

THE RED CROSS DAY SATURDAY

Saturday has been designated as local Red Cross Day. The Red Cross Drive went over the top with a bound. It went over last Tuesday. The committee wouldn't let us tell it last week. They muzzled us. They poned to the Chairman of the Red Cross in Abilene and he asked them not to give it publicity. When he or some one else gave it to the daily press and it appeared in Sunday's paper. The going was easy. When it comes to patriotism, this part of the country is thoroughly aroused. Very few, indeed, so few that they can be counted with the fingers of one hand, are the people who could respond and have not. It was a glorious drive. Not half the people were seen. Returns on the drive were made Monday, and it was decided to give Saturday to the raising of funds for the local Red Cross work. Those who were not in the drive certainly will come forward and respond to the local work.

From all over the country the products of the farm are being donated for auction. Practically every merchant is making a liberal donation. All these things will go on the block Saturday. The people have had a glorious rain, followed by a splendid week on their crops. They have worked hard for the past two or three weeks. Some of them doubtless will not be able to come out Saturday, but large numbers will be present. They are going to have to come for supplies of one kind and another anyway and they will kill two birds with one stone. A large sum for the Red Cross will be raised. We are listing everything so far donated below. If there are other donations, the people are asked to bring them.

Turkey Gobbler, Mrs. W. L. Meeks.
Choice White Wyandotte
Cockrell, Henry Rose.
Fig, Lee D. Williams.
Calf, Tom Largent.
Belgian Hares, Mrs. H. T. Merritt.
Turkey Gobbler, E. L. Wills.
Rooster, C. L. Tucker.
Chicken, C. E. Story.
The Moon, R. M. Parker.
500 lb. Ice Coupons, Merkel Ice Company.
Three Subscriptions, Merkel Mail.

Official Statement of the Financial Condition of The Farmers State Bank

at Merkel, State of Texas, at the close of business on the 10th day of May, 1918, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, State of Texas, on the 24th day of May, 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Dis., personal or collateral	\$259,539.09
Loans, real estate	7,150.00
Overdrafts	310.20
Bonds, Stocks and Stamps	11,339.89
Real Estate (banking house)	9,050.00
Other Real Estate	3,950.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,950.00
Due from approved Reserve	22,974.21
Agents, net	2,619.50
Cash Items	5,547.00
Currency	1,854.20
Specie	3,093.57
Int. and Asst. Dep. Guaranty Fund	11,593.54
Bills of Exchange—cont. n.	150.00
Other Resources	150.00
Total	\$396,272.60

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$35,000.00
Surplus Fund	30,000.00
Undivided Profits, net	4,732.54
Due to Banks and Bankers, subject to check, net	4,878.81
Individual Deposits sub. to check	219,595.84
Time Certificates of Deposit	11,282.94
Cashier's checks	1,259.99
Bills Payable and Rediscounts	29,517.28
Other Liabilities	5.00
Total	\$396,272.60

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. S. Swann, as president, and R. O. Anderson, as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

J. S. Swann, president.
R. O. Anderson, cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of May A. D. 1918.
W. P. Mahaffey
(SEAL) Notary Public, Taylor County, Texas
Correct—Attest: J. C. Moore, John Sears, W. L. Smallwood } Directors

Duroc Jersey pig, J. T. Warren.

Packet Lard, M. Reese Hale
Quilts, Merkel Red Cross.
Setting of Cornish Game eggs.—Mrs. J. W. Teaff.

War Saving Stamp, by Farmers State Bank.

Setting Barred Plymouth Rock eggs, Mrs. Joe Higgins.

One old maid, name withheld.

Diamond Ring and Diamond Shirt Stud, valued about \$60, by name withheld.

Setting White Plymouth Rock eggs, Mrs. H. C. Floyd.

\$2.50, due bill, A. B. Barrow Co.

\$3.00, due bill, G. F. West Co.

\$5.00, due bill, Sanders Drug Store.

\$2.50, due bill, Anchor Mercantile Co.

\$2.50, due bill, Woodroof & Bragg Co.

\$3.00, due bill, Brown D. G. Company.

\$1.00, due bill, Star Store.

\$1.00, due bill, Merkel Motor Company.

\$1.00, due bill, Rogers Gro. Store.

1 can peaches, G. M. Sharp.

\$6.00 for brooms, Bob Martin Grocery Store.

\$3.00, due bill, Merkel Drug Store.

\$2.00, due bill, Boney Drug Store.

\$3.75, due bill, Warren Bro.

\$1.00, due bill, C. L. Conner.

\$1.00, due bill, W. T. Daniels.

\$1.75, due bill, J. T. Dennis.

\$3.00, due bill, Crown Hwd Co

\$1.50, due bill, Dry Racket Store.

\$2.50, due bill, Grimes Drug.

The people in town and the country are urged to bring in something that might be auctioned off in the interest of the Red Cross. Much more stuff will be brought than is mentioned here.

SURVEY WORK ON ROAD

Surveyors are in the field running lines for the road from Tye to the west line of the county. Mr. Jones and Roy Holmes are assisting in the work. It will take fully a month to complete the survey. Efforts will be made to have everything in shape for actual work by laying by time.

New Registration Coming on June 5th, 1918.

One member of the Local Board will be in Merkel during the entire day of Wednesday June 5th., for the purpose of Registering for Military Service all men who will at that time have attained the age of 21 years and who have become 21 years of age since the 5th., of June 1917.

This day will also be used for the Registration of any man, 21 years of age, who for any reason failed to register June 5th, 1917.

We will thank you to give this all publicity possible in issue of the Merkel Mail of dates May 24th and 31st.

Registration offices will be opened on the above named day at only Merkel and Abilene for all registrants who live in the northern portion of Taylor Co. Merkel to be used at place of registration for those who live in the north west part of the county and that portion of the country south of Mountains, wherein registrants can more easily reach Merkel than either Abilene or Tuscola.

Registration offices will be opened on this day at only Abilene, Merkel and Tuscola, thereby permitting if possible one member of the Local Board being present at each of the three Registration Boxes.

Registration Headquarters at Merkel will be the Fire Station. Hours 9 to 12 A. M. and 1:30 to 6:30 P. M.

Homer L. Easterwood,
Leol Merritt left Tuesday to visit her sister, Mrs. J. C. Baker, at Canyon. She will likely be gone all summer.

"CLAIM ALLOWED"

An up-to-date war story in drama will be played by the pupils of the Trent school Friday evening, May 24, in the Trent school auditorium for the benefit of the Red Cross.

This play is brimfull of patriotic humor and pathos and is being played with great success all over the country. It is a copyrighted play and \$5 had to be paid for the privilege of rendering it.

Following is the caste of characters:

Mr. La Fol, Munition Maker..... John F. Odor
Mrs. La Fol, his wife..... Ida Smith
Dabney La Fol, his patriotic son..... Carl Mangum
Ethel La Fol, his daughter..... Jewell Blackmon
Lillian Carmen, Dabney's Fiance..... Belle Smith
Tom Bradley, Ethel's Patriot..... Alva Boone
Mr. Metz, an American-German..... Volley Vessels
Mrs. Metz, his son's wife..... Lula Hassey
Sherman Metz, his grandson..... Otho Watkins
Mary Metz, his grand-daughter..... Katie Lou Gunter
Mrs. Hohenzollern, a propagandist..... Maggie Peterson
Heine Hohenzollern, her brother..... Byron Dingle
Mrs. Thompson, of the Red Cross..... Maud Massey
Little Scout, doing his bit..... Otho Watkins
Neb, a black bird..... Noble Forrester
Students—to fill in.

Time of play—2 hours.

Admission 15-25-35. Don't fail to attend and help the Res Cross.

Play begins at 8:45. If you are later than that you will miss part of it. Be on time.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

FOR SALE—Work stock. See Dr. M. Armstrong. 9t2c

LOST—Gold watch on Route 1. Suitable reward. Return to Merkel Mail or to T. B. Kimmons, Carrier Route 1. 1tp.

FOR SALE—Typewriter ribbons at the Merkel Mail office.

MEBANE COTTON SEED—For sale at \$1.75 per bushel if taken at once G. L. Shuff, Merkel, Route 5. 1tp.

FOR RENT—75 acres, 4-room house, good cistern; also 75 acres in grass. S. F. Haynes, Merkel, Texas. t2c.

MEBANE COTTON SEED—For sale. J. W. Hunter, Nubia. t2p.

FOR RENT—150 acres bedded and ready for planting, good 4-room house and plenty of water. Some pasture. F. Z. Turner, Merkel, Route 5, Box 61. 3t4p.

FOR RENT—Large, cool office room for \$5.00 a month, over Woodroof-Bragg store. See the Merkel Mail. tfc.

WANTED—To buy a span of young gentle work mules. See S. F. Haynes.

FOR SALE—4-month old registered Poland Chian male pig. Apply Merkel Mail.

WANTED—A reliable wash woman. Phone 121 or 61.

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS & CARBON PAPER—At Merkel Mail office.

NO. 7481 Report of the Condition of THE FARMERS & MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK AT MERKEL

In the State of Texas, at the Close of Business on May 10, 1918

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts (except those shown on b and c)	\$199,368.10
Overdrafts, secured, None; Unsecured, None.	
U. S. Bonds deposited to secure circulation (par value)	6,250.00
U. S. Bonds and certificates of indebtedness pledged to secure postal savings deposits (par value)	5,000.00
U. S. Bonds & cert. of indebtedness owned & unpledged	60,000.00—71,250.00
Liberty Loan Bonds, 3 1/2 per cent and 4 per cent, unpledged	100.00
Payments actually made on Liberty 4 1/2 per cent Bonds	2,750.00—2,850.00
Stock of Federal Reserve bank (50 per cent of Subscription)	1,500.00
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Real Estate owned other than banking house	3,132.00
Lawful reserve with Federal Reserve Bank	19,116.90
Cash in vault and net amounts due from national banks	67,646.96
Checks on other banks in the same city or town as reporting bank (other than Item 17)	121.90
Total of Items 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18	\$67,768.86
Checks on banks located outside of city or town of reporting bank and other cash items	144.98
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer and due from U. S. Treasurer	312.50
War Saving Certificates and Thrift Stamps actually owned	1,029.77
Total	\$370,073.11

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$25,000.00
Surplus Fund	25,000.00
Undivided profits	14,732.39
Less current expenses, interest and taxes paid	4,312.34—10,420.05
Circulating notes outstanding	5,950.00
Net amounts due to National banks	1,440.27
Net amounts due to banks, bankers, and trust companies (other than included in items 31 or 32)	10,376.23
Total of items 32 and 33	\$11,816.50
Demand Deposits subject to Reserve:	
Individual deposits subject to check	296,045.26
Certificates of deposits due in less than 30 days	900.00
Cashier's checks outstanding	1,175.00
Total demand deposits subject to Reserve,	\$268,120.26
Items 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41	
Certificates of deposit (other than for money borrowed)	19,175.30
Postal savings deposits	4,591.00
Total of time dep. subject to Reserve, Items 42, 43, 44, 45	\$23,766.30
Total	\$370,073.11

STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF TAYLOR, SS:
I, Thos. Johnson, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of May 1918.

J. T. HOWARD, Notary Public.

Correct—Attest:—J. T. WARREN
G. F. WEST,
HENRY JAMES, Directors

ZONE LAW UPHELD

J. S. Swann received a telegram Wednesday from C. D. Mims stating that the constitutionality of the Zone Law was upheld by the Court of Criminal Appeals. Judge Davidson dissenting.

Express companies, it is alleged, have ordered their agents to accept no whiskey shipments. Gradually the prohibition law is taking effect over the great State of Texas.

John C. Brooks, Route 5, Merkel, has been ordered to entrain for Camp Cady, Deming, N. M., on May 27.

Former Premier Kerensky of Russia is said to be in the United States or on the way here.

MIGHTY FINE RAIN.

The great Merkel country received a mighty fine rain last Friday. The fall in Merkel was about 1.75 inches, while to the west and south a heavier fall is reported, some points exceeding two inches. In most places the rain two weeks previous gave the soil moisture that brought up most of the crops. They are now growing rapidly, and if we can only get as much rain from now on as we got from this time on last year, we can hope for good crops. Many old timers contend that we have not yet got an underground season, but they are very cheerful over the prospects. The people were beginning to get mighty blue just before the rain. The winds have been so high that they have dried the ground out rapidly. The necessity of replanting was staring many of the farmers in the face, and another purchase of seed was not relishing to them. The rain came right in the niche of time and everybody seems to be very thankful for it, as is indicated by their elastic steps. A nice rain makes all the difference in the world on the disposition of people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR RATES
For District offices \$8.00
For County offices 8.00
For Precinct offices 6.00
For City offices 3.00
Subscription price, 1 year 1.00
Always Cash in Advance.

For Clerk District Court
J. N. Routh

For County Judge:
E. M. Overshiner.
H. Rob Keeble.

For County Clerk:
H. Holland Teaff.
Henry R. Hicks.

J. D. Hiltton
J. L. Mingus
G. R. Pain
Miss Fannie Tippett

For County Attorney:
W. E. Martin.
W. H. Sewell.

For Sheriff:
J. T. Dodson.
John Bond.

For County Treasurer:
Austin Fitts.

For Tax Collector:
G. B. Tittle.

For County Tax Assessor:
John H. Vance.

For County School Supt.
J. S. Smith.

C. E. Sims

For Commissioner, Precinct 2:
T. R. Lassiter.
Sam Butman, Jr.

J. L. Banner.
E. D. Coats.

For Public Weigher at Merkel:
J. M. Garrett.

H. M. Mayfield.
James Patterson, Jr.

W. R. Britton

Justice Peace, Precinct No 5.
W. W. Wheeler.

Jones County Candidates
County Clerk.

T. L. Lollar

For Sheriff:
T. P. (Tom) Hudson

For Tax Collector:
W. C. Cutrell.

MERKEL'S SERVICE FLAG

The ladies of the Red Cross have worked out a most beautiful service flag for the boys. It is hand embroidered, and is the only one made within our knowledge like it. It has a capacity of 180 stars, over 100 of which represent our boys that are now in service. It is one of the most beautiful designs that could have been made. It took a great deal of time to do the outline work, before the real work was begun, but it is done, as the crowd will see when it is raised Saturday. The gold stars in the center of the flag represents those who have sacrificed their lives in the service of their country. The flag is made of the very best of material. The blue and gold stars are hand embroidered into the white, thus making it more durable and prettier by far on both sides. The time was not waster, for it is for our boys, and nothing can be made to pretty and durable to represent them. Each mother that has a boy in service can say one of those stars is for my own boy, an emblem of his life for his country; true as the stars of blue, or pure as the stars of gold. We hope it will not be necessary to make another one in order to have room enough to represent the boys that go. We are proud of this flag. It is an emblem of patriotism and represents sacrifice. We cherish it, we love it, we will preserve it. It reminds us constantly that we are to do our duty at home while the boys are doing theirs at the front. God bless our boys.

Program.
Song, Merkel Glee Club.
Auction Sale.
Song, Merkel Glee Club.
Address.
Flag Raising.
"Star Spangled Banner."

Program will begin promptly at 1:30 o'clock.

The flag will be raised by the Boy Scouts, the committee being Harry Merritt, Wayland Rose and Master Toombs.

Every mother of the boys in service is urged to be present at the flag raising.

J. W. Grafford returned the past week from a visit to Missouri. He says the wheat crop is estimated at 95 per cent, oats, fine and everything looking good.

NO. 354 Official Statement of the Financial Condition of First State Bank, Trent, Texas

at the close of business on the 10th day of May 1918, published in the Merkel Mail, a newspaper printed and published at Merkel, state of Texas, on the 24th day of May, 1918.

RESOURCES	
Loans and dis., personal or collateral	\$56,813.11
Loans, real estate	2,000.00
Overdrafts	1.46
Furniture and fixtures	1,275.00
Due from approved reserve agents, net	15,253.70
Due from other banks and bankers, subject to ck., net	10,418.95
Cash Items	392.08
Currency	6,759.00
Specie	860.24
Interest on Depositors Guaranty Fund	1,112.01
Other Resources as follows:	
Cotton Bills of Exchange	5,254.08
U. S. Certificates of Indebtedness	15,000.00
War Savings Stamps	691.27
Total	\$116,205.90

LIABILITIES	
Capital stock paid in	\$10,000.00
Surplus fund	10,000.00
Undivided profits, net	12,815.28
Individual Deposits Sub. to Check	83,085.99
Cashier's checks	231.63
Other Liabilities as follows:	
Letters of Credit outstanding	70.00
Total	\$116,205.90

State of Texas, County of Taylor:
We, J. T. Warren as president, and L. E. Adrian as cashier of said bank, each of us, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of our knowledge and belief.

J. T. Warren, President.
L. E. Adrian, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of May A. D., 1918.

(SEAL) Thos. Johnson
Notary Public Taylor County, Texas.

Correct—Attest: R. B. Johnson
G. F. West } Directors
L. E. Adrian

Statement of Condition

The Farmers State Bank
Merkel, Texas

At Close of Business May 10, 1918

RESOURCES

Loans	\$260,990.89
Banking House	
Furniture and Fixtures ..	13,000.00
Interest in Guar. Fund....	3,003.57
Stamps, Bonds and Cert. . .	11,339.69
CASH & EXCHANGE....	47,938.45
Total.....	\$336,272.60

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 85,000.00
Surplus and Profits.....	84,732.54
DEPOSITS	237,022.48
Rediscounts	29,517.58
Total.....	\$336,272.60

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

BUY WAR SAVING STAMPS

**DONATE TO THE SECOND RED CROSS
WAR FUND**

**PATRIOTIC MEETING AT
NUBIA**

A very patriotic meeting was held at Nubia last Sunday afternoon. Upon invitation nearly thirty Red Cross workers from Merkel went down. A good crowd was present, and there would have been more, but many were compelled to do considerable sand-furrowing and could not be present.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. John Dew the local chairman. Miss Butman then read an essay on the organization and development of the Red Cross. R. L. Bland, chairman of the Merkel district, acted as chairman of the meeting at the request of Mr. Dew. Short, but interesting talks were made by R. M. Parker, Walter Jackson, T. A. Johnson and J. T. Browning. Mrs. Lytton Howard gathered several of the singers, who furnished the music for the occasion. John Mann sang a solo. They did splendidly and are deserving of much praise. At the close of the program, Mr. Browning took a collection, realizing about \$60. A nice subscription had already been reached, it is stated.

The people in the Nubia community are deserving of high praise for the loyalty they have manifested in every worthy enterprise. They raised over \$5000 for the Third Liberty Loan, which merited the recognition of a flag. Two flags were on display. In his talk, Mr. Johnson said that he understood where one of them came from, but he could not understand how they got the other one, and said he was too modest then to ask.

Before this article goes to press, Nubia will be over the top. The people are in great spirits out there. The rain has cheered them up, crops are looking fine, and they already feel like they are preparing for another Liberty Loan. They actually don't know how far over the top they will go, if they can just make a good crop.

and for the present indications were never better. The Merkel crowd thoroughly enjoyed the meeting.

The people subscribed to the Red Cross, even out of their very need. It was refreshing to see them practice self-denial. Such an attitude is what makes the whole world akin. Even the boys and girls gave. One of the little Butman boys subscribed \$1.00. The subscriptions were reduced to 25 cents and he subscribed again. When told that he had already subscribed, and thinking perhaps he had made an error, he said, "No, I want to subscribe again." He whispered to his chum, then, that if they reduced it to fifteen cents, he would subscribe again. We find splendid patriotism with our grown-ups, and when we see our boys manifesting such a glorious disposition as this, we can rest assured that old glory is yet to fly above these United States for many, many years to come.

Those furnishing cars to take the crowd from Merkel were: J. S. Browning, R. O. Anderson, Sam Swann, R. L. Bland and Booth Warren.

**MERKEL MAIL RECEIVES
INVITE**

The Faculty and Graduating Class of Baylor University request the honor of your presence during the Seventy-third Annual Commencement Exercises May thirty-first to June fifth Nineteen hundred and eighteen. Waco, Texas.

Tan-No-More
THE SKIN BEAUTIFIER

The most scientific and most wonderful facial preparator of the modern age. It restores to the skin a velvety softness and delicacy which is delightful in appearance and pleasing in effect. Used during the day it is a protection from the Sun and Wind. In the evening its use assures a faultless complexion. Tints: White and Flesh. All dealers, 5c, 50c and \$1.00, or sent post paid on receipt of price. Sample for the asking.

**BAKER-WHEELER MANUFACTURING COMPANY
DALLAS, TEXAS**

CONDENSED STATEMENT

**Farmers & Merchants
NATIONAL BANK**

MERKEL, TEXAS

At Close of Business May 10, 1918

RESOURCES

Loans	\$165,055.36
War Saving Stamps	1,029.77
U. S. Certificates of Indebtedness	60,000.00
U. S. Bonds	14,100.00
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	1,500.00
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund	312.50
Furniture and Fixtures	3,600.00
Other Real Estate	3,132.00
CASH AND EXCHANGE	121,432.98
Total.....	\$370,162.61

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$ 25,000.00
Surplus and Profits	35,420.05
Circulation	5,950.00
Rediscounts	None
Bills Payable	None
Other Borrowed Money	None
DEPOSITS	303,792.56
Total.....	\$370,162.61

I hereby certify that the above statement is correct
THOS. JOHNSON, Cashier

LOCAL NEWS

G. L. Shuff of the White church community called in on Monday and placed a subscription with the Mail and several other publications. He says his crop looks mighty good and he feels like he is going to make something this year.

Let me order you a fine Palm Beach or Kool Kloth Suit, and save you from \$2.50 to \$5. on a suit. See samples at my store. A. L. Jobe.

D. E. Browning, cabled his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Browning, from France, that he is getting along splendidly. He is in the active service of the aero squadron. He has been in service since December 15 last.

Buy your groceries and grain from G. M. Sharp and save enough to buy war saving stamps

Mrs. J. B. Ferrier, Geo. Ferrier, Mrs. Ferrier's nieces of Abilene and Mr. and Mrs. Bud Sears went to Fort Worth in their car to visit Camp Bowie and to attend to some business matters the past week.

Send in those spring clothes and have them cleaned and pressed to look like new ones. Mrs. C. L. Cash.

W. C. Cutrell, who is a candidate for Tax Collector of Jones County, writes that they had about 5.60 inches of rain in and around Anson, and that everybody was feeling fine.

Don't forget to go to W. P. Duckett's with your poultry and eggs.

Lewis Swann accepted a position with the Corner Drug Store in Abilene the past week.

For Indigestion, Constipation or Biliousness
Just try one 50-cent bottle of **LAX-FOS WITH PEPSIN**. A Liquid Digestive Laxative pleasant to take. Made and recommended to the public by Paris Medicine Co., manufacturers of Laxative Bromo Quinine and Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic.

OFFICE OF

Brown Dry Goods Co.

READ THIS STATEMENT

☞ **GOODS BOUGHT NOW** for cash, or during this month and next, will be cheaper than you will see them after present stock is sold out, for months and may be years.

☞ **For your own gain read the above statement.**

☞ For instance, just plain old fashion yard-wide unbleached domestic is now 25c at the mills. Also good gingham now is selling at 35c. These items named practically make everything else advance.

☞ **AGAIN**—Manufacturers are selling standard overalls now at the factory over \$2.00 per pair. Common field work socks have gone to 20c per pair. So in 50 to 60 days you will see our statement fulfilled as to the rise in prices.

☞ **WE ARE FIGHTING HARD** to make our cash win you every battle possible.

☞ We are keeping the Quality up and Price down.

Yours sincerely

THE BROWN D. G. CO.

LOCAL NEWS

R. J. Adcock returned last Saturday from Uvalde, where he has been for several months. He will be here about 30 days, and will then go to Weatherford for awhile.

Thank you; I need and appreciate your business. Come see me when in town. A. L. Jobe, Kent Street.

Through error, we failed to include the subscription of \$50. by A. H. Barnes to the Third Liberty Loan. If any other omissions were made, we will gladly make publication of it.

Hooverize and keep your clothes cleaned and pressed. Best service by Mrs. C. L. Cash.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Frier, formerly of Bronte, and just from Sweetwater, moved to Merkel the past week. They live in the Hall place.

All sorts of junk is bought at W. P. Duckett's.

D. H. Glover, Star Route, Floydada, sends in a subscription to the Merkel Mail.

Plenty of fresh groceries at G. M. Sharps.

P. L. McClary of Ranger was a home visitor Saturday and Sunday.

Get my prices before you buy your groceries. A. L. Jobe.

W. E. Hall, York, S. C., sends his subscription to the Merkel Mail.

Expected car of hay this week. G. M. Sharp.

About Rheumatism
Rheumatism causes more pain and suffering than any other disease, for the reason that it is the most common of all ills, and it is certainly gratifying to sufferers to know that there is a remedy that will afford relief, and make rest and sleep possible. It is called Chamberlain's Liniment.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD

You have read and heard the word "Patriotism" a thousand times during the last few months. Just what does it mean? It means sane, sensible, enlightened selfishness. Being patriotic means that you realize that a certain line of conduct will mean sacrifice, hardship, for you, but that if only you will make the sacrifice, and endure the hardship, it will bring lasting good and happiness to you, your neighbors, your whole country.

By buying a Liberty Bond you have shown that you have the right view-point. Now the thing to do is to see your resolution through to the finish. The soldier who volunteered for service, went over the top with a cheer and then stopped, disheartened, in the middle of "No Man's Land" would be considered a poor soldier.

The man who stays at home must take this lesson to himself. It is not sufficient to merely enlist in the army of Bond Buyers, the fight must be fought to the bitter end. In other words, pay your installments on your Bonds promptly. Sacrifice and save during the month of June for your July installments; sacrifice and save during July and August to pay your August installments. Even then you will have done only half your duty. The command of our officers then will be "Keep your Bond," and as good soldiers and patriots we must obey.

Liberty Bonds are not money, and therefore, should not be used as such. They are mortgages on all the land, all the wealth in the United States. When you lend money on a mortgage, you do not take the papers to the grocery store and pay your bills with them, you place them in the bank, and if you actually need money to conduct your business, you borrow money on the mortgage. The same course is quite permissible in the case of a Liberty Bond.

Remember when you hold a Liberty Bond you are a patriot, bearing your share of the National burden; when you sell it, you have ceased to bear your share of the burden and have handed it on to some one else to carry. This is not good Americanism, nor again is it good business, for where in the world today is there a better investment for the man who knows nothing of stocks, shares, bonds or financial matters, than a Liberty Bond?

An investment without an element of risk, which pays 4% per annum, is a pretty good thing to have and to hold.

A MESSAGE TO LIBERTY BOND BUYERS.

Have you ever heard of a soldier, returned from the war, who complained of his lot, or ever for one moment regretted having fought?

Men have come back without their sight, without their limbs, and in various stages of physical disability, but the first case has yet to be recorded of one who complained.

There is something in our imperfect human nature that makes us glad we have done a good thing.

The Liberty Bond buyers of the Eleventh Federal Reserve District will feel as the soldiers did—nothing but satisfaction, and the greater the sacrifice the greater the satisfaction.

I want to congratulate every man, woman and child who has bought a Bond and sent this district over the top.

J. W. HOOPES,
Federal Reserve Bank.

EVER MEET THIS MAN?

The fellow that listens to all the stock salesmen who want to sell stocks in exchange for Liberty Bonds, has only to go on listening long enough, and one of them will offer to sell him the State Capitol for \$100.

Tell these fellows, "I don't know you, but I do know Uncle Sam."

Keep your Liberty Bonds!

Life Was a Misery

Mrs. F. M. Jones, of Palmer, Okla., writes:

"From the time I entered into womanhood . . . I looked with dread from one month to the next. I suffered with my back and bearing-down pain, until life to me was a misery. I would think I could not endure the pain any longer, and I gradually got worse. . . Nothing seemed to help me until, one day, . . . I decided to

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

"I took four bottles," Mrs. Jones goes on to say, "and was not only greatly relieved, but can truthfully say that I have not a pain. . ."

"It has now been two years since I took Cardui, and I am still in good health. . . I would advise any woman or girl to use Cardui who is a sufferer from any female trouble."

If you suffer pain caused from womanly trouble, or if you feel the need of a good strengthening tonic to build up your run-down system, take the advice of Mrs. Jones. Try Cardui. It helped her. We believe it will help you.

All Druggists

Relieve Your Rheumatism For 25c.

NR does it by improving digestion, assimilation and elimination--the logical way.

NR Today—Relief or No Pay

There are three vital processes of human existence—the digestion of food, the extraction of nourishment from it and the elimination of the waste.

Let anything interfere with these processes—let them be interrupted or improperly carried out, and sickness of some kind follows.

Poor digestion and assimilation means failure to derive full nourishment from food and that in turn often means impoverished blood, weakness, anemia, etc. Poor elimination means an accumulation of waste matter which poisons the body, lowers vitality, decreases the power of resistance to disease and leads to the development of many serious ills.

Rheumatism, due to some interference with the process of elimination, failure to get rid of certain body poisons—cannot be expected to yield to any medicine that fails to correct the condition responsible for it. Could any reasonable person expect to rid himself of rheumatic pain as long as

rheumatic poison is allowed to remain in the body.

Think of this. It explains the success of Nature's Remedy NR Tablets in so many cases where other medicines have failed. Thousands are using NR Tablets every day and getting relief. Why pay five or ten times as much for uncertain things? A 25c box of Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets), containing enough to last twenty-five days,—must give you, must give you prompt relief and satisfactory benefit or cost you nothing.

And Nature's Remedy is not only for the relief of rheumatism. It improves digestion, tones the liver, regulates kidney and bowel action, improves the blood and cleanses the whole system. You'll feel like a new person when you've taken NR Tablets a week. You've tried the expensive medicines and doctors, now make the real test. You'll get results this time. Nature's Remedy (NR Tablets) is sold, guaranteed and recommended by your druggist.

T. L. GRIMES, Merkel, Texas

Nature's Remedy Better Than Pills For Liver Ills. Get a 25c Box

KEEP YOUR SHOES NEAT

White Shoe Dressing

FOR MEN'S, WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S SHOES

The F. DALLEY CORPORATION, LIMITED, BUFFALO, N. Y.

MULBERRY NEWS

Oh, that beautiful rain. We have heard a few thousand people call a few thousand things "Just perfectly lovely," but personally we never did see any thing that we felt better deserved that eulogistic remark.

This is the one interest absorbing Mulberry news item for the week. Incidentally we have heard that J. D. Daniel and Will Moore spent Saturday in Abilene, that Mr. and Mrs. Aron Horton spent Saturday night with relatives in Tye, and that Miss Frankie Chancey's oil stove went on a rampage and burned up a pot of beans etc. but such things interesting enough sometimes, would now seem trival placed side by side with the great momentous fact. It has rained.

Not a quick spill of water that ran like a sacred Jack rabbit to Mulberry creek before the parched ground could get hold of it, not just a promising cloud that raised our anticipation to the seventh heaven of delight, then passed us by with a stingy little shower and vanished before our longing eyes, but a sure enough "honest to goodness" soaking rain.

Any one who would now "knock" our beautiful country should be ridden on a rail (but where is the rail) for lack of loyalty (to the west.)

Standing in the beautiful gateway of promised prosperity we look, in imagination, down the vista of months to come and see ourselves, freed from the bondage of "store bought," feed, throwing bundles of honest juicy home grown cane to old cow, and no longer giving servile respect to pulverized cotton burrs and baled bull nettles. That is "Paradise now."

"Verily there is more joy" in west Texas over the one rain "that repented" and came than there is in Arkansas "over the ninety and nine that went not astray."

Tell it out in song and story, And forget the gloomy past, For our hearts are singing

United States Tires are Good Tires

Tire-buying Economy

Your car must give greater service this year than ever before. It speeds up your work—increases your working power. The highest car economy lies in utmost service. The most economical tires are those which will give you greatest use of your car. That's just what United States Tires will do for you. You can depend on them for continuous service, —most mileage at lowest mileage cost. Equip with United States Tires. Our nearest Sales and Service Depot dealer will be glad to assist you in selection.

*Chain Tread

"Glory" We have got a rain at last. Juanita. Editor:—send me a couple of copy of the paper this week if you don't mind as I wish to let a friend or two know we have had a rain.

SACRED RIGHTS OF HOME

"Land is the basis of our life; and to keep this land for ourselves and our successors is the first responsibility common to every people. To save the earth is the ever present obligation."

These are the words of Dr. L. H. Baily in "Universal Service," "the Hope of Humanity." They are true as regards the nation, the race and the individual. Land is the basis of life, both animal and vegetable. The right to possess the land, till it and beautify it is the most sacred except life itself. No wonder the home means so much to the American farmer!

That a farm and a country home is worth working and saving for need surprise no one. There are sacred rights connected with the home—rights that aliens or even tenants cannot fully enjoy. The satisfaction of beautifying the home grounds and cultivating the soil, in a manner satisfactory can be realized to the fullest extent only by the owner.

The strongest source of patriotism now being manifested by men and women who are offering their lives as a sacrifice for American liberty is the home and what it means to the family and the nation. To be sure there is no criticism at the patriotism of tenants and others who do not own homes. Their loyalty is above reproach. They are defending their temporary homes and their country because of their love for the home and the nation that protects it.

The strength of any nation may be estimated by the homelife of the people. Land for the homes, for farms is fundamental. The land question is the social, the economic and the moral question. Home-life controls the ideals and the sentiments of the people. No adequate defense against an arrogant, domineering, treacherous enemy is possible

without the inherent rights and sacred privileges of the home.—Farm and Ranch.

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.

TIRES FOR LEGITIMATE USE

Asked regarding Government restrictions on the importation of rubber, and the endeavor of tire manufacturers in co-operation with the Government to restrict the manufacturer of unnecessary tire sizes, Mr. J. C. Weston, Vice President and Director of Sales of the United States Tire Company said:

"The intention of the Government in the control and restriction of the importation of rubber is to conserve shipping space, and the program that has been laid before the manufacturers of rubber goods has won their unanimous support for the War Trade Board and the Shipping Board.

"In addition, the manufacturers of tires are heartily cooperating with the Government program for the eventual elimination of unnecessary tire sizes. This elimination will simplify the problem for each user of the motor car of reducing his cost and making it possible for him to secure the tire size he needs, in good tires, more readily than the market and manufacturing conditions now permit.

"Plans for the withdrawal of certain tire sizes from use by manufacturers of motor cars will not in any way interfere with the manufacture and distribution of the tires to users who need those particular sizes at any time." Mr. Weston was very insis-

tent in his statement that there is nothing in the present or probable future situation to occasion the slightest apprehension of a shortage of tires for legitimate use.

"However, there was a time," he said, "when users of motor cars could so well serve the nation as by making the most of their cars in legitimate commercial and passenger service and refusing to hoard or unnecessarily anticipate their needs in tires or other motor car supplies."

Mr. Weston called attention to the fact that the Government has not at the present time imposed any restrictions on the use of motor cars by the automobilists of the country, but has relied on the patriotism of the car-owners to exercise a proper discretion in the use of the vehicles, with a view to conserving their cars and tires. Mr. Weston is of the opinion that the motorists of the country can be trusted to cut down mere pleasure riding to a minimum and to take every possible step to save tires, oil and gasoline.

Pastor Declines Call.

Rev. McMahan of Albany, after practically accepting a call to the Baptist church here, wired last Wednesday that he declined the call. No explanation was given.

Do You Enjoy Life?

A man in good physical condition is almost certain to enjoy life, while the bilious and dyspeptic are despondent, do not enjoy their meals and feel miserable a good share of the time. This ill feeling is nearly always unnecessary. A few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets to tone up the stomach, improves the digestion and regulates the bowels is all that is needed. Try it.

John West spent several days at home the past week. He is in the commissary department. He says for awhile they put him through the mill, but now his work is much easier and he likes fine.

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 or dizziness in head. Remember the full name and look for the signature of E. W. GROVE, 206.

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.

Do your bit, the war is on.

Have you contributed to the
Red Cross yet?

The people are gradually returning to this country. They are needed here. It would be a pity for the land to go uncultivated. Every acre ought to be put to work.

The coat of green the country is putting on looks unnatural. It is almost too good to be true. There is not a man in all these parts who ought not to be thankful from the very bottom of his heart for the splendid rain. A pessimist now ought to be considered disloyal.

Congress has passed a splendid law, known as the Zone Law, as regards magazines and newspapers. The law was made so that there would not be so much loss in carrying magazines that are full of advertising for nothing. Many magazines are trying to hoodwink the public into writing to Congressmen and Senators for a repeal of the law. Few of our readers will suffer greatly, and the papers just as well bear the burden of their transportation as any other commodity.

Everybody who predicted the rain last week is a seer. If it had not rained he would have been a——. Such is life. If a man can steal a million dollars, he is considered wise; but if he steals a quarter, they put him in prison. An old darkey once whipped his son unmercifully for stealing. When he got through, he said; "Nigger, I aint gone and whipped you for stealing, but Ise whipped you for getting caught."

The merchants are talking of closing up and going out and helping the farmers chop cotton. That is a mighty good motive, and a profitable one. But we bet very few of them would hold out the third day. We want to see them quit talking and get busy. Now we would further advise that the farmers keep a good watch, or else most of them will cut out the cotton and leave the weeds. My! Wouldn't it be a pretty picture to see Merkel's husky business men wrestling with the weeds, and blowing and sweating. We hardly know whether they would do enough work to draw the scale or not, but when they shoulder the hoe and begin to "show us", then we will have confidence in their talk.

The Revival Services

The revival services at the Methodist church were started last Sunday morning, and have been growing in interest daily. Rev. Bickley arrived Tuesday evening and is conducting the meeting. Large crowds are in attendance at every meeting. C. S. Cameron, pastor, is working hard in the interest of the meeting, and efforts are being put forth by the membership. A great meeting is promised. There will be preaching every evening, and service at 10 o'clock every morning.

NUBIA GOES OVER TOP

Just before going to press, A. L. Stanley of Route 3, makes returns from Nubia. He turned in \$161.70, in cash, and other subscription to the amount of about \$20 is yet to be turned in. About \$200 is in sight. The committee was only turned down by one party. What community can be found in all West Texas where everybody comes up and gives. The campaign was carried out under the able direction of Chairman J. H. Dew and his efficient committee. They thought at first the allotment

E. L. ROGERS, The House Good Prices Built

Eight Years Continuous Service in Merkel

He knows the Reason Why THE PRICE SELLS THE GOODS

5 lb. best Baking Powder.....	57c	No. 3 can Kraut.....	15c
Best White Soap.....	5c	No. 3 can Hominy.....	10c
3 cans Lye.....	25c	Ribbon Cane Syrup.....	90c

The house of a thousand cheap prices. These prices conform with the conditions. We serve you better. Try us and see. Thousands of others are doing it, why not you

LOOK BEYOND THE COST PRICE WHEN YOU BUY A REFRIGERATOR

A refrigerator has more than one price. The price you PAY is only the beginning of expense. The ICE cost is the BIG cost that will equal or exceed the first cost every year, if you buy a cheap, ice-eating refrigerator.

It Pays to Pay the Price of The

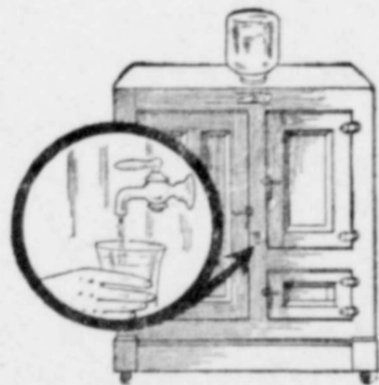
AUTOMATIC REFRIGERATOR

For it is so well built, with its eight honest-built walls, and it is so saving of your ice, that it Pays The Additional Cost over a cheap refrigerator the very first season.

At the same time, it keeps food so much tastier.

Its automatic circulation prevents flavors mixing.

Its built-in water cooler insures a plentiful supply of ice-cold water at all times, without a penny's extra ice cost.



If you don't investigate the Automatic before you buy, you'll regret it. We're glad to show it, without obligation

A. B. BARROW & CO.

MERKEL, TEXAS

\$150 was a little steep for Nubia, but the committee allotted \$40 to IXL School, \$40 to Atman, \$40 to White Church and Nubia and \$30 to Elm School, and they raised it magnificently, so much so that it seemed they did not know when to stop. If these brave people can get off, it is hoped that every one of them will be in Merkel Saturday for the local Red Cross auction and the flag raising. There is a star in the Service Flag for every boy from the Merkel country. It will be a great day. Come. The Merkel Mail hopes to print the names of the Nubia donors next week, if the chairman and secretary will please see that the list is furnished.

Misses Anna May Costephens and Gyrlie Howard spent last week in Roscoe, visiting Mrs. H. Gohuson, who accompanied by her daughter, Eva May returned home with them to visit Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Costephens.

W. Thompson, representative of The Pierce Oil Coproation was in Merkel Wednesday in the interest of his company. Mac Angus is the local representative.

Roy Costephens Writes. Miss Annie Mae Costephens is in receipt of the following letter from her brother, Roy:

An now in Detroit. Will be will go to Cleveland and Toledo, her for about three days, then O. We are on our Red Cross work. We had over \$3000,000 subscribed at one of our concerts this morning in about five minutes. How's that? Will be back at camp about six days.

Ambassador Gerard will speak tonight. We have a big parade to pull off to-morrow. This is some city.

I took a boat and went across to Canada last night just to get out of U. S. once. Seems as if most every one is going from there.

We are making our headquarters at the Hotel Norton. We have a 300 peace band and Sousa is also along.

Had a letter from Earnest. He is in the band now. Your Bud, Roy, U. S. N. Band, Section D, Great Lakes, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Kelley are the proud parents of a fine baby girl. Mother and baby are doing nicely. Mr. Kelley's mother is visiting them for a couple of weeks.



The Farmer's Share

Live stock is marketed from farmer to consumer at a lower cost than almost any other farm product.

The United States Department of agriculture reported in 1916 that the farmer gets for his cattle "approximately two-thirds to three-fourths" of the final retail price paid by the consumer for the resulting beef.

Under normal conditions, the farmer's share of retail prices of various farm products is approximately as follows:

Butter	71 per cent
CATTLE	66 2/3 to 75 per cent
Eggs	65 per cent
Potatoes	55 per cent
Poultry	45 per cent
Fruits	35 per cent

The difference between farmer's price and retail price represents the necessary expenses of packing, freight and wholesale and retail distribution.

Swift & Company not only performs the manufacturing operations of preparing cattle for market in its well-equipped packing plants, but it pays the freight on meat to all parts of the United States, operates 500 branch distributing houses, and in most cases even delivers to the retail butcher. All this is done at an expense of less than 2 cents per pound, and at a profit of only about 1/4 of a cent per pound of beef.

Large volume of business and expert management, make possible this indispensable service to the live-stock raiser and to the consumer, and make possible the larger proportion of retail prices received by farmers.

Year Book of interesting and instructive facts sent on request. Address Swift & Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Illinois

Swift & Company, U.S.A.

Specialty in Farm Loans

Inspector on the ground—Quick Service

Real Estate and Fire Insurance

W. O. BONEY West of Farmers State Bank

PARTIAL LIST RED CROSS SUBSCRIPTIONS

J. J. Stalling, Team Captain and solicitor:	
J. J. Stallings.....	\$5.00
Mrs. Ella Hale.....	10.00
P. G. and J. G. Bradley.....	2.50
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Shelton.....	2.00
J. L. Banner.....	.50
Dee Grimes, team captain, and solicitor:	
S. O. Patton.....	4.00
Mrs. S. O. Patton.....	4.00
C. E. Shouse.....	3.00
C. E. Foster.....	5.00
J. E. Petty.....	2.00
W. C. Lee.....	1.00
Mrs. W. C. Lee.....	1.00
W. M. Hays.....	3.00
Mrs. W. M. Hays.....	2.00
Mrs. J.W. Teaff.....	2.00
W. E. Petty.....	1.00
Mrs. W. E. Petty.....	1.00
A. R. Jones.....	1.00
Mrs. A. R. Jones.....	1.00
W. R. Brittain.....	1.00
Mrs. W. R. Brittain.....	1.00
S. M. Reddin.....	1.00
J. I. Northcut.....	4.00
J. M. Beard.....	4.00
W. L. Buchana.....	1.00
W. J. Higgins.....	.75
Mrs. W. D. Butler.....	2.00
W. D. Butler.....	2.50
O. E. Story.....	.50
R. H. Collins.....	5.00
A. D. Boggs.....	1.00
D. Grimes.....	5.00
H. F. Groene, team captain; Wallace Bragg, solicitor:	
L. E. Stone.....	1.00
Clara Moore.....	1.00
A. Martin.....	1.00
J. C. Childress.....	1.00
Wm. Gambill.....	3.00
Geo. L. Miller.....	5.00
J. E. Adkisson.....	5.00
N. D. Cobb.....	1.00
L. C. Sublett.....	2.00
Miss Mossy Sears, team captain; Miss Sadie Collins, solicitor:	
Mrs. Fre Guitar.....	2.00
Mrs. J. S. Bond.....	1.00
Mrs. H. K. Shepperd.....	1.00
Miss Sadie Collins.....	1.00
Mrs. Essie Marton.....	1.00
Miss Ona Fae Bland.....	5.00
Mrs. Ross Ferrier.....	2.00
J. L. Beene.....	1.00
D. G. Barrow.....	5.00
Miss Lillie Pratt Sears.....	2.00
Mrs. Jhon Sears.....	6.00
Johnnie Sears.....	2.00
Mrs. M. A. William.....	1.00
F. K. Rister.....	1.00
Mrs. J. T. Dennis.....	1.00
Mrs. A. C. Rose.....	5.00
J. E. Costephens.....	5.00
W. A. McSpadden.....	5.00
E. W. Permitter.....	5.00
R. L. Bland.....	5.00
Mrs. A. Touchstone.....	.25
A. C. Rose.....	5.00
T. R. Lassiter.....	5.00
Miss May Lassiter.....	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Toombs.....	10.00
Susie Penn.....	1.00
B. O. Gaither.....	5.00
Mary Reed.....	1.00
J. W. Grafford.....	1.00
Mrs. Seth Hamilton.....	.75
Miss Tennie Brown.....	1.00
Mrs. G. B. Brown.....	1.00
G. B. Brown.....	1.00
Geo. McDonald.....	1.00
Eula Sears.....	5.00
Mrs. Frank Sears.....	1.00
Mrs. R. O. Anderson, team captain; Mrs. W. A. Campbell, solicitor:	
J. A. Stamford.....	.50
W. E. Stamford.....	.50
John Ray.....	1.00
Mrs. J. H. Wilson.....	.50
Kate Tyler.....	.50
J. W. Mayfield.....	1.00
Mrs. T.J. Melton.....	.50
J. L. McClain.....	.25
Mrs. Della Doan.....	1.00
Mrs. E. H. Patterson.....	1.00
Mrs. L. W. Cox.....	.75
G. W. Cox.....	1.00
Jas Doan.....	.25
L. P. Frieds.....	1.00
Mrs. Cynthia Hall.....	1.00
M. C. Yancy.....	1.00
Mrs. J. H. Baylers.....	.50
J. H. Baylers.....	.50
Mrs. J. A. Scott.....	1.00
Mrs. G. W. Moon.....	.25
May Cox.....	1.00
G. W. Moon.....	1.00
Mrs. C. Hughy.....	.50

Will Merritt, Cashier of the F. and M. Bank, is off on vacation. He left Tuesday morning to visit his brother, Ben, in Ft. Worth. On the same train Miss Geneva Brown left for Cleburn where she graduates in the High School. If she don't come back with the same name she now has, we will have to charge it up to Will.



Mrs. Walter Jackson, Editor

B. Y. P. U. Social Enjoyed.

There was a large attendance at the social given at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swann last Saturday evening. Various indoor games were enjoyed, and a splendid musical program was carried out the entire time.

The crowd remained until a late hour, and all expressed a most delightful time.

CHURCH NEWS

Christian Endeavor, May 26.
Leader, Louise Warren.
Topic, Doing His Will.
Christ and God's Will, Jno. 9: 4, Ruth Boden.
The Motive—Love, Jno. 14: 23—24, Roy Holmes.
The Command to Shine, Mat. 5: 14—16, Willie Stevens.
The Command to Go, Mat. 28: 16—20, Dimple Counts.
The Command to Trust, Jno. 14: 1—3, Pearl Toombs.
The Command to Serve, Jno. 13: 4—17, Hicks Swafford.

B. Y. P. U. Program, May 24.
Prayer, Members of Group.
Scripture Reading, Matt. 16: 13—20, Effie Mayberry.
Introduction, Leader.
What The People Said, Miss Mammie Ellis.
Violin Solo, Miss Dovie Teaff.
What Jesus Himself Said, Frank Counts.
The Testimony of Christian Experience, Wilma Garrett.
Jesus Was Truly Human, Ruby Teaff.
Piano Solo, Ruth Holloway.
Jesus Was Truly Divine, Claude Riney.
Jesus the God-Man, Roy Holmes.
Illustration, Olive Teaff.

WHITE CHURCH NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Frazier received a letter from their son, Baily, who is in France. He said he was all OK and had a nice trip over. He was seasick only two days. It was awful cold over there and has rained every day. He likes it fine. We have had a good rain in the Canyon and every one is busy. Correspondent.
(Note—Let us hear from you often).

Thousand-Barrel Well

Ranger, May 20.—Shook well No. 1 came in making 1,000 barrels. It is 3,360 feet deep and is only three feet in the sand.

Motorcycle Accident.

Vernon Sublett happened to a very painful accident on last Wednesday evening, when on his way home on his motorcycle a dog ran in front of him, upsetting the machine and throwing him about 30 feet, hitting on his face. He was considerably bruised up, though it was thought no bones were broken. The dog and machine had better luck.

BLAIR CONTRIBUTORS TO RED CROSS

- O. W. Walker2.50
- C. R. Tittle1.00
- H. B. Chambless1.00
- S. F. Provine3.00
- R. J. Meeks1.00
- R. J. Meeks1.00
- Z. V. Moore2.00
- J. E. Addison2.50
- Mrs. Mattie Addison1.00
- Dewey Adair1.00
- T. O. Lackey1.00
- Mrs. T. O. Lackey1.00
- W. J. Tyler1.00
- J. H. Campbell3.25
- Dee Meeks1.00
- W. A. Campbell1.00
- Mrs. W. A. Campbell1.00
- Altha Chambless50
- J. B. Rosson1.00
- H. E. Campbell1.00
- C. O. Lackey1.00
- J. W. Mayfield1.00
- J. W. Campbell1.00
- Mrs. C. L. Simpson50
- C. W. Hunter50
- Walter Hunter1.00
- W. A. McCandless1.00
- Earl Hughes1.00
- J. W. Moon2.50
- J. B. Jones1.00

Clearing Sale Spring & Summer Millinery AT WOODROOF-BRAGGS

Rather than carry over a single hat, we much prefer selling them to our patrons at cost--in some instances less than cost--so have decided to have a clearance sale that will be mutually beneficial. Our stock consists of some

Beautiful Pattern Hats, Some Splendid Tailored Models and a number of Sport Hats, all of which we now offer at COST AND LESS

Remember our entire Millinery stock will be on sale Friday and Saturday, May 24th and 25th.

Don't forget that Saturday, May 25, is Red Cross Day

Woodroof = Bragg Co.



Makes Such Light, Tasty Biscuits

Just let mother call, "Biscuits for Breakfast!" We're sure there's a treat that can't be beat in store for us — light, tender biscuits — toasty brown and all puffed up with goodness! For mother is sure of her baking powder—Calumet. She never disappoints us because



CALUMET BAKING POWDER

never disappoints her. It's dependable. Results always the same—the best. Try it.

Calumet contains only such ingredients as have been approved officially by the U.S. Food Authorities.

You Save When You Buy It. You Save When You Use It.

HIGHEST QUALITY AWARDS

Notice Gasoline Buyers

I am handling that "GOOD GULF GASOLINE" Will also appreciate your Tire Work Free Battery Service

Buy your old Casings or sell you new ones

GEORGE WOODRUM

Successor to W. E. Britain

TRENT NEWS

Miss Mae Cozart of Rotan is visiting her sister, Mrs. Perry Eaton. There will be a singing at the Baptist church Sunday afternoon. Everybody is invited to attend.

The Red Cross is very active now. There is always a large attendance. Clayton Hale of Monumet, N. M., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hale. He is in the draft and expects to remain at home until the call. Ed. Massey, who recently

sold his farm here, has purchased a farm at Pilot Point and expects to move there at an early date.

Joe Nally has moved to his farm two and one-half miles southeast of Trent, where he is batching.

There will be a Red Cross play here Friday night.

The baccaperaute sermon for the High School will be preached at the school auditorium on Sunday morning at 1 o'clock.

Uncle Billy Johnson, who was injured in a fall some months ago is still unimproved. School will be out here on May 31.

The rain last week is estimated at from three to five inches.

Capt. Cleod left last week for Camp Travis, where he will enter the service.

Gertrude Dowdy, who attends the Abilene Christian College, was a home visitor Sunday. Gordon Howell and Wayne Abernathy are home on a 30-day furlough.

TO LADY VOTERS OF TAYLOR COUNTY

As it may be impossible to see all of you in person. I take this method of soliciting your vote and influence in behalf of my candidacy for county clerk.

I thoroughly understand the duties required to handle the county clerk's office and promise if elected to serve the people in such an efficient manner they will always be glad they selected me as their servant.

Thanking you in advance for your favorable consideration, I am,

Respectfully,

(Pol adv. 15t2p.) J. L. Mingus.

Advertised Letters.

Burrow, John
Campbell, G. D.
Gibson, T. P.
Hand, Howard.
Guttrenz, M.
These can be redeemed upon payment of one cent. These letters will be sent to the dead letter office on June 5th.
H. C. Williams, Postmaster, Merkel, Texas.

Mrs. Q Brown and children left Tuesday for a visit to Plainview.

Misses Myrtle and Rilla Nalley of Trent were in Merkel last Wednesday shopping.

Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Rogers went out to the farm in the Sand Burr neighborhood the past week. He expects to make a crop.

T. & P. TIME TABLE

Eastbound	
No. 2 Sunshine Spec.	8:20 a. m.
No. 4 Through Train	10:15 a. m.
No. 6	9:55 p. m.
Westbound	
No. 1 Sunshine Spec.	9:55 p. m.
No. 3 Through Train	5:18 p. m.
No. 25	5:24 a. m.

Biliousness and Constipation

For years I was troubled with biliousness and constipation, which made life miserable for me. My appetite failed me. I lost my usual force and vitality. Pepsin preparations and cathartics only made matters worse. I do not know where I should have been today had I not tried Chamberlain's Tablets. The tablets relieve the ill feeling at once, strengthen the digestive functions, purify the stomach, liver and blood, helping the system to do its work naturally. Mrs. Rosa Potts, Birmingham, Ala. These tablets are for sale by all dealers.

For a burn or scald apply Chamberlain's Salve. It will allay the pain almost instantly and quickly heal the injured parts. For sale by all dealers.

G. L. Baker reports that he is through planting, has a good stand of cotton and feed and everything is looking fine.

Rev. Geo. Truett, pastor of First Baptist church of Dallas is arranging to go to France to preach to the soldier boys for a period of six months. Dr. Truett is one of the foremost preachers of the age, and is to be commended for this patriotic act. The boys need such men at this.

HONOR ROLL

Following is a list of our boys who are in Uncle Sam's service.

Willie Leo Miller, Trent.
Lester Earl White.
G. C. Hodges.
Z. T. Lamar.

Ulric Forrester.
Andrew Archer.
Roy Adams.
Britt Baker.
Fauss Banner.
Edgar Breeze.
W. B. Brown.
Arthur Derrington.
Frank J. Ferrier.
De Gorcus.
Wm. R. Green.
James F. Holloway.
B. Jobe.
Pete Meek.
F. O'Brien.
Herbert Ricker.
Paul Stamford.
Bill Sheppard.
Paul Turner.

George White.
L. B. Wells.
Riley White.
L. Powers.
Emzi Burroughs.
Thos Bearden.
Jas. Brown.
Emmitt Grimes.
L. M. Hutchins.
Chester A. Duncan, Trent.
John T. Morris, Trent.
Joe L. Evans, Trent.
W. W. McElmurray, Trent.
Hubert J. Swan, Trent.
John Moore, Merkel.
Lieut B. B. Brown
Chester Hall.
Stuart Grimes.
Jas. Clyde White.
Lloyd Shepard.
L. A. Dudley.
Robert Vernon Boring.
Sherley King.
O. A. Horton.
Ira Huss.
Archie Rose.
Fred Harrell.
Chas. C. Jones.
Glen Thompson
Roscoe Sharp.
John Ware.
John D. Dudley.
John Edward Hunter.
E. M. Harris.
George Smith.
Geo. N. Reynolds.
J. H. Rister, Tye.
Wayne Abernathy, Trent.
H. W. Beckham, Trent
Dee H. Donnell, Trent
Hollis Brown, Trent.
Royce Dowdy, Trent.
Robt. B. Parker.
Frank E. Smith
Luther Grimes.
W. L. Diltz, Jr.
William B. Tarpley.
N. D. Teaff, Tye.
Arthur E. Windland, Tye.
James O. Dulin.
Kirby L. Vidrine.
Leonard Morrison.
Joseph A. McMurray.
Rufus H. O'Neal.
Willie E. Pool.
Ennis Grimes.
Charley Fitzgerald.
Berry Forrester.
Joseph A. Pruit, Trent
John T. Mattingley, Noodla.
Reuben C. Hall
Henry D. (Doc) Hall
R. O. Stevens.
Tom Smith Martin.
Leland L. Martin.
T. J. Bird.
R. E. Harris
Robert Rainbolt.
Lee Raymond Campbell
Eulless McNeas.
John P. Gibson.
Leonard Wills
Winslow J. Beckham, Trent.
John Rex McClain.
O. R. Burns.
Joe Thomas Hartley.
John Robert West.
Robert Grady Collins
Jim F. Winters.
Arthur McMurray.
Charlie Clifton Smith, Trent.
Fred Pribble, Trent.
Ernest Massey, Trent.
Lee Massey, Trent.
Hosea Winn, Trent.
Skyler Dunn, Trent.
Limer Dunn, Trent.
Will E. Smith, Trent.
Jas. Harmon Peterson.
W. Clarence Melton.
Dalton Blackmon, Trent.
Otto Blackmon, Trent
John W. Hassey, Trent
Roy Stevens, Trent.
Spurgeon Scott, Trent
Robert W. Kelly.
Jno. Earnest Costephens.
Wm. Roy Costephens.
Jake Eason, Noodle.
Henery Eason, Noodle
Leldon Goode, Noodle
Guy Bradley, Stith.
Guy Sibley, Trent.
Wm. Wills.
Sam H. Rosson, Trent.
Claude Rosson, Trent.
Alfred Wesley Costephens.
Ulyses McNeas.
W. Clarence Cameron
Vessie E. Browning.
Clyde Garrett.
Bailey Frazier.
John Coomer.
Bailey Frazier.
Leo Shepard.
Frank Millican.
Dem Rusk.
Q Rusk.
Tucker
Horton.
John Tucker.
Wilba Whitaker
Rufus McLean.
Dillard Snow.
Vernon Simpson.
Dr. Robert I. Grimes.
Floyd Dean
Guy Brady.

RAIN = RAIN = RAIN

That long-looked-for rain has at last come. We know there are articles in the Dry Goods line you have been putting off buying until it rained. We have the right prices on the kind of merchandise you want to spend your money for, so we are confidently expecting our share of the big volume of business we know is sure to come to Merkel within the next few weeks. We are looking for the biggest crowd in town Saturday--**RED CROSS DAY**--since the balloon ascension (?) With this in mind we are making a special effort to take care of your wants in a dry goods way. We have only space to enumerate a few articles, but our big \$35,000 stock of dry goods, shoes and furnishings offers you real bargains in every department. Make our cool, roomy store your rest room while in town. You are always welcome.

SHIRTS SHIRTS

☐ We are shirt merchants. One look at our big assortment of crepe de chine, silk and madras will convince the most discriminating shirt buyer that this is the place to lay in your summer supply.

SPECIAL BARGAINS

One lot fancy lawns and voils, regular 25c to 45c sellers, for **SATURDAY ONLY** per yard 15c to 35c

We still have a few palm beach and kool cloth suits we are selling at greatly reduced prices as long as they last.

We are offering for Saturday good soft bleached domestic, worth 25c, for .. 17½c

Also a good heavy brown domestic that would cost us 22c, Saturday only .. 15c

We are still selling a good gingham, all new patterns, for per yard 25c

Also selling that good Red Seal Gingham for 30c per yard that cannot be bought wholesale today at any price.

HATS HATS HATS

☐ We have just received a big shipment of summer hats in panama, bangkok and felts. Also a full line of work hats.

Anchor Mercantile Co.

Dry Goods and Groceries

PROFESSIONAL

O. F. McMASTER
DENTIST

Office Phone 154
Over Woodroofs Store

DR. GAMBILL
Dentist.

Office hours 8 to 12 a. m. and 1 to 6 p. m.

Office over Farmers State Bank.
Phones: Office, 306, Res. 108.

DR. J. E. ADKISSON

Physician and Surgeon

Hours From 6 a. m. to 5:30 p. m.
Office over City Barber Shop
Phones: Of. 163, Res. 187. Nov9

DR. MILLER

Over Woodroofs-Bragg Company
Physician and Surgeon
Eyes Tested and Glasses
General Practice

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

W. P. MAHAFFEY

Attorney at Law
Merkel and Abilene, Texas
Merkel Office in rear Farmers
State Bank. 22Sept17

**SHAVING AND BATH
PARLORS**

The most Up-to-Date
SHOP IN MERKEL
CITY BARBER SHOP
CHAS WEST Proprietor

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 sys-
tem. A true tonic. For adults and children. 50c.

THE MAN WHO BURIED HIS SOUL

One day a man decided to free himself from his soul until he should achieve his fortune and satisfy his ambition. "Then when I have leisure to indulge my soul and through it to enjoy the beauties of the world, I will take it to myself again," he mused. So he selected an unfrequented spot in the woods and there in the soft, rich loam he buried his soul, covering it up carefully with earth and leaves and the boughs of trees. Then he returned to the city, where he became rich and powerful. Neither sunset nor sunrise, nor the sweet voiced birds, or the freshness of the summer rains, nor the marvelous paintings, nor lofty poems, nor even the melody of an old tender song that might have carried reflections of the long ago, delayed him now or turned him aside from his quest for even one fleeting moment. His eyes were fixed on gold and his mind was intent on power and place. But after awhile he grew satisfied with the things of this material old world; his surroundings became stale, flat, and unprofitable; there was something missing—there was a void in the midst of plenty. When he thought himself of his soul he journeyed to the little mound where he had buried it so long ago. He saw no beauty now in the sky, nor any fragrance in the wooded landscape. The singing of the birds was but an unmeaning sound in his ears and the thousand little things that once would have charmed and delighted his senses were passed by unnoticed. He found the little mound which he had rounded up over his better self years ago. It was as he had left it. He carefully removed the brush

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.

and leaves and earth, thinking to uncover his soul. He found instead, only a shriveled thing which turned to ashes at his touch. His soul was dead. Don't fool yourself, dear reader; money will not buy everything.—
El Paso Daily Times.

BITTER FIGHTING IN ITALIAN LINE

Among the rugged peaks of the Asiago, east of the British, the Italian front has again flamed into violent action. The aggressive has been taken by the Italians and the Austro-German forces instead of launching their long expected assault on the Italian lines, have been compelled to fight hard to maintain the positions where they have stood since last November. The fighting seems to have centered on the comparatively short section of the battle line between Monte Asolone and Monte Fertico. These two places about three miles apart, rise to an altitude of about 5000 feet, while between them there is a sort of "saddle" on which the Teutonic forces have taken up strong positions. Both the Vienna and Rome official statements tell of bitter fighting on this particular front, the latter stating that the Italian soldiers have entered Austrian trenches on Monte Asolone in two places.

COMPERE SCHOOL CLOSES

The Compere school closed Monday, the closing date having been postponed from Friday night on account of the rain. Misses Bessie and Josephine Merdin have taught there for five successive terms. For the past year a third teacher has been required, Miss Maggie Barnett. The past term has been especially successful. The program was well given. The program included a May pole dance, a short Red Cross play, flag drill and other very interesting features.

The people of the Compere neighborhood believe in good

schools and are standing behind their school to a man. Several parties from Merkel attended the exercises.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and for years it was supposed to be incurable. Doctors prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Medicine, manufactured by P. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is a constitutional remedy, is taken internally and acts thru the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. One Hundred Dollar reward is offered for any case that Hall's Catarrh Medicine fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials.
P. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by Druggists, Etc.
Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

SAND BURR SCHOOL CLOSE

The Sand Burr school closed Tuesday night. A splendid program was rendered. The past term is reported to have been a very successful one.

Dee Grimes left Monday for points east for a day or so. It has not been learned whether his trip was for business, pleasure, or to get married, says Parker Sharp.



DRAUGHON'S
PRACTICAL
Business College
ABILENE, TEXAS

Only well-known Business College in West Texas. Thousands of firms use our Employment Department than any other. Money-back contract-guarantee position. Catalogue FREE.

WHEN IN ABILENE EAT AT

The Metropolitan Cafe

JACK GILSTRAP, Mgr.

One per cent of Gross Receipts donated to the

RED CROSS

WHY EAT ELSEWHERE

The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company

Is the owner of valuable oil leases in Kansas, Oklahoma and Wyoming, and has recently added a valuable lease in the new Electra-Burkburnett Oil Field, Texas, with 8 producing wells together with pumping plant, tanks and full equipment, connected with the pipe line, and selling oil. Price was \$2.00, now \$2.50, and expect soon to be getting \$3.00 per barrel for this high grade oil. The Company is pushing drilling operations in this new field, as rapidly as possible.

Stock is Now Selling
At 10c a Share

You can join us in an exceedingly profitable business enterprise, and in doing so, help increase the oil output, which means, help win the war.

Write us for free map and further particulars.
Special inducements to live, active salesmen.

The Double Standard Oil and Gas Company

Boston Building, Denver, Colo.

Phone Main 3937

Piles Cured in 6 to 14 Days

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure any case of Itching, Cough and Headache and works off the Cold, Cough and Headache in 6 to 14 days. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. The first application gives Ease and Rest. 50c. H. W. GROVE'S signature on each box. 30c.

97% Owners' Choice

Of all the Ajax Tires 97% are Owners' Choice. They go to individual motorists who insist on Ajax Tires in preference to other tires which came with their cars.

Special Patented Feature



Shoulders of Strength

They support the tread—give it more strength where needed—greater road endurance. And Ajax Tires alone can have this extra mileage feature. It is fully patented.

AJAX ROAD KING

"More Tread on the Road"

The supporting Shoulders of Strength of Ajax Road King give it "more tread on the road"—more contact area. That means longer life—a better grip. See, too, the big triangle bars. They grip the road for safety.

Let us tell you all about Ajax Tires and Ajax Inner Tubes. We are the Ajax Tire Supply Depot in this locality.

MERKEL GARAGE

Merkel, Texas.

"While Others Are Claiming Quality, We Are Guaranteeing It"

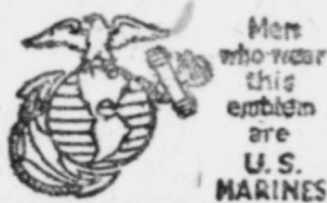
AJAX TIRES
GUARANTEED IN WRITING 5000 MILES

Sapolio doing its work. Scouring for U.S. Marine Corps recruits.



Join Now!

APPLY AT ANY POST OFFICE for SERVICE UNDER THIS EMBLEM



Men who wear this emblem are U.S. MARINES

I-C-E

☐ The Greatest Food Preserver. ☐ No article can help you to better comply with the spirit of war time food regulations. ☐ DO NOT WASTE—Ice saves every ounce of food, saves your butter and milk, and lessens kitchen drudgery. ☐ BUY AN ICE BOOK TO-DAY—and let our wagon stop at your door every day

THE MERKEL ICE CO.

WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF

Tablets, Pencils, Stationery and a complete line of Drugs and Sundries
We appreciate your business

MERKEL DRUG COMP'NY

Government Says Buy Coal Now

A coal famine will follow this fall. Our ships are to be supplied at any cost. You save money and insure your coal supply by buying now.

WARREN BROS. All Orders C.O.D.

A POWERFUL AID

When you feel sluggish and nervous, tired and indifferent, you have the first symptoms of declining strength and your system positively needs the special nutritive food- tonic in

SCOTT'S EMULSION

to replenish your blood power, enliven its circulation and bring back the snap and elasticity of good health. Scott's Emulsion supplies Nature with the correct building-food which is better than any drugs, pills or alcoholic mixtures.



The Norwegian cod liver oil in Scott's Emulsion is now refined in our own American laboratories which makes it pure and palatable. Scott & Towner, Bloomfield, N. Y. 17-16

APPEAL OF CHAIRMAN OF RED CROSS DRIVE

The Red Cross Society wants all employes of each store or factory, all the members of each church or school, or other organization, to become contributors to the Second War Fund. When as many as 75 per cent of the organization have become contributors, such organization will be entitled to an honor flag and for each ten per cent additional a small cross will be furnished to be added to the honor flag. An honor roll will also be furnished on which the names of each contributor belonging to the organization may be written. No prescribed amount is required for each contributor in order to entitle the organization to the honor flag but it is desired that each member thereof contribute in accordance with his ability. Honor flags and rolls with additional crosses will be furnished by the county chairman.

The quotas of the different towns have been estimated in accordance with the rules established by the committee. On account of drought conditions Taylor County's quota was reduced from \$13,820 to \$6,810, but with the understanding that Taylor County would raise all it could over its quota, and we hope to get a substantial oversubscription.

Merkel already has her quota pledged, in fact secured it in one day. Many of the country towns are far "over the top."

There is no argument about the Red Cross, no argument as to whether every man, woman and child should give, the only question is what can you give?

When the solicitor calls on you, conserve his time. He is a busy man as you are. He is giving his time and his money. He asks you only for money.

Be ready to say, 'I will' when the solicitor calls on you.

The people of Taylor County have suffered and have sacrificed, yet they are hopeful, cheerful and patriotic. But even now as I write the bountiful rain is falling. If we have no bounty, yet let us divide our small store with the boys "over there" who offer their lives that we may live in peace and security.

E. M. Overshiner, Campaign Manager.

The Economy of Victory.
No matter what this war costs the Government and the people of the United States in the way of money, it is going to be much cheaper to win this war than to lose it.

The commercial and financial losses that would follow a German victory are not to be calculated. All that we spent would have to be paid, and along with these losses would come a continuing loss in foreign commerce that would spell disaster.

With these material losses we would lose our national liberty and independence, our power to secure our international rights, our right to live in a world ruled by the dictates of humanity and civilization.

PATRIOT DOLLARS

All the dollars in the world can not buy victory. Victory is not purchased—it is won. Dollars can work for victory only in so far as they are converted into labor and materials. A dollar hoarded is a slacker; a dollar wasted is a traitor; a dollar saved is a patriot, doubly so when loaned to the Government.

A hoarded dollar represents idle power; a wasted dollar represents wasted power; a dollar saved represents power saved, labor saved, materials saved. Loaned to your Government, it represents power, labor, and materials in action, on the firing line, over the top. And more it represents reserve power, energy stored, purchasing power conserved for its owner.

For a Sprained Ankle.

As soon as possible after the injury is received get a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment and follow the plain printed directions which accompany the bottle.

Soldier Boys Promoted.

J. E. Costephens is in receipt of letters from his sons, Jno. E., stating that he has been promoted from bugler to the U. S. Paid, and from Wm. Roy, stating that he is now a member of the band, going from city to city in the interest of the Red Cross. Out of the latter's promotion there is marked distinction, as he, with 250 others, were selected out of a list of 10,000. Alfred, the third son, writes that he has also received promotion in the Medical Department. This is a splendid record, of which the boys' parents justly feel proud.

Boschee's German Syrup.

will quiet your cough, soothe the inflammation of a sore throat and lungs, stop irritation in the bronchial tubes, insure a good night's rest, free from coughing and with easy expectoration in the morning. Made and sold in America for fifty-two years. A wonderful prescription, assisting nature in building up your general health and throwing off the disease. Especially useful in lung trouble, asthma, croup, bronchitis, etc. For sale by Grimes Drug Store. 30 and 90 cent bottles.

Germany May Force Marriages

London, May 17.—The German commission appointed to examine the decline in the birth rate in Germany has reported a recommendation for the compulsory marriage of Germans before their twentieth year is passed, according to a dispatch to the Daily Express from Amsterdam.

Financial assistance would be granted by the state, according to the plan which provides penalties for those failing to comply.

Provision also is made for the punishment of married couples who remain childless.

Died At Alexandria O'

Ed. S. Harrison died at his home near Alexandria, O., on May 5, 1918, after a lingering illness of many months. Burial took place in Maple Grove cemetery that city. Previous to June 1917, he was connected with the firm of West and Pate barbers of Merkel, Texas, when he will be remembered by many friends.

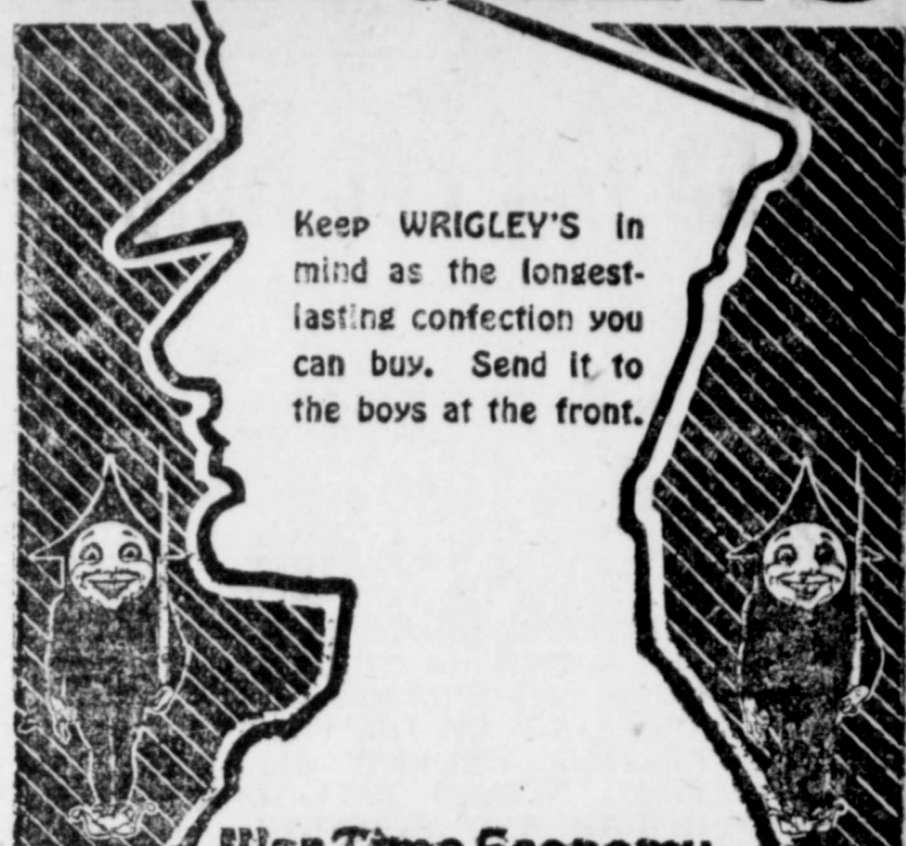
Our sympathy is extended to the bereaved ones.

Looking for car red coats on ever train. G. M. Sharp.

Cause of Headache

By knowing the cause, a disease may often be avoided. This is particularly true of headache—the most common cause of headaches is a disordered stomach or constipation, which may be corrected by taking a few doses of Chamberlain's Tablets. They are easy to take and mild and gentle in effect.

WRIGLEYS



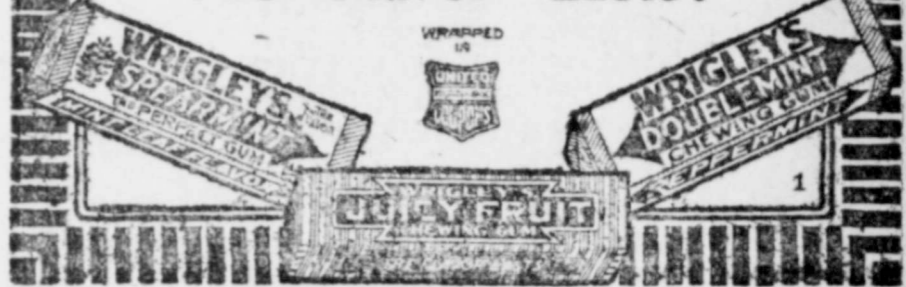
Keep WRIGLEY'S in mind as the longest-lasting confection you can buy. Send it to the boys at the front.

War Time Economy In Sweetmeats—

a 5-cent package of WRIGLEY'S will give you several days' enjoyment; it's an investment to benefit as well as pleasure, for it helps teeth, breath, appetite, digestion.

Chew It After Every Meal

The Flavor Lasts!



To My Friends And The Public

☐ I am glad to announce that J. E. Busby, scientific masseur from the Grogan Wells and Boone Institute of Massage, Sweetwater, Texas, has moved to Abilene and has formed a partnership with me, and will make Abilene his future home.

☐ Mr. J. E. Busby is too well and favorably known in West Texas, for me to make further comment here.

☐ I shall be glad for you to come and see us.

Respectfully

ROY CROWDER SCIENTIFIC MESSEUR

Office and Massage Parlors—Abney Building. Phone 113

To My Friends And The Public

☐ I wish to announce that I have severed my connection with the Grogan Wells and Boone Institute of Massage, Sweetwater, Texas, where I have lived for the past five years, and have moved to Abilene to make my future home, forming a partnership with Roy Crowder, scientific masseur, who has resided in Abilene for the past year.

☐ Our massage parlors are located on the second floor of the Abney Building, corner South 1st and Chestnut Streets, where we are fully equipped to give you the best that is to be found in our line of work.

☐ I will be glad to have you come up and get acquainted.

Respectfully

J. E. BUSBY SCIENTIFIC MESSEUR

SATURDAY

ONE MEAL WHEATLESS

USE NO BREAD, CRACKERS, PASTRY OR BREAKFAST FOODS CONTAINING WHEAT



SUNDAY

ONE MEAL WHEATLESS

USE NO BREAD, CRACKERS, PASTRY OR BREAKFAST FOODS CONTAINING WHEAT



Place Your Order Now For

That Spring Suit

Cleaning and Pressing Altering a Specialty

L. J. Renfro

At City Barber Shop Merkel, Texas

MERKEL RED CROSS DAY

The Cry For Help

IN THE INKY BLACKNESS OF GHASTLY "NO MAN'S LAND" THERE COMES EVER AND ANON THE PITIFUL CRY, "HELP, STRETCHER-BEARER HELP!" THEY ARE DYING THERE. MERCY IS INTERVENING THROUGH THE AGENCY OF THE RED CROSS, AND HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF THE VERY BRAVEST AND BEST ARE BEING NURSED BACK TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH, FIXED AGAIN FOR THE TRENCHES, AND THROUGH THIS MASTERFUL ORGANIZATION THE STRENGTH OF THE ARMY IS MAINTAINED PERMITTING THOUSANDS TO REMAIN AT HOME. YOU ARE AMONG THE FAVORED THOUSANDS, TO EAT YOUR THREE MEALS A DAY, AND SLEEPING ON GOOD, CLEAN BEDS AND CARRYING ON YOUR DAILY ROUTINE OF BUSINESS. THE BOYS ARE NOT SO FAVORED; THEIR LIVES ARE IN JEOPARDY DAILY, AND ALL THAT YOU MAY LIVE IN SECURITY AND ENJOY LIBERTY. THE MOST YOU CAN DO IS VERY SMALL COMPARED WITH THE SACRIFICES THE BOYS ARE MAKING.

A Glad Response

Definitions

Every cent of every dollar received for the Red Cross War Fund goes for War Relief.

The American Red Cross is the largest and most efficient organization for the relief of suffering that the World has ever seen.

It is made up almost entirely of volunteer workers, the higher executives being without exception men accustomed to large affairs, who are in almost all cases giving their services without pay.

It is supported entirely by its membership fees and by voluntary contributions.

It is today bringing relief to suffering humanity, both military and civil, in every War torn allied country.

It plans tomorrow to help in the work of restoration throughout the world.

It feeds and clothes entire populations in times of great calamity.

It is there to help your soldier boy in his time of need.

With its thousands of workers, its tremendous stores and smooth running transportation facilities, it is serving as America's advance guard—and thus helping to win the war.

Congress authorizes it.

President Wilson heads it.

The War Department audits its accounts.

Your Army, your Navy and your Allies enthusiastically endorse it.

Twenty two million Americans have joined it.



THE HEROISM OF MERCY

By OPIE READ



There is no greater heroism than the heroism of mercy. There is no truer bravery than the bravery of tenderness. Out of the crash of nation against nation arises a Christ-like sympathy, and the insignia of its tenderness is the cross of red. It is the only remaining glow of a Christian hope. It is religion under shell fire. It is a sigh set to the music of sympathetic action. If a man who speaks truth should say to you, "With the use of five dollars you can save a useful life, alleviate a hundred nights of pain," you would grant him the money. You would not feel that you had lost, but gained.

This is what the Red Cross says to you: "Give of your safe and secure substance and I will soothe pain. I will gather up men, heroes who have been shot to the earth, and housing them I will nurse them back to life. For myself I ask no recompense. My reward is my conscience. My applause is restoring man to his family."

Hearing these words and feeling that they are true, would you hesitate to open your purse, whose contents were gathered in times of peace?

The Red Cross appeals to you personally. To you it opens its merciful heart and begs you for assistance. The cutting down of one luxury a day would mean a soothing tenderness on the red fields of France.

Greatest Mother

THE RED CROSS NURSE IS NOW THE GREATEST MOTHER ON EARTH. INTO HER CARE YOU HAVE PLACED YOUR PRECIOUS BOYS, AND BEHIND HER YOU STAND NOBLY MAKING HOSPITAL SUPPLIES AND GARMENTS. YOUR MOTHER HEART GOES INTO EVERY STITCH, FOR WHO KNOWS BUT THAT THE VERY GARMENTS YOU MAKE MAY BE FOR YOUR OWN BOY. YOU HAVE REALIZED THE TASK IS CEASELESS, AND NOBLY YOU ARE TRYING TO DO YOUR PART. THROUGH THE LOCAL RED CROSS THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF PIECES HAVE GONE OUT. MONTHS AND MONTHS AGO THE VERY BANDAGES MADE HERE HAVE RECEIVED APPLICATION AT THE FRONT, PROBABLY HAVE SAVED LIVES THAT WILL AGAIN ENTER THE CONFLICT TO HELP SAVE OUR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD. THE PATH OF DUTY IS CLEAR, AND TO THE SWEETEST, DEAREST AND BEST LITTLE MOTHER ON EARTH WE BOW OUR HEADS IN PROFOUND THANKFULNESS.

Honored Always

Atrocities

When the Hun hordes poured over Belgium, reaching the city of Dinant, a terrible atrocity was performed, consisting of the killing of 90 women and children, all because there was firing on the Germans from the French across the river after a messenger had been sent informing the French that the women and children would be killed if the firing did not cease. Included in the 90 were 12 children under 6 years of age, and 6 small babies. This is only one of the terrible and uncivilized things that this non-civilized land of Kultur has given to the world since the beginning of the war.

London, May 14.—A Russian government wireless received here today revealed the full horror of the German atrocities in White Russia.

"In many villages peasants, women and children who endeavored to escape from fire were pursued by Uhlans and cut to pieces with swords or flogged with whips. In one village an old Jew was first flogged and then hanged in the presence of all the villagers. Most savage acts were perpetrated in Jewish villages.

All persons suspected of belonging to the Bolsheviks and those in military uniforms were immediately shot. A further group of facts concerns violence done by the White Guards allies of the German authorities to the Russian inhabitants of Finland, especially in Viborg. Even 12-year old children have been shot. At Viborg one witness saw 200 corpses, mainly Russian officers and mere school boys. According to other witnesses more than 600 persons were executed in two days.

WIN
by the sign
OF
THE RED CROSS
ON
Saturday May 25

Will be Red Cross Day
IN MERKEL

Chickens, Eggs, Calves, Pigs, Turkeys, Rabbits and various other farm products will be auctioned. Bring what you want to donate and it will be auctioned for the Red Cross. A Goat Roping Contest is slated. The moon will be sold. Come! Come! Come!

The Closing
of the program will
be the raising of the
THIRD
LIBERTY LOAN
FLAG

A big crowd is looked
for. Let no one
stay away