

MEXICAN BOYS DO DANGEROUS ACTS

Two Mexican boys were rounded up in the Texas & Pacific yards Monday afternoon on charges of attempting to place spikes on railroad in such a way it was taken their acts were malicious attempts to wreck trains. These offences coming at the time they have lends a critical aspect to the local Mexican problem and white boys are suspected of being accomplices, this assumption seems incredible when linked with acts that the sympathetic chili-con-carne eaters are capable and likely to do. The boys arrested were about seventeen years of age and no doubt had a correct knowledge of what their work might do. The Texas & Pacific Ry. Co. have taken many precautions within the last two weeks to guard their property against damage by Mexican sympathizers, guards being established on many of the larger bridges according to reports received from travelers coming from both directions. That the above miscreants should be punished is without question and a fine would hardly protect the railroad company from further danger so long as the boys have malice in their hearts, for this reason a jail sentence sufficiently lengthy to keep them in confinement until all trouble had passed with Mexico seems advisable. It seems further advisable that the Mexican populace should be carefully watched in these regards to avoid trouble.

MEXICANS PEONS SEE FIRST AIR MEN

When members of the U. S. Aero Squadron circled about Casas Grandes, hovering over the town like giant birds of the air, the Mexican peons who had never seen such machines of war or who had never heard of such implements of warfare, were mystified and many hid in the hills, while others fell upon the ground and prayed. The advance of General Pershing into the mountainous country south of Casas Grandes is being made with little information reaching the border as to his activity in catching Villa. Reports if any are being withheld and the rigid censorship coupled with broken lines of information from the advance, makes information very meagre. No fights have been reported yet with any Villa sympathizers or Villa bandits.

M. R. LOCKE TO ADDRESS MASONS

Morris R. Locke of Abilene, one of the oldest Masons in this section of the state, and one who no doubt experienced more foreign views on Masonry than any other man in this section has accepted an invitation to address the Merkel lodge on its next stated meeting. Mr. Locke is a highly interesting speaker and has a bunch of lodge information stored up for such occasions that makes it highly worth the time of all Masons to hear his experiences and views of this fraternal subject. A cordial invitation is extended all visiting Masons to be on hand. Work in the third degree will be given during the evening.

G. R. Holloway at Home

G. R. Holloway returned from Sweetwater Thursday much improved from an attack of rheumatism he has been suffering with and also reports other Merkel who are at Grogan Wells improving.

NEEDS OF SCHOOL GIVEN IN DETAIL

The additional needs of our present modern school building and the work carried out in it has been passed on by the state department of education, following a personal inspection made of the building and work by Mr. McDonald of the State Department. After Mr. McDonald had made his report to Austin, the following letter was received by Superintendent H. M. Morris giving full recommendations of what should be done to improve the Merkel schools up to their proper standard:

March 14, 1916.

Supt. M. H. Morris,
Merkel, Texas.

Dear Sir:

I am please to learn from Mr. McDonald, representative of this Department who recently visited Merkel high school, of its fine building, excellent corps of teachers, and spirit of co-operation on the part of the people. I am led to believe that this people will take steps to provide for all the needs of their school, some of which I indicate as follows:

1. Immediate steps should be taken to provide adequate funds to maintain a standard term of nine months. This may be done by raising the values of taxable property in the school district. This method is being used by many of the high schools of the state. Later adequate funds may be provided, if the constitutional amendment which is to be voted on this fall which will raise the tax rate from 50 cents to \$1 limit is adopted, but meantime some other method must be resorted to.
2. Laboratory apparatus should be installed for at least two units of high school science.
3. Maps, globes and charts should be purchased for grades and high school. It will require approximately \$200 to supply these and laboratory equipment.
4. The school campus should be beautified by being leveled, walks built, and trees, shrubs and flowers planted.
5. The school toilets should be rendered sanitary.

Assuring you and the trustees of my earnest desire to co-operate with you and them in maintaining the standards, and hence the classification of the first class for the Merkel high school, I am,

Sincerely,

W. F. Doughty,
State Superintendent.

Trustee Election Ordered

Saturday April 1st has been ordered as election day in Merkel for the purpose of electing three school trustees. All parties desirous of filling these responsible position are requested to file their names with the secretary H. C. West of the School Board.

Presbyterian Announcement.

March 28th is the last Sabbath of the presbyterial years and will close the second year's work of pastor. Being the last Sunday of the quarter it will be regular "Communion day." Come, let's close the year with good attendance next Sunday. Visitors are always welcome.

Pastor.

Fresh groceries at G. M. Shaps.

"I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOUR PETS, BUT I'M GOING TO GET A COUPLE OF REAL DOGS FOR THOSE KENNELS."



FIRE RAVAGES PARIS, MCKINNEY, TULSA, WACO, NASHVILLE, DRUMLIGHT OKLA.

Greatest Loss of Years is at Paris. Will Surpass Fire at Houston Three Years ago. Estimated Loss is \$10,000,000 And 8,000 Are Homeless.

The fire which started in Paris Tuesday evening is now estimated to have done over \$10,000,000 damage and enacted a loss of three lives. In short, a person could say that Paris was entirely destroyed, for such was the fate of ninety percent of the business portion of the city and nearly 50 percent of the resident section. The very finest business houses of the town now stand gutted and silent, their occupants wandering about at loss as to methods of rebuilding the city.

In all over 8,000 people are said to be in destitute need and without shelter. Many lost their homes and all property value they enjoyed in substantial business connections of the town. A distance of some eighteen blocks long by four to six blocks wide about covers the charred area of ashes now smouldering where the most beautiful part of Paris stood both in residential and business sections. All hotels, cafes and other eating houses were destroyed with the exception of two railroad counters in the outskirts of the business section.

Immediately after the fire was seen to be beyond control appeals were sent to Bonham, Clarksville, Hugo, Terrell and Dallas for assistance. Hugo was one of the first to respond with aid, and in two hours and forty minutes after the call was given a portion of the Dallas department was in Paris fighting flames. The distance between Dallas and Paris is usually made in slightly over four hours time via Terrell over the Texas & Pacific motor route.

Old timers in Paris Wednesday morning looked upon the remains of their once beautiful city and their thoughts went back to 1878 when the town boasted of only 4,000 inhabitants at which time the place suffered equally as destructive a fire in proportion to the comparative sizes of the city then and now. The fire in 1878 burned some eighteen blocks, and destroyed every business house on three sides of the square.

At McKinney a fire did hundreds of thousands of dollars damage, and only for heroic work of the McKinney fire department it is claimed the loss would have equalled that sustained by Paris. The flames however were confined to the cotton compress and adjoining property.

At Tulsa, Okla., over 200 people are homeless, the result of a fire that destroyed over 40 homes in that city Tuesday evening.

At Waco a fire loss of \$30,000 occurred, and reports from Detroit, a town near Paris, tells of a large portion of that town being endangered if not already burned.

At Drumlight, Okla., an oil field town, fire broke out Tuesday evening, amid high winds, destroying 24 oil derricks and thousands of barrels of oil. The loss in this district has already exceeded one million dollars and is expected to reach a much higher figure.

At Nashville, Tenn., a serious fight raged for hours Tuesday evening.

Party to Abilene

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Woodroof were hosts to the employees of the Woodroof store in an automobile ride to Abilene Friday night. The party enjoyed a show followed by a ride over the sister city before returning home.

MERKEL FRUIT IS ON MARKET

Fruit for table use, canned in Merkel home canneries is now available in the local market and the grade is said to be of the very highest. Further, the price is equal to that on any canned fruit shipped here from outside points, and Merkel people, in addition, have an opportunity to patronize home industry.

The parties who have fruit, exhibited cans of table and pie peaches at the Mail office this week and only from the name printed on the highly colored label the consumer would think the cans of fruit had been shipped here from some outside point. In all over 100 dozen cans of this home product is now on the market and some Merkel merchants have already supplied their counters with a stock of same. With this preparation the Mail suggests that every lady in Merkel specify that she wants some of the Merkel Canned Peaches when she places her next grocery order. By so patronizing this movement of home industry, the housewives of Merkel can create a tendency among the merchants to purchase home products. As a suggestion we ask the ladies of the town to call for this Merkel fruit, and try it when in need of such, and if your grocer has failed to purchase a supply of same, do not be satisfied with some "Just as good," but demand that he send you peaches grown and canned in Merkel. If after trying them you find the grade is standard, continue using Merkel country fruit as long as it is available.

RABBIT DRIVES TO BENEFIT COUNTRY

Rabbit drives in which hundreds of rabbits are killed is now a frequent occurrence in this section and thousands and thousands of long ears have bit the dust within the last two weeks.

Friday of last week parties were organized over various parts of the country and in all probability over 2,000 rabbits were killed during the day. One drive was in the vicinity of the Swann farm near Shiloh, was an exciting scene, carried on throughout the day, likely a thousand rabbits were killed. Several men were scared nearly to death and one man sprinkled with shot from a distance. W. S. McDonald who counted up the largest kill in the drives near the Swann place, reported 105 for the day. Mr. McDonald probably would have gotten more but after he had made the third large kill during the day, he was the victim of some scattered shot, one of which struck him with force enough to break the outer skin, and thence-fourth his battling average slumped something awful. The drives were managed by Messrs. Winters and Phillips and was made of some seventy men and boys.

Sewing Neatly Done

Work guaranteed. See Mrs. Noel and Mrs. Brummel at Oscar Walker Grocery store. 243rd

COLE YOUNGER, OUTLAW, DEAD

Lee's Summit, Mo., March 22.—Cole Younger, famous outlaw of border days, but of late years a devout church attendant and model citizen, died at his home here last night after a lingering illness. He was 72 years old and unmarried.

Cole Younger was one of the last of the members of the notorious robber bands that infested western Missouri during and after the Civil war. He was a member of the Quantrell band of guerillas and with his two brothers took part with the "James Boys" in bank and train robberies in Missouri and neighboring states that netted the looters more than \$100,000. The leading members of these bands are dead, some at the hands of the law, some by suicide and others from natural causes. Younger after a long term in the penitentiary became a law-abiding citizen.

Benefits From Other's Experiences

The town of Paris practically completely destroyed by fire should be a serious lesson to other towns of the state where their fire departments or water service is below par. Especially instructive should this lesson be to our sister city of Abilene, sorely in need of adequate water supply for fire purposes. The town has made rapid steps to equip a good department but have neglected to give their firemen an efficient water supply.

WINTER'S NEGRO ON SERIOUS CHARGE

Ballinger, Texas, March 20—Fearing mob violence, the sheriff of Runnels county took two negroes charged with assault from the jail here Sunday night and transferred them to some unknown point for safe keeping.

Pete Allen, one of the negroes, was brought to Ballinger Sunday afternoon from Winters. It is claimed that after cutting away a window screen he entered a young woman's room and concealed himself beneath the bed. He is said to have attacked the young woman later but escaped when she screamed. He was captured Sunday afternoon.

The other negro, Earle Younger, has been convicted on a charge of assault and was being held here awaiting transfer to the penitentiary.

S. P. BROOKS TO BE HERE APRIL 5

Dr. S. P. Brooks of Baylor University, candidate for United States Senator, is scheduled to be in Merkel April 5th for the purpose of addressing the citizens in regard to the race he is making.

Dr. Brooks is one of the most prominent men in the state and his coming here is of such importance that Merkel should arrange to give him a rousing reception.

The place for the speaking has not yet been selected but probably will have been arranged in time for notice of it to be published in next week's Mail.

We appreciate your patronage. You will appreciate our service if your tailoring work is done by Owen. Phone 194. 10tf



Condensed Statement of Condition

The Farmers State Bank

Merkel, Texas

As Reported March 7, 1916

RESOURCES

Loans	\$184,941.29
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	5,700.00
Furniture and Fixtures	4,000.00
Interest in Gty. Fund	1,492.03
Cash and Exchange	92,150.71
Total	\$297,784.03

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	14,863.76
Deposits	247,920.27
Borrowed Money	None
Rediscounts	None
Total	\$297,784.03

The above statement is correct
R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

**Only Guaranty Fund Bank
IN MERKEL**

CROP CONDITIONS OVER THE STATE

Central West Texas

Crop conditions in Jones, Taylor, Nolan and Mitchell counties are not favorable according to the report for the week of March 10, and as a rule the farmers of that section are feeling despondent. Only in the southern section of Taylor and Nolan counties, where there has been more rain than elsewhere, has there been any appreciable area of land plowed for the year's sowing. In those localities the farmers are still plowing and the wheat fields are suffering nearly as much as in other parts of the district mentioned. Some of the really enterprising farmers of the district are making a success with cattle, hogs and poultry.

Medina County

Drought still unbroken, March 10) but corn is up to a good stand on well broken land and is looking well though needing a rain. Some of the oat fields have been plowed up and planted to

other crops. It is still hoped that rain will come in time to save the most of this crop. Early cotton planting has commenced but it is not thought the seed will germinate until it rains. Fruit trees are in full bloom, but spring gardens are practically a failure on account of the protracted drought.

Rain Needed

This report covering the territory adjacent to the towns or stations of Katy, Dayton, Crosby, China, Liberty, Hempstead, Sealy and Bellville, states that rain is much needed throughout the entire section. Much less plowing has been done along the line of the railroad from Houston to Liberty than is to be observed elsewhere in the district indicated, and much of the land now being plowed should have been broken before Christmas. In the lower part of Austin county a good stand of corn is looking fine. The cucumber growers have their land in a fairly good state of cultivation and should harvest good crops. Around Bellville and Willis a fairly good acreage of tomatoes is being raised. The plants are looking well, and an early rain will yield

a good crop.

Harrison, Marion and Cass

Corn planting is well underway in these counties, and there is a large acreage of this crop. A large acreage of garden and truck crops has been planted, and likewise a good acreage of ribbon cane. Quite an acreage of oats, but they are not doing well—too dry for them. A large crop of peanuts will be planted; a big crop of sweet potatoes will be put in, and the farmers seem to be more determined to diversify than last year. All farmers are well up with their work. The week has been clear and dry, one little rain in Harrison county, none in the other counties. Week closed clear and cooler.

Cherokee

Farmers in Cherokee county have their lands in good shape, but are in urgent need of rain to bring up the planted corn and enable them to finish their planting. Tomato acreage will be reduced about fifteen per cent, and the peanut acreage increased to that extent. Corn and cotton acreage will be about normal. Indications favor a fairly good fruit crop.

Callahan

Farmers report that wheat and oats would yet make should rain come within the next fifteen days. Some corn has been planted on the well prepared soils with moisture enough to bring up and sustain the growing crops for several weeks. Most farmers however are waiting for the needed moisture before planting. Since January 15 this county has shipped out ten cars of fat hogs, representing a cash value to the growers of \$150,000. There are yet twice as many hogs on the farms as there were last year. Sweet potatoes have been "bedded out," and fruit trees are blooming profusely. Farmers are well up with their work.

Hardeman

The soil throughout this county is hard and dry in consequence of the long drought, for which reason but little, indeed scarcely any, ground has been broken. In some places cotton bolls are still being gathered in the fields and taken to the gins. It is generally admitted that unless sufficient rains come soon this immediate section will produce no grain crop.

The "Dry Spell"

The "dry spell," now assuming the proportions of a drought in many sections of the state, is the occasion for much very natural alarm among farmers, and yet much of its effects could have been discounted had the farmers generally followed the example of those who broke their land early when they could, prepared it well and planted to the grain crops that should have been put in early. Wherever that precaution was taken the corn is up and in most places flourishing, strong and healthy, and able to withstand the dry weather for some time to come, waiting for rain.

Now, of course, in many parts of the state the long protracted dry weather has so hardened the ground that breaking before moisture comes is practically impossible, and, in any event, it would be useless to plant such land, as seed germinating would not follow. The danger of farmers reverting to cotton in many of such places, if not imminent is present. Against such folly the warning has already been sounded. Whatever the weather conditions, as long as

the present war conditions continue the greater will become the prime necessity for the farmer making his whole living on the farm. The danger resting on an overcrop of cotton has been too often pointed out to need repetition here. General diversification becomes, with the probability of a late season, the farmer's most imperative duty, and it should embrace as many as possible of the food and feedstuffs can be raised. There is yet time with ample rain, to plant corn anywhere in Texas. Then there are the feedstuffs, peanuts, and the grain sorghums, hogs, cattle and poultry. These are the farmer's life-savers, his money-makers.

The Court of Last Resort

Around the stove of the cross roads grocery is the real court of last resort, for it finally over-rules all others. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has been brought before this court in almost every cross roads grocery in this country, and has always received a favorable verdict. It is in the country where man expects to receive full value for his money that this remedy is most appreciated. For sale by all dealers.

If you want your clothes to look good, try Owen Phone 194. 10tf

Special Prices Saturday AND ALL NEXT WEEK

On Slippers, Shoes, Clothing and Ladies Skirts. Be sure to get our prices
Too much of these goods. Don't fail to see us

J. P. SHARP & SON :: Merkel, Texas

BUSTER BROWN CAN'T COME SATURDAY

The Brown Shoe Co. notified us by telegram Tuesday afternoon that it would be impossible for Buster Brown to be here Saturday, but promised to send him here the first week in April. To those who have made arrangements to be here Saturday we are offering Special Bargains for this day. See our special bargain ad. in other parts of this paper

WOODROOF'S

ATTENTION AUTOMOBILE OWNERS

I sell the very best Oil and Gas that you can buy, with my guarantee that it will run you more miles per gallon than any other Oil or Gas you can buy, regardless of the price or brand. I sell The Texas Co. goods.

W. E. BRITAIN


40c Will Wire Your Kitchen

and give you Electric Service in your house. This includes 1 60-watt Mazda lamp, a connection for electric iron, electric percolator, electric grill, electric fan. Do it electrically

Phone MERKEL POWER CO

BREEDERS NOTICE "DAN"

The Thoroughbred Kentucky Trotter stallion will make the season at Trent this year \$10 to insure living colt. Will use every precaution but will not be responsible for any accidents. CAL. HAMNER



PROTECT YOUR CATTLE

AGAINST BLACKLEG BY USING
BLACKLEGOIDS.

Simplest, safest, surest way to vaccinate cattle against Blackleg.
No Dose to Measure. No Liquid to Spill. No String to Rot.
ASK FOR FREE BOOKLETS.
FOR SALE BY
T. L. GRIMES, DRUGGIST

Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Allan and children of San Angelo spent the week-end with Misses Olive and Dora Garoutte.

We are headquarters for high class buggies. Anchor Mercantile Co.

M. W. Allen of San Angelo once connected with the Texas & Pacific at this place, was here last week.

Highest prices paid for eggs. W. F. Hamblet.

Laundry leaves for Colorado on Mondays and Wednesdays. Phone Owen your needs. 10tf

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

Notice
The Colorado Steam Laundry is making many well-pleased customers. Why not give it a trial and be well pleased too? Call Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days
Four druggist will refund money if FAZO OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days. The first application gives ease and rest. 5c

LOCAL NEWS LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Stevens spent most of last week with relatives in Hamlin.

For extra high grade flour order the Seal from W. F. Hamblet.

Miss Almeda Harris is at home again after spending several weeks in Snyder with her sister, Mrs. S. A. Duckett.

The oil stove season is here. See the Quick Meal at the Anchor Mercantile Co.

Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Grimes are in Blair, Okla. where they were called by the serious illness of Mr. Clarkson, the latter's father.

For prompt deliveries phone 286

Our spring shower water wagon has happened to a blow-out or a flat tire.

Mrs. V. D. Jones of Bagwell is here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Collins, and will remain for a several days' visit.

Standard planters, the best on earth. For sale by The Anchor Mercantile Company.

Joe Parrish of Honey Grove returned to his home Monday, having visited his sister, Mrs. J. J. Stallings and husband.

Miss Lyska Pitzer of Sweetwater, came in Sunday night to visit her brother, J. E. Pitzer and wife.

Seymour flour is the best. G. M. Sharp.

Lason Childress returned Monday from a ten days' visit with his aunt, Mrs. J. W. Childress of Blue Ridge. Lason visited east Texas with the intention of remaining there a month but preferred to return home after only a short stay.

Corn chops and shorts at G. M. Sharps.

Miss Lula Sharp, a student in Simmons, spent Saturday and Sunday at her home in Merkel. As a result of her splendid work done in piano, this year Miss Sharp if she cares to accept, will be given free tuition this summer in the chataqua school of music at Boulder, Colorado.

Plenty bran and cowfeed at G. M. Sharps.

Miss Winnie Warren spent last week-end in Fort Worth with friends and relatives.

Silk flour at \$3.00 per hundred at G. M. Sharps.

Miss Allyce May Boyce of Abilene spent last Sunday with Miss Elma Sheppard.

Highest prices paid for eggs. Eckerd & My.

F. E. Smith, principal of North Park School in Abilene, spent Sunday with his father, F. J. Smith. F. E. is taking work in Simmons besides attending to his school duties, and at the conclusion of the public term at North Park he will remain at Simmons for the summer term.

We will pay 12 1/2 cents per pound for hen up to Monday's delivery. Ash Bros.

Miss Susie Penn is the guest of Mrs. W. R. Walker of Abilene.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Duckett spent a few days in Fort Worth and Dallas last week.

We will pay 12 1/2 cents per pound for hens up to Monday's delivery. Ash Bros.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Crowley of Denison are visiting the family of J. H. Craig. Mr. Crowley is just out of the Baptist Sanitarium at Dallas and they have come west hoping that his health will improve more rapidly.

Have your clothes look good. Try Owen and be convinced. Phone 194. 10tf

Miss Mattie Moore who has been teaching at Slaughter came in Tuesday to spend a few days with her mother, Mrs. M. A. Moore, after which she will attend school at Simmons College.

Ladies buy a pair of \$2.00 shoes for 50 cents at A. L. Jobes Store; also examine Mrs. Jobe's nice line of millinery goods. A. L. Jobe.

Mr. and Mrs. Luther Swofford of Anson were here last week visiting the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Largent.

Be sure and visit Duckett's new Variety Store next door to Behrens-McMillen.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Woodrum and Misses Ada and Sadie Woodrum were visitors in Abilene Sunday.

The U. S. Model E Standard Star and Leader Mills, the very latest models ask to see them. H. M. Pose.

Messrs. Young and Carey of the Carey, Lombard, Young Lumber Co. of Chicago spent Monday morning in Merkel looking over the Merkel Lumber Co. yard. This being apart of the company's holdings in this state.

Windmills, windmills; lots of them. See me before you buy your windmill and pipe fixtures. H. M. Pose.

Capt. Jno. Tucker returned last Thursday from Pecos where he and Mrs. Tucker have been visiting their daughters Mesdams Collins and Vickers. Mrs. Tucker remained for a longer stay with them hoping it will benefit her health.

Rose Comb Rhode Island white eggs \$1.00 per fifteen. Mrs. T. M. Pribble, Merkel, Texas. 25tdpd

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED—To buy good milch cows, heifers or calves. Phone or write Homer Tye, Merkel, Texas.

LOST—Pair child's slippers size 8, left in front of S. L. Owen's home. Finder please return. 24t1

FOR SALE—My home in northwest Merkel where I now live. A bargain. J. J. Evans. 10tf

Lost—Spotted hog, strayed from stock pens several days ago. Last seen in southwest part of town. Reward for return to R. H. Collins.

Statement of The

FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business March 7, 1916

RESOURCES

Loans	\$223,326.16
Overdrafts	None
U. S. Bonds—par	10,250.00
Stock in Federal Bank	1,500.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate	5,900.00
Cash and Sight Exchange	130,230.74
Total	\$375,119.40

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	38,632.36
Circulation	6,250.00
Bills Payable	None
Rediscouunts	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
Deposits	305,237.04
Total	\$375,119.40

We appreciate your business and are anxious to render good Banking service to our friends and patrons at all times

THOS. JOHNSON, CASHIER



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
We want everyone to know that ours is the
Nyal Quality Drug Store

T. L. GRIMES, Druggist

Miss Bertye Diltz who has made her home for several months in Van Horn came in Saturday for an extended visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Diltz. Miss Bertye will probably remain here until conditions nearer the border become more settled.

Fresh vegetables every Wednesday and Saturday. W. F. Hamblet.

Mrs. George Scales and daughter, Mary Louise, of Haskell, visited here Sunday afternoon.

Hot days call for cool oil stoves. Get the Quick Meal from Anchor Mercantile Co.

A TEXAS WONDER.

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

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

21
42
22/62

PARTEN DRY GOODS COMPANY'S Sale of Spring and Summer Toggery

Is far outstripping any previous spring business; is a further and convincing advantage more thoroughly demonstrated; layed at the door of a carefully worked out cash system; inaugurated and maintained for those who pay the spot cash, and naturally expect greater advantages than if they were dealing with a credit system. Scores are daily taking advantage of the unprecedented values we are offering under these unprecedented times and conditions. Every day brings us new customers who are more than delighted with the savings they obtain at our cash store and are still more pleased, if possible, with the endless array of beautiful new Spring and Summer goods in evidence on every hand

Our Beautiful New Millinery

This department is the pride of our store, and though the season has scarcely opened, our sales are far in excess of any previous season. This fact is attributable to the unquestionable values we are offering and to the exquisite beauty and artful tailoring of each and every hat sold

Mrs. Golden Cyport is the Artist and will be delighted to show you and give each individual customer Special Attention.

Beautiful New Spring Dress Goods and Silks at Monster Savings. Be on Hand Early

New spring dress gingham now worth 12c now selling for.....	10c
New spring dress percales 38 inches wide guaranteed not to fade, now worth 15c now selling for.....	10c
New spring suitings now worth 20c now selling for only.....	12c
New spring suiting now worth 25c now selling for only.....	18c
New spring suiting now worth 35c now selling for only.....	25c
New spring suiting now worth 50c now selling for only.....	35c
New spring woolsens now worth 75c now selling for only.....	50c
New spring silks now worth 35c now selling for only.....	25c
New spring silks now worth 50c now selling for only.....	35c
New spring silks, now worth 75c, now selling for only.....	50c
New spring silks, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only.....	75c
New spring silks, now worth \$1.50, now selling for only.....	\$1.00
New spring lawns, now worth 15c, now selling for only.....	10c
New spring lawns, now worth 20c, now selling for only.....	12c
New spring lawns, now worth 25c, now selling for only.....	18c
New spring lawns, now worth 35c, now selling for only.....	25c
New spring lingerie, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	35c

Clothing for Men & Boys

We are impelled by a natural kindly feeling for our our fellow being to implore every would-be good dresser to inspect our high-grade, perfect-fitting within-reason clothes—every suit is guaranteed to fit and wear and hold its shape and not fade. What more do you want for the price? If we don't save you money we don't want to sell you.

New Spring Laces and Embroideries at Monster Savings

Beautiful to Behold—Better to Buy at These Prices

Beautiful new val laces, now worth 10c to 15c, now selling for only.....	5c
Beautiful new shaddow laces, now worth 15c to 25c, now selling for only.....	10c
Beautiful new embroideries, including baby sets, now worth 10c, now selling for only.....	5c
Beautiful new embroideries, including baby sets, now worth 15c to 20c, now selling for only.....	10c
Beautiful new organdie flouncing, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	35c
Beautiful new shaddow laces, now worth 25c, now selling for only.....	15c
Other beautiful laces and embroideries in the newest, daintiest patterns and designs too numerous to mention at the same low prices.	

Staples Staples Staples

These prices are good as long as the present stock lasts, only.

Bleached domestic, now worth 7½c, now selling for only.....	5c
Bleached domestic, now worth 10c, now selling for only.....	7c
Bleached domestic, now worth 11c, now selling for only.....	8½c
Bleached domestic, now worth 12½c, now selling for only.....	10c
Brown domestic, now worth 10c, now selling for only.....	7c
Bleached pepperell sheeting, now worth 35c, now selling for only.....	30c
Brown pepperell sheeting, now worth 32½c, now selling for only.....	28c
Extra quality mattress ticking, now worth 12½c, now selling for only.....	10c
Extra quality feather ticking, now worth 20c, now selling for only.....	15c
Extra quality canvassing, now worth 5c, now selling for only.....	4c
Extra quality blue denim, now worth 20c, now selling for only.....	15c
Full width best bleached sheeting only.....	25c

Free Free Free

A \$1.00 and 50c tie free with every spring suit sold, Saturday, February 26, 1916.	
Mens work pants, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only.....	90c
Mens work pants, now worth \$2.00, now selling for only.....	\$1.45
Mens work pants, now worth \$2.50, now selling for only.....	\$1.95
Mens work pants, now worth \$3.00, now selling for only.....	\$2.25
Mens dress pants, now worth \$2 to \$2.50 now selling for only.....	\$1.45
Mens dress pants, now worth \$3.00, now selling for only.....	\$1.95
Mens dress pants, now worth \$3.50, now selling for only.....	\$2.45
Mens dress pants, now worth \$4.00, now selling for only.....	\$2.95
Mens dress pants, now worth \$5.00, now selling for only.....	\$3.45

Men's Furnishings

Here is where our sparker is superb.	
Mens work shirts, full made, now worth fully 50c, now selling for only.....	39c
Mens dress shirts, now worth \$1.00, now selling for only.....	75c
Mens dress shirts, now worth \$1.25, now selling for only.....	\$1.00
Mens sport shirts, latest degree, now worth \$1.50 now selling for only.....	\$1.00
Mens balbriggan undershirts, now worth 35c, now selling for only.....	25c
Mens balbriggan undershirts, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	39c
Mens elastic seam drawers, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	39c
Mens all solid leather belts, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	25c
Mens all silk four-in-hand ties, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	25c
Mens suspenders, now worth 50c, now selling for only.....	25c
Mens cotton gloves, now worth 15c, now selling for only.....	8½c
Numerous others at the same big bargains.	

Shoes and Slippers for Ladies, Men, Girls and Boys

We are prepared with both style and quality, both to a degree of the most eminent efficiency to supply every one of each and every family within Merkel's trade radius with the most marvelous values in spring footwear possible to wish for. If your feet are sore our shoes will ease them. If you've been getting sorry shoes we'll cure that—if the prices have been too high we have the only remedy—

25 to 50 per cent Saved on Every Pair

And we guarantee better shoes. NO RISK TO TRY US.

Men & Boys New Spring Hats and Caps The Best Ever

John B. Stetson, worth \$4.50 and 5.00, now selling.....	\$3.50
Now worth 1.50, now selling for.....	\$1.00
Now worth 2.00, now selling for.....	1.45
Now worth 3.00, now selling for.....	2.45
Now worth 3.50, now selling for.....	2.95
These are the biggest values ever offered at the beginning of any previous season. It'll pay you to buy now.	

It would give us greater pleasure to describe in detail and price every article in our store, but the lack and cost of greater space prevents. We will pay you for your day's trouble, however, if you fail to find a day's compensation in the savings we shall make in your spring purchases. It is with better goods, better advantages and lower prices that we base our claims for your spring business.

Our big store will be aglimmer with the opulence of spring's hoardings and aglow with phosphorescence of handsome savings for every cash buyer.

==== FREE ==== FREE ==== FREE ==== FREE =====

We have secured a big assortment of Beautifully Decorated Chinaware which we will give Absolutely Free as long as they last with each purchase of \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$7.50. Only one piece with each purchase of above amounts or more. :: On Display :: It will pay you to investigate

MERKEL'S
BARGAIN
EMPORIUM

PARTEN DRY GOODS CO

MERKEL'S
BARGAIN
EMPORIUM

Worth Careful Thought

Do you read the label to know whether your baking powder is made from cream of tartar or, on the other hand, from alum or phosphate?

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder is made from cream of tartar, derived from grapes, and adds to the food only wholesome qualities.

Some baking powders contain alum or phosphate, both of mineral origin, and used as substitutes for cream of tartar because of their cheapness.

Never sacrifice quality and healthfulness for low price.

DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

MADE FROM CREAM OF TARTAR
DERIVED FROM GRAPES



MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

Sandlin-Nels on

On last Saturday afternoon at the court house in Abilene, Rev. W. F. Dillard performing the ceremony, Mr. J. R. Sandlin and Mrs. Mary Nelson of Merkel were married.

Mrs. Nelson has made her home in Merkel several years and has many friends here who will be interested in her marriage and who would wish her happiness. Mr. Sandlin is a nephew of Mrs. N. E. Sandlin and not an entire stranger to our residents. Mr. and Mrs. Sandlin, for a time at least, will make their home in Merkel.

Twentieth Century Club

Miss Pauline Johnson was hostess to the XXth Century Club on its regular meeting day, Thursday, March 15. After a short business session, the club finished reading Stevenson's "Travels With a Donkey." The remainder of the year will be spent reading the poems of James Whitcomb Riley.

Mesdames Luther Woodroof, Jno. W. Briggs, W. Parten, T. A. Harris, W. B. Foster, Misses Eva Walters, Pauline Johnson, Sophia Howard and Evelyn Williams were the members present. Miss Ona Johnson was a visitor.

Refreshments of pimento sandwiches with potato chips and grape juice were served.

The meeting will be with Mrs. W. B. Foster.

Methodist Ladies

The Methodist ladies will meet at the home of Mrs. W. F. Dupree Monday afternoon March 27 for a social missionary meeting. Mesdames H. C. Williams and W. B. Foster hostesses. The following program will begin at 4 o'clock.

Scripture Lesson—Christ's Ministry to the sick, VIII chapter of Matthews—Mrs. Geo. Brown. Prayer.

Song 265.
What the Missionary Society is doing in the Homeland—Mrs. J. L. Williams.
Music—Mrs. Wesley Edwards. Song (Found in Missionary Voice) Forward Earnest Women. Why I am a Missionary—Discussion by each member.
Leader—Mrs. E. L. Woodroof. Duet—Miss Evelyn Williams and Mrs. T. A. Johnson.

Simpson-New

Mr. V. H. Simpson and Miss Nellie New, both of the Canyon, were another couple to be married at the Courthouse in Abilene on last Thursday. Miss New the past year has taught the White Church school and Mr. Simpson is a young farmer in the same vicinity. They will continue to make their home in that neighborhood. The bride and groom are both well known in Merkel



The Telephone Joy of Farm Life.

Life on the farm is made pleasanter and more secure by Bell Telephone Service.

Pleasanter, because it brings messages of cheer and companionship from friends far away, more secure because it brings help immediately when there is need.

Write our nearest office for information.

The Southwestern
Telegraph &
Telephone Company



and the friends here would extend their congratulations and wishes for future happiness.

On last Thursday a few hours of dancing were enjoyed in the parlors of the Elite. Music for the dancers was furnished by a colored orchestra. About twelve couples were present for the evening.

LOOK AT YOURSELF

Is Suffering Writing Lines in your Face?



Many a handsome woman looks in the glass and sees the premature lines of the old hag already beginning to show in her face. Secret suffering and sickness is writing those lines every day plainer and plainer.

You don't know what to do. Their backs ache, their bodies ache; poor appetite, bad digestion, sallow skins, drooping shoulders, always tired. Probably suffering from organic or functional trouble peculiar to women. Doctors don't seem to help them. It's pitiful.

But there is a way out. A distinguished Southern physician gave a life time of constant study to perfecting a remedy for suffering women and when he had perfected it he rightly called it *Stella Vitae*, the star of life.

All dealers sell it and so certain are they that they guarantee to give your money back if *Stella Vitae* doesn't benefit you. If you want to stop that nagging pain, aid your digestion, clear up your complexion and regain your physical attractions try a bottle of *Stella Vitae*. Try it today. Don't hesitate, for it costs you nothing if it fails to benefit you. Your dealer sells it in 21 bottles. Tauscher Medicine Co., at Chattanooga, Tenn.

For sale by T. L. Grimes
Druggist

Dr. King's New Life Pills
The best in the world.

COTTON GINNING REPORT ISSUED

Washington, March 20.—The Census Bureau issued the following cotton ginning report for the season: 11,059,000 running bales; 11,183,182 five hundred pound bales; 111,716 round bales. 91,120 Sea Island.

Ginneries operated are placed at 23,146.

Ginnings for the states are:

Alabama, 1,020,208.
Arkansas, 815,846.
Florida, 47,816.
Georgia, 1,907,310.
Louisiana, 340,606.
Mississippi, 47,930.
North Carolina, 698,852.
Oklahoma, 630,209.
South Carolina, 1,143,581.
Tennessee, 302,898.
Texas, 3,332,803.
Virginia, 15,809.
All others, 35,694.

One Third Off. Actual Cost.

During the next thirty days I will sell my entire line of clothing, shoes, hats and boys suits at exactly one third less than actual cost.

This reduction will be enforced every day for the next 30 days and offers you an enormous saving. Don't fail to visit me. Coats building east of Merkel Garage.

A. L. Jobe.

WANTED

We will appreciate anyone that will notify us that the street lights are out. This will assist us in giving you better service, in which we are glad to give you the best possible service. Merkel Power Company, Phone No. 202.

Ladies Free Rest Room

Ladies don't fail to take advantage of the Rest Room when in Merkel. It is free to you to use at any time you are in Merkel. Side entrance to Behrens-McMillen Furniture Co.

Famous Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee

Try the famous Wamba coffee that made Houston, Texas, famous. G. M. Sharp. 17tf

Attend Sweetwater Lodge

A number of members of the Merkel A. F. & A. M. Lodge visited the Sweetwater Chapter Monday evening to witness work in the Royal Arch degree.

Those going as witnesses were Wesley Edwards, G. E. Comegy, John Elliott of Trent, Victor Harris, D. Grimes and a "fourth estate" representative while Will Brown and R. L. (Bob) Godwin were taken in as unexperienced members and shown many things that had mystified their minds here-to-fore.

For Sale

Mebane Triumph big bole cotton seed, \$1.00 per bushel. Write or phone C. L. Deutschman, Noodle, Texas. 17t2pd

Notice to Merkel Citizens

Hereafter I will mail statements for the civic service department immediately after scavenger has completed his work each month and your accounts should be paid to me prior to the second day of each month, otherwise a penalty of ten cents will be added to your bill.

B. A. Walters, City Marshal.

Stop! Look! Listen!

Chiropractic means health to you. Mrs. M. U. Battendorf graduate of the Palmer School of Chiropractic Davenport, Iowa. You will find me at Mrs. Alice Roses. 10t4pd

Whenever You Need a General Tonic Take Grove's

The Old Standard Grove's Tasteless child 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.

You Need a Tonic

There are times in every woman's life when she needs a tonic to help her over the hard places. When that time comes to you, you know what tonic to take—Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is composed of purely vegetable ingredients, which act gently, yet surely, on the weakened womanly organs, and helps build them back to strength and health. It has benefited thousands and thousands of weak, ailing women in its past half century of wonderful success, and it will do the same for you.

You can't make a mistake in taking

GARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

Miss Amelia Wilson, R. F. D. No. 4, Alma, Ark., says: "I think Cardui is the greatest medicine on earth, for women. Before I began to take Cardui, I was so weak and nervous, and had such awful dizzy spells and a poor appetite. Now I feel as well and as strong as I ever did, and can eat most anything." Begin taking Cardui today. Sold by all dealers.

Has Helped Thousands.

WEAR A CLEAN SUIT

LET

RENFRO THE TAILOR

AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO

Your Cleaning and Pressing

EYE GLASSES & SPECTACLES

Correctly fitted will relieve all strain and discomfort; also give you perfect sight when fitted by

P. T. QUAST, Optometrist

Sweetwater, Texas



Yes, Break Up Your Washboard!

Didn't it break your back, break your arms, break your health and break your clothes? Haven't the washboard ruined enough clothes to deserve breaking up?

Magic Washing Stick

Finished Mr. Washboard. And by such gentle means. Force, as you know, never settles things right. Magic Washing Stick is not soap, but is used with the regular soap. It is not washing powder, nor lye, nor alkali, nor acid, nor any other harmful thing. It loosens the dirt by gentle means, by natural means. It does not damage the finest texture, nor harden the woolens nor shrink the flannels. The soft, snowy cleanliness of your fine linens, pretty laces and dainty lingerie will be a continual delight.

Once you show your help how much labor is saved, how much nicer the clothes, you need have no fear of their ruining your clothes again.

"I use no machine and one hour with Magic Washing Stick puts my clothes on the line. I recommend it to everybody." MRS. L. ARK.

Wash Days Are Made Joy Days

FIFTEEN WASHINGS 20 CTS. For less than 2c a day you save two hours time, you save your clothes, you save your feelings, you save your look. Use one stick, five washings, and it cost you your 20c. While 2c RETURNED.

Sold by all Druggists and Grocers everywhere. If yours doesn't handle it, show him this ad—he'll get it for you. Or send 2c in stamps to A. R. HILLMAN CO., Newark, N. J.



HARNESS REPAIRED

expertly and quickly. We repair all kinds of harness with equal skill, so if you have any damaged harness bring it to us and we'll make as strong and possibly stronger than when new.

By having us repair your harness you will save the price of many a set of harness.

J. A. BROWN



WHEN WE WEIGH COAL

there is no driver on the seat of the cart or truck. We sell coal, not drivers, and when we sell you a ton or more we mean just that quantity of all coal. We guarantee the weight as well as the quality of our coal. The combination of full weight and best quality interests you, give us an order.

Warren Brothers

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. Warren's Antiseptic Healing Oil. It relieves Pain and Heals at the same time. 25c, 50c, \$1.00

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 1-0-6

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 Woodroofs & Company
Merkel - Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS

The most Up-to-Date

SHOP IN MERKEL

CITY BARBER SHOP

WEST & PATE : : Proprietors

W. U. W.

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

T. F. Compton, C. C.
S. Hamilton, Clerk

Dillard to Collect Taxes

Due warning has been given and those who have not paid their 1915 taxes will please do so before April 1st.

I find that some few are already mad because I am pushing the collection of tax. But I am pushed by the law and oath of office and therefore must insist that the taxes be paid.

On April 1st or as soon thereafter as possible I shall go or send a deputy to see all who have not paid. We cannot make but one trip to see any, and would much prefer that the delinquents save themselves and as the embarrassment of every one call.

It is my purpose to treat all a like and collect according to law. This is the first time a collector has ever taken this stand in Taylor county and I will no doubt be censured and some will even fight me in the campaign for doing my duty, but it is not a personal matter with me but my duty and service I owe to the more than 95 per cent who have already paid their taxes.

With kindest regards I beg to remain your tax collector,
adv. W. F. Dillard

For Diseases of the Skin

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barber's itch, are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all dealers

Advertised Letters.

Collins, Jewel
Dunn, Jim
Evans, Herbert B.
Fox, S. H.
Hall, W. F.
Harris, E. M.
Hill, Geo. M.
Morris, B. M.
White, Riley
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office April 5, 1916.
H. C. Williams, P. M.
Merkel, Texas.

A Pleasant Physic

When you want a pleasant physic give Chamberlain's Tablets a trial. They are mild and gentle in their action and always produce a pleasant cathartic effect. For sale by all dealers.

BIRTH REPORTS FOR THIS MONTH

Birth reports of the present month up to this have been given in as follows:

To Mr. and Mrs. Bonnie Church a boy on the 5th.

To Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Golightly a boy on the 6th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jas. A. Brown of this city, a boy on the 8th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Hunter of the Canyon, a girl on the 10th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Claud Threadgill of Route 1, a boy on the 14th.

To Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rogers of Route 1, a boy on the 20th.

To Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Rister a boy on the 19th.

Catarrah Cannot be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrah is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrah Cure is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surface. Hall's Catarrah Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best blood tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combinations of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrah. Send for testimonials, free. F. S. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, price 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

RAIN GAUGE OUT OF COMMISSION

The Merkel Mail rain gauge which has been furnishing information as to the precipitation in and about Merkel when such information could be furnished, is now out of commission and badly in need of repairs.

An examination of the gauge Wednesday evening revealed that a leak was in same and in attempting to fit the register for the expected shower, which really came Wednesday night to the amount of one-eighth of an inch, the bottom portion of the glass gauge was broken, thereby rendering the machine useless until a new tube can be obtained.

Proper Treatment for Biliousness
For a long time Miss Lula Skelton, Churchville, N. Y. was bilious and had sick headache and dizzy spells. Chamberlains Tablets were the only thing that gave her permanent relief. For sale by all dealers.

W. L. Harkrider and G. M. Sharp are among owners of new automobiles. The former driving a new Buick 6 touring car while Mr. Sharp purchased a late model Studebaker.

FOR SALE—One good Jersey milk cow, three years old. G. B. Brown. 24t2



Here's real Paint economy

Paint economy does not lie in the cost per gallon, but in what the gallon will accomplish. Cheap paints cover only 200 to 250 square feet per gallon, two coats. "High Standard" covers 350 to 450 square feet, two coats.

Your painting will require fewer gallons of "High Standard" than of cheaper paint—so many less, in fact, that your painting cost will be lower.



works easier, covers better, assures permanency of color and more years of wear.

Come in and get color cards.

Burton-Lingo Co.

Austin Boyd, Mgr.

GREAT MASS OF PROOF

Reports of 30,000 Cases of Kidney Trouble, Some of Them Merkel Cases.

Each of some 6,000 newspapers of the United States is publishing from week to week, names of people in its particular neighborhood, who have used and recommended Doan's Kidney Pills for kidney backache, weak kidneys, bladder troubles and urinary disorders. This mass of proof includes over 30,000 recommendations. Merkel is no exception. Here is one of the Merkel cases.

B. J. Rhodes, retired carpenter, Merkel, says: "I can honestly say that Doan's Kidney Pills have benefited me. They relieved discomfort in my back and regulated the action of my kidneys."

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

Tour Plains in Car

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Burns and daughter, Miss Rennie, with their son, Otic driving their Dodge touring car returned Monday from a trip over the Plains country where they visited relatives. The trip ended at Miami and the homeward course was then taken. Mr. Burns reports excellent road conditions in the Plains country.

Election Notice

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Merkel, I hereby order an election to be held in said city, at the Fire Station thereof on the first Tuesday in April, 1916, the same being the fourth of said month, for the purpose of electing three aldermen for said city.

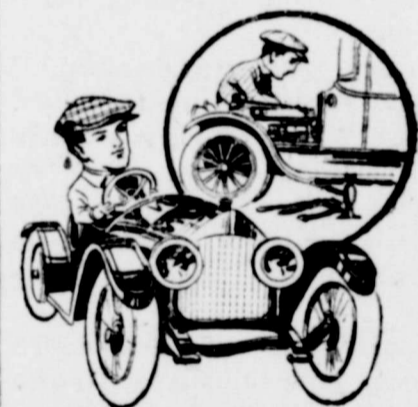
R. W. Counts is hereby appointed presiding officer at said election, and the polls shall be opened at 8 o'clock a. m. and closed at 6 o'clock p. m.

J. J. Stallings,

Mayor City of Merkel, Texas

Keep Your Bowels Regular

As everyone knows, the bowels are the sewerage system of the body, and it is of the greatest importance that move once each day. If your bowels become constipated take a dose of Chamberlains Tablet just after supper and they will correct the disorder. For sale by all dealers.



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

Injured in Auto Accident

Sylvester, Texas, March 20—When an automobile turned turtle south of McCauley Sunday evening Miss Mildred Mason was probably fatally injured and seven other were slightly injured.

The car caught on fire and burned. The accident occurred as the car struck a sandbed and the driver lost control of the machine.

Miss Audy Mason was also badly hurt. The occupants were taken from under the burning car and are now at McCauley. All of the injured were still alive today.

Complete line of Spring and summer hats for ladies and misses. Dont fail to see my line. Miss Stanley at the Star Store.

Mrs. H. E. Pickerill is in Roscoe making a fortnight's visit with her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Gilliland.

Judge Riddle Endorsed For U. S. Senate

Several hundred citizens of Dallas and the surrounding territory met at the Chamber of Commerce Hall on Feb. 4th and passed the following resolutions, endorsing the candidacy of Judge George W. Riddle for the United States Senate:

WHEREAS, Judge George W. Riddle, of Dallas, Texas, is a candidate for the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, Judge Riddle has been a citizen of Dallas for many years, and has always been at the forefront in every local enterprise, as well as in all great enterprises throughout this state, and in the development of its resources, and we know him to be a man well qualified to fill said position; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That it is the sense of this meeting that the candidacy of Judge George W. Riddle for the United States Senate be in every reasonable way encouraged and supported.

For the next few years our state will need a man in the Senate who is not only patriotic, but, who also has intimate knowledge of the economic, financial and business affairs of our country. We need a man of initiative, and of constructive ability, a thinker, and withal a practical man of affairs, rather than the professional politician.

At this time it is costing the people over a Billion Dollars a year to finance the affairs of the Federal Government, and, unless this waste and extravagance is checked, our country will be ridden with the burdens of excessive taxation.

We turn toward a man of the type of Judge Riddle; a practical farmer, lawyer, banker and business man with well advanced ideas of economy, with ability to suggest and initiate commonsense, practical measures for our guidance and protection, and with high ideas of constructive statesmanship.

His solution of the land problem by creating a system of Land Banks to lend money to home builders at a rate of four per cent, will be of immense benefit to our agricultural interests.

He favors the Federal Government building a system of National Highways, thereby more closely uniting the different sections of our country and furnishing overland transportation facilities, in this way bringing the markets of the land to the very cotton fields of the farmers, and as a result increasing the profits on all agricultural products.

His plans to develop trade relations between the United States and the South American Republics will pour wealth into the lap of this country by the millions.

His stand for a Merchant Marine, which this country greatly needs, is meritorious and worthy of consideration. At this time the warring nations have laid their military hands upon their merchant ships, and, as a result thereof, American Commerce is starving and almost paralyzed, and the freight on cotton alone has been raised from \$1.75 a bale to \$15 per bale. Rates have increased from 100 per cent to 1,000 per cent.

If any country on earth ever needed a Merchant Marine, it is this country of ours, and Congress ought not to hesitate one moment in preparing a way for it to be brought about. Judge Riddle's stand for such a system is logical and business-like, and shows his ability to grapple with the practical problems of life, and in that way make his life useful to the people he represents.

Judge Riddle is with President Wilson for Preparedness, and so announced himself in all the leading papers on the 14th of last November, and at that time most of our public men were either silent or had declared against it.

He is always frank and honest with the people, and lets them know how he stands on every issue.

DR. JOHN S. TURNER, Chairman
HON. WILL L. CURTIS, Secretary

TRENT

Miss Stella Crownover of Abilene who has been visiting the family of J. S. Swann on White Flat, left Monday to visit friends in Sweetwater.

Mrs. A. J. Jones of Roxton is here visiting her son, Sam Jones and family.

R. T. Hutcheson who married recently and moved to Clyde has moved back to Trent.

Mrs. R. H. Reeves and children and Misses Lota Wagon, O. D. Robinson and Hattie Winn motored to Merkel Saturday afternoon.

The infant of C. C. Steadman is slowly improving from a case of pneumonia and catarrh of the stomach.

W. A. Holt and family and Mrs. B. Dingle motored to Sweetwater Creek last Tuesday and were joined by the families of W. K. Wheeler, Sam Jones and Jas. Bright and wife, where all made a big catch of fish.

Miss Laura McGregor of Cohoma is visiting her sister, Mrs. E. L. Mangum.

Miss Lina Blevius who has been visiting Mrs. Copeland and L. E. Adrain, returned to her home in Kansas last Thursday.

Mrs. W. G. Broome of Sweetwater has her millinery established at G. M. Scott & Bros.

C. T. Winslow Beckham and Lee Massey attended the state meeting of the Anti-Saloon League at Dallas and the fat stock show last week.

T. L. Stevens and wife attended the funeral of the former's father at Greenville last week.

The North Park basket ball team matched the Trent team and was defeated by 27 to 13.

The Simmons Quartette entertainers gave a concert in the auditorium of the school building Saturday night under the auspices of the high school band.

Misses Ceil and Ruby Conway, who are attending school at Simmons, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. McLeod Saturday and Sunday.

Sunday afternoon Mrs. B. Dingle, Misses Lay, Ruth Simmons, Maggie Peterson, Eula Johnson, Lola Harkins, Odessa Moon and Geta Beckham, Messrs. Burt and Ceil, McRee, Hubert and Winslow Beckham, Fred Pribble, Will Smith and Alex Williamson motored to the mountains. At 5:30 a delicious feast was spread and all ate like ravenous wolves, after which they drove home in the moon light.

Mrs. N. L. McLeod suffered an attack of appendicitis last week but is reported better now.

E. D. Massie has bought a 5-passenger Buick.

Letters from E. L. Woodroof now at Battle Creek, Mich. report his condition as improving rapidly. This will be good news to his many Merkel friends.

Leaves Border Country

M. W. Heflin of El Paso is here on an indefinite stay with his brother who is his partner in the Heflin Produce Co. Mr. Heflin states that conditions are such in El Paso that he deemed it advisable to leave until things become more settled.

See the mens beautiful shirts in our show window. Woodroof's
FOR SALE—My home at a bargain. Nic four room house. Thos. Largent. tf

Indiana Slices

I am agent for this famous sili and would be pleased to talk with all parties interested in same. For prices and terms call on or write me. F. L. Wood, Merkel, Texas, Route 4. 24t4pd

Ladies be sure to see my new spring and summer line of millinery at the Star Store. Miss Zella Stanley.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect The Head Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE is better than ordinary Quinine and does not cause nervousness nor ringing in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of R. W. GROVE. 25c.

MERKEL SOLDIER, BOY IS ANXIOUS

The following letter from a former Merkel boy who is now a member of the coast guards shows the spirit of the army boys in regard to the Mexico situation:

Headquarters Coast Defense of New Orleans, Jackson Barracks, La., March 21, 1916.

Mr. J. D. Boring, Merkel, Tex. I thought that perhaps you might be interested in the following extract from the Army and Navy Journal of March 18, 1916:

"Captain James W. Furlow, Q. M. C. U. S. Army, has been assigned to assume charge of Motor Truck Company No. 1, and will accompany it from Cleveland, Ohio, to El Paso, Texas. The trucks are a part of a number recently contracted for, incident to the Mexican expedition."

I am getting along splendidly here, and am expecting to have to go to Mexico any day, the sooner the better.

Best regards to everyone, trusting that you are in the best of health, I am very respectfully,
Roy C. Elliott.



IRONING SHIRTS

is no child's play and no woman burdened with a thousand other duties should be asked to do it. Beside it takes a special knack and training. Send your shirts and other linen to this laundry and they'll be done up right. We have the "know how" and the facilities to apply it.

Sweetwater Steam Laundry
Grimes-Howard Tailors
Merkel Agents



We Ride a Hobby Ourselves

and it is to ATTRACT business by DESERVING it.

We believe in giving the BEST POSSIBLE VALUES—not on occasions only—but All The Round.

This is OUR HOBBY and we are going to RIDE it right through, because we believe it will prove to be the BEST ADVERTISEMENT IN the end.

E. L. ROGERS

GROCERY

H. C. Reid Very Low

H. C. Reid, one of the oldest and most esteemed citizens of Merkel is reported very low at his home in south Merkel.

Mr. Reid has been in bad health for several months and his friends seem very uneasy as to his present condition.

Rufford Evans is here from Dallas visiting his parents, Mr. Mrs. J. T. Evans.

Saturday Specials FOR Saturday

Special prices for one day only. This is a very unusual season for special prices and the general public should avail themselves of the opportunity in these one-day prices.

SPECIALS FOR LADIES

One lot \$1.00 Wool Crepe only	50c
One lot 50c Pique only	35c
One lot 35c Pique only	25c
One lot 25c Pique only	15c

Ladies' Hat Specials

Saturday Only

We have prepared one table of new mid-summer trimmed hats, all the very latest and any selection of the entire lot goes this day at only.....**\$2.50**

Ladies, don't fail to take advantage of this exceptional table offer we are making.

One lot regular 8½ cent percale going for Saturday only at.....	6½c
One lot 12½, 15 and 20 cent embroideries for Saturday only.....	10c
One lot 12½, 15, 20 and 25 cent laces for Saturday only.....	10c
One lot 10, 8½ and 7½ cent laces for Saturday only.....	5c

TO INTRODUCE SPRING SUITS

For Men and Boys

One \$1.00 dress shirt free with every man's suit sold Saturday from our Palm Beach \$7.50 to \$10.00 line, Dixie Weave Woolen \$13.50 to \$15.00 line, or any suit from our noted Hart-Shaffner Marx line.
One-boy's sport shirt free with every boy's suit sold at over \$4.50.
5 pair men's 25c hose only.....**\$1.00**

Men's Hat Specials

\$5.00 Stetson Hat only	\$4.45
4.50 Stetson Hat only	3.65
3.00 line men's hats only.....	2.75

Suit Case Specials

\$3.50 Suit Cases only.....	\$2.95
2.50 Suit Cases only.....	1.95

Boys Hats and Caps

New Spring line boys English caps and Rah-Rah hats regular value for.....	50c
Men's \$1.00 caps and hats in same lines only.....	85c

These prices are made for Saturday only and are effective only on this day. If you fail to take advantage now while this is open, you, yourself are the loser.

A Dollar Saved is a Dollar Made; get Saturday Specials

Woodroof's

Watch For Our Positive Buster Brown Date



Ask for Born's Blue Book

When You Think of Good Clothes Think of "BORN"

Clothes for men have been judged by the Born standard of quality and value, for the past forty years.

And why not? M. Born & Company established the first nation wide tailoring service—and the House of Born has tailored more clothes to order than any house in the world.

The magnitude of this business enables "Born" to give you better woollens, trimmings, and needle work than you can buy anywhere for the same money.

Let us prove it—ask to see what "Born" offers at \$20, or at any price you care to pay.

Renfro & Fergusson
Dealers

SHILOH

We are having regular spring-like weather with a few sand storms mixed in. A good rain would certainly be welcomed in this section of the country.

Mrs. Wilner Grayson returned home Monday from Cohoma.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seago and Sam Seago left Monday for Longworth on a visit to their uncle, N. Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones and daughter, Miss Lettye, spent Thursday with friends at Noodle.

Mr. and Mrs. Terrell Winters and daughter, Miss Bamma, spent Friday with Mrs. Green.

Mrs. Gowdy is on the sick list. Mrs. S. L. Grayson has been on the sick list, but is better at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lasson of O'Brien came in Sunday morning on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Grayson.

U. B. Wheeler of Sweetwater Creek and Mrs. J. H. Grayson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Roger Grayson.

Misses Lyda and Nina Beavers and Vennie Grayson spent Saturday afternoon with Mrs. Miller near Sweetwater Creek.

Mesdames J. H. Grayson and Mae Seago were Merkel visitors Friday.

Misses Nina Winters, Della Green and Effie Mayberry spent Sunday with Miss Alice Brown.

Mr. McCright and family spent Sunday with friends near Noodle.

Mrs. Will Bond spent Saturday with Mrs. Laura Bond.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Seago were visiting the former's grandmother at Noodle Sunday afternoon.

There was a party at Volney Calahan's Friday night.

The Misses Tobers attended singing at Noodle Sunday afternoon.

The result of Friday's rabbit drive was near 800 rabbits killed, so we learned.

LINOLEUM

in 6, 7½ and 12 foot widths at the Old Price

Linoleum Logic No. 5

House Cleaning Time Cut in Two



The house can be cleaned in half the time if linoleum covers the floors.

Armstrong's Linoleum

is beautiful enough for any room. Distinctive designs in charming colors make Armstrong's Linoleum "different". Less expensive than most good linoleums. A telephone call brings man with samples. Our number is

Make yourself at home in our Rest Room

Belmont & Miller Co.
mack

Undertaking License No. 392

There was a party at Reece Hail's Saturday night.

RHEUMATISM ARRESTED

Many people suffer the tortures of lame muscles and stiffened joints because of impurities in the blood, and each succeeding attack seems more acute until rheumatism has invaded the whole system. To arrest rheumatism it is quite as important to improve your general health as to purify your blood, and the cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is nature's great blood-maker, while its medicinal nourishment strengthens the organs to expel the impurities and rebuild your strength. Scott's Emulsion is helping thousands every day who could not find other relief. Refuse the alcoholic substitutes.

Shot through Hand

E. B. Barnes of Route 3 was accidentally shot through the hand Wednesday morning while handling a pistol at his home. The ball was 32 caliber and passed through the palm of the hand, breaking one bone and cutting an artery. Medical attention was given immediately and the injured member is expected to improve rapidly.

We clean and press anything and guarantee every job. Owen. Phone 194. 10tf

NUBIA

The dearth is becoming hackneyed.

A very good crowd attended Sunday school at Nubia Sunday.

Prof. Wilson who is now teaching a singing school at White Church was at Butman Sunday afternoon. He is interested in securing a school at the latter place.

One of the largest attended musical entertainments known in the Canyon in a long time was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Ritchie's on Friday, 17. There were about one hundred present. Music was furnished by Mrs. Walker of Nubia, Mr. Bob Spears of Blair, Dan Atwood and Dan Boyd of Nubia.

The entertainment at Mr. Jim Perry's Saturday night was enjoyed by all present.

Little Vada Turner has been on the sick list for the past few days.

Some of the farmers are laying off their ground, preparing for the eventualities despite the dry weather.

A good singing was given at Mr. and Mrs. Bud Perry's Sunday night.

With regards to Mexico, the American people are finding it proper to recite a little couplet which originated in England several years ago, when war between that little country and Germany seemed imminent. The couplet runs:

We don't want to fight, but By jingo! if we do We've got the men, we've got the money, And we've got the ships too.

A large bunch of workmen are busy graveling that portion of the road north of Nubia which was clayed about two weeks ago.

Wylie Burchell made a business trip to Merkel Monday. Messrs. Austin and Fred Byrd have gone to Fort Worth to se-

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Subject to the Democratic Primaries of July, 1916

For Legislature (Capt.) J. T. TUCKER

For District Judge JOE BURKETT, of Eastland W. P. MAHAFFEY D. K. SCOTT, of Cisco.

For District Clerk J. N. ROUTH H. O. DRUMMOND

For District Attorney N. N. ROSENQUEST (Re-election) W. J. CUNNINGHAM

For County Clerk J. D. HILTON. Re-election

For County Attorney W. H. GRAHAM

For County Superintendent J. S. SMITH, Re-election C. E. SIMS ARTHUR JONES

For Treasurer: J. A. BOYCE AUSTIN FITTS

For Tax Assessor: W. T. (TOM) ST. JOHN Re-election

JOHN H. VANCE. L. R. (ROY) PARMELLY J. S. PATTERSON

For Tax Collector: G. B. (BLUE) TITTLE W. F. DILLARD. Re-election

For Public Weigher at Merkel J. M. (Jim) TOOMBS Re-election

For Commissioner Precinct No. 2. T. R. LASSITER (Re-election)

Jones County Announcements

For County Attorney J. L. (Lee) CEARLEY Re-election

For County Clerk C. H. P'POOL, Re-election

For Tax Collector R. L. BARRETT, Re-election

cure work.

The American Army has gone a hunting. The object of its quest is one of the slyest and most agile of men in Mexico.