







## TWO ARE KILLED FT. WORTH WRECK

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Jackson of Fort Worth were killed by a Katy switch engine in Fort Worth Monday night. Among the first to arrive at the scene was W. C. Pool, a dairyman living nearby. Pool was the first to reach the bodies. He almost stumbled over Jackson, who called to him, "Look out!"

Although Jackson's left leg had been crushed at the hip, his right ankle nearly cut off, his chest and the back of his head crushed, he was fully conscious. Responding to Pool's questions he gave his name and address and he inquired how Mrs. Jackson was faring and whether anyone had telephoned for a doctor. Pool then went to Mrs. Jackson. He and others in the rescue party bound cords about her legs, which had been crushed and were bleeding. She talked a little, but answered no questions. She told the men that she had two children and begged them to hurry her away from there.

"I'm so tired," she said. Both of Mrs. Jackson's ankles were practically cut off, there was a big hole in her right cheek and she was almost scalped from above her eyes to the back of her head.

Pool placed one of the automobile cushions under Jackson's head and one under Mrs. Jackson's. Jackson asked him to remove the cushion, saying that it hurt his head.

## REVIVAL BEGINS AT M. E. CHURCH SUN.

The public is cordially invited to attend the revival services which begins next Sunday morning at the Methodist church. The day services will be at 10:00, evening services at 8 o'clock.

We have secured the assistance of Rev. J. W. Hunt of St. Pauls Methodist Church Abilene. He will do the preaching. Bro. Hunt is one of our best preachers. I trust that you can arrange your affairs so that you can be at every service. The cooperation of all Christian people to attend the services, to lend your influence for the interest of the meeting is earnestly solicited. If you can sing we want you to become a member of the choir and help in the song service.

## M. C. LEAGUE MEETS ON MONDAY NIGHT

Monday night will be the first regular meeting of the Merkel Commercial League, and all committees are especially urged to be present at this meeting.

In addition to the need of the presence of the committeemen, the entire membership, which will be canvassed before Monday night, is asked to be on hand for the short business session that will be held.

See Mr. Ferguson at the Cemetery and have him clean your lot. Charges reasonable.

Pure Texas honey, \$1.25 per gallon. Bob Martin Grocery Co. Corn chops, bran and shorts. G. M. Sharp.

For lunch, dinner, and evening entertainment and at all other times serve Alta Vista Cream to your guests--Burroughs.

## GREAT ROPING CONTEST TO BE HELD IN MERKEL MAY 1ST GEO. WEIR AND ALLEN HOLDER COMPETE FOR \$1,000 PRIZE

Each Man is a Champion in His Line and Will Rope Fifteen Goats Against Time, The Winner to Take the Prize Money---Two Other Features Will Mark the Event of the Day

### PRECINCT CONVENTION IS CALLED

To the Precinct Chairman of the Democratic Party of Taylor County, Texas:

You are hereby advised that a Precinct Convention is called for May 6th, at 2 o'clock p. m., to be held at the voting box in your precinct, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the county convention to be held at Abilene on Tuesday, May 9th, 1916, for the purpose of selecting delegates to the State Convention to be held in San Antonio, Texas, May 23rd, 1916, for the purpose of electing 40 delegates to the National Democratic Convention to be held in St. Louis, Mo., June 14th, 1916, and to recommend a National Democratic Executive Committee from Texas to nominate electors at large from districts, and such other and further business as may legally and lawfully come before the Convention. You will only permit democrats to participate in this convention who, if necessary, will take the pledge that they intend to vote in the July Primaries, and who are voters in your precinct and at the voting box where such convention may be held. You are entitled to select one delegate for every 25 votes cast for Governor in the last election. As soon as the convention is over mail to me a list of your delegates, in order that I may have them in my possession Tuesday morning, May 9th.

A session of the Executive Committee will be held immediately after the County Convention Tuesday, May 9th. All members of the committee will please be present in order that we may determine what shall be done about the second primary. Dallas Scarborough, Chairman Taylor Co. Democratic Executive Committee.

### MAP OF COLUMBUS FOUND ON MEXICAN

Columbus, N. M. April 24.—A detailed map of Columbus and the military reservation here, found on the body of a Mexican killed in a sortie across the frontier following the raid, has been brought to light, according to a story brought to the border to day. The map is now said to be in the possession of officers of the Thirteenth cavalry, at the front. The map, according to story, showed the roads leading into Columbus and location of the principal business houses and designated homes of various officers of the American command.

**For Sale**  
Several tons of milo maize. I have scales for weighing. C. M. Largent. 28tf

Now is the time to consider commencement gifts. Our stock affords many suitable presents for the occasion--Burroughs.

### "RED" DRIVER WILL MOUNT "BLUE JAY" WHICH IS NOW OWNED BY GEO. WEIR

The Contest Will Start at 2:30 in Afternoon Preliminaries will Start Promptly with Amateur Goat Roping Contest

What will be the greatest exhibition of skill in fast roping is scheduled for this city next Monday afternoon when George Weir, champion steer roper of the world, meets Allen Holder of Garden City, in a contest of roping fifteen goats each for a purse of \$1,000. This purse has been made up for several months but the contestants have failed to agree on the time and location. Weir's early departure for points outside of the state made it necessary for the contest to be held at an early date, and Merkel was selected by the two great ropers as the place for the exhibition.

**ALLEN HOLDER.**  
Allen Holder of Garden City, is credited with being the fastest and greatest roper of goats of the present time, having won every contest which he entered during 1915. It was Holder who challenged Weir to the contest, and friends of the two parties made up the \$1,000 purse.

**GEORGE WEIR.**  
George Weir, formerly a resident of this city, is the present holder of the record for roping steers. In twelve contests in which he entered in the Northwest in 1915, he won first money in eleven, his brother having defeated him in the only contest he lost. Weir has not made it a profession to

ropo goats but believes he will be able to give as good an account of himself in this match as if he were roping steers.

### CHARLIE BROWN IS SHOT TO DEATH

Abilene, April 26—Chas. Brown a well to do farmer of the Potosi section, southeast of Abilene, was shot shortly before 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and died a few hours later.

Officers who investigated declared that he was shot two or three times in the head and then beaten over the head with some instrument, probably a pistol.

When he was killed Brown was plowing in the field not far from his house. When he was attacked his team became frightened and ran away, and workers in a nearby field told officers that they saw two men running and thought they were trying to catch the horses. Brown ran several hundred yards before he was finally killed, something over a dozen shots being fired at him, according to statement of one witness.

When in town drop in and take a look at our line of Toilet articles. We have every thing for the most fastidious--Burroughs.

Mrs. E. L. Rogers has returned from a visit with her father at Water Valley, Miss.

Watch our window, we will have something there every day that will interest you--Burroughs.

This event has been transferred to Merkel from another city by agreement of those managing the contest, thus giving the people of this section a chance of witnessing one of the most dexterous exhibitions of speed and skill possible to be seen in this state. Along with the main event are two minor attractions. Each will be worth seeing. An amateur goat ropers' contest will be held during the main event to give Weir and Holder their mounts time to rest. In addition the noted pitching horse "Blue Jay" now owned by George Weir, will be here with the present selection of "Red" Driver of Midland, Texas, to mount him. "Blue Jay" has gained considerable reputation during the past few months by dismounting professional riders as fast as they attempted to mount his hurricane deck. Driver is said to be one of the best riders in the Midland country, and will give "Blue Jay" a "rakin'" from tip to tail, or else stay seated on what is said to be the worst pitchin' boss ever scratched in Texas.

A full and complete description of this event is given in a page space on the fourth page of this paper.

It is very probable that all Merkel stores will close during the contest, as all merchants who have been approached on the subject have agreed to the closing. There are several who have not been seen, however, and until this is done the closing is not assured.

### DESIGNS IN STYLE NOW IN THE MAIL

What we deem will be of special interest to the ladies who read the Mail is a recent section we have added giving cuts and descriptions of late styles of spring and summer wearables for ladies, misses and children.

These style showings are received direct from New York and in every case will be the very latest descriptive matter possible to obtain. If this new section meets with the approval of fair readers of the Mail we will greatly appreciate your comments on same, thereby giving us an opportunity to know whether to continue the service or not, which will be published every other week if not in every issue of the Mail.

**Mrs. Templeton Operated on**  
Mrs. A. D. Templeton was reported in a somewhat critical condition the first of the week following an operation she underwent at the Baptist Sanitarium in Dallas.

Mrs. Templeton's many Merkel friends eagerly look forward for her complete recovery.

Throughout the season notice the cleanliness of our fountain, and the quality of our drinks and Ice Cream--Burroughs.

### W. W. WHEELER IS CANDIDATE FOR J.P.

We are authorized to announce W. W. Wheeler as a candidate for the office of Justice of the Peace for Precinct No. Five, Merkel, subject to Democratic Primary July 22nd.

Judge Wheeler has been a citizen of Taylor county 26 years and of Merkel 24 years. We doubt that any other man in the Merkel country is more widely known than he, he having been before the people as a public man for almost 20 years. During that time he served the people of Merkel Precinct four years as County Commissioner and six years as Justice of the Peace and gave general satisfaction in his courts. Later he served four years as Mayor of Merkel and held that position of trust when our city water works were installed.

Mr. Wheeler stands for all that is for the good of the public and promises that if elected to the office he aspires he will give prompt attention to all matters coming under his jurisdiction and that his official acts will be fair and impartial.

We ask that you give Mr. Wheeler due consideration before casting your vote.

A message to H. T. Merritt from Canyon, Texas, Monday announced the birth of his grandson J. C. Baker, Jr., which occurred at 2:30 that afternoon.

Spring time. Your trip will not be complete without a kodack and supplies. Let us arrange these items for you--Burroughs.

Plenty Cream and Pearl meal wholesale and retail. G. M. Sharp

The Miss Adkissons of Medina, Tenn., are guests of Dr. and Mrs. Geo. Miller.

Car choice Noth Texas hogs at G. M. Sharps.

### \$403 DISAPPEARS FROM R. R. SAFE

Anson, April 26—County Attorney Clearly and Deputy Sheriff Hudson returned last night from Leuders where they were called to investigate the disappearance of \$403.00 from the safe of the Texas Central R. R. Co. and the Express Co. operating on the Central. The money was taken from the safe between Saturday afternoon and Monday. The safe was unlocked and the money secured and the safe relocked. The officers believe they have a clue that will lead to an arrest at an early date.

**Notice**  
Someone who has Mr. Cash's coat, overcoat and watch chain please return Mrs. Cash. 28t1

Your favorite cigar in perfect condition at Burroughs.

Car White Wright flour just received. G. M. Sharp.

## REBECCAS GIVE I. O. O. F. FEAST

An annual love feast of the Rebeccas and Odd Fellows lodges was held Tuesday afternoon with great success despite the rain that fell intermittently during most of the evening.

In all over 100 Odd Fellows, their wives and daughters and members of the Rebecca Lodge were present. Arrangements had been made for over three times this number but many were unable to attend due to the inclemency of the weather. H. M. Rainbolt acting master of ceremonies is a reported mainstay of the evening, while talks of "What's good for the Order" were indulged in freely by Messrs. Duckett and Ely, their talks being highly appropriate to the occasion and well selected.

Member John Pate associated with Chas. West gave a graphic report of the supper furnished by ladies in the following words: Pate—"A doggoned good supper and a fine time." West—"Some grazing."

Horetore these annual events have been held in form of a basket picnic, the change in custom being in order to furnish better accommodations of attending members and their families.

Several out-of-town speakers who were scheduled to be on hand were unable to attend, Rev. Chas. N. Hearon of Abilene having arranged to come in an auto but was forced to give up the trip at the last moment.

## BILLY SUNDAY IS GIVEN \$40,000.00

Baltimore, Md., April 24—Baltimore's gift to Billy Sunday will be \$40,000. He left today with certified checks representing \$32,500 and the amount necessary to make \$40,000 will undoubtedly come from the collections taken in the churches. Amid the wildest scenes of enthusiasm displayed in the city for many years, Sunday bid a last farewell to Baltimore this morning.

So great was the jam of struggling humanity at Union Station to see for probably the last time the noted evangelist that it became necessary for the police to carry him through the surging throng to the train platform.

Fresh Peaberry coffee at G. M. Sharps.

## GOOD RAIN FALLS DURING THE WEEK

Another fine rain the third one within the last few weeks has fallen over the entire trade territory bordering this city.

With the excellent season now furnished farming pursuits the assurance of early crops seems inevitable. Reports that some cotton will have to be planted over have reached us while others will be greatly benefitted by having another good season on their late planted feed stuffs.

**Breeders Notice**  
My jack will make the season at Mr. Beard's on Bettus Heights. \$10.00 to insure living colt. Precaution will be taken but will not be responsible for accidents. See some of his colts at my house 2 miles N. W. of town. R. A. (Bob) Sadler. 28t3

THE  
**Farmers State**  
BANK

HAS

**PLENTY OF MONEY TO  
LOAN ON APPROVED  
SECURITY**

We solicit your business  
pledging Service  
Safety and  
Satisfaction

No account too Large  
None too Small

THE  
**GUARANTY FUND  
BANK**

Capital, Surplus & Stock-  
holders' Liability

**\$85,000.00**

J. S. SWANN, President  
JOHN SEARS, Vice Pres.  
R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

**A Forgotten  
Existence**

By ELEANOR MARSH

I was traveling on a railway train. Suddenly I felt a sharp pain in my head. Then I lost consciousness. When I came to myself I saw several persons standing about me, one, a woman, with a bottle of smelling salts in her hand. I tried to recall where I was going. I could not. Then I tried to recall from where I had come. I failed in this too. Doubtless I appeared dazed to those about me, for a woman said:

"She'll come all right presently. Give her a chance to collect her faculties."

After I had been asked a few questions I gave those about me to understand that I wished to be left alone, and one after the other they went to their seats. Then to my horror I found that I didn't know my own name. I didn't know my parents' name nor who they were. Everything beyond the present was lost in oblivion.

Would it all come back? I believed it would. But it did not. I looked in my purse and found tickets to a city and bank bills to the amount of \$24, besides some silver. I searched among a few slips of paper hoping to see my name. There was not a word to suggest who I was.

Not caring to go into a large city in such a condition I got off at a suburban station. It was springtime. I passed a snug cottage, in the grounds of which were two little girls playing. I craved some one to speak to and preferred these innocents to any one else. The gate was open, and I entered the yard, calling to them to come to me. They did so, and I put an arm about each of them. I talked to them and they to me. I cared not what was said. I felt comfort in their company.

"Papa!" One of the children looked up at some one entering the gateway. I followed the direction of her glance and saw a man about to enter. There was something so kindly in his face that I felt impelled to tell him my trouble and ask his advice as to what I should do. He listened to me, asked me a few questions, then said:

"Come into the house and we will see what can be done for you."

His household was run by an elderly woman. There was also a nurse for the children. He told the former to give me a room for the night, and he and I and the children dined together. After dinner he informed me of steps he proposed to take on the morrow to discover my identity, suggesting that I examine my clothing to discover if there was a mark that would help us. After dinner I went to my room and made the examination. There was nothing to give any clue.

Mr. Seagrave, the gentleman, telephoned an advertisement to a newspaper in the city describing me and the incident connected with me. He said he thought my relatives would be on the lookout for such a notice and I would hear from them very soon. He also gave me permission to remain in his house till I was claimed or my memory returned. I had enough money to pay my board for two or three weeks, but after that I would be penniless.

Time passed and no one claimed me. I wondered if I had any relatives. I judged that I was about twenty-one years old. Had I been married? If so my husband would doubtless move heaven and earth to find me.

When three weeks had gone by I tendered Mr. Seagrave my \$24 for my keep and told him that it was all I had. He offered to discharge the nurse and make me the governess of his children. I gladly accepted.

A doctor who was called in to see me said that he was of the opinion my loss of memory had been occasioned either by a former sickness or trouble. I showed no sign of having been ill, and there was no evidence of a past trouble.

What I had been I knew not. I knew that I was very happy in Mr. Seagrave's home. I loved the two little girls, and I grew to love him. A widower, he naturally pined for a woman's companionship. I had not been in his house a year before he asked me to marry him.

Alas! I knew not whether or no I was free to marry any one. There was a long struggle between my desire to be his wife and to mother his two dear little girls. He seemed to have made up his mind to take the chances himself, and at last I consented. We were married. He, I and the children were happy.

About two years after my marriage I awoke one morning after a long sleep my former self. It was a horrible awakening. I had married a man who had treated me brutally, and after a terrible scene I had caught up what money there was in the house and left him. He had married me in opposition to his parents' will and had thus given up a fortune.

I told Mr. Seagrave that my memory had returned, that our marriage was not legal. He bade me be comforted, that all would come out right. I gave him information to guide him, and he proceeded to look up the case.

One day soon after this he came home and took me in his arms, evidently very happy. He told me that my former husband had died and that his father had advertised for me. I went to see him, and he said he had sought me that he might make amends for his son's cruelty. He was very rich and at once settled a part of his fortune on me. When he died I received the rest.

**A FAMOUS  
VICTORY**

By F. A. MITCHEL

A young man within the German lines in Alsace knocked at the door of a cottage. A girl came to the door, and he asked her if he might be accommodated for the night which was coming on. She called to her mother in the German tongue. The young man knitted his brows. He had expected to find French inmates.

The mother came and spoke to the stranger, speaking French with a German accent. He told her that he was traveling and since there was no other house near either she must admit him or he must bivouac for the night. She consented to admit him.

The young man was about twenty-two years old and handsome as a picture. A winning smile began to play about his lips the moment he spoke to the girl, and his eyes indicated his admiration for her. He said nothing about the terrible war that was going on nor did his hostess or her daughter. Nevertheless he assumed that they sympathized with the German cause. For France's lost province has at least as large a population of Germans as French. As to the young man, he was plainly French.

Now, though these persons did not talk about the war, it was evident that the visitor, being a Frenchman within the German lines, was living with a sword suspended over him. True, the country near about was not occupied by troops except in small bands, but any German soldier meeting a Frenchman there would require him to give an account of himself. At bedtime the stranger took a candle and went to the room that had been assigned him, locked the door after him and went to bed, but not to sleep. There was that on his mind that precluded sleep. Life was on the one hand, death on the other. He was liable to be clutched by death.

The girl about midnight, armed with a pair of pliers, went to the guest's door and, feeling with her implement for the end of the key, finally succeeded in turning it. Opening the door, she stole into the guest's room and to a chair beside the bed on which he had put his clothes. She was about to withdraw them when she felt a hand on her wrist.

"Let me go," she said in a low voice. "Certainly," said the visitor. "You have doubtless made a mistake in the room."

He released her, and she withdrew. He knew well what her object had been in trying to take his clothes. She suspected he was a spy and that in his pockets would be found papers containing information he was taking to the entente allies.

In the morning when he came down to breakfast and bade the girl good morning his face wore that same winning smile. She did not respond, evidently stealing herself against him. When he started on his journey she had on her hat and coat and gloves.

"I am going with you," she said.

"I am delighted."

"You are a spy, and I intend to turn you over to the first German officer we meet."

"Oh, no, you won't!"

"Why not?"

"Because they would stand me up and shoot me."

"I have considered all that."

"But when it comes to seeing me shot down you will regret what you have done."

All this the Frenchman said with that same irresistible smile on his lips.

"Give me the papers you are bearing and you may go free for all me."

"It is beyond your power to free me."

"Why so?"

"You have made a prisoner of my heart, and my heart will not be released."

It was evident that the shot had hit. The girl was winged. But she was not ready to surrender.

"My feelings may drive me one way, but my duty is driving me another. I am capable of sacrificing my feelings to my duty."

"Then do so."

The only weapon he carried was a revolver. Taking it from its holster at his hip he tossed it to her. It fell at her feet. He folded his arms and stood looking at her with that smile which was having the same effect upon her that the eye of a serpent would have on a bird.

"Do your duty to your fatherland. The papers you wish are on my person, but you shall not have them without first killing me."

She was not yet conquered. Taking up the weapon she cocked it, advanced to within a few feet of him, put the muzzle against his breast and said:

"Give me the papers or I will sacrifice you to my duty."

"I love you," was his only response.

"Once more, give me the papers."

"Once more, I love you."

They stood, the eyes of each fixed on those of the other. The battle waxed hot, but not with weapons of death. It was a fight of love against duty. Without that smile duty might have won.

Presently he saw victory for himself. Defeat for her. Disregarding the weapon pressed against his heart he extended his arms, her hand sank slowly, he encircled her, drew her to him and kissed her.

When he went his way with his papers she returned to the house. Her sense of duty had given place to an all absorbing love.

J. T. Warren, Pres.

Thos. Johnson, Cashier

No. 7481



Conservative Yet Liberal

Safe And Accommodating

**CAPITAL AND SURPLUS  
OVER \$50,000.00**

With our large capital and surplus and extensive resources combined with many years of active and successful banking experience in this country, your business will be handled to your satisfaction. We lend money at all times at reasonable rates. Your deposit account will be handled by experienced and expert accountants who have had many years experience and who are ready and willing to serve you at all times. Every department systematized for the dispatch of business. New accounts are invited, and if we can be of service to you in any way, call on us. Respectfully,

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.

**BREEDING NOTICE**

With my combination horse, Gerald, and stylish black Spanish Jack, Tom, also Jersey Bull and Duroc Boar, I ask a share of your business. All care will be taken but not responsible for accidents. Office Boyce Bldg.

**G. R. GAZZAWAY**

**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

Everyone Likes



**EACH CHAPTER COMPLETE**

At the COZY every Tuesday

Matinee and Night

# Come to Merkel Saturday and Monday FOR TWO REASONS

On both these days the price-making at Woodroof's will mark the establishment of new values in prices, while on the latter of these two days you can avail yourself of the opportunity of seeing the world's greatest ropers in action. Don't fail to visit our store on both these days, and you certainly must not miss the treat this great roping contest will afford.

## :- Dress Goods Department :-

## Ladies and Misses' Shoe Dept.

Baby soft soles 50c grade	\$ .40
1 lot pat. Mary Jané one and two straps \$1.50 grade	1.25
1 lot ladies 2.50 and 3.00 Canvas pumps	2.15
1 lot misses tans and gun metal pumps, 2.25 grade	1.85
1 lot misses and children's pumps and ox. 1.75 to	2.25
Men's canvas, button and lace oxfords 2.50 to	3.00
1 lot ladies canvas oxfords 2.50 to	3.00
1 lot ladies pumps and oxfords 2.50 grade	1.95
1 lot ladies pumps and oxfords 3.50 grade	2.85
1 lot 2.50 Baby Dolls	2.25
1 lot 2.50 Kid Blueher oxfords	1.95
Ladies white canvas pumps and ox. 3.50 grade	2.95
1 lot ladies 3.50 tan pumps and oxfords	2.65
1 lot ladies 2.50 tan pumps and oxfords	1.95
\$3.50 white new buck pumps or oxfords	2.75
3.50 white new buck pumps with rubber heel	2.95
2.50 white canvas pumps with rubber heel	1.95

Men's Best Grade Workshirts  
**50c**

## Free, Free, Free!

To any person who buys \$10 worth of dry goods on either Saturday or Monday we will give one Free Ticket good for admission to the great Weir-Holder Goat Roping Contest



## The Hart Schaffner & Marx Label

It means as much in our \$15 suits as it does in our \$50 ones. These makers put the same effectiveness in style and workmanship in each. The difference in price is one of materials only--or of weave, or of extra refinements. We suggest that you make an early selection; our spring and summer lines are full now.

Palm Beach Suits, a great variety, in light and dark colors, price ranging \$6.50 to **\$10.00**

**WOODROOF'S**

1 lot spot proof foulard silk regular 1.00 grade for	\$ .75
1 lot silk crepe, 42 inches wide beautiful line of colors, regular 2.50 grade	1.00
1 lot flowered voiles and fale silks regular 50c grade per yd.	.35
1 lot wool goods suitable for summer skirts, regular 2.00 and 1.50 grade for	1.00
1 lot white dress goods suitable for new fared dress 1.00 for 50c, 50c for 35c, 35c for 25c, 25c for	.15
1 lot fast colored dress goods 1.00 for 50c, 50c for 25c, 25c	.15
1 lot embroidery, per yard, 12½c, 15c and 20c	.10
1 lot lace, per yd. 12½c, 15c 20c and 25c all	.10
Beautiful new line of flowered voils, and organdies suitable to make up with taffeta trimming, per yard, 25c, 35c, and	.50
Beautiful line white airline and organdies at 1.00, 85c, 75c and	.65
Be sure to see our beautiful line of flowered lawn, per yard 10c, 12½c, 15c, 20c and	.25
Be sure to see our Georgette crepe and crepe de chine, beautiful line of colors. Also call attention to our new line taffeta silks in new shades.	

Best Grade Overalls  
**\$1.00**

### MILLINERY

Summer Millinery Showing shapes, flowers, ribbons and a full line of mid-summer millinery in both **Dressy and Sport Effects**. A special offer open on our \$2.00 line of ladies and Misses Hats

### MEN'S LOW SHOES

1 lot men's \$4.00 gun metal Blu. Ox.	\$3.65
1 lot men's 4.50 gun metal Blu. Ox.	3.95
1 lot men's 4.50 Pat. But. and Blu. Ox.	3.75
<b>Children's and Misses' Oxfords</b>	
1 lot misses Pat. Baby Dolls 2.25 grade	1.75

1 lot misses Pat. Baby Dolls 1.75 grade	1.35
1 lot misses Pat. Baby Dolls 1.25 grade	1.00
1 lot misses Kid Blu. Ox.	1.25
1 lot misses Tan Baby Dolls Pumps 1.50 grade	1.25
1 lot misses Kid Blu. Ox. 1.00 grade	.85
1 lot misses gun metal But. Ox. 1.25 grade	\$1.00

## The EFFECT OF THE WAR ON DRY GOODS

Never before in the history of the present generation have conditions abroad been so violent as to materially effect the markets of the entire world. These effects have greatly advanced every description of dry goods, shoes or wearables. Dies have taken the greatest advances ever known, due to the great difficulty of importing raw chemicals from Europe, and even now these advances are effecting every man, woman and child in the United States. You cannot expect to continue to receive the low prices in dry goods heretofore given the general public, and every customer of this store is reminded that the above special offers we are making are much below what they are worth at the present. For this reason we urge that you avail yourself of the price-making at Woodroof's, for such is imperative to your good judgment in values and quality. Do not wait until it is too late, but now while we are in position to serve you with the very smallest figures in prices.

Woodroof's

**WOODROOF'S**

Woodroof's

# GREATEST ROPING CONTEST EVER

Merkel, Monday, May 1st

STAGED IN WESTERN TEXAS

Merkel, Monday, May 1st

## \$1,000 PURSE TO THE WINNER \$1,000

Two World Renowned Champions Meet in a Finish Contest for Roping  
Supremacy

George Weir, formerly of this city, champion steer-roper of the world, will meet Allen Holder, of Garden City, champion goat-roper, at Merkel, Texas, Monday, May 1st, at 2:30 P. M., each man to rope 15 goats against time, the winner to receive the \$1,000 purse.

### GEORGE WEIR

OF MERKEL, TEXAS

Champion speed steer roper of the world, with a record of 21 seconds, and a winner of eleven out of twelve contests he entered last year in steer-roping. The former resident of this place is now pitted in a new game of roping goats against the champion goat-roper of all contests. Weir has been practicing for this event and this exhibition of skill will be worth traveling hundreds of miles to see.

### ALLEN HOLDER

OF GARDEN CITY, TEXAS

Reputed champion goat roper of the world, and a man who won every goat-roping contest he entered last year, the man who will attempt to defeat George Weir for this purse of \$1,000. It is an established fact that Holder did not lose a contest during 1915, and his meeting with Weir will be the first time these two rope artists have ever met to contest their ability.

Weir Will Rope and Tie Fifteen Goats Against Time

Holder Will Rope and Tie Fifteen Goats Against Time

## Three Events During the Evening

AMATEUR GOAT-ROPER'S CONTEST---Free for all to enter. Entrance fee \$2.50, prizes to be divided 60, 30 and 10 per cent. This contest will be held during the time the main contest is going on in order to give the main contestants time to rest and to allow their roping horses time to rest.

BLUE JAY WILL BE MOUNTED---Probably by "Red" Driver, of Midland. This is a secondary attraction to the main event, but will be a great attraction within itself. The management of the contest has gotten the best rider possible for this occasion. Blue Jay is now owned by George Weir and is under new management.

## BE HERE WITHOUT FAIL

This positively will be the greatest event ever pulled off in any part of Texas and will give people of all the western part of the state an opportunity to see two of the greatest ropers of the world in action. **MERKEL IS VERY FORTUNATE JUST NOW** in securing this match. It was gotten up by agreement between Weir and Holder, and this city has been selected as the best place in which to have the contest. **GOOD CONNECTIONS ON RAILROADS**—People reaching here from the east and west over the Texas & Pacific should arrive not later than on No. 5, west bound, Monday morning, or on No. 4, east bound, T. & P. passenger the same morning. Good accommodations for all visitors and **Merkel extends a welcome to the entire state** to visit this, the most scientific event of the year.

ADMISSION FEES TO CONTEST FOR ALL THREE EVENTS: ADULTS 50C, CHILDREN 25C

# Merkel, Texas, 2:30 p. m.

MAY 1st, 1916

# The Merkel Drug Company

Composed of a partnership of H. K. Shepperd and J. W. Grafford

## ANNOUNCE

The complete and full purchase of the entire stock of Drugs, Jewelry, Sundries and Notions formerly belonging to Mrs. E. M. Rust, the successor of the Rust & McCauley Drug Company. We will continue the business at the same location, and being comparative strangers in the Merkel country, we extend a **CORDIAL INVITATION** to all people of this section to visit our establishment and become acquainted. The exclusive management of the store is under direction of Mr. Shepperd, a registered druggist formerly with the Adolphus Pharmacy of Dallas, who will take a delight in attending carefully to your wants. ....



### THE MOST BEAUTIFUL

Book of Fashions ever published is the

SPRING

### McCALL BOOK OF FASHIONS

(Now on Sale)

Hundreds of the latest and smartest dress models shown in colors — and every one can be easily made at home with

### McCall Patterns

You can choose from hundreds of designs and to any of these models you can give a touch of your own individuality.

MERKEL J. P. SHARP TEXAS

An Attractive Russian Blouse Model  
McCall Patterns Nos. 7125-7127. Many other attractive May designs at our pattern counter.

An Effective Costume  
McCall Patterns Nos. 7131-7129. Two of the many new designs for May.

### FRESH WATER

Can be had any moment with the ideal way to pump water—cheap to install, cheap to operate. 10c worth of Electric energy will pump 1000 gallons.

No unsightly looks, no screeching around your home. No depending on the wind.

We would be glad to show and explain our Electric Pumping Outfits. Do it Electrically.

### MERKEL POWER COMPANY

#### LIFE'S JOURNEY.

Life runs not smoothly at all seasons, even with the happiest of us, but after a long course the rocks subside, the views widen and it flows on more equably at the end.—Tasso.

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

As a healing salve for burns, sore nipples and chapped hands Chamberlain's Salve is most excellent. It allays the pain of a almost instantly, and unless the injury is very severe, heals the parts without leaving a scar. Price, 25 cents. For sale by all dealers.

**One of Three Worst Wives.**  
St. Giles, Camberwell, is the burial place of Mrs. John Wesley, wife of the famous preacher. Southey grouped Mrs. Wesley with the partners of Socrates and Job among the three worst wives in history, and she seems to have deserved the distinction. One of Wesley's friends, says the London Mirror, records having seen him dragged round the room by his hair by the powerful virago, and she seems to have made the poor man's life a misery for twenty years. At last, to his great relief, she decamped, carrying away many of his papers simply to annoy him, and he saw her no more. She died in October, 1781.

**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 tingling in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.

#### SHILOH.

Prof. and Mrs. Thompson gave their pupils an Easter Egg hunt Friday afternoon. All report an enjoyable time. Mr. and Mrs. Terrel Winters were Trading in Merkel Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Phillips are the proud parents of a fine baby boy which came to bless their home April 19th. Sinclair was all smiles Sunday.

The Misses Halls, Tabors and Irwells, Messrs. Hall, Tabors, Bewel, Tyner and Cogoun motored to Castle Peak Sunday afternoon. These young people are to be congratulated for attending Sunday school before going away on their pleasure trip.

Mesdames J. H. Grayson and Chas. Seago were visiting in Noodle Monday afternoon.

Miss Gladys Reeves spent Sunday with friends at Newman.

Mr. and Mrs. Reeves motored to Merkel Saturday.

There was singing at the church on Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown and children, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Will Bond.

Mr. and Mrs. Woods and Miss Ruth Pomroy, near Sweetwater creek, took supper Sunday with W. B. Reeves and family.

Mrs. Eeavers and daughter, Miss Lyda, were shopping in Merkel Wednesday of last week.

#### DON'T BE MISLED

Merkel Citizens Should Read and Heed This Advice.

Kidney trouble is dangerous and often fatal.

Don't experiment with something new and untried.

Use a tested kidney remedy. Begin with Doan's Kidney Pills.

Used in kidney troubles 50 years. Recommended here and everywhere.

A Merkel citizen's statement forms convincing proof.

It's local testimony—can be investigated.

Mrs. M. A. Warren, El Paso St., Merkel, says: "I had a great deal of trouble with my back and could hardly turn without a sharp catch across my kidneys. I felt worn out and languid nearly all the time and became very nervous. Another in the family had found Doan's Kidney Pills fine, so I started to use them. They helped me and I kept up the treatment until I was cured."

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

#### "Marrying For a Home."

Marrying for a home or any sort of marriage as a means of support may be considered by some as a part of the business of marriage, but generally speaking it is a risky business—a wild speculation in which the girl pays very dearly for something she is not likely to want when she gets it and in many cases will rid herself of on short notice. And the price she pays is not only her youth and whatever charm and ambition she may possess, but a poor, miserable, broken life.—Bailey Millard in Woman's World.

#### Imitative Monkeys.

Monkeys never wash or bathe, though they have, as a rule, every chance to do so. Possibly experience has taught them to be afraid of crocodiles, which are pretty generally distributed on monkey haunted rivers. It is said that a number of Indian monkeys watched a party of Europeans in a boat who washed their hands and brushed their teeth. Next day the monkeys were seen to come to the river side and go through the form of washing their hands and of brushing their teeth with bits of stick.

**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

#### SMILES.

A smile is a joyful sight. We do not know what ripples of healing are set in motion when we simply smile on one another. Christianity wants nothing so much in the world as sunny people.—Henry Drummond.

#### The Word "Mizpah."

The word "Mizpah" is the name of several places in Palestine. The one with which its connection is best known, however, is the heap of stones and the pillar set up by Jacob and his brethren as a witness of the covenant between Jacob and Laban. The heap of stones were a boundary and also an altar. The use of the word "Mizpah" as an inscription for memorial rings is based on words occurring in connection with the setting up of the stones by Jacob and his brethren, the covenant with Laban—"The Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from the other."—New York Times.

#### She Meant an Escalator.

It was a Brooklyn Mrs. Malaprop who said "there ought to be an escalator at every elevated road stairway." A daughter (in high school) silenced her erring lips with a respectful kiss.—Brooklyn Eagle.

#### Good Western Grown Seeds

We have in Merkel a stock of, Sudan, Feterita, Dwarf Red and White Maize, Red Top and Orange as well as Seeded Ribbon Cane, Corn, Higarria and Schrock Sorghum, these last two are recommended as the greatest feed crops ever grown in Texas. Western Growned Mebane cotton Seed, free of weevil or "boll rot". You will find these with Mr. G. R. Gazzaway Boyce Building—Phone 37, he will appreciate your inquiries and sell you the best of seed worth the money. The Sweetwater Grain & Seed Company. 1423

#### Land For Sale

I now offer my land for sale for a short time. Reason for selling is change of business. James Baker, Trent, Texas.

#### Work Stock For Sale

We have some good work horses and mules for sale, also one team of three year old mules to let out for their feed. Anchor Mercantile Co.,

#### Work Horses For Sale

We have some good work horses and mules for sale, also one team of three year old mules to let out for their feed, Anchor Mercantile Co.,

#### Why Are You Sick

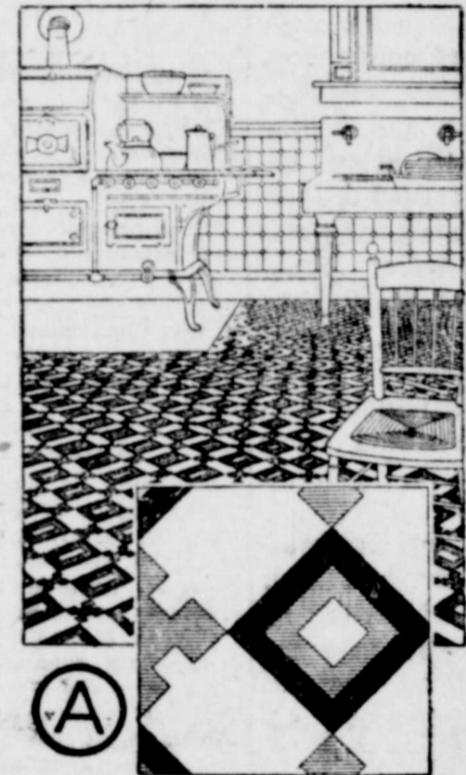
Did you ever stop to think there could be no disease without a cause. A pressure on nerves causes disease. See the Chiropractor, consultation and analysis given free. Mr. and Mrs. Battendorf, Chiropractors, Merkel and Abilene. See Mrs. Alice Rose for appointment in Merkel. 4t21

Famous Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee, Wamba Coffee

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

## LINOLEUM

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



Make yourself at home in our Rest Room

Behrens-McMillen Co.  
Mack

Undertaking License No. 392

#### Guarded His Beard.

As Sir Thomas More laid his head on the block he begged the executioner to wait a moment while he carefully placed his beard out of reach of the ax, for, he said, "it hath not committed treason," which reminds one of the story of Simon Lord Lovat, who the day before his execution on Tower hill bade the operator who shaved him be cautious not to cut his throat, as such an accident would cause disappointment to the gaping crowd on the morrow.—English Magazine.

#### A Bargain Is the Thing

and A. L. Jobe's Bargain store is the place to get it in boys and youths suits, men and boys hats, shoes and shirts. If you have the big head I can fit you in a hat. Shirts from 17 to 20 in collar, worth \$1.50 selling at 50 cents, get one now.

#### Shetland Pony For Sale

One thoroughbred shetland pony, absolutely gentle for children to drive and guaranteed safe. Also set of harness and surry. See me if interested. W. Parten.

#### Loans

8 per cent money on good land on long time. We are fully ready for loans again. Ask for clients all over this territory who have been borrowing from us for years and years about our liberal terms and then see or write us for details. Quick work with us on loans. 31tf

Compro Bros., Abilene, Texas

Get your cream and Pearl meal from the Bob Martin Grocery Company.

When you come to Sweetwater, Texas, drive your car in the National Southern Highway Garage, on the west side of the square near the hotels. No charges to tourists and visitors for day storage. Do not leave your car in the hot sun, it will ruin the varnish and upholstery on your car. You are welcome to make our place home while in Sweetwater. We have free air and water on the sidewalk. We carry a fine line of accessories and tires. Our readers are especially invited to call on them while in Sweetwater.—Adv. tf

When driving go by the cemetery and give Mr. Ferguson an order to clean your cemetery lot. He is there at all hours of the day and his charges are reasonable.

The Bob Martin Grocery Company received a fresh car of Baker Boy flour this week. Order a sack.

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

#### 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.

Plenty of meal, bran, shorts and mixed feed. Bob Martin Grocery Company.



# SOCIETY

MISS EVELYN WILLIAMS, EDITOR

**Mrs. Groene Entertains**  
 Mrs. H. F. Groene entertained the members of her junior Sunday School class last Friday afternoon at her residence. Games of all kinds were indulged in and of course so near Easter the party would not be complete without eggs hidden away all over the lawn for the little guests to search after. The refreshments of various kinds of bonbons and sweetmeats were passed to the children while they were on the lawn. It was Mrs. Groene's pleasure to have about thirty guests on this occasion and the number being so large we will not try to mention the names.

**Sunrise Breakfast**  
 Up at five A. M. with all the throes of pleasure in the dim background the young lady teachers of our town fared forth last Saturday morning for a sunrise breakfast at Warren's tank. Needless to say at the end of the seven mile drive all were ready to join in the preparation for breakfast, the usual camp meal of bacon, fried eggs, coffee etc., being served. After breakfast kodaking, shooting and fishing were enjoyed until about ten when the party returned to town. The young ladies composing this breakfast party were: Misses Nellie Bly Lankford, Mary Lena Mongly, Willie Carr, Zelma Fletcher, Daisy and J. Verna Hogan, Mae White, Winnie Warren, Beulah Burkett and Susie Creath.

San Jacinto Day was celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Adcock on last Friday by the advent of a fine boy into the home. As result of the occasion Mr. Adcock has temporarily resigned from his position as R. F. D. carrier, allowing his place in this position to be filled by a substitute in order that he might remain at home with his family.

Miss Genevieve Rust who has spent several weeks at the Rudd ranch near Maryneal, returned home Sunday night.  
 Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Smith, after a protracted stay in the home of their son, T. M. Smith, have returned to Stanton.

Mrs. E. M. Rust spent the Easter weekend the guest of Abilene friends. She was driven home Sunday afternoon by Mr. and Mrs. G. B. McCauley.

**His Line Was Spinach.**  
 Applicant for Job on Agriculture Paper—Any chance to get on this sheet? Editor—Have you had any experience in growing things? Applicant—Why, er—I grew a small beard once.—Florida Times-Union.

**THERE'S A RISK**  
 in buying promiscuously from Tom, Dick and Harry.  
 You should exercise the same care in the selection of a RELIABLE MERCHANT as you would in the selection of your Lawyer or Doctor.  
 To exercise care means to buy from us.  
**E. L. ROGERS**  
 GROCERY

**EASTER EGG HUNT**  
 Last Saturday afternoon near the site of the old North Side school building, Murphy Thomas and Maurine Cobb entertained some sixteen girl friends with an egg hunt. Rosie, Laney, Lilly Pratt and Johnnie Sears, Gladys Milligan, Florine Brewster, Lucile Edwards, Mary, Eula and Mossy Sears, Lola Armstrong, Mary Elizabeth and Ethel Williams, Ruth and Nellie Holloway were those entertained. The chaperones whose duty was to hide the eggs were Misses Charley Belle Thomas, Josie Smith and Stella Watts. Mary Eula Sears was the fortunate one in finding the greatest number of eggs.

**LITTLE FOLKS PARTY.**  
 On last Saturday afternoon Mrs. J. S. Burkhead gave the wee ones of her neighborhood an Easter party. Those who were present to join in the fun were Mildred and Ola Smith, Ruby and J. B. Jr., Warnick, Hazel and Venice Bell, Florence, Bertha and Jack Jr., Burkhead. And again on Sunday this same little group were invited to the residence of Mrs. Marvin Smith to enjoy an egg hunt there. So much "good times" were crowded into these two little gatherings that one can be sure they shall not soon be forgotten by the little ones.

On last Thursday evening, after the picture program, some ten couples remained at the Cozy for a few hours' rancing. Music for the evening was furnished by J. F. Harrison and the dancing was so fascinating that the wee small hours came before the guests were ready to depart.

With spring opening so beautifully all kinds of outings are now the order of the day. Monday evening after six-thirty closing hours, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Angus and daughter, Maurine, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Woodroof, drove to Warren's tank where a picnic supper was enjoyed. The return to town was made late in the evening.

If any of the Easter week social gatherings have been left out of this issue, please report it, that I may mention them in the next issue.  
 The Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church enjoyed a social meeting Monday afternoon with their president, Mrs. H. C. Burroughs. A volunteer program was the main pleasure, and it was most excellent. Fifteen members were present at this meeting. Fruit punch was served as refreshment.

**CHURCH AID SALE.**  
 The sale of lingerie held by the young ladies of the Protheus Class Saturday afternoon at the Benrens-McMillen rest room, was a decided success. Quite a variety of dainty garments were on display and sold well. In fact, Mrs. Bullock, teacher of the class, reports only a few pieces not sold at the afternoon close. These young ladies are to be praised for the daintiness of their display as well as the successful sales.

**EASTER PARTY.**  
 So many Easter parties were planned by the small girls that one had to be carried over for Monday afternoon. This was given in the J. W. Teaff pasture. Velma Holloway, assisted by her sisters and mother was hostess for the afternoon and the following were her guests: Ona Fay Rose, Ouida Shannon, Lenette and Maurine Louise Walters and Ruth Jones. After the search for eggs, which were hidden by Nellie and Ruth Holloway, a frolic on the creek banks brought this really true outing to a close.

**MRS. ANGUS ENTERTAINS.**  
 On last Friday evening Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Angus entertained a few friends at their residence on Rose street. Tables arranged for forty-two made the time pass pleasantly for those present. Pink and white roses were used in the decorations and in the refreshment plate of brick cream with angel food cake, the same colors were used. The guest list reads: Messrs. and Mesdames R. O. Anderson, E. M. McDonald, L. W. Woodroof and Mrs. Austin Boyd; Misses Elma Sheppard, Venona Hamblett, Maud Martin, Beulah Burkett, Win-Messrs. Emmet Grimes, Earl Baze, Lytton Howard, W. L. Diltz, Jr., and Master Fred Boyd.

**BIBLE CLASS ENTERTAINS.**  
 One of the largest social gatherings incident to the Easter tide was that given by the Business Men's Class of the Methodist Sunday School, honoring the King's Daughters. At 8 o'clock Monday evening about seventy-five guests assembled in the main auditorium of the church. With the president, T. A. Johnson, presiding, the following program was given:  
 Address of welcome, T. A. Johnson; response, Mrs. W. P. Garvin. Short talks were then made by Dr. O. F. McMaster, Rev. W. P. Garvin and Dr. W. B. Foster. These were along similar lines, urging the men in their work to widen fields and greater activities. With these musical numbers were intermingled; songs by the entire assembly and special violin and banjo selections by L. A. Manckham and son, accompanied by J. F. Harrison. After the program the east room of the church, which had been arranged with tables, was opened and an abundance of cream and cake was in waiting for all present. The gentlemen are to be congratulated upon the success of their initial social evening and the ladies pronounce it one of the most enjoyable occasions of its kind they have ever attended.



"Goodies that just melt in your mouth—light, fluffy, tender cakes, biscuits and doughnuts that just keep you hanging 'round the pantry—all made with Calumet—the safest, purest, most economical Baking Powder. Try it—drive away bake-day failures."  
 Received Highest Awards  
 New Cook Book Free—See Slip in Found Cook.



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

**PLAY WELL RECEIVED.**  
 At the High School auditorium Friday evening a program by Abilene home talent was given under the auspices of the Freshman Class of the Merkel High School. The play for the evening was, "The Little Heroine of the Revolution," under the direction of Mrs. Mershaw. An audience of moderate size attended this program. The young performers were splendid in their parts, the older ones not so good, as they seemed unfamiliar with their lines. The Freshman Class will use the proceeds for better furnishings in their rooms at school.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Duckett and infant daughter of Snyder, are visiting the families of J. H. Harris and W. P. Duckett.

Mrs. H. A. Reading of Abilene has recently visited Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Anderson.



**ICE FOR EASTER**  
 Should be as pure as the symbolical lily. And it will be if we supply the ice. Our ice is made from pure distilled water and is free from all impurities. "Safety first" is our slogan. It should be yours too. Using our ice is health insurance.

**Warren Brothers**  
 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.

## Spring Love

By ETHEL HOLMES

Poets have sung of love in the spring for centuries. No one ever read a poem of young love in autumn; certainly not in winter. It comes with the budding leaves, and it also comes with propinquity. Place a young girl near a young man on a warm, sunshiny day in April or May, or the young man near the girl, and love is just as sure to bud in their hearts as leaves on the trees.

It is singular how many different ways this spring disease manifests itself in these youngsters. In many cases one would suppose that they had been seized with an aversion for each other. Sometimes contempt, but never indifference, though there is nothing they attempt to show more than this. A case in point.

Benny Apherson had reached the age when a boy is especially particular as to his cravats. He was admiring himself in a pier glass upon donning his new spring suit and his first silk hat. Olivia Treadwell had just passed the age when her mother studied the advertisements for bargains in misses' apparel. On the very day that Benny put on his "tile" and Ollie donned her first woman's frock they saw each other for the first time. Behind the Treadwell home was a garden, and against the farther end of the garden was the rear of a house into which had recently moved the Apherson family.

On this beautifully bright spring morning Miss Ollie, from the rear drawing room of her home, espied Benny in the rear drawing room of his home admiring before the pier glass his new plug hat. He bowed to his image, taking off his hat to an imaginary lady, walked past the glass, first showing one side then the other, smirked at himself—or, rather, at the imaginary girl—showed a dignified superiority, indeed, practiced all manner of ways of attracting, even of crushing her. While so engaged he evidently heard some one approaching, for he hurriedly placed the hat on the window sill and passed out of Ollie's sight.

All this Miss Ollie observed, unobserved herself. As soon as the young Apollo disappeared she was seized with a terrible temptation. The gardener was engaged in removing the flowers from the conservatory and placing them in the garden without. Having planted a large number, he watered them with the garden hose and had gone somewhere else, leaving the hose on the ground. There was the shining hat balanced on the window sill, there was the hose and there was the girl. The result was what was to have been expected. The girl went down and out into the garden and began to put more water on the already well watered plants, casting from time to time furtive glances at the rear window in which Apollo had placed his hat. Having satisfied herself that no one was looking, with assumed carelessness she diverted the stream from one flower bed to another, and in doing so the stream struck the hat. It disappeared from view. Unconscious apparently of what she had done, Miss Ollie continued to water the flowers for a few minutes, then dropped the hose and went into the house.

The young lady deceived herself if she thought she was unobserved. Benny from an upper window had caught sight of her in the garden watering the flowers. Now, a girl watering flowers on a bright spring morning, even with a garden hose, is a delectable sight. Benny stood back from the window, far enough to be out of sight, took up a pair of opera glasses and flashed his eyes on Miss Treadwell, seeing every intent in her features as well as if he had been close beside her. When she diverted the stream from the flower beds he saw a look of malicious mischief on her face and wondered. Later, when he went downstairs for his hat and saw it on the floor, its beautiful sheen ruined by a drenching, that look was explained.

If any one had told Benny that his feelings toward his neighbor were not a concentrated desire for revenge, that they were instead the opening of the love bud in his heart, he would have laughed sardonically. While he was gazing on the ruin before him he was trying to think of some method of crushing the perpetrator. No appropriate method occurred to him at the time, and when next he saw Miss Treadwell she was in the garden nipping the flowers to make a bouquet, looking so attractive that he wished he were with her instead of separated from her by a wall and the absence of an acquaintance. He hoped she would look up at him, but since she did not he coughed to attract her attention.

## HUSBAND RESCUED DESPAIRING WIFE

**After Four Years of Discouraging Conditions, Mrs. Bullock Gave Up in Despair. Husband Came to Rescue.**  
 Catron, Ky.—In an interesting letter from this place, Mrs. Bettie Bullock writes as follows: "I suffered for four years, with womanly troubles, and during this time, I could only sit up for a little while, and could not walk anywhere at all. At times, I would have severe pains in my left side.  
 The doctor was called in, and his treatment relieved me for a while, but I was soon confined to my bed again. After that, nothing seemed to do me any good. I had gotten so weak I could not stand, and I gave up in despair.  
 At last, my husband got me a bottle of Cardui, the woman's tonic, and I commenced taking it. From the very first dose, I could tell it was helping me. I can now walk two miles without tiring me, and am doing all my work."  
 If you are all run down from womanly troubles, don't give up in despair. Try Cardui, the woman's tonic. It has helped more than a million women, in its 50 years of continuous success, and should surely help you, too. Your druggist has sold Cardui for years. He knows what it will do. Ask him. He will recommend it. Begin taking Cardui today.  
 Write to: Chattanooga Medicine Co., Ladies' Advisory Dept., Chattanooga, Tenn., for Special Instructions on your case and 64-page book, "House Treatment for Women," sent in plain wrapper. 10c

**WEAR A CLEAN SUIT**  
 LET **RENFRO** THE TAILOR  
 AT THE CITY BARBER SHOP DO  
 Your Cleaning and Pressing

**NYAL HIRSUTONE**  
 To cleanse the scalp, remove dandruff and promote hair health—use Hirsutone. Seems to give new life to the hair—adds the attractive gloss. Fifty cents the bottle.  
 T. L. Grimes, Druggist

**Value-Price-Volume**  
 ALL three depend one upon the others. And this combination makes **Born Tailoring** supreme in the world of made-to-order Clothes.  
 During the past forty years, it has been Born policy to give the best quality and greatest value possible for the price. That policy has brought the **House of Born** the largest volume of business in the tailoring trade.  
 And each increase in sales means still better materials and workmanship in exchange for our customer's money—better quality and longer satisfaction than the same money will buy in any other clothes, tailored to order or ready to wear.  
 For genuine clothes economy, insist upon seeing "Born's Blue Book"—see it first or last; but see it before you buy.  
**Renfro & Fergusson, Tailors**

**Going West?**  
 Want some reliable information about any of the country west of the Rockies—California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas? Want to know something about farming opportunities, railroad rates, routes, automobile highways, hotels, resorts, prices of land, methods of farming, etc.?  
 It's our business to know all about this Pacific Slope country. Sunset Magazine is the one big national magazine, reflecting the life of this country and giving accurate information concerning its growth and development. Send 10 cents for a sample copy of Sunset Magazine and write us a letter asking for whatever information you desire concerning any state in the West.  
**SUNSET MAGAZINE SERVICE BUREAU**  
 San Francisco

## A Misapprehension

By WILLIAM CHANDLER

Being delayed in the town of Acland, where I had gone on business, on account of the absence of the man I had gone there to see, I asked the clerk of the hotel where I stopped if there was a free library in the place. He directed me to one of the most attractive little buildings I ever saw, in the center of a grove. I went there and nosed over the fiction shelves for a while and finally took down a novel.

On turning the leaves a bit of paper fitted to the floor. I picked it up and, seeing some words written on it in pencil, read them:

Ten years today since Frank left us, and I am so more reconciled to his absence than the day after his departure. Oh, the long, long, weary days!

ALICE.

Now, there was something in this that fitted me. My name is Frank Tisdale. Twelve years before I had accepted a position in a commission house in Hongkong and gone out there to make my fortune. I returned on a visit after eight years' sojourn in China and never went back. I was twenty years old when I left home, and among the girls to whom I said good-by was one Alice Ringold. But I was not aware that I was any more to her than any other young man.

I took the book and the paper to the librarian, telling her that I had found the one in the other. She said that returned books were apt to have a variety of articles in them, usually put there in lieu of a book mark. I asked her if such articles were returned, and her reply was, "Sometimes." I requested that if she returned the paper I had left with her to the person who had written it she would let me know. I left with her a postage stamp and my address.

Not very long after my return to my home I received a letter from the librarian announcing that she had found the Alice whose name was appended to the writing on the paper I had discovered. The lady had dropped it into the book which was lying open on a table, some one else had closed the book, and it had been returned to the library with the slip in it. The librarian gave the name, Alice Ringold.

Now I had passed the age of thirty, supposing that no woman had shown any predisposition toward me. I was on the verge of middle age, with no one to care for me, and now accidentally I had discovered that a girl from whom I had parted a dozen years before had been mine for the asking during the whole of that period. I remembered Alice Ringold, a shy little thing, so young that I would not have believed she could love any man. She could not at the time have been more than fifteen.

Here was a chance to break away from the bachelorhood into which fate seemed to have thrown me. I would renew my acquaintance with Alice Ringold, and if she was of the same mind—and from the recent date of what she had written it was likely that she was—I might settle myself in a home under the same advantages as pertained to youth. But I must contrive to make the meeting appear accidental.

She had removed from the town where she had lived to Acland, and there I went. Having learned where her home was situated, I set out to find her, proposing to make up a story as to how I had come to know of her being in Acland. Just before reaching the house a young woman came out of the front door and in another moment met me face to face.

She was Alice Ringold. Between sixteen and twenty-six there is not so great a difference in one's appearance as between twenty-six and thirty-six. At any rate, there was enough left of the girl I had known for me to recognize her. I stopped, lifted my hat and spoke to her. She looked at me, and I saw at once that she knew me.

"Alice Ringold?" I asked.

"Yes; and you are Frank Tisdale."

"Singular that you should know me after so many years' absence."

"No more singular than that you should know me."

"I have been wondering what had become of you since my return to America. I have been hunting you for months."

She cast her eyes down just as she did when she was little more than a child. She was going to the village, and I walked beside her. I told her of the many times I had thought of her during my absence in the east and how I had longed that fate should have brought us together again.

With that slip of paper in my possession I had all the boldness of a leader. I made rapid progress, and more and more plainly in my mind as I advanced. When I came with her I told her I would see her in the evening, and when the evening came, having gone through the preliminaries, I proposed to her.

She said it was very sudden and a great surprise to her. I smiled inwardly at this, thinking of the paper I had found. However, after a little coyness she yielded and accepted me. Just before I left her she said:

"Do you remember my brother Frank?"

"Frank? I believe I do."

"He died soon after you left for China. I have never got over his loss."

"Great heavens! It was my brother she had loved all these years."

Nevertheless we are very happy.

# Helping You Out

No wash day is a pleasant day. But your next wash day can be made easier. You can eliminate most of the hard rubbing. **TEXWAX WILL HELP.**

A cupful of **TEXWAX** shavings dissolved into your boiling wash, will work on the dirt and loosen it.

Then, hot rinsing, and only slight rubbing, and you will have a clean, white, wash. **TEXWAX** loosens the dirt without injuring the finest linens.

A little **TEXWAX** added to the starch produces that desired finish on your linens. As an ironing wax, it is incomparable—makes the iron glide easily over the clothes.

**TEXWAX** is odorless.

**TEXWAX** is sold in one-pound packages, with full directions on each package. It is one of the Quality Products made by The Texas Company. There is a Texaco dealer near you. He will tell you about other Texaco Products for home use.

**THE TEXAS COMPANY**  
General Offices Houston, Texas.



**Paint Old Floors**  
A coat or two of paint will make your old floor far more attractive and easier to keep clean.

**Low Brothers Hard-Drying Floor Paint**

is the paint of greatest hiding and wearing quality. It will keep your floors in perfect condition through long wear. Dries hard over night. Resists wear and is sanitary. Come in and see how little it will cost to paint your floor.

**Burton-Lingo Co.**  
Merkel, Texas

## DOES DANGER THREATEN YOU?

Are You in the Coils of Disease?



Maybe the serpent of sickness is crushing you to death? Your back is heavy, eyes dull, a never ending weariness holds you. Too many women will know the meaning of hopeless dragging days and endless nights. Functional and organic derangements grow steadily when neglected—they become deadly in time. Don't suffer longer. **Stella-Vitas** will relieve you now.

This wonderful remedy is the guaranteed woman's tonic of the world. It is the finished work of a lifetime of a distinguished physician who gave the best years of his study to its perfection. **Stella-Vitas** is a life giving tonic guaranteed by every dealer who sells it. Whenever a bottle fails to benefit you, the dealer cheerfully refunds every penny it cost you. It is perfectly harmless—restoring health in every drop. Thousands of well women all over the South testify to its wonderful properties. Shake off the serpent. Get well. Begin today. Get a bottle of **Stella-Vitas**, the guaranteed-to-benefit remedy. Your dealer sells it in \$1 bottles. Thacher Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

For sale by T. L. Grimes  
Druggist

**Just Like a Woman.**

"That clock is two hours slow," said the man of the house when he came home at his usual time and found the dinner not even started.

"Impossible," said his wife. "I set it only this afternoon. I went over to Mrs. Smith's, next door, and asked her what time it was, and then as soon as she showed me her new gown and gave me a recipe for blackberry jam, I came right home and set the clock to the time she told me."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

**Dr. Syntax.**

On the English coast, at Land's End, there stands a curiously formed bowlder with a profile resembling that of a human face. It is supposed that once the rocky head was held proudly erect and could look out over the blue sea, but during some period of disturbance the huge bowlder was thrown forward, so that now the forehead of the man rests against a neighboring rock. All these rugged and massive pieces bordering the coast are fine granite. Locally the curious bowlder is known as Dr. Syntax.

**Hoar and Everts.**

On one of his later birthday anniversaries Senator Hoar wrote to William M. Everts and congratulated him upon his length of years. In his reply the aged lawyer said it brought to mind an old lady in New England who had occasion to write to a friend about some matter of trifling importance and when she had reached the end of the thirteenth page awakened to the fact that she had been rather diffuse and added, "Please excuse my longwindedness."—Boston Globe.

**Inconsistent.**

A man who took his infant daughter to be baptized told the clergyman to call her Venus.

"But I refuse to call her Venus," said the clergyman indignantly. "Venus is the name of a pagan goddess."

"Well, how about your own girl, Diana?" said the man.—London Answers.

**A Carlyle View.**

Carlyle compared the advance of the world to the progress of some drunken man who, reeling from one side of the street to the other, slowly and at the expense of much wasted effort finally arrives at his destination.

**The Swedish Law.**

In Sweden the testimony of a child under sixteen years of age will not be accepted in court.

**Cutting Expenses.**

Knicker—Are you cutting down expenses? Mrs. Knicker—Yes; I am paying only half the bills.—Puck.

**How She Liked Him.**

"Well, Maggie, you're a year married. How do you like your husband?" "Sober, mum."—Houston Post.

OVER 65 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

# PATENTS

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Anyone sending a sketch and description will quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. \$500000 on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the Scientific American.

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**MUNN & Co.** 364 Broadway, New York  
Branch office, 23 F St., Washington, D.C.

## On St. Patrick's Night

By EUNICE BLAKE

"Nora O'Rourke," said the postman on the morning of St. Patrick's day, handing a maid who answered his whistle two letters. "Any such person here?"

"That's myself," said the girl, taking the mail. The postman went on, and she returned to the kitchen. One of the missives bore a black border and a foreign stamp. She tore off the envelope and read the contents, from her sister in Ireland:

Dear Nora—I have to tell you some bad news. Our uncle Patrick, who has been in the grocery business in Dublin, is dead. But there's some good news too. He made a lot of money, and, not having any wife or children, he has left it all to you and me. We will have about \$2,000 apiece. Your loving sister, BRIDGET.

The bad part of the news had little effect on Nora, for she had never seen her uncle, and the legacy of \$10,000 was a matter of great delight. She was so interested in the letter that she forgot for some time to open her other letter; then she turned her attention to the other letter. It was from Patrick Doolan, asking her to go with him to the ball to be given on the night of St. Patrick's day, and he hoped that she would give him an answer to a question that he would ask her.

She knew very well what that question would be, but was in doubt as to her answer. She held in her hand the letter advising her of her legacy and her lover's note, turning from one to the other back and forth. Pat Doolan was a money maker, owning a number of teams, with which he did hauling. Nora's poverty had constrained her to consider his proposition of marriage, remembering that he would be able to keep the wolf from his and her door. But inclinations rather led her to favor young Michael O'Connor, who was bright and active, but had not the faculty of holding on to what he made. She knew that both Pat and Mike would be at the ball on St. Patrick's evening, and she laid a plan to assist her in the matter between them. During the afternoon she went to see her friend, Kathleen Clancy, and said to her:

"Kath, I'm going to say something tonight to Pat Doolan that may make him get sweet on you."

"What are you going to tell him?"

"That your uncle in Ireland is dead and has left you \$10,000."

"But I haven't any uncle in Ireland."

"Never mind that. Likely Pat won't mention the matter to you. If he does don't tell him the truth till tomorrow, and I'll give you something pretty."

Nora went to the ball with Pat and on the way told him that she knew a girl who that morning had received a legacy of \$2,000 by the death of an uncle in Ireland. Pat asked who was the girl, and Nora gave him to understand that she was Kathleen Clancy.

During the evening Pat did not refer to the answer to his proposition. Kathleen, not being a very pretty girl, was something of a wall flower.

"I'm sorry for the poor girl," said Pat, "sittin' around with no one to ask her to dance. I'm minded to go and ask her myself."

"That's right," said Nora. "She'll appreciate the attention."

Pat asked Kathleen to dance and, having danced with her once, he concluded to ask her again. Meanwhile Mike O'Connor danced with Miss O'Rourke. He asked her to dance with him again, but she declined. To do so would not have accorded with her plan.

When Pat and Nora were going home from the ball, instead of pressing her for an answer to his proposal, he said to her:

"Nora, I don't like your dancing with that miserable fellow, O'Connor."

"I only danced with him once."

"That's enough. You shouldn't have danced with him at all."

"I'm sorry," said Nora, with apparent penitence.

When Pat left her at the door she said to him:

"I suppose you don't want the answer you said you were lookin' for?"

"Not tonight, I'm thinkin' about your dancing with that spalpeen O'Connor. Maybe I'll get over it in time."

"That won't do you any good, for I won't get over what you've done this night. It's not Kathleen, whose uncle in Ireland has died and left her \$10,000, but my own uncle has left that money to me. I told you it was Kathleen to see if you could be switched off by a bait of a legacy, and I've found that you don't value me so much as the fortune. Good night and goodby."

"Nora"—he began in a supplicating tone, but he got no further, for she shut the door in his face.

When Nora and Kathleen met again Nora learned that Pat had not mentioned the legacy, but he had asked Kathleen to go to a ball with him to come off a week later. Then Nora told her friend that inasmuch as she had helped her to find out that the man she had thought of marrying could be so easily turned away from her she would keep her promise to give her something pretty. When she received her fortune she presented her friend with a set of furs.

Nora married Mike O'Connor, and under her tutelage he became prosperous. Kathleen was dropped by Doolan, who was beside himself with chagrin when he learned how he had been tricked. He never forgave Nora O'Rourke for having fooled him, but what she had done made her really more desirable.

**Protecting Open Face Watch.**

Some years ago I read in a sportsman's journal a good way to protect an open face watch from wet. This also helps to keep it from falling out of a pocket. "To keep one's watch dry, even though you go overboard, take a piece of pure rubber dental dam eight inches square, put the watch in the center and bring the rubber together at the stem, tying the puckered up rubber with a bit of string. When you wish to see the face simply stretch the rubber over the front and you can see the hands clearly through it."—Outing.

**Napoleon's Only Wound.**

Napoleon was wounded in the course of his military career, though once only. This was before Ratisbon on April 23, 1809. He was struck by a grape-shot ball and received a flesh wound, which disconcerted him so little that he mounted his horse, wiping away the blood with a handkerchief. The ball was picked up by an officer, who treasured it so highly that it passed as an heirloom to his children and grandchildren. It now rests in the Musee at Paris.—London Answers.

**The Bird's Tail.**

In his "Story of the Birds" James Newton Baskett says: To a slight extent in some birds the tail may be used as a rudder, but where the wing is perfected turning is effected with a very scant tail. The use of the tail always has more reference to the up and down movements than to the lateral. It comes into play in alighting (as a brake) or in rising (as a kite-like surface) and is used dexterously by the soaring birds in balancing themselves against varying currents of air.

**An Easy Way to Run Ribbons.**

When about to send a piece of lingerie to the laundry a piece of narrow tape should be tied to the end of the ribbon and the latter drawn out of the heading, leaving the tape in its place. The knot is then fastened, and the lingerie can be sent to the wash, the ribbon being replaced on its return in exactly the same manner.—Philadelphia North American.

**Star Points.**

The supposed "points" of a star are not there at all. A star is round, like the earth or the moon or the sun. But the human eye, largely because of its mode of sending slight impressions to the brain, sees matters in straight lines, and the haze around a brightness always seems to be pointed. The brighter the object the more points there seem to be.

**Siam's Royal Palace.**

One of the most remarkable buildings in the world is the palace of the king of Siam. It is inclosed in dazzlingly white walls over a mile in circumference. Within these walls are temples, public offices, seraglios, stable for the sacred elephant, accommodation for a thousand troops, cavalry, war elephants and an arsenal. There is also a very fine theater.

**Tar Water.**

Tar water was a cure-all in the eighteenth century. It was prepared by pouring a gallon of water on a quart of tar, and the dose was half a pint in the morning and a second glass in the afternoon. Its use became so fashionable that a contemporary noted, "It's as common to call for a glass of tar water in a coffee house as a dish of tea or coffee."

**The Oil in Tobacco.**

Although the Havana or Havana seed tobaccos are low in nicotine, they are high in oil. The settlement in a pipe stem or the brown stain obtained from blowing tobacco smoke through the meshes of a handkerchief is not nicotine, as commonly supposed, but is in reality tobacco oil, nicotine only being obtained in extract by an elaborate process of distillation and double distillation. The oil in cigar tobacco prevents the smoke being inhaled, as it would cause a strangulation and painful irritation.

**Good as His Word.**

"Look here, this inclosed car you sold me for as good as new rattles terribly."

"But, my dear sir, I told you it was a rattling good bargain."—New York Sun.

**Why Bixby Doesn't Go.**

"Bixby sent the minister ten reasons for not going to church, but he left out the main one."

"What is that?"

"He stays away because his wife doesn't make him go."

**Not Guilty.**

"Do you assimilate your food, aunts?" "No, sah. I buys it open an' honest, sah."—Baltimore American.

**The Limit.**

The Married One—Raycer says he has a two-year-old that can do a mile in 2:10.

The Bachelor—I've heard many stories about precocious babies, but that one is the limit.—Puck.

**Advertised Letters.**

Brady, A. F.  
Chambliss, Miss J. T.  
Dennis, Mrs. Joe  
Hakit, Mrs. Fred  
Jones, Pearl  
O'Neal, Roy  
Reamy, Mattie  
Westmoreland, Hobart

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office May 10, 1916.  
H. C. Williams, P. M.  
Merkel, Texas.

**The Merkel Mail**  
Published Every Friday Morning by THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.  
Entered in the post office at Merkel Texas as second class matter.

## SALT BRANCH

As I never see any news from this place will try to send in a few dots.

Farmers are pushing things now since we have a fine season in the ground. A prospect for a fine crop was never better. Let us hope for a big crop and good prices.

T. O. Mobley and family of Trent visited the former's sister, Mrs. Ona McMurray, Sunday.

Misses Addie Rogers and Ottie Nelms of Duffera are visiting the family of J. O. Patterson of this place also Miss Roger's brother, Will, of Merkel.

About twenty nine gathered at the home of J. H. McMurray Sunday and spent quite awhile easter egg hunting which seemed to be quite interesting to the little fellows especially.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Rogers of the Mulberry community visited relatives here Saturday.

J. W. Teaff was transacting business in Merkel Saturday.

We have singing at Salt Branch most every Sunday. Lets all go next time. Singing is the life of any community.

W. B. Robertson was in Merkel on business the latter part of last week.



**FOR SALE**—Eight or ten ton of headed maize and quite a lot of feedstuff, six miles northeast of Merkel. S. W. Buzbee. 214pd

**WANTED**—A good farm hand wanted. Apply to Sam Butman, Nubia, Texas.

**FOR SALE**—Mebane cotton seed for planting purposes. See S. F. Haynes. 21tf

**FOR SALE**—My home in northwest Merkel where I now live. A bargain. T. J. Evans. 17tf

**FOR SALE**—My home at a bargain. Nice four room house. Thos. Largent. tf

**FOR SALE**—Fine Poland China pigs at \$3.00 each. W. N. Hall. 282t

## EXPERT WATCH REPAIRS

Eighteen months is the extreme time which should be allowed between the cleaning of a watch. In that time the best of oldries and the work of over-coming friction together with accumulating dust, wears out the delicate machinery and impairs its usefulness permanently.

Do not wait until your watch begin to lose time before you have it examined. Let us overhaul it for you. All work guaranteed. L. H. Penny.



## THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME

increases the importance of the laundry question. Linen is so much in evidence that only perfect laundering can be tolerated. Our ability to launder both ladies' and gentlemen's linen is far superior to the ordinary laundry. One trial will surely convince you of that fact.

**Sweetwater Steam Laundry**  
Grimes-Howard Tailors  
Merkel Agents

## A Misapprehension

By WILLIAM CHANDLER

Being delayed in the town of Aeland, where I had gone on business, on account of the absence of the man I had gone there to see, I asked the clerk of the hotel where I stopped if there was a free library in the place. He directed me to one of the most attractive little buildings I ever saw, in the center of a grove. I went there and nosed over the fiction shelves for a while and finally took down a novel.

On turning the leaves a bit of paper fitted to the floor. I picked it up and, seeing some words written on it in pencil, read them:

Ten years today since Frank left us, and I am so more reconciled to his absence than the day after his departure. Oh, the long, long, weary day!

ALICE.  
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"Yes; and you are Frank Tisdale."  
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"No more singular than that you should know me."

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"That your uncle in Ireland is dead and has left you \$10,000."

"But I haven't any uncle in Ireland,"

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During the evening Pat did not refer to the answer to his proposition. Kathleen, not being a very pretty girl, was something of a wall flower.

"I'm sorry for the poor girl," said Pat, "sittin' around with no one to ask her to dance. I'm minded to go and ask her myself."

"That's right," said Nora. "She'll appreciate the attention."

Pat asked Kathleen to dance and, having danced with her once, he concluded to ask her again. Meanwhile Mike O'Connor danced with Miss O'Rourke. He asked her to dance with him again, but she declined. To do so would not have accorded with her plan.

When Pat and Nora were going home from the ball, instead of pressing her for an answer to his proposal, he said to her:

"Nora, I don't like your dancing with that miserable fellow, O'Connor."

"I only danced with him once."

"That's enough. You shouldn't have danced with him at all."

"I'm sorry," said Nora, with apparent penitence.

When Pat left her at the door she said to him:

"I suppose you don't want the answer you said you were lookin' for?"

"Not tonight. I'm thinkin' about your dancing with that spalpeen O'Connor. Maybe I'll get over it in time."

"That won't do you any good, for I won't get over what you've done this night. It's not Kathleen, whose uncle in Ireland has died and left her \$10,000, but my own uncle has left that money to me. I told you it was Kathleen to see if you could be switched off by a bait of a legacy, and I've found that you don't value me so much as the fortune. Good night and goodby."

"Nora"—he began in a supplicating tone, but he got no further, for she shut the door in his face.

When Nora and Kathleen met again Nora learned that Pat had not mentioned the legacy, but he had asked Kathleen to go to a ball with him to come off a week later. Then Nora told her friend that inasmuch as she had helped her to find out that the man she had thought of marrying could be so easily turned away from her she would keep her promise to give her something pretty. When she received her fortune she presented her friend with a set of furs.

Nora married Mike O'Connor, and under her tutelage in careful expenditure of moneys he became prosperous. Kathleen was dropped by Doolan, who was beside himself with chagrin when he learned how he had been tricked. He never forgave Nora O'Rourke for having fooled him, but what she had done made her really more desirable.

**Protecting Open Face Watch.**  
Some years ago I read in a sportsman's journal a good way to protect an open face watch from wet. This also helps to keep it from falling out of a pocket. "To keep one's watch dry, even though you go overboard, take a piece of pure rubber dental dam eight inches square, put the watch in the center and bring the rubber together at the stem, tying the puckered up rubber with a bit of string. When you wish to see the face simply stretch the rubber over the front and you can see the hands clearly through it."—Outing.

**Napoleon's Only Wound.**  
Napoleon was wounded in the course of his military career, though once only. This was before Ratisbon on April 23, 1806. He was struck by a grapeshot ball and received a flesh wound, which disconcerted him so little that he mounted his horse, wiping away the blood with a handkerchief. The ball was picked up by an officer, who treasured it so highly that it passed as an heirloom to his children and grandchildren. It now rests in the Musée at Paris.—London Answers.

**The Bird's Tail.**  
In his "Story of the Birds" James Newton Baskett says: To a slight extent in some birds the tail may be used as a rudder, but where the wing is perfected turning is effected with a very scant tail. The use of the tail always has more reference to the up and down movements than to the lateral. It comes into play in alighting (as a brake) or in rising (as a kite-like surface) and is used dexterously by the soaring birds in balancing themselves against varying currents of air.

**An Easy Way to Run Ribbons.**  
When about to send a piece of lingerie to the laundry a piece of narrow tape should be tied to the end of the ribbon and the latter drawn out of the beading, leaving the tape in its place. The knot is then fastened, and the lingerie can be sent to the wash, the ribbon being replaced on its return in exactly the same manner.—Philadelphia North American.

**Star Points.**  
The supposed "points" of a star are not there at all. A star is round, like the earth or the moon or the sun. But the human eye, largely because of its mode of sending sight impressions to the brain, sees matters in straight lines, and the haze around a brightness always seems to be pointed. The brighter the object the more points there seem to be.

**Siam's Royal Palace.**  
One of the most remarkable buildings in the world is the palace of the king of Siam. It is inclosed in dazzlingly white walls over a mile in circumference. Within these walls are temples, public offices, seraglios, stable for the sacred elephant, accommodation for a thousand troops, cavalry, war elephants and an arsenal. There is also a very fine theater.

**Tar Water.**  
Tar water was a cure-all in the eighteenth century. It was prepared by pouring a gallon of water on a quart of tar, and the dose was half a pint in the morning and a second glass in the afternoon. Its use became so fashionable that a contemporary noted, "It's as common to call for a glass of tar water in a coffee house as a dish of tea or coffee."

**The Oil in Tobacco.**  
Although the Havana or Havana seed tobaccos are low in nicotine, they are high in oil. The settlement in a pipe stem or the brown stain obtained from blowing tobacco smoke through the meshes of a handkerchief is not nicotine, as commonly supposed, but is in reality tobacco oil, nicotine only being obtained in extract by an elaborate process of distillation and double distillation. The oil in cigar tobacco prevents the smoke being inhaled, as it would cause a strangulation and painful irritation.

**Good as His Word.**  
"Look here, this inclosed car you sold me for as good as new rattles terribly."

"But, my dear sir, I told you it was a rattling good bargain."—New York Sun.

**Why Bixby Doesn't Go.**  
"Bixby sent the minister ten reasons for not going to church, but he left out the main one."

"What is that?"

"He stays away because his wife doesn't make him go."

**Not Guilty.**  
"Do you assimilate your food, aunt?" "No, sah. I buys it open an honest, sah."—Baltimore American.

**The Limit.**  
The Married One—Rayner says he has a two-year-old that can do a mile in 2:10.

The Bachelor—I've heard many stories about precocious babies, but that one is the limit.—Puck.

### Advertised Letters.

Brady, A. F.  
Chambliss, Miss J. T.  
Dennis, Mrs. Joe  
Hakit, Mrs. Fred  
Jones, Pearl  
O'Neal, Roy  
Reamy, Mattie  
Westmoreland, Hobart

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office May 10, 1916.  
H. C. Williams, P. M.  
Merkel, Texas.

## The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday—Morning by THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC.  
Entered in the post office at Merkel Texas as second class matter.

### SALT BRANCH

As I never see any news from this place will try to send in a few dots.

Farmers are pushing things now since we have a fine season in the ground. A prospect for a fine crop was never better. Let us hope for a big crop and good prices.

T. O. Mobley and family of Trent visited the former's sister, Mrs. Ona McMurray, Sunday.

Misses Addie Rogers and Ottie Nelms of Duffera are visiting the family of J. O. Patterson of this place also Miss Roger's brother, Will, of Merkel.

About twenty nine gathered at the home of J. H. McMurray Sunday and spent quite awhile easter egg hunting which seemed to be quite interesting to the little fellows especially.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Rogers of the Mulberry community visited relatives here Saturday.

J. W. Teaff was transacting business in Merkel Saturday.

We have singing at Salt Branch most every Sunday. Lets all go next time. Singing is the life of any community.

W. B. Robertson was in Merkel on business the latter part of last week.



**FOR SALE**—Eight or ten ton of headed maize and quite a lot of feedstuff, six miles northeast of Merkel. S. W. Buzbee. 21t4p

**WANTED**—A good farm hand wanted. Apply to Sam Butman, Nubia, Texas.

**FOR SALE**—Mebane cotton seed for planting purposes. See S. F. Haynes. 21tf

**FOR SALE**—My home in northwest Merkel where I now live. A bargain. T. J. Evans. 17tf

**FOR SALE**—My home at a bargain. Nice four room house. Thos. Largent. tf

**FOR SALE**—Fine Poland China pigs at \$3.00 each. W. N. Hall. 28t2

### EXPERT WATCH REPAIRS

Eighteen months is the extreme time which should be allowed between the cleaning of a watch. In that time the best of oil dries and the work of overcoming friction together with accumulating dust, wears out the delicate machinery and impairs its usefulness permanently.

Do not wait until your watch begin to lose time before you have it examined. Let us overhaul it for you. All work guaranteed. L. H. Penny.



### THE GOOD OLD

### SUMMER TIME

increases the importance of the laundry question. Linen is so much in evidence that only perfect laundering can be tolerated. Our ability to launder both ladies' and gentlemen's linen is far superior to the ordinary laundry. One trial will surely convince you of that fact.

**Sweetwater Steam Laundry**  
Grimes-Howard Tailors  
Merkel Agents

### Just Like a Woman.

"That clock is two hours slow," said the man of the house when he came home at his usual time and found the dinner not even started.

"Impossible," said his wife. "I set it only this afternoon. I went over to Mrs. Smith's, next door, and asked her what time it was, and then as soon as she showed me her new gown and gave me a recipe for blackberry jam, I came right home and set the clock to the time she told me."—St. Louis Post Dispatch.

### Dr. Syntax.

On the English coast, at Land's End, there stands a curiously formed bowlder with a profile resembling that of a human face. It is supposed that once the rocky head was held proudly erect, but during some period of disturbance the huge bowlder was thrown forward, so that now the forehead of the man rests against a neighboring rock. All these rugged and massive pieces bordering the coast are fine granite. Locally the curious bowlder is known as Dr. Syntax.

### Hoar and Everts.

On one of his later birthday anniversaries Senator Hoar wrote to William M. Everts and congratulated him upon his length of years. In his reply the aged lawyer said it brought to mind an old lady in New England who had occasion to write to a friend about some matter of trifling importance and when she had reached the end of the thirteenth page awakened to the fact that she had been rather diffuse and added, "Please excuse my longevity."—Boston Globe.

### Inconsistent.

A man who took his infant daughter to be baptized told the clergyman to call her Venus.

"But I refuse to call her Venus," said the clergyman indignantly. "Venus is the name of a pagan goddess."

"Well, how about your own girl, Diana?" said the man.—London Answers.

### A Carlyle View.

Carlyle compared the advance of the world to the progress of some drunken man who, reeling from one side of the street to the other, slowly and at the expense of much wasted effort finally arrives at his destination.

### The Swedish Law.

In Sweden the testimony of a child under sixteen years of age will not be accepted in court.

### Cutting Expenses.

Knicker—Are you cutting down expenses? Mrs. Knicker—Yes; I am paying only half the bills.—Puck.

### How She Liked Him.

"Well, Maggie, you're a year married. How do you like your husband?" "Solter, mum."—Houston Post.

OVER 65 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

# PATENTS

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# Grand After Easter Broken-Lot BARGAIN SALE

Our phenomenal Early Spring business has created in every department of our big store Hundreds of Broken Lots and Short Lengths. These broken lots and short lengths are this spring's newest and most sought-for wearables. We have placed every article of these, without reserve or regard to their high value or salability

## On The Bargain Counter

offering them in such quantities and sizes as will permit the most careful buyers and particular dressers the most inviable opportunity of the season for supplying their entire spring's Togery of the very latest fashions and materials at a most ridiculous low price. Hundreds will Grasp this Chance. NONE will so disregard their financial interests as to permit trivial matters to come between them and their duty to themselves and those depending on them to supply their spring's necessities in wearables of the most approved fashion at the minimum price this opportunity affords.

\$1.50 and \$1.75 Taffeta silks only . . . . .	\$1.00	\$3.50 Newest style ladies patent slippers only . . . . .	\$2.75	\$2.50 Newest style ladies patent slippers now only . . . . .	\$1.75	\$10.00 Newest style men's Spring suits . . . . .	\$6.95
\$4.00 Newest style ladies patent slippers only . . . . .	\$3.00	\$3.00 Newest style ladies patent slippers . . . . .	2.25	\$20 Newest style men's Spring suits . . . . .	\$13.50	\$15.00 Newest style ladies Spring suits . . . . .	\$9.95
						\$10.00 Newest style ladies Spring suits . . . . .	\$6.95

And so on down the line throughout every department of our entire **BIG \$30,000.00 NEW SPRING STOCK** of the highest class merchandise possible to obtain for the money.

## MILLINERY Every hat in this big millinery department will be An After-Easter Bargain

**THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BOUGHT THEIR SPRING HATS WILL DO WELL TO SEE OUR BIG LINE AT ONCE**

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

- New spring dress gingham now worth 12½c 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 . . . . . 12½c
- 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 woollens 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 . . . . . 12½c
- 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 shadlow 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 shadlow 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 . . . . . 7½c
  - 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 . . . . . 7½c
  - 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

### 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 65c, now selling for only . . . . . 50c
- Mens elastic seam drawers, now worth 65c, now selling for only . . . . . 50c
- 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.
- 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

### 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.