

# THE MERKEL MAIL

VOL. 29—NO. 7

MERKEL, TEXAS, FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1917

12 PAGES

## Chautauqua will be held in Merkel April 19-20-21

### THE CITIZENS' TICKET OUT FOR ALL MUNICIPAL OFFICES

As a body the following men have agreed to present their names before the city voters in the coming election. This agreement was made between these gentlemen and their friends on seeing the absence of interest in the coming election.

Those who have agreed to submit their names are: N. D. Cobb for Mayor, G. W. Johnson for Secretary and Collector, R. L. Bland, H. L. Propst and Dr. M. Armstrong for aldermen.

These men are well qualified to the places designated and in behalf of their qualifications, as well as the right of creating interest in an election by a previous announcement, the friends of the above mentioned gentlemen ask that the voters of Merkel carefully consider the above named citizen's ticket, and if possible vote it in full.

There already having been an announcement for the office of marshal from a man well qualified, the constructors of this document agree that his announcement be considered as their choice.

In order to assure an interesting election, though there may be no others on the ticket, it is the duty of each and every voter to go to the polls, and we ask that you vote for the above, and in that way give the new officers a good hearty backing in the beginning that designates an interest in their having announced for the various city offices.

Vote for those who have announced.

#### Sign of Good Digestion

When you see a cheerful and happy old lady you may know that she has good digestion. If your digestion is impaired or if you do not relish your meals take a dose of Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach, improve the digestion and cause a gentle movement of the bowels. Obtainable everywhere.

#### Ford Cars In Prominence.

Fulwiler Electric Company, Merkel, delivered six Ford touring cars Tuesday to the following: W. L. Swofford, Noodle; Hugh R. Grayson, Shiloh; W. L. Meeks, Blair; A. B. Patterson, Merkel; R. J. Meeks, Blair; Pierce Horton, Noodle. This shipment was made out of Dallas in 48 hours. When the cars were unloaded a Ford parade was held in the city.

#### For Diseases of the Skin.

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

#### Rev. Bullock Resigns.

Rev. H. E. Bullock, the beloved pastor of the Presbyterian church of this city has tendered his resignation, and soon he and his family will move to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he, in addition to his ministerial duties, will pursue his studies in the Lane Seminary. Not only his church membership, but the city of Merkel at large hates to part with this splendid family. He goes with that yearning, manful desire to become more efficient in his unselfish devotion to his fellowmen.

Grimes Drug Store for Black-leg Vaccine.

#### ELECTION NOTICE

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Merkel, I hereby order an election to be held in said city at the city fire station thereof, on the first Tuesday in April, 1917, the same being the 3d day of said month, for the purpose of electing a Mayor, a Secretary, a Marshal, and two aldermen for full term of two years, and one alderman for one year, to fill out J. R. Toombs' unexpired term.

B. C. Gaither is hereby appointed presiding officer at said election, and the polls shall be opened at 8 o'clock A.M. and closed at 6 o'clock P. M.

J. J. Stallings, Mayor of the City of Merkel.

#### Paint May Save Your Town From an Epidemic

PAINT means death to dirt and disease!

Malaria is said to have hastened the downfall of Rome. The insects which transmitted it were more deadly to the inhabitants of the imperial city than their barbarian enemies. Much has also been written of similar injury to Greece in yet earlier times.

At least two diseases are carried by certain species of insects—malaria and yellow fever. All species are disagreeable pests that often make nature's most attractive spots untenable.

Paint kills germs! Paint up!

#### STUDY THIS FLY CATECHISM.

Practice It and You'll Save Many a Life.

WHERE does the fly live? Where there is filth. Is there anything too filthy for the fly to eat? No.

Does the fly like clean food too? Yes, and it appears to be his delight to wipe his feet on clean food.

Where is his favorite place of feeding? The manure heap and the garbage can.

Where does the fly go after leaving the manure pile and the garbage can? Into the kitchen, dining room and bedroom.

Does the fly visit those sick with typhoid fever, consumption, smallpox and cholera infantum? He certainly does and may call on you next.

Is the fly dangerous? Yes; he spreads disease.

How does he spread disease? By carrying infection on his legs and wings and by "fly specks" after he has been feeding on infectious material.

What disease may the fly thus carry? He may convey typhoid fever, tuberculosis, cholera, dysentery and "summer complaint."

Did the fly ever kill any one? He killed more American soldiers in the Spanish-American war than the bullets of the Spaniards and was the direct cause of much of the typhoid fever in this country last year.

Where are the greatest number of cases of typhoid fever and summer complaint? Where there are the most flies.

Where are the most flies? Where there is most filth.

Is the presence of flies, therefore, an indication of nearby filth? It most certainly is, and that is disgraceful.

How may we successfully fight the fly? By destroying or removing his breeding place, the manure pile; removing all garbage and making vaults flyproof and by keeping our yard and alley clean, by screening the house and by the use of the wire swatter and sticky fly paper.

#### How to Prevent Croup

When the child is subject to attacks of croup, see to it that he eats a light evening meal, as an overloaded stomach may bring on an attack, also watch for the first symptom—hoarseness, and give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as soon as the child becomes hoarse. Obtainable everywhere.

Hampton Uriah of Noodle was a visitor in Merkel the past week and spent some time in the Mail office.

United States Submarine G-1

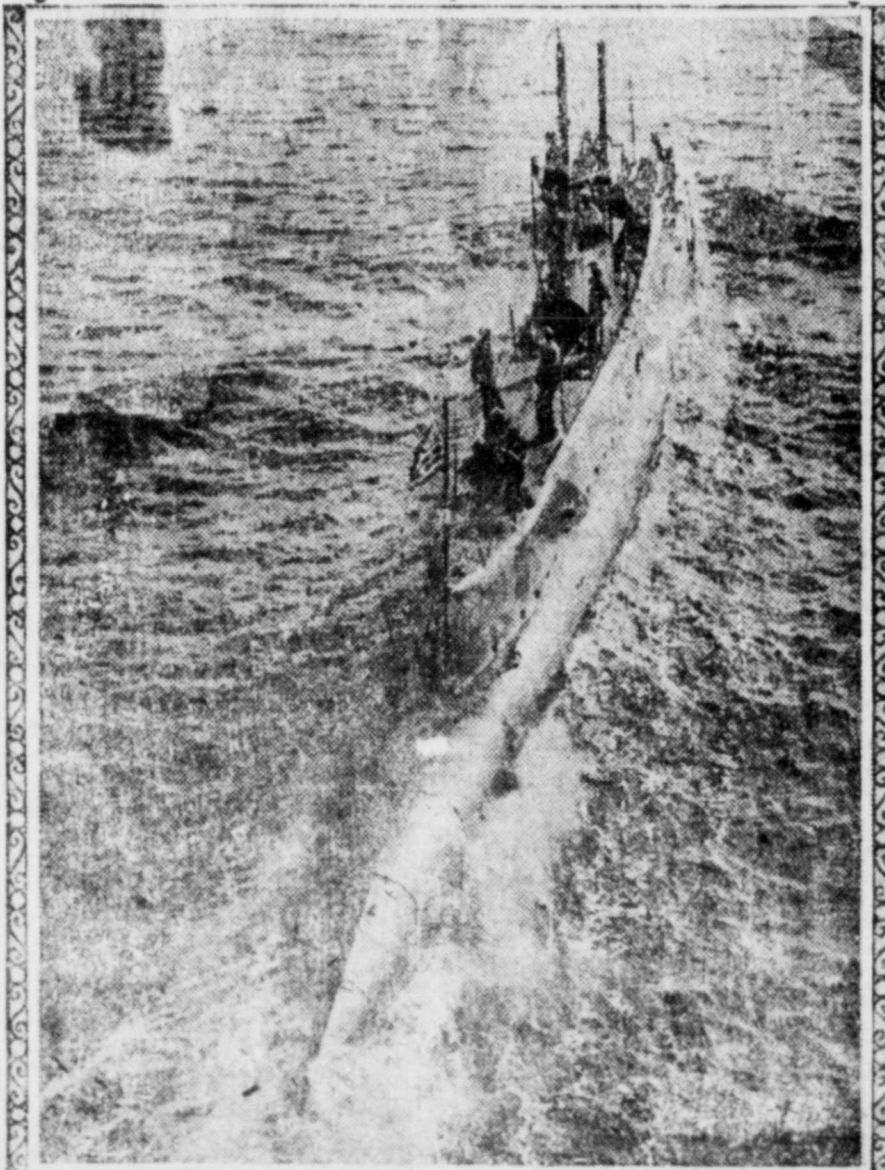
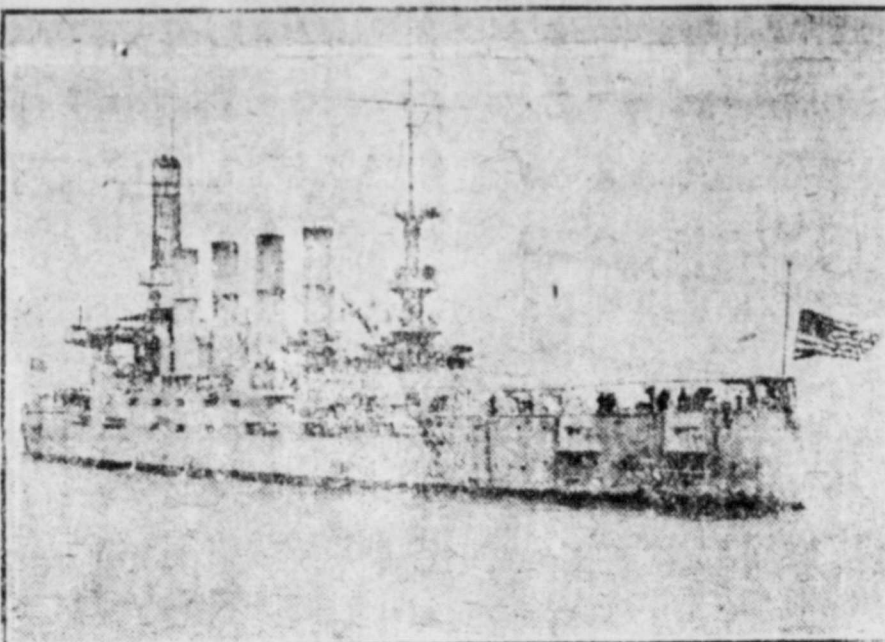


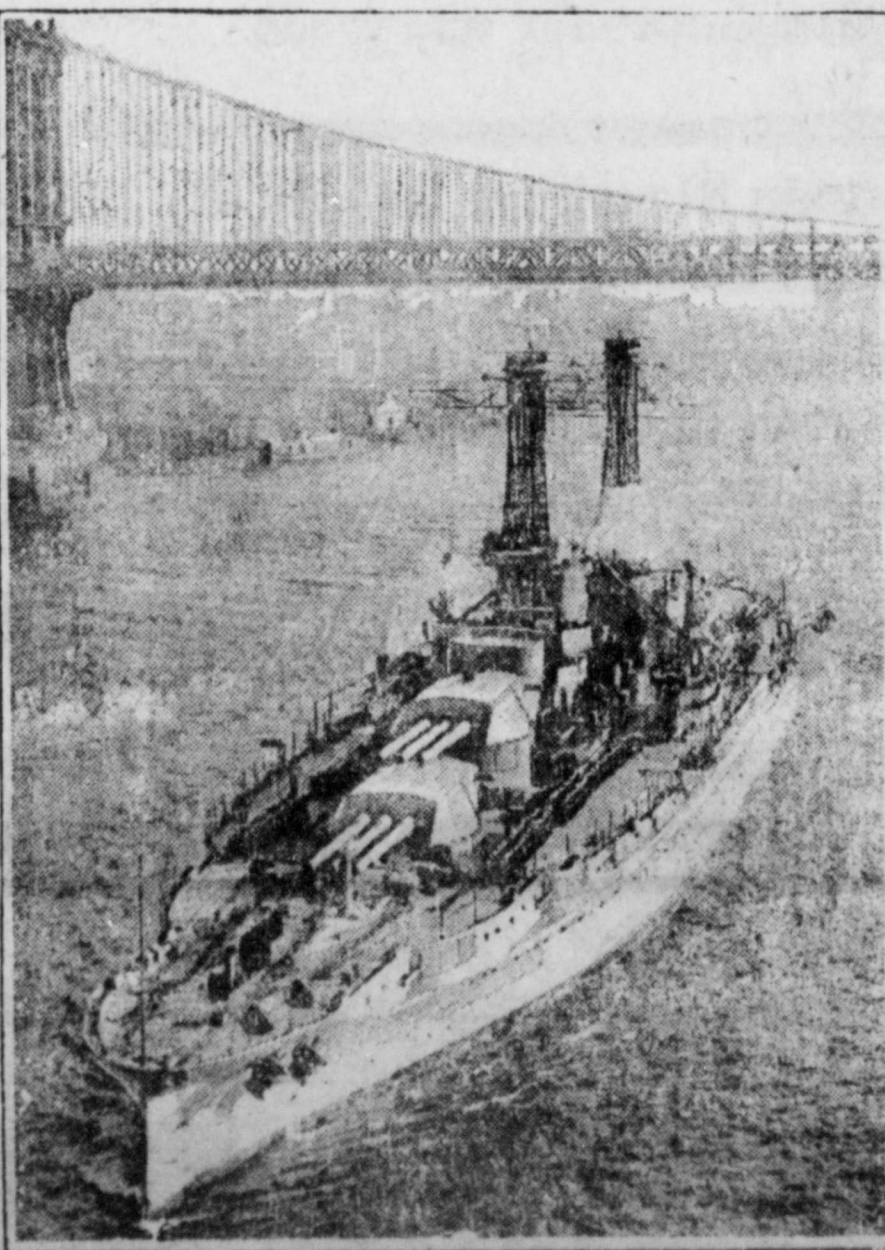
Photo by American Press Association. The submarine G-1 is a 525 ton submersible and carries six torpedo tubes. She is 160 feet in length and at her best can make over fourteen knots an hour.

The Armored Cruiser Montana



The armored cruiser Montana is a vessel of 14,500 tons, with a speed of twenty-two knots and carrying four ten-inch guns, besides smaller ordnance. Her keel was laid in 1905. The North Carolina is her sister ship.

United States Super-Dreadnought Arizona



The monster Arizona is one of the newest and greatest of American battle-ships, displacing 31,400 tons. She is a sister ship of the Pennsylvania, flagship of the Atlantic fleet, and, like that vessel, mounts twelve fourteen-inch guns.

### BEWARE OF FIRE HAZARDS DURING THESE WINDY DAYS

#### DIRT DISEASE DEATH

Remember the three deadly "D's"—dirt, disease, death.

Help to keep your city clean. Use separate and large enough receptacles for garbage, ashes and waste paper.

The best public service depends on co-operation and mutual understanding. Will you help? Keep the garbage can covered.

It's your street in your city. Keep it as clean as you do your room in your home.

It's your street. Why not put dust and litter from the pavement into a can and not sweep it into the gutter?

"Don't's" for clean streets: Don't spit on the pavement; don't make a dump of your street; don't leave the garbage can uncovered; don't throw paper, banana skins, etc., into the street.

Clean homes and clean streets mean fewer flies, better babies, healthier children, happier people.

Clean streets increase business and improve property values. Don't let your waste paper blow about.

Don't wait for clean up week; do it now. It's your street and your city. Help to keep them clean.

#### METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. L. A. Humphries Pastor  
Seth Hamilton Fin. Sec'y  
Dr. O. F. McMaster Supt. S.S.  
H. M. Rombolt Pr. Bd. Stewards  
H. M. Rainbolt Pr. Bd. Stewards  
Mrs. Joe L. Harris  
Pr. Ladies Home Mis. Society  
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School, 9:45 a. m.  
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday Evening.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. L. B. Owen Pastor  
Dr. J. T. Pue Supt. S. S.  
Mrs. J. S. Swann Pr. Ladies Aid  
Mrs. Chas. West Sec. Ladies Aid  
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School, 10 a. m.  
Prayer Service, Wednesday evening.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Rev. W. G. Cypert Minister  
H. Turner Leader S. S.  
Preaching every third Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School every Sunday, 10 a. m.  
Communion Service at 11:00.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. H. E. Bullock Pastor  
R. L. Bland Clerk of Session  
H. C. West Supt. of S. S.  
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Sec. S. S.  
Henry Rose Dir. of Choir  
Mrs. J. S. Saddler Pres. Ladies Aid and Missionary Society  
Mrs. R. L. Bland Sec. L. A. M. S.  
E. P. McMillan Supt. Gym.  
Boys Department  
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Supt. Girls Department  
Preaching 11 a. m.—7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School at 10 a. m.  
Prayer Meet. Wed. 7:30 p. m.  
Choir Practice Fri. 7:30 p. m.  
Girls Gym. Tues. 7:30 p. m.  
Boys Gym. Fri. 7:30 p. m.

#### Business Changes Hands.

Norris & Kelso have purchased the plumbing business of Lee Snow, and will operate it at the same location, at the rear of The Crown Hardware Company's building. They have a complete outfit and expect to do a good business.

Mayors, Fire Chiefs and Fire Marshals:

A loose fire brand, a high wind and buildings covered with wood shingles are the three principal elements of a conflagration. The combination of these three elements has caused thirteen conflagrations in the United States within the past 15 years, entailing a property loss of more than \$60,000,000. Three of these conflagrations occurred in month of March, 1916, the most destructive of which was at Paris in our own State. The property loss at Paris approximated at least ten million dollars, and in hundreds of cases wiped out the savings of a life time.

Buildings with wood shingled roofs we have. High winds we are subject to periodically and can not prevent; so it is against the loose fire brand that we must direct our preventive efforts. The season of the year is now here when a general clean-up is the order of the day. A general clean-up is a good thing since good housekeeping, individually and collectively, is one of the worst enemies of fire waste, yet we must not get careless in the use of the renovating agency—fire, else with our trash and rubbish we may also destroy our home and our business.

This communication is to give warning about open fires on windy days. Wait for a still day to burn your dead grass and the winter's accumulation of rubbish, and, in no event, start open fires near buildings. Even a fire under a wash kettle in the yard on a windy day may destroy your town. When you are about to start an open fire on a windy day, think of the danger of a conflagration and beware!

S. W. English, State Fire Marshal.

#### Horse Stolen Near Merkel.

Jim Craig, who lives about a mile southeast of Merkel had a fine pony stolen Wednesday night. Hearing a noise about his barn, Mr. Craig got up and investigated. Finding the pony gone, he hurried to the telephone and called up several neighbors and asked them to be on the look out. Shortly thereafter Jim Ingram, who lives further out, saw a party approaching, and ran out with gun in hand and halted him. Dismounting, the rider sought an advantage, grappled with Mr. Ingram, wresting his gun; renounced, gun in hand and hurriedly rode away. In his haste the thief dropped his coat, in the pockets of which was found 19 boiled eggs. Being informed of the theft, Marshal Counts followed in an automobile, overtaking him about eight miles out. Being so hotly pursued, the thief left the horse and made away in the darkness on foot. The horse was recovered, but the thief so far has made good his escape.

#### New Business Enterprise

The Central Garage is a new enterprise for Merkel, organized by J. H. Barnett and M. A. Dunn, young and enterprising citizens of Merkel. The enterprise is located in the new Brown building on Kent St. They are popular, capable young fellows and we predict for them a successful career. They will do business on a contract basis. Their plant will be strictly modern.

The singing at the Christian church last Sunday afternoon was a great success. Large delegations were in attendance from Abilene, Trent, Noodle and other nearby points.



Statement of Condition

# Farmers State BANK

Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business March 5, 1917

**RESOURCES**

Loans	\$255,245.56
Banking House	9,500.00
Other Real Estate	2,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,950.00
Interest in Gty. Fund	2,717.44
Cash and Exchange	87,275.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$361,188.43</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital Stock	\$ 35,000.00
Surplus and Profits	29,942.03
Deposits	284,246.40
Certificate of deposit for money borrowed	12,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$361,188.43</b>

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

Commence Business January, 1912

Safety—Service—Satisfaction

We Solicit Your Business

## The Merkel Mail

Published Every Friday Morning by THE MERKEL MAIL PRINTING COMPANY, INC. WALTER JACKSON, Editor and Manager

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER YEAR

TELEPHONE No. 61

Entered at the postoffice at Merkel Texas as second class mail matter.

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

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

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

Politics in Merkel! Who ever heard of such a thing?

That old dilapidated depot is just bound to go the way of the world, and not so far hence, either.

On Clean-up days, Merkel expects every citizen to do his duty.

We are for a bigger, a better and a greater Merkel.

A trade day every month would be a step in the right direction.

The perfection of a commercial organization is among our sorest needs. We need such an organization free from the petty jealousies that so often hamper, depress and destroy the vitality of a thriving little city; we need an organization broad enough in conception to be of practical personal benefit to every living man

in all this wonderful, wide trade territory; we need such an organization whereby our people may be called together to consider the public good at any time necessary; we need such an organization to act as censor to the floating grafters that may desire to feast upon the very bones of our citizens; we need such an organization to develop industries particularly valuable to Merkel and the Merkel country; we need such an organization to get behind cattle clubs, pig clubs, poultry clubs and canning clubs; we need such an organization to assist in the development of a diversified farming interest; we need such an organization to lend that vital force to a body of business men that will cause them to co-operate in helpful ways for the benefit of each other and for the entire country around us, and for the proper conducting of a proper credit system.

**TRAIN SCHEDULE**

Westbound	
NO. 5 Through Train	5:55 a.m.
NO. 3 Sweetwater	5:38 p.m.
NO. 1 Sunshine Spec.	8:30 p.m.
Eastbound	
NO. 2 Sunshine Spec.	8:44 a.m.
NO. 4 Through Train	10:18 a.m.
NO. 6 Through Train	10:00 p.m.
NOS. 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 carry U. S. Mail.	

**DAINTY THINGS**

SOIL EASILY

But why should you care?

Dry cleaning now and then will keep the daintiest dress or waist always like new.

We are masters in the art of perfect dry cleaning.

Entrust your garments to our hands. We charge no more.

MRS. C. L. CASH  
At Star Store.  
Merkel, Tex.

STATEMENT OF THE

# Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business Monday March 5, 1917

**RESOURCES**

Loans	\$227,230.17
U. S. Bonds—par	10,250.00
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,500.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate	5,900.00
CASH AND EXCHANGE	191,764.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$440,556.80</b>

**LIABILITIES**

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	38,441.44
Circulation	6,250.00
Bills Payable	None
Rediscounts	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
DEPOSITS	370,865.36
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$440,556.80</b>

I hereby certify that the foregoing statement is correct.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.

## LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. J. T. Kyle, Marfa, Tex., is visiting Mrs. J. S. Swann.

C. W. Simpson called and renewed his subscription the past week.

Can Cull your cotton seed for planting purposes. Machine is located in feed store of Boyce Building. G. R. Gazzaway. 16t4

W. L. Smallwood, president of Texas State Bank, Fort Worth, made a business trip to Merkel the past week. He visited at the home of J. S. Swann while here.

I have decided to discontinue a credit business. It is my purpose to render service, and I appreciate your patronage. J. A. Brown, harness, saddlery and shoe repairer. 12ch

D. C. Herring of Noodle, agent of the Bull tractor, was a visitor in Merkel last week. He reports just consummating the sale of a machine to John Cook of Noodle. He is doing demonstration work at his home, and visitors are invited at any time.

### Bethlehem's Bid on Shells for the United States Navy

To the American People: The Secretary of the Navy has awarded contracts amounting to over \$3,000,000 to a British bidder for 14 and 16-inch projectiles for the Navy because of very much lower prices offered by the English bidder.

We know nothing of the basis upon which the British bids were made, but the public is entitled to know the facts upon which we ourselves bid for this work.

Two years ago we took contracts to make 4,300 14-inch shells at a price of \$1,515,000. Up to now not a single shell has been accepted by the Government, although we have expended, in wages, materials, etc., on these orders \$522,581, and we have not received a SINGLE DOLLAR on these contracts.

In addition, a literal interpretation of the contract might make us liable for penalties amounting to \$675,914.

In the light of our experience, and having no other basis, we bid for 16-inch shells approximately the same rate per pound as that which the Navy Department actually awarded a 14-inch shell contract one year ago.

Bethlehem Steel Company  
OSCAR M. SCHWAB, Chairman  
EDWIN G. GRACK, President

# PICK-UPS FOR YOU

## The Brown Dry Goods Co. AT LESS PRICE BECAUSE CASH DID IT

9c Calicos while they last for ..... 6½c  
10c to 12c Value Gingham for one week ..... 9½c

A real 12½c yd.-wide Bleaching for just one week only ..... 9½c

A Work Shoe, real value \$3.00, now ..... \$2.40

### See our Ladies Silk Dresses at \$8.75 & \$10

- NO TROUBLE TO SHOW GOODS -  
- EVERY ONE TREATED ALIKE -

## The Brown Dry Goods Co.

## LOCAL NEWS

Lots of tennis shoes at Jobe's on Kent St. 23Mar2t

W. H. Smith of Route 2, Trent, was a visitor at the office of the Mail the past week. He says it is getting a little dry in his section.

Prompt service always rendered by Sublett, the jeweler, at the Merkel Drug Co. 16ft

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Melton and the latter's sister, from the Canyon were visitors at the Mail office the past week.

More goods for same money! Same goods for less money. A.L. Jobe. 23Mar2t

Mrs. J. H. (Haynes) Hughes, who was recently reported very low in the St. Vinson Sanitarium at Birmingham, Ala., is some better and hopes are entertained for her recovery.

If you have not seen the scholastic census trustee, see me at once and enroll your children for next year. Roy B. Mefford.

Paul Rush, brother of Fred Rush, who lives at Blair, was accidentally killed by a train at Mingus, Ok., on March 22. Fred left immediately for that point. The dead man lived with his brother most of the time. Full particulars are not given.

Bring your eggs to A. L. Jobe, Kent St. 23Mar2t

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Brown, Mrs. Twyman Collins, Misses Winnie Warren and May Lasseter, Rev. L.B. Owen and Walter Jackson attended the afternoon services at Abilene last Sunday.

A Christian Endeavor Rally.

Sunday at 3 p. m. members of the Christian Endeavor of Abilene will render a special program. Everybody is invited to this service and all young people in particular.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Be on time. H. C. West, Supt. Hubert E. Bullock, Pastor.





# GET DRESS GOODS FOR SPRING NOW

DAME NATURE IS A GOOD FASHION LEADER. SHE CLOTHES HERSELF IN NEW ATTIRE EACH SPRING, FOLLOW HER. FRESH, NEW APPAREL WILL NOT ONLY MAKE YOU LOOK BETTER BUT FEEL BETTER.

OUR LINE NOW CONTAINS ALL OF THE BEWITCHING SHADES FOR THIS SEASON, AND CONSISTS OF EVERYTHING WOMEN LOVE TO WEAR

Do your spring shopping early and have it off your mind.

When you come to our store for things you wish to wear you come to the fountain source of quality and fashion. We do not wish to make all our profit in one season.

## Declaration SALE

Now nearing a close. A great army of customers have availed themselves of the many opportunities offered in this eventful money-saving sale. Many new articles have been added since the opening of this sale and offered to you at same proportional low price. That has made THIS SALE FAMOUS from the opening day.

We confidently expect our last days to be our best days. Arrange to meet your friends here, that we may all enjoy this Great Bargain Festival together.

**WE SELL**  
"THE MOST COMFORTABLE WORK GARMENT IN THE WORLD"

**SENSIBLE**  
THE MODERN WORK GARMENT  
BETTER THAN OVERALLS  
Comfortable, Safe, Convenient

**\$2.00**      **\$2.75**

### The Modern Work Garment

The best one-piece garment on the market for farmers and automobilist, or anyone using common overalls. Looks better, feels better, are better. A combination of comfort and convenience.

### Saturday Specials

- 7 Pounds good bulk coffee ..... \$1.00
- 4 1-pound cans steel-cut coffee, (reg. 35c cans) ... \$1.00
- 10 cans No. 2 Blackberries ..... \$1.00
- 10 cans No. 3 Pie Peaches ..... \$1.00
- 20 1-lb. packages Soda (satisfaction guaranteed) \$1.00
- 16 packages choice Coconut ..... \$1.00
- 12 cans Pork and Beans ..... \$1.00

## THE STAR STORE

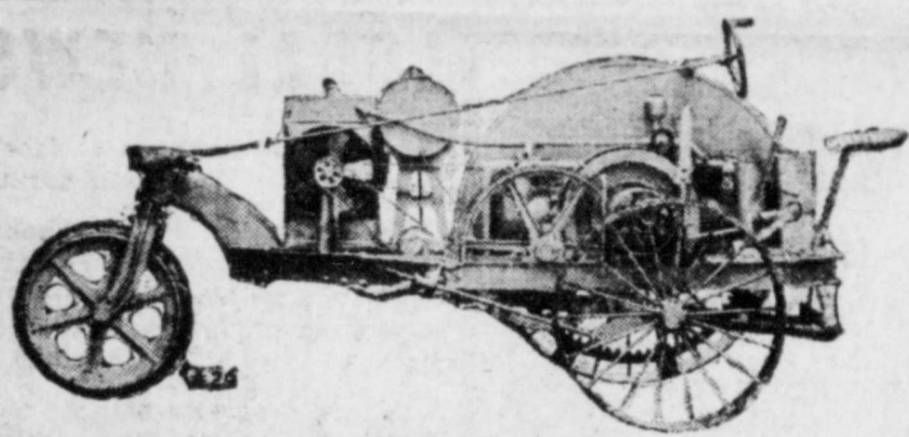
**\$1.19**



### Ladies Skirts

New fabrics, new styles, just received in plain white and fancy. Take advantage of this opportunity. Buy the latest and newest for less.

See them before you buy



## THE 1917 BIG BULL Has 3 Big New Features

In Addition to Numerous Refinements in Construction

**THE CLAPPER KEROSENE VAPORIZER** which, we believe, excels in economy, efficiency and ease of operation any kerosene device on the market. It converts the liquid kerosene into a gas or vapor before it enters the combustion chamber, and when ignited causes perfect combustion, leaving no kerosene to work past the piston rings into crank case. It enables the Big Bull Motor to produce as much power from a gallon of kerosene as from a gallon of gasoline—without fouling or over-heating your motor or destroying its efficiency.

**POWER ON THE LAND WHEEL** in addition to the BIG BULL subsiding wheel in the furrow. This feature and the large motor (12-24 h.p.) makes the Big Bull a practical 3-plow Tractor.

**POSITIVE CIRCULATING OILING SYSTEM**—Oils connecting rod bearings through hollow crank shaft, insures positive lubrication, with no attention except to keep oil reservoir filled. A big saving in oil consumption.

Come in and let's have a talk with you about the 1917 Big Bull. If you wish, we'll refer you to Bull Tractor owners right here in this community who will prove to you any claim we make. Call and see our demonstration work.

## D. C. HERRING, Agent

NOODLE, TEXAS

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Daniel returned home Tuesday night from Hurley, N. M., where they have been through the winter. For the present they will be in their home here.

Messrs. and Mesdames O. J. and R. L. Adcock, with their children, drove through last Friday to Gustine where they enjoyed a visit Saturday and Sunday with their father and a sis-

ter. On the return R. L. was delayed in Cisco until Monday afternoon by car trouble, but otherwise the trip was quite a pleasure for all.

The Metropolitan Cafe, Abilene, open day and night, solicits your patronage. Latham Bros., proprietors. 4t

J. T. Simmons of the Kale community was a visitor at our office the past week. He reports a good many cases of measles in his neighborhood. He says some planting has been done, but most of the people are waiting for it to rain.

### A Pleasant Physic.

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

### \$2.00 Per Day — Meals .50 cents

We appreciate the patronage given us, and only increased our rates in keeping with the constantly advancing high cost of living.

### THE COLLINS HOUSE

See Sublett, the jeweler, for your clock and watch repairing.

Miss Josie Smith came in Tuesday morning from Georgetown to visit her brother George who has been ill for several weeks.

Mrs. H. C. Burnoughs, Jr., came in Sunday from Greenville where she has been visiting relatives.

J. B. Lilly and H. E. Farmer of the Castle Peak neighborhood called to see our machine a few days ago.

**STARVE THE FLY.**

The best method to prevent houseflies from breeding is to observe strict cleanliness in the homes and on the streets. This method was successfully carried out along the Panama canal in the campaign against malaria and yellow fever, which are conveyed from one person to another by mosquitoes.

Don't give the deadly fly a chance!  
Keep the house free of food for flies!  
Starve him out!

**Swat the fly**  
**Starve the fly**  
**Slay the fly**

**Smite Him Hip and Thigh.**

The bugle call of Hygeia is sounding through the land, arousing all the people to form a swatting band—

To swat the pesky fly at sight,  
And swat him hip and thigh,  
Till not a single buzzer is left to make a cry.

Because he carries death germs  
From many, many ills  
That poison food and people  
And run up doctor's bills.

The powers that be have said  
"Exterminate the fly,"  
And typhoid, with the other ills,  
Will bid the world goodbye.

S. J. Abernathy and A. M. Wimberly of Stith visited the Mail office the other day. They report Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Conley and his daughter down with measles. They report more land than usual in cultivation this year.

## New Millinery

I will Open a Millinery Line in Trent, Texas

on

Friday, Saturday, Monday

March 30, 31 & April 2

at the store of

N. G. Scott & Co.

Will have one of the most complete and attractive stocks of Millinery ever shown in Trent. I cordially invite every lady to call and inspect my stock before buying elsewhere. Will re-trim old hats or new ones.

Hereafter will be in Trent Every Saturday and Monday

## Miss Nela Stanley

H.M. Rainbow, Jr., who recently had a severe case of pneumonia, and who was later taken to the Alexander Sanitarium at Abilene for an operation, is now doing as well as could be expected.

Miss Cleva Duff, Ferris, after a month's visit with Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Duff, returned last Friday to her home.

Pure red top sorghum seed, free from Johnson grass, at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

Place Your Order now For

## That Spring Suit

Cleaning, Pressing, Altering Guaranteed by

## Yarborough

At City Barber Shop Merkel, Texas



# GOD'S COUNTRY AND THE WOMAN

From the book by James Oliver Curwood, is a story of the Canadian Northwest, of the woman who loves and of the men who live wild and shoot true. The Famous Siberian Dog Teams and wonderfully filmed Snow scenes are alone worth the Admission Price

Monday and Tuesday -- April 2nd and 3rd

Special Music

AT 8:30 P. M.  
Screen Time 2 hours 15 minutes  
Seats now at The Elite

Bargain Prices—10-20-30c

COZY THEATRE

## THE CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN FOR MERKEL IS NOW ON

Prof. Parker and Homer Easterwood appointed Managers, with Geo. Boyce, Austin Boyd, J. P. Sharp and E.P. McMillen Ward Supervisors

Each Supervisor Will Have Four Assistants

Merkel has had one genuine clean-up campaign. Another one is on foot. It should be far more effective than our previous effort.

Next Thursday and Friday afternoons, April 5 and 6, have been designated clean-up days. Trash of all kinds is to be piled ready for the city wagons, weeds should be cut and the premises of every residence in the town given a thorough cleaning.

Prof. R. M. Parker and Homer Easterwood will act as managers of the campaign, Messrs. Geo. Boyce, Austin Boyd, J. P. Sharp and E. P. McMillen will act as supervisors of the wards being divided east and west by the railroad, south by Oak Street and north by Kent Street. Each ward supervisor will have four assistants, to be selected and in addition numerous boys are wanted to assist in the work.

All interested parties are to meet each afternoon at one o'clock at the school building, as all work will start from there. Let's clean up the town.

Following a custom established some two or three years ago, and being called upon to act by a number of our leading citizens, I, as your Mayor, take this occasion to set aside the afternoons of April 5 and 6 as "Clean-up" days for the City of Merkel.

It is urged that all our people co-operate in this splendid endeavor. We hope that all trash will be piled and burned, and what can not be burned will be hauled away by the city. Most fires catch from burning trash, and it is therefore hoped that on this occasion all trash will be burned while the people are on the alert.

A little work by all along this line before the weeds get up will do a great deal to beautify the city. We hope to work out an organization in proper time, and with co-operation from all, will be able to cover the entire city in the time designated.

The proposition is respectfully submitted to the citizens of Merkel.  
J.J. Stallings, Mayor.

## R A Receipt For A Happy Home

Kind Words  
Enough to Eat  
Good Beds to sleep in  
Clean and well-lighted homes,  
yards, streets, and alleys.

☐ P.S. The Doctor says the happiest homes are always lighted by Electricity.

☐ It's really the most economical safe, cleanest and modern way.

☐ In our April Clean-Up Campaign remember that electricity goes hand-in-hand with the clean and sanitary homes.

MERKEL POWER COMPANY

## Don't Spare the Broom



## Get After Every Nook and Corner In the Clean-Up Campaign



**Rank Foolishness**  
You occasionally see it stated that colds do not result from cold weather. That is rank foolishness. Were it true colds would be as prevalent in midsummer as in midwinter. The microbe that causes colds flourishes in damp, cold weather. To get rid of a cold take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is effectual and is highly recommended by people who

have used it for many years as occasion required, and know its real value. Obtainable everywhere.

Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Simpson are the happy parents of a fine baby girl

For the Clean-up Campaign get your varnishes and paints at Burroughs Drug Company.



+++++  
Women dress up in the springtime.  
Men dress up in the springtime.  
Nature dresses up in the springtime.  
Why don't you dress up your home with a fresh coat of paint?  
Don't spare the paint brush.  
If you own a house it will preserve it.  
A landlord who keeps his premises well painted never is at a loss for a tenant.  
+++++

### Do Your Part In the Paint Up Campaign

CIVIC bodies all over the country have joined in the crusade against prevalence of rubbish and dirt and the dull, forbidding aspect that follows in the wake of failure to preserve and

beautify with paints. They are laying special emphasis upon the paint up feature. Paint makes any frame structure twice as enduring and ten times as attractive, and the adornment phase of its merits applies in full to brick structures.  
Do your part!  
Paint up!  
Do it now!  
Paint kills dirt.  
Paint kills disease!

+++++  
You know the FIRE LOSS in this country is great.  
BUT  
Do you know that the property loss due to the LACK OF PAINT is much greater?  
STATISTICS PROVE IT.  
PAINT UP AND SAVE YOUR PROPERTY!  
PAINT UP AND CONSERVE THE LIFE OF YOUR TOWN!  
+++++

CALL on us before taking that long tour and let us give you the benefit of our experience in suggesting the best equipment and the surest emergency aids. One of the features of the equipment that we can recommend with confidence right now is

# Firestone

## Red Tubes

Strong and thick enough for a long life and a lively one—with a texture dense enough to hold the air through season after season.

**Everything You Need**  
Now is the time and here is the place to get it to save money and annoyance on the trip. You will like our understanding of your requirements.

G. F. West Company

# TANLAC

THE GREAT TONIC  
A Supply Now on Hand  
Merkel Drug Company



# The Clean-Up, Paint-Up Campaign is On

Not For a Day---Not Temporary

**You Will**

Discard old Furniture  
Replace old Rugs  
Repaper and Repaint

Your improvement will be permanent. Come and see the newest, the best in modern house furnishings. We have the quality, we render the service, and our prices are right. New linoleums, carpets, rugs, kitchen cabinets, chairs, davenport, bedroom suits, picture frames, and all put the finishing touches on the clean-up campaign.

Let us have your order now while the spirit of improvement induces you to do the very best and install the very latest in house furnishings.

Stop That Leak With

**LIQUID SEAL-A-LEAK**

Can be used on metal, canvas, asbestos, felt, paper, wood or concrete roofs and sidings, and for relining old gutters, silos, tanks, troughs, cisterns, etc., with equally good results.

One gallon will cover approximately 100 square feet of roofing on rough surfaces and 150 square feet on smooth surfaces.

Will not discolor or leave a taste in rain water draining from roof.

Please bring your bucket to put it in.

## Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company

Furniture and Undertaking

### Through the Rockies in November

18 Miles per Gallon of Gas  
Easy Starting--No Carbon  
No Engine Trouble

This from the driver of a stock Maxwell who is using only—

**TEXACO GASOLINE**  
and  
**TEXACO MOTOR OIL**

on a coast-to-coast trip.

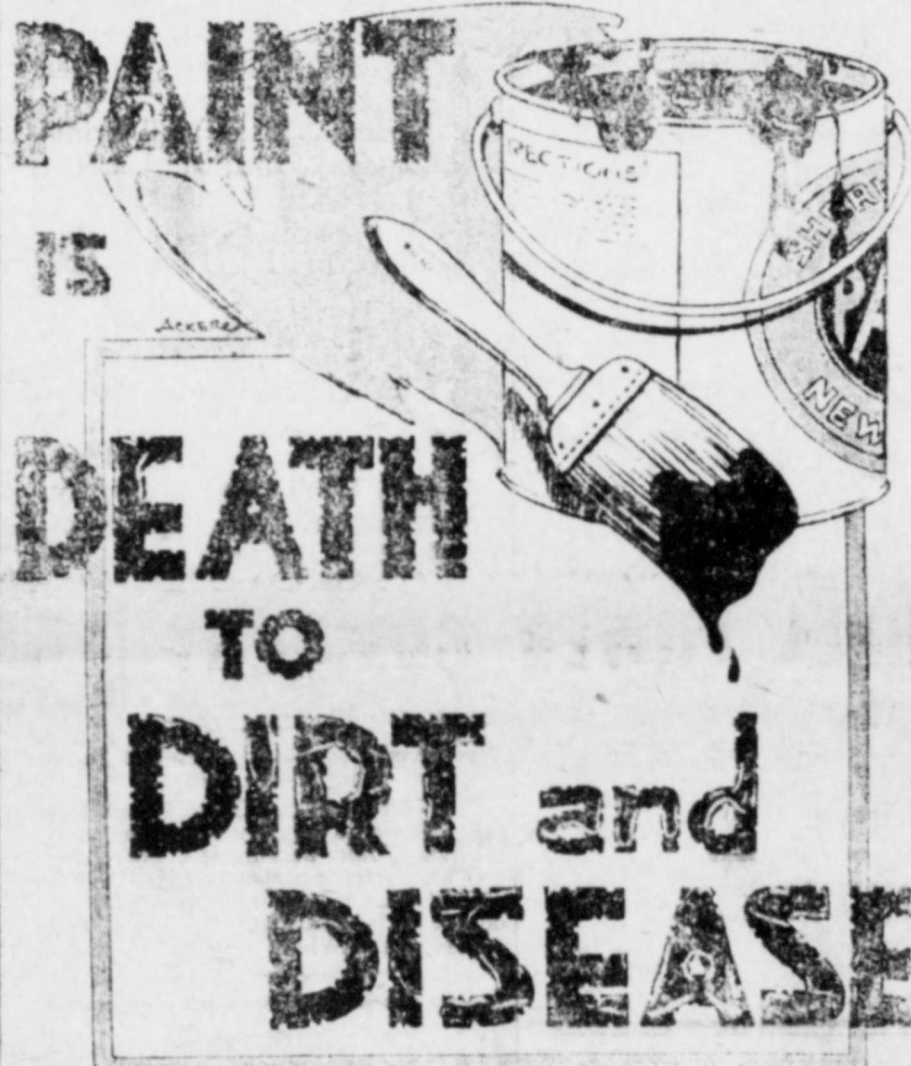
He left Newark, N. J., November 16th and wrote from Flagstaff, Arizona, November 25th, stating that he had covered 3048 miles on 166 gallons of Texaco Gasoline and 5 3/4 gallons of Texaco Motor Oil.

Texaco Motor Products will give the same dependable performance in your car—under all conditions of roads or weather. Look for the Texaco dealer's sign.

**THE TEXAS COMPANY**

HOUSTON, TEXAS

DEALERS EVERYWHERE



Strangers impressed With  
Well Painted Houses

THOUSANDS of strangers are constantly visiting our city.

Imagine the effect upon them of seeing our stores cleanly and attractive, our mansions and pretentious dwellings dressed in the newness and freshness of the painters' art and material and the many humbler homes bearing evidence of the attention and wisdom of their owners.

The practical side of life means much for it is necessary. But it is not everything. What woman is not happier when she beholds the jeweled rings on her fingers or the gems about her neck? And what man does not share her pleasure at the sight in which he participates? It is the higher nature within humanity that values beauty. But the same aesthetic spirit that discovers pearls in the morning mists, rubies in the depths of blood stained roses or diamonds gleaming in the sunlight fires should not be too proud to affiliate with the banal facts of life and taint them to their prosaic uses.

Some Hints to Guide You  
In the Clean Up Campaign

HERE are some hints for clean up week: Carpets, rugs and matting should all be taken up and thoroughly cleaned and the floors and woodwork scrubbed. Soap, hot water and a little washing soda and the scrub brush are the howitzers which successfully can combat the common enemy—dust. Invade every hiding place in the kitchen where filth may accumulate. Plug up the rat and mice holes; putty and paint the cracks where vermin may propagate.

The cellar should receive a special cleaning.

A fresh coat of whitewash applied to the walls will add freshness and brightness to its appearance. Inspect the plumbing and keep the pipes clear of rubbish heaps. Notify the local department of health of leaks from neighboring premises which are injuring your property and endangering the health of your family.

Gather all the tin cans, discarded and broken bottles and boxes from the back yard and alley. Pull up the weeds and prepare the soil for the growth of flowers, plants and vegetables. The humblest home may be made attractive by a garden display.

Do not throw the collected waste into the back alley or on to vacant lots, to be scattered by the wind. Put all the refuse in covered receptacles and then place these near the street curb on the regular collecting days to be gathered and carted away.

O. Rust, who has been in Idaho for several months, came in Sunday night for a visit with his mother, Mrs. E. M. Rust.

### THE Clean-up Campaign

Calls for Paint, Varnishes, Lumber,  
Fencing, Roofing Paints and Stains.

Don't forget that your every need can be supplied by

**BURTON-LINGO COMPANY**

### Jesse Blair's Comedians

Under Waterproof Tent

Feature Play Friday Night

**THE  
THIEF IN THE NIGHT**

\$7000.00 Production

Beautiful Gowns, Scenery and  
Electrical Effects

Saturday Matinee 2:30

**TEN NIGHTS IN A  
BAR ROOM**

Miss Louise Lomax of Merkel will play  
LITTLE MARY

Saturday Night

**AN OLD SWEETHEART  
OF MINE**

Admission 10-20c

### THE CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN IS ON

Get your Varnishes, Furniture Polish, Insect  
Powders, Disinfectants, etc., at

**The Merkel Drug Company**

J. H. BARNETT

M. A. DUNN

BEST SERVICE AT

**The Central Garage**

BARNETT & DUNN, Props.

All Work Done by Contract

PRICES RIGHT

Located in new Brown Building

Kent Street

Confederate Veterans To Meet.  
Merkel Camp No. 79, U. C. V.,  
will meet in regular session on  
Saturday, April 7, in the public  
hall, at 3 p.m. A full attendance  
is urged, as there will be consid-  
erable special business on hand.

such as re-election of officers,  
election of representatives to the  
Re-union, to be held in Washing-  
ton, D.C., next June, and to ascer-  
tain the number of lodges need-  
ed.  
A. A. Baker, Com.  
J. T. Tucker, Ajt.

Varnishes and paints for the  
Clean-up Campaign at Bur-  
roughs Drug Store.

**Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days**  
Your druggist will refund money if PAZO  
OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching,  
Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 14 days.  
The first application gives Ease and Rest. 50c.

**To Cure a Cold in One Day**  
Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. It stops the  
Cough and Headache and works off the Cold.  
Druggists refund money if it fails to cure.  
R. W. GROVER'S signature on each box. 25c.



**PROFESSIONAL**

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

**C. J. SHERRILL**  
DENTIST  
Office over Farmers State Bank  
Phone No. 306 July 12

**W. W. WHEELER**  
Real Estate, Fire, Accident and Tornado  
Insurance Agent  
Notary Public.  
Office over City Barber Shop—Front St.

**G. W. JOHNSON**  
Insurance, Notary Public  
Office over Woodroofs Bros.  
Store  
Merkel — Texas

**SHAVING AND BATH PARLORS**  
The most Up-to-Date  
SHOP IN MERKEL  
CITY BARBER SHOP  
WEST & PATE : Proprietors

**H. L. BURTON**  
Painter and Paper Hanger  
Work done right—Prices reasonable.  
Figure with me on your job.  
Kent St. Merkel

**DR. GAMBILL**  
Dentist.  
Office over Farmers State Bank  
Merkel, Texas

**DRAUGHON'S**  
PRACTICAL  
*Business College*  
ABILENE, TEXAS  
Only well-known Business College in West Texas. Thousands of firms nearer our Employment Department than any other. Money-back contract guarantee position. Catalogue FREE.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Subject to the action of the voters of the City of Merkel, in the regular election to be held the first Tuesday in April, same being third day of the month I take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for the office of City Marshall. I appreciate highly the confidence heretofore placed in me, and assure you of my appreciation of your continued support and co-operation.  
R. E. COUNTS.

**SOCIETY**

Miss Evelyn Williams, Editor

The XXth Century Club held its regular meeting last Thursday afternoon with Mrs. W. Parten. The review of "In Memoriam," given by Mrs. W.B. Foster, was enjoyed by all, and Kipling's Life and "The Vampire," given by Mrs. Parten and Miss Mims, were unusually interesting, it being the club's first study of this popular writer. The hostess conducted the reading of Part IV of "The Princess." Mesdames L. P. Jones and C. D. Mims were visitors. Refreshments were served.

As a final compliment to their guest, Miss Duff, Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Duff entertained last Thursday night with an apron and over-all party. In the gentlemen's costumes "a sameness" prevailed, but with the ladies many bewitching styles were in evidence. The guests for the evening were Misses Cleva Duff, Zoe West, Lou Sears, Elma Sheppard, Vernona Hamblett, Mabel Collins, Maud Martin, Lura and Stacy Atkisson, Messrs. and Mesdames O. M. Sharp, R. O. Ander-

son, Dr. and Mrs. Sherrell and Mrs. Angus, Messrs. Grimes, Comegys, Hart, Jones, Baze, White, Brown, Grimes Haynes, Grimes, Easterwood and Diltz.

**WALTRIP-CURB**

Sunday, March 25, almost at high noon in the home of Rev. and Mrs. A. A. Baker, John Curb and Mrs. Roxie Waltrip of Blackwell were married.

Until a few months ago the bride was also a rural resident of Merkel, and the two will continue to reside in the Mount Pleasant neighborhood, where the Curb family has lived for a number of years. They have a wide circle of friends to wish them happiness and prosperity.

**WEDDED IN EL PASO**

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Demere arrived in Merkel early in this week from El Paso, where they were married last Sunday. The bride was formerly Miss Ada Franks of Brawley, Cal., and was on her way to Merkel when met in El Paso by Mr. Demere. Mrs. Demere formerly lived in the Merkel country and has also been a recent visitor here so many friends welcome her return as a resident, and extend congratulations and best wishes to the happy young couple.



**TRADESMEN**  
can reach their country customers easily by stepping to their Bell Telephones.

Patrons living out near the town limits are also brought as close, through Bell Telephone Service, as if they had come to the store in person.

The Bell Telephone serves both buyer and seller equally well.

**THE SOUTH-WESTERN TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE COMPANY**

**Statement of Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc.**

Of Merkel Mail, published weekly at Merkel, Texas, required by the act of August 24, 1912.

Editor and manager, Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas.

Publisher, Merkel Mail Printing Company, Inc., Merkel, Tex.

Owners: Walter Jackson, Merkel, Texas; Mrs. M. M. Jackson, Merkel, Texas; F.S. House, Abilene, Texas.

Walter Jackson.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 29th day of March, 1917.

[Seal] C. D. Mims.  
Notary Public, Taylor County.  
(My commission expires on May 31, 1917.)

Common Consent.  
Hicks—Has he any right to the title of colonel? Wicks—Sure! Everybody calls him that.

**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.

**The Colonel's Convalescence**  
By ALAN HINSDALE

In one of those battles between the French and Germans when the latter were endeavoring to reach the channel Colonel Latrobe, a man of forty, was wounded and instead of being sent to a hospital was left for want of transportation at a chateau by the way. The lady who owned the place directed that he be placed in one of her best rooms and at once assumed his care. Fortunately for both, the fighting did not come near the chateau, and the colonel was left to recover, his wants being supplied by the lady, a spinster named Remercler.

Mlle. Remercler was some five years younger than Latrobe, and spinsters usually preserve their youthful appearance longer than their married sisters. At any rate this is liable to be the case with unmarried women who have no cares or troubles. The colonel's nurse was still a handsome woman.

There was a long period of convalescence, during which the colonel was unable to join his command. Mlle. Remercler read to him, chatted with him, fed him, indeed made his convalescence delightful. Every morning she gathered flowers from her garden, carried them to his room and arranged them in a vase of Dresden china with her own hands. Many of the delicacies prepared for him to eat she cooked with her own hands. No matter what time of day he called for anything he needed the lady responded and always with a sympathetic smile.

In time Latrobe spent a portion of the day in an easy chair; then nearly all the day there; then he was able to walk about his room and finally to go downstairs. He was chafing to get back to the front, though loath to leave his luxurious abode and especially his fair hostess.

One morning in June he was sitting on the terrace with Mlle. Remercler. The sun shone brightly, and delicious perfume came from the roses growing beside the terrace. Conversation turned upon the school of St. Cyr, from which the colonel had been graduated a sublieutenant into the army.

"I visited St. Cyr when but seven years old," said mademoiselle. "I can conceive of no place so enthralling to a girl of that age as a military academy. The young men in uniform are far more resplendent than those in civilian dress. There are the martial music, the military ceremonies, every thing to turn a girl's head."

"And I remember," added the colonel, "how we youngsters delighted in making love to the girls who visited St. Cyr. Lovemaking had not the meaning that it has for older men. It was what the Americans call flirting. We thought nothing of telling a girl we loved her, and the girl's thought nothing of pretending to reciprocate. We enjoyed the sentiment without having to fret about the responsibilities. When we had made love to one girl we were ready for another. And when they had gone we returned to our studies as free mentally as before they had come."

"Your picture may be true with respect to the young men," said the lady, "and in most cases perhaps with regard to the girls. In my case it was different. In one of these young military students I met that which was the most serious episode of my life. He made love to me simply for the temporary enjoyment of the sentiment. Alas, it was far more than that to me! That is why I have never married."

"The brute!" exclaimed the colonel. "No; he was simply young and did not realize the danger to me of what he was doing."

"Perhaps he did realize it in time, to his cost. I confess that there was one of my affairs that stood by me for many years. I could not shake it off. Even today, after twenty years, I see in my dreams that young face and press again that soft hand."

"And why did you, after discovering that you really loved her, not seek her out?"

"Ah, that would have served in America, where they marry for love, but not in France, where parents arrange marriages for their children."

"Who was the girl?"

"If I remember correctly she was the daughter of a gentleman of fortune, living in one of the provinces. Her name was Hortense."— He was stilled; he had forgotten her surname.

"Would you know her again, do you suppose, after not seeing her for twenty years?"

"That I could not say."

Mlle. Remercler arose and went into the house. Presently she returned with a miniature painting, which she handed to the colonel. He looked at it for a few moments as though it brought back some vague memory; then suddenly he turned his eyes upon his companion in a sort of wonder.

"Where did you get this?" he asked.

"I have had it ever since the original visited St. Cyr twenty years ago."

The colonel's steady gaze gradually revealed to him that the miniature was a likeness of Mlle. Remercler at seventeen.

"Hortense!" he exclaimed.

"Henri!" was the low reply.

When the colonel went back to the front he returned a married man. Indeed, had not duty called him he would not have returned. He was very much pleased at receiving another wound, just severe enough to lay him up for a month. He returned to the chateau of his wife, and the month of recovery and his honeymoon were one and the same thing.



**Kryptok Bifocals**

Two Visions in a One-Piece Lens  
Highest Type of Bifocal Lenses  
No Cement; No Lines of Separation  
No Dropping Apart Nor Collecting of Dirt  
As Graceful and Practical as Any Single Vision Lenses  
Come in and see them.

**H. C. FLOYD, Pttician**  
Office at Merkel Drug Co  
Merkel, Texas

**Don't Have Catarrh**

One efficient way to remove nasal catarrh is to treat its cause which in most cases is physical weakness. The system needs more oil and easily digested liquid-food, and you should take a spoonful of

**SCOTT'S EMULSION**

after each meal to enrich your blood and help heal the sensitive membranes with its pure oil-food properties. The results of this Scott's Emulsion treatment will surprise those who have used irritating snuffs and vapors.

**Get the Genuine SCOTT'S**

GIVE NATURE A CHANCE TO "COME BACK" THE WONDERFUL WATERS THE 1500 FOOT HIGH OZONE THE CHARMING SCENERY AROUND MINERAL WELLS All Combine To Make This The Most Delightful Resort In The Southwest

**Excursion Rates THE YEAR ROUND**

Any Time Is A Good Time To Go Consult your Local Agent or Write

A. D. Bell, Geo. D. Hunter, Ast. G. P. A. G. P. A.

**DALLAS**



**LOOK OUT FOR THE CARS**

DO YOU know of anyone who is old enough to read, who has not seen that sign at a railroad crossing?

If everyone has seen it at some time or other, then why doesn't the railroad let the sign run away? Why does the railroad company continue to keep those signs at every crossing?

Maybe you think, Mr. Merchant, "Most everybody knows my store, I don't have to advertise."

Your store and your goods need more advertising than the railroads need do to warn people to "Look Out for the Cars."

Nothing is ever completed in the advertising world.

The Department Stores are a very good example—they are continually advertising—and they are continually doing a good business.

If it pays to run a few ads round about Christmas time, it certainly will pay you to run advertisements about all the time.

It's just business, that's all, to

**ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER**

See the Beautiful line of Aluminum Ware at The Anchor Mercantile Company.

Coupons given with each five cents traded and redeemed by us at any time in aluminum stensils

Begin saving your coupons and see just what a short time it will take to accumulate a big lot of valuable cooking vessels.

Coupons given with everything throughout the house, with the exception of flour and feed-stuffs.

**ANCHOR MERCANTILE CO**

**We're Shouting**

about the excellent quality of our printing. We don't care what the job may be, we are equipped to turn it out to your satisfaction. If we can't, we'll tell you so frankly.

**Let Us Convince You**

**Advertised Letters.**

Ab, Andy.  
Bell, Mrs. Bill.  
Burns, M. L.  
Douglas, Mrs. Floy.  
Ikard, M.  
Milburn, T.  
Sheaham, Virginia.  
Taffete, Jack.  
Woodward, Nora E.  
Wood, J. L.  
Romirez, Jesus.

These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on April 11. H. G. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

**His Machine.**  
Knicker—Has Jones a runabout?  
Bocker—No, just a talkabout.—New York Sun.

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



## A Singular Marriage

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

When I walked the deck of the liner Arganda on the third day out and saw for the first time among the passengers who were recovering from mal de mer and getting out from the ship's smells to help them do so Helen Timerson I little thought that within five days she would be my wife and we would be married in a way such as no couple had been married before.

I was going abroad to establish a wireless telegraph station, wireless telegraphy being my profession. I kept away from the wireless office on the ship, fearing to make known my interest in wireless matters, and I did not care to have what I might say reported. But a time came when this did not deter me.

We were steaming along through a back-log one afternoon when suddenly I felt a shock. We had collided with a vessel, which passed out of sight, leaving us with a big hole in our ship's bottom. I ran to the wireless office, and from that time till the vessel went down I alternated with the operator calling for help. Meanwhile the ship had been put on a course toward the shore, and when we were left on the water we were not far from it.

I was picked up by a boat that had left the ship with but a few persons in her, and during the exposure that followed they all died. How I kept body and soul together I am at a loss to know. I have a hazy remembrance of the boat being overturned and I expecting to be drowned. But later I found myself lying on a bench. This seemed like life to me, and I made an effort. Sitting up, I looked about me and saw only bodies of those who had been washed ashore from the wreck. It was a gruesome sight, one that I shall never forget. And I was oppressed with the thought how narrowly I had escaped a like fate.

Presently I arose and staggered about on my feet. One of the first objects to confront me was the girl I had seen on the steamer's deck—Helen Timerson. I supposed she was dead. I approached her and saw that she breathed. I had a flask in my pocket with top well screwed on, and I had refrained from taking the last drink. This I gave to the girl, and it revived her.

Looking about me, I discerned at a distance the antennae of a wireless station. Expecting that there would be persons there, I took Miss Timerson in my arms and carried her there. What was my surprise to find the station deserted. Why no one was there is another story, too long to be given here. Leaving the young lady on a lounge, I went on the roof of the station building and saw that we were on an island, though the mainland was dimly visible. There were provisions in plenty, and I prepared something for Miss Timerson, feeding her carefully.

Well, to make a long story short, we were the only two persons on that island for a week. Others started to go there, but were turned from their course. Within a couple of days of our arrival the young lady and I had quite recovered our strength, and I noticed that she seemed concerned at the equivocal position in which she was placed being alone with a man. I told her that the circumstances in which we were placed would preserve us from scandal. She replied that they should preserve us, but they would not. There were always persons who would take advantage of such a situation to cast a slur.

I told her that if she felt that way about the matter there was but one recourse for us—to be married. After much pondering without reply to this she said that she did not see how we could be married, since there was no one to marry us and no witnesses. A plan occurred to me for a marriage ceremony that would be legal, but it seemed so wild that I said nothing to her about it at the time.

The next day I led Miss Timerson into the operating room and began to call for ships out at sea. I soon came in touch with a tramp steamer 300 miles distant and asked if there was a seaman aboard. The reply being in the affirmative, I called for him and asked if he would marry a couple by wireless. He assented, and I then told Helen what I had done.

We were an hour talking the matter over, at the end of which time we agreed to be married. I called the ship I had called before, gave the parson our names and such other information as was required, and we went through a marriage ceremony by wireless telegraphy. The minister was requested to send the certificate to her address, duly witnessed by two persons on board the vessel.

The day after our union a boat arrived, bringing persons to take charge of the station, and the same boat took me and my bride to the mainland. On reaching it we learned of the great commotion excited by the loss of the Arganda and that we had both been reported among the missing.

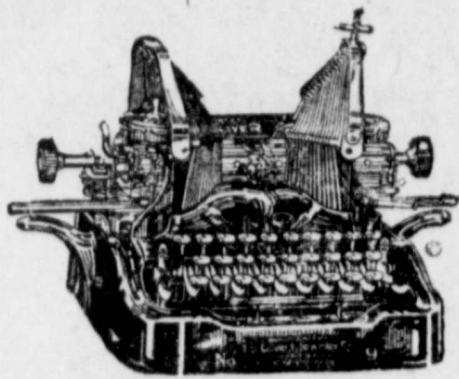
Before going among our friends my wife requested that nothing be said about our marriage until she could ascertain how our being together on a deserted island would be received. She soon had cause to announce to the world that we were man and wife.

Although our marriage was for the purpose of avoiding a blemish, it turned out to be a very happy union. We have been blessed with a numerous progeny, and nothing has occurred to cause us to regret the step we took.

# A New Model Typewriter



## Buy It Now



Yes, the crowning typewriter triumph IS HERE!

It is just out—and comes years before experts expected it. For makers have striven a life-time to attain this ideal machine. And Oliver has won again, as we scored when we gave the world its first visible writing.

There is truly no other typewriter on earth like this new Oliver "9." Think of touch so light that the tread of a kitten will run the keys!

### CAUTION

The new-day advances that come alone on this machine are all controlled by Oliver. Even our own famous models—famous in their day—never had the Optional Duplex Shift.

It puts the whole control of 84 letters and characters in the little fingers of the right and left hands. And it lets you write them all with only 28 keys, the least to operate of any standard typewriter made.

Thus writers of all other machines can immediately run the Oliver Number "9" with more speed and greater ease.

### WARNING

This brilliant new Oliver comes at the old-time price. It costs no more than lesser makes—now out of date when compared with this discovery.

For while the Oliver's splendid new features are costly—we have equalized the added expense to us by simplifying construction.

Resolve right now to see this great achievement before you spend a dollar for any typewriter. If you are using some other make you will want to see how much more this one does.

If you are using an Oliver, it naturally follows that you want the finest model.

**17 CENTS A DAY** Remember this brand-new Oliver "9" is the greatest value ever given in a typewriter. It has all our previous special inventions—visible writing, automatic spacer, 6½-ounce touch—plus the Optional Duplex Shift, Selective Color Attachment and all these other new-day features.

Yet we have decided to sell it to everyone everywhere on our famous payment plan—17 cents a day! Now every user can easily afford to have the world's crack visible writer, with the famous PRINTYPE. This writes like print, included FREE if desired.

**TODAY—Write for Full Details** and be among the first to know about this marvel of writing machines. See why typists, employers, and individuals everywhere are flocking to the Oliver. Just mail a postal at ONCE. No obligation. It's a pleasure for us to tell you about it.

## The Oliver Typewriter Company

Oliver Typewriter Building, Chicago



Just a Few Ite.

If you kill the first fly of spring, the second one and a few others no more flies will bother your premises all summer.

If you screen the house; if you protect all food-stuffs, including

baby's milk. If you keep the lid on the garbage can.

If you can keep the back yard clean. If you do a few other things occasionally that you know should be done, but just as often forgot.

If you do these things flies will not die of old age upon your premises, but rather "pine away" and "drop off" in their early youth of inanition. That is a polite term for starvation, but starvation is good enough for a fly.

Clean, screen, kill and starve 'em early. Swat the fly!

### Fly Guilty of Murder.

Dr. Crumline of the Kansas state board of health discovered the murderous character of the fly in keeping a monthly record of infants who died from diarrheal diseases.

He found that deaths increased as flies multiplied.

In January, the season of no flies, deaths were only thirty-five, while during July and August, the season when flies swarm in greatest numbers and carry most filth and germs to the baby's bottle and the baby's lips, the deaths of little children soared to 175.

There is a call for such action NOW as will stop flies from breeding. Will you heed that call now or wait until your own baby dies?

### TEACH CHILDREN TO SWAT THE FLY.

GIVE your children the fly swatter and teach them to use it. Teach them to swat flies as you teach them to run from automobiles. The little tiny silent flies are more dangerous. They are killing a great many more children than the great big, noisy automobiles. Besides, teach your children to look for the flies, as one or another may stealthily sneak into your carefully screened house. Give a prize of a penny a dozen for all dead flies, and teach the children not to touch them, as they are dirty and may be carrying disease.

### MILK — CREAM — BUTTER

Our dairy trade is just splendid, for which we are very thankful. We want to be of real service to the town and want you to call on us for any dairy accommodations we can render. If we don't please you in every respect, be candid with us and tell us the trouble, won't you?

J. B. Walton  
Phone 597 R21

### The Standing of Contestants on March — 26 — 1917

1	78,620
2	44,920
3	64,960
4	12,240
5	2,000
6	2,085
7	258,245
8	20,165
9	7,650
10	83,165
11	5,160
12	2,005
13	2,000
14	2,950
15	41,310
16	11,565
17	170,460
18	239,680
19	2,000
20	115,540
21	5,145
22	19,615
23	4,575

G. F. WEST COMPANY

"Ten Nights In a Bar Room" will be given Saturday afternoon instead of evening, as stated elsewhere in this issue. The production will be rendered by Blair's Comedians.

Mrs. W. H. Young, the winner of the \$10.00 plant given by the Abilene Floral Co., of Abilene, Texas, at the sale at the T. L. Grimes Drug Co., can get it by calling at that place, March 30, 1917.

The floral sale will continue at that place through Friday.

For Sale—2 fine Poland China brood sows. See H. D. Simpson, 2½ mi. southwest of Trent, 11q

### DELAYS ARE DANGEROUS; SWAT THE FLY TODAY!

NOW is the time to begin to swat the fly—right today. Don't wait until tomorrow. Perhaps you've noticed on mild afternoons when the sun is bright that one or two buzzy their deadly song about your ears. They're here. But there are only a few now. Maybe there was only one in your home. But did you swat it?

Get out the swatter that you used last year and kill the flies before they multiply. The fly is born in filth and lives in filth. It can't be blamed, then, because it carries a supply of bacteria constantly.

Physicians say every fly that escapes the swatter now means several million equally evasive germ carrying insects in a month or so. To eliminate the housefly effectively you must eliminate it early in the season, before it has time to hatch its eggs. Get your screens ready. Bar the fly from the house. But if it slips by you—swat it.

**Drives Out Malaria, Builds Up System**  
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC, drives out malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50¢

### He Learned the Lesson.

"Tommy, you should not fight with that Jimson boy."  
"I know it, ma."  
"That's right."  
"But I didn't know it before I hit him."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Pure Mebane cotton seed at Bob Martin's.

Mrs. W. Parten and children visited W. C. Calvert in Sweet-water last Sunday.

T. F. Compton attended the Woodman Convention in Waco this week.

Big car of Baker Boy flour at Bob Martin Grocery Co.

W. M. Elliot and wife are visiting in Waco. Mr. Elliot is attending the Woodman Convention, and Mrs. Elliot is visiting relatives.

## An Escape

By ELINOR MARSH

A young Russian named Ivan Ivanovitch, living at Kars, not many miles north of the boundary line between Russia and Turkey, found employment across the border and while there fell in love with a young Turkish girl. Her father refused her to him unless he would renounce the Christian religion and become a Mohammedan. Ivan was averse to doing so, but he finally consented. He professed adhesion to the prophet, and the two were married. This is a simple matter with the Turks, for the bride is conducted to the groom's house and left there with him. There is no such ceremony as among Christians.

Of course the young husband's conversion was a form, but he was obliged to go to prayers in the mosque like any Mohammedan and otherwise conform to that religion. After a while he grew tired of this and, taking his wife with him, went back to the other side of the border.

Now, it was not long after the Ivanovitch family made this move that the Grand Duke Nicholas marched by, impressing men into his army as he advanced, taking Ivan among the number. When the latter found that they were marching on Erzerum he was much concerned, for it was near that city that he had married his wife, and if he should be captured and recognized fighting in a Christian army against the followers of Mohammed he would suffer as dreadful fate as could be visited on a renegade.

Ivanovitch was on the flank of his army and ten miles to the northwest of Erzerum. There he was captured by the Turks and carried with them in their retreat before the Russians toward Trebizond.

Just before the Russian advance into Turkey, Mme. Ivanovitch went on a visit to her people and was there during the surrender of Erzerum by the Turks. One day while looking at some Russian prisoners who were being marched by, she saw her husband among them.

The good woman was seized with the same trepidation as Ivan, that he might be recognized as a Mohammedan renegade. Wishing to be near him to afford him such protection as she might be able, she followed the prisoners, their captors taking them along in retreat, and saw them go into bivouac for the night.

Now, there was no opportunity for a woman to mingle among men in Turkey, for Turkish women and men do not associate together as in other countries. The only way Mme. Ivanovitch could go among the soldiers and prisoners was by assuming man's attire. Entering the women's quarters of a house near by, she prevailed upon a wife to procure her a suit of her husband's, which she put on and, carrying her own clothes in a bundle under her arm, went to the place where the prisoners were. There she made friends with the guard and offered her services for any duty she might perform. She was told that she might take part in watching the prisoners, and, obtaining a gun, she stood guard with the rest.

Toward midnight she took position near her husband and dropped her bundle beside him, at the same time making signs to him to roll into some underbrush a few yards from him. Slowly edging in that direction, he came to the edge of the brush. Most of the guard were drowsy. One of them was near enough to observe Ivan, and Mme. Ivanovitch placed herself between the two. Then the prisoner rolled into the brush.

As soon as he examined the contents of the bundle he saw his wife's design. As a man in Russian uniform it would be impossible for him to make his way through the Turkish lines, but as a woman he would have every advantage, especially as the face of a Turkish woman is always hidden by a veil. Under cover of the darkness he took off his clothes and put on those of his wife, then made his way out of the bivouac of guards and prisoners.

Coming to the road over which he had been marched during the day, he walked along it till he came to a house. There he took refuge in an out-house till morning, when he rapped at the women's quarters. He was admitted, made up a story of having been to see an officer to whom she (he) was married, and was treated with kindness.

Here he was in double danger, for he was not only a renegade Mussulman, but a man in the women's quarters, a place where not even a husband may enter unless his wife is without visitors. However, he insisted on remaining veiled and got out as soon as he could without exciting suspicion.

Following the road back toward the Russians, he modestly withdrew to one side on meeting Turkish soldiers who were hurrying before their conquerors. At last he met the Russian advance and, lifting his veil, revealed himself as a man and a Russian.

The next meeting between Ivanovitch and his wife was in a hospital within the Russian lines. He had been taken ill and relegated to the quarters of the sick. Mme. Ivanovitch had made her way back toward Erzerum and had been hoping that he had made good his escape. She had gone with Red Cross nurses to help in the hospital, and one day as she was passing his cot the two met.

She was free to kneel beside him, and the two embraced with thanks, the one to God, the other to Allah.

### EVIDENCE THAT CONVINCES

A Twice-Told Tale That Will Carry Conviction to Mail Readers

Nearly eleven years ago Mr. Derstine publicly endorsed Doan's Kidney Pills.

He then told of benefit he had received. Later, with unshaken confidence,

Confirms his statement— Tells how passing years have strengthened his faith in Doan's. There's no better test than the test of time.

Can any Merkel reader ask for more convincing evidence? H. W. Derstine, retired farmer, Kent St., Merkel, says: "Doan's Kidney Pills relieved me of a dull backache which had troubled me for several years and I positively believe they will cure any ordinary case of kidney complaint, if taken as directed." (Statement given May 27, 1905)

On April 16th, 1915, Mr. Derstine added to the above: "Doan's Kidney Pills are good. I always keep them on hand and use them occasionally with good results."

Price 50 cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Derstine has twice publicly recommended. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

### METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. L. A. Humphries Pastor  
Seth Hamilton Fin. Sec'y  
Dr. O. F. McMaster Supt.S.S.  
H. M. Rombalt Pr. Bd. Stewards  
H. M. Rainbolt Pr. Bd. Stewards  
Mrs. Joe L. Harris

Pr. Ladies Home Mis. Society  
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Sunday School, 9:45 a. m. . . .  
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday Evening.

### BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. L. B. Owen Pastor  
Dr. J. T. Pue Supt. S. S.  
Mrs. J. S. Swann Pr. Ladies Aid  
Mrs. Chas. West Sec. Ladies Aid  
Preaching every Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.  
Prayer Service, Wednesday evening.

### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Rev. W. G. Cypert Minister  
H. Turner Leader S. S.  
Preaching every third Sunday, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School every Sunday, 10 a. m.

Communion Service at 11:00.

### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. H. E. Bullock Pastor  
R. L. Bland Clerk of Session  
H. C. West Supt. of S. S.  
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Sec.S.S.  
Henry Rose Dir. of Choir  
Mrs. J. S. Saddler Pres. Ladies Aid and Missionary Society  
Mrs. R. L. Bland Sec.L.A.M.S.  
E. P. McMillan Supt. Gym.

Boys Department  
Mrs. E. P. McMillen Supt.

Girls Department  
Preaching 11 a. m.—7:30 p. m.  
Sunday School at 10 a. m.  
Prayer Meet. Wed. 7:30 p. m.  
Choir Practice Fri. 7:30 p. m.  
Girls Gym. Tues. 7:30 p. m.  
Boys Gym. Fri. 7:30 p. m.

### New Business Enterprise

The Central Garage is a new enterprise for Merkel, organized by J. H. Barnett and M. A. Dunn, young and enterprising citizens of Merkel. The enterprise is located in the new Brown building on Kent St. They are popular, capable young fellows and we predict for them a successful career. They will do business on a contract basis. Their plant will be strictly modern.

### A TEXAS WONDER.

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



**Every One Should Co-operate  
In the Paint Up Campaign**

THE market value of property is greatly enhanced by its attractive appearance. Every community where the homes are neatly kept up, the houses and fences painted and the grounds in spick and span condition is its own best advertisement.

Home seekers and investors are naturally drawn toward it. They recognize that such a community is progressive and that it is actuated by enlightened modern ideas on the value of sanitation, cleanliness and beauty in the home surroundings. They recognize it as an ideal place in which to bring up a family because the environments are of the best. There is no going backward in a community of that kind. Property will always command a premium there.

From every point of view—moral, sanitary, economic and artistic—the clean up-paint up campaign deserves the hearty support and co-operation of every citizen throughout the land.

**Paint Will Make Your  
Place Pleasing to Eye**

PAINT makes store fronts more pleasing and entrances more inviting, just as the uniform makes the soldier seem twice a hero. A liberal use of paints, oils and varnish in the business world brings back the money taken from the purse for their purchase many times over. They are the emblems of business prosperity and growth, and these are magnets to all.

If the merchant is prosperous it is good wisdom that he should let the people know it, and then, by a rule as sure as the workings of mathematics, he will have more prosperity. And the merchant who is not doing quite so well would be equally wise to furnish his place, and make it put on the tidy, bright air so generally characteristic of the headquarters of successful enterprises.

**City With Well Painted  
Houses Advertises Itself**

"A CITY set upon a hill cannot be hidden." Neither can a house set in a well kept yard and surrounded with a painted fence. Both are conspicuous, both excite curiosity from afar. When the beholder draws nearer and becomes acquainted in detail conspicuousness grows into dignity and curiosity becomes admiration.

A clean city, a clean community, a clean neighborhood, a clean house—one possesses as much godly virtue as the other—each is to be sought by him who would dwell in an atmosphere of godliness.

Themasses must be educated to a standard of cleanliness as they are educated to a standard of morality or to any other standard. Begin by teaching the children by precept and example; continue by encouraging the youth to observe the teachings of childhood. You will have attained success when you, teacher and preceptor, observe strictly yourself all precepts laid down.

A city, a community, a neighborhood, a home that is clean, that radiates the spirit of cleanliness even from its remotest crannies, needs no other advertisement than its own virtues.

The paint brush is one of the greatest cleansers. Set the pace by painting up your home.

**Antediluvian.**  
Grandma—He'd make you a model husband. Elsie—Last year's model, grandma!—Judge.

+++++  
+ Do you want to rent that house +  
+ of yours? +  
+ Then paint it. +  
+ Paint preserves the life of your +  
+ property. +  
+ Tenants are attracted. +  
+ Be progressive. +  
+ Paint up. +  
+++++

# Announcement

## BUSINESS PROSPECTS NECESSITATES A CHANGE

Beginning the first of next month J. A. Woodard will be associated with me in the Land Loan business and as an insurance representative. Mr. Woodard will have absolute control of our insurance work—Fire Insurance only—and will also devote his time and attention to loans on farm and ranch property. Mr. Woodard will act as a field man and can be found in Merkel at any time. Yours for business

**John A. Woodard**  
Fire Insurance and Loans  
Telephone No. 220

**Homer Easterwood**  
Real Estate and Loans  
Telephone No. 87

**EVIDENCE THAT  
CONVINCES  
A Twice-Told Tale That Will  
Carry Conviction to Mail  
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He then told of benefit he had received. Later, with unshaken confidence, Confirms his statement—Tells how passing years have strengthened his faith in Doan's.

There's no better test than the test of time. Can any Merkel reader ask for more convincing evidence?

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On April 16th, 1915, Mr. Derstine added to the above: "Doan's Kidney Pills are good. I always keep them on hand and use them occasionally with good results."

Price 50 cents at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mr. Derstine has twice publicly recommended. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

**Comedians Hold Forth.** Blair's Comedians have held forth in Merkel for the past two weeks, and will close Saturday night with "Ten Nights in the Bar Room," the principal feature of which is Louise Lomax as Little Mary. This is a well known play and should be seen by every one. It is said of it that it is the greatest prohibition play on record.

Mr. Blair is particularly pleased with the patronage accorded the shows, feeling that a continuous full house for a period of two weeks is the greatest compliment that can be paid to the merits of his productions.

**When to Take Chamberlain's  
Tablets**

- When you feel dull and stupid after eating.
- When constipated or bilious.
- When you have sick headache.
- When you have sour stomach.
- When you have belch after eating.
- When you have indigestion.
- When nervous or despondent.
- When you have no relish for your meals.
- When your liver is torpid.
- Obtainable everywhere.

**A TEXAS WONDER.**

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

# A New Model Typewriter

## Buy It Now

**Yes, the crowning typewriter triumph IS HERE!**

It is just out—and comes years before experts expected it. For makers have striven a life-time to attain this ideal machine. And Oliver has won again, as we scored when we gave the world its first visible writing.

There is truly no other typewriter on earth like this new Oliver "9." Think of touch so light that the tread of a kitten will run the keys!

**CAUTION**

The new-day advances that come alone on this machine are all controlled by Oliver. Even our own famous models—famous in their day—never had the Optional Duplex Shift.

It puts the whole control of 84 letters and characters in the little fingers of the right and left hands. And it lets you write them all with only 28 keys, the least to operate of any standard typewriter made.

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If you are using an Oliver, it naturally follows that you want the finest model.

**17 CENTS A DAY** Remember this brand-new Oliver "9" is the greatest value ever given in a typewriter. It has all our previous special inventions—visible writing, automatic spacer, 6½-ounce touch—plus the Optional Duplex Shift, Selective Color Attachment and all these other new-day features.

Yet we have decided to sell it to everyone everywhere on our famous payment plan—17 cents a day! Now every user can easily afford to have the world's crack visible writer, with the famous PRINTYPE, that writes like print, included FREE if desired.

**TODAY—Write for Full Details** and be among the first to know about this marvel of writing machines. See why typists, employers, and individuals everywhere are flocking to the Oliver. Just mail a postal at ONCE. No obligation. It's a pleasure for us to tell you about it. jan1211

**The Oliver Typewriter Company**  
Oliver Typewriter Building, Chicago

**Thrift Gardens In a  
Clean Up Campaign  
Reduce Living Cost**

Thrift gardens will be the innovation and one of the dominant features of the fifth annual crusade of the national clean up and paint up campaign bureau, which is being directed from the national headquarters, Security building, St. Louis.

The thrift garden idea, which means the utilizing of the back yards, vacant lots and waste grounds of a community, was originated by Allen W. Clark, chairman and founder of the national clean up and paint up campaign, with a view of directing the attention of the people of the town and city to an immediate and effective way of reducing the high cost of living.

A thrift garden in the back yard 25 by 50 feet will—at a cost not exceeding \$2 for best seeds and \$5 for fertilizer—if properly cultivated very materially reduce the cost of living.

It will supply a family of six with fresh vegetables throughout the season.

It can be made to yield produce in cash value, from \$50 to \$100 per season.

It will provide wholesome and profitable exercise of mind and body.

It will make a more contented people.

It will teach preparedness and economy.

It will conserve the resources of the country.

**Be Sure to Put Brains  
Behind Your Brooms**

To make your town worth while you must put brains behind your brooms. You must plan clearly with thoughts beyond present conditions.

You must build your civic house with the future of your children and your children's children clearly before you. You must do hard things now in order that more abounding prosperity and civilization may come after you. The essentials of town planning are:

- Cleanliness.
- Godliness.
- Industries.
- Care for the children.
- Cleanliness always comes first.
- Clean up!
- Get ready for clean up week!

**THE THREE D'S**

**Dirt  
Disease  
Death**

**Numerous Benefits  
Can Be Obtained  
By Cleaning Up**

"Clean up week" depends for its success upon the hearty co-operation of every citizen, and if it be given ungrudgingly the town will be the better for it in health, in money and attractiveness. City officials can do much in seeing that the street cleaners do their task thoroughly and that public buildings, squares and parks shall be an example of neatness. But what the official can do will be but a drop in the bucket compared with what should be done. It is the corners that are out of sight that need most attention—the courts, cellars and back yards—and over these the municipality has no control. It depends, therefore, upon the householder to do the major part in the elimination of rubbish, the overhauling of the things that collect dust and filth, and the whole process that goes to make up the real town beautiful.

Dirt of any sort means multiplication of disease, and disease means economic waste. Therefore "clean up week" will mean business prudence and enterprise. Health means wealth and progress.

**Make a Thrift Garden**

It has been estimated by authorities on gardening and production that a back yard thrift garden, 25 by 50 feet, will supply a family of six with an abundance of fresh vegetables, sufficient to supply all needs through the season, if judiciously planted and given the proper care and attention.

**NAVY INCREASE ORDERED**

U.S. Navy Recruiting Station, Abilene, Tex., March 26.

Postmaster, Merkel: I am enclosing you a copy of a telegram received from the Navy Dept. President has directed the emergency increase of the navy to 87,000 men. This is an addition of 18,300. Give fullest publicity getting in touch with all newspapers today. Department has telegraphed all asking cooperation. Emphasize country urgently needs these men now for its first line of defense. I hope you will give this all the publicity you can for our country needs these men at the present crises. If there is any further information that you wish, write this office at once. L. L. O. Waldrup, U.S. Recruiting Officer.

Will Stewart of Waxahachie has come back to live with A. M. Wimberly of Stith. Mr. Wimberly practically raised this young man.

**WHAT IS  
LAX-FOS**

LAX-FOS IS AN IMPROVED CASCARA  
A DIGESTIVE LAXATIVE  
CATHARTIC AND LIVER TONIC

Lax-Fos is not a Secret or Patent Medicine but is composed of the following old-fashioned roots and herbs:  
**CASCARA BARK  
BLUE FLAG ROOT  
RHUBARB ROOT  
BLACK ROOT  
MAY APPLE ROOT  
SENNA LEAVES  
AND PEPSIN**

In Lax-Fos the CASCARA is improved by the addition of these digestive ingredients making it better than ordinary CASCARA, and thus the combination acts not only as a stimulating laxative and cathartic but also as a digestive and liver tonic. Syrup laxatives are weak, but Lax-Fos combines strength with palatable, aromatic taste and does not gripe or disturb the stomach. One bottle will prove Lax-Fos is invaluable for Constipation, Indigestion or Torpid Liver. Price 50c

Grimes Drug Store for Black-leg Vaccine.

**SHILOH**

Shiloh, March 27—Sunday School and prayer services were well attended Sunday.

Mrs. U.B. Wheeler visited Mrs. Jones, near Anson, a portion of last week.

Grandma Bennett, who has spent the winter here with her daughter, Mrs. J. H. Grayson, has gone to other points to visit her children.

Miss Thelma McCright spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. George Wright of Trent. Miss Beulah Jones of Anson is here visiting friends.

Mrs. Beavers spent Sunday afternoon with Grandma Tyner. Wilbur Woods is the proud owner of a new car.

Terrell Winter and sons, Marion and Roy, are visiting relations near Lamesa.

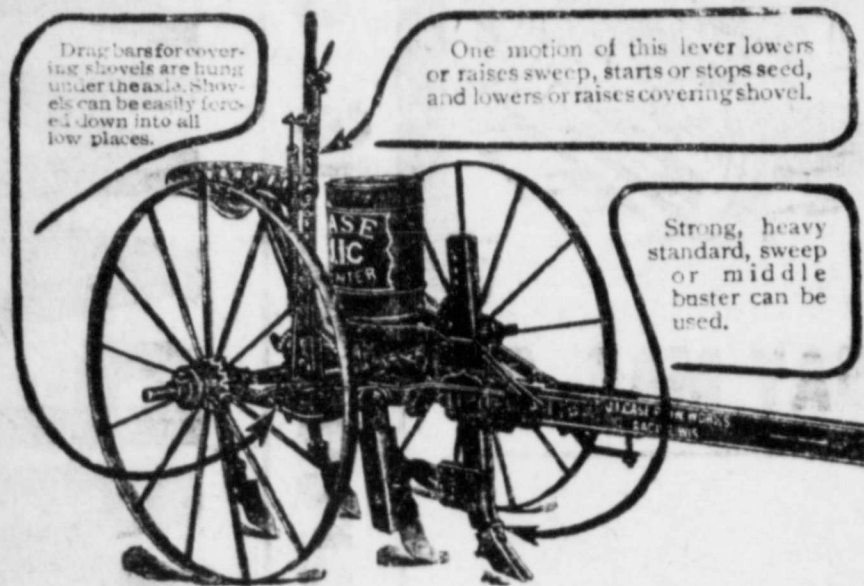
Several from here attended the show at Merkel Saturday.

Mr. McCright and family spent Saturday and Sunday with relations near Abilene.



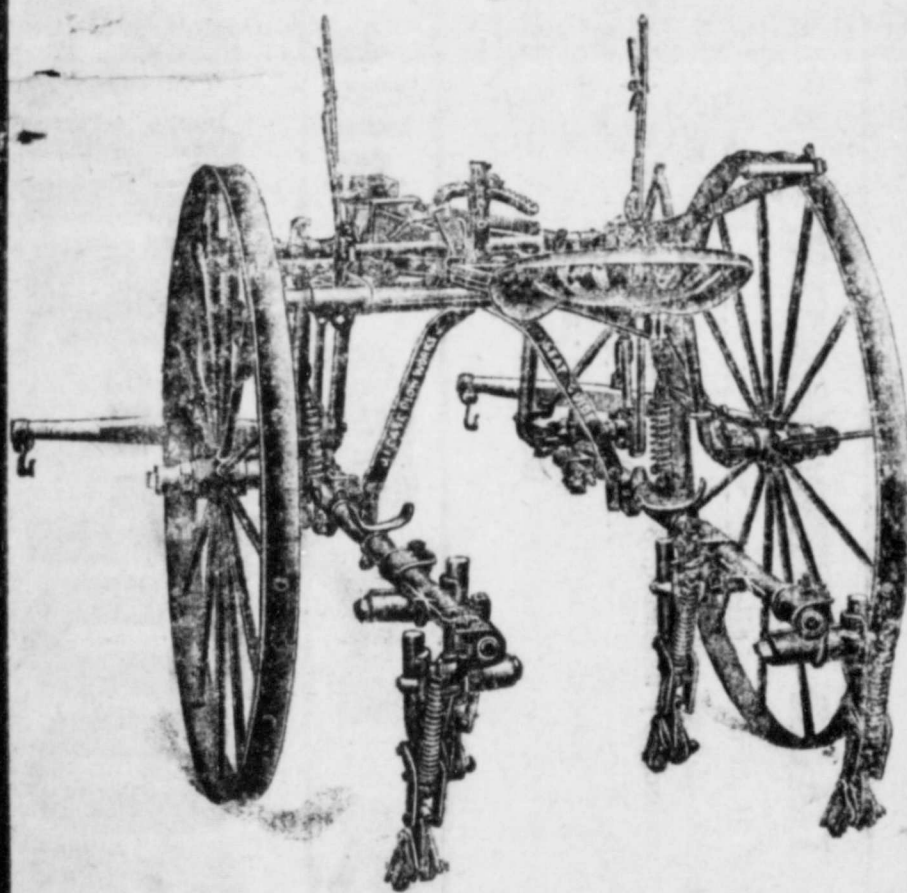
## THE WORLDS GREATEST FARMING IMPLEMENTS

**J. I. Case Cell Drop Planter and  
Seat Guide Cultivator far in  
Advance of other Makes**



### The J. I. Case Cell Drop Planter

Is the only one of its kind in existence. Nothing else is like it—nothing can be like it. The first and original planter to plant cotton seed thru a plate. Holds the bed better and has a lighter draft than any other. You should not fail to see this wonderful planter.



### The J. I. Case Seat Guide Cultivator

Is without a doubt the most practical thing of its kind ever invented. The only one on which you may change the width of beams while the cultivator is in motion. The beams are adjustable to wear for a lifetime. No more loose and shaky beams. Will be as tight in ten years as they were the day you bought it. Can be operated by a 12-year-old boy with perfect ease and comfort. We are headquarters for the most scientific and up-to-date line of implements on the market. Come in at once and let us show you the many exclusive features of this wonderful line.

The Home of Better Service

**G. F. WEST COMPANY**

## SUITS SUITS SUITS

MEN'S TAILOR-MADE SUITS AT  
\$12.50 and up

**THE IDEAL TAILOR SHOP**  
F. E. CHURCH, PROPRIETOR

#### BIG MEETING

At the Presbyterian church at 11 o'clock, Sunday, April 1, an "enlistment campaign" will begin. The services will be evangelistic throughout. Two purpo-



Rev. George Beck.

ses are in view, the salvation of the unsaved and the enlistment of church people for definite Christian service. To lead in the efforts which shall be made, we are fortunate in having secured the services of Rev. Mr. Geo. Beck, pastor of Central Presbyterian church, Sweetwater. Mr. Beck will deliver a series of sermons on "The Seven Words From The Cross."

Intro.—The World's Greatest Tragedy.

- 1—The Divine Compassion.
- 2—The Promise of Paradise.
- 3—The Master's Last Bequest.
- 4—The Forsaken Saviour.
- 5—The Great Agony.
- 6—The Finished Life.
- 7—The Wonderful Death.

CON.—A Dead Christ or a Risen Saviour—Which?  
Summary—Glorying in the Cross.

The series begin Sunday morning, April 1 and close Sunday evening April 8, two services Sunday, only one each day during the remainder of the week, beginning at 8 o'clock p.m.

These services should be very helpful in deepening the religious life of the church and the individual. We cordially invite everybody to attend and co-operate with us. We urge the membership to sacrifice, if need be, to attend these services.

An interesting song service each evening and all the singers of the community are invited to assist the choir.

Miss Mary Reed, who has been visiting in Dallas came in Sunday night to join her parents, Mr. and Mrs. T.G. Bragg in their new home here.

#### CASTLE PEAK

Castle Peak, March 27—The people of this community are enjoying good health and high winds.

E. M. Massey and family spent Saturday night and Sunday with M. H. Henslee and family.

We are informed that the Riney and Nubia school districts have been united and are going to make a high school.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jones visited relatives in Merkel last week. The farmers of this community are planting feed for the first time.

The Riney school was out last week.

Mrs. John Jones set her wood-hen (incubator) last Friday. Miss Mitty Henslee is visiting her uncle, E. M. Massey, near Mt Pleasant.

#### NOLAN COMMUNITY

Nolan, March 26—There are one or two more cases of measles in the Nolan community at this writing.

Miss Myrtle Whiteaker is reported better at present.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Whiteaker and Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, Jr., made a business trip to Merkel the first of the week.

Quite a number of Dora people went to Sweetwater Saturday, we suppose to buy new Easter hats.

Miss Alice Fauks was seen driving that Chevrolet car last Sunday.

Several of the young folks from Dora attended a party on Bitter Creek last Friday night.

#### MRS. BOZE DEAD

Mrs. Mary W. Boze, wife of M. F. Boze, died at the home on Peach street at 4:30 p.m. Thursday of pneumonia. She was 23 years of age and had been married only a few months.

The funeral was held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. C. W. Hearon, who is pastor of the First Methodist church. Interment was made in the local cemetery—Abilene Reporter.

The deceased, who before her marriage was Miss May Kimbrough, has for the past two years made her home in Merkel. The greater part of the time she lived at the Blair Hotel. Mrs. Boze was a lovable character and her untimely death is heard of with regret by many friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. I.D. Simpson will leave in a few days to make their home at Fort Sumner, N. M.

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