

IL

R. Walker and family well in to all Merkel people ad ers of the well known Wakttage, Merkel's foremost lo for the past ten years er will leave our city soon it

future home at Abilene reMr. Walker will take charge new hotel that is to be erectthat city, the contract h has already been let.

disposition has yet bee e by Mr. Walker of his hote but we trust that his succes will meet with as great a su as has Mr. Walker during nanagement of the hostelry fetting very much to lose the A family, we commend then st highly to the citizenship city of Abilene.

and 58 seconds according t ver two years red by the Grimes firm.

t burning time was made by uisiana and east Texas. evie Garrett who was within ght minutes of being correct. ad 60 hours while others were ter nee Miss Dollie Teaff of another Sunday night. ar from being correct in their s place left Wednesday for sumptions and made guesses ir new ranch home near Lovarying from 3 seconds to 1335 con, New Mexico.

Wadnesday.

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 Marsubject for the coming city elect-

Mr. Roberts has lived in our city for a number of years and is a well known and respected residentof 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 Marshall

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 Laney & Walters meat market during mest of his residence here and enjoys the esteem of all who know him

Back With The Mail

Tracy Barlow one of the old mers of the Mail has returned make his home in Merkel and candle a Grimes Drugo start the New Year with us

s 55 hours 23 minutes and 20 e glad to welcome his return I or ten days.

Leaves for New Home.

es went Carlsbad where they Fred Guitar, Thos. La 8. S. Brandon was a pleasant eled across country to Lov- Barnes, Claud,

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 Resturant Monday night of last week and robbed the place of all money to be

Mr. Sanders the proprietor of the place had taken all the cash for his register with the exception of \$100 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

Rev. W. A. Shultz of Sterling for them. e burned 55 hours, 16 min fter an absence from Merkel of City will begin a meeting at the

he correct burning time and the "devil" in our shop and have been under management of the race was Miss Lulu Cogburn of sickness to himself or in his s made by Ollie Dye who re-as constantly devoted his tal- local members of the Church of Nubia. Miss Moore has decid- family. Mr. Wilson is one of the ved as an award for his guess to the business until he is and those in charge of the meet ed to take the piano offered by hale and hearty kind of men who \$20.00 diamond ring of- wa valuable asset in our plant ings wellfare look forward to the the Woodroof Co., instead of the reach old age and yet do not grow tring the last two years he has meet with enthusiasm and ex- free trip to San Francisco. e next nearest guess to the en following his trade in tend a New Years invitation to the public to attend the services | T.O. Massey spent the holieach day during the time. The days with his parents Mr. and first sermon will be delivered at Mrs. W. B. Massey of Route 1. Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Counts left lany others guessed between 50 Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Jones, the 110'clock Sunday morning with His sister Miss Massey who is Tuesday for Ringold to spend

> Abilene Tuesday were Sam Dun- daysrom Merkel Mr. and Mrs. ning, T. M. Payne, W.F.

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

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

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

impossible to ascertain just who of Abilene. the winner would be, so close "Dad Wilson as he is popularwere the two leading contestants ly known has been one of the together in amount of votes cast most reliable transfer and dray-

north side Christian Church Sun- Miss Moore and 634,280 for Miss Tuesday morning, he had taken count and the neares Tracy is well known in Merkel day at 110 clock and will contin- Daniel. As a second prize Miss only one day vacation within the ts to the exact burning timend has a host of friens here who ue services each day for a week Daniel was awarded a beautiful last eight years. He had been set of furs by the Woodroof Com- absent from his work however nds or in about six minutes e beginning he played the part The plans for this meeting pany. The third young lady in but it was always on the account

Rev. A. A. Baker was in Abi- ing to their plans they

Miss Halley Moore was winner \ With only one day vacation in of the Woodroof Prize Trip to eight years time is a remarkable San Francisco in 1915 which record but one that H. S. (Dad) closed Christmas Eve at 6 o'clock. Wilson had made up to the time Miss Lera Daniel was her nearest of leaving Merkel Tuesday morncompetitor for the prize and until ing to spend a short visit with the last count was made it was his daughter Mrs. T. P. Williams

men Merkel has ever had and ac-The final vote was 853,475 for cording to his own statement old. He has seen service in our wars and carries scars to prove his service and loyalty to the little lady the first of the week

making her home in Abilene with Christmas with their daughter him during the school months Mrs. Claude Gass. After an ex-Among the Merkel people in was also here during the holi- tended stay at that city they go to El Paso where they visit other relatives and

MOVES MADE IN MERKEL TODAY

Is you go to some regular holdout 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 newely 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. Ellio' Percy Jones, barber has move his location from east of G. West Co., to the building Vic ing the Burroughs Drug Sto 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 barbey shop of Messrs Martin & Bell has taken quarters there along with the grocery firm of Mathews & Deavenport.

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 gra and economical feeding. The la ter clause was probable where the Merkel boy won his laurelsand 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 totheir lives Christmas Day a glorious present of a baby girl, Clara Louise.

Announcements were sent to many friends of the birth of the and congratulations were prompt and numerous.

> Children Have Free Show of Merkel w

Small ch at the 1915

Farmers State Bank

of Merkel, Jeras

takes pleasure in extending the Season's Greetings

and desires to express its appreciation

of your support and good will

TEXACO.

1915

THE

Farmers & Merchants Natl. Bank

Capital and Surplus \$50,000.00

Member Bank in Regional Reserve System

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1'. Warren Henry James Ben T. Merritt

C. P. Warren Ed. S. Hughes

Thos. Johnson

\$45.50 SPENT BY GOODFELLOW GLIIR

groceries by the Goodfellow Club It heals the lungs and diets irritation. during Christmas and \$5 00 for Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 Sold by H. C. 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

Thursday morning at 9 o'clock e receipts of the Merkel cotton ards totaled 13,126 bales or just 6 874 bales short of what we predicted for the 14.15 crop

such as we have been having our efforts have not been in vainsince Tuesday of this week the The Merkel Mail list of paid in fleecy staple will begin to come in at a fast rate within a very short time.

PAST TWO YEARS

During the year just closed the inches more than in 1913

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

*s. Thos. Large * and also the at that price. t of friends

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

A good remedy for a bad cough is In all \$40 50 was spent for BALLARD'S HOREHOVND SYRUP.

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 Joints that ache, muscles that are the burial services.

The Mail joins the many friends of the family in extending the reaved husband and children.

BALES TO 20,000 DALLAS NEWS AT

Within the last thirty days we have made reductions upon re-With continued fair weather ductions to our subscribers and 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

During the holidays of 1913 the price of the Merkel Mail and the Dallas Semi Weekly News was the rainfall in the Merkel coun- \$1.75 During the holidays of to \$1.50 and many new subscrib- 9, 1915.

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 brance from the Merkel Fireboys \$1.40, both papers one year. This Miss Jessie Sutphen of San price however is for new sub-Angelo has been in the city the scribers only to the Dallas News past ten days visiting her sister, and no renewals will be accepted shown for his services.

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 Walter Clark. New Year.

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.

Ably 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.

drawn or contracted should be treated with BALLARD'S SNOW LINIMENT. It penetrates to the spot where it is needed and relieve suffering. Price most sincere sympathy to the be- 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 try has been 32.98 inches or 1.53 1914 this price was dropped down the Dead Letter Office January for any case of deafness (caused by

H. C. Williams, Postmaster.

Thanks Fireboys.

The Rev. B. D. Dodd was the recipient of a Christmas rememand he has asked us to thank

Heartburn, indigestion or distress of Miss Edith Mackey, a former the stomach is instantly relieved by Merkel young lady, now of HERBINE. It forces the badly de-Okla., is here spend- gested food out of the body and re-stores tone in the stomach and bowels. holidays with her sister, Price 50c. Sold by H. C. Burroughs.

Foreign Countries Pay Tribute to Texas

From all over the world, from Europe, North Afria, 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 snops 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 or 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

We will give One Hundred Dollars catarrhl 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 consti-

How To Give Quinine To Children. PEBRILINE is the trade-mark name given to an and he has asked us to thank them in a general way for the token of appreciation they have shown for his services.

Hearthurn indigestion or distress of

Cotton To Pick

Near schoolhouse on south side See S. F. Haynes.

> I's New Life Pills the world.



Don't Miss It! Next Episode No. 7



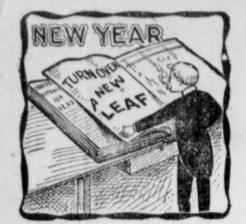
ROYAL THEATRE

Tuesday afternoon and evening Next week



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

Only One "BROMO QUININE"



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:

SO-PHONE-80

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

DON'T FORGET THE PLACE

Merkel's Model Store

TURNER'S SANITARY GROCERY

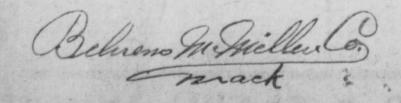
The Parten Dry Goods Company extends to its many Customers The Season's Greetings with

Best Wishes for success to you in your many endeavors

A Happy New Year

Is the wish of the Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company.

We desire to express our appreciation for your patronage during the past year.





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 holi-

daughter of Lampasas are here visiting Mrs. Young's parents Mr. and Mrs. W.R. B.gham.

Mrs. Ed. Young and little

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 latters father J.T. Howard.

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

Miss Maud Fer uson 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 parents Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Wil- ville.

Monday for Abilene to visit her his sister Mrs. Ben T. Merritt. grandfather W.D. McDonald.

Mrs. C.V. Martin of Putnam re turned to her home Monday after day visiting the formers mother. a short holiday visit with her father W. A. Thornton of Route 4

Mrs. JI. 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. Mime.

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.

ty Board of Education. Before short time. leaving here Dr. McMaster stated the nature of the meeting was to consider a revision of grades for better grading system for their work in order that the rural district could be sfillated in their work with that of the city schools.

Fever Sores.

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 excelleat for chapped hands, sore nipples, sale by all dealers. adv

Only One "BROMO QUININE"



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, Tex-

WANTED-Afew setting hens. Small hens preferred. H. M.

Cough Medicine for Children.

Never give a child a cough medicine that contains opium in any form. When han. 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 daughter, Mrs. Jack Parrimore of and croup in children than Chamber- Aspermont. lain's Cough Remedy. It is equally valuable for adults. Try it. It contains no opium or other harmful drug. holidays with her parents Mr. 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 Askins for a short time. Mrs. John Sayles in Abilene the past week.

in San Angelo during the holi- restores strength, vigor and cheerful

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 the holidays at home with their holidays with relatives in Green-

Mack Welch of Dublin was Mrs. G.C. Smith of Stith left here during the holidays visiting

> Judge and Mrs. N. D. Cobb were at Hearne during the holi-

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. Andersod.

C. W. Harris of Corona, Cal., formerly of this city returned bottle. Sold by H. C. Burroughs, adv Dr. O. F. McMaster was in Ab- here Wednesday morning to visit ilene Monday attending the coun- relatives and old friends for a

Owen Edwards of Midland re- Luther Swafford and family of turned to his home Wednesday Dallas. after spending the holidays with some of the rural schools and a his mother Mrs. West Edwards and brother Wesley Edwards.

J. D. Brandon of Chillicothe is visiting his purents Mr. and Mrs. it the many friends he has in the R. D. Brandon of Dora this week. Merkel country. Mr. Brandon while in our city Fever sores and old chronic sores had the paper sent to him at should not be healed entirely, but Chilicothe for the coming year.

Excellent for Stomach Troudle.

burns and diseases of the skin. For C. Dunn, Arnold, Pa. "I was bothered rid of with the least possible delay. get the genuine, call for full name, LAXA- lief from the first, and since taking one lungs, aids expectoration and enables TIVE BROMO QUININE. Look for signature of E.W. GROVE. Cures a Cold in One Day. Stops cough and headache, and works off cold. 25c. person." For sale by all dealers. adv 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. Furguson 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 McMa-

Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Leighty spent the holidays with their

Miss Laura Winters spent the and Mrs. Sam Winters of Haw-

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

The liver loses its activity at times and needs help. HERBINF is an ef-Miss Elva Payne visited friends fective liver stimulant, it also purifies the bowels, streng eens eigestion and 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

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

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.

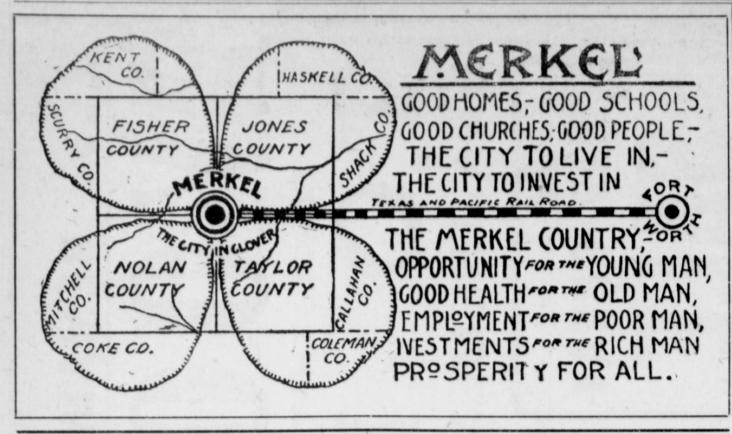
Ragged wounds are painful and sause much annoyance. If not kept clean they fester and become running sores. BALLARD'S SNOW LINI-MENT is an antiseptic healing remedy for such cases. Apply it at hight before going to bed and cover with a cotton cloth bondage. It heals in a few days. Price 25c, 50c and \$1.00 per

Miss Elizabeth Swrfford left Saturday for the Denton Normal enroute she will visit her brother

Julian Boney returned to Merkel from north Texas to spend the holidays with his parents Mr. and Mrs. A.C. Boney and to vis-

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 "Chamberlain's Tablets are just fine diseases they so often, lead to. For for stomach trouble," writes Mrs. G. that reason every cold should be gotten with this complaint for some time and To accomplish this you will find Chamfrequently had bilious attauks. Cham-berlain's Cough Remedy of great help berlain's Tablets afforded me great re- to you. It loosens a cold, relieves the



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 o

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 occurence of unusual interest transpires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars

COLQUITT AND WILSON SCRAP

It all came about Sunday when papers through out the country printed a communication from Govenor Colquitt charging the Wilson administration as practically a proven failure and predicting such if the policy of our chief magistrate was not changed along with conditions.

The next news on the case seemed to come from Wilson the silent when he did not reply to Colquitt's charges the following day. In the beginning Colquitt charged Wilson with being a joke and Secretary Tumulty returns the slap by saying "Governor of Texas" is great big joke. Colquitt in his charges takes Wilson to task for being the direct cause of the prosterate conditions of credit business in the south notwithstand- It's hard to think the little pets ing the excellent crop conditions being better than in the history of the country south of the That they will make election bets Mason-Dixon line Colquitt charges Wilson with allowing English spinners to predominate the cotton commerce and buy American cotton at 6 cents per pound with storage facilities for handeling their purchases in this country. He recalls that hides were free listed and shoes failed to take the looked for drop but continued to to go higher this he charges as one of the administration tariff laws that have worked a similar advance on most every item it has affected. He scores Wilson's Mexican policy and explains his own actions in calling out the state guards to protect citizens along the border. Govenor Colquitt also says that prominent bankers tell him that the Federal Reserve Banking system will be failure. In total Colquitt rips Wilson up one side and down the other.

Now for the answer, so far only Tumulty has

THE FLIGHT OF TIME.

To some time flies, to others it lags. To the middle-aged and the old New Years pass This world we could improve, I say, in quick succession. To the young they seem ages apart.

The adult who executes a promissory note or who enters upon any other obligation that implies a day of reckoning is amazed at time's speed. The boy who watches the posting of circus bills passes what to him is a lifetime before the show puts up its tents. Even the lad who is to go fishing to-morrow can't wait in patience for to-morrow's sun.

Now we have another New Year, with its various outlooks and its multitude of possibilities. And one can almost hear the rustling of new leaves turned over. New purposes, new aims, aspiration typify it, with a heartfelt undercurrent everywhere outside of the terrible fields of carnage for those in Europe to whom the New Year means but greater desolation. May the next New Year see some happiness where now despair stalks in a thousand shapes!

As for the new leaves, they will be turned in most cases only to have those who turn them revert sooner or later to habits that have become fixed. Some few may triumph over habit and become better and happier in one or another way.

But it must not be thought useless to turn over new leaves, even if usage shall turn them back again: for every impulse to do better or to become better marks advance, and who shall measure the effects of many right impulses, though this time they may fail of purpose? - Selected.

Our suggestion." Start the new year right. After taking our advice you can do as you please as you surely will.

Pasted Paragraphs

EPITAPHS.

What's left of Oswald Perkins Bland Is resting in this space: He puffed a Flor de Onion and Blew smoke into my face.

-Cincinnati Enquirer.

Here lies our old friend Willie Hook, Who had no fishing skill? Yet lies about the fish he took, So here he's lying still,

-New York Evening Telegram. The last remains of Heinrich Schwab Beneath this tombstone are: He ate Limburger, and sat down

Beside us on the car.

This epitath is for a friend. We'll call him Silas Patch. Who, when you ask him for a light Hands you a loaded match.

OUR KIDS.

It's hard to think our baby kids. The cunning little friskers, In course of time will have bald lids. And flowing whiskers.

-Louisville Courier-Journal.

-Commercial Appeal.

Will act like other fogies; And smoke strong stogies.

-Youngstown Telegram.

And it is hard to think our girls, Our Myrts and Stellas, Will rouge their cheeks and twist their curls To charm such fellows.

-Houston Post.

'Tis hard to think our "bottle babes." So fair to mortal kin, Will keep the habit all through life And grow up bottle men.

-Commercial Appeal.

Only time our Democratic brethen insisted on being safe and sane they picked Alton B. Parker. -St Louis Globe-Democrat.

When it came Santa Claus time the men in seen fit to reply that Colquitt is a great big joke. the trenches wouldn't take the word of kings that "there's no such animal."-Atlanta Constitution.

> Our progress would be ample If we had less advice each day

> > And much more good example.

-Cincinnati Enquirer.

NEW YEAR REFLECTIONS OF FATHER TIME.

The good resolutions die young. Where there's a will, there's always a way to get around it.

"Nothing but wine!" on New Year's Eve must mean nothing but beer for the rest of the month to a lot of folks.

It's the guy who can put "No!" in November. rather than in January, who wins out.

Noah still holds the record for the longest run on the water wagon.

In view of the extreme wetness of New Year's Eve along the great white ways, why not make it 'Wring out the old, wring in the new?"

It's strange how much easier it is to keep enthusiastic over a new year resolution from December 31st to January 1st than from January 1st to December 31st.

Only his premature cutting down prevented Methuselah, after his 960th "It's no use!" from uttering his 961st "I'hereby resolve"-

It's funny how quickly a breezy chap can blow back a recently turned a new leaf.

And it's queer how oftener the pretty, young, blond stenographer can strike 1914 for 1915 and get away with it than the faded little lady at the next desk. -Stuart B. Stone

Today is Friday and mistakes are not in order.

Good morning! How is the new year.



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR

Twentieth Century Club Questions.

Is scene five the first in which we see Horatio alone in the presence of the opposite faction?

Has no suspicions fallen on him on account of his intimacy with Hamlet?

In view of her former kindness to Ophelia why does the Queen now refuse to see her? What has changed the Queen?

What foreshadowing is there of the revolt of the rebel in favor of Laertes?

For what dramatic purpose is Ophelia brought back to the stage here?

How does the interruption help the King with Laertes? What causes Ophelia's in-

sanity? What psychological reason can you give for Ophelia's scraps of song? Does this singing resemble anything in Othello be-

fore Desdemona's death?

What brings Hamlet back? How does the King influence Laertes in taking revenge on Hamlet? What is the King's suggestion about the foils?

Is there any theory that luncheon was served. Ophelia committed suicide?

the first meeting of the year, good wishes of her friends. There will be important business Mr. Jones is a proninent ranch to be transacted.

Baker - Merritt.

Bullock performed the beautiful blue serge with black hat. ring service.

The bride's young sister, Leoel, friends at Loving, N. M. dressed as a chrysanthemum, was ring bearer, carrying the ring in the heart of a Callie

met them at the altar.

carried out with holly, mistletoe guests. and ferns.

Miss Jackie Jennings sang You." The wedding march was played by Miss Lula Sharp.

served.

points east immediately after the For sale by all dealers. adv ceremony. They will be at home January.

worthy young couple many years o'clock. An excellent program sound is produced in this manner of happiness. The Mail joins in will be rendered. Everybedy is the above wishes.

Many handsome and beautiful gifts were presented.

Ttpton Diltz.

Mr. J. W. Tipton and Miss Grace Diltz gave their many friends here a complete surprise when the notice of their marriage appeared in The Dallas News Thursday morning. The marriage ceremony was read by Rev. J. Frank Smith in the Study of tests. the Central Presbyterion church Wednesday. These young people are among our most popular young folks. The bride grad- were weak. Doan's Kidney Pills cured uated from the Merkel High me and now I seldom use a kidney School in June. She is active in remedy. When I do, it is always Sunday school and church work. Doan's Kidney Pills." Mr. Tipton is a highly respected

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days Your 'druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT falls to cure any case of Itching. Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first ap-lication gives Ease and Rest. 50c. Name."

Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y. "When Ing it to slide through your hand. (Copyright by A. Neely Hall.)

Notable among this seasons events in Merkel society was the marriage of Miss Dollie Teaff and Mr. General J. Jones of Lov- Toy Noise Producers and How to ing, N. M, which was so emnized Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the residence of the No one objects to a mount of noise in welcome to bride's parents in West Merkel, Rev. J. W. Saffles of Plainview that you will agree with me that officiating.

The interior of the house was beautifully decorated, the altar being banked with mistletoe, hol. ly and chrysanthemums.

Prior to the entrance of the bridal party Miss Beaulah Bur- of broomhandle, or other stick w kett sang sweetly "All for you." To the sweet strains of Mendels- cured to the bottom of the can I sohns wedding march played by piercing a hole through the tin and Miss Lula Sharp. The flower girls, little Misses Lola Dennis the stick. Figure 3 shows how the and Winnie Merle Teaff, carrying baskets of roses entered together followed by the little ring bearer Mary Louis Scott who carried the ring in a lovely pointsetta preceded the bride and groom to the altar where they met Rev. Saffles who solemnized the beautiful ring ceremony.

The bride wore a lovely creation of soft blue silk, the flower girls and ring bearer wore little white dresses with riobon sashes.

Following the ceremony the wedding guests were entertained with a reception. A sideboard

The bride is well known, having been partly reared here, and The Twentieth Century Club possesses all the charms that ladies will meet in business ses- make for a noble womanhood. sion Saturday, January 2, at 3:30, To know her is to love her. She at the home of Mrs. G. H. Adams will be greatly missed by all, the thread spool you have obtained; on Elm street. All members are She recieved many 'useful gifts expected to be present as this is which bespoke the sentiment and

man of Loving, N. M., and this marriage was the culmination of a romance which had its origin On Christmas evening at their in childhood. After spending a to make the wings, pieces B and C. home on Elm street, Mr. and Mrs. few days with friends they left The bottoms of the cans must be re-H. T. Merritt gave their daughter, on the west bound train, Decem-Ruth, to John Cleveland Baker ber 29, for Loving, N. M. The in marriage at 9:30. Rev. H. E bride wore a modish suit of dark

They will be at home to their

A Guest

On Monday evening the pretty home of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. The bride was accompanied to Burroughs on Rose street was the altar by her sister-in-law, the scene of the social event of Mrs. Ben Merritt. The groom, the holiday season. Forty two accompanied by Mr. Ben Merritt, and Bunco were greatly enjoyed. Chistmas colors were used in the The whole house was a Christ- decorations. Hot chocolate and mas bower. The colors were cake were served to about forty

Biliousness and Constipation Cured.

If you are ever troubled with biliousness or constipation you will be interested in the statement of R. F. Er-A number of friends and rela- win, Peru, Ind. "A year ago last tives were present to witness the winter I had an attack of indigestion ceremony. Cake and punch were followed by biliousness and constipation. Seeing Chamberlain's Tablets so highly recommended, I bought a bottle of Mr. and Mrs. Baker left for them and they helped me right away."

in Canyon City after the 1st of The Home and School League will meet at the school building Many friends here wish this Friday night, January 1, at 7 invited to attend these meetings.

PERFECT CONFIDENCE

Merkel People Have Good Reason For Complete Reliance.

Do you know how-To find relief from backache; To correct distressing urinara ills: To assist weak kidneys? Your neighbors know the way-Have used Doan's Kidney Pills; Have proved their worth in many Here's Merkel testimony.

B. J. Rhodes, Merkel, Texas, says: 'I was in bad shape with my back fer a long time and my kidneys and bladder

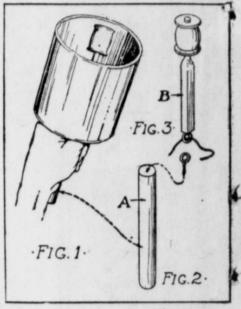
Mr. Rhodes is only one of the many Merkel people who have gratefully enyoung farmer living south of dorsed Doan's Kidney Pills, If your Merkel, Mr. and Mrs. Tipton back aches-if your kidneys bother are receiving congratulations and you, don't simply ask for a kidney best wishes of their many friends remedy-ask distinctly for Doan's Kidin which The Mail heartily joins. ney Pills, the same that Mr. Rhodes shown in Fig. 6, and trim off the pr had-the remedy backed by home testi- jecting edges. To operate, pull firmly mony. 50c all storee. Foster-Milburn on the string, at the same time allow-

FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

Make Them.

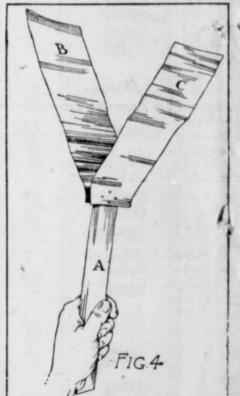
O one objects to a moderate incoming new year, and I am su following are splendid noise produc ers. Each will require but a fe

minutes' time to make. The bell rattle shown in Fig. 1 made with a tin can, a common threa spool, two short sticks and two scre eyes. The tin can forms the portion of the rattle, and a short pie tled round, fastens to it for a hand screwing a screw-eye from the inside of the can down into the end of



tongue of the bell rattle is prepared. The length of the tongue should be equal to the inside depth of the co Cut a stick of this length and wh tle down one end to fit the hole in then screw a screw-eye into the other end (Fig. 3). Fasten the tongue place with a piece of string, passing the string through the screw-eyes in tongue B and handle A, and tying them loosely with firm knots. This completes the rattle.

The odd-shaped rattle shown in Fig. 4 requires a short stick for handle A, and two tin cans out of which



moved, and the sides opened out. Tacl the pieces to opposite sides of the

By holding the handle in the posi tion shown in Fig. 4, and shaking from side to side, the tin wings wil flap back and forth and make a splen did crackling, crashing noise.

If you have never tried pulling upor string rubbed with resin, you canno appreciate what a loud shrieking

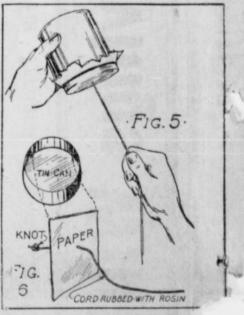


Figure 5 shows the idea adapted a toy that is quickly put together. an empty tin can, a piece of heav wrapping paper, a piece of stout w through its center, stick the end of the on it (Fig. 6). Then tie the pape, over the open end of the can as

PROFESSIONAL

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eal Estate, Fire, Life and Accident Insurance Agent Respectfully Solicits Your Business Notary Public in Office Office over Woodroof & Company Merkel

W. T. DANIEL

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Practice in All the Courts. Land Litigation, and the Examination of Land Titles a Specialty. Notary Public in Office Office second floor, over Crown Hdw. Co Merkel, Texas

SHERIFF'S SALE

The State of Texas, County of Taylor.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That by virtue of an order of sale issuone hundred, seventy-six dollars and seventy-six cents (\$3,176.76) and costs Issephine Rogers and R. R. Rogers in with the Merkel Mail. a certain cause in said court No. 418, styled Marie Williams et al, vs Jas. Versyp et al placed in my hands for service I,J. T. Dodson as Sheriff of Taylor county, Texas ,did, on the 7th day of December, 1914 levy on certain Real Estate, situated in Taylor county Texas, described as follows to.wit:

All that certain portion of the West one half of section No. 45 of the Blind Asylam land in Taylor county, Texas, County, Texas, containing about 210 acres of land and levied upon as the property of James Versyp, Mrs. Clara F, Versyp, John Griffin Versyp, Hollis the first Tuesday in January 1915, the same being the 6th day of said month at the Court House door of Taylor county, in the city of Abilene, Texas between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. the Diversification Idea of Crops m., by virtue of said levy any said order of sale I will sell the above described Real Estate at public vendue. for cash, to the highest bidder, as the property of said James Versyp Clara F. Versyp, John Griffiin Versyp, Hollis and W. L. Knott.

And in compliance with law, I give this notice by publication, in the English languags, once a week for three consecutive weeks immediately preceeding said day of sale, in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper published in Taylor county.

Witness my hand, this 7th day of December 1914.

J. T. DODSON Sheriff, Taylor County, Texas.



cientific American. JUNN & CO. 364 Broadway, New York

The Breezy Corner!

GENERAL PROSPERITY

Wears Suits that are neatly cleaned and pressed

DO YOU?

LADIES' WORK A SPECIALTY

The Star Store Tailor Shop

C. L. CASH, Proprietor

SEE LIFE FOR A NICKEL

AND A DIME

The place where a little gets a lot. Everybody goes.

THE ROYAL THEATRE

YOU FEEL BETTER

Let us do your Tailoring work.

Phone us about your laundry. Called for and delivered.

Church Bros., In Hogue-Hamilton Stand Representative of Abilene Steam Laundry

IF IT IS SWEET We Have It

Everything in the Confectionery Linepure, wholesome, delicious and not expensive. :: Your friends come here

Hot Drinks of All Kinds

The Elite Confectionery

Auto Users Specialties

Pensylvania Eord Type Auto Caseings and Inner Tubes. Gasoline & Auto Oils

Ladies convenient, Supreme Gasoline Sad Irons. Absolutely safe, easy to manipulate

H. M. ROSE

Crenshaw Block

KODAKS

A new and Classy line of Kodaks and Films. Our films fit any make Kodak or Camera.

Let us fill your needs.

Burroughs Drug Store

The Best is None Too Good.

THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

IF YOU WANT A NEWSPA-PER THAT GIVES THE NEWS ed out of the Honorable District Court especialy the news from Texas of Martin county, on the first day of and the Great Southwest, as well is very good at this writing. December 1914 by H. Hamilton. Clerk as from all over the World, one Mr. and Mrs. Burly Taylor of of said Court, for the sum of Thirty- that gives the most of it and in Loraine are spending the holithe best possible way, you can days with relatives here. of suit, under a judgement in favor of get it by subscribing for The Marie Williams, M. C. Williams, Semi-Weekly Farm News along

This is a combination of general news and local news that can't be equaled or surpassed. In addition to its great news service The Semi-Weekly Farm News has many special features that entertain, amuse and inform. Among these are The Farmer's Sunday for Rochester after visit-Forum, The Women's Century, lying South of the Right of Way of Our Little Men and Women, and son. The Texas & Pacific Ry. Co., in Taylor the best, Latest and Fullest Marnewspaper, hot off the wires. The Trent. News spends many thousands of Alexander Versyp, Fannie Versyp dollars a year for these telegraph ing court the past week. Knott and W. L. Knott and that on market reports, and they are re-

Another splendid feature of and family the past week. The Semi-Weekly Farm News is which will be more Interesting I wish you all a happy New Year. fit and the benefit of all the Peo-

The price of The Semi-Week-Alexander Versyp Fannie Versyp Knott ly Farm News and the Merkel So recall the right and forgive Mail is only \$150 a year. You get the best of every. To dare to go forth with a purthing that is good in reading matter from every standpoint.

Send in your order now and weeks posting yourself on mat-

THE MERKEL MAIL

Notice of Stockholders Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the shareholders of The Farmers State Bank, Merkel, Texas, will be held at the office of the Bank January 12 1915 for the purpose of electing directors and such other buisness as may come before the meeting

R.O. Anderson, Cashier.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head

OUR CORRESPONDENCE

Salt Branch

The health of the community

Ollie Stone of near Hico is visiting his mother this week. Earl Ranier and family

this community.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Patton left gone.

Oscar and Emery Mobley spent ket Reports to be had in any Christmas with relatives near

Several from here are attend-

Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Beavers of Shiloh were visiting W.M. Hays

Blair.

than ever before for Your Ben. O what we all might have the courage

ple of Texas and the Southwest. To leave the old with a burst of

the wrong,

pose true, To the unknown task of the year

that's new, take advantage of the next few To help our brother along the

road, ters of deep concern the coming To do his work and lift his load. Thus add our gifts to the worlds good cheer,

To have and to give a Glad New Year.

Blair has but one wedding to report. Miss Spears and Mr. Hodges were married Sunday morning December 20th at the home of the Brides parents Mr. and Mrs, T. H. Spears by their pastor Rev. Farris.

Claude Hall has purchased a work.

Miss Sallie Hall has returned

home after a two weeks visit with Mrs. Wilson and little daughter.

Emmett Morris of Herndon visit- with a goodly portion of her low light, whose warmth and cheeried their grandmother Mrs. Camp- Christmas cakes. Included in She did not pause to knock, but

Floydada are visiting friends of forward for a brighter and better George of England recieves 1915 and lets strive to do more much of the fruit for his table. Manly Stone left Wednesday for our friends and loved ones in We are thankful for the rememfor DeLeon to visit friends and the new year than we have in brance and have the satisfaction the year soon to be past and of knowing that Ging George has

School opened Monday morn- had a little the edge on him. ing the family of W.B. Robert- ing at the Grayson schoolhouse with Mr. Jones teacher.

Miss Lena Pomroy were visiting sion. relatives in Tennesee during the holidays.

Misses Maude and Della Green Abilene,

Winters of the Simmons College spent Christmas with homefolks. Mrs. Bud Brown gave a birthher daughter Miss Alice. Several of her friends were invited to par take of the nice dinner.

Rev. Scott filled his regular appointment at Newman Sunday. Mr. as Mrs. Mayberry spent the holidays in Fort Worth.

Mrs Dupree and children who have been been visiting relatives here for several months left Monday for their home at Haskell.

Whispering Gal. Famous whispering those in the capitol and in Gloucester cathedral England In the former, persons standing feet apart may distinctly hear each the latter, the gallery, which is octagonal in form, conveys a whisper across the nave, a distance of 75 feet. -Pathfinder.

Stomach Trouble Cured.

If you have any trouble with your stomach you should take Chamberlain's Tablets. Mr. J. P. Klote of Edina. residence and blacksmith shop in Mo., says: "I have used a great many Blair and will be found at his different medicines for stomach trouble, place of business ready to do your but find Chamberlain's Tablets more beneficial than any other remedy I ever used," For sale by all dealers.

Sends Mail Force Cake

Mrs. A.A. Baker was one good lady of Merkel who remembers Mrs. Leah Hand and brother the Mail force this Christmas From the windows came paths of yelbell Saturday. the box of cake were some Cali- lifted the latch and entered. The fornia prunes sent here by Mr. Baker's son Hugh Baker of Well Christmas has come and Campbell, California. The fruit gone and with its many joys and came from one of the largest if a woman who bent lovingly over an sorrows will soon be numbered not the largest fruit packing with the past. Let us all look plant in the worlk where King py family stood somewhat back of the

nothing on us this year, while we

With us it was "Peace on earth Mr. and Mrs. W. Woods and and fruit to supplement the occa-

A \$100,000 Fire Swept Moody

Moody, Texas, Dec. 27 .- A spent Christmas with relatives in \$100,000 fire swept Moody late last night and burned until early Misses Albertine and Edith this morning. It was gotten under control about 1 a.m.

the establishments lost are: Howday dinner Saturday in honor of ard Carnes Mercantile Company, First National Bank, Buckner while I get a bowl of bread and milk." & Hundley Drug and Jewelry Company, offices of the Southwestern Telephone Company, Hay & Clay Grocery Company Cuenod Racket Store, barber shop and Lockwood Confec-

> One-fourth of the business district is in ruins.

COTTON COTTON.

Now is the time to buy your pianos and sewing machines while you can get 10c other speaking in whispers, and in for your cotton. Sea E. D. Coats.

W. U. W.

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

W. M. Elliott, C. C. S. Hamilton, Clerk

HAULING NOTICE.

For hauling ring me at Clarks, phone 195 or Porters Grocery, phone 286. H.S. (Dad) Wilson.

THE CHRISTMAS STAR

By JEAN DOUGLAS.



Christmas eve crept slowly over the city, disguising the harsh outlines of the housetops with a soft gray blanket.

The spirit of Yuletide filled the air, and since you could not help breathing it, the joyous song of "Peace and good-will" flooded

the inner being as well. In the dormer window of an attic chamber overlooking the city stood a little child. She was thin and pale, but even these ravagers of beauty could not rob her features of their loveliness. Great blue eyes and golden curls enhanced the fairy-like delicacy of her face, and though ill clad she possessed the bearing of a princess. Now and again she left her post at the window and, opening the door, listened as if expecting to hear familiar footsteps ascending the

When it was almost dark and lights began to appear here and there over the housetops, like will-o'-the-wisps in a marshy bog, she drew a chair beneath the hook driven in the closet door from which an exceedingly shabby coat and weather-beaten hat were suspended. By this means she was able to reach the garments and was soon attired for the street. Running back to the window she scanned the city and the heavens. Just above the horizon gleamed a single star of wondrous brilliancy, and the child, enraptured by its beauty, forgot that she intended to go out and remained motionless watching the resplendent glory of heaven's jewel. The room was flooded with a soft shimmering light, and the child gave a sob of joy as she suddenly realized that the ster moved. As far as she could see th same silvery radiance flooded the sky. The great soul within that tiny body sang with happiness and she softly whispered: "It is the star of Bethlehem. I must follow it, like the three

She hastened from the room and down the flights of steps to the street. The star moved on and on, unfalteringly, and the tiny figure trembled in every limb as it followed the won-

Beyond the boundary of the city. over frozen roads and frost-whitened fields, the tireless lettle feet, ill protected by their worn shoes, hastened after the star.

nestled among a group of fir trees.

room was scantily furnished, but a surroundings with a glorified beauty.

Seated in front of the fireplace was infant. Grouped about her were three mother hanging a branch of ever-

As the little stranger entered and hesitated, the children rushed forward to greet her

"Come in, child," said the mother. The tired little girl moved eagerly forward. "Have I found the king?" she asked.

mother. "Yes, we think baby is a good will toward men "with cake king." And she placed the soft, pink face of the infant close to that of the child, who reverently kissed its cheek.

"I have brought him a gift," she whispered, shyly, offering a little bead urse. The mother stooped and imprinted a warm kiss on the lips of the tiny gift bearer. "He will love it, and would thank

you if he could. See, he reaches for The chubby fingers, attracted by the brightly colored beads, Its origin is unknown. Some of tried their best to grasp the purse. "You have given him his first Christmas gift," said the father.

> 'Draw near the fire-you are cold-The child removed her hat and coat, seated herself on the hearth stool and was soon enjoying the simple fare.

"How did you find us?" the woman "I followed the star," she replied.



Chance for Burbank. "Here's something for Burbank to try his hand on," said a man to his

"Training a Christmas tree to sprout its own presents."

"What's that?"



It was the custom among Romans to exchange gifts at their winter festival, and this custom may have descended to us from antiquity. But Christians like to feel that it was because the wise men brought gifts to the infant Jesus, and because of the gift of God to the world. Gifts to the poor seem from the earliest Bible times

to have been an expression of a thank-

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 generalla financed by some special interest with the hidden purpose of influncing 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 ecord? 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 succes?

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 Agricul- one withdraws. Each holds a ture, Davis, and Comptroller balance of power; each thinks Terrell. Davis is a recent arri- he can be elected and protests val, while Terrell has been a the prohibition question has familiar figure for fifteen years, nothing to do with the race. Also, on the same date the new Williams and Savage are both Lieutenant-Governor, W. P. antis who voted for Sam Ray-Hobby of Beaumont, takes the burn, a pro, for Speaker of the oath of office. Like Mr. Fer- 32nd; Woods is an anti who guson, he is untried in public voted for Ceester Terrell, an anti, office, but is regarded as a very for Speaker of the 33rd, Each

capable man.

terest centers in the election of a Texan, 39 years old and a lawyer. Speaker of the House of Repre- Savage is an editor, 53 years old, sentatives. Indeed, the whole has been in Texas forty years political arena holds no more ani- and is a native of England, mated contest than this, though hence ineligible for the Presibut little is said of it in the pub- dency. Williams is a lawyer and lic prints. The race during re- a native Texan; being a bachecent years has been conducted lor, his age is not known-supon a high plane and has been posed to be about sixty. Among Offers Excursion Rates Daily singularly free from charges or recent developments should be suspicions of corruption or fraud. chronicled the withdrawal of The recent tendency is to choose three other candidates, namely, Ask The Ticket Agent a candidate for his personal fit Hill of Huntsville, Nichols of ness rather than because of his Greenville and Lewelling of political views, and this tendency Dallas, all strong members and certainly makes for efficient ser- all pronounced prohibitionists. vice, though the political leaders The two first named announced criticise such action, because it they would support Williams and lessens their power to dictate the latter declared for Woods. 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 well known tonic properties of QUININE of Shiloh were in town Tuesday trouble, but the assertion is ven- and IRON. It acts on the Liver, Drives on their way to Abilene to look

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

has had previous legislative ex-In legislative circles chief in- perience. Woods is a native

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 17th. 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 out Malaria, Enriches the Blood and tured that neither can win until Builds up the Whole System. 50 cents. after business matters.

Any Doctor

will tell you a fellow's constitution wont last forever-and in these strenuous times it needs a good overhauling occasionally.

Mineral Wells

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



Better Go Before Its Too Late

A. D. BELL GEO. D. HUNTER Asst. Gen'l Pass. Agt, Gen'l Pass. Agt. DALLAS, TEXAS

Jack Johnson to Fight WiHard.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28,-It was announced here today that the championship fight for the heavy in Scott's Emulsion that quickly enweight belt will be staged between Jack Johnson, the present holder, and Jess Willard, an aspirant to the title. The fight will against winter sickness. Get Scott's take place at Jaurez, Mex., March at your drug store to-day. It always

It was announced today that all contracts had been closed for the BIG SURPRISE TO MANY match between the negro and

G. D. Harris and family who have made their home at Lakeview in the panhandle country for some time have returned to appendicitis. This simple remedy Merkel Route 4 to make their home with the satisfaction of SINGLE DOSE relieves sour stomach, knowing there is no other place to live in like the Merkel country. we have ever sold.

W. A. Philips and T. P. Arnold

YOU CAN HAVE A WEALTH OF BEAUTIFUL HAIR

hair as a frame for a pretty face. With-out 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 natual charm by using Newbro's Herpicide is the "HUMAN REPAIR Herpicide makes hair beautiful. 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 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 Applications may be obtained at the best barber shops and hair dressing par

H. C. BURROUGHS.

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 riches the blood, strengthens the lungs and helps heal the air passages.

And mark this well-Scott's Emulsion generates body-heat as protection strengthens and builds up. Scott & Bowne, Dloomfield, N. J.

IN THIS TOWN

Local people are surprised at the QUICK results received from simple buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., as mixed in Adler-i-ka, the German remedy which became famous by curing draws off such a suprising amount of old foul matter from the body that A gas on the stomach and constipation INSTANTLY. It is the best remedy

H. C. BURROUGHS, Druggist

Invigorating to the Pale and Sickly The Old Standard general strengthening tonic GROVE'S TASTELESS chill TONIC, drives out Malaria.euriches the blood and builds upthe sys-tem. A true tonic. For adults and children. 500

Waiting for the New Pear



COULD SCARCELY WALK ABOUT

cent 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

I also had dreadfu! 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

And For Three Summers Mrs. Vin- believe I would have died if I hadn't

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 gentleacting. 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.

health, when I finally decided to try clarifications on your case and 64-page book, "Home treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. J-65

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

ee STOCK & POULTRY MEDICINE

> It's a Liver Medicine. Also a grengthing fonic.

Bee Dee STOCK & POULTRY MEDICINE is a splendid cure for liver trouble, roup and chicken holera. Given regularly with the feed, in small loses, it also makes an excellent tonic. F. J. Stowe, Purcell, Okla.

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

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