rumbling of that eventful day no doubt was enough to make a "Bull Dog" break his chain and the fight has been going on with increased vigor every day since.

To be exact the world; that part of it we have never seen, has been at war five months and from the way they seem to be going it will at least be five more months before they can get to a place to begin stopping and then the brakes may not work well. Predictions as to what will happen in Europe are purely guess work and we should worry in the smallest possible way about the conditions this world is in and face the new year with sturdy faces and plenty of backbone. The backbone element will be essential and luck being the silent partner to the men with brains, every person should begin today to make hay while the sun shines.

Personally we wish the new year in the end to be one of peace to all the world and prosperity to be the next Christmas gift of every human being. For Merkel town we have in view the hopes of improvements. The Mail has had several articles of late on the possibility of natural gas for our town and we approach and enter the new year with stonger hopes for this wish being fulfilled. Every citizen should cooperate in every movements that is intended for the good of our town and country. Good roads are needed in the Merkel country now more than they have every been in history of our land. The writer is not certain if the time is ripe for a good road movement but sentiment seems strong in favor of better roads. With natural gas for our town and better roads for our country Merkel would be a better town, more centrally located and more accessible to the farmers and others who come here to transact their business from time to time throughout the year.

The Mail hereby contracts and obligates itself to assist in every way in things that are for the betterment of our town so long as they are consistent with the times under which the improvements are started. It is our intention to work for the mutual good of every person. Within the past year our patronage has been creditable in every respect and we have tried to be deserving of this liberality at all times. We enter the New Year with best wishes for prosperity to all our readers and success to all good endeavors.

Respectfully,
The Merkel Mail.

MISS MOORE WINS ONE DAY OFF IN WOODROOF CONTEST 8 YEARS OF WORK

Miss Halley Moore was winner of the Woodroof Prize Trip to San Francisco in 1915 which closed Christmas Eve at 6 o'clock. Miss Lera Daniel was her nearest competitor for the prize and until the last count was made it was impossible to ascertain just who the winner would be, so close were the two leading contestants together in amount of votes cast for them.

The final vote was 853,475 for Miss Moore and 634,280 for Miss Daniel. As a second prize Miss Daniel was awarded a beautiful set of furs by the Woodroof Company. The third young lady in the race was Miss Lulu Cogburn of Nubia. Miss Moore has decided to take the piano offered by the Woodroof Co., instead of the free trip to San Francisco.

T. O. Massey spent the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Massey of Route 1. His sister Miss Massey who is making her home in Abilene with him during the school months was also here during the holidays.

Rev. A. A. Baker was in Abilene.

MOVES MADE IN MERKEL TODAY

If you go to some regular hold-out place today and and the firm has moved in the night do not think strange of it for it is moving day with several firms.

J. T. Dennis will occupy the store two doors south of his old location on Edwards street. The Variety Store heretofore at the place Mr. Dennis takes for this year will move to the building made vacant by Mr. Dennis. The newly installed eating place, Ed's Cafe has taken up new quarters in the brick just west of the Farmers State Bank and the Elite Confectionery takes the building occupied by the Cafe, the first door north of the J. P. Sharp D. G. Co. In the building made vacant by the Elite Confectionery's move will be found a new grocery establishment under the ownership and management of R. A. Martin and W. M. Elliot. Percy Jones, barber has moved his location from east of G. West Co., to the building facing the Burroughs Drug Store to the east. This place was made vacant by the moving of the Sharp Hotel de Hamburger & Chili Con Carne. On front street more moves have taken place. The Walter Clark Grocery will now be found one door west of where they have been located for the past year and in the building east of Mrs. E. M. Rust's Drug Store two firms now are where one firm was before. The barbershop of Messrs Martin & Bell has taken quarters there along with the grocery firm of Mathews & Deavenport.

MERKEL BOY IS AWARDED PRIZE

Eugene Reese age 12, the adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Williamson of Route 2 received information Wednesday morning of this week of being awarded second prize in the H. P. Holland Boy & Girl Hog and Beef Club contest which recently closed.

The competition was open to all boys and girls of the state for the best hogs raised and the best showing made according to grade and economical feeding. The latter clause was probable where the Merkel boy won his laurels and his Christmas present was a check to the amount of \$75.00. Eugene made a record of raising a 312 pound hog at a cost of \$9.20 for feeding which will stand as one of the best made within the state. The moral side of such winnings as this twelve year old boy has made is sufficient proof that the Merkel country is more of a hog country than it is a cotton country. We would suggest that our people plant more hogs next year than they do cotton.

A Christmas Present.

D. and Mrs. Geo. L. Miller had brought in to their lives Christmas Day a glorious present of a baby girl, Clara Louise.

Announcements were sent to many friends of the birth of the little lady the first of the week and congratulations were prompt and numerous.

Children Have Free Show

Small children of Merkel were given a free show at the

1915

The
Farmers State Bank

of Merkel, Texas

takes pleasure in extending the

Season's Greetings

and desires to express its appreciation

of your support and good will

1915

THE
Farmers & Merchants Natl. Bank
OF MERKEL

Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

Member Bank in Regional Reserve System

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

F. Warren C. P. Warren
Henry James Ed. S. Hughes
Ben T. Merritt Thos. Johnson

\$45.50 SPENT BY
GOODFELLOW CLUB

In all \$40.50 was spent for groceries by the Goodfellow Club during Christmas and \$5.00 for children's shoes.

These purchases were distributed among people who needed both clothing and food and coming at the time it did no doubt brought joy into a great many hearts. Along with the groceries sent were candies, apples and oranges for the children with the best wishes for a merry Christmas from the Goodfellows of Merkel, the people who contributed to the charitable work.

ONLY 7,000 MORE
BALES TO 20,000

Thursday morning at 9 o'clock the receipts of the Merkel cotton bales totaled 13,126 bales or just 6,874 bales short of what we predicted for the 14-15 crop.

With continued fair weather such as we have been having since Tuesday of this week the fleecy staple will begin to come in at a fast rate within a very short time.

RAINFALL DURING
PAST TWO YEARS

During the year just closed the rainfall in the Merkel country has been 32.98 inches or 1.53 inches more than in 1913.

The following comparison by months for 1913 and 1914 gives the reader an idea of the abundance of moisture this country has received during the last fifteen months.

Miss Jessie Sutphen of San Angelo has been in the city the past ten days visiting her sister, Mrs. Thos. Large and also the friends of friends.

H. J.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For City Marshal—
BEN WALTERS
SAM ROBERTS
B. C. GAITHER

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

Mrs. Will Hays Dies

Mrs. Will Hays of Route 1 died Thursday morning at the family home after a lingering illness of several months.

We received the report of the death just as we were going to press with our paper this week and were not able to get any details as to the arrangements for the burial services.

The Mail joins the many friends of the family in extending the most sincere sympathy to the bereaved husband and children.

DALLAS NEWS AT
VERY LOW PRICE

Within the last thirty days we have made reductions upon reductions to our subscribers and our efforts have not been in vain. The Merkel Mail list of paid in advance subscribers is greater now than it has every been. There might have been a time when it took a sheriff with a warrant to get your paper stopped that more paper were published every week but that day has passed.

During the holidays of 1913 the price of the Merkel Mail and the Dallas Semi Weekly News was \$1.75. During the holidays of 1914 this price was dropped down to \$1.50 and many new subscribers took advantage of the offer.

We are now going our subscribers one better and for a limited time only we are offering both the Merkel Mail and Dallas Semi-Weekly News for the price of \$1.40, both papers one year. This price however is for new subscribers only to the Dallas News and no renewals will be accepted at that price.

Miss Edith Mackey, a former Merkel young lady, now of Oklahoma, is here spending her holidays with her sister,

New Year Gift.

To all my customers and friends: I certainly appreciate your patronage for the two years I have been in business and wishing everybody a happy and prosperous New Year and hoping you all will continue in buying your groceries from a cash house as you realize that I can save you from 10 per cent to 25 per cent on your goods. I have plenty of Michigan salt at 80 cents. Remember I pay cash and sell for the cash and you don't have to pay someone's account. You get what you pay for and if you will continue to trade with me I will stay with you, as you know if there was not a cash house in town what you would have to pay for groceries.

Remember me and come and see me. Wishing you all a happy New Year. Walter Clark.

New Grocery.

Through the assistance of some of my friends I shall open a first-class Grocery Store south of the Farmers and Merchants Bank early in January, 1915.

Able assisted by William Elliott we shall appreciate a liberal share of your patronage on the plan of honest, good weights and measures for cash.

Bob Martin Grocery Co.
By Bob Martin.

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

Advertised Letters.

Allen, Marshall
Andrews, Essie
Browning, Vera
Cherry, J. H.
Dubose, Mrs. Minnie
Hampton, Neil
Jones, Alice
Jones, Anna
King, Floyd
Marshall, Jas.
Martin, Frank
Miley, George
Miller, Crissie
Seary, Juliana
Stevenson, Nannie
Stribling, Emma
Talford, Morgan
Tucker, Jno. A.
Windham, Otto
Woodson, Ernest
Williams, W. B.

These letters will be sent to the Dead Letter Office January 9, 1915.

H. C. Williams, Postmaster.

Thanks Fireboys.

The Rev. B. D. Dodd was the recipient of a Christmas remembrance from the Merkel Fireboys and he has asked us to thank them in a general way for the token of appreciation they have shown for his services.

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

TEXACO

Foreign Countries Pay Tribute to Texas

From all over the world, from Europe, North Africa, Egypt, Asia Minor, Portuguese East Africa, German East Africa, Zanzibar, West Africa, South Africa, Arabia, India, China, Australia, New Zealand, South America, Central America, Canada and the West Indies, buyers of oil pay tribute to oil products manufactured in Texas by The Texas Company.

This foreign trade and the trade with other States in the Union keeps the three refineries, the pipe lines, the distributing stations, barrel, box and can factories, machine shops and other properties of The Texas Company going, and employs Texas labor, buys material and supplies from Texas factories and stores, and pays enormous Texas taxes.

By far the greater part of the trade of The Texas Company is in the foreign field and in the other States of the Union.

The larger part of the money secured from these sources is spent right in Texas. The amount of oil which Texas uses is only a very small part of the amount required each year to pay the thousands of workers employed in the refineries and factories of the Company. It would do little towards paying for the materials and supplies bought by The Texas Company in Texas.

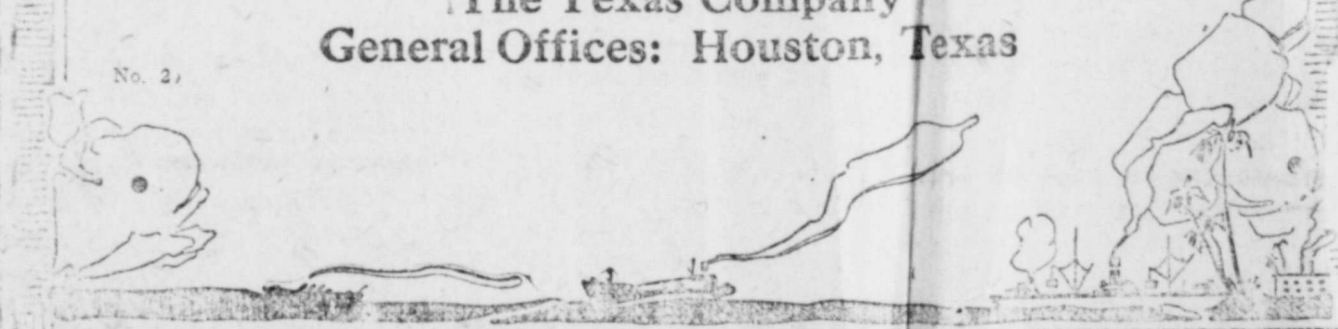
It is the money which comes steadily, in rapidly-increasing volume, from all over the world which maintains these enormous properties and pays the thousands of workers.

Quality of goods manufactured and added value in the service given have enabled The Texas Company to build up this world tribute to Texas oil products and manufactures.

This quality and this service are at your door, in your own town there is an agent of The Texas Company ready to serve you.

Order from him—the goods will please you.

The Texas Company
General Offices: Houston, Texas



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

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio. Sold by druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation. adv

How To Give Quinine To Children.
FERBRILINE is the trade-mark name given to an improved Quinine. It is a Tasteless Syrup, pleasant to take and does not disturb the stomach. Children take it and never know it is Quinine. Also especially adapted to adults who cannot take ordinary Quinine. Does not nauseate nor cause nervousness nor ringing in the head. Try it the next time you need Quinine for any purpose. Ask for 2-ounce original package. The name FERBRILINE is blown in bottle. 25 cents.

Cotton To Pick
Near schoolhouse on south side
See S. F. Haynes.

See S. F. Haynes.
His New Life Pills
the world.

Don't Miss It!

Next Episode No. 7

OF
THE
MILLION
DOLLAR
MYSTERY

Thanhouser's Million Dollar Motion Picture Product

"The Doom of The Auto Bandits"
at the
ROYAL THEATRE
Tuesday afternoon and evening
Next week



Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic,
GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC, drives out
Malaria, enriches the blood, builds up the system,
A true Tonic. For adults and children, 50c.

Only One "BROMO QUININE"
To get the genuine, call for full name, LAXA,
FIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature
H. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in One Day, stops
cough and headache, and works off cold.



Start The New Year Right

Make a Good Resolution to Buy All Your GROCERIES of TURNER'S SANITARY GROCERY and note the additional quality you get and the money you save.

SPECIAL ONE WEEK:

9 Pounds Good Bulk Coffee \$1.00
8 Pounds Good Package Coffee 1.00

SO-PHONE-SO

DON'T FORGET THE PLACE

TURNER'S SANITARY GROCERY

:: Merkel's Model Store

The
Parten Dry Goods Company
extends to its many
Customers
The Season's Greetings
with
Best Wishes
for success to you in your
many endeavors

A Happy New Year To All

Is the wish of the Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.
We desire to express our appreciation for your patronage during the past year.

Behrens McMillen Co.
Track

Have you a Telephone connected to the Bell System?
Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.



Almost Like a Face-to-Face Chat

Mr. Jones had gone to a distant city on business to be away for several days, and had left his wife on the farm with no companion, except a small child.

But she was not lonesome, for each day her husband called up for a few minutes' chat by Long Distance Bell Telephone.

Have you a Telephone connected to the Bell System?

Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Try Bass 3363 for your colds.
WANTED — A few setting hens. Small hens preferred. H. M. Rose.

W. W. Wheeler made a business trip to Sweetwater Monday, returning to Merkel Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Eli Case returned Tuesday from east Texas where visited relatives during the holidays.

Mrs. Ed. Young and little daughter of Lampasas are here visiting Mrs. Young's parents Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Bigham.

Mrs. J. T. Warren visited her brother Albert Boothe and family of Hawley the past week.

Miss Sophie Howard is visiting her sister Mrs. Rufus Grisham of Haskell this week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Middleton of Nabors spent Christmas with the latter's father J. T. Howard.

Jack Walker who is attending Simmons College spent Christmas with his parents Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Walker.

Miss Maud Ferguson who is teaching school at Noodle spent Christmas with her parents Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Ferguson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben O. Schmidt of Abilene spent Sunday with the latter's parents Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Payne.

Miss Eather Williams and brother Charlie returned to Abilene Monday to enter Christian College again after having spent the holidays at home with their parents Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Williams.

Mrs. G. C. Smith of Stith left Monday for Abilene to visit her grandfather W. D. McDonald.

Mrs. C. V. Martin of Putnam returned to her home Monday after a short holiday visit with her father W. A. Thornton of Route 4.

Mrs. J. I. Gilliland of Fort Worth was among the Merkel visitors during the holidays. Mrs. Gilliland came here to visit her parents Judge and Mrs. C. D. Mims.

Miss Maggie Wheeler left Monday night for Benjamin where she has accepted a position as teacher in the public schools of that city. She was to enter upon her duties there Tuesday morning.

Dr. O. F. McMaster was in Abilene Monday attending the county Board of Education. Before leaving here Dr. McMaster stated the nature of the meeting was to consider a revision of grades for some of the rural schools and a better grading system for their work in order that the rural district could be affiliated in their work with that of the city schools.

Fever Sores.

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for this purpose. It is also most excellent for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by all dealers. adv

Only One "BROMO QUININE"

To get the genuine, call for full name, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature of E. W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in One Day. Stops cough and headache, and works off cold. 25c.



For Rent: Good four room house. See S. F. Haynes.

For Sale- Some good young horses and good work mule. See me at once. E. D. Coats.

STRAYED- Friday, December 11th, from Trent, brown horse mule four months old. No mark. Fresh roached. Finder notify D. E. Tedford, Trent, Texas. 3tpd

WANTED—A few setting hens. Small hens preferred. H. M. Rose.

Cough Medicine for Children.

Never give a child a cough medicine that contains opium in any form. When opium is given other and more serious diseases may follow. Long experience has demonstrated that there is no better or safer medicine for coughs, colds and croup in children than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is equally valuable for adults. Try it. It contains no opium or other harmful drug. For sale by all dealers. adv

Miss Bertie Diltz of Van Horn visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz.

Mrs. W. H. Dickson visited Mrs. John Sayles in Abilene the past week.

Miss Elva Payne visited friends in San Angelo during the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Diltz of Sylvester visited Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Compton and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz.

Miss Zula Huffaker spent the holidays with relatives in Greenville.

Mack Welch of Dublin was here during the holidays visiting his sister Mrs. Ben T. Merritt.

Judge and Mrs. N. D. Cobb were at Hearne during the holiday visiting the formers mother.

Mrs. W. L. Harkrider left for Abilene Wednesday to visit her sister Mrs. W. L. McDonald and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Payne of Abilene visited the formers parents Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Payne the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. O'Mally of Abilene were here Tuesday and Wednesday visiting the family of R. O. Anderaad.

C. W. Harris of Corona, Cal., formerly of this city returned here Wednesday morning to visit relatives and old friends for a short time.

Owen Edwards of Midland returned to his home Wednesday after spending the holidays with his mother Mrs. West Edwards and brother Wesley Edwards.

J. D. Brandon of Chillicothe is visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Brandon of Dora this week. Mr. Brandon while in our city had the paper sent to him at Chillicothe for the coming year.

Excellent for Stomach Trouble.

"Chamberlain's Tablets are just fine for stomach trouble," writes Mrs. G. C. Dunn, Arnold, Pa. "I was bothered with this complaint for some time and frequently had bilious attacks. Chamberlain's Tablets afforded me great relief from the first, and since taking one bottle of them I feel like a different person." For sale by all dealers. adv

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

WANTED — A few setting hens. Small hens preferred. H. M. Rose.

Miss Ruby Payne is visiting friends in Fort Worth.

B. Ferguson of Pottsville is here visiting his brother T. G. Ferguson and family.

Your druggist pays your money back if you are not satisfied with Bass 3363.

Miss Ola Bryson is visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bryson of Noodle.

Mr. and Mrs. Jud Shepherd were in Abilene the past week with Mr. and Mrs. James McMahon.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Leighty spent the holidays with their daughter, Mrs. Jack Parrimore of Aspermont.

Miss Laura Winters spent the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Sam Winters of Hawley.

Mrs. W. T. Ayers and daughters left for Tye Thursday to visit the formers mother Mrs. J. G. Askins for a short time.

The liver loses its activity at times and needs help. HERBINF is an effective liver stimulant. It also purifies the bowels, strengthens digestion and restores strength, vigor and cheerful spirits. Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs. adv

W. B. Alsobrook of Rising Star was here Wednesday looking after business matters and shaking hands with old friends.

Hon. J. F. Cunningham of Abilene was a visitor in our city Wednesday afternoon.

Miss Susi Creath of Abilene is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Haden Turner.

Choice White Wyandotte cockerels \$1 each, as long as they last. First come first served. H. M. Rose. 2t

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Ely of Mineola left Wednesday for their home after a visit here with the formers parents Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Ely of Noodle.

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

Miss Elizabeth Swifford left Saturday for the Denton Normal enroute she will visit her brother Luther Swafford and family of Dallas.

Julian Boney returned to Merkel from north Texas to spend the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Boney and to visit the many friends he has in the Merkel country.

Dangers of a Cold.

Do you know that of all the minor ailments colds are by far the most dangerous? It is not the colds themselves that you need to fear, but the serious diseases they so often lead to. For that reason every cold should be gotten rid of with the least possible delay. To accomplish this you will find Chamberlain's Cough Remedy of great help to you. It loosens a cold, relieves the lungs, aids expectoration and enables the system to throw off the cold. For sale by all dealers. adv

OUR AUSTIN WEEKLY LETTER
R. B. Humphrey.

I have promised the editor of this paper an occasional letter on matters of public interest in the capitol city, particularly while the legislature is in session, and may as well explain now that the letters are written wholly upon my own responsibility and without any financial compensation whatever. This statement is made because "special correspondence" from Austin is generally financed by some special interest with the hidden purpose of influencing public sentiment for or against certain public measures, and it is desired that no such suspicion attach to the origin of these communications.

The Thirty-fourth legislature convenes at noon Tuesday, January 15, and on Tuesday of the following week Mr. Ferguson is inaugurated governor. Always a keen interest, statewide in nature, attaches to these biennial ceremonies, and this year no apprehension is felt that the public attention will slacken. Particularly is it believed the new governor will remain in the center of the limelight; that his meteoric career has just begun. In January, 1914, he was unknown in the State's politics; in January, 1915, he is the State's chief executive officer. Who, before him, could show such a record? It is one of those things that serve to remind us of the everlasting democracy of our racial life. If a boy beginning life with nothing but his bare hands can at the age of forty-four be governor of the greatest State in the Union, no other boy now or in the future need feel that anything is impossible for him to achieve. The new governor is bright, young, hearty and entirely a good fellow. * * * "Breathes there the man with soul so dead" * * * as not to wish him success?

On the day of the governor's inauguration the heads of the various departments are sworn in, the only new ones this year being Commissioner of Agriculture, Davis, and Comptroller Terrell. Davis is a recent arrival, while Terrell has been a familiar figure for fifteen years. Also, on the same date the new Lieutenant-Governor, W. P. Hobby of Beaumont, takes the oath of office. Like Mr. Ferguson, he is untried in public office, but is regarded as a very capable man.

In legislative circles chief interest centers in the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives. Indeed, the whole political arena holds no more animated contest than this, though but little is said of it in the public prints. The race during recent years has been conducted on a high plane and has been singularly free from charges or suspicions of corruption or fraud. The recent tendency is to choose a candidate for his personal fitness rather than because of his political views, and this tendency certainly makes for efficient service, though the political leaders criticize such action, because it lessens their power to dictate and to control the office. Relatively a Speaker of the House has vastly more power than the judge of any court, and for obvious reasons of public welfare he should be a man of fair mind and even judgment rather than a radical partisan.

Referring directly to the race now on, Williams of Waco, Savage of Belton and Woods of Rotan seem to be the leading candidates, though there is mysterious talk of a "dark horse" tied behind the barn and ready to enter should the exigencies of a critical moment seem to demand the services of a speedy steed of sable hue. Each of the three named is a clean, strong man; either would make a good speaker. To weigh the candidacy of either would be to invite trouble, but the assertion is ventured that neither can win until

A New Year's Greeting

We extend to each and every customer our sincere thanks for the liberal patronage of the past

and we hope to merit a continuance of your support by honest dealings and liberal treatment.

We wish you much happiness and abundant prosperity for the coming year.

G. F. West Company

The Most of The Best
At Prices No Higher Than The Rest.
HARDWARE, GROCERIES AND GRAIN

one withdraws. Each holds a balance of power; each thinks he can be elected and protests the prohibition question has nothing to do with the race. Williams and Savage are both antis who voted for Sam Rayburn, a pro, for Speaker of the 32nd; Woods is an anti who voted for Ceester Terrell, an anti, for Speaker of the 33rd. Each has had previous legislative experience. Woods is a native Texan, 39 years old and a lawyer. Savage is an editor, 53 years old, has been in Texas forty years and is a native of England, hence ineligible for the Presidency. Williams is a lawyer and a native Texan; being a bachelor, his age is not known—supposed to be about sixty. Among recent developments should be chronicled the withdrawal of three other candidates, namely, Hill of Huntsville, Nichols of Greenville and Lewelling of Dallas, all strong members and all pronounced prohibitionists. The two first named announced they would support Williams and the latter declared for Woods.

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.

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic is equally valuable as a General Tonic because it contains the well known tonic properties of QUININE and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents.

Any Doctor

will tell you a fellow's constitution won't last forever—and in these strenuous times it needs a good overhauling occasionally.

Mineral Wells

is the "HUMAN REPAIR SHOP." Two or three weeks there will make you look and feel like new.



Offers Excursion Rates Daily Better Go Before Its Too Late Ask The Ticket Agent

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DALLAS, TEXAS

Jack Johnson to Fight Willard.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—It was announced here today that the championship fight for the heavy weight belt will be staged between Jack Johnson, the present holder, and Jess Willard, an aspirant to the title. The fight will take place at Jaurez, Mex., March 17th.

It was announced today that all contracts had been closed for the match between the negro and Willard.

G. D. Harris and family who have made their home at Lakeview in the panhandle country for some time have returned to Merkel Route 4 to make their home with the satisfaction of knowing there is no other place to live in like the Merkel country.

W. A. Philips and T. P. Arnold of Shiloh were in town Tuesday on their way to Abilene to look after business matters.

YOU CAN HAVE A WEALTH OF BEAUTIFUL HAIR

Nothing equals an aureole of beautiful hair as a frame for a pretty face. Without a background of nice hair a really pretty face frequently becomes plain and, with it, unattractive features assume life and beauty. Every woman can increase her natural charm by using Newbro's Herpicide. Herpicide makes hair beautiful. The dandruff germ saps the vitality of the hair. Herpicide applied intelligently and regularly checks this destruction of hair life and prevents the hair from falling out, giving it a snap and luster, a soft, silky fluffiness which can be acquired in no other way. Newbro's Herpicide in 50c and \$1.00 sizes is guaranteed to do all that is claimed. If you are not satisfied your money will be refunded. Applications may be obtained at the best barber shops and hair dressing parlors.

H. C. BURROUGHS.

THAT COLD YOU HAVE

may bring sickness, doctors' bills and loss of work; you know that serious sickness usually starts with a cold, and a cold only exists where weakness exists. Remember that.

Overcome the weakness and nature cures the cold—that is the law of reason. Carefully avoid drugged pills, syrups or stimulants; they are only props and braces and whips.

It is the pure medicinal nourishment in Scott's Emulsion that quickly enriches the blood, strengthens the lungs and helps heal the air passages.

And mark this well—Scott's Emulsion generates body-heat as protection against winter sickness. Get Scott's at your drug store to-day. It always strengthens and builds up.

BIG SURPRISE TO MANY IN THIS TOWN

Local people are surprised at the QUICK results received from simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-ka, the German remedy which became famous by curing appendicitis. This simple remedy draws off such a surprising amount of old foul matter from the body that A SINGLE DOSE relieves sour stomach, gas on the stomach and constipation INSTANTLY. It is the best remedy we have ever sold.

H. C. BURROUGHS, Druggist

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out Malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c

Waiting for the New Year



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 hadn't 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-6

Have You Poultry Troubles?

Cure the liver and you cure the bird. Nearly all poultry troubles are due to a disordered liver. Thousands of poultry raisers who use it all year round to keep their flocks in good health, highly recommend

Bee Dee STOCK & POULTRY MEDICINE

It's a Liver Medicine. Also a Strengthening Tonic.

Bee Dee STOCK & POULTRY MEDICINE is a splendid cure for liver trouble, roup and chicken cholera. Given regularly with the feed, in small doses, it also makes an excellent tonic.

F. J. Stowe, Purcell, Okla.

25c, 50c and \$1. per can. At your dealer's. P. B. 5

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