## MERKEL THE MAIL

#### VOL. 27-NO. 9

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 1915

#### RETURNING FROM MARRIED SUNDAY SCHOOL BAIRD & WILSON BOND ELECTION NERKEL STATION WAS ROMANTIC LIKELY BE PRESENTED TO VOTERS CHINA TO MERKEL **COMEDIANS HERE** HEADS T. & P. LIST

Sunday morning at the break Three times within the last of the Texas & Pacific Co., at awakened from his slumbers by this place has been at the head a couple who desired to embark of the Blue Ribbon Honor Roll on the smooth sea of matrimony. for having made the greatest in- At least it is supposed to be a crease of ticket sales over the smooth sea for the voyage of about twelve hours preceeding same month in 1914.

In February the largest per- the marriage was a very stormy centage of increase yet given to one and full of gusts and dashes the Merkel station was 129.4 per that brought romance into it to cent over February in 1914. Each such an extent that W. F. Evans of the reports during the time in a jitney driver from here, began which Mr. Leighty has been at to feel that he was in the right the head of the Blue Ribbon list church but the wrong pew. It for Texas & Pacific towns his all happened in this way. victure has graced the columns Mr. M. D. Douglass of Dallas, of the Texas & Pacific Magazine arrived in Merkel Saturday, in a conspicuous place and has hired the services of W. F. greatly supplemented the article W. F. Evans and his Ford to go to which the likeness belonged. to Roby after dark. Mr. Doug-"The Merkel office is credited lass had planned to meet his with an increase of 80.0 per cent brother near Roby who was to in March over the same time last have been in company of Miss year but bulletins have not yet Belle Griffin, the formers intendbeen issued as to the standing ed. Through some mistake the T. & P.

# WALKER COTTAGE CHANGES HANDS

ber of years.

four months Agent A. J. Leighty of day, Rev. W. P. Garvin was Election Will be Called Asking the Voters to Mrs. J. H. Counts, Issue Bonds to the Amount of \$18,000 for Much Needed School Work.

> Tuesday evening men of affairs of Merkel and men who had the interest of the Merkel schools at heart met and devised plans for the correction of our school facilities. Meeting with the local representatives was Assistant State Superintendent Whitley who was here for the explicit purpose of assisting in bringing the Merkel school buildings up

> Without increasing the tax rate on property owners of the Merkel country the amount of \$18,000.00 in bonds can be issued under the present rate of taxation. The time of payment being extended will be suffcient to take care of

> A committee was appointed by the meeting to get up a petition asking the Merkel School Board to call an election for the purpose of issuing an additional \$18,000.00 in bonds. As soon as this petition is presented to the Board an election can be called after notice of the election has been posted for a period of twenty days. With this time limit the Merkel voters should have an opportunity to vote for the betterment of our school condition within the next forty-five days.

> When this election is called it would be well for our voters to emulate the actions of the Trent voters in their election of Saturday, April 3, at which time they voted the amount of \$3,000.00 in school bonds without a dissenting vote. No doubt their actions will be an inspiration to Merkel voters.



Shanghai, March 6, 1915. Merkel, Texas.

My Dear Precious Mamma:

For several weeks past I have of the Walker Cottage. wanted to write you but have This company has been giving been in such an unsettled state good clean shows each night and of mind that I wanted to wait their audiences have been very until I could write something very appreciative of their work. definite. However, I wrote Maude especially so the work of "Red" and Lydia and also Lou, telling Wilson who we would term an them I was expecting to leave, excellent comedian. Mr. Wilson etc., but at the last moment I has a way of doing original failed to catch the boats I was sketches, talking with a rapid telling them about as they were fire flow of language on nearly full up. So now, here is the everything that happens in his latest information which cancels mind, and to the crowds that all other letters. I will sail to- have been gathering at the show morrow at 6 p. m. on the N. Y. he has been making good. The K. Company's steamer "Mishima company remains for the balance Mara," a nice large liner, but of the week, playing a special under the Japanese flag and the matinee Saturday evening and following points I will pass on closing their engagement here my way to New York: From on Saturday night. Shanghai to Hongkong, Singapore, Penyana, Colombo, Bombay, Suez, Port Said, Marsailles, Paris, London and then New brighter. Mrs. E. M. Rust will

York. When I pass through tell you about LIV-VER-LAX, Suez I expect to stop over in Egypt and go to Cairo and visit the pyramids and then to Palesstine where Christ was born and then possibly stop over in Italy. This will be fulfilling at least one of my ambitions and you need not worry one minute for I am as safe as can be and perfectly happy and have all of my Ameri. can stop me and I'll be home in P. M. AT THE ROYAL leave again. Will write you a card or letter along the way. I'll leave again. Will write you a yet written.

Have your old cotton beds re-

Feather matresses a specialty.

Will call for your work in the

morning and deliver in the

The Baird & Wilson Comedy company are playing a week's stand in Merkel this week in their large tent theatre just east

8 PAGES

Get rid of the grouch. LIV-VER.LAX makes the sun shine



In this issue of the Mail appears the first installment of "The Twenty Million Dollar Mine can pass ports fixed so no one Mystery," or "Zudora," what is probably the greatest story of its about two months-never to kind that Harold McGrath has

This story will appear each be half home when you get this. week in the Mail until completed and each issue will be entirely a

to a needed standard. the present issue.

of the various towns on the orders were confused and the brother of the groom came straight to Merkel with the bride, expecting to meet his brother here. The groom during these many hours was doing the "Sherlock Holmes" in and out of Roby in an attempt to find the girl he loved He was not to be daunted in his quest and kept Beginning Saturday, the Wal- up his vigilant work until in the ker Cottage will be under new wee hours of the morning when management according to a ren- the brother in Merkel, realizing tai contract drawn up Wednes- that a mistake had been made, day between W.R. Walker owner obtained an auto and left for of the hotel and Mrs. M. R. Roby, arriving there in time to Wordrum, formerly proprietor of inform his brother that the bride the South Side Hotel for a num- was and had been in Merkel for hours. When the groom and his

Preparatory work is being done

this week on the two story brick

Crenshaw building at the corner

of Kent and North Front streets

to making a hotel of the entire

second floor and a portion of the

The management of the new

place will be Mr. and Mrs. J. D.

Henderson formerly of Sulphur

for rooms while the office and

Leaves for Oenaville.

ing. He stated that his father

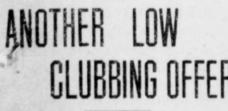
ground floor.

day Mr. and Mrs. Walker leave of being detected by her object- Merkel yards. turning to Abilene where Mr. Merkel to await the return of while the balance was cotton that tery." Walker will take charge of the her lover. About 5:45 a. m., has been held by Merkel country Readers of the Mail will find new Grand Central Hotel which after running a "gauntlet of farmers. Not in the memory of the story far more interesting if will be completed about May 1. shot guns," reported much in Merkel people has the cotton they will read the first install-

Mr. and Mrs. Walker have evidence at Roby, W. F. Evans, season extended so far into the ment of "Zudora" in this issue novated or new ones made. made Merkel their home since the innocent bystander of the summer as has the '14-'15 crop. of the Mail. 1903 and have conducted a hotel occasion, arrived at the home of business during the entire time Rev. Garvin as stated in the bewith the exception of about one ginning. The bride and groom year. Their departure from our left for Dallas Sunday. town is to be regretted but we

commend them to the citizenship of our sister city.

With Mrs. M. R. Woodrum in management of the Walker Cottage, we expect and predict a continued success for the Walker Cottage. The location is ideal and the services will be equal to the best as Mrs. Woodrum thoroughly understands the business she is taking charge of.



Springs who have been making Merkel their home for the past At all times it is our intention two months Mr. Henderson in to have a special subscription speaking of the new enterprise offer of more than usual interest stated that he hoped to be able to our readers and our latest one to open the hotel Monday. The

is a free subscription to two well entire upper floor will be used known Texas publications. With every new or renewal to dining room will be in the corner

the Merkel Mail at the rate of and first room on Kent street. \$1.00 we will send to the subscriber's addres free of charge HOLLAND'S MAGAZINE and FARM AND RANCH for a ceived a message Wednesday An auditor for for the Wellsperiod of six months to each of morning telling him of his father, Fargo Co., was here Monday and these publications. The offer is M. C. Anderson of Oenaville, be- checked up the office. D. F. cannot afford to be without Robertson and W. E. Petty for open now and lasts only a short ing very low with pneumonia. time.

Notice.

All kinds of cemet work done had been sick for some time and LIV-VER-LAX tones up the at lowest prices. Also cement at his extreme old age of 84 years system, stimulates the liver to copeings around graves. Phone there seemed to be little hope work in harmony with the other 1250, Abilene, or 236, China St. that he would recover from the organs. Guaranteed to give Thos. Ludgate. 1tpd present trouble.

#### A Good Man Goes To Reward.

The death of S. S. Smith Sunday evening brought sorrow to Noodle, who has been making Phone 214. R. J. Bassett. the many Merkel people who his home in Paducah for the past have known him for years. Mr. few years, returned to Merkel Smith had been sick for several last week to visit his parents. weeks and for several days be- Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Barbee, of fore his demise his death was Noodle. expected every moment.

held Monday evening at 4 o'clock part of this week. at the Methodist Church, Rev.

W. P. Garvin conducting the services.' B rial was given the body immediately after in the Rose Hill cemetery.

#### Agent Provine Resigns.

Wells Fargo Express Co, at this Wednesday afternoon in Rose place, resigned his position the Hill cemetery, Rev. W. P. Garvin first of the week and will do conducting the services. nothing during the summer but S. T. Anderson of Route 1 re- recuperate and enjoy outings.

Mr. Anderson was seen just charge of the duties as agent for Co. before he left Wednesday morn- the company at this place.

satisfaction by Mrs. E. M. Rust

takes charge of the Walker Cot- the bride-to-be out of place hundred and ten bales of cotton o'clock the Royal Theatre will I'm actually ready to start toge Saturday and the following again. The young lady, in fear marketed and weighed at the give a free matinee continuously "home" and be with you and until 6 o'clock, showing the in- papa that I can't hardly wait. for Fort Worth, Dallas and other ing parent, had gone to the home A portion of this day's receipts teresting story of "Zudora" or May God protect you all until we points for a short visit before re- of friends a few miles north of was direct from the Merkel gins "The \$20,000,000.00 Mine Mys- meet again.

Returns to Merkel Country.

Andrew Barbee, formerly of afternoon. All work guaranteed.

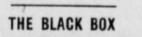
It was the intention of Mr.

Mr. Smith was born in Miss- Barbee that on his return to his issippi March 2, 1847 moved to home at Paducah that he would Milan county in early manhood go from there to New Mexico and to the Merkel country in 1888 but the strings of the Merkel Merchants Association at the came to Merkel with excellent He was a stanch member of the country evidently were stronger City Hall should be a meeting recommendations from the Bor-M. E. church south. Surviving and his return to Paducah Satwell attended. him are two children, one son urday was for the purpose of and one daughter, Ford Smith packing up and coming back to election of officers should be and Mrs. John Campbell both of the Merkel country to live. He taken up, the elected officers to WILL route 3. Funeral services were expects to reach here the latter take their places the next follow-

#### THE BLACK BOX

#### Infant Child Dies.

J. C. Provine, agent for the Interment was given the body Mrs. E. M. Rust.



If you can afford a Ford you Ferguson of Marshall has taken FIRESTONE tires. G. F. West references at Merkel.

Seeded Ribbon Cane Seed at

the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

automobile tires. Sold by G. F. West Co.

THE BLACK BOX

separate story. In addition to reading this striking serial our readers will have the opportunity of seeing the pictures of each installment each Friday at the Your loving son, Royal Theatre. Read the story Ernest.

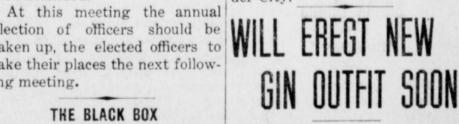
in the Merkel Mail every Friday and see the picture at the Royal the same day. The first installment of "Zudora" appears on page seven in this paper.

#### in Our Professional Columns.

Following the removal of Dr. S. D. Davis from our midst, his offices have been occupied by Dr. J. L. Gilliland, formerly of El Paso, who has been here in the practice of dentistry for a short time.

The name of Dr. Gilliland will be found in our professional col-

Next Monday night the regu- umns. He is a man of years' exlar meeting time of the Retail perience in his profession and der City.



Within a short time the Brown LIV.VER.LAX is guaranteed The infant child of Mr. and to relieve troubles resulting from Independent Gin Co., will erect a Mrs. L. R. Robbins died at the a disordered liver. Pleasant to a gin plant here and install the family home Tnesday evening. take and perfectly harmless. Ask most modern machinery possible to obtain.

> Machinery to equip the plant has already been purchased and Pure and improved Kafir and consists of five stands of 80 saws Milo seed. Kaffir standard black each. G. B. Brown, one of the capped white seed, Red top best known gin men in West dwarf maize \$1.00 per bu., F. O. Texas, will have charge of the B. Floydada, Texas. See W. B. new Merkel plant.

#### Notice of Sale.

Having bought the exclusive right from Mr. L. O. McClandhan to make and sell the famous Eureka Furniture Dressing and Gilt Finish, I am now ready to deliver the goods. Phone orders to A. L. Jobe, 139. Anyone wishing the agency should see me

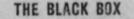
A complete line of FIRE-STONE auto casings and inner

Earl

THE BLACK BOX

Farmers Look Here.

the Bob Martin Grocery Co.



Rainer, Floydada, Texas.

ing meeting.

Seeded Ribbon Cane Seed at

The celebrated FIRESTONE tubes at G. F. West Co.

# The Farmers State Bank

# **NEARLY A MILLION DOLLARS IN THE GUARANTY FUND**

Every State Bank in Texas which fails for any reason the depositors are immediately paid from the Guaranty Fund of the State of Texas, which is now nearly One Million Dollars.

If your money is in a STATE bank you have no cause for worry, for there has never a Depositor lost a Dollar in the State Banks of Texas.

This Bank is a Guaranty Fund Bank and offers you the protection for your money to which you are entitled.

ESTABLISHED 1912

SERVICE





# MERKEL WINS 9 TO ABILENE'S

score.

artist to locate the plate coupled the best results have come from to scattered hits of the locals in the northwestern states, it grows which Howard out-shined his from 4 to 10 feet high and yields team mates gave Merkel their from four to eight tons of dried score while a loosly played sixth hay per acre, making it very deby the Merkel gardners together sirable for the stock raiser, and with Abilen?'s also widely scat- under ordinary conditions protered hits enabled the visitors to duces from 400 to 1,000 pounds all but even up the score.

#### A Healing Salve for Burns. Chapped Hands and Sore Nipples

As a healing salve for burns, sores, a scar. Price 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

Mrs. F. M. Cordell Very Low.

Wherever tried it produces more and better hay to the acre than any other grass know, and it is expected to cover the entire country as no other grass has ever done. This year experiments have been made by agricultural Merkel celebrated the opening stations from Maryland to the opening of the baseball seas- Oregon with astonishing success. on Thursday of this week by be- While it is presumed to grow ating Abilene out of an 8 to 9 more luxuriantly with a larger Inability of the Abslene slab in the southern states, some of

number of cuttings each season of seed per acre.

Sudan grass resembles the oldtime Johnson grass in general appearance as well as the sorsore nipples and chapped hands Cham- ghums, but possesses all of their berlain's Salve is most excellent. It merits, with none of the oballays the pain of a burn almost in- jectionable features. Being an stantly, and unless the injury is very annual, it dies down every year, severe, heals the parts without leaving so does not become a pest, but may be grown where most desired. It matures in from sixty to eighty-five days from sowing and makes an abundant supply fer it to alfalfa hay and poultry the rain belt, prairie and hill country; in fact, seems to grow reasonably well in all kinds of seed. It is the grass that laughs at drouth and smiles at rain. SEEDING: - Sudan Grass should not be planted until the soil has become warm in the spring. It can be sown any time during the summer as a catch can be sown in rows 18 to 24 a drill or sown broadcast by hand. In the semi-arid sections it is much more profitable to seed it in rows and cultivate. Seeded per acre of good seed are sufficient. In rows 18 to 24 inches

ma Cordell, wife of F. M. Cord. of excellent forage, silage and ell, has been gradually sinking hay. All kinds of live stock preher condition was such that like the seed. It is well adapted to the arid regions, does fine in soil in the south, east, north and west. It is indeed a wonderful acquaintances. Her daughter grass and worthy of a trial by everyone who can procure the Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent crop so long as 70 to 80 days indruggist of Spirit Lake, Iowa, says: tervene before the date of the "Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly first expected frost. Sudan grass inches apart and cultivated like and pleasant in effect. Price, 25 cents. corn, or it can be drilled in with in rows 36 inches apart, 3 pounds In 1909 a few seeds were sent apart 4 to 6 pounds, and drilled



# Better Bread Fresh Daily

Beginning Saturday morning we will give free a box of candy to each of the first fifty ladies who enter our bakery and confectionery and make purchases.

Be sure to get one of these Exquisite Boxes

of Candy .- Absolutely Fresh

# The Telephone 'S. O. S. Saved the Farm

"One day last fall my wife and I started for a drive, leaving the house deserted. A short while after we'd passed Jones' place, Mrs. Jones saw smoke coming from our roof.

"She ran to the telephone-Go: Mrs. Reed who operates the switchboard located in her home. Mrs. Reed called all the nearby people on the line (two long rings - the emergency signal,) and they put the fire out with

Advertised Letters little damage." Brown, Mitchell A Telephone on the Farm connected with the Bell System is a Lain, Bill protection and safe-guard in all Williams, Mrs. Kate emergencies. Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co. White, Mrs. M. T 4.R.'14. These letters will be sent to the dead let er office April 42. H. C. Williams, P. M. Cheap Groceries Merkel, Texas Pay Cash for your groceries Stomach Trouble Cured and keep out of the hole. Mrs. H. G. Cleveland, Arnold, Pa., 100 pounds Boquet flour ...... \$3.90 writes, "For some time I suffered from .) 80 stomach trouble. I would have sour 35 pound sack of meal... stomach and feel bloated after eating. 100 pounds Eagle brand Nothing benefited me until I got Cham-Sugar. 6 60 berlain's Tablets. After taking two 25 pound Eagle brand bottles of them I was cured." For sale sugar 1 65 by all dealers. 10 pounds co tolene. 1.30 **Cotton Seed For Sale** 10 pounds Jewel Lard. .95 See Bob Martin for high grade 10 pound King Cornus 65 cotton seed, grown by A. M. Sirup. Ferguson, Sherman, Texas. 10 pounds of Country 26t4pa Sorghum 60 12 boxes Search Light Rheumatic Pains Relieved Matches 40 Why suffer from rheumatism when 25 cent can of K. C. Baking elief may be had at so small a cost? Powders .. Mrs. Elmer Hatch, Peru, Ind. writes: 5 gallon good Oil ..... .40 "I have been subject to attacks of Pure Meabere cotton seed rheumatism for years. Chamberlain's 1 50 Liniment always relieves me immediaper bushel. tely, and I take pleasure in recom-And have lots of bargains that mending it to others." we don't mention, so it will pay you to buy your groceries at A TEXAS WONDER. Walter Clark's The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dis LIV-VER LAX stimulates the liver. A harmless vegetable solves gravel, cures diabetes, weak compound. Any child can take and lame backs, rheumatism and it safely. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust. all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and THE BLACK BOX women, regulates bladder troub-Seed Popcorn at the Bob Mar- les in children. If not sold by tin Grocery Co. your druggist, will be sent by Texas is some state. Pangman's mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months treatment? ice cream is the best in Texas, and seldom fails to perfect a cure sold at the Elite Confectionery. Send for Texas testimonials. De Mrs. S. H. L. Swafford was in E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Abilene Tuesday visiting her Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists. daugeter Mrs. Rush Buford who was operated on for appendicitis No need of calomel with its at an Abilene sanitarium last nauseating effects. LIV-VERweek. LAX is happy in results. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust knows about Mrs. E M. Rust. LIV-VER-LAX. You need it W. O. W. for your liver. Merkel Camp No. 719 meets Get pure Sudan Seed at the second and fourth Friday nights of each month. Bob Martin Grocery Co. W. M. Elliott, C. C THE BLACK BOX S. Hamilton, Clerk

# SIGNALS OF DISTRESS

Merkel People Should Know How to Read and Heed Them

Disordered kidneys give many sight nals of distress.

The secretions may be dark, contain ediment.

Passages are sometimes frequent, scanty, painful.

Backache is often present day and ight.

Headaches and dizzy spells may oc-

Weakened kidneys should receive uick help. Don't delay! Use a special kidney

remedy. Doan's Kidney Pills are for weak

kidneys, backache and urinary disorders Merkel evidence proves their worth Mrs. N. Thompson, Thornton street, Merkel, says: "My kidneys were weak and I had pain across the small of my back. I got Doan's Kidney Pills at the Rust & McCauley Drug Co. and was quickly cured."

Price 50 cts, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy-get Doan's Kidney Pills-the same that Mrs. Thompson had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props. Buffalo, N, Y.

For the past ten days Grandand at the time of going to press death is momentarily expected

This aged lady has lived in Merkel from the time the country was a wild west and is well known and loved by pioneer citizenship as well as all her new Mrs. J. D. Jones of the Canyon and S. S. Brandon also of the Canyon and J. G. Brandan of Putnam have been with her almost constantly during the last few days.

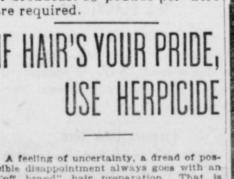
#### For Constipation.

the best thing on the market for constipation." Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable For sale by all dealers.

SUDAN GRASS

"Its History."

to Texas and distributed among or broadcast 16 pounds per acre the several experimental stations are required. under the general direction of the A. and M. college. The reports uniformly placed this new grass at the head of the list, and after being subjected to all sorts of severe tests it was pronounced superior to anything among the grasses. The Farmer's congress next passed upon it with enthusi- "off brand" hair preparation. That is astic favor, and soon every pro- part of the purchase, just as much so as the label on the bottle. gressive farmer in the southwest was wanting the seed, which became so scarce that last year it ances and friends hundreds who have sold from \$2 to \$4 prr pound. It know that you can do the same. The reis cheaper this season, with probably 1,500,000 pounds of seed check failing hair Newbro's Herpleide is reliable and often producing results that grown. Everyone who grew it are little short of marvelous. Newbro's Herpicide in 50c and \$1.00 sizes last season expects to sow it the next, so the demand is still on satisfied your money will be refunded. the increase in this country.



You don't get this with a bottle of Newbro's Herpicide. It is not an experi-

H. C. BURROUGHS.





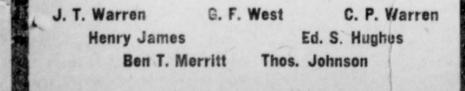
FOR SALE ONLY BY

monies were made from certain metals or commodities with an intrinsic value equal to the face value stamped thereon. Today such money is used only in making change or for the smallest transactions. The business of the world is conducted upon paper which represents the confidence of the business world in the government, corporation or individual issuing the paper. Therefore the greatest asset a man, corporation or government can have is the absolute confidence of the people with whom they have business relations.

For over ten years this bank has been serving the business interests of this community and today we have the absolute confidence of the public, as may be judged by the very large volume of business that is being transacted daily through us.

A genuine public service, a service to all the people is what we try to render. You are welcome here at all times. Our officers are approachable-there are no formalities. Call on us frequently.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



adies Silk Hose, \$1.00 values for 50c. The Star Store.

Just received a shipment of

W. L. Diltz Sr., was in Baird the first of the week attending the Presbytery.

Seed Popcorn at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Warren left for Dallas Tuesday night for a short visit.

Same goods for less money at J. A. Duckett's. The price is the thing.

Mrs. Geo. West visited her ister, Mrs. B. A. Cox of Abiene Sunday.

"You cant be worried about something to eat." Just telethe Anchor Mercantile Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelly of Abilene were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Orr Sunday.

Mrs. General Jones of Loving- dress Emile Reck, Agent, Weathton, N. M., is here visiting her erford, Texas. parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Teaff.

#### THE BLACK BOX

Mise Tennie Pope, who is teaching school at Tye, visited her mother the latter part of last week.

Mebane and Lone Star Cotton Seed at the Bob Martin Gro. Co.

Mrs. S. M. Hunter of Florey, Andrews county, is here visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sublett.

Mr. and Mrs. Ei Smith of Los Angeles, Cal., came in last week on an indefinite stay with the latter's grandparents, Capt. and Mrs. J. T. Tucker.

LIV-VER-LAX is harmlessnot a deadly poison like calomel. Any child is safe and happy by the use of LIV-VER-LAX, Ask light work. Care P. O. Box 134, Mrs. E. M. Rust.

J. G. Jones, representive of Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure. the Texas Harvester Co., depart-ed yesterday for Waco and Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00 points in central Texas where he will look after business matters for his company.



Mrs. S. L. Davis left Tuesday

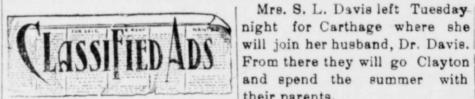
Stock For Sale.

Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form.

Some Help.

Made Immediate Success.

And Build Up The System



their parents. Wake up your liver. A lazy EGGS FOR SALE-Thoroughbred White Leghorn eggs for liver brings on the worst of diseases. Take LIV-VER-LAX sale at 50 cents per setting. now. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust. Small supply on hand at all times. Phone Mrs. J. A. Wood-

ard. Phone 230. I have some good work horses WANTED-Jobs on farms for and mules for sale for cash or large boys 16 years and older; to start them at small wages. Ad-Nubia, Texas. 1Feb3mo

FOUND - Automobile jack. To Drive Out Malaria Owner can get same by calling at the Mail office and paying for TASTELESS chill TONIC. You know this office and giving description what you are taking, as the formula is of jack.

LOST-Package from Woodroof's containing a boy's suit. Finder return to Woodroof's

store. Samantha West, Route 4. 1tpd NOTICE-If you are sick with any cronic trouble and want

Surles, Putnam, Texas. 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 sys-tem. A true tonic. For adults and children, 500 LOST-Several letters, trans-

portation script of J. C. Hopkins, Sweetwater, Texas. Return to Mail office and be rewarded. LOST-Pucket book containing come familiar to Europeans until 1704,

THE BLACK BOX

45 cents. Return to Mail office. when Galland translated them into French. Scholars cast doubt on the Wanted-A horse for its feed; authenticity of some of Galland's work, accusing him-like Fitzgerald and Omar Khayyam-of inventing Merkel, Texas. rather than translating, but with the

immediate and immense.

Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching. Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first ap dication gives Ease and Rest. Soc. the past ten days.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

#### THE BLACK BOX

D. C. Herring and J. P. Sublett left Tuesday for Coryell county. They will make the trip through the country in Mr. Herring's car.

LIV-VER-LAX relieves all ills of the liver and stomach. Get it from Mrs. E. M. Rust.

T. J. Coggin of El Paso was good notes, also some high grade here from Big Springs Tuesday Durham bull calves. J. D. Jones, on business. He returned to his 26t4pd home Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Shafer of Nolan county have moved to Take the Old Standard GROVE'S Merkel to make their home, going from here to Abilene Tuesprinted on every label, showing it is day to visit friends.

> Get your loose cotton seed.hulls and meal from G. R. Gazzoway.

LIV-VER-LAX is purely vegetable. Just what you need to tone up your system. Ask Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Mrs. W. B. Alsobrook of Rising Star, en route from Lubbock where she has been visiting her son, Reed, spent Friday here with relatives and friends.

#### THE BLACK BOX

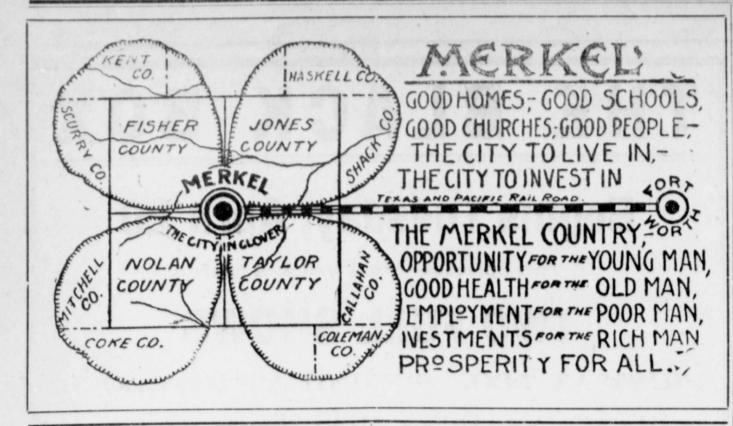
F. J. Smith, W. E. Douglass The "Arabian Nights" did not beand Henry King spent a short part of this week on the river angling for the finny tribe but returned home with few reports that would ordinarily be accepted from fishermen so early in the public the success of the tales was season.

> J. G. Brandon of Putman, came in Tuesday to visit his mother, Mrs. F. M. Cordell, who has been dangerously ill during

Plles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Mrs. Datus-"Do you find your gymnasium work helpful?" Mrs. Artigue -"Helpful! Why, this morning I was the first one to reach a bargain counter out of a bunch of a hundred startto get well, write Prof. J. H.

The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents



## 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 p person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The il 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 in-terest to readers of the Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or a telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurence of unusual inter-est transpires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars

#### VERY LONG ODDS.

The gambling instinct is alive in men and women even in times of war. The Lloyds of London usually determine the odds on almost any hazard. The supposedly insurance corporation is always willing to close a wager with any one on any topic under the sun which permits of speculation.

Just at present a report from London shows that this firm is willing to wager even money that the war will be over by Aug. 1, and 10 to 1 that it will be over by Dec. 1.

It will be noticed that the bet is as to when the war will be terminated, but they do not say how it will be ended or in whose favor. This leaves a somewhat open field. Many are disposed to think that the war will be prolonged at least a year, while others are convinced that world's peace will be restored in a much shorter time.

War is always uncertain. No one can say just when it will be declared or when peace will be restored.

#### AS JOSEPHUS SAYS.

- If it wasn't for the water,
- If it wasn't for the trips
- In the smelly little wherries
- To those awful iron ships,
- If it wasn't for the cannon-Which I'm dreadfully afrain of-
- And the terrible explosives
- Which the shells they shoot are made of.
- If it wasn't for the captains
- And the other sailor folk, Who apparently regard me

As some kind of funny joke,

- I would really like the navy:
- Quite delightful it would be,
- If there wasn't any sailors
  - And there wasn't any sea. -Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Pasted Paragraphs

#### OH, PSHAW!

Old Noah crawled out of the hay. And to the deck he made his way; He looked around, and to his son He said: "I see the wets have won." -Cincinnati Enquirer.

And Ham, his son, said: "Look here dad, The whiskey business is quite bad: Russia's dry, England's on the brink. Where can a fellow get a drink?"

-Birmingham Age-Herald. Then Shem he shut his weather eye And to his brother made reply. "Look sharp, old chap, and you will find The tiger that we saved is 'blind.' "

-Memphis Commercial Appeal. No doubt the boys across the brine Now think that it is hying time Across the pond and to the States, Where rum is thick with lots of snakes.

# Playing the Piano is Easy

All you have to do is to put the right finger on the right key at the right time.

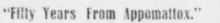
Still there is only one Paderewski, and all the amateur playing put together will not equal the playing of a scale by that master of his art.

The oil business is easy. All that is necessary is to get the right crudes, manufacture them properly and arrange for their delivery at the proper time.

Still there is only one Texaco mark and only one Texaco quality. The "Made in Texas" quality distinguished by the Red-Star-Green-T emblem, world-famous in the oil business.

Buy the Texaco oils from our agent in your town.

#### The Texas Company General Offices, Houston, Texas



No. 32

A bet of 10 to one is a good gambling proposition on almost any venture. The even money proposition is not so alluring. The war, as the Lloyds speculate, is likely to end any time, but how it will end or what terms of peace will be are questions that no human mind can determine.

the allies will force Germany into submission, but uniformed government employe. On the followthose who have followed the events of the war will not be easily convinced that it is an even money bet that Germany will ever surrender.

agree to certain terms of peace, and may even dreesed, but how it travels, through what maconcede certain possessions, but that he will cap- chinery of sorting, classifying, handling and itulate, making an absolute surrender, is not at transportation it passes, the average person all probable. If the allies insist upon this the war knows little, and for the moment at least cares in Europe may be prolonged for several years. less. If he thinks at all of the big city post-The Germans are stubborn. They may be defeat- office, the mental picture usually is merely that ed, but they will not surrender.

Odds among the men who bet have changed from time to time since the war began. On Nov. that the war would end before Christmas.

We are now advancing into April. The snows is particularly true in Chicago. of Europe will soon melt and the armies will have passed a strenuous winter, but so far as the ordinary mind can observe we are no nearer the end of the war than we were in November. - Commercial Appeal.

money on the slaughter of human lives Per- lately been adopted by large department stores haps the war will be over by August 1. We sin- and business houses throughout the United States, cerely hope that it will but do not desire to place was first conceived and put into operation there any money on the proposition even though we and made in the postoffice machine shop.-Popbelieve a year of fighting will see the end of this ular Mechanics. struggle. Time may work a wonderful change and even with the indicator favoring the present actions of the Russians and their associates the follows: "There is more fun in a gallon of gaso-Germans have a death grip on a land that may line than a barrel of booze." He may be right require years to break. Peace is the best sound- but the two won't mix. ing solution. August 1 is fair if they are not going too fast to stop in that length of time and December 1 seems probable and very possible, at wife were, told a friend that he often held her least the longer it goes the worse it will get and hands for hours at a time. He qualified in the betting is out of order on this fight.

Canned tongue is divided into two classes. One kind is put up in a packing house and the other is on a squeaky graphophone record.

Every merchant should meet their brother merchant at the City Hall Monday night.

#### OUR FASTEST POSTOFFICE.

A letter is dropped into a post box at the street The consensus of opinion is that in the long run corner. A few minutes later it is collected by a ing morning it is delivered at its destination. whether that be 50 or 500 miles away.

The purchaser of a postage stamp knows that During the course of months the Kaiser may his letter will reach the person to whom it is adof a magnified country office.

If he were to take the trouble to inquire, however, and could find some one who knew the 1 it was an even money bet that the allies would ropes and had the time to show him around he defeat Germany before Christmas. On Thanks- would see see something to marvel at in the giving Day the odds still stood even money, but progress of the score or more stages in the not that the allies would defeat Germany, but progress of his letter from the post box to delivery. This would be true in any large city-it

> While it is not generally known, the Chicago postoffice is more completely equipped with mechanical devices for the rapid handling of the mails than any other institution of its kind in the

world. The greater part of the machinery now We fail to see the humorous side of betting in use in the postal service, much of which has

> A Merkel merchant in advertising a free motorcycle placed a sign in his window that reads as

> A man in explaining how congenial he and his statement by further stating he had to do it to keep his head from being knocked off. Some love.

> Billy Sunday got \$1.62 per convertion for 50,000 convertions in Philadelphia. Not a bad job.

> Fishermen's luck and fishermen's yarns will begin to float immediately.

Richmond, Va., April 13, 1915 (Special) - Fifty years after the destruction of the Confederate capital and the end of the bitter War between the States, the gray.clad veterans of the South. ern armies are to gather in the old stronghold of the Confederate States for the 1915 Reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, June 1st-3rd.

Ceremonies, the most solemn and unique are to be staged in Richmond during reunion week. and from every part of the South comes word of the thousands of visitors who are to attend. Arrangements for the care and comfort of 10,000 veterans have been made by the general committee, headed by Captain John Lamb. The granting of a flat railway rate of one cent a mile to Richmond for the big affair is expected to draw to the city 100,000 loyal Southern people.

The outstanding feature of the week will be the formal opening of the Confederate Memorial Institute, the imposing treasure house for relics of the War between the States, which has been erected in Richmond after years of effort. Another feature will be the laying of the corner stone of the statue of Stonewell Jack-800.

Beautiful Monument Avenue is to be converted into a court of honor, in which all the parades and ceremonies of the week will take place. Militia commands from all parts of the South, and from the North as well, are to attend. The event gives promise of being noteworthy in the ex. treme.

Invitations have been extended

by the general committee to the occasion many will accept. Governors of all the States in- In addition, the committee has Lee.

**10c** For Your Cotton

Would not compare with prices we are making on Seasonable Merchandise. Note some of the prices. Trade where your money goes farthest. All goods guaranteed satisfactory or money refunded. Don't send your money to mail-order houses; in fact, you can't afford to, as WE SAVE YOU MONEY.

## COMPARE OUR PRICES

Special-One lot ladies 75c waists	49c
Clean-up-prices on children's and misses Middie	
Blouses, worth 95c to \$1.00, only	39c
Big lot of children's Dresses, white and colored_	35c
Ladies underwear of all kinds atSpecial P	rices
Ladies' and children's Hats atHalf I	Price
Men and boys' Hats atLess than Cost to Manufac	cture
Large Bandana Handkerchiefs, 2 for	5c
Men's Silk Hose, per pair	_18c
Matches, double dip, best grade, 2 boxes	
Ink tablets, 2 for	5c
Boys' Caps, worth 25c, only	_10c
Still selling 10c Shoe Polish for	5c

#### Don't fail to see our Complete Line of Paint

If you don't trade here we both lose money.



hugh Lee, and Miss Mary Custis

cluded in the organization of the invited to be present the follow- Richmond is preparing to ob-United Confederate Veterans, ing ladies, wives of distinguished serve with fitting ceremonies the and it is confidently expected that Confederate chieftains: Mrs. J. semi-centennial of its rise from in view of the importance of the E. B. Staurt, Mrs. W. H. Fitz. the ashes.

## BUTMAN

As we could not see the Havana bout several of us went down to Abilene to be at the singing convention and now we feel slighty eken.

Rev. York preached at Butman Saturday night and Sunday. Many farmers are now planting their feed. Some are intending to plant cotton this week. Wheat and oats are looking fine. The min last week put a good season in the ground as well as an inible smile on many faces in addition. Corn is up and looking fine.

Mrs. Cora Hunter, Jewel Anderson and Walter Hunter attended the singing convention at Abilene Sunday.

) The last literary at Nubia was a pronounced success. It will meet again Friday night. Everybody come out and encourage us. There will be singing at Cross Roads Sunday afternoon.

There was no school in Miss Dota's room at Butman last week. She was unable to teach owing to her father's death.

Uncle Dan and Aunt Dollie Matthews visited at the homes of their children in Merkel Satur. day and Sunday.

The fruit supper and party at the home of John Hunter Friday night was enjoyed by all.

Bennie Lewis has fixed his bicvole up. He now thinks he is about the only "it" around here.

G. C. Bankhead says the singing convention at Abilene was the best he ever attended.

As the writer has been slack in keeping tab on the gathering of news, thus "short potting" himself of circumstances to report, it necessarily follows that he should be ever mindful hereafter in keeping one eye on the circumstances of the day and the other on the girls.

#### Nething so Good for a Cough or cold

When you have a cold you want the best medicine obtainable; so as to get rid of it with the least possible delay. There are many who consider Chamberlains Cough Remedy unsurpassed. Mrs. J. Boroff, Elida, Ohio, says, "Ever since my daughter Ruth was



J. A. DUCKETT'S STORE **MERKEL, TEXAS** ...

Next door to Sharp's Grocery Store

#### \$2.25 GUARANTEED HOUSE PAINT \$1.75

Best Acme Quality House Paints in many desirable shades, guaranteed to be the highest grade \$1.75 paint on the market, none better, to be sold while it lasts, per gallon

**POSITIVE PROOF** of the durability of this paint to withstand weather and afford the utmost protection to buildings and homes of all kinds has been made here in Merkel. It has been sold and recommended by Rust & McCauley Drug Co. for more than 5 years.

GUARANTEE-After being thinned gallon for gallon with pure linseed oil for 1st coat, and ½ gal. to gallon for second coating Acme Quality New Era Brand paint will not crack, peel, blister or chip off for five years on 3-coat work and for three years on 2-coat work. THAT THE USE of Acme Quality New Era Brand paint will save you 25 per cent to 33% per cent of the ordinary cost of any high grade mixed paint or white lead, and that gallon for gallon Acme Quality paint will cover more surface.

#### EXTRA Best Quality Roof or Barn Paint per gallon - - - 95c

#### Varnish and Stains 15c per Can and Up

Varnish and stains of all kinds which you can use yourself for refinishing furniture and wood work, floors, etc., in oak, cherry, mahogany and other beautiful shades at per can 15c, 25c, 60c and 75c for the large sizes

#### Enamels for Refinishing Iron Beds, etc., 20c

Best grade Enamels for iron beds in white and all colors at per can 35c and \_\_\_\_\_ 20c

#### Grecian Enamel Half Price

Grecian Enamel in pink, ivory, green or canary colors for inside work 65c quart can 75c now two quart cans\_\_\_\_\_

#### Neals Carriage and Buggy Paint 30c

Neals best carriage or buggy paint in raven coach black, red, or acme wine at per can 30c, 45c and 75c

#### 50c Wall Paper 25c per Double Roll

One lot of good 50c Varnish Tile wall paper for kitchen and bath rooms 25c per double roll

The above prices will move this stock quickly and we advise you to buy now in order to secure your choice selections. Remember we have a paint for every purpose at the Lowest Possible Price.

#### This stock was bought at Bankrupt for Quick Action

#### SHILOH

Rev. Horn of Abilene filled his appointment at Shiloh Saturday and Sunday. Rev. G. W. Scott preached Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox arrived Sunday morning from Waco on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. S.L. Grayson.

Miss Edith Mayberry came in from Abilene Saturday afternoon and attended services at Shiloh Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Rollins came in from Jayton last week on a visit to the former's sister. Mrs. Cebe Mayberry.

Uncle Terrell Winters was on the sick list a few days last week but was able to attend services Sunday.

Grandma Tyner and son, Milton, moved last week to the farm recently purchased from S. L. Grayson.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hale visited relatives near Sweetwater Creek Sunday.

The singing at J. H. Grayson's Sunday afternoon was enjoyed by all present.

R. A. Rollins is working up a singing school to begin at Shiloh church house Monday night week. We believe Shiloh can boast of having some pretty fair singers now and we hope the young people will take an interest in the singing school and grasp the opportunity offered them and let the people know what the Shiloh young people can do if they will only try.

There was a singing at S. L. Grayson's Sunday night. Those present had an enjoyable time.

Misses Mollie and Willie Hardy of Noodle spent Monday night with Misses Lyda and Nina Beavers and attended the singing at S. L. Grayson's.

a.



Health of our community is good at this writing.

Farmers are making good use of this beautiful spring weather. Some are planting feed and some cotton.

Mrs. Ben Moore of Abilene

was cured of a severe cold and caugh by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy two years ago, I have felt kindly disposed toward the manufacturers of that preparation. I know of nothing so quick torelieve a cough or cure a cold." For sale by all dealer.

## **ROUTE 3**

Health of this community is very good at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross Martin visited A. H. Barnes and family Sunday.

The school teacher of Castle Peak who was called to the bedside of her sister last week at Abdene is back on duty this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Riney of Nubia visited Mr. and Mrs. John Jones Sunday.

Quite a crowd of young people enjoyed a dance at Mr. Greason's Friday night.

Roy Riney and John Jones were on Castle Peak Sunday and killed a rattle snake which had ten rattles

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hathaway spent the day with Mr. and Mrs. arborough Sunday.

S. S Smith of Mt. Pleasant died Sunday night and was buried at Merkel Monday evening.

The farmers of this community are very busy planting maize and cotton seed. We are having some beautiful spring weather. , We are glad to say the good people of this community have organized a Sunday school at the Riney school house. We trust that 'everyone near will attend and the Sunday school will be a ben, fit to all.

#### THE BLACK BOX

A Cure for Sour Stomach.

better." For sale by all dealers.



April 15. Order early. McClung

**Breeders Notice.** 

#### Tomato and Potato Plants.

& Suttle, Milano, Texas. Dwarf champion and McGee pirs. Wm. M. Thompson, of Battle tomatoes, the two best varities Creek, Mich., writes: "I have been for windy countries \$1.50 for 500 troubled with indigestion, sour stomach or \$2.50 per 1,000 delivered, at my place 216 miles east of and bad breath. After taking two ready now. Dooley yam potato Noodle. S. H. Meeks. 26tf well. These tablets are splendid-none slip \$2.00 per 1,000 delivered. Potato slips ready for delivery THE BLACK BOX

J. W. POWELL, Painter In J. A. DUCKETT'S STORE, Merkel, Texas

Next door to Sharp's Grocery

NOODLE

Health of the community very good at this writing. Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Church were visiting thh former's parents in Merkel Saturday and Sunday.

A. J. Barbee returned to Paducah Saturday. Wallace Criswell of Dallas

spent the past week with his father of this place. are all smiles.

Misss Helen Thompson of Sinclair is the guest of friends and relatives this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Walker of and a good tank, all in fine work-Kale spent Sunday with Wm ing order. I will sell at a bargain. Eoff and family. I also have some extra show

Messre. D. C. Herring, U. C. cases that I wish to sell. Any one Thompson and Mrs. Clyde Her- in need of either will save meney Merkel Saturday visiting Mrs. E. ring motored to Abilene Monday. by figuring with me. Mrs. E. M. M. Rust. Mrs. Wm. Eoff returned from Rust. Roscoe Wednesday after a few

days visit with her daughter, Mrs. Paul Harkins.

A number of young people en. not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. joyed a singing at Mr. and Mrs. U. C. Thompson's Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Sadler of business transactions and financially Merkel motored to L. L. Sad- able to carry out any obligations made dler's Monday.

Miss Juanita Thompson, the pionic last Saturday at the Cedar and mucous surfaces of the system. Mountains. At the noon hour

ed by forty-six persons who pation. I am standing the Britain jack were present. After all had finished their dinner they went to Sweetwater creek to spend the afternoon. Kodaking, fishing

visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Shannon Moore, Sunday.

Our school is progressing nicely. They rendered quite a nice little program at the school house Friday night.

Rev. Hudson, our Methodist preacher, filled his regular appointment Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Foster and and ball playing were enjoyed little daughter visited at Compere until time to start back. At 3:30 Sunday.

o'clock the wagons were loaded Mr. and Mrs. Frank Demery and ready to start home. Each visited the latter's parents, Mr. and everyone enjoyed themselve and Mrs. N. Moore, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hays gave the Wesley Ely, who is attending young people a singing Sunday school at Abilene, spent a few night. All report an enjoyable time.

Several of the Noodle people Miss Ethel Henry is on the sick list this week-not able to attend Sam Rosson purchased a new school.

buggy Saturday, and the girls George Sherrel had the misfortune to stick a pin through his hand which is not getting on very well. It is badly swollen.

## **NEWS FROM TRENT**

Miss Missouri Strahan was in

Miss Geta Beckham and brother were in Merkel Tuesday evening attending the Baird - Wilson show. Our n w newspaper, the Trent Enterprise, is scheduled to make its initial appearance Friday of this week. It will be known as J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and the Trent Enterprise and will be believe him perfectly honorable in all under the management of Mr. Caperton, an experienced newspaper man.

The motorcycle fever seems to have struck the younger generaintermediate teacher, gave her Hall's Catarrh "Cure is taken inter- tion of Trent much like the Ford pupils and several friends a nally, acting directly upon, the blood fever is taking all over the Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents country.

T. L. Stevens was in Merkel the lunch was spread and enjoy- Take Hall's Family Pills for consti- the first of the week looking after business matters.

> Ernest and Lee Massey were in Merkel Tuesday on business.

Seed at the Bob Martin Gro. Co. THE BLACK BOX

by his firm.

to the fullest extent.

days last week with homefolks.

were Merkel visitors Saturday.

I have a hollow wire lighting

system consisting of four lamps

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Re-

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

We, the undersigned, have known F.

National Bank of Commerce,

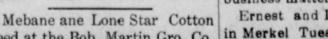
per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

adv

Toledo, O.

ward for any case of Catarrh that can-

THE BLACK BOX



# Consolidation Step-Lively Sale CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THIS WEEK AT WOODROOF BROTHERS

In order to reduce our stock to the capacity of our building. Great Slaughter Prices. A complete stock and the newest goods to select from. The consolidation of Woodroof Bros. large stores at Waxahachie with the Merkel store makes our stock the largest and most complete ever shown in Merkel.

## To-Day and Saturday mark the Closing of this Event. Better take advantage of these remarkable prices while they last-Do it Now

LADIES SILK PETTICOATS-Ladies messaline Silk Pettcoats in all colors, worth \$3.00 LADIES SILK DRESSES-One lot ladies \$15 one-piece silk dresses, this sale price .... \$7.50 LINEN LACES-One lot 25c and 35c linen laces, extra special for this sale, per yd...11c ASSORTED RIBBONS-1 lot ribbons worth 15c to 25c per yard, this sale price per yd..10c LADIES SKIRTS-Ladies skirts worth formerly \$5 to \$7, sale price ..... \$3,50

LADIES VESTS-Ladies vests worth 15c, this sale price each
NEW SPRING GINGHAMS—Beautiful line new spring ginghams worth 10c per yard, sale price per yard
BROWN DOMESTIC-Regular 8%c sea is- land domestic, full 36-inch wide, price6%c
VALANCIENE LACES—One lot valanciene laces, worth 10c and 12%c per yd5c
EMBROIDERY—One lot embroidery worth 35c, this sale price per yard

5c BUTTONS-All kinds of 5c buttons, per card
10c TOWELING-Crash toweling regular 10c value, now
COTTON CHECKS-Good round thread cot- ton checks, worth 6c per yard, sale price 3 % c
GOLD MEDAL BLEACHING-Gold medal bleached domestic, 36 inches wide, best 10c grade, nice soft finish, per yard
CLARKS O. N. T. THREAD-Clarks O.N.T. thread, all numbers, this sale per spool 4c

MENS SUITS-One lot mens suits worth \$15, \$18.50, \$20.00 and \$25.00, half price
or
\$1.00 SHIRTS-Mens regular \$1.00 shirts now for
MENS WORK SHIRTS-One lot mens 50c work shirts, this sale price
STETSON HATS-Mens \$5 John B. Stetson nats, this sale price \$3.75
MENS HATS—One assortment men and boys mats worth up to \$2.50 your choice

# WOODROOF BROTHERS The Quality Store



MRS. W. H. DICKSON, EDITOR



Mr. J. T. Browning and Miss Mowatte Stonecipher of Noodle and Mr. L. L. Stonecipher and Miss Ruby Browning also of the same community were married at Abilene Saturday.



#### Isom-York.

SatuNday afternoon at 4 p m Mr. G. B. Isom, of this place, and Miss Mattie York of Brownwood were united in marriage at the home of the brides parents.

The following evening the contracting parties left over the After Four Years of Discouraging I had gotten so weak I could not stand, Sante Fe for View where they will make their future home and where Mr. Isom is 'engaged in farming. The many Merkel friends of the groom are extending congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Isom.



Conditions, Mrs. Bullock Gave Up in Despair. Husband Came to Rescue.

and I gave up in despair.

At last, my husband got me a bottle of Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I commenced taking it. From the very first dose, I could tell it was helping me. I can now walk two miles without its

W. W. WHEELER Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado Insurance Agent

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. MCMASTER

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office 2nd floor with Dr. Geo. L. Miller

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.

Practicing Physician

Merkel, Texas

Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-

Office at Gritnes Drug Store

reside in the future.

The Mail joins the many friends of the contracting parties in extending congratulations.

Elbert Touchstone entertained a few guests Friday evening at his home in West Merkel. Candy making and games were greatly enjoyed by all. Those present were Misses Myrtle Dupree, Winnie Sharp, Ina Mae Adams, Mamie Ellis, Bessie Touchstone, Messrs, Merle Burroughs, Will Merritt, Lewis Swann, Ed Scott and the host.

Clarence Hamm entertained several couples at his home Friday evening. Rook and progressive 42 were the diversions. His mother served dainty refreshments to Misses Mary Anna Mayfield, Mamie Moore, Kathryn Henderson, Messrs. Q. Rust, Roger and Loring Hamblet.

The Twentieth Century club will meet Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'olock with Mrs. Ruby Harris at the home of her mother, Mrs. Alice Touchstones.

#### Methodist Baraca

The Baraca class reached its highwater mark again last Sunday. Every member seemed to be full of enthusiasm and interest for the class all of which was shown by the presence of thirty two members some being new members.

Mr. Johnson taught the class as Mr. Morris was not able to teach the class. On entering the room Mr. Johnson said, "I see very clearly why Mr. Morris became so interested in the class It gives me inspiration to appear before such an enthusiastical body of men."

ing was held Friday evening in Joel Counts, Secretary, Roy which there was a great deal of Coats, Assistant Secretary, interest taken although the num- Stanley King, Treasure and ber was few. At this meeting Jasper Tucker, Press Reporter.



Better cookies, cake and biscuits, too. All as light, fluffy, tender and delicious as mother used to bake. And just as whole-some. For purer Baking Pow-der than Calumet cannot be had at any price. Ask your grocer.

RECEIVED HIGHEST AWARDS World's Pure Food Expesition, Chicago, III. Paris Expesition, France, March, 1912

Don't be misled. Buy Calume economical more wholesome gives best r tet is far superior to sour milk and soda.

the following officers were elected: John Morgan, President. An interesting business meet. Ernest Rogers, Vice President,

Abilene. They were chaperoned by Prof. Witt and Miss Burkett, graduates of Simmons College of 1912. The autos were in my left side. gaily decorated with streamers The doctor was called in, and his treat- it will do. Ask him. He will recomof purple and gold and class ment relieved me for a while, but I was mend it. Begin taking Cardui today. penants. A program was given, soon confined to my bed again. After Write to: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special The senior song of the Simmons that, nothing seemed to do me any good. Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 61-page book, "Home 1912 class "Purple and Gold" composed by Miss Burkett was rendered with Miss Burkett at the piano. A lovely two course luncheon was served in the Domestic Science Annex to Misses Mamie Ellis, Olive Teaff. Almeda Harris, Zora West, Beulah Garrett, Nell Tracy, Willie Toombs, Mollie Hall, Willie Swnn, Mary and Jackie Jennings, Miss Burkett. Messrs. Sherlie King, A . McMurry, L. Howard, J. Tucker, Mr. Witt.

#### THE BLACK BOX

For a scort time I will give on each \$25 00 watch a \$5.00 gold chain; each \$20.00 gold watch a \$4.00 gold chain; each \$16.00 gold watch a \$3.00 gold chain; each \$12 50 gold watch a \$2.00 gold chain, and on our \$1.00 wa ohes a guarantee for one yea". Come, take your choice. I will be glad to have you call. Mrs. E. M. Rust,

#### Wood Must Come Down.

Jno S. Hughes sells it at \$2.50 per cord on the ground 6 miles south of Merkel. 16t2pd

Phone 124 for fresh vegetables Whenever You Need a General Tonic three times each week. Anchor Mercantile Co.

#### Breeders Notice.

Am etanding my French Coach horse, Registered Black Spanish Jack, Jersey Bull and Duroc boar one block east of the post office lene and the best lubricating oils The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head at Merkel. G. R. Gazzaway.

THE BLACK BOX

Catron, Ky .- In an interesting letter tiring me, and am doing all my work." The Merkel High School Sen- from this place, Mrs. Bettie Bullock If you are all run down from womanly iors were Wednesday afternoon writes as follows : "I suffered for four troubles, don't give up in despair. Try guests of the Spience Depart- years, with womanly troubles, and during Cardui, the woman's tonic. It has helped ment at the Simmons College in this time, I could only sit up for a little more than a million women, in its 50 while, and could not walk anywhere at years of continuous success, and should all. At times, I would have severe pains surely help you, too. Your druggist has sold Cardui for years. He knows what

**Coal---Galore** 

## When you Need Coal, Phone me DON'T WAIT

Telephone No. 4

#### H. M. WARREN ICE AND COAL

Representative Ford and Buick Auto Agencies

#### 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.

H. M. Rose for 10 cent gasomanufactured.

THE BLACK BOX

I want one hundred cases of eggs to supply my customers. Will pay highest market price. See me before selling. Will buy you - chickens, W. P. Duckett.

Notice to Farmers.

Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXA-TIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary does not cause nervousness nor ead. Remember the full name and signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.

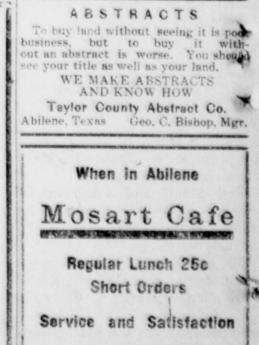
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#### Notary Public. Office over Farmers State Bank

C. D. MIMS Attorney-At Law General Practice and Collections Land Title Work a Speciality Office over Farmers State Bank.

G. W. JOHNSON

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



JACK GILSTRAP



THE BLACK BOX

prescribe la

# Consolidation Step-Lively Sale CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THIS WEEK AT WOODROOF BROTHERS

In order to reduce our stock to the capacity of our building. Great Slaughter Prices. A complete stock and the newest goods to select from. The consolidation of Woodroof Bros. large stores at Waxahachie with the Merkel store makes our stock the largest and most complete ever shown in Merkel.

## To-Day and Saturday mark the Closing of this Event. Better take advantage of these remarkable prices while they last-Do it Now

LADIES SILK PETTICOATS-Ladies messaline Silk Pettcoats in all colors, worth \$3.00 sale price ......\$1.95 LADIES SILK DRESSES-One lot ladies \$15 one-piece silk dresses, this sale price .... \$7.50 LINEN LACES-One lot 25c and 35c linen laces, extra special for this sale, per yd...11c ASSORTED RIBBONS-1 lot ribbons worth 15c to 25c per yard, this sale price per yd..10c LADIES SKIRTS-Ladies skirts worth form-

LADIES VESTS-Ladies vests worth 15c, NEW SPRING GINGHAMS-Beautiful line new spring ginghams worth 10c per yard, sale BROWN DOMESTIC-Regular 81/2 c sea island domestic, full 36-inch wide, price ... 61/2 c VALANCIENE LACES-One lot valanciene EMBROIDERY-One lot embroidery worth

A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACTOR O
5c BUTTONS—All kinds of 5c buttons, per card
10c TOWELING—Crash toweling regular 10c value, now
COTTON CHECKS-Good round thread cot- ton checks, worth 6c per yard, sale price 3 ½ c
GOLD MEDAL BLEACHING-Gold medal bleached domestic, 36 inches wide, best 10c grade, nice soft finish, per yard7½c
CLARKS O. N. T. THREAD-Clarks O.N.T. thread, all numbers, this sale per spool 4c

# WOODROOF BROTHERS The Quality Store



Double Wedding at Abilene.

Mr. J. T. Browning and Miss Mowatte Stonecipher of Noodle and Mr. L. L. Stonecipher and Miss Ruby Browning also of the same community were married at Abilene Saturday.

Following the marriage the young people returned to the



Isom-York. Mr. G. B. Isom, of this place, and Miss Mattie York of Brown. wood were united in marriage at the home of the brides parents.

The following evening the contracting parties left over the Sante Fe for View where they will make their future home and where Mr. Isom is 'engaged in farming. The many Merkel friends of the groom are extending congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Isom.



Conditions, Mrs. Bullock Gave Up in Despair. Husband Came to Rescue.

After Four Years of Discouraging I had gotten so weak I could not stand, and I gave up in despair.

> At last, my husband got me a bottle of Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I commenced taking it. From the very first dose, I could tell it was helping me. I can now walk two miles without its

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D. Practicing Physician

Office at Grimes Drug Store Merkel, Texas Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-

PROFESSIONAL 

**O. F. McMASTER** 

DENTIST

Terms Cash

Office 2nd floor with Dr. Geo. L. Mille

W. W. WHEELER Insurance Agent

Noodle country where they, will reside in the future.

The Mail joins the many friends of the contracting parties in extending congratulations.

Elbert Touchstone entertained a few guests Friday evening at his home in West Merkel. Candy making and games were greatly enjoyed by all. Those present were Misses Myrtle Dupree, Winnie Sharp, Ina Mae Adams, Mamie Ellis, Bessie Touchstone, Messrs. Merle Burroughs, Will Merritt, Lewis Swann, Ed Scott and the host.

Clarence Hamm entertained several couples at his home Friday evening. Rook and progressive 42 were the diversions. His mother served dainty refreshments to Misses Mary Anna Mayfield, Mamie Moore, Kathryn Henderson, Messrs. Q. Rust, Roger and Loring Hamblet.

The Twentieth Century club will meet Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'olock with Mrs. Ruby Harrie at the home of her mother, Mrs. Alice Touchstones.

#### Methodist Baraca

The Baraca class reached its highwater mark again last Sunday. Every member seemed to be full of enthusiasm and interest for the class all of which was shown by the presence of thirty two members some being new members.

Mr. Johnson taught the class as Mr. Morris was not able to teach the class. On entering the room Mr. Johnson said, "I see very clearly why Mr. Morris became so interested in the class It gives me inspiration to appear before such an enthusiastical body of men."

An interesting business meeting was held Friday evening in Joel Counts, Secretary, Roy which there was a great deal of Coats, Assistant Secretary, interest taken although the num- Stanley King, Treasure and ber was few. At this meeting Jasper Tucker, Press Reporter.

and biscuits, too. All as light, fluffy, tender and delicious as mother used to bake. And just as whole-some. For purer Baking Pow-der than Calumet cannot be had at any price. Ask your grocer.

RECEIVED HIGHEST AWARDS World's Pure Food Exposition, Chicago, IL. Paris Exposition, France, March, 1912

You don't save money when you huy cheap or big-baking powder. Don't be misled. Buy Calumet. I more economical more wholesome gives best resul Calumet is far superior to sour milk and soda.

the following officers were elected: John Morgan, President. Ernest Rogers, Vice President,

Abilene. They were chaperoned by Prof. Witt and Miss Burkett, graduates of Simmons College of 1912. The autos were gaily decorated with streamers of purple and gold and class penants. A program was given. The senior song of the Simmons 1912 class "Purple and Gold" composed by Miss Burkett was rendered with Miss Burkett at the piano. A lovely two course luncheon was served in the Domestic Science Annex to Misses Mamie Ellis, Olive Teaff, Almeda Harris, Zora West, Beulah Garrett, Nell Tracy, Willie Toombs, Mollie Hall, Willie Swnn, Mary and Jackie Jennings, Miss Burkett. Messrs. Sherlie King, A . McMurry, L. Howard, J. Tucker, Mr. Witt.

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#### Wood Must Come Down.

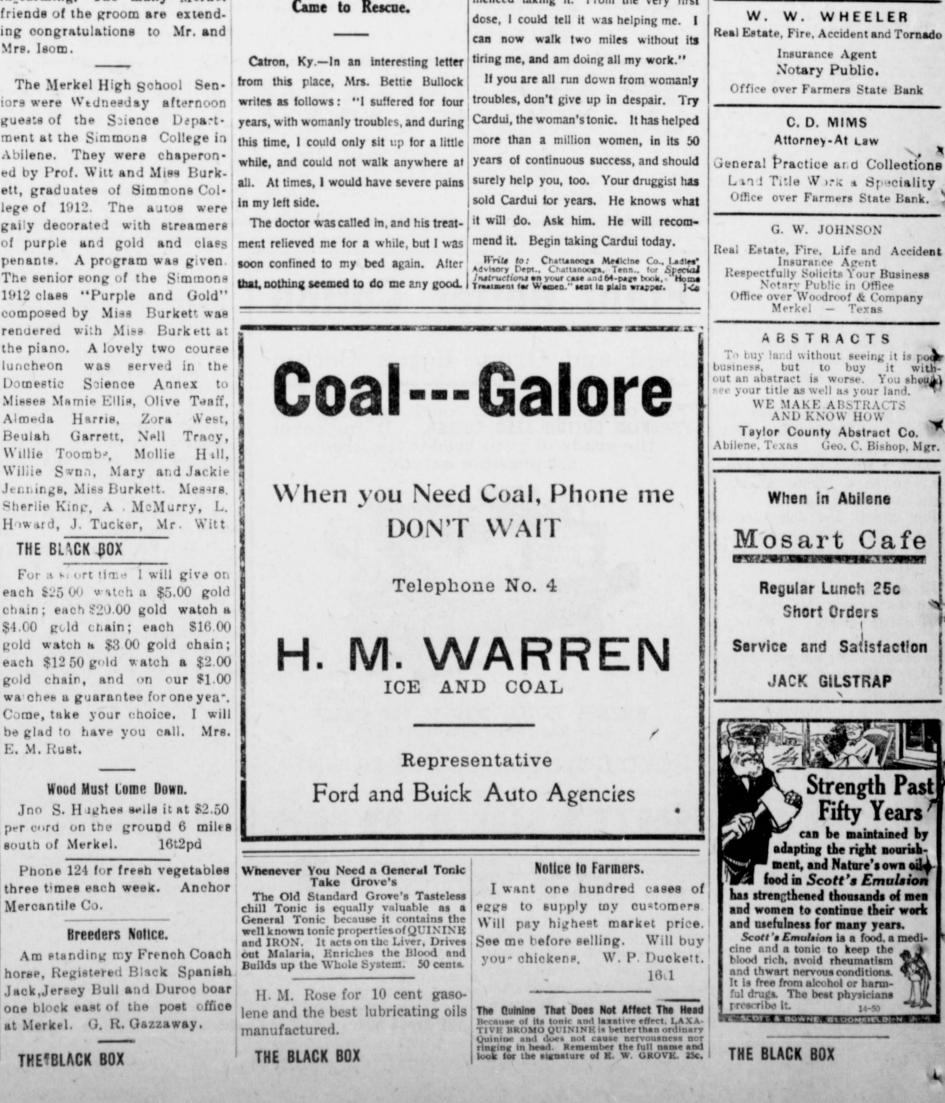
Jno S. Hughes sells it at \$2.50 per cord on the ground 6 miles south of Merkel. 16t2pd

Phone 124 for fresh vegetables three times each week. Anchor Mercantile Co.

#### Breeders Notice.

horse, Registered Black Spanish Jack, Jersey Bull and Duroc boar one block east of the post office at Merkel. G. R. Gazzaway.

THE BLACK BOX



### Free Matinee At The Royal Theatre This Afternoon Showing Pictures That Fully Illustrate This Installment Of "Zudora" The \$20,000,000.00 Mine Mystery



Copyright, 1914, by Harold McGrath

CHAPTER I. The Mystery of the Spotted Collar. the side of a rugged mountain a black velvet hole yawned. Rubble lay strewn all about amiably. the ledges. To a layman this pubble would have explained nothing;

to a miner it would instantly have ex- business. I'm lookin' for Mimi La plained the nature of the hole. Presently a burly man emerged from the walks tight rope." hole, squinting. He eyed the lump of quartz in his hand-always a little, but never quite enough gold to make it worth while. The prospector flung the quartz savagely upon the accumulating fire lighting his eyes "Do you come rubble and leaned disheartenedly against the log support to the entrance of the mine. His grubstake was fast dwindling, and in another four days he would have to hike some thirty-two mailes to the nearest town for supplies. Done! He had paid \$500, every one of them earned at the risk of his neck, for this damnable hole in the ground.

He filled and lit his pipe and fell to dreaming what he would do when he arack it rich.

By and by the dreams faded and the bitter realities returned. He rose lamely and carefully picked his way down to the Irishman's shanty. The two of them shared their noon meals on pleasant days.

"How's she comin'?"

"Same old story," answered Trainor, erstwhile strong man of the Eclipse circus.

"Well, well; it's peggin' away that oungs it. I got a lump t'day that don't look so bad. I should say that she'll run fifteen th' ton. I guess them wildcatters are th' chaps that make th' real spondulix-widders an' clerks an' childer."

In Trainor's life there had been but trifling monotonies. He had been a sailor in the south seas, a lumberjack in the north, a cowpuncher, a fireman on a north Atlantic liner. He had come from a poor but respectable Ohio faily. His father nor his grandfather had ever stepped over the state boundary lines. But in him there was a reversion to the type of pioneer who had established the Trainor family when Ohio was a wilderness. He could not settle down; he must be on the move continually, and when at came through the flap which separated length he joined the circus he found the women's dressing tent from the that roaming, uncertain life much to men's. She looked a bit tired and carehis fancy. There he had met Mimi worn. The old miner, having had but Keene, known on the handbills (for little to do with women folk, was not lithographs were far beyond the reach able to discern under the richly yellow of this circus) as Mimi La France. glare of the lamps the air of distincworld renowned tight rope walker. tion which marked Mimi Trainor as Remarkable as it might seem, these different from her kind. The Keene two loved each other fondly, and one family had come from good stock, but day the lust to wander died in the man's heart, and he wanted a roof wer his head, children about his knee and money in his purse. When the opportunity to go hunting for gold came he hesitated not an instant. He had been hammering away at the grim, unyielding rocks for eight months, making only such trips to town as were necessary for food. Perhaps the rubble extracted represented a thousand dollars, perhaps less. He was discouraged. Que day he staggered out into the brilliant sunshine. A lump of quartz clutched tightly in his hand. When he grew accustomed to the dazzling light he turned the stone over and over, his heart beating as it had mer beaten before. There were veins in it-broad flakes of it-gold, gold, gold!

his hand on Donovan's shoulder. "How'd you get in here?" "Why, I\_walked in," said Donovan

"Suppose you walk out again?"

"Keep yer hair on, bub. I'm here on Frang, 's they call her outside. She

"Well, I'm her brother. What do you want with her?" "So ye'er Trainor's brother-in-law?"

"Trainor?" said the young man, a from him?

"Yes. An' my message is to his wife."

"Oh! That's his kid there." "Y' don't say so! Well, kind o' looks like him."

"Here's my sister now."

Donovan caw a slight woman of pretty figure and comely features. She



A Huge Crystal Globe In Which Hassanı Ali Saw the Past and the Future.

had fallen in evil days. She ran instantly to the baby.

twist to the corner of his lips laid grew. The checks from the Zudora were now applied wholly to the welfare of his niece.

The child grew. Her education began. She gave promise of great beauty, even in the lank and gawky age. Hassam Ali had begun to love gold, the bright, shining metal-not in the abstract, but in the concrete. To touch it with his fingers was transport. No symphony of Bach's was half so fine as the chink-chink of the coins, the eagle and the double eagle as they fell upon each other, slipping from his hands.

From her fifteenth birthday up to her eighteenth Zudora noted a subtle change in the manner of her uncle. He became coldly aloof, rarely touch ed her affectionately, was moody and taciturn. Familiar as she was with all the paraphernalia of the mystic. she still retained unbounded faith in her uncle's powers. Indeed, he was a hypnotist of unusual power and was roughly skilled in the science of medicines. Zudora had practiced the former art until she was almost as proficient as her master. It never occurred to her that her uncle's means of existence were inethical and generally those of a cheat. Famous actresses and society women visited him, and not a few notable bankers and financiers came to him for advice. But the general public held Hassam Ali in tolerant contempt and the police with no

ittle suspicion. The inner shrine of this equivocal temple was draped with black velvet, and there were secret doors about which even Zudora knew nothing. There was the inevitable dais and before this a huge crystal globe in which Hassam Ali saw the past and the fu ture as revealed by his victim. It was easy to draw the past, and it was not difficult to draw the future. The future in this globe was nearly always what the victim wished; hence the popularity of Hassam All, late of the Eclipse circus, faker and card sharp. chief of a band of most clever and ingenious criminals. And Zudora wandered in and out of this iniquitous maze as a wild dove might have flown

over pestilential swamp, untouched and unknown. As the miser grew stronger in Has-

of logical deduction. Zudora should play the detective to her heart's content, and if she met with some terrible accident who would be the wiser? Twenty millions in gold!

His hands opened and shut spasmodfind his niece at his feet. "Uncle, don't you know what day

this is?" she asked. "Why, it is Wednesday."

"Have you forgotten that this is my eighteenth birthday?" "Eighteenth birthday! Good heav-

ens, so it is, so it is!" He laid his hand upon her dark head, but he did not look down into the youthful and beautiful face raised toward his own. His fingers unconsciously crept into the girl's hair, a trifle too strongly for an affectionate gesture.

"What is it?" she asked, drawing her head away quickly.

"A touch of rheumatism in my arm," he said intuitively. "You know it gives me a twinge once in so often. So you are eighteen years old?" "And you said that on this day I was

to come into a fortune.' That is true. How much do you

think it is?" "Oh, perhaps \$50,000." "Is it-lost?" she asked. "No, my child. It is the terrible responsibility which is about to rest upon your young shoulders that makes me sad. Tomorrow morning your lawyers will inform you that you are one of the richest heiresses in America."

'Uncle, don't make fun of me!" "I am telling you the truth. To date Zudora has turned out something like \$20,000,000. It was the express will of your father to have this kept quiet, so that you would not be bothered with fortune hunters. Girl, you will marry a duke or a prince. You will become a famous beauty. But my advice is this: That until my guardianship ceases-you will be twenty-one thenyou will say nothing to any one about this fortune. It would make life unbearable for us both."

"I'll gladly agree to that," she said

"Whenever you require a large sum of money you will write the attorneys, and they will send it. Think of the notoriety, the busy reporters, the broken down nobles, indigent society folk!" She laughed at the picture. He was right. If she desired peace and comfort she must keep this fortune away

from the public eye. "Zudora, there is one pleasant fancy you must henceforth put entirely out tol shot. of your mind."

"And what is that?"

"This fancy for John Storm. For all that you have inherited this vast sum of money, you are still under my guardianship for three years."

What Zudora would have replied to this half veiled demand will never be known. The bell rang, and shortly after that John Storm himself was lice he laughed. He knew the police ushered into the room. Hassam Ali of old. They would refuse to take the nodded coldly, but the girl sprang to affair seriously. Storm laid down his greet her lover.

"How's the case going?" she asked.

begged to be allowed to use her powers out the faculty of sustained reasoning. | Today Zudora tried it on the green There was little love lost between parrot, but the whirling lights simply Storm and Bienreith. They had clash- tumbled the bird off his perch. She ed a dozen times during the past year. picked him up and revived him and and once or twice they had almost soon forgot all about him in the recome to blows. On the last day they newed interest in the spotted collar. came together in the courtroom just Idly she imitated the marks with the ically. Indistinctly he heard a rustle before the noon recess. Bienreith stub of pencil. \* \* \* And then, as of petticoats. He opened his eyes to threw discretion to the winds and hurl. If the whole world had suddenly lighted a low epithet at his rival who swift. ed up, Zudora at last understood how ly retaliated by striking the German across the face with the brief he held in his hand.

A tremendous confusion ensued, and from her seat in the gallery Zudora viewed the scene with alarm. This man Bienreith was an athletic bully. He had been in America but a few years, and he still held to the German view regarding a blow in the face. He hastily scribbled a note, which he



Zudora Ran Over to the Dead Man.

shoved toward Storm. The latter read it, shrugged and nodded affirmatively. All might have gone well but for the fact that an enterprising reporter found the discarded note and made a great scoop for his paper. Bienreith had challenged Storm to a duel, and the latter had hotly agreed, despite the fact that he knew nothing of swords and was a very indifferent pis-

And Hassam Ali found a way to dis pose of John Storm.

And Zudora thought she had found a way to save him. She found him in the cellar, bravely trying to hit a bullseye target. It would have been laughable under any other circumstance. He was not to be swerved, however. And when she threatened him with the porevolver and took a drink of water. Then he picked up the revolver and began pegging away. Unobserved, she drugged the drinking water. There would be no duel that night. "No doubt of it. He'd like nothing The next morning Bienreith was and John Storm, in a dazed condition, disheveled, was arrested on the street, charged with murder.

Bienreith had come to his death.

When the trial began it looked very bad for John Storm. The altercation with the decedent in court was reviewed, the dueling challenge, their previous enmity, the twelve unaccountable hours. In the balcony Hassam Ali and the man Burns watched the proceedings with something more than normal interest. When the jury finally received the judge's instructions every one conceded that John Storm was a lost man; nothing could save him from the chair.

Suddenly up the aisle toward the judge's desk came a veiled woman.

"Stop!" she cried. "It was I-I!" Then she fainted. The judge, the attorneys, the reporters, the spectators, all rose in their amazement. A woman! After the tableau came confusion and chaos. The judge signed to the jury to return to their chairs.

Storm, despite the deputy sheriffs, pushed his way to the woman's side and swiftly raised the veil.

"Zudora?" He turned resolutely to the judge. "Your honor, there is some mistake. This young woman has had nothing to do wit. the death of Blenreith. It is utterly impossible."

"That remains to be seen, Mr. Storm. Return to the docket if you please!" "But she is innocent!"

"Deputies!" called the judge sternly. He was sorry for Storm, but duty was duty none the less.

The court was eventually cleared. Storm was taken back to his cell. Hassam Ali and Burns went away together. Immediately Zudora sought the office of the district attorney, whom she found baranguing with the counsel for the defense.

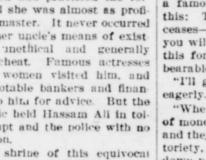
"If I can convince you two gentlemen, will that be sufficient?" she asked. "It will," affirmed the district attorney. "But why can't you give us the man's name now?" he asked.

"To tell his name now would spoil everything," declared Zudora. "I have no evidence at this moment that would hold in law, but I'll guarantee to place it in your hands before midnight. You two will come secretly to my house, and I will secrete you behind some curtains, and there you will hear the evidence from the man's own lips."

"Very well," said the district attorney. "But I warn you that any kind of oriental mummery will not pass as evidence."

"Do you see this pencil?" she asked. exhibiting a stub. "Yes.'

"It is the one. It is green, indelible, not a common, everyday pencil. The criminal held this stub in his hand while strangling Bienreith. Why none of us shall know unless he can be made ) te



"Donovan! Donovan!" he cried. The old Irish prospector came out of his hole, blinking.

"I've got it! I've got it!" Donovan snatched the quartz from

the hand of his friend. "Holy Virgin! Ye've struck it! If

it's all like that ye're a rich man. Man, man, there's a hundred dollars in that lump alone!"

Trainor collapsed on a pile of worths rubble and laid his head on his . Ims. He had done it all in these few months. He was rich, rich! And all his dreams were going to come true! J The Irishman gazed down at him ruefully, but philosophically.

"An' me that's been prospectin' twenty years an' ain't hit my pile yet! Well, God bless ye, man. I'm glad ye got it. An' now let's go take a look." Like all men who suddenly stumble upon a virgin fortune, Trainor instantbegan to plan how to protect it. He bad some bank attorneys draw up paper leaving the mine to his wife, in cuts of her death to his child, to her husband. It was subtly understood that the brother-in-law, Keene, should never be able to touch it. These western thank attorneys were simple and hengst men.

wife Trainor was killed by a premature explosion. He was buried under the rubble his own hands had torn from the mountain's side, and the kind-Eclipse circus.

with shrewd dark eyes and a sinister

"Here's a man from John, Mimi." said the brother carelessly.

The young woman rushed over to Donovan and began shaking his hands. How was her man? Had he struck it turned the brilliant powers of his abrich? Did he want her to quit and go to him?

Donovan began to swallow with difficulty. How was he going to tell her? He wanted to run away. He could now readily understand why Trainor had always talked of Mimi, Mimi, Mimi, until his Celtic ears had tired of the name. She was a good wife and a good mother for all that she was a circus performer. And here he was, aiming to break her heart! Still, there was a bit of cynicism in his makeup.

The new fortune might console her. But it did not. On the contrary, when, half an hour after learning of the death of the man she loved, she mounted the wire, a vertigo seized her, she lost her balance and fell, and by the time the men had laid away the big top she was dead.

For the first time in his wandering. futile life Frank Keene felt his throat contract and unbidden moisture fill his eyes. After a fashion he had loved his clean minded, loyal little sister, and now she was gone, leaving him with a baby on his hands, more adept in dealing from the bottom of the deck than from the top.

"How much is the mine worth?" he asked when the simple funeral was

over 'Lord knows," said Donovan. "But it's th' biggest strike in twenty years. But it's goin' to be tied up till this little chick's eighteen. Don't you worry, though. Th' lawyers 'll see to it that ye git enough t' take care o' th' child. eddicate it, an' all that."

"What's the name of the mine?"

"Same as the kiddle's-Zudora." again.

some of his confederates to rob certain business.

The caravan was at that time 290 of his clients. It was equally a simple One night while he was dreaming miles to the south, about to turn in matter to recover the stolen objects- over the past. marveling over the for the winter. But Donovan found for a suitable reward. Keene eventue strange crust of cynicism which overit. By mistake he ambled into the ally became known to the cult as Has- lay his sense of moral obligation, Hasmen's dressing tent. A young man sam Ali, and under that name his fame sam saw his way. Zudora was inter-

Ali the evil thought previously eferred to became more and more in istent. Zudora must die. When he aced this inevitability for the first me he was genuinely horrified. He vas her uncle; her mother had been his sister; the girl was his flesh and lood. But the constant recurrence of an evil desire gradually lessens the abhorrence of it. Today in Hassam All's mind there remained no shreds of compunction, only a desire to accomplish the deed without in any manner directing suspicion toward him. So to this one object he now normaly evil mind. Zudora must die. But how?

In a few days she would be eighteen. On that day she would become enormously rich. He must rid himself of her before she had time to appreciate what the power of money meant. But how? In what subtle, cunning man-



Striking the German Across the Face.

ner that would make it impossible for The two separated, never to meet the law to trace the deed to him? And there was another obstacle rising slow-The years passed. Keene dabbled in ly, but surely and formidably, over the all manner of shady trades and finally horizon-love. Youth and the necesset up as a Hindu mystic, a swami, sity of love, these menaced the plans Before he had time to write to his He told fortunes, did crystal gazing of Hassam Alt. He had tolerated this resurrected souls and as a byproduct keen eyed, clean lived young lawyer, played detective with more or less suc- John Storm, because he had in a way cess. He rarely practiced this latter relieved him of the trial of finding en game except among his favored gulls. tertainment for Zudora. The time had ly Donovan started out to find the It was a simple matter to instruct come for Storm to be sent about his

ested in detective work and had ofter

"Pretty well. I think I shall win out against Blenreith." "He hates you."

better than to stick a knife in my found dead in his library, strangled, back."

Hassam Ali's eyes narrowed. An idea had come to him.

"Mr. Keene," said Storm suddenly, "I know I have my way to make, but I can assure you that I can give Zudora all the material comforts she has known. I want Zudora for my wife." "It is impossible," replied Hassam All.

"Impossible!" echoed the two young people.

"Absolutely," with growing coldness. "In the first place I am Zudora's guardian until she is twenty-one. Therefore I do not propose that she shall throw herself away on an ordinary lawyer."

"Sir," said Storm, "I do not quite like the tone you use."

"indeed! Young man, I am not only her guardian, but I am also her flesh and blood uncle, and I do not propose that she shall bungle her future by a marriage to you."

Not a word about the millions. Zudora thought hard for a moment and concluded it might be wise to say nothing to her lover until she had this fortune under her hand.

"What if I promise never to marry any one else?" she said.

Hassam Ali shrugged. "Come, come; be sensible. Until you both get over this foolish idea I must request that Mr. Storm cease calling here."

"Very well, sir," said Storm angrily. 'But I warn you that I shall see Zudora outside as often as she is kind enough to permit me. Good evening." Storm sent Zudora a reassuring smile | as he left the room.

"What in the world have you against John?" cried Zudora bewilderedly.

"I do not propose to see you support a fortune hunter." rather lamely. "That's nonsense." she declared with

spirit. "John tells the truth when he says he is able to take care of me." "Still I forbid it, and legally it is my right."

"But I love him. I would not trade him for the greatest prince in Christendom, and if I cannot marry him I'll marry no one."

"Well, well," said Hassam All, apparently relenting; "if you take such a stand I'll compromise.

can marry him: fail in any single case and you must renoutive him."

Zudora agreed instantly. even joyously. For a long time she had been seized with the desire to play the detective, and her uncle had often admitted that her powers of logical de-

Hassam Ali, in his capacity of criminal investigator, accompanied by Zudora, entered with the police the scene of the crime.

"Well, my child," said he, "here is your first case. Let us see if you can handle it." Zudora, having a double incentive, ran over to the dead man. On the floor she found a scarfpin, some small change, and she noticed that his collar hung by the rear button. She hurriedly wrapped these three articles in her handkerchief. The peculiar green spots on this collar had aroused her curiosity.

She was very unhappy. The drug she had given her lover had not put him to sleep. It had merely sent him wandering about the streets throughout the night in a biank state of mind. He would not be able to account for his time, and she might plead in vain that she had given him a sleeping potion to keep him in his house until all chance to fight Bienreith was gone.

Several days passed. Storm moped in his cell. Truth to tell, he wasn't sure that he hadn't killed his enemy. From the moment Zudora left him until he found himself in jail he could remember nothing. When she told him what she had done he smiled and forgave her.

"But you got me into a pretty pickle, little girl, and you'll have to get me out of it.' "I will."

The marks on the collar were penchi marks, and they bothered her. Often she flung the collar vehemently from her, but she always went back to it. One day she found something on the floor in the library. At that moment she attached no significance to the find.

Zigzag pencil lines on the collarhow had they come there? Before the crime? That was not quite possible. The German had been scrupulously neat in his attire. She invariably sought what was known as the mystic room when confronted by any serious problem. No sound ever reached there. A green parrot swung on a perch. He was very old and was doubtless the repository of many a strange secret. Once he muttered. "Solve my next twenty cases and you "Let's get him!" Zudora thought this rather odd and began quizzing the old bird. But he refused to speak further. Near the dais stood a mechanical affair constructed something after the manner of a pin wheel. It consisted of two tubes of glass, which revolved in opposite directions, filled with a duction were remarkable in a woman brilliant, diffusing violet light. This who, philosophers claimed, was with little invention was Hassam All's own

At 9 o'clock a man entered the mystic room. He looked puzzled.

"You wished to see me?" he said to Zudora.

"Yes. Please sit down, Mr. Burns." Above, unbeknown to either, the deep lined face of Hassam Ali appeared. In his hand he held a revolver with a Maxim silencer. As has been said, the mystic room possessed a dozen secret exits. From this upper one it was Hassam Ali's habit to take stock of his victims before meeting them personally. He waited.

Zudora began to ask aimless questions. Burns eyed her restlessly. Suddenly she sprang the trap. She held up the pencil.

"This is yours. I saw you writing with it. It fell to the floor, where I found it. It is the same pencil that marked the collar of Bienreith in his death struggles."

Burns jumped to his feet. Zudora did likewise, throwing on the power



"Yes, I killed him, but another"-

which set the god Hypnos in motion. Burns tried to look away, but could ot. Suddenly he screamed and began to grovel.

"Yes, I killed him! But another"-He stopped, choked, made a spring or the violet light and received the all charge of electricity. There was a terriffic flash, and Burns stumbled and fell at Zuuora's feet. The attorneys rushed in from behind the curtains. But Burns was dead.

Hassam Ali withdrew his head like a cobra that had concluded not to strike. He had lost a tool who, perhans; had known too much. But the significant fact remained that John Storm was still in his way.

And Zudora had won her first case. [To be continued.]

She gazed at him eagerly.

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