



CAN MERKEL HAVE COMMERCIAL CLUB

The Iron Is Hot—Enthusiasm and Co-operation the Needed elements—We have talked Until words are discounted Immediate Action Necessary.

Illuminating the horizon of the business situation in Merkel is the near possibility of a real live commercial organization. Many of our business men worked hard and long in fond anticipation of this day, and let it pass would be tragical in nature, foolish in reality, shameful and weak. Surely our business men are not cowards that they are afraid to speak out and co-operate in a time like this. The hour has come when Merkel ought to rise up and clamor for the very best attainments that a prosperous little city can have. We are losing good citizens that we might keep to our advantage. We are permitting catalog houses to rob the people of our trade district without a united protest. We are not co-operating with our farmer friends to our mutual good. We need a first class trade day. We need a few local or co-operative industries. We need a new depot, and the stockyards moved. We need to co-operate with our school board more in their laudable work of building a great school system. We need to stand behind our city officers and help them in the discharge of their duty. The time and the opportunity call for the heroic side of our lives. Our city needs our service even at the point of sacrifice. If it is right that we go forward then let no power, no influence, no undue coercion, no threats and no criticism deter us from doing the thing that is right at this momentous time. Through a commercial organization we stand as one before the world; without it we are divided, a prey to every ill that may feast upon the pitiable objects of our lack of co-operative efforts. A little expense and we are changed from a pigmy into a giant; from a people jealous of the success of our competitors, to a people believing in the fundamental principle of live and let live. We know that our trade territory is not sufficiently cultivated, that our roads are in bad repair, and that we are sitting still and waiting, possibly, for kind Providence to lay at our feet the things that a little faith and energy would produce. If we do not succeed now, when will we?

GIVES RULES GOVERNING DISPLAY OF U. S. FLAG

Rules governing the display of the United States flag have been issued by the War Department, as follows:

"Raise the flag at sun rise or after.

"Lower the flag at sunset.

"The flag should never be allowed to touch the ground.

"The flag must not be used as a staff, or whip or covering. Its position is aloft.

"When draping the flag against the side of a room or building, place the blue field always to the north or east.

"When displayed with other flags, the national emblem should be placed at the right."

"Good taste requires that bunting be draped or hung with the red at the top, followed by the white and the blue in accordance with the heraldic colors of the flag. It is a mark of disrespect to allow the flag to fly throughout the night. A flag flown up side down is a signal of distress.

The flag, marred, should be burned and a new one hoisted in its place.

The flag should be hoisted from every public building.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" the American national anthem. It should never be played unless the entire piece is rendered and the audience is expected to stand at such a time as this it behooves all American citizens to observe the rules of our national banner and anthem.

Phone Company Loyal

The Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone company has announced its contribution to the public service in these strenuous times of unrest. Not only is it proposed to meet every possible wire requirement which a state of war may demand, but the skilled employes of this great company—as many of them as can be spared—are to be organized. A trained, seasoned and experienced force is to be held as a reserve part of the army signal corps, subject to the country's call.

Plainly, if strenuous days are ahead, they must be intelligently anticipated. The principal element in the question of how this should be done is to determine how men shall find the places for which they are especially fitted. In war telephone and telegraph service becomes highly

important. Suppose, in the indiscriminate enlistment of volunteers for the army this should be crippled through the loss of too many men. Disaster would result. One necessary service cannot be sacrificed or all else will suffer.

The idea of the telephone company is to see that its regular service be maintained and at the same time offer the organized assistance of every trained man who can be spared.

This gives us something to think about. We cannot now overlook the benefits derived from the conception of organization which has come to us as great commercial and industrial companies have sprung into being. Thought and order have been injected into our national existence.

The plan of the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone Company only illustrates the prime necessity of the time but it shows us the strength of well directed purpose and a way out of the confusion and embarrassment and waste which marked the outbreak of the Spanish war.

The cry is for every man to be ready and anxious to do his part. Let us have co-ordination and efficiency and the determination to do things right. It is the secret of success.

Quite a lot of local patriotism was displayed by the students of our public school last Friday afternoon in the flag raising at the school building, which was witnessed by the entire student body and faculty.

At recess time the Seniors, and the presidents of the three other classes accompanied by Principal R. A. Burgess gathered around the flag pole on the roof of the building, where after the bugle call given by Earl Thornton, fifteen Rahs for Wilson, nine for Texas and three for the Seniors were given. To the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" sung by the Seniors. Their president Mr. Paul McMurray assisted by the Juniors Sophomores and Freshman presidents slowly raised Old Glory aloft.

At the conclusion of their simple but impressive ceremony, led by Mr. Mefford, answering Rahs came from the students assembled on the grounds below, in front of the building, where quite a number of visitors also were to be seen.

\$1.00

The subscription price to the Merkel Mail is only \$1.00 for twelve months—a whole year. If your neighbor does not take the Mail insist on him to subscribe now. We can save you money on subscriptions to other papers and would be glad to serve you. Come to see us.

CLASSIFIED ADS

All ads in this department will be 1 cent per word for each time

FOR RENT—House on South Side, close in. S.F. Haynes. tf

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Practically new two-speed twin motorcycle. Riley Horton, Noodle, Texas. 64tp

FOR SERVICE—At my barn, Bay draft stallion, black points, 5 yrs. old, weight 1600 pounds. Arthur Cranston. 23Mar.8tpd

BREEDING NOTICE—I am standing my horse and jack at Hellums Wagon Yard, same old price of \$10.00, and will use all care in breeding, but will not be responsible for accidents. I need and will appreciate your business. G. R. Gazzaway, office in Boyce Building. tf

FOR SALE—Second hand Ford, new Ford, Second hand Maxwell, all in good condition; Terms, 2 buggies, 1 rubber tire practically new; other used some. Mc Donald & Warren. 20t3.

BREEDERS' NOTICE—Black Percheon for service at Hellums Wagon Yard. G.R. Gazzaway. tf

FOR SALE—2 Standard cultivators, \$15 each, money or good note, Mebane cotton seed, \$1.50 per bu. J. A. Patterson Jr. 27t2c

LOST—Somewhere in Merkel a Masonic pin, square and compass. Finder please deliver to Postmaster and receive reward. B. M. Black. 27t2p

FOR SALE—Ford casings, Firestone, non-skid, one set, used some. A bargain. First check for \$25.00 gets them. Dr. Miller.

NOTICE—After May the first all meat will be strictly cash at the City Meat Market. W. H. Laney.

FOR RENT—Close in 1 6-room house, well and mill and lights—1 4-room house and well located nicely. See W. O. Boney at once.

SOME SPECIAL BARGAINS—Slightly used incubators, all standard make, nothing cheap. My stock of windmills is complete. Figure with me.

I will now sell a limited number of eggs from my famous prize winning White Wyandottes—\$2.50 per setting in the Merkel territory. 27t2c Henry M. Rose.

FOR SALE—Nice young, fresh milk cow. Heifer calf. J.B. Lilly, Route 3, Merkel, Tex. 27t2p

FOR SALE—Few good red milk cows. Fresh. A. W. Hunter, Route 5, Merkel. 27t2p

TRADE—Good, new Oliver typewriter for fresh, jersey cow. Apply to Merkel Mail.

FOR SALE—Brown leghorn eggs, \$1.00 per setting; 2 doz. hens, \$1.00 each. E. A. Click, Merkel, Route 3. 20t3p

FOR SALE—Nice fat muttons for killing purposes. Write or telephone, Sam Butman Jr. Route 5. 27t3p.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—For small farm, house and 3 lots in Merkel, close in. Address Box 96, Route 1, Noodle, Tex. t1p

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Krit 5-passenger car, \$165, in good shape. Will trade for young stock. O.F. Leerstang, Merkel, Phone 112. 27t2p

FOR SALE—One good jersey cow fresh. S. W. T. Swafford, Merkel Texas. 1t

Notice.

Dr. Daly of Abilene will be in Merkel April 28th. Practice confined to the Eye, Ear, Nose, Throat and fitting of glasses. Office at the Commercial Hotel.

WANTED—Plain sewing and ironing. Phone 238. Mrs. Ernest Tyler. 13t3p

BREEDER'S NOTICE—Full blood registered poland china boar at home of W. E. Adams, Route 2. 13t4pd

WANTED—Two families for farm work; wages or one third of lint cotton to hoe and pick the crop. S.H.T. Swafford, Merkel Texas. 1t

FOR RENT—A very large, newly papered and painted office in the West Building. See Dr. McMaster. tfc

CITY REDEEMS WATERWORKS BONDS

New City Council Installed—First Official Act To Redeem Bonds, Recommended by Old Council—Great Opportunity Before New Body.

The new City Council was installed last Thursday evening. Very little was done, except in the way of perfecting organization. The committees are being appointed, and their ratification will take place at the first meeting in May.

The first official act of the Council was to adopt a recommendation of the old Council to redeem waterworks bonds to amount of \$3000.00. We are always glad to know that our city indebtedness is being reduced. The unredeemed waterworks bonds now amount \$19,000.00. We hope that the available funds for this purpose will enable the Council to reduce the amount rapidly.

There is a wonderful opportunity before the new City Council. They are business men and are expected to measure up to the city's need. The old Council conducted the affairs of the city on a cash basis, and of their proudest boast is that they never incurred indebtedness that they were not able to pay, and for this the citizens of Merkel should be grateful. Their term of office has not passed without achievement, yet so modest have been the members, that we doubt if half the people of Merkel are acquainted with the fact that they gave their time freely to the development of the city, and without recompense, even the small recompense of gratitude. It is not ours to look back, but ours to march steadfastly forward for the betterment of Merkel. If mistakes have been made, let us bury them. Again let us say that no previous Council was ever confronted with the dire necessity of doing some great work for this city. Opportunity beckons them on to do the heroic thing. They will meet with some criticism, but broad-minded men that we believe them to be, they will go forth to duty undaunted. Weighed in the balances we hope they will not be found wanting, and it therefore behooves every loyal citizen of Merkel to stand by them and help them in whatsoever undertaking way be theirs for the development of our greatly beloved city.

MERKEL CHAUTAUQUA

The three day's chautauqua, held in Merkel last week, has been branded a failure, and did fall below our expectations. The writer induced the canvasser to the business men of Merkel, and did it because he knows that chautauquas are entertaining, educating and elevating. A man only reveals his ignorance when he expresses himself to the contrary. They are so recognized. Now just why this chautauqua did not measure up to our anticipation is easy to see. I grant that the Chautauqua Bureau handled their part of the preparation poorly, then we must admit that Merkel handled her part more poorly. There was an opportunity, furthermore, for some church, the fire boys, the high school, the Commercial Club, or any other organization to have made a few hundred dollars had they taken the matter in charge and the citizenship given support to the chautauqua. But this was not done by any organization, nor was it supported by the citizens to any appreciable degree. Consequently the business men who signed the contract guaranteeing the \$400 had the larger part of it to pay. I am very sorry that any one of them had this to do, but I feel like congratulating the fellows, who confessing their negligence, payed for the experience and did not growl. For my friends, this chautauqua failure is just another proof of "What is everybody's business is nobody's business." It is just another example of Merkel's greatest lack namely, cooperation and furthermore if you will just give as poor support to the rotten street Carnivals that visit your town in the future you will soon stamp them out. And I will venture to suggest just here that after all the chautauqua, which has been so abused by some persons, took much less money out of our town than any carnival that has been in Merkel for years, that it rendered more good, and was vastly less harmful. Let us profit by our own failures and cooperate in all things worth while, and then we will change failure into success. Hubert E. Bullock.

That mayors, county judges and county superintendents or county commissioners, proceed at once to make careful surveys or investigations and ascertain:

(1) From local merchants the volume of each staple food product normally required to feed the county for a year.

(2) From farmers by school districts, or by tax rolls, the probable supply of each product on the basis of the present planting and herds of live stock.

This will require some time—two or three weeks or a month—and it will cost some money, but in no other way can a county or community obtain information upon which to work intelligently. With this information in hand the community can take such steps as are necessary and possible to supply its needs. It will exhibit the best means of procedure, such as:

A. Country neighborhood cooperation and town neighborhood cooperation—rural school districts of clubs with city wards or clubs—for direct dealings and distribution of product and supplies.

B. A central bureau of information, a sort of community exchange for local purposes.

C. Municipal, village and neighborhood plants for canning and drying perishable products.

COMMUNITY FOOD SUPPLY

By Clarence Ousley, Director of Extension A. and M. College. In the campaign for more food and feed there is apt to be much waste effort; many plantings will yield no returns; much that grow will be wasted for lack of means of conserving; there may be a surplus here and scarcity there, even within the State, and inadequate transportation for exchange. Therefore, it is suggested.

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EDITOR WANTS BIDS ON SUPPLIES

A Kansas editor has notified the merchants of his town that he will soon be in need of a pair of shoes, a new shirt and a sack of flour, and that he will call for bids on these items, as that is the custom of the county officials and some business men when they want four dollars worth of printing.

E. L. Woodroof and family have returned from an extended visit to Mineral Wells, where Mr. Woodroof has been for his health. He reports improvement.

Just arrived at G.M. Sharp's, one car stock salt.

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
Total	\$361,188.43

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
Total	\$361,188.43

The above statement is correct.

R. O. ANDERSON, Cashier

Commence Business January, 1912

Safety—Service—Satisfaction

We Solicit Your Business

WHY TRENT SHOULD HAVE MODERN HIGH SCHOOL

Composition by Rilla Nalley, member of the Freshman Class Trent High School.

Trent is in a fine position to start a school such as will be a help to the surrounding country. The school building, which was wood and easily destroyed, has recently burned. It has left Trent absolutely without a school building. We are going to build a new building. The welfare of Trent, in the future, depends upon the school they build to replace the old one.

The boys and girls of Trent were sorry to see the old building burn, but they realize they have an opportunity to replace it with something better. I think the greater part of boys and girls are in favor of a modern high school, and will do their best to realize their dreams next year.

The benefits of a modern high school are too numerous to all be mentioned in a short composition.

The domestic science department is a great benefit to the school. Some girls are in school who do not have mothers to help them with their work around home. This part of the work would benefit this class more than any other probably. There are also girls who do not take an interest in this kind of work, but if it were introduced into the schools they would almost be forced to take an interest. Then different ideas of the girls could go to the different homes and it would be a great help.

A laboratory is a benefit in many ways and should be in every school. The experiments help the pupils to understand things that can not be clearly understood without them.

The play-ground of a high school is an important point. The ground should be large enough for several different kinds of games. If the pupils are confined to one kind of amusement it will soon become tiresome and they will lose interest in it. If the grounds are

large the pupils will have plenty of room for games and this will cause them to take more exercise and be better in their studies. There should be at least 10 acres, for on this ground there should be a three-acre farm to be used in the teaching of agriculture.

The library should be large enough for the pupils to have something to study at times when they are not too busy with their other work. If Trent replaces the old building with a modern high school it will keep the pupils at home at least a year longer than it has before. It will also give them better standing when they enter college. A good school keeps good citizens in the community. It also increases the social interests. It helps in almost every respect for the betterment of the community.

I think the people of Trent realize the good that would result from a modern high school. I hope that the next school that Trent has will be what is needed, a school that will prepare the pupils to keep up with the best of schools. To do this will take at least \$20,000.

(This was written as a part of the regular work in the English department, but incidentally shows the sentiment of the pupils upon the subject of the new school building.)

Church Seating Benefit.

Members of the White church in Mulberry Canyon, will give "The Home Ties," a very interesting little play, Saturday night April 23. The admission will be 25 and 50 cents, the proceeds going to defray the expense of seating the church. Those connected with the play say that it will be worth while, and a large attendance is urged.

Chas. F. Williams, a medical student of Kansas City returned this week from his year's work. Vacation time will be spent with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. G. M. Williams.

PREPAREDNESS WITHOUT COST

☛ If you could contribute directly and without cost to a great country-wide preparedness fund designed to eliminate currency famines and act as a shock-absorber in the ups and downs of business, would you hesitate to make your contribution?

☛ The Federal Reserve Banking System is such a fund and every dollar deposited with us directly increases its strength and the protection it gives to the public.

☛ By depositing your money with us you make this contribution and place yourself under the protection of this great banking system.

Farmers & Merchants NATIONAL BANK

Member Federal Reserve System

United States Depository for Postal Savings

J. T. WARREN, President
G. F. WEST, Vice President
HENRY JAMES, Vice President
THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier
HOMER L. EASTERWOOD, Asst. Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance. tf

Mrs. Pue left Monday for a visit to her sister at Brenham.

Kodoks and films. Grimes Drug Store. 2t

A. W. Hunter of Nubia was in Merkel on business the past week. He says they are needing rain very badly in his section.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance. tf

Ira Owens, who has been running the Kent St. Wagon Yard and who sold his lease to A. L. Jobe, has moved to Mineral Wells.

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

Mrs. West Edwards has returned to her home after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. G. M. Sharp of this city.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance. tf

We will begin handling cream Saturday. Will pay market price. Bring us your cream. Corner Produce Co., Boyce Bldg., Front Street. 20tf

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

Mrs. S. M. Hunter and Children from Nadine, N. M., are visiting the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sublett, with other friends and relations.

Safe Medicine for Children

"Is it safe?" is the first question to be considered when buying cough medicines for children. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has long been a favorite with mothers of young children as it contains no opium or other narcotic, and may be given to a child as confidently as to an adult. It is pleasant to take, too, which is of great importance when a medicine must be given to young children. This remedy is most effectual in relieving coughs, colds and croup. Obtainable everywhere.

Quality --- Economy

We very firmly believe that Good Quality is the main prop to make true economy have its greatest success

Just CHEAP Goods

will keep you buying from week to week and prove the most expensive to you

GOOD GOODS AT SMALL PRICE is our way EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

Few of Our Quality Brands

Kirschbaum's Tailored Suits \$15, \$16.50, \$18, \$20 & \$22.50

WALK OVER SHOES \$4.00, \$5.00, \$5.75, \$6.85, \$7.90

HAMILTON-BROWN SHOES \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.50 and \$4.95

E. & W. Hosiery, Dress Shirts and Underwear
12½ to 50c ; \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$4.50 ; 50c to \$1.25

Stetson Hats \$4.50 to \$6.00 Lyon Special Hats \$3.00
Rippon Gloves \$1.50 to \$2.00

We are One-Price, Spot-Cash "Safety"---Cash, Quality and Economy

The Brown Dry Goods Co.

LOCAL NEWS

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

Mr. Miller of Mineral Wells has accepted the position as tailor for the Star Tailor Shop, conducted by Mrs. C. L. Cash. Mr. Miller comes highly recommended as a man of marked ability in his profession.

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

Mrs. J. D. Boring left Wednesday morning for Fort Worth where she will remain indefinitely. Accompanying Mrs. Boring were her children, Miss Bert Boring and W. F. Buchanan of Fort Worth and Emmett D. Boring. The last named will in few days return to Merkel.

See J. A. Woodard for land loans or fire insurance. tf

Capt Wm. McLennon and wife of Waco, are spending a few days with their daughter, Mrs. Ira Armstrong, and are receiving the glad hand of welcome by their old friends here. McLennon Country was named in honor of Capt. McLennon's father, Col Neil McLennon, a family noted far and wide for their generosity and intelligence and unswerving honor.

Kodoks and films. Grimes Drug Store. 2t

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.

TWIXT SANDS AND ROSES

We have become remiss in our epistolary duties lately. When a pretty bald-headed man is compelled by dire necessity to assume the role of deadbeat, hobo and tramp as a result of the high cost of living and unprecedented scarcity of hill rabbits, he is kept too busy for letter writing.

Our section was blessed with a nice shower the past week, which will aid materially in germinating seed that had been planted before the rain. Mr. Bill Tiner and others have a stand of corn up, which looks beautiful. Mr. Edgar Grayson, one of our most prominent young farmers, will finish planting cotton in a few days. He is one of the energetic ones who believes in rushing things.

Our young folks enjoyed the superb entertainment of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Winter. Dainty and appetizing refreshments were served by Mrs. Winter, and all present had a most delightful time.

Misses Bertha and Beatrice Simmons of Cole are spending the week with Mrs. Marion Winter and other friends.

Rev. Will Bennett, brother of Mrs. Jim Grayson, preached an earnest, eloquent and most impressive sermon to a large audience at Stith Sunday. An introductory discourse by Mr. Terrell Winter (or Uncle Terry) as he is affectionately called, was excellent, indulging in the pleasant episodes of the past, the growth of the community, the church, the old friendship ties that had been severed by the un-



STYLISH SPRING CLOTHES FOR MEN

You are now due to come in and buy your new spring clothes ---so you can drop off your dreary winter garments---heavy in weight and heavy in color.

Bright springtime demands bright clothes. All we get out of life anyway is the joy of living. Then as new clothes delight you come in and buy them. Wear them and the songs of the birds of springtime will sound sweeter and you will be happier.

Wearing good new clothes will also help you succeed. Looking prosperous brings prosperity. It will pay you to wear better clothes; it will pay you to buy them from us.

Just received car of Flour and Feed—that good old Marechal Neil Flour—and some rich mill-run bran. See us. Make your dollars go farther by seeing us before you buy.

Lace and Embroidery Bargains

See our display of laces and embroideries at prices far below the market value. You'll miss an exceptional bargain if you fail to see this assortment. A few lace curtains left at half price.

SATURDAY SPECIALS

- 4 pkgs. cocoanut25c
- 5 pkgs. 1-pound soda25c
- 1 35c can coffee25c
- 3 pounds Bermuda onions ...25c
- 10 cans No. 3 pie peaches . \$1.00
- 10 cans No. 2 black berries \$1.00
- 7 pounds bulk coffee \$1.00
- 3-lb bucket steel-cut coffee with cup and saucer \$5c

Hats and Shirts Specials

On display in our gents' furnishings department are some values in hats and shirts that should interest every hat and shirt buyer in this country. \$2.50 to \$3 hats 89c and up. \$1 to \$1.50 shirts 39c and up. See them.

THE STAR STORE

First Annual Roundup.

San Antonio, Tex. (Special)—San Antonio will be the mecca for cattlemen, cowboys and all lovers of Western Sports when the first annual Roundup will be held here May 2d, to 6th.

Miss Lucille Mulhall, American's Greatest Horsewoman, of Mulhall, Okla., will be the feature attraction each day and night and will rope and tie wild steers by special permit of Governor Ferguson. Miss Mulhall, is also bringing here about 300 head of the wildest long horned steers and outlaw horses obtainable on her ranch and Homer Wilson, manager of the Roundup has made contracts with parties in Texas, Wyoming and South Dakota for outlaw horses which the owners claim have never been ridden. It is safe to say that there will be lots of excitement when the horses and riders meet.

Prizes to the amount of \$5000. will be put up for broncho busting, steer riding, bareback riding, steer bulldogging, goat roping and various other Western sports and from the looks of the rapidly increasing number of entries, it is safe to say that there will be over 200 cowboys and cowgirls from Texas alone, taking part in the contest to say nothing of those that have entered from Montana, Wyoming and other Western States.

The Roundup will be the biggest show of its kind ever held in Texas and the aim of the committee in charge is to make the affair an annual one and build a park solely for its use.

San Antonio is making pre-

J. P. SHARP, JR.

SUCCESSOR TO SHARP & HAYNES

Am strictly on the job at all times and will take best of care of all work entrusted with me.

Thanking you for past patronage and assuring you all work given me will be heartily appreciated, I am
Yours for service

J. P. Sharp, Jr.

184—PHONE—184

Merkel Institute of Massage and Turkish Baths

Try massage treatment for that trouble that seems beyond reach. No better place in Texas to go than Merkel Institute of Massage

Dr. J. T. Pue in Charge. Phone 49

Just received fresh shipment International Stock Food Tonic. Now is the time to tone up your stock

We have a splendid new line of Kodaks and supplies. Come let us show them to you.

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

relenting hand of death. It was a grand and noble talk, an incentive and inspiration to the younger members of our community.

Judge Lee Williams of Noodle and a host of others attended the Woodman meeting at Anson.

It was indeed a sad and pathetic scene to witness the separation of Col. W. F. Wheeler and Capt. J. H. Grayson last week, Col. Wheeler selling his farm here and going west. These are two old staunch yoemen of the West, who have been intimate associates for a series of years, both men of unquestionable honor, who by precept and example have been patent factors in elevating the moral and religious tone of our section, each of them wielding an influence that has been a blessing to our country, for

"T-was thus the royal mandate van.

When first the human race began.

The social, friendly, honest man.

Who e'er he be.

'Tis he who fulfills great nature's plan.

And none but he."

We regret to report the illness of Mrs. Sam Grayson, a most excellent lady, who has been confined to her room for two weeks with neuralgia of the chest.

A brief summary of incidents and observations of the jaunt through west Texas and New Mexico may interest some of the readers of the Mail.

(From Waco Times Herald)

Our miniature caravan of prospectors consisted of Colonel H. F. Wheeler, an extensive farmer, and one of the old-time sociable and hospitable ranchmen, and his two sons, Messrs. Edgar and Olivie Wheeler, and Captain S. S. Dunn, a wealthy farmer.

We passed through the towns of Tula, Texico, Clovis and Fort Sumpter, and innumerable hamlets, or cities of lesser growth, all scrupulously neat, with every external evidence of thrift, refinement and general prosperity.

Rich land of various colored soil, dotted with nice substantial farm houses, with every species of farm animals and improved fowls; saw one large ranch devoted exclusively to raising fine hogs. The people whom we met were typical westerners—polite sociable and hospitable.

Reaching the Mexican border at the old town of Santa Rosa, put up at a Mexican inn; fared well enough, but some of their dishes we did not exactly relish, but "Degustibus non est disputandum." There were several large irrigation plants to be seen

on the road. Adobe huts, some neatly kept, as though an energetic Caucasian might dwell there; others of a crude primitive construction; filthy habitations of a homogenous mass of nomadic greasers, who live in abject squalor, wholly indifferent to external appearances, and who seem to have congenital antipathy to both soap and water, and all amidst such beautiful natural scenery, which is magnificently grand and awe-inspiring.

This is especially true of the Capitan mountain region of perpetual snow, the green valleys beneath garnished with a lovely coat of grass and evergreen shrubbery, making the contrast the acme of natural beauty.

Then peering down from the apex of this mountain range to the almost bottomless abyss beneath makes even a silly, vain-glorious man conscious of his own infinitesimal nothingness. Scattered over the country are crumbling walls of cities of some prehistoric race, that have survived the names of those who reared them, leaving the imprints of both feet and hands on the walls, but no names of the race.

Neither the Alps or Perenes of men who erected them, can boast of a scenery more magnificently grand and inspiring.

The stock in this region consists of sheep and cattle herded almost exclusively by Mexicans. The officials are nearly all Mexicans of neat and genteel appearance.

"Junius."

TO AILING WOMEN

A Little Sound Advice Will Help Many a Sufferer in Merkel

No woman should consider herself healthy and well if the kidneys are weak. Poisons that pass off in the secretions when the kidneys are well are retained in the body when the kidneys are disordered. If the kidneys and bladder become inflamed and swollen worse troubles may quickly follow. This is often the cause of bearing-down pains lameness, backache, etc. Uric poisoning is also frequent cause of headaches, dizzy spells, languor, nervousness and rheumatic pain.

When suffering so, try Doan's Kidney Pills, a remedy that has proven effective in thousands of such cases. Let a Merkel woman tell her experience:

Mrs. J. M. Dry, Merkel, says: "I got down with my back and when I stooped over, it was hard to straighten up again. Dizzy spells came on me and I felt worn-out and depressed



He used a pebble in his day, to keep his mouth moist—

WE use

WRIGLEY'S

WRIGLEY'S gives us a wholesome, antiseptic, refreshing confection to take the place of the cave man's pebble.

We help teeth, breath, appetite, digestion and deliciously soothe the mouth and throat with this welcome sweetmeat.

The Wrigley Spearmen want to send you their Book of Gum-ption. Send a postal for it today, Wm. Wrigley Jr. Co., 1732 Kesner Building, Chicago.

The Flavor Lasts!



most all the time. I used but one box of Doan's Kidney Pills and the pains in my back left, the headaches disappeared and my kidneys were greatly strengthened. I have never had much need of a kidney medicine since."

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

W. T. Sherrill is sporting a Hudson-Super Six, which he has just purchased.

parations to care for the thousands of out of town visitors that will attend and it will be one grand reunion for the old time cowmen from all parts of the State.

Miss Leona Vantrees of Waxahachie is here for a two months stay taking treatment at Merkel Institute of Massage. While here Miss Vantrees is visiting in the home of Mr. Houston Scott north of the city.

Miss Fern Rutledge of Vincent, Tex., is visiting her aunt and family, Mrs. G. M. Sharp.

SATURDAY APRIL 28TH

SPECIAL PROGRAM

"THE MAN IN HIM"

2-Part Esanay with Frances X. Bushman

"WURRA-WURRA"

1-Part Kalem Comedy

Children 5c : 6 REELS 6 : Adults 15c

A program that will Entertain, Amuse and Delight
(Matinee 3 to 5:30-5:10c)

"STANLEY & THE SLAVE TRADER"

2-Part Horsley African-Animal Picture

"TIME & TIDE"

1-Part American Mutual Comedy

NOTE—Until the close of school, we will show each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday only. We have secured the "General" program and feel that with this and by concentrating all of our efforts to these shows each week, we can promise you better service and a broader line of amusement than ever before. Our general aim will be to give you two shows for the price of one and one-half. Arrange your evenings so that you will not miss a show because we will make them worth while.

THEATRE - COZY - AIRDOME

Merchants Matinee every Wednesday—3 to 5:30

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.

Merkel expects every citizen to do his duty in a Commercial Club way.

The terribly high living cost brings the effect of war to every doorstep.

Little war news is available, except that the death struggle continues unabated on French and Belgium frontiers.

The home guards of Merkel are rapidly growing in numbers. We hope soon to have two or three hundred enlisted.

It is a privilege and duty to belong to the home guards. Half a hundred are aligned beneath the stars and stripes, and as many more could easily join. We might be needed; we might not; but the experience will be pleasant, and if we have to use the knowledge gained, it will be far better for us.

There has been considerable chicken stealing in this vicinity of late. Suspicion points strongly in certain directions. It has been said that chicken stealing and bootlegging are kindred occupations. We wish to advise the offender that some of these good days his profitable occupation is going to be knocked into a cocked hat. It is strange that a decent citizenship will allow suspicious characters of this stripe to live in the community, and a long suffering public at last will arise and demand justice. It has not been so long ago since a horse thief paid the penalty at the end of a rope. A chicken thief is no better. We don't need them and the quicker they can be sent out of the country the better. Some developments are looked for, and that soon, as too many people have been losing fowls in and around Merkel. It is too easy for a vehicle to drive out and gather in a supply, not for eating purposes, but to ship. A few days will likely tell the tale.

SOME SPECIAL BARGAINS
Slightly used incubators, all standard make, nothing cheap. My stock of windmills is complete. Figure with me. I will now sell a limited number of eggs from my famous prize winning White Wyandottes—\$2.50 per setting in the Merkel territory. 27t2c
Henry M. Rose.

CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Report.

Methodist	Attendance	Col.
187	187	\$5.25
Baptist	125	6.15
Christian	80	6.75
Presbyterian	73	2.34
Trent Methodist	85	2.18
White Methodist	70	.85

Sunday School Convention.

A very successful Sunday School convention was held at the Presbyterian church the past week. Visitors were on hand from the important cities and towns and from the country of Central West Texas. Many interesting talks and addresses were made, and the delegates went away feeling that the time had been well spent and determined to do greater work in the future than in the past.

Missionary Rally.

There will be a missionary rally at the Methodist church Sunday night. A splendid program is being prepared. Special music.

Mrs. Burroughs.
Mrs. Martin.
Mrs. Hutcheson.
Missionary Committee.

Mrs. Walker Dies.

Mrs. I. Y. Walker, mother of Mrs. Hayden Turner, died very suddenly last Tuesday evening at 6:30. Mrs. Walker happened to an accident by falling about three weeks ago, but was thought to be doing nicely.

Mrs. Walker was born in Tennessee April 15, 1848, and has been in Texas over twenty years. She was a life long member of the Methodist church and lived a

consistent Christian life. Her virtues were many, her patience and fortitude recognized by all who knew her and her life was a blessed benediction to the community in which she resided.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Turner, and two sons, W. T. and C. C. Walker, both of whom live near here. Her husband died here about eight years ago.

The funeral services were conducted at the residence of Mr. Turner, Rev. L. A. Humphries officiating. Burial was made in Rose Hill cemetery.

Spring

Spring is looked upon by many as the most delightful season of the year, but this cannot be said of the rheumatic. The cold and damp weather brings on rheumatic pains which are any thing but pleasant. They can be relieved, however, by applying Chamberlain's Liniment. Obtainable everywhere.

Advertised Letters.

Baldwin, W. L.
Cruse, Miss Grace.
Cruse, T. L.
Gillette, Henry.
Gillette, John W.
Jackson, Joe.
Stephens, Elder.
Stephens, Mrs. Ollie.
Stephens, W. L.
These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on May 9th H. G. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

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.

Saved Girl's Life

"I want to tell you what wonderful benefit I have received from the use of Thedford's Black-Draught," writes Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mill's, Ky.

"It certainly has no equal for la grippe, bad colds, liver and stomach troubles. I firmly believe Black-Draught saved my little girl's life: When she had the measles, they went in on her, but one good dose of Thedford's Black-Draught made them break out, and she has had no more trouble. I shall never be without

THEDFORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT

in my home." For constipation, indigestion, headache, dizziness, malaria, chills and fever, biliousness, and all similar ailments, Thedford's Black-Draught has proved itself a safe, reliable, gentle and valuable remedy.

If you suffer from any of these complaints, try Black-Draught. It is a medicine of known merit. Seventy-five years of splendid success proves its value. Good for young and old. For sale everywhere. Price 25 cents.

COME ON! LET'S GO! LET 'EM BUCK!

Lucille Mulhall's Big Roundup and Cowmen's Reunion

San Antonio, Tex., May 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

\$5000.00 in Cash Prizes

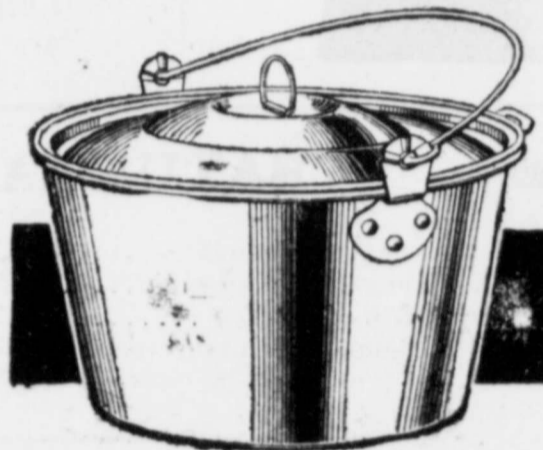
Steer Bulldogging, Steer Riding, Goat Roping, Bucking Horse Riding, Trick Riding, Calf Branding, Bareback Riding and all Frontier Sports

LUCILLE MULHALL

At every performance, Roping and tying wild steers
Twice Daily—2:30 and 8:15 p. m.

Get This \$2.10 "Wear-Ever"

ALUMINUM 4-QUART KETTLE For Pot-Roasting, Stewing, Preserving, Etc.
FOR ONLY \$1.95



and the coupon if presented on or before
May 4

Useful Every Day
Please note new Adjustable Bail

Replace utensils that wear out
with utensils that "Wear-Ever"

Clip the COUPON today---bring it to us during the DEMONSTRATION under the personal direction of a factory expert, who will demonstrate the time-saving, labor-saving and money-saving merits of "Wear-Ever" aluminum utensils

High Cost of Living Reduced by "Wear-Ever" Aluminum Utensils

NEXT WEEK-MAY 2, 3, 4 A demonstrator will explain the economy of using them
SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WILL BE DONE

- 1—Food will be boiled dry,—will be burned in an aluminum kettle and the kettle will be made clean and bright again,—as good as new.
- 2—A pot roast will be made without water or grease. From some of the cheaper cuts of meat delicious roasts will be made.
- 3—A whole meal will be cooked in a double roaster over one flame.
- 4—A quart of milk will be boiled down to one-half pint, without scorching.
- 5—An empty tea kettle will be kept on the fire continually and cold water will be dashed into it while hot,—without injury to the kettle.
- 6—Mush, rice, fudge and fruit butters will be made without stirring.

Please accept this as a cordial invitation to be present at some time during the demonstration.
Don't forget the dates—May: 2—3—4.

OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT

will have in connection with this a demonstration of Heinz Pure Food Products and National Biscuit Co's Cakes and Crackers, and will serve you with Chase & Sanborn's SEAL Brand Coffee and Iced Tea—

Everybody Come

We Want To Show You.

ANCHOR MERCANTILE COMPANY

A Card of Thanks.
In humble submission to the Master's will, we had to part with our dear mother, and to our many friends, so noble and true, we thank you for your words of comfort and deeds of kindness, which so much assisted us in these trying hours. May God's blessing be upon each of you.
Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Turner.

Why Constipation Injures...
The bowels are the natural sewerage system of the body. When they become obstructed by constipation a part of the poisonous matter which they should carry off is absorbed into the system, making you feel dull and stupid, and interfering with the digestion and assimilation of food. This condition is quickly relieved by Chamberlain's Tablets. Obtainable everywhere.

DENTAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Beginning on April the 10th, I will give a 20 per cent discount from the regular prices on all Dental work, done in my Merkel office, during the months of April and May—terms cash. I am in Trent every Tuesday.
O.F. McMaster, Dentist.

T. G. Bragg, of the Woodroof-Bragg Company has purchased the J. W. Daniel property and moved in.

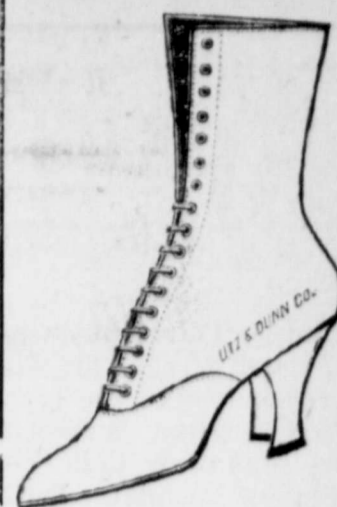
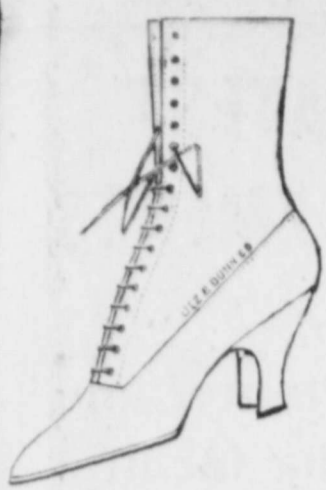
Merkel School Census.
The school census has been completed by Roy B. Mefford, the available names amounting to 654, as compared with 633 for last year. The work has been done promptly and efficiently, and the board has the data in hand to work out its program for next year.

Buy your groceries from me and we both make money. G.M. Sharp.

New Ford Owners.
The Fulwiler Electric Company delivered to the following parties this week Ford touring cars:
Roy Cogburn, J. J. Stallings, B. V. Wheeler, J. A. Neighbors, G. H. Holloway and W. M. Jones.

Cow feed and bran at G. M. Sharp's.

SPECIAL
Pump electrically, eliminate the unsightly looks of wind mill, takes care of garden and lawn, whether the wind blows or not. See the outfit in our show window.
Special inducements.
Merkel Power Company.



SHOE PRICES

Big saving in men's, ladies and children's shoes and oxfords. Certain elements seem to be working to cause the consumer pay exorbitant prices for shoes. **There is a Limit.**

It is true leather and materials necessary to make good shoes have advanced 75 to 85 per cent but as our purchases were made nine or ten months ago, it enables us to give you the same values that we have always carried at very low prices.

Our shoe stock will well invoice \$15,000.00, and owing to our foresightedness in buying these shoes we are in much better shape to care for our customers than anyone in this part of the country. We are holding the price down on shoes as we have not made "One Dollar" on them until they are sold, no matter how high the price goes. Along this principle we will sell shoes at or around the old prices.



LADIES SHOES

Our No. 1349, Gl. Kid, medium heel, strap pump, well worth \$3.50, our price only **\$2.50**

A complete line of ladies two and three strap pumps in patent and kid, well worth \$4.00 and \$5.00, our price **\$3.50**

For Saturday we will place on sale 36 pairs Misses and Ladies white canvas sport oxfords with black trimmings, regular price \$3.50, special price **\$2.85**

We have a complete line of Misses pumps in patent kid, and gun metal, at old prices.

MENS SHOES

Marshall's genuine kangaroos and oxfords in button and lace, all lasts and widths, well worth \$8.50, our price **\$6.00**

Men's gun metal and Russia calf shoes and oxfords in button and lace, well worth \$6.00, our price **\$5.00**

Our stock No. 10 Beacon apex last, oak tan bottoms, button or lace, worth \$5.00, our price **\$4.00**

Our No. 641 gun metal button shoes with oak tan bottoms, values well worth \$4.50, our price **\$3.50**

Men's No. 324 Tan Work Shoes, Chrome Sole, worth \$3.50 **\$2.50**



The Anchor Mercantile Company



TEXACO CRATER COMPOUND The Great Gear Lubricant Makes Tractor Gears Last Longer

DURING plowing and seeding there's a cloud of dust around the gears all the time. Dust and sand get on the gear teeth, cause rapid wear—early replacements.

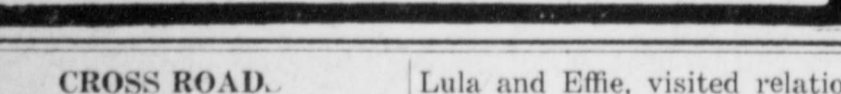
CRATER COMPOUND on gears, chains and sprockets protects them even under these severe conditions.

In spite of the dust and dirt this great lubricant sticks to the treated parts and protects them. It coats each and every tooth with lubricant and keeps them coated. It doesn't dry or flake off. Neither will it wash off nor melt. It just sticks and lubricates always.

That's why CRATER COMPOUND makes gears last longer—saves replacements and delays. Increases the profits on your tractor investment.

Try a 25-lb. can of TEXACO CRATER COMPOUND. Call on Texaco dealer, or write our nearest office.

There is a Texaco lubricant for every purpose.



night. The people would like to see a good rain so they could go to planting and quit hauling water.

CASTLE PEAK

Castle Peak, April 24—We had a little shower last week, probably enough to spoil the seed that was planted. It did not rain enough to put out any stock water, so we are worse off than ever.

The old people, as well as the young, enjoyed a supper at the home of A. R. Toombs last Friday.

C. R. Roland moved his house on better ground last week. His son Elsie is helping him and improving things in a manner that looks a little suspicious.

Some of the boys enjoyed a good croquet game at Jess Campbell's last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jones spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hathaway.

Mrs. M. E. Bacus has screened her house against flies.

Most of the men are dry planting some cotton and maize just to keep from feeding the seed.

BREEDERS' NOTICE—Black Percheon for service at Hellum Wagon Yard. G.R. Gazzaway. tf

Wamba coffee. G. M. Sharp.

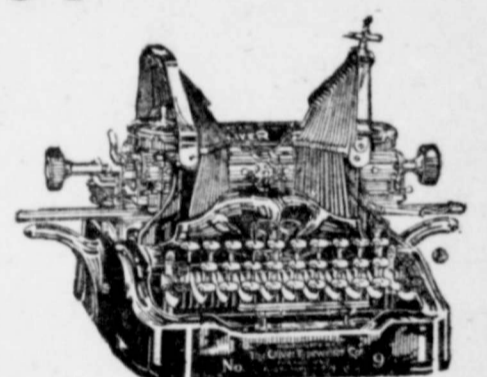
J. W. Daniel Dead.

Word reached Merkel last Wednesday stating that J. W. Daniel was dead at El Paso. The family left here a few days ago in the interest of his health. While he was not expected to live on account of his condition, yet the end came sooner than was expected. Full particulars have not been received.

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.

Drives Out Malaria, Builds Up System
The Old Standard general strengthening tonic, GROYER'S YAST-LESS CHILI TONIC, drives out malaria, enriches the blood, and builds up the system. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

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, 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. jan12t11

The Oliver Typewriter Company
Oliver Typewriter Building, Chicago

CROSS ROAD.

Cross Roads, April 25—On last Thursday and Friday night all the people around here went to Tye to the closing of school, and all enjoyed the program.

W. Harp gave the young folks a party last Saturday night.

Sunday School was well attended. Bro. C. L. Rister filled his regular appointment at this place Sunday. Mr. Hairson gave a singing Sunday night. Ted Bigham spent Saturday night and Sunday with Walter Teaff.

Sam Rister and his two sons, John and Bill, and two daughters

Lula and Effie, visited relations at Monday Saturday and Sunday.

Nim Teaff and family visited his sons, and families, Oline and Osee Teaff.

Alice and Clara Boswell were the guests of Miss Lizzie Teaff Sunday afternoon.

A crowd of young folks enjoyed a couple of hours at O. St. play's Tuesday night.

Ollie Bigham and sisters, Maybell and Eva Lee, were the guests of Herschel Ely and sister, Laura Sunday.
Our school will be out Friday



Miss Evelyn Williams, Editor

Warren — Coit Announcement.

Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas Warren announce the marriage of their daughter, Winnie, to Mr. Henry Campbell Coit on the evening of Monday, April 13, 1917, at half after eight o'clock, at their residence. The young couple will be at home after May 20th at Plano, Texas.

Army Officer Married.

Sergeant Roy C. Elliott of the recruiting office, New Orleans, recently married to Miss Ethel Watson of Dallas, Tex.

Sergeant Elliott formerly lived in Merkel. He has been recommended for the position of Captain on the staff of the Adjutant General.

Mashburn-Canon Wedding.

G. T. Mashburn and Miss Virgie Canon both residents of the Stith community were united in marriage last Sunday afternoon.

Accompanied by Misses Floy Bradley, Eunice Ford and Ray Massey, these young people drove to the home of J. A. Pipe where Rev. McAnalley, of Stith, performed the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Mashburn are both members of popular families in their community and elsewhere. The bride especially is a character of much charm and attractiveness and the groom is to be congratulated on his good fortune of winning her as a wife.

These young people for the present will live with the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Mashburn.

The missionary ladies of the Methodist church enjoyed a social meeting at "Evilla Villa," the country home of the Misses Garoutte, Monday afternoon.

The charming hospitality of this home is well known to all who have been as fortunate as to have been a guest therein. An unusually good program was given, after which the time was

AFTER ANY SICKNESS
your nervous system is shattered; your strength is wasted; your digestion weakened, your blood impoverished.

SCOTT'S EMULSION

is the rich tonic-food to nourish your nerve-centers, repair the wasted tissue, improve your blood-power, sharpen your appetite and gradually re-establish your strength.

Get SCOTT'S for yourself, or remind some ailing friend that SCOTT'S has proven these words for thousands of others. Look for this Trade-Mark.

Scott & Bowne, Bloomfield, N. J.



Spring is Here

Fly time calls for Screen windows and doors

Paints brighten up the premises

All kind of materials for building and repairs

BURTON-LINGO COMPANY

O. S. BURNS, Merkel

Dodge Service Car

Goes Day or Night—Anywhere

Phone 6, Elite Confectionery—Nite Phone 136

TANLAG

THE GREAT TONIC
Is Giving Splendid Results
A Supply Now on Hand

Merkel Drug Company

spent socially. Those present were Mesdames C. D. Mims, R. A. Martin, Rosa Smith, H. C. Williams, J. L. Harris, Lee Moore, W. P. Browning, Chas. Beard, N. D. Cobb, A. E. Connor, J. J. Shelton, R. M. Parker, B. Jenkins, H. C. Burroughs, Miss Almeda Harris, little Billie Burke Mims, Billie Bob Burroughs and the hostess.

A luncheon, consisting of ham sandwiches with cottage cheese balls in lettuce nests and olives, was served.

For Constipation.

Mr. L. H. Farnham, a prominent druggist of Spirit Lake, Iowa, says: "Chamberlain's Tablets are certainly the best thing on Give these tablets a trial. You are certain to find them agreeable and pleasant in effect. Price, 25cents. For sale by all Dealers.

A Healing Salve for Burns Chapped Hands and Sore Nipples.

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

Why Postmasters Go Insane.

A freckle-faced girl stopped at the post office and yelled out: "Anything for the Murphy's?" "No, there is not," said the postmaster.

phy?"
"Nothing."
"Anything for Ann Murphy?"
"No."
"Anything for Tom Murphy?"
"No."
"Anything for Bob Murphy?"
"No, not a bit."
"Anything for Jerry Murphy?"
"Nothing at all."
"Anything for Lize Murphy?"
"No; nor for Pat Murphy, nor Dennis Murphy, nor for Pete Murphy, nor Paul Murphy, nor for John, Jack, nor Jim Murphy, nor for any Murphy, dead, living, unborn, native or foreign, civilized, savage, barbarous, franchised or disfranchised, natural or otherwise. No, there is positively nothing, individually, jointly, severally, now and forever."

The girl looked at the postmaster in astonishment and said:
"Please see if there is anything for Clarence Murphy?"
—Charles A. Bess, 404 Velasco, in National Monthly.

Though most commonly eaten raw, radishes, especially the larger sorts, are also cooked and served like creamed turnip, which they much resemble in flavor. The leaves can be used for greens, or if they are very tender can be added to salads.—United States Department of Agriculture.

Miss Fern Rutledge, Vincent, Texas, is visiting Misses Ola and Lula Sharp, this week.

Mrs. W. L. Williams of Midland is visiting with her father W. T. Daniel and her friends the Misses Bell.

Mrs. W. D. Waller of Fort Worth visited Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Paul, of Mount Pleasant community, the past week.

Mrs. T. L. Grimes left last Tuesday for Temple where she will enter the Scott-White Sanitarium for treatment.

Dr. C. M. McConley of Dallas spent Sunday visiting in the home of Mrs. E. M. Rust.

Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. McConley, the Dr. returned to Abilene in the afternoon he visited with friends until time for the evening train to Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Duff and their son, Homer, and daughter, Clea, visited their son, O. R. Duff, and family, the past week. They came through from Ferris, their home town, in an auto, and while they found a good deal of muddy roads, they report a very enjoyable time.

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.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY

While the patriotic cry is now heard in the land, and the high cost of living is digging deep into your pocketbooks, why buy new clothes? You can have your old ones mended, cleaned and pressed to look as good as new.

MRS. C. L. CASH
Star Store Tailor Shop
Merkel, Tex.

The Standing of Contestants on April — 23 — 1917.

1	201,535
2	57,410
3	456,330
4	12,535
5	4,000
6	2,085
7	673,155
8	38,510
9	8,150
10	213,940
11	5,160
12	2,005
13	2,000
14	2,960
15	83,620
16	23,250
17	371,870
18	544,525
19	2,000
20	197,070
21	5,270
22	35,715
23	25,655

G. F. WEST COMPANY

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



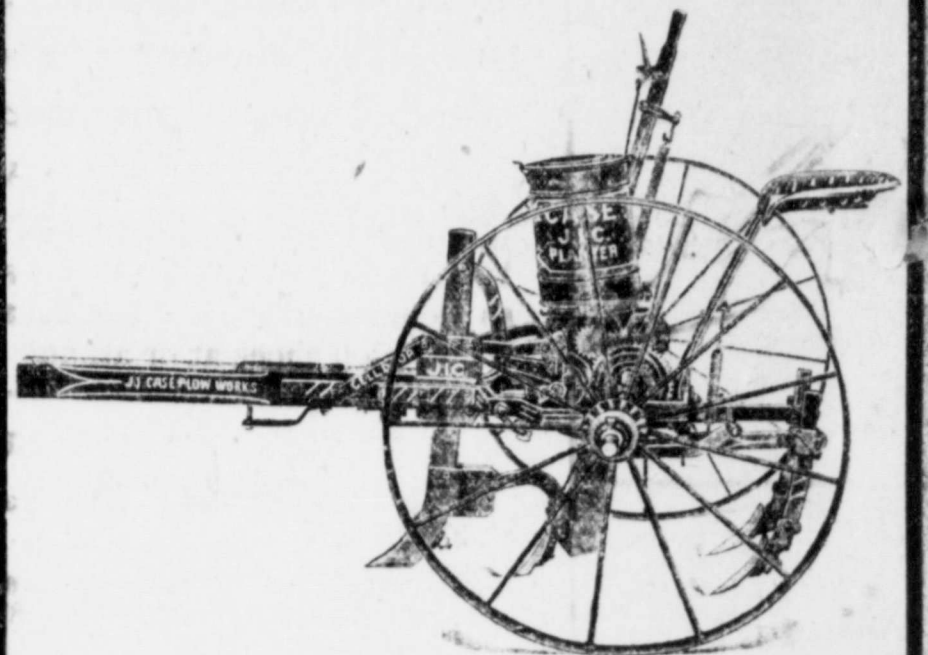
Excursion Rates THE YEAR ROUND

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

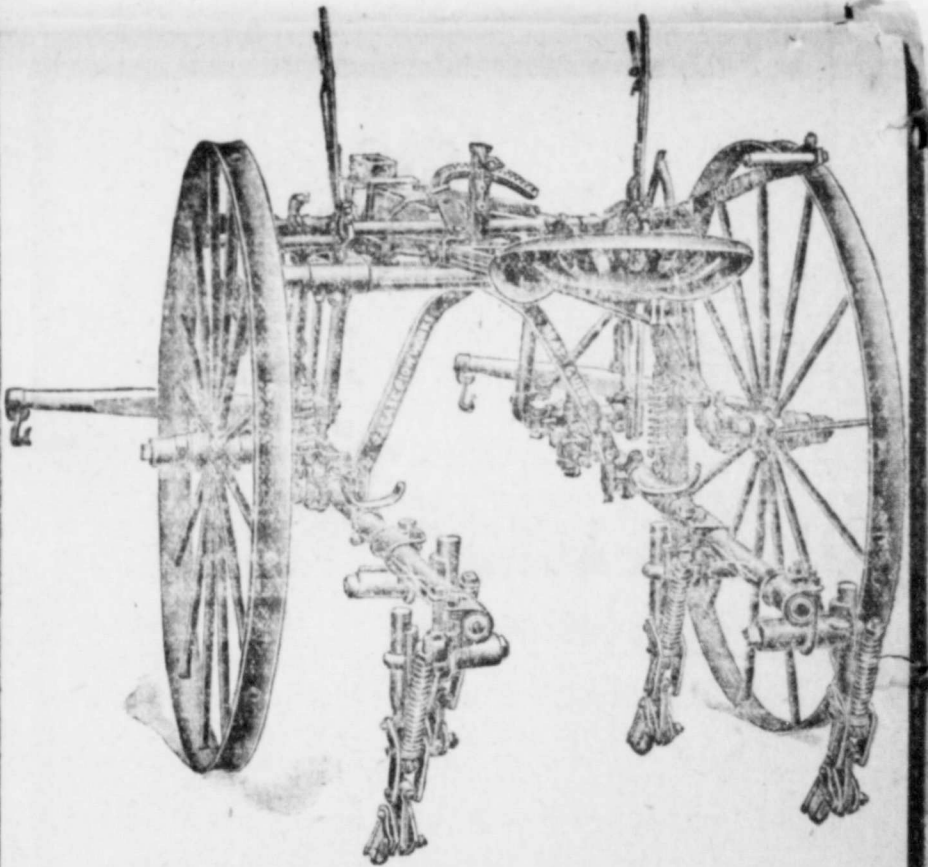
THE WORLDS GREATEST FARMING IMPLEMENTS

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



"Oh Look!

I can eat 'em all—they won't hurt me! That's because they're made with Calumet—and that's why they're pure, tempting, tasty, wholesome—that's why they won't hurt any kid."

Received Highest Awards
New Cook Book Free—See Slip
in Pound Can.



Cheap and big can Baking Powders do not save you money. Calumet is the pure and far superior to sour milk and soda.

Good Rockers are Easily Ruined

by the night air and the hot wind

Save your Furniture by getting a

4-Piece Porch Set

Rocker
Chair
Settee
Table

For the price of one good Rocker
The Set complete only

\$7.50

Get your Wednesday Matinee Tickets with each 25c Purchase

Behrens-McMillen Furniture Company

Furniture and Undertaking

Candies Made at Home

Handle no other Kind

Large, Well Assorted Stock of 200 Pounds on Display in cases at all times, always fresh—Made Daily

Full Line of Appetizing Divinities

Assortment from Peanut Brittle to After Dinner Mints—Chocolates. Cater to School Children

Service and Courtesy govern our Business Dealings We Appreciate Your Trade and Influence

The Merkel Bakery

Opposite Postoffice
N. HANCOCK, Prop.



Grace Presbyterian Church of Merkel, Tex.

Rev. Bullock Leaves Pastorate.

After three years of very successful effort, Rev. H. E. Bullock leaves his charge, as pastor of the Presbyterian church, and left last Wednesday evening for Cincinnati, where he will attend the University of Cincinnati and will also take up theological work in the Lane Seminary.

Rev. Bullock has been in charge of the church here for three years and one month. He

leadership.

This community can ill afford to lose this estimable family, but in their going the prayers and best wishes of the good people of this community follow them. We trust that Rev. Bullock's enlarged vision will be fully realized and that his usefulness in the kingdom of God will be immensely extended.

Dissolves Partnership.

Sharp and Haynes, the well known and popular tailors, have dissolved partnership, J.P. Sharp Jr. continuing the business and assuming all financial obligations. R. F. Haynes takes over all accounts due the firm up to April 19. Mr. Haynes has not yet decided on his future activities, but we hope he will not find it necessary to change his base of operation. Mr. Sharp has a bright future, an established business and we predict a successful career.



Rev. H. E. Bullock, Merkel, Tex.

found the church with 85 members, and the number is now 122. During the time 78 new members have been received, about half by conversion and the balance by letter. He found the Sunday School unorganized; now it is one of the best organized schools in the country, lacking only one point of attaining the standard of excellence. When he came here the congregation worshipped in an old frame building; now a beautiful \$10,000 brick structure graces the site, and not one dollar is owed on it by the congregation.

This is an enviable record for any minister of the gospel. While a great deal of the achievement is due to the loyalty of the congregation, yet the forward movement has been under his wise

Catarrh Cannot Be Cured with local applications, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surface. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces.

The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials, free.

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

Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family pills for constipation.

Kodaks and films. Grimes Drug Store. 21

CONTENTMENT

Preparedness is the foundation for the contented car owner. Call and ask to see the "Mossberg No. 17 Socket Set" and be prepared for motor trouble.

We have just received a new line of Nitrogen-filled Auto Globes, Blow-out Patches, Glaroscopes for night driving, Tube Patches, Body Polish, Auto Jacks, Se-Ment-Ol for leaky radiators, the best of auto Pumps and Fuses for all makes of cars.

Be sure and ask to see the famous "Pennsylvania Vacuum Cup --- 6000 Mile Casing."

Fulwiler Electric Co.
MERKEL, TEXAS

NOTICE LAUNDRY PATRONS

Please have change ready when Laundry is delivered. Saves both of us trouble. Please don't forget

THE IDEAL TAILOR SHOP
F. E. CHURCH, PROPRIETOR

Highest Prices Paid For Junk Rubber

WARREN BROTHERS

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

C. E. WHITAKER

W. O. BONEY

Office over Crown Hardware Co.

New Produce House

We pay the Highest Cash Market Price For Poultry Eggs, Butter and Hides

Let us bid on your Produce

THE CORNER PRODUCE CO.

W. E. POOL, Manager

Boyce Bldg. Opposite Burton-Lingo on Front St.
Phone 245

Phone 245

Place Your Order now For

That Spring Suit

Cleaning, Pressing & Altering Guaranteed by

L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop
Merkel, Texas

SCHOOL RECORDS

Below you will find first and second honors for boys and girls in the Merkel public school for the year 1916 and 1917 at the end of Seventh School Month:

Eleventh Grade

Boys—First honors — Paul McMuray; second honors, Lee Baker. Girls—First honors, Lucy Tracy; second honors, Wilma Smith.

Tenth Grade

Boys—First honors, Bourdon Smith; second honors, Prentiss Pipes. Girls—First honors, Vesta Parks; second honors, Ora Bryson.

Ninth Grade

Boys—First honors, Guy Dorsey; second honors, Claud Riney. Girls—First honors, Dixie Howard; second honors, Louise Warren.

Eighth Grade

Boys—First honors, Charlie Tucker; second honors, Chester Hutcheson. Girls—First honors, Lorena Frazier; second honors Abbie Dorsey.

Seventh Grade

Boys—First honors, Willie W. Dorsey; second honors, John A. Woodard. Girls—First honors, Mandy Brady; second honors, Mary Parten.

Sixth Grade

Boys—First honors, Raymond Ferguson; second honors, Fielden Smith. Girls—First honors, Ruth Newbeer; second honors, Myrtle McDonald.

Fifth Grade

Boys—First honors, Herman Bond; second honors, Ansel Coats. Girls—First honors, Willie Lewis; second honors, Margie Sherrell.

The first and second honors of the senior class for 1917 are as follows: First honors, Lucy Tracy; second honors, Paul McMurray.

This is final for the eleventh grade. For the other grades in the High School and the Intermediate Department it is not final, but it only shows the standing at the close of the Seventh Month. Two more months may make a wonderful change in the list. The Honors always come to those who are willing to pay the price in hard work. There will be another list furnished at the close of school. Who will occupy the Honor Position then?

The Merkel School Board presented the public school with a very handsome sectional bookcase. This is very much appreciated by the faculty and pupils. Senior class of 1917 gave about \$50 in furniture to the library. They contemplate another donation at the close of school. The seniors are to be congratulated for having done them selves proud by the abiding interest shown in the Merkel public school library.

Kodaks and films. Grimes Drug Store. 2t



A new shipment just received in all sizes of Non-Skid and Plain Tread

Firestone TIRES

YOU will like the added harmony and distinctive style—a combination that will blend with your car, whatever its finish may be.

This is just an example of the full measure of value and satisfaction we render to motorists in all their requirements.

There is everything you need here, backed by the character of service the most experienced motorists compliment.

G. F. WEST COMPANY

FREE Woodroof-Bragg Co. FREE ARE GIVING MATINEE TICKETS

Each express brings new merchandise to this store. Our Ready-to-Wear department is full of bargains in new sport dresses, lingerie dresses, silk skirts, white wash skirts, georgette and organdie waists, children's white dresses, etc.



MILLINERY SPECIALS

For Saturday only we will make a big discount on all ready trimmed hats.

BIG SPECIAL

One lot ladies' new shirt waists of organdie and voile neatly trimmed with val lace and big collars, regular \$1.25 and \$1.50 values, while they last, at

98c



OXFORDS

One lot ladies' vici and patent oxfords, small sizes only, \$3.50 values, at

98c

WHITE GOODS

One lot of white goods, regular 12½c and 15c values, at

9c

EXTRA SPECIALS

Entire stock of middy blouses, all new styles made of galetea and linens, plain white and colored trims, regular prices 65c to \$1.50, your choice at

45c and 98c

WOODROOF-BRAGG CO.

SHILOH

Shiloh, Apr. 24—Shiloh school closed last Wednesday with a picnic on Sweetwater creek. The ladies brought well filled baskets with all kind of good things to eat and spread a bountiful dinner, which was greatly enjoyed

by a large crowd. The teachers served ice cream and lemonade. In the afternoon they had a ball game. Several Kodak pictures were made. It was a day of joy to be long remembered by all. Robt Couder and family visited relatives at View last week. Mrs. Phillips and children of

Abilene, are visiting the family of Terrell Winters.

There is a few cases of measles around here.

Arden Jones and family who have been visiting Archie McCright, and family have returned to their home.

Misses Lida and Nina Beavers

spent Sunday with Misses Mattie and Cora Scott, of Trent.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Seago, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Couder.

Messrs. Terrell and Joe Winters and Mrs. Green were called to the bedside of their sister, Mrs. Sam Winters, who is very low.

A Little Bit More

Everything Costs Just
A LITTLE BIT MORE
Every Bite we Eat Costs
A LITTLE BIT MORE
Even Our Ice Costs
A LITTLE BIT MORE

So we Must Sell it For

A Little Bit More

And beginning MAY 1st, Ice will be delivered for cash in the resident section of town at

75c per 100 Pounds

No sale made for less than 10 cents

WARREN BROS.---ICE AND COAL

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST

Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

C. J. SHERRILL
DENTIST

Office over Farmers State Bank
Phone No. 396 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 Woodroof Bros. Store
Merkel — Texas

SHAVING AND BATH PARLOR
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
Phones: Office 221, Res. 108.

R. L. PENNEY
Vulcanizing and Tire Repairing for Casing and Tubes.
With Central Garage, Kent St.

There was a party at Max Winters, Thursday night.

Miss Albatine Winters, is spending this week in Abilene.

Messrs John and Roy Winters attended the singing convention at Abilene Sunday.

There was a ball game between the Kale boys and the Shiloh boys Friday afternoon. The Shiloh boys came out victorious.

Nim and Willie Teaff of Salt Branch were in our midst Saturday.

Charlie Suber, who was seriously hurt by his mules pawing him in the face Sunday afternoon, is doing as nicely as could be expected.

Jim Bennett and family have gone to Kentucky to make their home.

Insomnia.

Indigestion nearly always disturbs the sleep more or less, and is often the cause of insomnia. Eat a light supper with little meat, and no milk; also take one of Chamberlain's Tablets immediately after supper and see if you do not rest much better. Obtainable everywhere.

Car stock salt. G. M. Sharp.

Rev. W. Dean of Seymore was a visitor at the home of J. S. Swann the past week. Rev. Dean is a brother of Mrs. Swann.

Plenty of corn at G. M. Sharp.

J. A. Patterson left Wednesday with a car of hogs and cattle for the Fort Worth market.

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 5