

CURE FOR THAT FIGHTING FEELING.



—Blackman in Birmingham Age-Herald.

NEW OIL MILL PROPOSITION IS BEING TALKED BY MERKEL COUNTRY STOCKMEN

Proposition is One Badly Needed and Interest is Being Manifested Among Feeders and Ranchmen with View of Making The Plant Possible

Merkel may have within the next eight or ten months an oil mill owned, controlled and operated by business men, stockmen and ranchmen of Merkel and Merkel country if plans now under way can be perfected.

Several prominent stockmen have been discussing the erection of an oil mill during the past few months and are now attempting to get co-operation from various business men and ranchmen whereby the project could be made permanent and a paying investment for the owners as well as an asset to Merkel. At present there are feeders in the Merkel country who have from one hundred to five hundred head of cattle on feed, and with excessive freight rates and trouble they have in getting feed, this industry is suffering and will continue to suffer unless better conditions can be had.

With a company oil mill in operation and feed pens constructed the cattle industry in Merkel would almost double itself within the first year's time. The town would be further benefitted by a monthly payroll for a number of men, and farmers would have a more direct market for their seed.

The parties from whom the Mail obtained this information seem deeply in earnest about this and are amply backed by capital sufficient to erect and operate an oil mill at this place.

Co-operation on the part of every Merkelite in this may help our town wonderfully.

Think it over.

SAFETY FIRST: "WE NO HURTIE SELF NOW."



—Evans in Baltimore American.

TENNESSEAN WEIGHS 1000 POUNDS--SOME

"The largest man on record was Miles Darden, a native of North Carolina, who was born in 1798, and who died in Tennessee in 1857. He was seven feet and six inches high and in 1845 weighed 872 pounds. At his death he weighed over 1,000 pounds.

"In 1839 his coat was buttoned around three men, each of them weighing over 200 pounds, who walked together in it across the square at Lexington. In 1850 it required 12 1/2 yards of cloth, one yard wide, to make him a coat. Until 1853 he was active and lively and able to bear labor, but from that time was compelled to stay at home or be hauled about in a two horse wagon.

"His coffin was eight feet long, 35 inches deep, 32 inches across the breast, 18 inches across the head and 14 inches across the feet. It required 24 yards of black velvet to cover the sides and lid of the coffin.

"Miles Darden was twice married and his children are very large, though it is probable that none of them will ever attain the gigantic weight and size of their father."

Editor's Note—The foregoing story was taken from the records of the State of North Carolina, and published in an exchange that comes to this table. The item is of peculiar interest to the editor, for the reason that he heard his mother speak frequently of Mr. Darden who for many years was her close neighbor in Western Tennessee. According to mother's statement, Mr. Darden refused to be weighed in his latter years, and his exact weight was not known, but he weighed more than 800 pounds when he last went upon the scales. His neighbors determined to learn his exact weight a short time before he died, marked springs of a hack in which he rode. They then filled the hack with heavy irons until the springs reached the marks, and weighed the irons. The irons weighed something over 1,000 pounds.—Honey Grove Signal.

Miss Amanda Curtis spent several days last week in Sweetwater, the guest of her brother, Mr. Salem Curtis.

Mesdames Jno. G. Jackson, M. B. Hanks, Ed Gentry, Gene Rice, Len Faucett and little Misses Elizabeth Faucett and Frances Jane Gentry motored over from Abilene Monday afternoon.

SANITARY NOTICE TO MERKELITES

All property owners and renters are hereby notified, under present regulations you must make shutters for your outhouse so as to make it chicken proof, and at the same time have it so arranged that the city scavenger can easily remove shutter and clean place.

This must be looked after and all are notified that outhouses must be cleaned regularly. This can be looked after by phoning the city marshal and having your place listed in the Civic Service list. Parties who refuse to do this will have their places declared a nuisance by the city health officer and on any complaint being filed of negligence of this order fines can be assessed against the resident of the offending place. Please lend your assistance in keeping this civic work up.

B. A. Walters, W. M. Cranford, City Marshal, City Health Offices

PAINT TIME IS IN THE SPRING TIME

"Spring time is paint time" is a true saying and Merkel people seem to be taking to the slogan in a grand way.

Peculiar to the conditions of the country, but a majority of the paint bills now being sold by paint dealers of Merkel are sold for homes in the country, the percentage of painting being strongly in favor of the farm homes. From a canvass of merchants selling paint here the season has opened with greater sales than during any recent year.

A Bargain.

One \$10.00 slightly used Anco camera for \$7.00. This machine is in A 1 condition and is a bargain. Burroughs Drugs Store.

See Woodroof's novelty shoes and boot window display.

ATTENDANCE RECORD OF MERKEL SCHOOL SINCE JANUARY OPENING

Record Established by Merkel School Since Opening is Indeed a Good One. Superintendent H. M. Morris Files Report of Attendance Which is 651

Public school report for the first month, January.

Enrollment in			
	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Grades	168	148	316
Intermediate	108	82	190
High School	59	86	145
Grand total in all the grades	335	316	651
Attendance in			
	Boys	Girls	Total
Primary Grades	2,666	2,455	5,121
Intermediate	1,855	1,462	3,317
High school	1,430	1,166	2,596
Grand total in all the grades	5,951	5,083	11,034
Average daily attendance	297	254	552

We had much bad weather the first month, but we are having more favorable weather now, hence we are sure that our attendance will be much better this month.

Respectfully,
M. H. Morris, Superintendent.

Debate at Shiloh

The question of President Wilson's Preparedness Policy was debated at Shiloh Saturday night before a large crowd.

The affirmative, Messrs. Green and Grayson and Thompson having won the debate. The negative was handled by Messrs. Stonecipher and Carey and one other gentleman whose name we were unable to get.

Mrs. Lige Gamble of Weatherford returned to her home Saturday after a few days visit here with her father, W. A. Sheppard and other relatives.

Raises Five Hogs

Lason Childress who has gone in to raise five hogs, sold two last week for even fifty dollars.

One of the hogs was ten months old and weighed 364 pounds, the other eleven months old, weighed 350 pounds. \$25.00 for hogs less than one year old is like raising cotton and selling it at 20 cents.

Boys New Chalmers Car

B. C. Moore, assistant cashier of the Farmers State Bank is the owner of a new Chalmers 6-30 touring car, one of the latest makes, and a beautiful car.

W. R. Walker of Abilene was in Merkel Monday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Walker have just returned from a visit with the latter's sister, Mrs. R. T. Green, of near Hillsboro, and with Mr. and Mrs. L. Brown in Ft. Worth.

PARDON SAVES MAN FOR THIRTY DAYS

Houston, Feb. 16.—Henry Tennell, negro, sentenced to hang in the county jail here today for a criminal assault on a negro girl, has been given a respite of thirty days in order that the governor may examine the case.

At 11:18 today, after the death warrant had been read and the march to the scaffold was about to begin, Sheriff Hammond was called to the telephone. On a chance that the message might be from Austin, he ordered the execution held up. The governor's order was then read to him. Feeling that a respite might be given, the sheriff of his own accord had delayed matters thirty minutes. Otherwise the order would have arrived too late, as the execution had been set for 10:50.

Tennell, who had been nervous to the point of prostration for twenty-four hours, collapsed.

HAND IS MANGLED IN HAMLIN GIN

In an accident at one of the gins at Hamlin Monday came near costing Fred Britton his life, when his right hand came in contact with the saws. Before he could be jerked out of the stand, the hand and arm up to the elbow were little sawed to pieces.

Fred was carried to the drug store where physicians administered to the injured limb, using nine skeins of thread in sewing up the lacerations. The small finger and a large portion of the hand were entirely sawed away, while the other fingers, thumb and arm, up to the elbow, were so badly mangled that he will never be able to use them.—Hamlin Herald.

Fresh car of Baker Boy Flour just received at the Bob Martin Grocery Co.

FOR TAX ASSESSOR OF TAXES IN CO.

J. S. Patterson of Abilene authorizes the Mail to announce his candidacy for the office of Tax Assessor of Taxes in this county subject to the action of the Democratic primaries July 22nd.

Mr. Patterson has lived in Taylor county for the past ten years and during the last seven has been engaged in the blacksmith and wheelwright business in Abilene, where he is well and favorably known.

He is well qualified to fill the position to which he aspires and we ask that you give his claims careful consideration when you visit the polls next July.

Young Lady Injured

Miss Mamie Moore was painfully hurt Sunday afternoon in an auto accident just east of Tye.

With a party of friends a trip was planned to Abilene, and the driver of the car apparently lost control of the car as they were approaching a small culvert and the right rear wheel came in contact with the abutment of concrete, throwing Miss Moore to the ground. The force of the lick rendered her unconscious for over an hour. Her condition now is greatly improved, however, and she is suffering only from injured teeth that were loosened when her face struck some part of the car or ground.

Injured by Horse

Howell Britton, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Britton, sustained a broken leg and ankle bone Thursday evening of last week, near the Warnick home in North Merkel.

The young man was in some way thrown or kicked by the horse he was riding with the above results, and it will be some time before he will be able to use the right limb. Though he is resting well at present

313th Revolution

Francisco Villa has inaugurated a new revolution against the Carranza government, the scene of the latest work being in the vicinity of Casas Grandes.

This revolt makes about three hundred and thirteenth time Villa has started something in Mexico and tomorrow the nine hundredth report may be given out of his capture.



J. S. SWANN, President
JOHN SEARS, Vice President

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier
B. C. MOORE, Asst. Cashier

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

CAPITAL STOCK \$35,000.00

PREPAREDNESS

Through years of conservative and efficient management we have been preparing and striving to serve the Banking Public and have one of the strongest financial institutions in West Texas.

Capital, Surplus and Profits	\$50,000.00
Stockholders Liability	35,000.00
Depositors protection aside from Gty. Fund	\$85,000.00
Total Resources nearly	\$350,000.00

We are amply prepared to serve you

THE ONLY GUARANTY FUND BANK IN MERKEL

CROP CONDITIONS OVER THE STATE

Terracing. During the month of January terracing was very active throughout Wise and adjoining counties, the demonstrations and actual terracing of many considerable farms being conducted by the Department's demonstration agent, T. A. McGalliard. In the same connection he lectured on plant food and demonstrated pruning of fruit and shade trees. Grain crops poor.

Fort Bend and Austin Counties

Considerable rain fell throughout the whole of this territory Thursday and Friday of last week, but the weather was warm and little damage was done. Though the cotton was damaged by the August storm and much of the corn and feedstuff was hurt the farmers are in a fairly good condition. Good truck crops will be planted. A large acreage was planted in the Sugarland district, all of which suffered some damage from the different cold snaps.

Wichita County

The territory embraced in Wichita, Wilbarger, Hardeman, Archer and Haskell counties comprises a part of the district of a grain expert. He reports that since the freeze came about January 10, the grain crop throughout that district has been materially damaged—oat crop believed generally to be killed. Farmers say that if the weather clears up this month they will replant oats. The prospects are that the cotton acreage will be increased this year. There was a decrease last year and a 15 per cent increase in grain. Generally the grain prospect right now for this year is not promising, but taken as a whole the farmers

in that region are not at the present time, in as precarious a shape as they were in 1914. Those of the counties named have had considerable cholera among their hogs recently. The threatened epidemic has abated somewhat since vaccination was resorted to.

Lower Rio Grande Valley

One of the Department's marketing agents campaigning the lower Rio Grande Valley reports the crop prospects are not very promising. The early lettuce crop is almost a total failure, owing to the hot weather of December and January. The late lettuce is a little better and there will be a few cars shipped. The cabbage acreage was reduced and the price is low with the indications of a better market this month. The onion crop is promising well, but there is indication of thrip. The citrus crop was very good and brought a good price. This section is the finest in the United States for citrus fruits.

North Texas

The judgment of a Department agent on the fifth of the present month was that fall oats throughout all of North Texas was lost, and he reports that the long spell of cold weather makes the wheat in that region look very bad, though good weather may recuperate it. The peanut acreage in the sandy land will be substantially increased, and the cotton be cut 50 per cent.

Kendall County

Land breaking was well advanced by the fall work and farmers are hopeful and cheerful though there is much need for rain. Commercial conditions are good.

Upshur County

Owing to the bad weather very little preparation has been made for this year's crop. Some oats have been sown and some fall planting done but not enough of either. Some terracing of

farms in the county. Last week closed damp and cold.

Teague

Along the road from Houston to Teague more or less rain fell during the week, so that work was impossible except at Teague where preparations for a big meeting had been made. At Tomball the truck farmers are now marketing winter garden truck almost daily and are finding a ready market for most of their products on the Houston market. Prices have been declining. The expense of bringing truck to market is rather heavy. In most places along the road farmers seem to have done a good deal of plowing—rather more than usual. Farmers, merchants and bankers at and near Teague seemed to be fairly well pleased with crop conditions. There will be considerable effort made to keep the cotton acreage down to about last year's. Plowing is fairly well begun, and besides putting in feed crops expect to put in some more Irish and sweet potatoes. In the latter crop which is rather a new one, the farmers may need some special instruction so as to receive proper results.

Grayson County

At the week ending February 4 the wheat crop in this section is looking very bad, and it is said by many farmers that the oat crop is dead. Spring oats are at least 20 per cent short of last year. About ten per cent of the corn and cotton land has been terraced. There will be some increase in hogs, peanuts and cattle, while the country is full of chickens and turkeys. Good tone among the farmers.

Clyde

The continued dry condition of the soil and the freezes have about finished up the small grain crops of the western portions of Callahan, Taylor, Jones, Runnels and Tom Green counties. Unless rain falls soon there will be



IT'S A HAPPY YOUNG COUPLE

that leaves the laundry question to us. They can always be absolutely certain of the daintiness of their shirtwaists, shirts, collars, handkerchiefs, underwear, etc. Why have your pretty home mused up once a week when you can have the laundering done here so much better.

Sweetwater Steam Laundry
Grimes-Howard Tailors
Merkel Agents

little grain made in that section. An extra effort should be made by all the educational departments to get the farmers to cooperate in reducing the cotton acreage.

Merkel Territory

Conditions for Taylor, Jones and Callahan counties: The rainfall last month was 0.40, much less than was needed for wheat and oats. The late wheat and oats have suffered very much, and it is safe to say that very little on which wheat was growing 30 days ago will be kept in wheat. On the other hand the farm people as a rule will put in other crops and the acreage of 1915 to wheat will be cut 50 per cent. The damage to the oat crop is hardly as much as to the wheat crop. The acreage of this year will most probably not be 70 per cent of last year.

Waller, Grimes and Brazos

The cold weather has hurt some of the truck, especially spinach, lettuce and cabbage. More land will be broken than

heretofore for cultivation. Farmers are putting in much oats in cover crops, and it looks pretty well.

Upper Nueces

Farming in the upper Nueces canyon is confined to stock raising on ranches; land sowed to oats and increased acreage of feedstuff. Angora goats doing well but pecans showing ravages of weevil.

Advertised Letters.

Camp, W. B.
Cook, Jim
Farris, W. N.
Girdner, W. H.
Humphrey, Buck
Lewis, Eronglish
McFarland, C. M.
Merkel Bottling Co.
Northcutt, L. M.
Roberts, A. F.
Smith, Mrs. Fannie
Willy, A. E.
Young, V. A.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office March 2, 1916.

H. C. Williams, P. M.
Merkel, Texas.

Merkel Property Wanted

I have for trade a small but complete stock of dry goods, shoes and groceries in Eastland which I will exchange for desirable residence property in Merkel. Will give or take difference. Explain fully what you have as this will be a bargain for someone. Also have five passenger Overland car that will include in trade or will take another good car in on deal. M. A. Pierce, Eastland, Texas. 1tpd

For Sale at \$20 Per Acre.

160 acres situated in the famous Dead Man Valley about 15 miles northeast of Abilene. 100 acres in cultivation, balance good grass, has well and four room house. This farm is clear of debt. Can use house and lot in Merkel in the deal and give long time on balance.

1813 J. T. Warren, Owner.

TO MOVE ROCK CROSSING CHURCH

Subscriptions are being enlisted by people of the Rock Crossing and Mount Pleasant communities for the purpose of tearing down the Rock Crossing church and moving it to Mount Pleasant.

J. R. Curb was in Merkel last Wednesday working on subscriptions and the money required to make the change will likely be raised. The removal of the church is a need of both communities in question and the people of that section should have the assistance of outsiders.

Here Twenty Years; To Move

W. M. Clark, a resident of Merkel country for the past twenty years, has bought property near Clovis, N. M., and will move there during the present month.

It is to be regretted that Mr. Clark is leaving Merkel, and we can only commend him to his new neighbors.

Bankers Visit Merkel

Messrs. E. B. Bynum and Oscar Parker of the First State Bank and Trust Co., of Abilene, and Grant G. Brown cashier of the Industrial Saving Bank of Flint, Mich., were in Merkel Monday afternoon.

Bad Money At Wichita Falls

Banks at Wichita Falls found many counterfeit dollars in circulation and two arrests were made.

The arrest did not stop the circulation however and authorities were searching for others who they believed to be connected with those under arrest.

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

MERKEL
 GOOD HOMES; GOOD SCHOOLS,
 GOOD CHURCHES; GOOD PEOPLE;
 THE CITY TO LIVE IN,
 THE CITY TO INVEST IN

THE MERKEL COUNTRY,
 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE YOUNG MAN,
 GOOD HEALTH FOR THE OLD MAN,
 EMPLOYMENT FOR THE POOR MAN,
 INVESTMENTS FOR THE RICH MAN,
 PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

The MERKEL MAIL

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

SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.00 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE
 Entered at the Postoffice at Merkel, Texas, as Second-Class Mail Matter

Any erroneous reflection on the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Mail will be gladly corrected upon its being brought to the attention of the management.

TELEPHONE No. 61

If you have visitors, or if you know any item which would be of interest to readers of the Mail, the editor would appreciate a note or telephone message to that effect. Or, if an occurrence of unusual interest transpires a reporter will be promptly sent to get the full particulars.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Patrons of the Mail who do not receive their paper regularly will confer a favor upon the management by reporting the fact. You should also watch the label of your paper to ascertain when your time is out and renew before your name automatically leaves our list, as all papers stop when the term of subscription expires.

THE USUAL CARNIVAL.

Not a few weeks ago articles appeared in several West Texas newspapers in regard to Carnival companies visiting small towns in this section of the state and some editorial criticisms were especially strong in opposition to the Carnival on general principles, to-wit: The Roscoe Times, Western Enterprise and Abilene Reporter.

One such Carnival company played last week in Merkel, brought here under the auspices of the Merkel Fire Department, the second one of its kind during the winter and the third attraction recently booked under the auspices of the fire department. The carnival was advertised in Merkel with recommendations from various places. The recommendation were of such nature, one not thoroughly acquainted with the conditions would be impressed favorably with the carnival idea. It is a very different thing however to read these recommendations and to visit the carnival in person.

There was one attraction in particular with the carnival in Merkel last week that was not up to our expectations of what we would term a "clean show which contains nothing that the most fastidious lady should not witness."

If the readers of the Mail doubt our word just ask about the show, "The Days of '49" where the dancing girls were and we are confident our judgment will be vindicated by the most skeptical. Merkel like many small towns in the western part of the state is getting more than its share of carnival attractions, and in the future no better move could be taken by massed interest in Merkel than to oppose carnivals visiting our town under any consideration. This is a matter to be settled with little thought and if one redeeming feature can be found in favor of the road carnival we would like to have it made known to us.

NEEDS OF OUR COUNTRY

We need a navy large enough for any eventuality which might face the United States—and we do not need a navy larger than that. We need a navy larger than that of any nation which might conceivably come to blows with us; and we need a navy large enough to take part with dignity and effectiveness in any grouping of nations which may become advantageous or necessary to the United States. We need a navy larger than that of any other nation, except possibly Great Britain; and such a navy the prosperity of the United States can support without undue burden on the shoulders of the people.—Fannin County Favorite.

Sure. It will be easy if Congress will omit a bunch of their pork barrel appropriations for a session or two.

A BAD OMEN

Sterling P. Strong has been selected by C. H. Morris as his campaign manager in the race for Governor. Mr. Strong has established Morris' headquarters in the Southland Hotel, Dallas, and says he will wage a vigorous campaign.—Honey Grove Signal.

The same place a gubernatorial candidate of Salt Creek reputation established his headquarters just two years ago. A very peculiar coincident.

IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR US

Fifty million copies of rag-time music have been sold the past year. They wouldn't need such a lot of rag if they didn't tear it off so.—Fannin County Favorite.

Well they can print fifty thousand more this year if they want to, but "The Star Spangled Banner" is good enough for us.

DILAPIDATED EXCHANGES

One of the most dilapidated newspapers we have ever cast our eyes on came to our exchange table this week. It was from a well known West Texas printery and hence no name is given for fear of personal complications. In the future our contemporaries who are gracious enough to send us a copy of their "try-weekly" as the case may be, we will thank them to have at least one page of their rag in readable condition, for we read some in every newspaper that comes to our address.

A vaudeville actor of Fort Worth asked his audience if they were in favor of preparedness. Cries of yes, yes and yes were forthcoming and the actor then advised his hearers to pave their Main street. Answered by subdued sniggering.

A burglar entered a Fort Worth home, took a diamond ring, a watch, some table clothes, four shirts, a lady's waist, two bath robes and a dozen bath towels but didn't take a bath. The dirty cur.

Chicago policemen arrested a youth and his arrest led to the discovery that he was the heir to \$400,000, but this is no reason why you or I should incur the ill will of our home cops.

Insurance will protect you from fire, life insurance will protect your family, a shot gun will protect your home and a bull dog will guard your hen house. Why not adequate national defense.

Ten Merkel men voted in the Dallas News contest on President Wilson's preparedness policies and supported him by Yes votes, while ten men from Durant, Oklahoma, voted No to the preparedness question. Every day we've better reasons for living in Merkel.

ADVICE

Don't quit because you chance to lose,
 Of course, it jars a fellow;
 But, just because you have the blues,
 Don't show a streak of yellow.
 —Cincinnati Enquirer.

Brace up and let the fellows see
 That you can stand a whack;
 Because you're green with jealousy,
 Don't keep on looking back.
 —Springfield Union.

And grit your teeth and go ahead,
 Defying all your foes;
 Because the days are gray don't try
 To redden up your nose.
 Memphis Commercial Appeal.

Look straight into the eyes of fate,
 And pull yourself together;
 Because the clouds are dun and slate
 Show nary a white feather.
 Abilene Reporter.

And if perchance you run amuck
 And fall beneath the strain,
 Just buckle on a new found pluck
 And hit the game again.
 —Snyder Signal.

And should you fail the second time
 In quest of greater fame,
 Forget the backsets you have had,
 And try, try again.

The Honey Grove Signal publishes accounts of a man in Chicago, whose life was saved when a bullet fired at him struck a pack of cards he was carrying and another account of a youngster of Kansas City who accompanied his girl to church and on gidding her good night he gave her a parting kiss, the girl was recovering from an attack of la grippe and the young man contracted the malady. The Signal says these two cases are not good reason though for a man carrying a deck of cards around in his pocket or from staying away from church.

Merkel's rest room is open for all the ladies in the Merkel country. Side entrance in Behrens-McMillen building, and it is open at all hours of the day.

New Spring Goods Arriving

FILLING OUR STORE WITH

Beautiful Spring Wearables

Prices Lower Than Ever

We have protected you by early judicious buying

WE GIVE NATIONAL FREE MILEAGE

Parten Dry Goods Co.

MERKEL'S BIG CASH STORE

Figure it Any Way you Please, You Will Find it pays to use

GOOD PAINT

The cost of painting is about two-thirds Labor and one-third Paint. You'll save a lot of time and money by specifying

Lowe Bros. High Standard Liquid Paint

It is ready to use and works easy. Your painter can work fast and do a good job in less time, thus

SAVING YOU MONEY

Figure the cost with us before you decide upon your paint

ASK FOR OUR COLOR CARDS

Burton-Lingo Company

AUSTIN BOYD, MANAGER

Shopping In Europe.
 Visitors from abroad are always surprised at the intensity of the hour at which London shops are opening. In all large towns on the continent shops are open and in working order at 8 o'clock or earlier. But in London one frequently sees a sleepy eyed porter taking down the shutters at 9, while a walk down Oxford street or Regent street at this hour necessitates constant vigilance to avoid the debris and litter of the day before which is being turned out of the half opened establishment.—London Spectator.

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

Matrimonial Dyspepsia.
 "Well, how do you like married life?" inquired the friend.
 "Not at all," replied the man who had married money and was suffering for it. "I'm a case of matrimonial dyspepsia."
 "Matrimonial dyspepsia?"
 "Yes. She never agrees with me. She's too rich."

Reason Enthroned
 Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale by all dealers.

A TEXAS WONDER.
 The Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidney and bladder in both men and women, regulates bladder troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months treatment and seldom fails to perfect a cure. Send for Texas testimonials. Dr. E. W. Hall, 2926 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists.

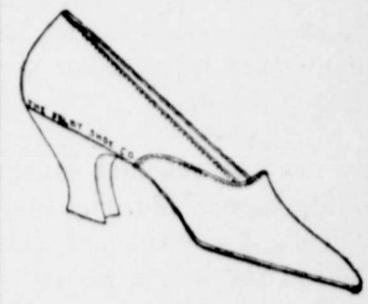
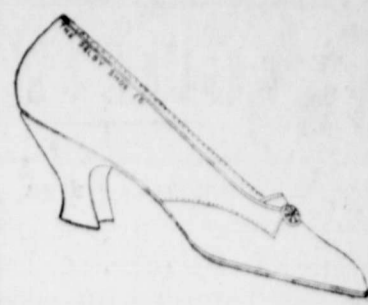
ELECTRIC BITTERS THE BEST FOR BILIOUSNESS AND KIDNEYS.



Advance Spring Showing

Visit our Emporium of Ladies' Dress Goods
Coat Suits, Sport Coats and Shoes

New Spring Dress Goods in Palm Beach and
Taffeta, Georgette Crepe and Crepe de Chine



Hart-Schaffner &
Marx Clothes
for
Men and Boys

Have your boy fitted
in a new spring suit
from the Hart-Schaff-
ner & Marx line.

Everything to Wear
for Everybody

Palm Beach cloth, per yard, 50c to	\$1.50
Taffeta cloth, in stripes and plaids	1.25
Georgette crepe, solid colors only	1.50
Crepe de Chine, solid colors only	1.50

NEW HIGH TOP LADIES BOOTS

White kid boots, 8½ inch top	\$6.00
Blue, new grey and bronz boots in 8½ and 9 inch tops, only	\$5.00

The very newest in Footwear

New Bronz and White
Kid Pumps, the white
kid with open work
strap at

\$3.50 to \$5.00

Laces for Spring

The very newest Aire-
line laces in exquisite
patterns.

WOODROOF'S

SHILOH

Rev. Horn of Abilene filled his appointment at Shiloh Saturday and Sunday.

Singing was well attended Sunday afternoon.

Miss Albertine Winters of Simmons college spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents.

Mrs. Alta Phillips and children of Trent spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Terrell Winters.

Grandma Horn and Guy Huber of Amity attended services here Sunday night.

Lige Howel of the Trent community attended services here Sunday and took dinner with W. B. Beavers.

Mrs. Derstine of Merkel spent Sunday with Mr. Hale and daughters, Misses Essie and Vivian.

Miss Lyda Beavers spent Sunday night and Monday with friends in Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Grayson took dinner with Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Grayson Sunday.

J. H. Grayson and son Wilner were Merkel visitors Monday.

There was a party at Mr. Tabors Thursday night, an enjoyable time was reported.

The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Will Bond happened to a very painful accident, which came very near being serious, one day last week, when he was kicked on the head by a mule. We are glad to report the little fellow doing splendidly at the present.

Little Miss Bertha Winters is suffering with tonsillitis this week. Hope she will soon be all right again.

A debate was held at the school house Friday night. The principal of the Hebron school and two of his boys on the negative side, and Prof. Thompson and two of his boys on the affirmative. Subject debated was: Resolved, That the People Should Endorse the Policy Plan as Outlined by Woodrow Wilson. The affirmative side won.

Spring Time Is Paint Time!

We pride ourselves in the fact that we do not only carry the best paint that is on the market today but we also pride ourselves in the fact that we carry a paint that has had a reputation of 162 years of correct manufacturing. If you are thinking of painting we will be more than glad to figure with you, and moreover we will add that if you have looked up prices on mail order paint that we kindly ask you to bring your catalog with you to our store and we will compare prices with those of the catalog, and we are sure that we can show you a great saving of paint. Assuring you that we will be glad to serve you in any way possible, and asking you to give this your minute consideration, we are

BURROUGHS DRUG STORE



DOES YOUR ENGINE MISS?

Does your car balk at a hill? Do the brakes slip? Do you use too much gas? Does your oil flow away? Is your steering gear too loose? If you are experiencing trouble bring your car to us. We will repair it in a short time for a moderate cost.

MERKEL GARAGE

BUILDING NOTES

R. O. Anderson, cashier of the Farmers State Bank, is building a new five-room bungalow cottage in the southeast part of town, on the lot formerly occupied by the old Presbyterian church.

Carpenters are busy on the new residence of Mr. Olly Sharp's, and when completed will be a four-room house of the bungalow style.

H. M. Rainbolt, who lives about three miles south of town, is doing some extensive improvements about his home place and farm in that community.

E. P. Beene purchased the Paul Bennett place in the northwest part of the city this week and is doing some improvement on same, which will be completed in a few days.

Judge C. D. Mims, Emory McDonald and C. T. Merschon were attending business matters in Abilene Tuesday.

NOODLE

Homer Herring is very ill with pneumonia but we hope he will soon recover.

Rev. W. K. Horn of Abilene was in our community Saturday.

Quite a number of young people enjoyed the entertainment at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Meeks, Friday night.

Several of the Noodle people attended the Shiloh Literary Society Friday night.

Mrs. B. Winters is suffering from an attack of appendicitis.

A number of people from our community spent Saturday at the carnival.

The young people enjoyed a singing at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Eason Sunday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Green of Neinda spent Tuesday and Wednesday with R. W. Green and family.

Prof. and Mrs. J. C. Thompson of Shiloh spent Saturday and Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Herring.

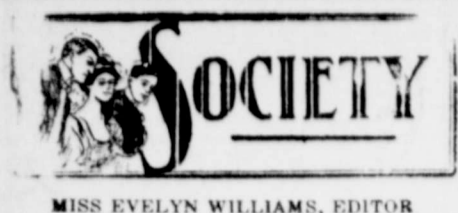
Dellis Green spent Saturday and Sunday with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Green of Neinda.

NOTICE

We, the undersigned barbers of Merkel will close our shops at 6:30 p. m., beginning March 1st. If you want barber work done please call before that hour, as we will close promptly.

City Barber Shop,
Sanitary Barber Shop,
Buford-Martin, Barbers,
W. G. Wetsel, Barber.

J. W. Owen left Monday afternoon for Farwell to accept a position with a wholesale grocery firm of that city. Mr. Owen has been here visiting his father, Rev. L. B. Owen, and received a telegram the first of the week offering him the position which he accepted.



MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

Mrs. Ben T. Merritt was hostess on last Saturday afternoon to her Sunday school class of the primary department of the Methodist Sunday school. Despite the gloomy afternoon thirteen guests enjoyed the afternoon's pleasure which were swinging and games of various kinds. Refreshments of fruit salad and cake were served.

The news has reached Merkel of the marriage of Mr. H. Freeman Rogers of Merkel and Miss Mae Eoff at the lady's home in Thorp Springs, Texas. The couple is expected to reach Merkel the last of this week and a more complete account of the wedding will be given later.

Mr. and Mrs. Pick Allen and children were guests for a six o'clock dinner with the Misses Vallentine at their residence in West Merkel on Saturday evening last. A visit in the Valentine home is always a pleasure, so the Allen family report an evening quite pleasantly spent after dinner was served.

House Party

On last week-end Mrs. Harry Harris invited a number of Merkel friends to a home party at Abilene. The occasion being to honor the birthday of Miss Alice Williams also of Abilene.

The entire personnel of this party were young ladies and young matrons who a few years back were closely associated in their girlhood "crowd" in Merkel. As "Old friends are best" this added greatly to the pleasure of Mrs. Harris' guest. Those enjoying the hospitality of the Harris home at this time were Mesdames T. H. Largent and Earl Lassiter, Misses Maud Martin, Mamie Rister and Susie Penn of Merkel and the honor guest.

Mrs. T. H. Largent brought the party back to Merkel in her car Sunday afternoon.

Snow-Walker

Mr. W. M. Snow and Mrs. T. J. Walker both of the Nubia country surprised their many friends Tuesday by motoring to Abilene where they were married at the court house.

Miss Velma Snow and a brother and M. D. Daniel were the only witnesses other than officials at the court house and immediately following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Snow returned to their home near Nubia. The Mail joins the numerous friends of the contracting parties in extending congratulations.

Hail-Coates.

Mr. M. Reece Hail and Miss Leola Coates were very quietly married at the Methodist parsonage in Merkel at six o'clock Wednesday evening February sixteenth. The ceremony was read by Rev. W. P. Garvin and witnessed by the bride's parents Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Coates, her two brothers and the minister's family.

The plans for this marriage were so quietly made that most friends of the contracting parties were ignorant of when it would occur.

Miss Leola, as she is called by her friends, has been a resident of Merkel since early childhood, her friends are all those who have been associated with her long enough to know of her admirable character and loveable disposition. For several years she has been teaching in the rural schools near Merkel and has gained an enviable reputation in this work. In Merkel she is prominent in all social and religious activities and will be greatly missed when she goes to make her home out of Merkel.

Mr. Hail is the son of F. E.



anything made with Calumet Baking Powder. Mother never had such wholesome bakings until she used Calumet.

"It's Calumet surety, uniformity, purity, strength, that makes every baking turn out right—that saves millions of housewives Baking Powder money. Be fair to yourself—use Calumet."

Received Highest Awards
See Slip in Pouch One



Cheap and big can Baking Powders do not save you money. Calumet does—it's Pure and far superior to sour milk and soda.

Hail, who resides in the Shiloh community and it was there, while Miss Coates was a teacher, that the acquaintance began which ended in this marriage. The Hail family have been prominent residents of the Merkel country for many years. The groom, by those who know him, is deemed worthy of the charming bride he has won.

The bride was very prettily gowned in a tan suit and all accessories to match. The groom wore the conventional black.

Immediately after the ceremony the bridal party went to the home of the bride's parents where they will remain until they go to make their home in the country ten miles north of Meekel.

The host of friends of these two young people we feel sure will join the Mail in wishing them many years together, happiness, prosperity and only enough sorrow to appreciate the joy.

Are you sick? Try Chiropractic and get well. A chiropractor adjusts the cause of all diseases. When the cause is removed nature restores your health. Consultation and analyses given free. Call and see me. Mrs. Batten-dorf Chiropractor. You will find me at Mrs. Alice Rose two block north of tabernale. 1822p

DISSOLUTION NOTICE

Notice of the dissolution of partnership of the Brown Independent Gin Co., is hereby given and all accounts against or for the company now becomes the obligation or property of G. B. Brown, present owner of the Brown Independent Gin.

G. B. Brown,
R. O. Anderson,
B. C. Moore.

TEXAS

Texas, Texas, Texas—
The grandest state of all,
Dear Texas, I'm coming back this fall.
In Arkansas I find
That she is too far behind
In her method of tilling the soil;
I can't see nothing but toil.

I'm going back to Texas, boys,
Where there is peace, happiness and joy,
For the man who will
Go there and be still.

Of all the states, Texas is best.
When you try Texas out west,
You will soon find out
That she is best without a doubt.

Boys, you can do as you like,
But I am going to hit the hike,
For I am West Texas bound—
The best country to be found.

Boys, I am not begging you to go,
Just telling you what I know.
By experience I have learned,
A living in Arkansas is hard to earn.

Arkansas is behind the times,
It doesn't take long to find
To make a living of any kind
It requires all of your time.

Boys, when you work hard to till
These old Arkansas hills,
Lots of grass you have to kill,
To find an empty pocket book still.

Boys, when you make up your mind
A better place you can find,
Go out west
Where you can get plenty of rest.

Tell old Arkansas you are tired of toil,
That you are going to a richer soil,
Where the work is like play,
And there you will always stay.

If you would like advice,
Ask your ticket agent the price
Of a ticket that would carry you away,
For farming in Arkansas don't pay.

Go our west, boys,
Where life is full of joys;
You will feel like a new man
In the sunny western land.

I tell you, boys, out in Texas
You will have no objection
To the way they have learned how
To make the crops with a riding plow.

You will like it, boys, I know,
The rows are half a mile or more,
You can plow and rest
In Texas—way out west.

Boys, Texas can't be beat,
She makes corn, cotton, oats and wheat;
Also hogs, cows, goats and sheep,
So you see she has plenty to eat.

If you will Texas once try
You will feel like you're the guy
Who bid old Arkansas farewell,
Never more in her fields to delve.

Listen to what I am going to say!
If you will to Texas go and stay,
You will very soon see
That Texas is the place for you and me.

Boys, don't think me fickle,
For you will only be tickled,
When you go to Texas and see
The beautiful land of the free.

Boys, I hope this won't make you hot.
For this is only a random shot
At these old hills and rocks,
Where it is hard to make the crops.

Boys, if you will indulge me with another
I will go still a little further,
And with these few words tell,
I am the boy that's going to Texas.
Like a bat out of hell.

C. W. Simpson, Nubia, Texas.

When spring poetry comes to light,
The editor has to stay up all night;
The compositor is out again
And the poor devil's got a pain.

Amen! The Force.

How Mr. Davis Got Rid of a Bad Cough

"Some time ago I had a very bad cough" writes Lewis T. Davis, Blackwater Del. "My brother McCabe Davis gave me a small bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. After taking this I bought half dozen bottles of it but only used one of them as the cough left me and I have not been troubled since." For sale by all dealers.

Dead as a Doornail.

The phrase "dead as a doornail" originated in this way: In early days, when door knockers were common, the plate upon which the knocker struck was sometimes called a nail. In the course of years it was struck so often that all life was supposed to be knocked out of it. Therefore when it became necessary to refer to anything hopelessly lifeless it was merely an emphatic expression to say that it was "as dead as a doornail."—London Telegraph.

Do You Find Fault With Everybody?

An irritable, fault-finding disposition is often due to a disordered stomach. A man with good digestion is nearly always good natured. A great many have been permanently benefited by Chamberlain's Tablets after years of suffering. These tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. For sale by all dealers.

Cures Old Sores, Other Remedies Won't Cure.
The worst cases, no matter of how long standing, are cured by the wonderful, old reliable Dr. Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves pain and heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00

It Always Helps

says Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mills, Ky., in writing of her experience with Cardui, the woman's tonic. She says further: "Before I began to use Cardui, my back and head would hurt so bad, I thought the pain would kill me. I was hardly able to do any of my housework. After taking three bottles of Cardui, I began to feel like a new woman. I soon gained 35 pounds, and now, I do all my housework, as well as run a big water mill.
I wish every suffering woman would give

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

a trial. I still use Cardui when I feel a little bad, and it always does me good."
Headache, backache, side ache, nervousness, tired, worn-out feelings, etc., are sure signs of womanly trouble. Signs that you need Cardui, the woman's tonic. You cannot make a mistake in trying Cardui for your trouble. It has been helping weak, ailing women for more than fifty years.

Get a Bottle Today!

See me before selling your cotton & grain.

W. D. WOODROOF

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET
RENFRO THE TAILOR
AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO
Your Cleaning and Pressing

The Lunch of all Lunches
It's A Sandwich
Trade Where Your Trade is Appreciated
Any order of sandwiches made on short notice. Yours for quick service.

AARON'S - SANDWICH - STAND

EAT

At The Mozart Cafe in Abilene

Notice.
I have bought out the N. Roberts' place on Front street and will handle the Freeze Proof Cabbage Plants. Come to see me.
1822 W. P. Duckett.

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST
Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

M. ARMSTRONG, M. D.
Practicing Physician
Office at Grimes Drug Store
Merkel, Texas
Telephones: Res. 1-2; Office 1-0-5

DOCTOR MILLER
Physician and Surgeon
Over Woodroofs Store

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

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The most Up-to-Date SHOP IN MERKEL.

CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

W. B. W.
Merkel Camp No. 719 meets second and fourth Friday nights of each month.
T. F. Compton, C. C. S. Hamilton, Clerk



The Pleasure of Dining

is greatly enhanced if the things served are pure and wholesome

Make dining pleasant by buying your Groceries from us. They're always FRESH and GOOD

E. L. ROGERS

GROCERY



A MAN WHO PRETENDED TO BE OUR FRIEND

told us a trade secret how to reduce the cost of manufacture. It meant an additional profit to us, but we spurned the suggestion. Why? Because we resolved always to give the public only pure candy, up to the highest possible standard. That is the kind we sell you.

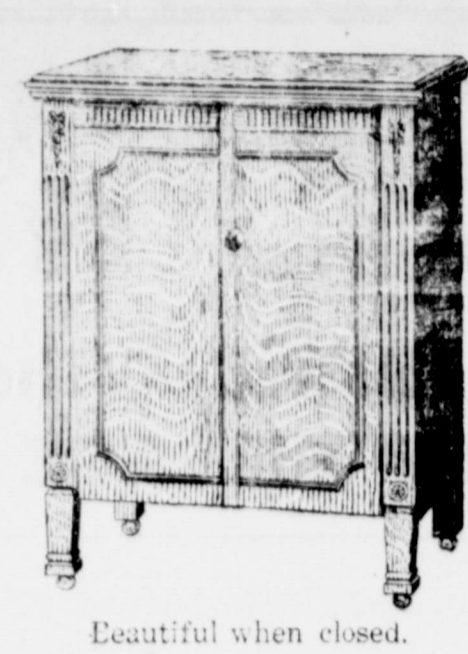
The Elite Confectionery

A Complication Removed
By ESTHER VANDEVEER

"This John King," said Mrs. Haskins to her daughter Isabel, scanning a newspaper, "who is spending his money so lavishly must be the same man with whom you had that flirtation ten years ago when we were staying in Rome."
"Oh, mamma!"
"Why are you so moved, my dear? Surely there was nothing serious between you and him, and that was a long while ago."
"There was something between us, mamma."
"There was?" asked the mother in her turn, showing concern.
Isabel made no reply to the question but after deep thought said:
"I wish to meet this Mr. King. If he is the same I met ten years ago I shall do all I can to win him."
"Why so—to secure his large fortune?"
"No; to remove a serious complication."
That was all the mother could get out of her daughter. The society news was scanned from day to day until Mr. King was mentioned as a guest at the house of one of Mrs. Haskins' friends. The lady was appealed to bring about a meeting between Mr. King and Miss Haskins and did so at a dinner given by the mutual friend. After the dinner Isabel returned to her home with a red spot in each cheek and a spark in each eye.
"Well?" said Mrs. Haskins.
"Oh, mother, he has no remembrance of me whatever."
"Then he is the man we supposed him to be?"
"He is."
"And do you still desire to marry him?"
"Absolutely."
"Did he seem pleased with you?"
"I think so."
"Why is it not to his interest as much as yours that you and he should be married?"
"Perhaps it is."
"Then why do you not tell him of your meeting ten years ago, giving him the reasons, if he does not already know them, why he should marry you?"
"Because I loved him then. I love him now, and I wish him to marry me for love, not for any other reason whatever."
The mother was obliged to be satisfied with this statement, though curiosity was sharpened by her interest in her daughter. In time Mr. King was invited to the Haskins' to dinner. He came and set Isabel's heart throbbing by saying some delicious sweet words to her. But when she met her at a social function she saw him chatting with another girl and, judging from his expression, he was saying sweet words to her, causing Isabel's heart to sink as rapidly as it had risen.
A few days later Mr. King called, making as an excuse the offering of his box at the opera. Either he was the same skillful love maker he had been a decade before or he was much smitten with Miss Haskins. In his conduct were many of the indications of a sure affection.
And so the affair went on. At one time he would be devoted to her; at another she would hear that he was browsing among the prettiest girls in the social swim. What most troubled her was that he was passing into that age where a bachelor's admiration is bestowed upon girls much younger than himself.
However, as the weeks flew by his devotion to Isabel grew more constant. He had appeared to purposely display attentions to young girls when she was present to observe them. This he was gradually giving up. Indeed, the affair between them had gone so far that his attentions to other girls ceased to trouble her. Flowers had begun to come from him to her, a sure sign that a proposal is about to be made. One evening when King followed a box of them he had sent he called, and when Isabel came down to meet him he put his arms about her, kissed her warmly and said:
"My dear wife, it is time this play came to a climax."
"Wife?"
"Yes. I knew you the moment I saw you. Immediately after that wedding which was got up between us in a youthful frolic I went to a lawyer and asked him if it could be construed into a legal marriage. He replied that if we both intended it as such it was within the law of wedlock. It was intentional with me. If it was the same with you we were married ten years ago."
"In my heart it surely was intentional."
"I resolved," continued King, "that as soon as I had accumulated a sufficiency I would ask you the question that would, if answered in the affirmative, make us one. I have since been more than fortunate. I came here purposely to find you. When I saw that you did not remember me."
"I did," interrupted Isabel. "I supposed, however, that you did not recognize me."
"I wished to win you."
"And I wished just as much to win you."
When Isabel joined her mother she gave evidence that something momentous had happened.
"You are engaged?" exclaimed Mrs. Haskins.
"No—married."
"Married!"
"Yes, we have been married ten years, but we didn't know it."

The Power of Song
By F. A. MITCHEL

There was a girl of one of those states which now compose the Balkans whose ambition was to emulate men in athletics. Expert in throwing the discus, she won contests against those who were champions in this game. She was the best chariot driver in the kingdom and had won many races. But her most remarkable feats were in running. In this no one was found to beat her.
So proud was she of her swiftness on her legs that she made a vow she would marry no man who could not beat her on the cinder path. Having many suitors, this only added to the rivalry among them. But since an ability to run fast does not argue that a man is otherwise attractive, those whose muscular development warranted their entering the list were not likely to win the girl even if they won the race. Several fleet runners came so near beating her that if she had chosen she might have thrown the race without appearing to do so.
One day a young man came to the village where this girl, Eudoxia, lived and announced that he would enter the list against her, only he made the provision that should he win the race she must marry him. He sent a challenge, and Eudoxia dispatched her brother to look the man over and report to her whether he would likely outrun her. The brother returned and reported that, while the challenger was shapely, he was not muscular, and his physique did not warrant the inference that he could beat an ordinary runner.
The slight risk of being beaten by one whom she would be pledged to marry and yet might dislike tempted Eudoxia to consent to the terms. So an agreement was drawn up between her and the stranger, who called himself Boris, to race, and if he beat her she was to marry him. This agreement was signed by Eudoxia without having seen her suitor.
The race was to take place on a track in the form of an ellipse, the length being half a mile and there being seven laps. A large concourse of people were gathered to see the race. The stranger stepped forth in a pair of short running pants such as are worn at the present day. One thing about him was noticeable—his manly beauty. It was evident that he was not built for fleetness. But what astonished every one was that he held in his hand a harp. Eudoxia was attired in the same fashion, with the addition of a shift falling only to the thighs.
When the two confronted each other it was noticed that the stranger's manly beauty, which all agreed rivaled the statues of Apollo, made a marked impression on Eudoxia. When she saw the harp in his hand she was surprised, and when he did not lay it aside before taking his position for the race she wondered.
The signal was given. Eudoxia started off so fast that she did not know that Boris was walking slowly. She heard behind her sounds from the strings of the harp, soothing rather than inspiring. When she had made three-quarters of the first lap there, directly opposite her at the other end of the minor axis of the elliptic course, was Boris, walking and striking his harp. Then he began to sing.
Eudoxia, who had nothing to fear from such a tortoise, stopped to listen. Boris was singing her praises, the love he felt for her, pleading that she would not turn a deaf ear to him. She listened till he had gone out of hearing, and then she proceeded to the other end of the minor axis and waited till he had come around to the point where she had been listening to his song.
It seemed that in the meanwhile it had grown sweeter. He was walking very slowly, putting all his feeling into it. Again Eudoxia went on till she reached the point at which he had been singing, while he proceeded till he took her place. Here both stood still, the man singing of the beauty and the virtues of the peerless Eudoxia, she seeming to be spellbound. Then he went on singing, "Wait for me, fair one," repeating the words again and again till he came around to where she stood, and the two walked side by side.
In this way they proceeded, the girl rapt in the song, till they came within a few yards of the goal, when Boris, still singing, turned and walked backward, keeping his eyes fixed on Eudoxia, till he passed over the goal.
Then the spectators, who had appeared to be enthralled as well as the girl, drew a long breath and burst into a cheer.
And so Eudoxia was won, not by fleetness, but by the power of song. As soon as he had won the race Boris announced himself to be the son of a powerful noble of what is now Montenegro, and, without holding Eudoxia to her contract, appeared himself as a suitor for her hand, which, after a period of maidenly reserve, she gave him.
Many of the people who were not cognizant of what passed after the winning of the race believed that the stranger was Apollo, who had come down from heaven to win an earthly bride.
After the wedding Boris and his wife disappeared and when they reached his home were received with as much interest as had attended the race. For Boris had been in Greece and, hearing of the girl who must be won in a foot race, had stopped on his way back to see her. He resolved to win her by making love to her in song.



Beautiful when closed.

An Alarm Clock Can Awaken You But You Must Get Up Yourself
Nothing Comes to the Woman Who Waits

It's the woman who is up and doing that gets what she wants in this world.
It's the woman who keeps up with times that makes the good wife and mother.
It's the woman who reads the papers that knows where to buy and what to buy.
It's the woman who is not afraid to examine and compare the article she wants that gets the bargain.

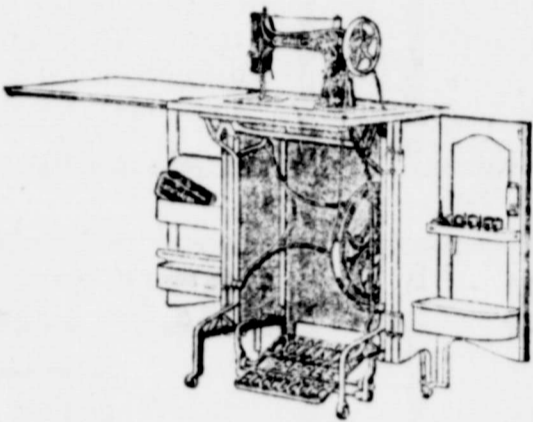
An Examination of **The FREE Sewing Machine** will cost you nothing

Just compare it with any other machine and you will see

How much lighter it runs How beautiful its case
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How smooth soft and and of what splendid
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Nothing comes to the woman who waits
Go down and see The FREE today, and try it.

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TIME TO ACT

Don't Wait for the Fatal Stages of Kidney Illness. Profit by People's Experiences

Occasional attacks of backache, irregular urination, headaches and dizzy spells are frequent symptoms of kidney disorders. It's an error to neglect these ills. The attacks may pass off for a time but generally return with increased intensity. Don't delay a minute. Begin taking Doan's Kidney Pills and keep up their use until the desired results are obtained. Good work in Merkell proves the effectiveness of this great kidney remedy.
Mrs. J. M. Dry, Merkell, says: "I got down with my back and when I stood over it, it was hard to straighten up again. Dizzy spells came on me and I felt worn out and depressed most all the time. I used but one box of Doan's Kidney Pills and the pains in my back left, the headaches disappeared and my kidneys were greatly strengthened. I have never had much need of a kidney medicine since."
Price 50c, at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Dry had, Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y. 112

Notice.

To my many friends and customers—I beg to announce that I have returned from my trip to the East and wish to state that I will still have my office over the Crown Hardware store and will continue to do business as I have in the past. Examination free, work strictly guaranteed and prices reasonable. Respt.
H. C. Floyd, Optician,
Merkell, Texas.

Altitude Lessens Power.

The curious fact has been demonstrated that high altitudes apparently have a marked effect on the power obtainable from a gas engine. Recently one was erected several thousand feet above the sea level, but upon testing failed to give the desired power. An investigation followed, and the loss in power was attributed to the height at which the engine was operating. The general conclusion was reached that a gas engine loses about 1 per cent of its indicated horsepower per 1,000 feet of elevation.—Popular Mechanics.

Hens Wanted

I will pay 11 cents per pound in any merchandise in my store for good healthy hens. A. L. Jobe tf

HAPPINESS.

It is not the people who have the most who are the happiest. That formula does not work; it never did work. It is the people who do most to make others happy that find joy sitting smiling at their door every hour. Happiness can be had by the day. It is not a happening, but a becoming; not a fleeting chance longed for, but a constant opportunity taken and fulfilled.

Early Circulating Libraries.

Circulating libraries existed long before the invention of printing. Paris stationers were compelled by a law promulgated in 1342 to keep a stock of books to be lent on hire for the special benefit of poor students. Merryweather, in his "Bibliomania in the Middle Ages," gives a list of books so lent with the prices for reading them, the charge for the loan of a Bible, for instance, being 10 sous. The earliest known reference to a London circulating library occurs in an advertisement at the end of a play, "The Thraician Wonder," published 1661, announcing that "books may be read for a reasonable consideration."—London Chronicle

Stars by Daylight.

It is worthy of remark that but for the brightness of the sky the stars could be seen in daylight. Even as matters stand some of the brighter of them have been seen after sunrise by explorers on high mountains, where the air is very clear and the sky dark blue. If we could go above the atmosphere the sky would appear perfectly black and stars would be visible right close up to the sun. Astronomers observe bright stars in daytime by using long focus telescopes, the dark tubes of which cut off the side light, and persons in the bottom of deep wells have noticed stars passing overhead, the side light being reduced by the great depths of the wells.

Get Up Right.

Get up right in the morning. Go to bed right at night. Start with joy in your heart, hope in the future, kindness in your purpose.
If it is a dark day never mind; you will lighten it up. If it is a bright day you will add to the brightness. Give a word of cheer, a kindly greeting and a warm handshake to your friends.
If your enemies look up pass them by, forget and try to forgive.
If all of us would bear in mind that happiness is from within and not from without there would be a well spring of joy in every heart and the sun would shine forever.
Try it.—Leslie's Weekly.

Very Close

"Why are you asking me for help? Haven't you any close relatives?"
"Yes. That's the reason why I'm appealing to you."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Dies at Elk City

E. H. Harrison received a message from his father, of Elk City, Oklahoma, Sunday, announcing the death of N. S. Ward, brother-in-law to Mr. Harrison of this city.

Mr. Ward formerly lived in Abilene and was part owner of the Royal Theatre operated here last summer.

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

Your druggist will refund money if PAZOLINTMENT fails to cure any case of itching, blood, bleeding or protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first application gives ease and rest. 25c.

Wear His Smile of Satisfaction
by using a real paint
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINT, PREPARED
is manufactured from the purest of materials because The Sherwin-Williams Co. control the sources of their raw materials. Gives protection for the longest possible time.
Sold by
Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

HOUSTON BREWERY PAYS BIG PENALTY

Austin, February 14.—Attorney General Looney today received a check for \$63,500 from the Houston Ice and Brewing Company of Houston, that brewery's pro rata of the penalties recovered by the state in the suit in which an agreed judgment was recently entered in the district court of Hopkins county.
This company also sent a check for \$1,664, payment of office expenses by the attorney general in connection with the litigation. This now leaves only the Dallas brewery to remit penalty of \$5,000.

FERGUSON WILL MAKE ROBERTSON LAW ISSUE

Austin, Feb. 14.—Governor Ferguson still intends to make the Robertson law an issue in the next campaign.
"Do not say that I am for the repeal of the Robertson law," he said. "That is misleading. I favor a modification of that law, or rather the enactment of a statute which will be better than the Robertson law."
"I shall advocate the passage of the Gibson bill or something very nearly like it. I do not consider the Gibson bill as repealing the Robertson law, but a vast improvement over it, and in fact doing what the Robertson law originally intended to do.

WIT AND HUMOR

An English publican was prosecuted in London recently for selling a bottle of whiskey during prohibited hours, according to the New York Evening Post. A bottle of whiskey similar to that sold was produced as evidence. The jury heard the evidence and retired to the jury room. They presently returned.
"My lord," said the foreman, the jury are quite satisfied as to the sale of the bottle, but they are not so sure of its contents. May they have the bottle to satisfy themselves?"
"Certainly," declared the judge. After a brief period the jury filed into the box again.
"Well, gentlemen, have you reached a decision?" asked the judge.
"No case, my lord," said the foreman. "There was not enough evidence to go around."

How It Happened

Pat (meeting his pal, who has his face bandaged up)—"Hello, Mike, who's done that?"
"A fellow up a ladder cleaning windows dropped some water on me."

"Shure, water would never do that."
"No, but it was in a bucket."
—Tit-Bits.

Shocked the Parson

Minister—Mr. Harcase, I saw your son in a saloon yesterday.
Harcase—Did you? I hope the young scamp had the politeness to ask you to have something.—Boston Transcript.

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TRAVEL FREE ON LAND OR ON SEA BY BOAT OR BY TRAIN

The Dignity of the Railroad is Unquestioned---The Dignity of the Merchants Who issue NATIONAL FREE MILEAGE is Unquestioned

Behrens - McMillen FURNITURE CO.

We issue National Free Mileage Certificates with all Cash Purchases

FURNITURE

We invite your inspection of our complete line of Furniture, Art Squares, Linoleums, etc.

Our Prices Sell Our Goods

When you buy merchandise of the firms named below you will receive with each purchase, no matter how small, a National Free Mileage Coupon, redeemable by the National Free Mileage Co., for transportation on any Railroad, Steamboat, Street Car, Interurban or Jitney in the United States, or if you prefer it, IN CASH

E. L. ROGERS, GROCER

The man who delivers the goods in the way of intelligent service to his customers, keeping before him all the time the watchword—QUALITY—will continue to thrive. The man who is capable of doing nothing except keep a Grocery Store, will discover in a short time that his customers will be perfectly willing to have him keep his groceries. Therefore—SERVICE—QUALITY—THE PRICE

PARTEN DRY GOODS CO.

Dry Goods, Shoes, Millinery and Gents Furnishings

Issue National Free Mileage with Every Cash Sale

T. L. GRIMES

In Business for Your Health

Our Efficiency Your Protection

Trust us with your recipes and Family Prescriptions.

We carry a complete line of best Toilet Articles and Drugs

COZY THEATRE ART STUDIO

SEE THE BEST

and get a

Certificate with each

Admission



The Expert Cook has to have the right kind of heat or her best efforts go wrong. There'll be no trouble with the fire if our coal is used. Burns up quickly and retains an even heat right along. And listen. You won't have to fill up the range so often with our coal. Better order some and prove it. WARREN BROTHERS

IDEAL TAILOR SHOP

WE MAKE THEM NEW

Clothes make a man when

CHURCH BROS.

Make the Clothes

The same artists do your Cleaning, Pressing and Laundry work

NUBIA

After the maintenance of a fortnight's silence the writer has again decided to break upon the uninterrupted serenity of the minds of his indulgent tolerators.

During my absence from print there have been several things happened worth noting, not the least of which was the eclipse of the sun.

The ground is getting very dry and stock water is nearly all exhausted and many people are having to draw water for their stock, while others are busy repairing their tanks that a recurrence of water shortage will be forestalled. Small grain is suffering badly and if rain is not soon had, its doom will be written in box car letters.

Mr. Watt Blair has moved into his new house which was recently completed. It is a seven-room bungalow and was erected by Jno. Walker of Merkel. A careful observation discloses to the observer that its builder is a carpenter of no mean ability.

The people of Nubia met last Friday night and organized a literary society. Mr. C. E. Lewis was chosen for president, Miss Lizzie Finley was selected for secretary, Joe Bickley was given the office of critic, and the writer, even I, was put on the portfolio as journalist. They will meet next Friday night week. All requested to attend.

Several came out to singing at Mr. and Mrs. Bud Perry's Sunday night.

The box supper at Nubia last Saturday night was very largely attended, owing to the inauspiciousness of the weather and other elements which to thwart it.

We are induced to believe that Mr. and Mrs. Mack Perkins are the happiest parents in all the Canyon. Their home was blessed with the advent of twins, a boy and girl, several weeks ago. Several from the Canyon went

to Merkel Saturday to attend the carnival and to see "Blue Jay" rode-at.

The birthday party at Mr. Anderson's given in honor of Misses Jewel and Ila May's birthday, was well attended and enjoyed by all present.

A party of young folks made a pleasure trip to Castle Peak Sunday.

Some of the farmers are having more of their land put in. Mr. Butman is having a field grubbed. Uncle Jim Blackburn is also having some grubbing done. Perhaps there are others whom the writer does not know of.

Has Used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy For 20 Years

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been used in my household for the past twenty years. I began giving it to my children when they were small. As a quick relief for croup, whooping cough, and ordinary colds, it has no equal. Being free from opium and other harmful drugs, I never felt afraid to give it to my children. I have recommended it to a large number of friends and neighbors, who have used it and speak highly of it," writes Mrs. Mary Minke, Shortsville, New York. For sale by all dealers.

BATTLEFIELD TO BE TURNED INTO PARK

Cuero, Feb. 14.—Fannin battlefield, near here, will be made into a natural park, if the plans of a number of prominent citizens of Cuero and Goliad and others are carried out.

A bill was passed in the state legislature, appropriating a sum for the beautification and preservation of this park as a monument to the early days of Texas.

Furtherance of the plan already proposed will be urged by citizens of this section.

Constipation

When constive or troubled with constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They are easy to take and most agreeable in effect. For sale by all dealers.

IN OLD INDIA



ALTHOUGH the railroads run up and down the length and breadth of India, and autos are not unknown, the rough cart drawn by the sacred bull is still a common sight.

Occasionally we are obliged to call upon one of these picturesque primitive conveyances to deliver TEXACO Oils.

Our business in India includes not only the sale of large quantities of burning oils to the natives, but the supply of lubricants to the big cotton mills and other industries, and a great many other oil products.

This distant business is held by the quality of TEXACO Products. They must pay their way in such markets by their economy.

That is why TEXACO Petroleum Products are in demand the world over. That is why your neighbors ask for them and why you should use them.

There is a TEXACO Agent near you. Let us serve you through him.

The Texas Company

General Offices: Houston, Texas Agents Everywhere

For That Terrible Itching

Eczema, tetter and salt rheum keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all dealers.

Birth Announcements

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stroud, Sunday morning, a girl. Mrs. Stroud was formerly Miss Ola Pope of this city.

Get a phonograph free by trading with J. A. Duckett.

ROUTE 3

The singing at Mt. Pleasant last Sunday was attended by a large crowd.

The health of this community is better at the present.

Almer Barnes has been visiting his aunt at Abilene.

The box supper at Mt. Pleasant was quite a success.

We have a fresh supply of Baker Boy Flour. Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Monarch.

I am the real ruler of the universe. I cover with dust the masterpieces of the earth. Ancient forms shrink before my ever awakening presence.

And memory cowers. Men bow before my scepter like slaves of the light. And women, their eyes fixed by my spell, follow where I lead.

The puny baby in the nursery and the gray bearded patriarch alike hearken to my magic voice. I paint the earth with divers colors, and the scientist, the doctor, all the rulers of man, awake to do my bidding.

I am monarch of all I survey. None disputes my eternal majesty. My name is novelty.—Life.

Record Gold Nugget.

When taken out of the mine the largest gold nugget in the world weighed 640 pounds.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, ss. Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, county and state aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure. Frank J. Cheney.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

(Seal) A. W. Gleason Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Sent for testimonials, free.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by all druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Life in a Nutshell.

"Stop, look, listen."

A reflective man was reading this railroad sign.

"Those three words illustrate the whole scheme of life," said he.

"How so?"

"You see a pretty girl. You stop. You look. After you marry her you listen."—Detroit Free Press.

To Drive Out Malaria

And Build Up The System Take The Old Standard GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. You know what you are taking, as the formula is printed on every label, showing it is Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. The Quinine drives out malaria, the Iron builds up the system. 50 cents

WHY YOU ARE NERVOUS

The nervous system is the alarm system of the human body.

In perfect health we hardly realize that we have a network of nerves, but when health is ebbing, when strength is declining, the same nervous system gives the alarm in headaches, tiredness, dreamful sleep, irritability and unless corrected, leads straight to a breakdown.

To correct nervousness, Scott's Emulsion is exactly what you should take; its rich nutriment gets into the blood and rich blood feeds the tiny nerve-cells while the whole system responds to its refreshing tonic force. It is free from alcohol.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.



WE SAW WOOD

and let our shoe repairing do the talking for us. And we have found the plan works wonderfully well. Let us do your next job of shoe repairing and see what you think about our plan. The kind of repairing and the moderate charges which have pleased so many others should certainly appeal to you.

J. A. BROWN

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A HANDSOMELY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY. Largest circulation of any magazine. Terms, \$5 a year; four months, \$2. Sent by mail. MUNN & CO., 360 Broadway, New York